Spring Issue 2018
Volume 19, Issue 14

Simonton Says...

Find us on

The Leprechaun Leap 2018

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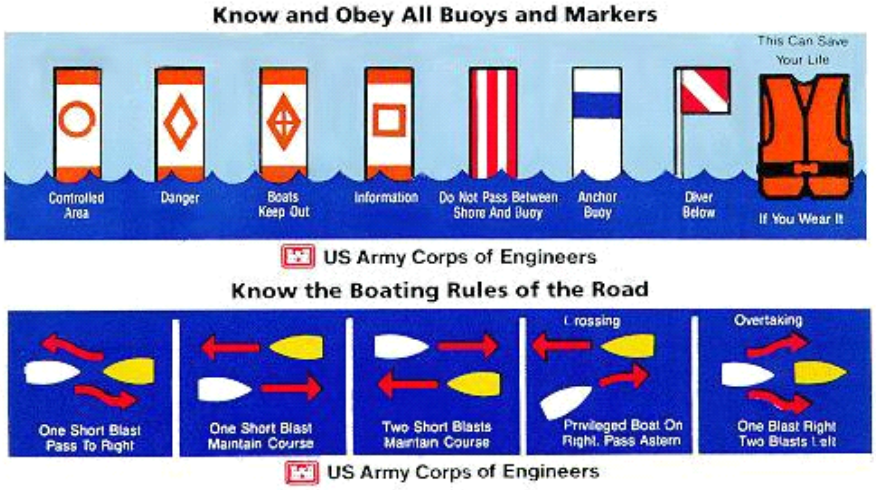
SIMONTON LAKE AREA HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

SAFETY COMMITTEE

May 2018

It's Boating Season! Know the Boating Rules

- Controlled Area: This buoy has a red circle and the information you need is printed inside that circle. On Simonton Lake you will see this buoy with "Slow, No Wake"
- Diver Below: These buoys are set by persons scuba diving on the lake. They are set by the divers themselves and are removed when the divers return to their boats. Stay clear of diver flags.
- Information-On Simonton Lake our Ecozone is marked by several buoys. Only trolling motors are allowed in the Ecozone. No power boats! No wave runners!



Use the chart above to identify the different kinds of buoys on Simonton Lake

To get an "Indiana Boating Law Handbook, go to the DNR website.

REMEMBER By Indiana Boating Law (Section 25) you cannot:

- Moor or attach a boat to a buoy
- Move, remove, displace, tamper with, damage or destroy a buoy.

Buoys are expensive and are purchased, maintained, placed and stored by lake residents. If you see someone tampering with or damaging a buoy, get the boat registration number and report the incident to the DNR 317-232-4160.

Know the Rules of the Road

Much more information can be found in the Indiana Boating Law Handbook. But, here are the basics.

INFORMATION & EVENTS

SIMONTON
Spring 2018 Edition

Association Board Members

Vaughn Nichell-President
51147 Maplewood Drive
574-262-3195
VLNichell@gmail.com

Carole Foutz-Vice-President
26809 Lake Drive
574-903-5891
cfyfoutz@yahoo.com

Susan Broderick, Treasurer
25424 N. Shore Drive
Elkhart, Indiana 46514
susiealice@comcast.net

Ginny Bellamy-Secretary
50973 CR 11 North
574-262-3766
lgbellamy@nsn.com

Heidi Cintron-Legal Advisor
24788 North Shore Drive
226-6644 heidijo@hotmail.com

Bob Evans
51275 Aqua Drive
574-320-3366
glongbevans@gmail.com

Bob Kelsey-Big Lake Director, North
26137 Lake Drive
574-264-2233
zipi@choiceonemail.com

Jack Tucker-Little Lake/Channel Director
51110 Sail Bay Court
574-370-3326
jtu977@frontier.com

Simonton Lake Area
Homeowners' Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706
Elkhart, In. 46515-1706
NEW www.simontonlakehoa.com
Email:ramatherly@gmail.com

Standing Committees:

Membership: Ken & Sue Ward
sdjward@comcast.net and Gina & Randy Hoff gmhlifeisgood@aol.com

- New Neighbors
- Lake Calendar
- Garage Sale
- Dues

Newsletter: Amy Matherly
ramatherly@gmail.com

- Submit info. or pictures
- To become an advertiser contact Jon Hart at jonhart150@gmail.com
- Website: Erin Kirchner-Lucas wickedpics@gmail.com

Environmental: Bob Paul
kabopa730@yahoo.com
513-431-2432

- Ecozone
- Weir
- Dredging
- Weed Control: Bob Kelsey, zipi@choiceonemail.com

Safety: Paul Wilson
pwilson@warkevent.com

- Buoys
- Public Landing
- Hazards in the water
- Neighborhood watch

To activate our *Neighborhood Watch* contact Chris Toles
cm16061@comcast.net

Our Mission

The MISSION of the Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association is to foster the safety and quality of life in our neighborhood. We strive to protect the value of our homes, the wildlife and the environment surrounding our lake, support local and state law enforcement for the safety of our families and lake visitors, and encourage active involvement in the northern Elkhart area growth and development.

EVENTS ON THE LAKE

April 21 Sportsman's Club Casino Nt. 6-11
May 4-5 Lake Assoc. "Neighborhood Garage Sale"
May 12 Sportsman's Club "Mastroccioli Open Golf Tournament," 7 a.m.
May 12 "Stomp Out Hunger" Postal Carrier Food Pick Up
May 23 Lake Association Annual Meeting
May 28 Memorial Day
June 23 Sportsman's Club Kid's Fishing Contest
June 30 Sportsman's Club "Poker Run"
June 30 4th of July Fireworks
August 4 Sportsman's Club Kid's Fishing Contest
Sept. 3 Labor Day
Sept. 3 Sportsman's Club "Sink The Boat" Food Drive at the Sandbar

Community Contacts

Simonton Lake Conservancy
574-206-8485
902 CR 6, Elkhart, In. 46514

DNR
District Office 574-457-8092
Pier Regs. 317-234-1097
Or 317-234-1063

Sheriff Elkhart County
(574) 533-4151

EMERGENCIES-CALL 911
Osolo Township Fire Dept.
574-264-1066
Osolo EMS 574-262-3052

REMEMBER OUR WEB ADDRESS:
simontonlakehoa.com
"LIKE" us on Facebook
Sign up for LAKE ALERTS at:
ramatherly@gmail.com

SIMONTON NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT

By Amy Matherly, Chairperson

ADVERTISERS

Jon Hart, who works with our advertisers, is always looking for new advertisers. It is the money we collect from our ads that allows us to produce such a nice newsletter. If you would like to advertise your business in the newsletter and on our website, contact Jon at jonhart150@gmail.com.

