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REG: 4-7 PM · AWARDS: 8 PM

Indian Lake weeding out enemy number 1

BY SHARYN KOPF EXAMINER CONTRIBUTOR

espite the winter weather, Indian Lake legislators' thoughts are on sunny summer days and warm July nights, when there's nothing better than speeding across blue water or casting a lure where the fish are biting.

Unfortunately, like many similar areas in Ohio, Indian Lake has a weed problem. A problem the government intends to correct, and several presented their plans and concerns at the Indian Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Legislative Luncheon Friday.

Amber Fagan, chamber president, organized and hosted the sold-out event.

After enjoying lunch provided by the staff at Cranberry Resort in Huntsville, the roomful of residents and business owners heard from seven area officials, most focused on cleaning up the lake.

"If (the lake) isn't usable, people won't come here," State Rep. Nino Vitale (R-Urbana) said. "There's money available. We just

have to fight for it." The other state representative

in attendance, Jon Cross (R-Kenton), agreed there's "plenty of money in Ohio," and emphasized their commitment to make this a priority.

We have to figure out the science," he said, "then we'll solve the weed issue for good."

Glen Cobb, chief of the Division of Parks & Watercraft, was the final speaker for the event. He commented, "It used to be a challenge mowing grass on the land. Now we're mowing the

According to Cobb, part of the solution involves hiring three weed harvesters, the first time they've brought in so many. The company taking care of spraying, AQUA DOC Inc., will provide maps of the areas they're spraying to the Ohio Department



State Rep. Jon Cross (R-Kenton) speaks Friday during the Indian Lake Area Chamber of Commerce's Legislative Luncheon. (EXAMINER PHOTO I SHARYN KOPF)

of Natural Resources and the private sector. Then they'll all join

Cross stressed the importance of residents refraining from spray-

together on cutting and watershed.

ing their own chemicals.

'Don't panic this summer!" he said. "We'll be okay. Maybe we won't get every weed, but we're going to get boats on the water."

Indian Lake residents will have an opportunity to learn more at a planning meeting with AQUA DOC, the ODNR, watershed officials and all other key people at a date to be determined in March. The Indian Lake chamber will provide more information on its Facebook page once it's available.

Also covered at the luncheon: Logan County Commissioner Paul Benedetti told of a plan to improve rural broadband around the lake and throughout the county using some if not most of the \$8.4 million the county received from the American Rescue Plan

Act. This federal funding is a onetime offering to be doled out over a four-year period.

Though originally intended for infrastructure, Benedetti said, "The goal posts keep changing as to what we can use it for.'

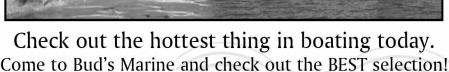
He hopes the full board will decide how much of the money will go toward broadband in the next few months.

Not only do the schools and parents need this, Benedetti anticipates it could lead to more remote workers choosing to live at

See LUNCHEON on P9









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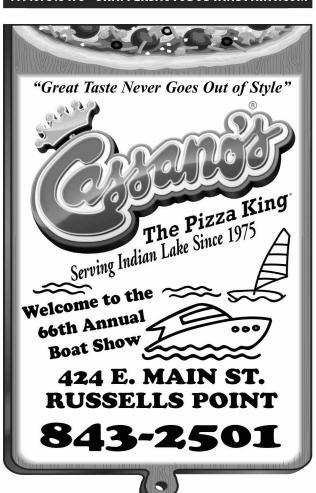
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...Next to McDonald's

LUNCHEON

Continued from Page 8

- Fagan announced plans for fireworks on Labor Day weekend in addition to the 4th of July.
- Attendees also heard from Randy Chevalley with the Ohio Department of Transportation District 7. Though many road and bridge improvements are on the way, he anticipates none will lead to road closures this year. He said they'll spend \$5.5 million on Logan County road work in 2022.

Lack of money is a problem, and much of that can be blamed on COVID-19, Chevalley related.

