

# LAKE OF THE OZARKS

# BUSINESS JOURNAL

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## A safe haven for victims of home violence

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Father Edwin Cole explains. Page 6.

### Disc Jockey Charlie Thomas goes to Washington, D.C.

A report from Monica Vincent explains how a small town news anchor got there. Page 3.

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### Park Rangers

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Some common misconceptions. Page 14.

*By Michael Gillespie*

With all its beauty and charm, the lake area would seem an unlikely place for domestic violence. But no place is spared. Last year there were over 100 instances of women, and children, in Morgan, Miller, and Camden Counties who fled their homes because of violence committed against them by a member of their household.

Fortunately, there was a place for them to seek safety and shelter. The Citizens Against Domestic Violence (CADV), an organization of community leaders and social service professionals, operate a safe house, known as the Victim Outreach Center.

"We are a domestic violence shelter, and sexual assault response center," says Executive Director Shonna Rakes. The Outreach Center is a 22-bed facility located at 45 Fifth Street in Camdenton.

"We have four bedrooms, and two bathrooms, and we have a lot of bunk beds," says Rakes. "We have communal-type living with a community kitchen and living room area. We have a children's playroom and a fenced-in back yard with children's equipment."

There were two women staying at the Center on the day she spoke. That might change at any moment. The facility is

open 24/7. Referrals come from law enforcement, other social service agencies, or from a crisis hotline. Sometimes victims of abuse just walk in, having heard about the Center by word-of-mouth.

"We offer them safe shelter and any kind of necessities they would need while they are here," Rakes says. The victims, often mothers with children, sometimes come to the Center with nothing more than the clothes on their back—and no real idea of what they are going to do next.

Rakes and her professional staff, which includes a legal advocate, an outreach manager, and a case supervisor, try to orient their client victims toward a safe resolution of their immediate problem, and a plan for the future. "We have clothes, hygiene supplies, all those kinds of things," says Rakes. "We provide food here in the shelter, and then beyond the safety issue we also provide support groups. We have legal advocacies so if the client needs assistance getting an order of protection or working with the sheriff's department or the prosecuting attorney, we can assist them with that. We provide goal planning; we work with the women to figure out what it is they want to do, where they want to go. We help them write down goals to work

towards. We help them with job skills, budgeting, and life skills—and we help them find housing."

All services are free of charge to the victim, completely confidential, and there is no maximum length of stay.

"I would say probably on average women stay 30 to 60 days," Rakes says. "If they are waiting on an apartment, or if they are working, it usually takes them a month to two months to get the money saved that they need."

Not all victims stay that long. Some women come in for a day or two, then decide to leave the area. Others may stay for just a few hours before deciding to return home—and to their abuser.

"It really depends on where in the process they are," Rakes notes. "If they have never tried to leave before and they don't have a good plan in place, then there is a pretty good chance that they'll go back home. If they've left a couple of times before and they have a safety plan in place, some money put away, and a support system, then chances are that they'll be able to make it on their own."

Rakes and her staff refrain from telling victims what to do; rather, they assist the victims and provide them with resources and education. They explain that things are proba-

bly going to be the same if they were to go home. But should a woman choose to return home, Rakes assures her that the Center will be there to help again when the need arises.

In addition to the 116 women and 151 children that were sheltered last year, the Center answered 359 calls on its hotline. Many hotline callers are weighing their options. "They ask us questions regarding legal issues or safety issues," Rakes said. Sometimes they just want to talk about what it's like to come into a shelter. "It's a crisis hotline; we're here to talk with them and answer their questions if we can. And if we can't then we point them in the direction of a resource that can help them."

Funding for the Victim Outreach Center comes from a variety of sources. A little over half of the budget comes from state and federal grant monies that the Center receives as a provider of domestic violence services. A percentage of marriage license fees and certain court fees also go into the funding equation. The rest comes from the community. "We receive funds from Kiwanas, the Rotary Clubs, some sororities, and from churches," says Rakes.

Another source of funding comes from the efforts of the

*continues on page 2*

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<b>Editor</b>	Jonn Lingwall	Monica Vincent
Darrel Willman	Greg Sullens	Dwight Weaver
<b>Production Assistants</b>	Julie Rambo	Mike Bissell
Corey Scott	Sara Clark	
Katie Miget	Marcie Blixt	

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*When someone reaches for help, the strength of the community is there...*

**CADV**  
Citizens Against Domestic Violence

Victim Outreach Center

**573-346-9630**

Established in 1986, CADV is a non-profit organization dedicated to ending domestic violence in the Lake of the Ozarks area.