> "THE ENTIRE COMMITTEE APPLAUDS OUR DELIVERY PEOPLE"

NEW PUBLICATION DATES

"Simonton Says" is printed four times each year: February, May, August and November.

NOT GETTING YOUR NEWSLETTER?

The entire committee applauds our delivery people who deliver the newsletter in rain, snow, sleet or hail. If you do not get your newsletter please let us know by contacting your area delivery person or Amy Matherly at ramatherly@gmail.com

WEBSITE/FACEBOOK

Erin Kirchner-Lucas, who created and updates our website, uploads each issue of the newsletter. Also, pictures not used in the Lake Calendar are forwarded to our committee and posted on the website. Take a look.

The pictures are great! Michelle Coleman continues as our Facebook guru.

KUDOS TO OUR PRINTER

"Simonton Says" is printed by The Graphic Group, Mike Smith, owner and Lake Resident. He does a great job for us.

GOT AN IDEA FOR A STORY? You don't have to write it, just send us the idea.

WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US.

Our meetings are held at "Re-Pete's". So, come hungry and be prepared to enjoy, laugh and help us create.

CRIME REPORT

By Amy Matherly, Chairperson

March 23 8:29 a.m.

The Elkhart County Sheriff's Department is asking the public to help identify the driver of an SUV involved in a hit and run in the area of SR19 and Roseland Dr. on 3/15/18. The SUV is an older model two toned gray colored SUV with Michigan Plates and the driver is a white male.

SIMONTON ECOZONE REPORT

We continue to have trouble with wave runners going through the Ecozone. While we have added several buoys clearly marked "No motors", we may need to add more. Those boaters who are traveling eastward across Little Simonton, say that section of the Ecozone boundary is not marked well.

Despite the fact that our buoys are anchored with heavy chain, we find time after time that a buoy has been dragged away. We are grateful that lake residents let us know when an Ecozone buoy is floating out in front of their home. It seems this activity happens at night with no witnesses.

However, if you see someone on a motorized watercraft running through our Ecozone or dragging a buoy, please take down the boat number and report them to the Indiana DNR District 1 Office at 574-457-8092.

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association

Annual Meeting and Dinner

MAY 23

Sportsmen's Club

Meal 6:00 PM

Donations Accepted

SLAHA Meeting Follows at 7:00 PM

RSVP by May 16 to 262-4773 or ramatherly@gmail.com

CALLING ALL SIMONTON LAKE CYCLIST

The schedule for the 2018 Riding Season for Bike Elkhart has just been announced and it looks like another good one. Previous year's residents have thoroughly enjoyed the monthly evening rides and shared a drink or food and conversation afterward. Evening rides are monthly and begin at 6:30 PM. There are always two distances in the approximate distances of 7 and 14 miles. The evening ride schedule is as follows:

Date	Location
Tues., May 8	Re-Pete's Simonton Lake Tavern
Tues., June 12	Cappy's Northside Restaurant
Tues., July 10	Hunter's Place (Meet at Sterling Park)
Wed, August 8	Iechyd Da Brewing Co.

You may wish to use the evening rides to train for one of the county's featured group rides. It's a great way to get friends and family together while enjoying our beautiful scenery at a leisurely pace. Both rides have planned stops where tasty treats and drinks are provided to riders. It's a very festive atmosphere.

The 19th Annual Pumpkinvine Bike Ride is staged Saturday, June 16. You can register for distances of 22, 37, 50, and 100 miles. Information and registration can be found at www.ride.pumpkivine.org.

Bike Elkhart is hosting the Quilt Gardens Ride on Saturday, August 18. As you might imagine, this ride connects Elkhart's famous Quilt Gardens at their seasonal best. There are distances of 30, 50, 75, and 100 miles Registration information can be found at www.bikeelkhart.org.

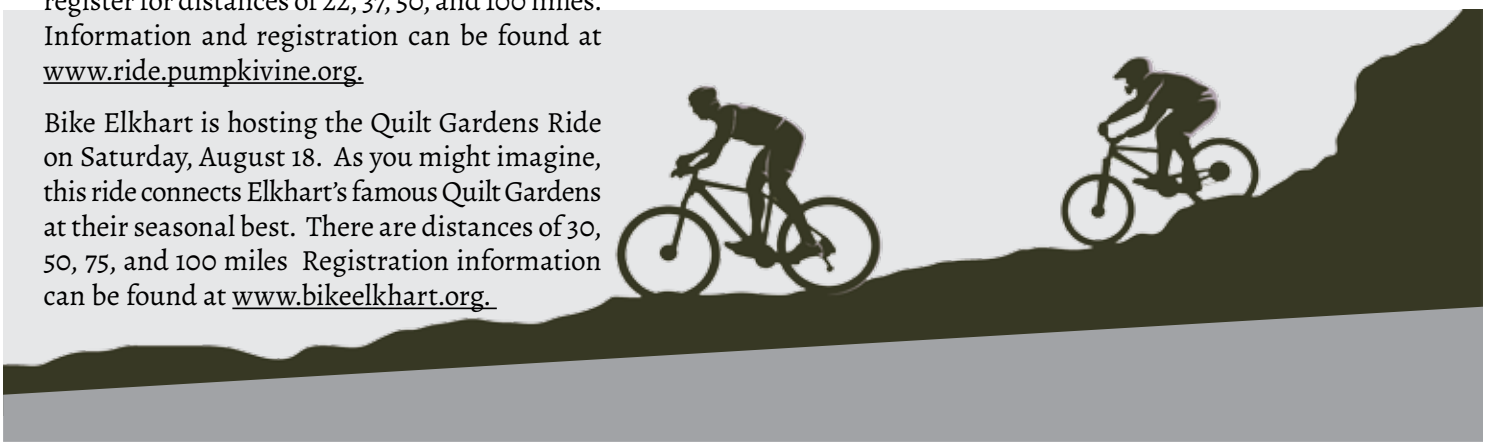
Lake Association Seeks New President

After holding the office of Lake Association President for eleven years, Vaughn Nickell, has announced to the Board of Directors that this current term will be his last. SLAHA Officers are elected in May at the SLAHA Annual meeting. Vaughn will continue to work on the dredging project until it's completion later this year.

The Board will now look for someone to fill this position. With the dredging project almost over the job of SLAHA President should be much less stressful and time consuming.

If you are interested in this position please contact any of the Board members listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Our thanks to Vaughn for an amazing job. The newsletter will run a more complete listing of the SLAHA accomplishments made while he was at the helm.



County Removes

The Elkhart County Commissioners and the County Highway Department have been very helpful in getting the area at the intersection of Bell and N. Shore Drive cleaned up. This eyesore still isn't pretty but it's better.

