

# SMOKE SIGNAL



---

INDIAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

---

## PRESIDENT' S MESSAGE

From Mark Rumreich

### INVASIVE PLANTS IN INDIANA

**What are invasive plants?** "Invasive plant" is another name for a plant, which grows quickly and aggressively, displacing other plants as it spreads. Usually, invasive plants are not native to North America. Of the roughly 2300 plant species growing outside cultivation in Indiana, 2000 are non-native. Most cause little trouble, however, a few aggressive plants are responsible for degrading and destroying thousands of acres of our natural plant communities in Indiana and are costing us hundreds of thousands of dollars each year in control measures. Some of these invasive plants are still being sold by nurseries and planted by well-meaning Hoosiers not realizing the trouble they can cause. The good news is that there are many non-invasive alternatives that can be planted instead. Read on to find out about the problems and solutions.

**Why do we care?** Invasive plants hurt wildlife by eliminating the plants our native animals need for food cover. Invasive plants destroy habitat for rare wildflowers and animals; they threaten two-thirds of all endangered species. It costs money to eradicate these species and prune our natural areas. Each year the cost grows. Agricultural losses and control costs are estimated at \$15 billion per year in the United States.

*Continued on overleaf*

The following are 10 of the most damaging in Indiana:

Bush Honeysuckle - Amur, Tartarian, Morrow (*Lonicera maackii*, *L. tatarica* *morrowii*)

Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)

Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*, *R. frangula*)

Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*)

Crown Vetch (*Coronilla varia*)

Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*)

Oriental Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

Common Reed or Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*)

**What can we do?** Avoid using non-native and invasive plants in your yard. Ask your nursery for native species of plants. Scout your property for invasive species and remove invasives before they become a problem. More information is available in the INPAWS brochure, Landscaping with Plants Native to Indiana, and the book, Go Native, by Carolyn Harst, (Indiana University Press, 1999).

#### CASTOR OIL VS. THE MOLES

The following formula has been used to successfully by hundreds of homeowners in the Midwest. This potion will not kill the mole, but they do not like to tunnel in soil treated with this formula.

In a blender, whip 3 oz. castor oil and 3 tablespoons liquid detergent. Blend till frothy. Add 8 tablespoons water and blend again till frothy. Using a 15 gallon Ortho end sprayer, put 15 tablespoons of mix in the jar. Fill remainder of jar with water. Attach sprayer to garden hose and spray the entire lawn and garden area. Apply walking at a slow pace. After spraying, set up a lawn sprinkler and water about 20 minutes to an area. Repeat if moles return. Two applications per year are average. Spring is the best time to apply as the ground is usually soft. Then, you better warn your neighbors that they will be the benefactors of the moles.

## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

Toni Woodard and Bob Hanna have purchased the home formerly owned by Steve and Tracy Hiner at 10160 Indian Lake Blvd., South Dr.

## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Good Luck to our grads as they move forward to their futures!

**Geoff Eaton, Lawrence North**, who will be attending Indiana State Univ. for Aviation

**Nathaniel Hobbs, Lawrence North**

**Maria Hobbs, Lawrence North**

**Nathan Nelson, Lawrence North**, who will enter the Air Force

## INDIAN LAKE MAILBOX ID

Many of you have noticed new stickers on your mailboxes. These stickers - pinecones or trees - were placed there to help us identify the homes of Indian Lake Residents for the distribution of notices and newsletters. If you need a new sticker due to change in mailbox or loss, please contact Ruth Peters at 826-7634.

## JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> ACTIVITIES

We will again be celebration July 4<sup>th</sup> with various activities the Lake. Decorate your boats and bikes, trikes and scooters to show your spirit!

**Boat Parade: 2:00 PM**

**Bike, Trike and Scooters: 2:30 PM at the South Beach**

**Ice Cream Social: 3:00 PM at the South Beach**

Watch for a flyer listing details.

Louise Hoskins will turn 94 on July 9th!  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Greg Taylor has graduated with a mechanical engineering degree from Kettering University.  
Congratulations!!!