## CADV provides a safe haven for victims of home violence

*continued from page 1*

CADV board of directors. Mike Terry, owner/broker of Community Real Estate, chairs the board. "We rely on the generosity of the local community to help make up the difference," he says. "We have several fundraising activities. We just had a very successful luncheon put on by the CADV ladies auxiliary. That raised a little over \$11,000. And that's done annually. We have several other fundraisers, as well as just getting on the phone and calling local business to say we need help right now. A lot of the state and federal grants are being cut and so we have to make up the shortcomings."

Besides Terry, members of the current board are Debbie Faulconer, Laura Webster, Carolyn Loraine, Dave Severson, Van Anderson, Sue Branch, Sharon Robinson, Sherri Tangsrud, Gabby Wilson, and Ann Brown. Webster and Severson are the police chiefs of Camdenton and Osage Beach, respectively, and Loraine is presiding commissioner for Camden County. The others are prominent members of the business community, or local residents with a strong sense of civic responsibility.

Terry says that he came into contact with CADV several years ago when the Bagnell Dam Association of Realtors began searching for ways to help the community: "We started looking around and we

chose several different organizations to work with, and CADV was one of them. I saw their need and decided as an individual I wanted to get more involved with it."

Having been on the board for six years, Terry says there is no problem in staying motivated. "I've seen mothers come in [to the Center] with children in their arms, and nobody has



Mike Terry

got any shoes on, and they just ran out of the house with only the things they had on their body because they were concerned about their safety. The ladies that run the organization can probably find less stressful jobs and make a lot more money, but they're just dedicated to what they do, and they work very hard at what they do."

Terry says that he serves on the board for personal reasons:

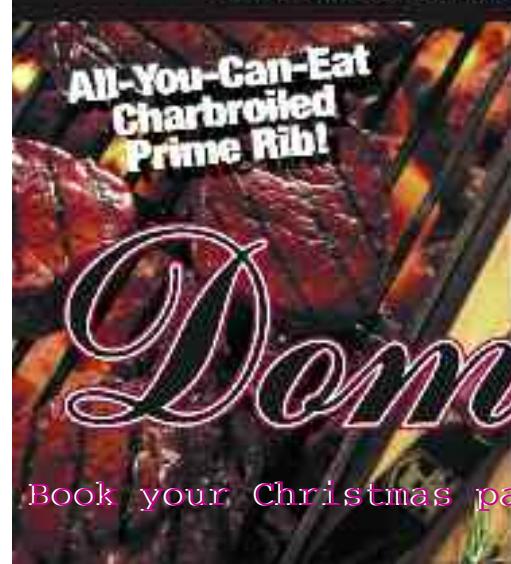
"It makes me feel good. I'm not looking for any accolades. It makes me realize how fortunate I have been with having a great family and having kids and a wife that were very supportive."

The holiday season places the greatest strain on the Center. "There are times when they're totally wall-to-wall people up there," says Terry. He and Executive Director Rakes gratefully acknowledge the many businesses and residents that provide the Center with necessary items for the season, including gifts for the children. But there is always a need for more. "One thing that we really like to have around the holidays are gift cards," says Rakes, "like Wal-Mart gift cards — that we can use to purchase gifts or that we can give to the moms who can then get gifts for their kids. We also always need paper products, toilet paper, paper towels, new socks and underwear, diapers and baby items."

As the lake area grows, unfortunately so does the need for CADV's Victim Outreach Center. Their goal is simple: to provide safety, assistance, and advocacy to victims of domestic violence.

Anyone wishing to assist the Center this holiday season, should call Shonna Rakes at 346-9630.

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# Local radio group's DJ goes to Washington

by Monica Vincent

Benne Media and Charlie Thomas— morning news anchor for KDRO 1490 AM in Sedalia, have been taking their show to a national, and now international arena. In October, Thomas traveled to Washington D.C. for "Radio Day" — one of only 50 pre-selected radio stations in the country with scheduled live interview access to top

government officials. Now Thomas is preparing to be the only Missouri broadcaster embedded with troops in Iraq.

From December 9th through the 18th, Thomas will be in Baghdad for "Home For the Holidays" where he will have the privilege to deliver uplifting messages from Missouri as well as broadcast messages from the troops to their loved ones back

home.

Broadcasts will air on Benne Media's four stations — KDRO 1490 AM from Sedalia to Whiteman Air Force Base, KPOW 97.7 FM from Kansas City to Columbia, south to Warsaw and north to the Iowa border, KQUL 102.7 FM at Lake of the Ozarks and KLOZ Mix 92.7 FM from Columbia to Fort Leonardwood.