The members of the Simonton Lake Preservation Trust would like to thank the neighbors who helped rake leaves this fall. Also, thanks to Brian's Tree Service for removing two trees and trimming the remaining trees. The job was well done and clean up was great! Thanks to Steve Wogoman who allowed us to run a watering hose from his cottage which sits just across N. Shore Drive.

As you remember a local Eagle Scout candidate planted bushes along the lot line, raked, repaired the concrete pad and built two picnic tables last fall.

This spring The Simonton Lake Preservation Trust which holds the land will be looking for donations to fund a fence along the lot line on the west edge of the property. We also will send out e-mails asking for help in raking and general spring cleanup. If you would like to help, contact the Trust at ramatherly@gmail.com

GOOD NEWS FOR KAYAKERS

Elkhart River Dam To Be Removed

Early in March it was announced that as part of the upgrading to the downtown river district the Elkhart River Dam near the Franklin Street Bridge will be removed. The Elkhart River as it flows through the county offers a number of places to launch canoes and kayaks. The trip through the city as it winds its way behind the Rice Field football stadium and into downtown is great. But, you must exit the river before the dam or try to portage. Those who have tried to portage don't recommend it. Now, with the dam removed from the river kayakers can continue down the river to the convergence with the St. Joe and beyond. There is nothing to stop you until you get to the Twin Branch Dam in Mishawaka.

SIMONTON NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Spring 2018 Edition

Association Dues: In previous years, we ran our membership "year" from June 1 – May 31. This was because it coincided with our Annual Meeting which is held in May. **We are changing our dues cycle to run from January 1 to Dec. 31 each year.**

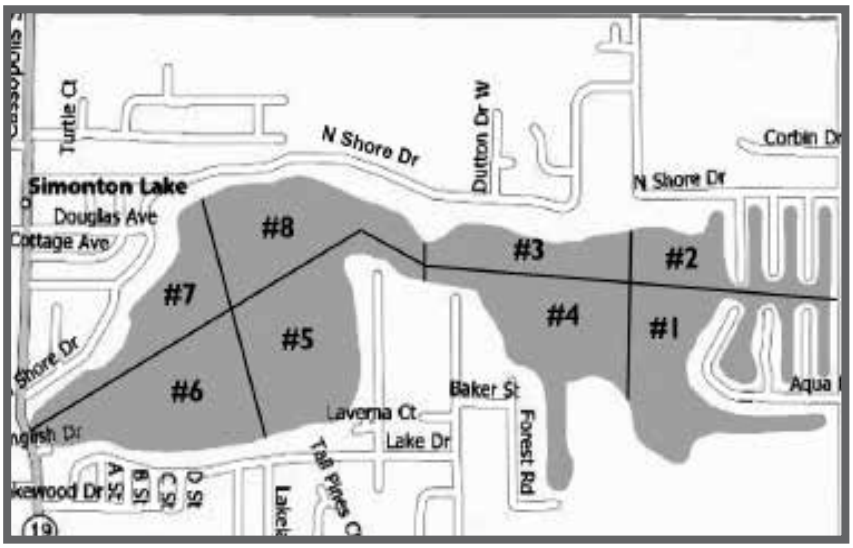
You will not be billed in May as we have in previous years. But please remember that the Annual Meeting will continue to be in May.

Check out the map below. What area of the lake do you live in?

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

-Your Delegates for Neighborhood Concerns

Area #1	Van Kessler	262-1685
Area #2	Ann & Jerry Broderick	264-1331
	Ken & Sue Ward	596-2020
Area #3	Maria Hopman	262-1665
Area #4	Jon Hart	262-1404
	Randy Hoff	596-8885
Area #5	Bob Meyers	675-0970
	Cindy Nickell	262-3105
Area #6	Ron Taylor	262-1332
Area #7	Dave VanZile	264-5201
	Theresa Maier	361-0517
Area #8	Amy Matherly	262-4773



Contact your Area Rep. if you have questions about membership, volunteering or to let us know about a new neighbor.

SLAHA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

2nd/Spouse Email: _____

DUES: PER HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR
JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2018

_____ **Household:** $30
_____ **Senior: (70-79):** $20
_____ **Honorary (80 & Over):** FREE
FREE lifetime member

CONTACT PREFERENCE: [ ] EMAIL [ ] CELL [ ] HOME PHONE [ ] MAIL SL PRESERVATION TRUST DONATION $_____

PARTICIPATION INTEREST [ ] Lake Environment FIREWORKS FUND DONATION $_____

IN A CURRENT COMMITTEE:
[ ] Lake Safety
[ ] Membership/Outreach
[ ] Newsletter
[ ] Website

TOTAL ENCLOSED **$**

Please mail your completed form & check made out to SLAHA to:
Simonton Lake Area Homeowners' Association, Inc
PO Box 1706 Elkhart, IN 46515-1706

If you are NOT willing to share this information in a directory sent to members, please check here: [ ]
We will not share this information outside the association without your permission.

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SEA-DOO. BRP

Happy Mother's Day!

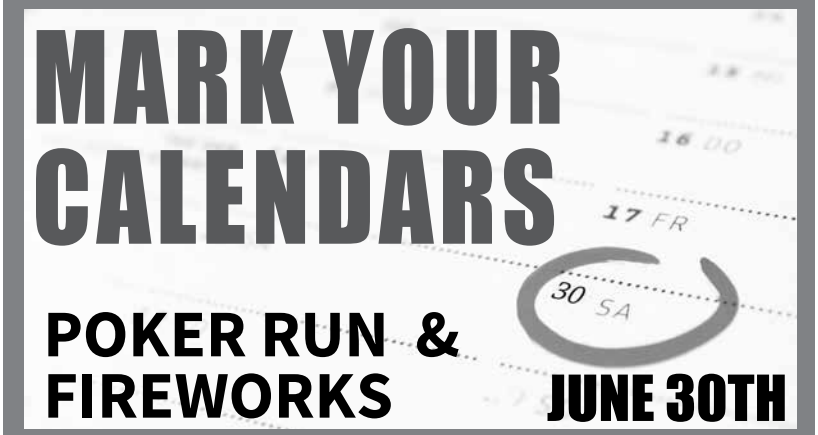
One afternoon a man came home from work to find total mayhem in his house. His three children were outside, still in their pajamas, playing in the mud with empty food boxes and wrappers strewn all around the front yard. The door of his wife's car was open, as was the front door to the house and there was no sign of the dog.

Proceeding into the entry, he found an even bigger mess. A lamp had been knocked over, and the throw rug was wadded against one wall. In the front room the TV was loudly blaring a cartoon channel, and the family room was strewn with toys and various items of clothing. In the kitchen, dishes filled the sink, breakfast food was spilled on the counter, the fridge door was open wide, dog food was spilled on the floor, a broken glass lay under the table and a small pile of sand was spread by the back door.