Since ODOT money comes from gas taxes and lockdowns resulted in more people staying home, the department found itself down 33 percent at one point. At their last check, in October, they were still down 7 percent. But prices on equipment and materials were up, including an increase in the cost of asphalt from \$175 per cubic yard to \$250.

With that in mind, Chevalley said, "Buy gas. Keep moving. Get out and have fun!"



EcoHarvester to help combat weed issue

The Indian Lake Watershed Project Board of Directors voted to purchase an EcoHarvester to help combat the growing weeds in Indian Lake.

"This purchase is a step toward improving recreational conditions and controlling the abundant weed growth," said Frank Giannola, ILWP Board president.

The \$93,000 weed harvester will pull the weeds out by the roots instead of cutting them, reducing weed growth. The EcoHarvester will also be able to skim floating algae and weeds off the surface. The harvester was delivered to the waters of Indian lake in the fall of 2021 and an in-water demonstration was completed.

Proceeds from the 2021 Nashville Hitmakers show went toward the purchase of the equipment. The ILWP is also accepting donations. If you wish to donate or for more details, contact Watershed Coordinator Abbi Hastings at (937) 404-3148.



VOLUNTEER GROUP DONATES AED UNIT

The Indian Lake Boaters Helping Boaters group continues to show how much they care about helping others. The group recently presented an AED unit to the ODNR Indian Lake Natural Resources Officers. "They're not just helping boaters, they're helping to save lives," Indian Lake State Park officials said via their Facebook page. For additional information about the group or to become a member, contact John West at ilboatershelping-

boaters@gmail.com..
(INDIAN LAKE STATE PARK PHOTO)









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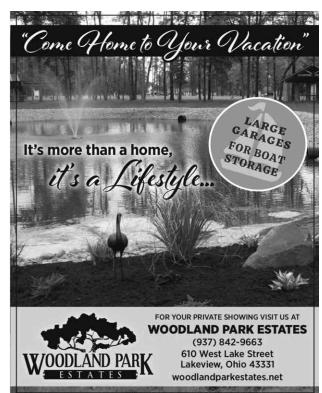
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BELLEFONTAINE

Most accidents on the water are preventable

FROM ODNR REPORTS

The best and first way to reduce the risk of an accident is to prepare before you get out on the water. Most accidents are preventable.

Even accidents attributed to the environment most likely could have been prevented if the operator had not overlooked the warning signals, had not made bad decisions or had the proper boating skills. Many accidents attributed to equipment could also have been prevented if proper maintenance and/or defect detection had taken place.

To prevent the chance of swamping or capsizing follow these rules:

 Don't overload your boat. Evenly distribute and balance the weight of persons and gear within the boat. It is extremely critical not to overload a small

• Turn your boat at controlled speeds.

If anchoring, secure the anchor line to the bow (front) of the boat, never to the stern. • Don't boat in rough water

or bad weather. If you should swamp or

capsize your boat: If the boat remains afloat, try to reboard. If you can't get

back in, stay with the boat. If the boat is overturned or

swamped, hang onto it. It will support you, saving loss of energy from treading

If possible, climb onto the



and wearing a lifejacket. Many

fatalities because of falling

overboard could have been

avoided if victims had worn

their life jackets. Many times

alcohol is involved with falls

To prevent yourself or pas-

Don't lean out from a small

sengers from falling overboard:

boat. Keep centered in the boat

with your center of gravity low

in the boat. Always keep your

If possible, don't move

about the boat. If you must

contact. That is, keep both

the boat at all times

shoulders between the gunnels.

move, maintain three points of

hands and one foot or both feet

and one hand in contact with

Sit only where appropriate. Don't sit on the gunnel, bow,

Don't sit on pedestal seats

when underway at greater than

seat backs or any other area

not designed for seating.

bottom of an overturned boat.

It is important to get as much of your body out of the water as possible if the water is

If the boat sinks or floats away, don't panic.

If you are wearing a life jacket, make sure it is securely fastened, remain calm and wait for help.

If you aren't wearing a life jacket, look for one floating in the water or other buoyant items (coolers, oars or paddles, decoys, etc.) to use as a flotation device.