Explained Thomas, "We [Denny Benne — stations' Owner, Stu Steinmetz — General Manager KDRO/KPOW, and Greg Sullens — General Sales Manager KLOZ/KQUL] talked about the fact that our troops, from Missouri or otherwise, are extremely brave to be doing what they are doing for the country. Most embeds are large news organizations and we thought if we could bring the message that Sedalia and surrounding communities are fully behind them it might bring a more of a hometown feel to the troops."

Thomas sought assistance in organizing and gaining access for this assignment from the public affairs office at Whiteman

Air Force Base in Knob Noster and from Missouri Senator Ike Skelton's office. On November 16th he received notification from SFC William Ellis, the Media Embed Coordinator for the 1st Cavalry Division at Camp Liberty, Iraq that his approval to enter the country had been granted. According to Ellis, "Once he is embedded he will live, eat and move with that unit."

Thomas has a son, Justin Richardson from Osage Beach, who just returned home after a nine month stint in Iraq. Richardson was Navy enlisted on special assignment with the Marines.

Kevlar vests, helmets and other safety gear were provided for Thomas through the support of local businesses and an Anheuser-Busch sponsorship.

Said Thomas, "I'm fortunate to have a community that solidly backs our strong news program and an employer who believes in and supports these opportunities to take our message to a much broader scope."

On Tuesday, October 24th, the White House staged a 13.5 hour, one day event called "Radio Day" with 50 pre-selected radio stations from across the country. Benne Media was proud to send Thomas to broadcast live from a tent on the northwest corner of the White House lawn.

Radio personnel had access to White House officials and Cabinet members with no restrictions or limitations on question topics. Each station was guaranteed enough top level officials to fill 3 hours of air time.

Benne Media's KDRO was the only Missouri station selected to attend Radio Day which happens only once every other year, and is the only event of its kind. Said Thomas, "We were very excited to be chosen, because it's rare for a station in a small market like this to receive the invite. I think our hometown flavor appealed to them."

"I was very excited to be able to give Sedalia a voice at the upper end of government." Prior to Thomas' departure, area

*continued on page 22*



KDRO News Anchor Charlie Thomas stands in front of the White House.

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**F**or twenty-five years, west side residents have enjoyed a spectacular display of holiday lights, with the Enchanted Village of Lights at the Laurie Fairgrounds, and next door at St. Patrick's Catholic Church and their Festival of Lights. St. Patrick's adorns their place of worship with a gift to the community, and the Lake as a whole. What started as merely one man's Christmas gift has become an area tradition. We spoke with Rose Vanderbeck, church spokesperson about the event and its origins.

"Father Barnett started the Festival of Lights, lighting up the area because he said there was just not much in the Christmas lighting—he started it as a gift to the community... back in probably 1976. The church was built in 1980 so I know the first year he built the church."

Rose said that while the church, and the Festival were celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary, they hadn't yet made any plans in regard to it. "We kind of forgot about that." Rose said, "We might have to do

that. Right now we haven't planned anything."

Vanderbeck estimated the annual light show brings in

of Lights keeps track of everybody that comes through. The same people that go through there usually come through here

a 27% increase. One thousand more than the year before."

Taking a step aside from the commercial aspects of the holi-

Although there is some considerable expense in maintaining the lights and the electricity to illuminate them, Rose says the church derives no profit from it—it truly is a gift.

"We don't charge anything. It is free and we appreciate people coming through. It's our gift to the community. It's a focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Every year we add more lights and more displays, to make it a little different than last year. We try to make it look really neat for people to see."

Nobody is really sure just how many lights make up the Festival of Lights, but Rose says, "I always said millions of lights—Father had me change it to thousands of lights, because he said no one has counted them to know if there's millions of lights. I know that whole garage up there is full of lights. It's thousands and thousands of lights."

Father Edwin J. Cole joined St. Patrick's July first. He came to Laurie from Sacred Heart Church in Columbia. Vanderbeck says, "He's working out wonderfully. People have really accepted him. He's had marvelous things to say and do here. It's been great to have him here. We all loved Father Barnett—when he retired and moved on it was a great loss."

Cole has never seen the lights, but says he intends to leave it exactly as it is. He shares Father Barnett's sentiments about the true meaning of Christmas and the church's wish to provide a holiday gift to the community.