He quickly headed up the stairs stepping over toys and more piles of clothes, looking for his wife. He was worried she might be ill or that something serious had happened. He was met with a small trickle of water as it made its way out of the bathroom door. As he peered inside the found wet towels, scummy soap and more toys strewn over the floor. Miles of toilet paper lay in a heap and toothpaste had been smeared over the mirror and walls. As he rushed into the bedroom, he found his wife still curled up in the bed in her pajamas, reading a novel. She looked up at him, smiled and asked how his day went.

He looked at her bewildered and asked. "What happened here today?" She again smiled and answered, "You know every day when youcomehomefromworkandaskmewhatintheworldIdidtoday?"

"Yes" was his reply. She answered, "Well, today I didn't do it."



SHIRLEY ADAMS HONORED

Transamerica Life Insurance Co. recently honored Shirley Ann Adams. For the second year in a row she has reached The Top of the Pyramid. A Top of the Pyramid Award is given to Investment Advisors that have had 1$ million dollars or more in production in a single year. Shirley resides on Simonton Lake and is President of Adams & Adams Corp. She along with her late husband, Dave, have been Federal Government Employees Benefit Specialists since 1984.

DEAR DAD,

I'm not saying I've been an easy child to raise. . .
I'm just saying my life has been easier because you had my back,
Looking out for me, and trying to protect me the best you could.
I'm not saying I've always listened or taken your advice. . .
I'm just saying that even through the lessons I didn't want to hear, I could hear the love loud and clear,
And it made all the difference. . .
I'm not saying I've always shown the proper respect. . .
I'm just saying the respect has always been there, deep down in my heart
I'm not saying I can ever repay you for all you've done for me. . .
I'm just saying a big thank you today and hoping you know how much I mean it!

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

NMLSR ID. 645641 * All loans subject to credit approval and standard processing fees. Home Equity Line of Credit is a variable-rate product. Applicants should be from an area served by a 1st Source banking center. Minimum loan amount is $5,000. 1st Source checking account is required.

DNR Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Eric J. Holcomb, Governor
Cameron F. Clark, Director
Division of Water
402 W. Washington Street
Room W264
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone (317) 232-4160
Toll-free (877) 928-3755
Fax (317) 233-4579
www.in.gov/dnr/water

Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association
PO Box 1706
Elkhart, IN 46515

April 3, 2018

Dear Simonton Lake Area Homeowners Association,

As warmer weather approaches, it is a good time to refresh all of our memories on the common regulations of the Public Freshwater Lakes of Indiana as well as mention permits from DNR. Soon people will be putting their piers back into the lakes, and possibly looking at updating their shorelines. Here is some helpful information you may wish to include in your newsletters or on your association websites.

Things to avoid include permanent piers, sand beaches in the lake, unpermitted seawalls, and barriers to the public. Permanent piers are not permitted by DNR, and if constructed, will need to be removed or converted to a temporary structure. Please only install piers that meet the temporary standards. If you and a couple friends cannot remove it easily with some hand tools, it probably doesn't qualify. Sand cannot be placed in the lake. This might sound funny, but waves pull the sand away and result in filling the lake and covering habitat. With a permit from DNR, you may be able to place pea gravel in a swimming area and pea gravel will stay in place requiring less refreshing in the future. New seawalls need permits from DNR and obtaining a permit may take a few months. Link to application: http://www.in.gov/dnr/water/2455.htm

Some types of seawalls are bad for lakes and may not be allowed in your area. Please contact DNR well in advance of planning your project to avoid problems and delays. Natural style seawalls such as bioengineered or glacial stone are healthier for the lake, less expensive, and easier to obtain permits to construct. Contact DNR for additional information on bioengineered seawalls. At times people will try to configure piers to create a private swimming area or will rope off an area to keep boats out. Areas of exclusive use are not allowed because the public has a vested right in the use of the entire lake.

Issues with piers sometimes arise as well. As the lakes get busier and more congested, there has been an increase in conflicts between neighbors over piers and space for their watercraft. Indiana Public Freshwater Lakes are held in trust for the public by the State. Property owners will have property lines that go to the shoreline. Once lakeward of the shoreline, there are areas in the lake referred to as riparian zones. These areas are not "owned" by the property owner, but are allowed to be used by the property owner as their "riparian right". Riparian zones and riparian rights can be extremely complicated and disputes between landowners can result in hundreds of thousands of dollars litigating a few feet of space in the lake. Our suggestion is to always be good neighbors, work out agreements with neighbors, and avoid placing your pier and boats near the edge of your property where they may interfere with other users. Bulletin 56 provides additional guidance:
http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/20100331-IR-312100175NRA.xml.pdf

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If a riparian zone dispute arises that cannot be resolved between the neighbors, there is a Dispute Process established through the Natural Resources Commission's Division of Hearings. This should always be a last resort, can become extremely expensive, and could result in an order for all involved parties to remove the disputed piers until the matter is eventually resolved.

Aquatic vegetation is important. Those "weeds" out in the lake take up excess nutrients, slow down waves, minimize erosion, and provide food and habitat for fish and other wildlife. Do not use any chemicals to kill vegetation in the lake. You can remove a small amount of vegetation by hand without a permit; however, it may be easier to alter your use to accommodate the vegetation. DNR's Division of Fish and Wildlife regulates vegetation removal and requires a permit for any removal over 625 square feet.

If there are any questions, feel free to send us an email at watercompliance@dnr.IN.gov. If you have meetings and would like a speaker on a particular topic relating to issues mentioned in this letter, please contact Alysson Oliger at aoliger@dnr.IN.gov or 317-234-1097 and we will try to accommodate your request.

Sincerely,

Jon Egger, Manager
Compliance and Enforcement Section
Division of Water

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Email: rmatherly@gmail.com

Farewells

Eldon "Ollie" Johnson 94, of Elkhart, passed away Saturday, March 17, 2018, at Greenleaf Health Campus. He was born Aug. 21, 1923, in Bristol, to Roy and Ada (Remington) Johnson. He married Betty Lou DeYoung on Oct. 1, 1949, in Elkhart. Surviving are a son, **Doug Johnson** and a daughter, Darlene (Dennis) Knoll, both of Elkhart; four grandchildren, Chad Johnson, Jeremy Johnson, Nikki Malott, and Travas Knoll; 14 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Dorothy Hamilton of Elkhart. He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Lou on March 5, 2008 and his siblings, Alice Grubb, Isabelle Simpson, Maxine Ross, Toka Canen and Floyd Johnson. Ollie graduated from Bristol High School and served in the U.S. Army as a medic in World War II. He was awarded two bronze stars. He retired as owner and brick layer for more than 50 years of Johnson Masonry. He was a life member of the DAV, American Legion and VFW. Our thoughts are with Doug and his family.