If there is no other means of support, then you may have to tread water or simply float. In cold water, float rather than tread to reduce hypothermia.

Everyone on your boat should be prepared if for some reason they suddenly find themselves in the water. This means dressing appropriately

Don't stand up in the boat. If someone on your boat falls overboard, you need to immediately reduce speed and throw the victim a flotation device if they aren't already wearing one. Toss a flotation seat cushion if one is onboard.

Turn the boat around and carefully pull alongside the victim, approaching the victim from downwind.

Stop the engine. Pull the victim onboard over the stern, keeping the weight in the boat balanced.

If you are alone and fall overboard, don't panic.

Try to reboard. Use the ladder or swim platform on larger boats. Climb up the outboard if the weight in your boat is distributed correctly. Small boats require more planning. Don't put yourself in the position to think, "I wish I had a way to get back in...." Prepare by always keeping a rope ladder or dock line available.

If you cannot reboard, stay with the boat and wait for rescue. Hanging on to the boat will save you from using energy. With luck there are boaters nearby who can assist you. If you filed a float plan, someone will notice when you are miss-

Remember, most accidents are preventable. The best way to handle an emergency is to prepare for it and be aware of the potential for accidents before you get out on the



BOATING SAFETY CLASSES SLATED

The U.S. Coastguard Auxiliary at Indian Lake is offering Boat America safety classes this summer for anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1982.

The course dates are: June 11, July 16 and Aug. 6, at the Indian Lake Moundwood Ramp, USCG Auxiliary Station, 7490 Edgewater Ave., Huntsville.

The classes take place from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on

each of the dates. There is a \$40 fee for the first student, and \$25 fee for

a second student, if applicable. The fee includes lunch. Pre-registration is required for all classes. Contact Anita

Daniel at (937) 726-6572. The course is NASBLA approved and successful comple-

tion satisfies the state educational requirements for individuals born after Jan. 1, 1981, who operate a powerboat greater than 10 horsepower.

BOAT SHOW SPECIALS!

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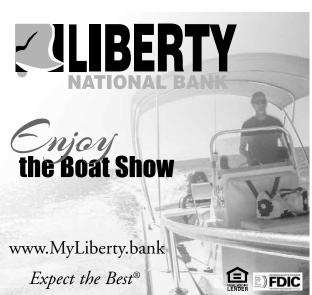
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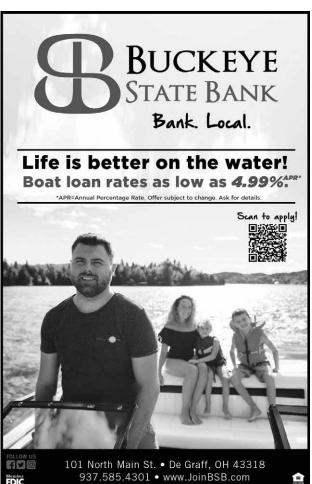


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Mail to: ILWP





Boat show dates back to 1955 open house

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

According to a 1978 Examiner article, "a well-attended (1955) open house at a new building constructed by the former Schuler Marina was the forerunner of the annual tradition — with all the marinas joining forces for a major exposition the next year."

include sales and service

facility on Orchard Island.

The old location was then dismantled brick by brick

and relocated to the new

708, where it continues

facility, 9481 N. State Route

The Reed family has

since acquired the former

as Indian Lake Marine, at

457 E. Main St., Russells

with Bud's Marine, 7189

Route 366 east of Russells

daily at 10 a.m. and close

Friday and Saturday at 6

p.m. and Thursday and

The Indian Lake Boat

show is the annual spring

event for the entire Indian

campers, visitors, tourists,

marks the beginning of spring activities in the area.

Boat show will feature excellent deals, good food,

and residents look forward to this annual event which

The 2021 Indian Lake

and meetings with old and

new friends, according to

Indian Lake Chamber of

to the Indian Lake Boat

Annually, boaters come

show and enjoy the fun and

Commerce officials.

Sunday at 5 p.m.