## ANNUAL PICNIC

The ILIA Annual Picnic will be held on Sun., July 20, 2003 from 2:00 PM till 7:00 PM for Lake residents and their families only. The event will be held at the home of Edward French, III. There will be swimming (lifeguard provided), games, a raffle of items to benefit the Civic Committee. And of course, food by Broasters. The theme will be "A Patriotic Picnic on Indian Lake". Due to insurance restrictions, no alcohol will be provided - but you're welcome to bring your own. RSVP cards and more information will be distributed soon.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WILDLIFE PROGRAM

If you have had your property certified by the National Wildlife Federation, please contact Ruth Peters at 826-7634 in order to provide her with your certification number. Once we have 15 certifications on the lake, we will qualify for the Neighborhood certification. The application requires only that you have water, food and shelter available on your property for birds and wildlife. There is a one-time fee of \$15.00. Please contact Ruth for more information.

## NEIGHBORHOOD SALE

Clean out your garage, basement or attic for the ILIA sale on Sat., Aug. 16, 2003 from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Jesse Newton will be placing signs, ads in local newspapers and ads in area businesses. We will hold a drink and snack sale at the park to benefit the Civic Committee. The date will be great for people looking for "back to school" children's sales. A flyer with more details will follow. Jesse can be contacted at 823-0855.

## FOR SALE

Pontoon boat-25'

Can be seen at North Beach

\$600 Call 823-3897

**INDIAN LAKE HISTORY PART VII.** A single family living alone in the Indian Lake Region in 1823 survived precarious and dangerous conditions in their isolation. One year later in 1824 settlers living in what appeared to be safer conditions where group members could lend a hand to support each other ended up dying from overcrowding.

John Johnson had been scouting the local area to find sites for possible settlement when he helped erect the first cabin in the area. When he returned to Ohio his enthusiastic descriptions of the area convinced his cousin Samuel Morrow to move his family and several other relatives here. The Morrow party was large. It included his wife Agnes and sons John and Jacob. His brother-in-law Robert Ellis brought his wife Martha who was expecting, his daughter Elizabeth, and sons John and Samuel. Two nephews Samuel and William Black were also in the party. Adam Kerr and his son Samuel rounded out the group. As the winter of 1824 approached these thirteen people moved into a 18 by 20 foot cabin they erected on land near William Reddick's cabin at the mouth of Mud Creek.

The floor of the Morrow cabin was bare earth. The roof was made of clapboards laid down without nails. The clapboards were held in place more or less by long poles laid across the cabin's roof. The Morrows divided the small cabin into "sleeping apartments" by hanging quilts on lines to afford some measure of separation. One area was provided for each family and a third area was created for the adult males and young boys.

In addition to the crowded conditions described Indians frequently visited the Morrow cabin and camped there for extended periods. Indians always had the expectation of being treated as guests while visiting. This led to extra meal preparations with squaws wandering in and out of the cabin while the food was being prepared. It is said there is always room for one more. This proved true when a visitor named Jacob Anderson arrived and moved into the cabin. With the birth of a new baby the number of people occupying the tiny 18 by 20 foot space was fifteen. A serious problem began to emerge.

In 1824 on the frontier an outdoor privy was considered advanced technology and was not high on the list of things needed in the hectic preparations for winter. Typically the normal bodily functions were performed at selected convenient spots in the area surrounding the cabin, weather permitting. When weather was at its worst sloop jars were used. The contents were thrown out onto the frozen ground and snow. As long as temperatures remained below freezing this process worked reasonably well. When it thawed or warmed up and rained the accumulated wastes on the ground mixed into the melt water and runoff often contaminated the source of drinking water. This caused a common malady of the time known as the flux..

B.R. Sulgrove in his History of Indianapolis and Marion County 1884 on page 540 says, " A great deal of sickness prevailed at the cabin of this new settler." The accumulations of fifteen people would have made the probability of suffering from flux almost certain.

When the Morrow party was stricken they called in two doctors from the distant settlement of Indianapolis. Calling in doctors was a very rare practice in the frontier society. The state of the art medical treatment for internal illness at that time was to attempt to purge whatever was causing the problem from the body. The patients were suffering from extreme diarrhea and a loss of vital body fluids. Dr. Issac Coe and Dr. Mears with the very best of intentions probably gave the patients a powerful purgative and submitted them to a bleeding session.