Nora Mae Allen, 91, of Elkhart, passed away peacefully of natural causes at her home at 7:35 p.m. Friday, March 2, 2018. She was born in Branch County, Michigan, June 28, 1926, to the late Alva and Ollie Grace (Elliott) Allen. She was preceded in death by her companion, Barbara Harding, who passed in 2013 and a sister, Anna Belle Forrester. Surviving are a host of nieces and nephews, including Dennis (Ann) McHenney of Kendallville, Mike (Florence) McHenney of Coldwater, Michigan, Patrick McHenney of Elkhart and Shelia McHenney Roderick, also of Elkhart, a multitude of great and great-great nieces and nephews, and her faithful schnauzer, Nicki.

Nora was a graduate of Michigan State University and completed her masters at the University Of Notre Dame. She served as lab supervisor at Elkhart General Hospital for more than 30 years, then continued on at the South Bend Medical Foundation another 20 years as their human resources vice president. She enjoyed golf, gardening and fishing and was an avid animal lover. Memorial donations can be given to the Humane Society of Elkhart County. Nora was a long-time resident of the lake. She will be missed.

David Kinnison, 69, brother of lake resident **BJ (Gawthrop) Morrison** died February 17 in South Carolina. David is survived by his wife and three children, six grandchildren and four sisters. David was buried in Oak Park Cemetery in Ligonier.

Larry E. Sims, 48, of Elkhart, passed away Friday, Feb. 9, 2018, at his home. He was born Dec. 11, 1969, in Elkhart, to Ray P. and Caroll A. Sims. Larry enjoyed life to the fullest, even with his heart issues. He traveled all over the country visiting family and helping his brother, Alonzo, with his trucking. In 2016, he organized a semi load of building materials to take to the town of Rainelle, West Virginia, his family's hometown; it was possible thanks to many helpers and companies. Larry just made the trip the West Virginia in May and always made a pit stop in East Lynn, West Virginia with special people who adopted his family then he traveled to Rainelle to spend time with family.

Larry has three nephews, Corey Atwell, Michael and Jordan Marra and his niece Kaitlin Merklein. His siblings and mom, niece and nephews all live in Elkhart. His ashes will be taken to his beloved West Virginia.

Mary Beth Miller, 75, of Elkhart, passed away Sunday March 18, 2018 at Greenleaf Health Campus. She was born November 29, 1942 in Elkhart to Paul & Ardis (Maines) Blackwell.
Surviving are 2 children, **Tina (Steve) Helvey**, Steven Perry both of Elkhart; 2 granddaughters, Misti Helvey of Elkhart and Tara Helvey of North Salem, IN and a great-granddaughter, Trysta Helvey. Also surviving is a sister, Susan Townsend of Muncie, IN; numerous nieces and nephews and Mary Beth's significant other, Steve Girten of Elkhart.
Mary Beth graduated in 1960 from Elkhart High School and she was life member of the Central Christian Church. She worked as a home health care aid for Elkhart General Home Care and for Family Nursing Services. Our hearts out to the Helveys.

Lake Shorts

Congratulations!

Dale and Kay Marcus are some very proud grandparents. The dancer and graduate in these pictures is their granddaughter, Nadia Polizotto. Nadia has been dancing with Indiana Ballet Theater since the age of four. She has played Clara in the Nutcracker as well as other rolls in numerous ballets, the final one being Swan Lake in April. She spends much of her summers on Simonton Lake with her grandparents.

Happy 50th Anniversary!

Our wonderful lake neighbors **Dwight and Linda Bowser** are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations!

> "They must have been married when they were babies. They still look like youngsters!"

New Neighbors

Garrison and Aida Curtis have purchased a home on Lake Drive formerly owned by Madeline Houghton

Andy Decker has purchased a home on CR 109 formerly owned by Tim Maxey

Kim Bromen has bought a home on Blue Ribbon Lane formerly owned by Rhett and Angela Fisher

William Gonyer has purchased a home on Channel Court formerly owned by Jim Sanders

Rhonda Williams has purchased a home on Channel Court formerly owned by the McAlpins

Allen and Serena Utterbach have purchased a home on Lake Drive formerly owned by the Stablers

Raymond Sunday is a new neighbor on C.R. 11

Tim Price has purchased a home on Aqua Drive formerly owned by the Cavenaughs

John & Cynthia Cavitt have purchased a home on N. Shore Drive which belonged to Cynthia's parents.

To all our new neighbors:

Welcome to the Lake!

Pet Tails

Life on the lake has become an ongoing rescue mission for **Sarah and Joe Kilgren**. This winter they rescued a Swedish Blue Duck as well as a Muscovy duck. We are not sure how these ducks, not native to Northern Indiana, got into our lake. The Swedish Blue came right to Sarah. She had fed her over the summer. But, Sarah and her neighbor Lara Gammon worked for about three months this winter to coax the Muscovy out of the water. Every day either Sarah or Lara would come to check on the Muscovy who sat perched on a pier stand. Finally, as the ice melted the Muscovy, lured by food left on the seawall, worked itself into Sarah and Joe's yard. Patiently, Sarah laid a trail of food from the seawall and onto her front porch. Amazingly, the duck followed. Sarah got the duck into a cage she had waiting. Already Joe and Sarah had made a trip to the Fort Wayne area to deliver the Swedish Blue to a duck rescue farm. Once the Muscovy was in the cage, yet another trip was taken. The Kilgrens are not strangers to rescuing animals. Over thirteen years ago they adopted two puppies who had been rescued from a cornfield near Noblesville. One of these dogs, **Mugsy**, had epilepsy and lived only six years. **Molly** lived until just last December. Sarah says she misses her every day.

Their current rescue is **Charlie** who was adopted eight years at a Humane Society benefit. Ironically, Charlie likes music and likes it loud! Sarah and Joe have kind hearts and a special love of animals. What great neighbors!

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SIMONTON LAKE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB SPRING REPORT

By John Lendman, President

We were pleased this winter to add several new members to the club.

Our mission this year is to get more of our lake community involved in supporting the kids fishing contests, the annual fireworks, our Dollar for Scholars fund raising and our annual food drive for the Osolo EMS unit.

The Spring Turkey Shoot was March 24 and March 25.

Vegas night in April was a project in-the-works as this article was submitted. The committee in charge feels that the event will be packed.

The Mostacollii Open Gold Tournament will be on May 12 instead of May 19. Tickets are moving quickly and it also may be a sold out event. The entry fee is $60.00 per person which includes food, drink and golf. Sponsorship of each hole is $100.00. This money goes to the fireworks. At this time we still have sponsorships available. **Please call or e-mail John Lendman for more information. lendman@comcast.net**

Jim Friend and Bob Putman will be announcing the next fishing contest on the lake.