Lake area. Boaters,

Point.

Point.

Major Marine, now known

Both locations will take

part in the boat show, along

County Road 38, along State

The showrooms open

and constructed a new

It was 1956 when the owners of the three primary marine dealers — including Schuler and Spend-A-Day marinas and Major Marine — banded together to attract thousands for a weekend-long display of the latest in water sports.

One of its original organizers, the late William "Bill" Reed, who passed away in 2009, was a staple for more than five decades, greeting visitors and friends in the Spend-A-Day Marina showroom and serving up popcorn and conversation along with his late wife, Marjorie, said son Jim Reed just after his father passed away in 2009.

"He basically taught (everyone here) how to put on a successful boat show and we plan to continue that tradition."

The elder Mr. Reed, like countless others, was drawn to the lake as a young boater and frequent visitor of the Million Dollar Playground.

"He played at the lake and stayed at the lake," said Mr. Reed of his father.

In 1950, the late Mr. Reed opened a small boat rental operation in Russells Point and envisioned Indian Lake becoming a water recreation destination.

Three years later, he expanded the operation to

Melissa Bosley

Broker

937-539-6370

BOAT SHOW FACTS

- This year marks the 66th annual event, organizers report
- The Indian Lake Boat Show is generally considered the unofficial start of spring for the Indian Lake area
- Situated just 20 minutes from I-75 between Dayton and Toledo, and just an hour from Columbus on U.S. Route 33, the annual boat show routinely draws scores of boaters from not just Ohio, but surrounding states

excitement of seeing the new and used boats on display. Snacks and prizes are available throughout the weekend and the boating fans love seeing the many new boats available from boat dealers at Indian Lake.

The Indian Lake boat dealers and the Indian Lake Chamber of Commerce host the show.

Boaters will be able to explore the best brands in the industry at each of the area's marine dealerships: Bud's Marine, Indian Lake Marine, and Spend-A-Day Marina. Check out names like Sea Ray, Sylvan, Bennington, Misty Harbor Pontoons, Sun Tracker,

Bass Tracker, Lund, JC

Tritoons, Manitou, Gillgetter, SunChaser, Crest, Tahoe, Yamaha Boats, Mercury motors, Honda motors, Yamaha Wave Runners, Yamaha motors and Suzuki motors — just to name a few.

Find the best boating deals to start the eason on the water including fishing boats, sport boats, sport cruisers, pontoons and tritoons and a great selection of used boats, used runabouts, used ski boats and used pontoons.

Boaters also will find an expansive inventory of the top-of-the-line boating safety equipment and the newest water tows and accessories including water-skis, tubes and towables, and wakeboards.

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The best selection and the best boating value are sure to be available at the Indian Lake Boat Show.

Stop in at each dealership'ss Boat Show Open House and celebrate the annual opening weekend of the Indian Lake boating season.

The event is billed as the best deals of the season on new and used boats, and routinely draws in visitors from throughout the region.

More information on the even is available online, indianlakeboatshow.com.



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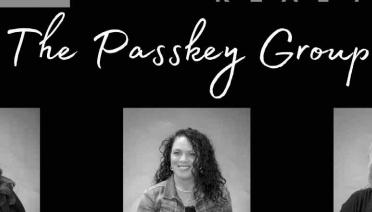
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2022 Schedule of Events*

March 19-20 Maple Syrup Festival

April 2 Cabin Fever Steak Fry June 17-18 St. Mary of the Woods Festival June 18...... JR Memorial Cruise for a Cure June 25 Putt Around the Lake July 1..... Aerial Kayak Photoshoot w/ Indian Lake Areials by Kevin Campbell July 2 Light Up The Lake Fireworks July 16 Antique Boat Show July 23 Nashville Hitmakers, Indian Lake Watershed Indian Lake High School August 6 Rock the Lake by SHINE FM Old Field Beach August 13 Party at the Beach September 4 Ring of Fire September 23-25 Fall Festival **December 8**...... Annual Dinner



*NOTE: All events and dates are subject to change due to COVID-19 or State regulations.