Mr. Morrow's son Jacob died. The Ellis family lost their newborn infant daughter and a daughter named Elizabeth. Adam Kerr died. The visitor Jacob Anderson died as well. It would be hard to determine if the sickness or the doctor's treatments contributed the most toward their deaths. Joshua Reddick the Revolutionary War veteran who was a neighbor provided the ground for their burials. That cemetery was the first one in Lawrence Township. It was the size of a

modern house and was well maintained for more than one hundred and forty years. It was located on the right side of Fall Creek Road near Mud Creek as you drive toward the city. It appears that a developer felt he had to squeeze in one more house and tombstones might adversely effect the sale of such a property. The graves appear to have been left intact. Only the tombstones seem to have been removed. This left a rise of ground which shuts out the noise of cars passing near the precious house. The dead are performing community service.

While several of the people he encouraged to settle in this area were dying John Johnson made an impressive appearance in the area on Jan. 1, 1824. He purchased 720 acres smack dab in the middle of what became Fort Harrison. The Johnson cabin was erected about a half mile southeast of the hill known as Johnson Hill. This may be the site where the main building of the fort is located with a cannon on the lawn.

John Johnson had done a convincing job in recruiting other families to leave their homes in Butler County Ohio and start over again. Three other families settled on land near his in what became Fort Harrison. Including his holdings more than a thousand acres were being cleared and settled on. John Johnson returned their confidence in him by building a mill on Fall Creek which made life for everyone in the area much easier. The tiny spark which fueled the industrial revolution began with mills to work grain and saw lumber, black smith shops, leather workers, and other cottage industries. A new life style of ownership, production, commerce, and supplying services was being created in the wilderness and few knew it was happening..

Mr. Johnson's son Charles had assisted him in the area's development.. As a reward his father gave him 80 acres of land when he reached the age of twenty-one. The young man full of exuberance and in a hurry to see progress grubbed out three acres of his newly acquired land. Then he went swimming to cool off. After his swim he "took the fever, and died four days later." Young Charles Johnson had only lived five days past his twenty-first birthday. Death came in all sorts of ways on this frontier which was located so near our present Indian Lake.

Christopher Beaver was among those who came to this area from North Carolina in 1824. He arrived in this township with a bang. He had two six horse teams pulling huge wagons. He had followed an Indian trail the last twenty miles into the area. Arriving with two six horse teams was like Roger Penseke suddenly pulling into your driveway in a "Indy" race car. I think Mr. Beaver's land and cabin were in the area near 82nd Street and Hague Road. He never swore, drank, or gambled. He spent all his spare time from farming, hunting deer for their meat and hides, and he was a crack shot.

Robert Warren came here from the Clinch Mountain regions of Kentucky. He settled on 80 acres of land which probably touched on the west end of Indian Lake. The area's first settler Elisha Reddick was his immediate neighbor. Mr. Warren was also a hunter and crack shot. He killed a large number of deer. His gun furnished most of the meat for his table and fed his neighbors as well. The tanned deer skins went a long way toward paying for his land. He also was skillful in nursing the sick. He probably used many Indian medications. A person who was ill or injured was probably safer under his care than the care of the doctors.

A colony of Lutherans from around Washington, Maryland came here in 1824 led by Conrad Ringer. These industrious German speaking people built their cabins and farmed the area around what is now 56th street and German Church Road on Indian Creek near its sources. One of the people in the "Ringer Settlement" named Daniel Sharts was a Justice of the Peace for many years. Many farmers' disputes were resolved in his Justice of the Peace hearings.

James Giles and his family came here from Bracken County, Kentucky and settled on 80 acres near the mouth of Indian Creek. His wife's maiden name was Mary Reddick and she was probably a relative of the other Reddicks who lived nearby. John R. Repass



## Events for Our Community

### **BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2003

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Indian Lake Country  
Club Trophy Room

(first Wednesday night of each month)

### **CIVIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

Date: Mon., July 14, 2003

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Suzy McDaniel's, 10225 West Dr.

Sept. 15 Ruth Peters', 6910 Winona Dr.

Nov. 17 Valarie Canfield's, 10421 North Dr.

### **JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION**

BOAT PARADE, BIKE PARADE AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Date: Fri., July 4, 2003

Location: South Beach

### **ANNUAL PICNIC**

Date: Sun., July 20, 2003

Time: 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Location: French Estate

### **ILIA NEIGHBORHOOD SALE**

Date: Sat., Aug. 16, 2003

Time: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: North Dr. Park

PLEASE WATCH FOR FLYERS TO VERIFY DETAILS REGARDING  
UPCOMING EVENTS