SLAHA's Policy on Political Endorsements and Advertising

The SLAHA Board has stablished a position on political endorsements and advertising for the Simonton Says Newsletter. We know we have some fine Simonton Lake residents who are inpolitics and/or running for an election. However, the Board holds the position that it will not endorse any political candidate. The Association cannot reflect the political views for all members of our community..More of the Association's work has become involved with our local and state governments. To avoid any negative consequences of endorsing or advertising for a specific candidate, the Board feels that remaining neutral better serves the Simonton Lake community.

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SIMONTON ASKED & ANSWERED

Spring 2018 Edition

March 2018
From: Lake Resident
RE: Boating Course

I am trying to find a Boating Class for my 15 year-old son. He does not yet have a Driver's License and wants to drive our wave runner this summer? Where do we find this information?

Answer: Simonton Says Staff, DNR Website information

According to the DNR website: Anyone **under the age of 15 years** may not legally operate a vessel powered by a motor of more than 10 horsepower or a PWC.

Anyone **older than 15 years** of age may operate a motorized vessel or PWC if he or she successfully completes a boater safety course approved by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and possesses a valid Indiana Boater Education Certificate.

The boating class that the DNR offers is an online class. You can access the Study Guide, the actual course and a completion document online at www.boating-ed.com

- The course is online
- There is no minimum age requirement to take this online course.
- You do not have to be a resident of Indiana to take this class.
- The cost is $29.50
- If you pass, you can download your Boating Education Card
- You must carry the card on the boat or wave runner that you are driving. (A zip-lock bag in the dry compartment is a good place for this.)
- The Indiana Course is approved by the US Coast Guard, so your Boating Education Card will be recognized in all states.

The Simonton Says staff is unaware of any local boating classes. A list provided at the U.S. Coast Guard website shows classes at various times throughout the summer. However the closest sites are: Fort Wayne, Hammond, St. Joe and Chicago.

March 2018
From Cottage Avenue Resident
RE: Flooding

When we had those heavy rains in February our basement flooded. We have lived here for about five years with a dry basement. We have a sump pump but as it tried to keep up, the motor burned out. A new sump pump helped but the carpet was soaked and some furniture ruined.
I know the other people in the county had lots worse flooding than this, but is there any help we can get beyond our homeowner's insurance?
Any tips on clean up?
And, is there any way that we can keep this from happening again?

Continued on Pg. 20

Answer: Simonton Says Staff, Elkhart County Health Department and Bill Decker of Decker Inspection Services

All of us on the newsletter staff feel for you. Most of us who live around the lake have experienced flooding of some type. This year was especially bad for some. If you have an older home you may have cracks in your basement that let in water when the ground is totally soaked and it has nowhere else to go. Many of us around the lake with basements have at least one or two sump pumps and have lost our sump pumps as you did at the worst possible time.

We hope that your homeowner's insurance covered at least some of your loss but you may want to try calling the county to report your flooding. County officials are trying to get complete information as to what areas where affected. Whether they can help, we cannot say.

As to clean up, by the time the newsletter appears you've already done some of these things but here is what the Health Department advises

After Water Recedes
• Wear protective clothing—coveralls, latex gloves, protective eyeglasses, rubber boots and a face mask, if available.
• Move items out of the flooded area as soon as possible.
• Allow wet items to air-dry as quickly as possible to prevent rot and mildew.
• Open doors and windows. Run your furnace or air conditioner if safe to use. Also use fans and dehumidifiers, if possible.
• Remove all toxic chemicals
• Wash down concrete or brick walls, floors, faucets etc. that have been under water, first with clean water, then soapy warm water. Sweep water down the drain or to the sump pump, and then vacuum with a wet-dry shop vacuum cleaner.
• Disinfect all surfaces and equipment that came into contact with floodwater with a solution of ½ cup of liquid chlorine bleach to a gallon of water. A pump-type garden sprayer works best for large areas, or small items can be dipped in a pail of the chlorine/water solution. Let everything air dry.
• Contaminated foods should be discarded and beverages in bottles or jars should be discarded, if flood waters reached the lids.
• Clean and deodorize carpets or have them professionally cleaned.
• Foam rubber mattresses, pillows, upholstered furniture and stuffed toys are difficult to clean properly. If in doubt that an item can be cleaned properly, it is best to throw it away.

To be prepared for the next flood:

-Make sure that your roof's gutters and downspouts are in good condition, free of leaves and debris, that they drain at least 6' away from the house
-You might consider buying a good quality **dehumidifier** for your basement. Even when you don't have wet carpet the moisture level is always higher in your basement.
-You might consider purchasing a **battery-powered back up sump pump**. If the power goes out, this sump pump will continue to work
-You might consider having a professional foundation contractor **repair the cracks** in your foundation or hire a company to put in a **drainage system**.

April 2018
New Resident: Karen Carpenter
RE: Swimming Area

We are new to the north side of Elkhart. While we don't own lake front property we sure would like our kids to be able to swim at Simonton Lake. Is there a swimming area? If our friend would bring his boat, where can we launch it?

Answer: Simonton Says Staff

To launch your boat onto Simonton Lake, use the state-owned boat launch at the north end of C.R. 109. You are not supposed to swim at the boat launch. There is limited parking. So, if you'd like to get your boat on the water on a busy weekend, get there early. The rules for the boat launch, as well as information about running your boat on the lake are posted near the water's edge.
Simonton Lake does not have a swimming beach. Nearby Heaton Lake does have a nice swimming beach. Many people who have access to water craft come to the sandbar at the east end of the big basin to swim. However, there is no separate swimming area. You'll need to be careful to keep your kids away from propeller blades as well as boats coming and going from the sandbar who might not see your child in the water

SIMONTON
Leprechaun Leap
A GREAT SUCCESS

Once again Simonton Lake became the place to jump in even though it is only March. The annual fundraiser for United Cancer of Elkhart County held at "Re-Pete's" drew hundreds of jumpers and spectators.

But, this year, for the first time, ice had to be chopped away from the pier. Yup! Mighty Cold! But for a good cause. We hope everyone was able to warm up after the event.

Skiers

Jordan and Jaelyn Wiers from Maplewood Drive are the skiers pictured here. The boat was driven by Dave Wiers with passengers Jax Wiers and Kaislie Siron and picture was taken July 4th weekend. They were waving to grandparents Larry and Sue Wiers sitting on the dock. Looks like a great family day at the lake!

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SIMONTON

ABANDONED RABBITS

Spring 2018 Edition

Leanne and Dan Brekke caught this abandoned rabbit this winter. Neighbors had noticed two rabbits, shown in the photograph below, for several weeks but had been unable to catch them. Only one survived the winter. We are not sure if someone dumped the animals or if they got out of their cages somehow. The Brekkes took the rabbit to the Animal Shelter.

Winter Wave Running

1st Prize for earliest Wave Runner Ride goes to Matt Jones and Company who were seen on the lake in February.

What's for Sale?

Information Courtesy of Zillow and Elkhart County GIS- January 2018

- A cottage at 51202 owned by Virgil Storm is for sale
- 26014 Lake Drive, across the street from the lake
- Bucky and Sue Linson are selling their home on Lake Drive. They will be missed
- Art and Sue Blauvelt are selling their home on North Shore Drive. They are great neighbors and will be missed by the folks in the Wogoman's Cove area.

Join the Lake Association Today!

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Read the article in this issue.

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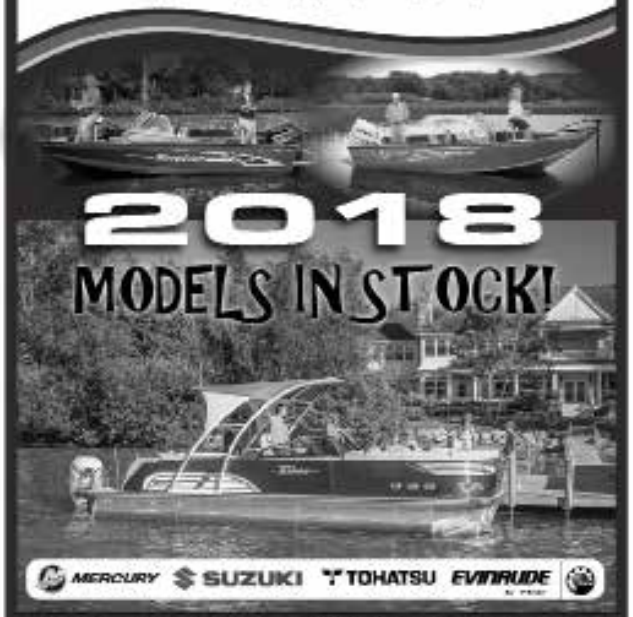

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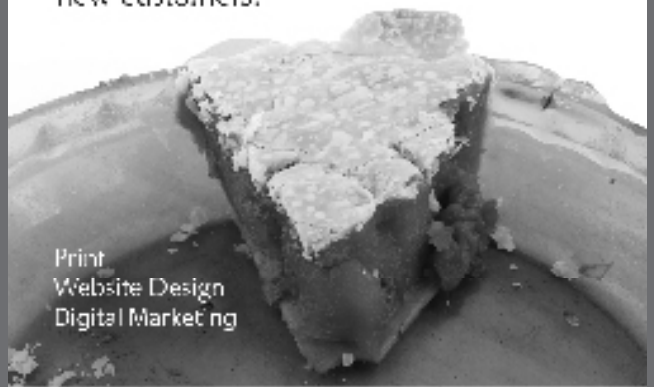

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SIMONTON Message Board

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Classified Ads

To place a classified ad, e-mail: ads@simontonlake.org Classified ads are free for paid members of the Lake Association. Non-members pay $5.00 per ad. Ads must be resubmitted for each issue. No commercial business ads will be accepted to protect our sponsors who are supporting this newsletter. **Deadline:** 15th of the month prior to publishing month

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FOR SALE: JET SKI SHOP CART / DOLLY STAND - new; never used (bought dual trailer instead). On E-bay for $119 & up. Will sell for $75.

FOR SALE: WOW EXTREME 1-3 RIDER TOWABLE. Great fun. Kids are gone, used one year. New: $429 + freight. Will sell for $200. Can view on E-bay under "wow extreme towable".

Text Don Hile at 574-532-1183

SIMONTON ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Friday, May 4th
Saturday, May 5th
8-5

Wishing you a very

Happy Birthday & Anniversary!

5/2 Janet Kelsey
5/4 Sue Taylor
5/4 Jim Friend
5/9 Greg Ferro
5/21 Madelyn Grace Skipper
Grandparents Buford & Becky Skipper
5/22 Nixon Barhydt
Grandson of Jim Ulery
6/13 Jacob Moore
Grandson of Theresa Maier
6/14 Alex Freshour
Grandson of Theresa Maier
6/14 Pam Shultz
6/14 Randy Cooper
6/16 Albert Rodriguez Kessler (AJ)
Grandson of Van & Cathy Kessler
6/18 Carter Matthew Jones
Son of Matthew & Cassie Jones
Grandson of Ed & Nancy Jones
6/25 Wendy Cooper
6/25 Linda Jimison
6/25 Emmaly Kate Kwasny
Daughter of Kyle & Julianne Kwasny
6/28 Martha Nickell
7/1 Micah David Obendorf
Grandparents Dave & Tammy Obendorf
7/1 Susie Broderick
7/2 Elliot Reed Harding
Son of Ryan & Erin Harding
7/2 Katy Barhydt
Daughter of Jim Ulery
7/6 Gia Matherly
Granddaughter of Ryan & Amy Matherly
7/9 Cale Ulery
7/18 Molly Grace Kessler
Granddaughter of Van & Cathy Kessler
7/19 Cam Snyder
7/24 Emmett Riley Harding
Son of Ryan & Erin Harding
7/29 Leighla Kay Winchester
Granddaughter of Vaughn & Cindy Nickell

ANNIVERSARY'S

5/16 Katrina & Jason Barhydt
Daughter of Jim Ulery
5/18 Dan & Leanne Brekke
5/22 Adam & Rachel Meyers
6/1 Mike & Angela Black
6/9 Mike & Angie Peterson
6/11 Natalie & Josh Hochstetler
Daughter of Dave & Colleen Replogle
6/13 Vaughn & Cindy Nickell
6/16 Cortney & Michael McIntire
6/19 Christi & Erik Smith
Daughter of Dave & Tammy Obendorf
6/23 Heather & Wil Frentzen
Daughter of Greg & Barb McGough
6/23 Lisa & Jordan Swanson
Son of Tom & Deb Swanson
6/28 Gary & Marlene Taska
7/12 Jenny & Nathan Montiel
Daughter of Don & Carol Bradshaw
7/12 Kelly & Greg Shewmaker
Ryan & Amy Matherly's Daughter
Terry & Kathy Shewmaker's Son
7/19 Ryan & Erin Harding
7/20 Derek & Isabelle Sapakowski

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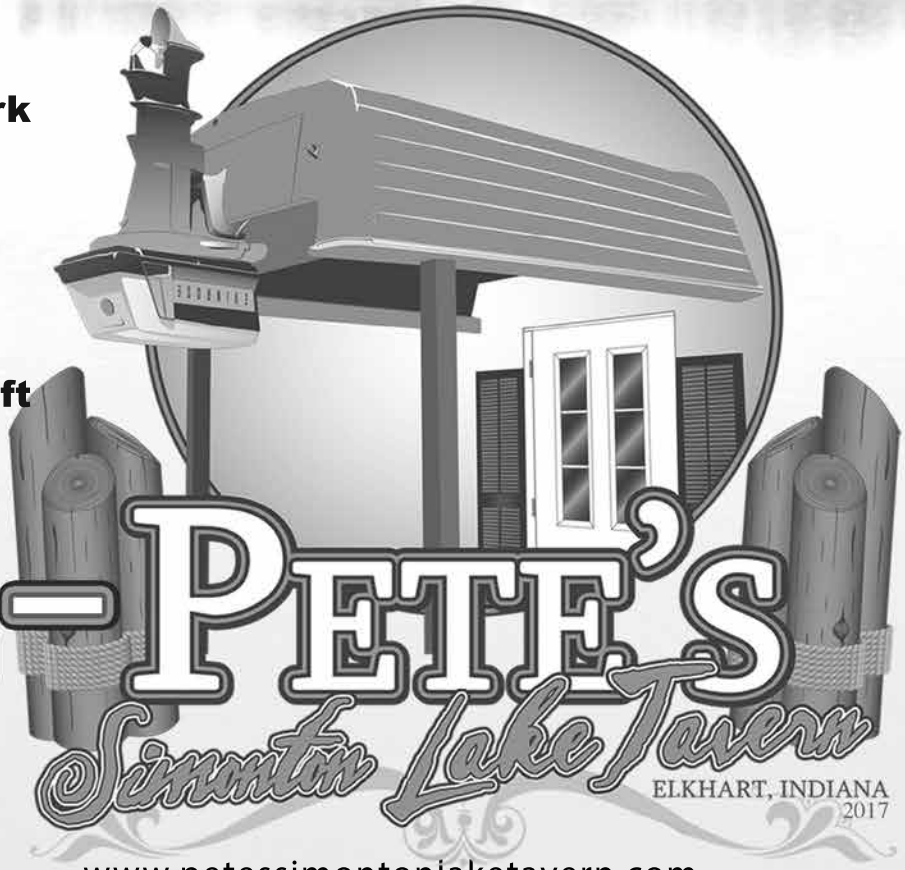

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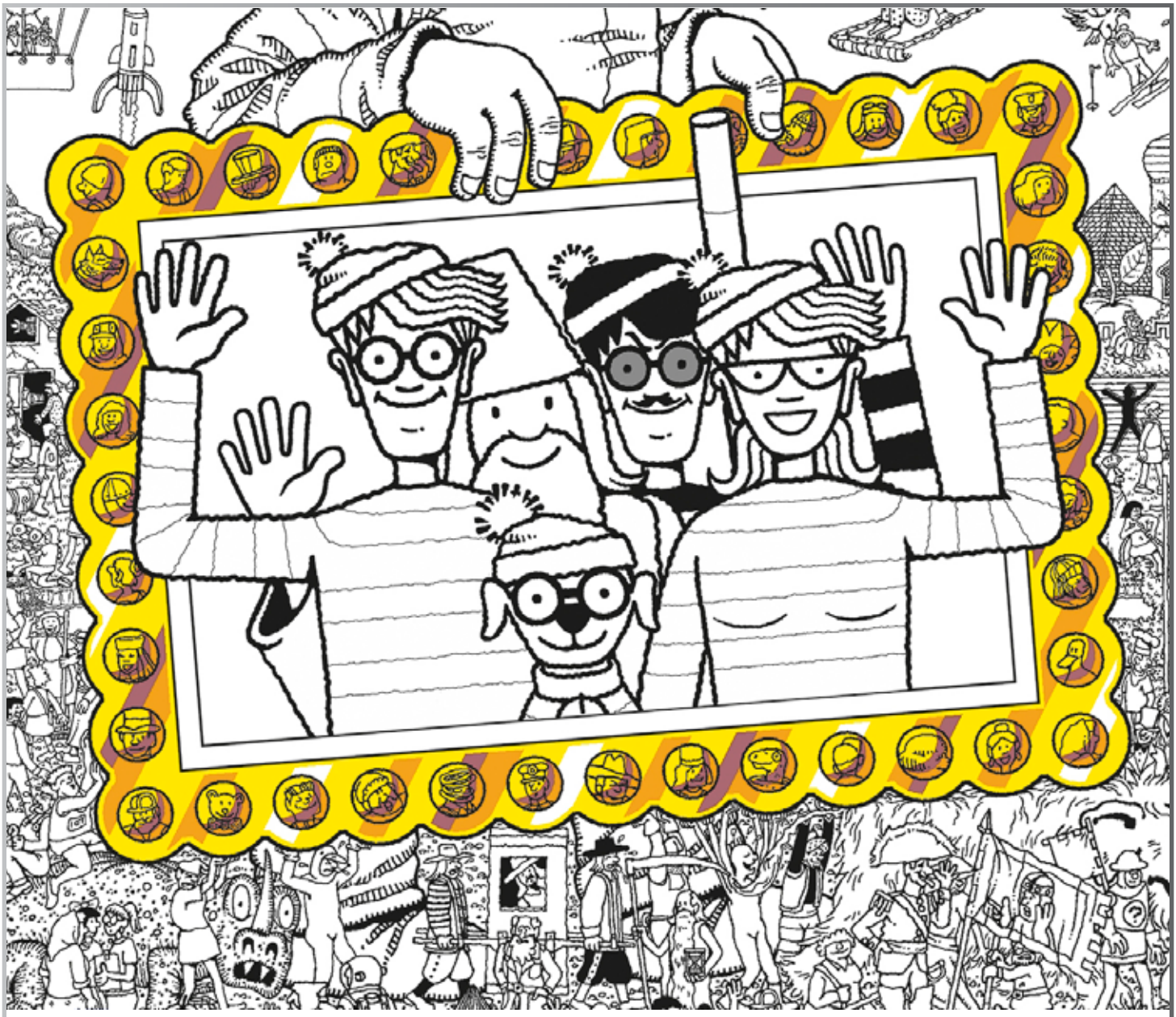
Simonton Lake Spring Coloring

Created by Angela Black



REMEMBER WHERE'S WALDO?

Where's Wally?, published in the US and Canada as Where's Waldo?, is a British series of children's puzzle books created by English illustrator Martin Handford.

I love to just sit outside when the weather is nice and do some coloring. We now have adult coloring books and all sorts of wonderful distractions from our day to day activities. One of my favorite past times was Where's Waldo. I wanted to share it with you hoping you will enjoy it as much as I did.

Thank you and Happy Spring,
Angela Black

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- An ad in the Elkhart Truth will be paid for by the Lake Association
- Signs will be placed only at major crossroads.
- You will be responsible for neighborhood signs and yard signs.

Friday, May 4th
Saturday, May 5th
8-5

SIMONTON LAKE

ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER

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Stan and Linda Skinner took this picture outside their window.

Diane Marlow caught this winter sunset