"I think it's a wonderful opportunity for the people to become acquainted with the Shrine area. The beauty of it. *continued on page 23*

around the same number of visitors as the Hillbilly Fairgrounds' display. "The Enchanted Village

since we're right up over the hill from each other. There were 7,089 people (in 2005). That was

day, St. Patrick's looks to maintain a true sense of the season—away from all of the glitz and marketing. A true appreciation for the meaning behind Christmas. Rose explained, "Our's is a real serene setting. It's not all the lights and animation and everything of a commercial Christmas. Our's is more like the true meaning of Christmas. That's our focus on the meaning of Christmas. We do tour buses and things through here too at Christmas, and we will meet buses with cake and coffee in the evening and take them to the gift shop."

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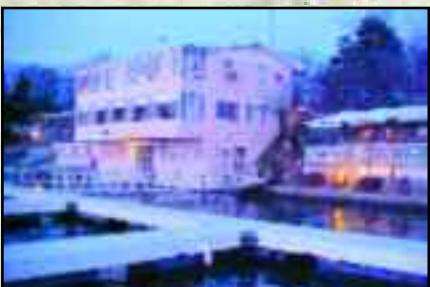


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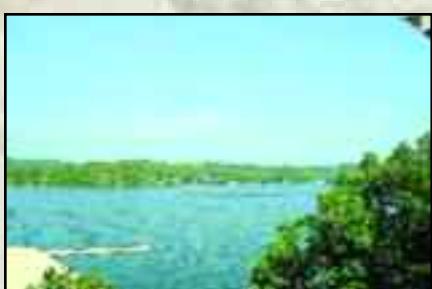
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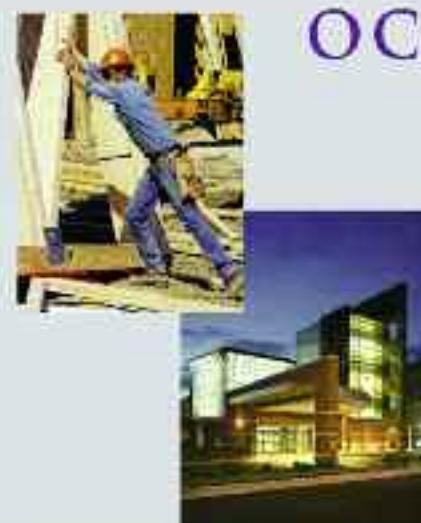
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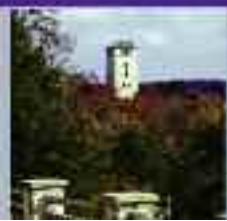
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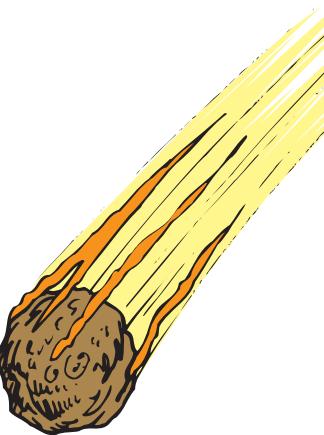
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# LAKE STORIES

*With Michael Gillespie*

As we near the end of the diamond jubilee year of Lake of the Ozarks, it seems fitting to pass along a few tongue-in-cheek items that didn't make it into the various ceremonies and publications.



## THE DECATURVILLE DOME

Now here's a story that goes way back.

The Decaturville Dome is like no other landform in the lake area. It straddles the Laclede-Camden County line and is described as a ring of low hills about three-and-a-half miles wide. The shattered bedrock within the ring exhibit numerous fault lines and other deformations. The rocks at the mile-wide core resemble granite.

So what caused it? A geologic study undertaken in 1979 concluded that the Decaturville Dome was the site of a meteor or comet impact. The age of the impact dates from the Cretaceous Period of the Mesozoic Era — about 160 million years ago last Tuesday.

The nearby village of Decaturville was first settled in 1838, and got its first business — a general store — in 1854. By 1874 the population of greater Decaturville had swollen to about 50. The downtown area boasted two stores, a wagon shop, and a school. The schoolhouse did double duty as a church. Later additions included a drug store, a blacksmith shop, and a farm implements store.

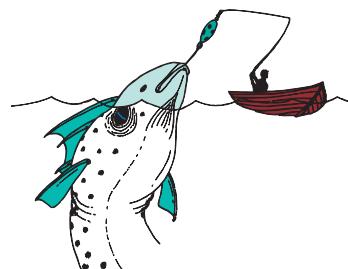
Nothing quite that cosmopolitan exists there now. Decaturville today is merely a collection of a few nondescript buildings. Obviously the comet and meteor threat has held down the growth of

Decaturville and has deprived it of its place as the metropolis of the lake area. Osage Beach and Lake Ozark can rest easy in this regard. But keep one eye on the sky.

## THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

There have been fish stories about the one that got away for... well, for as long as Lake of the Ozarks has been around. That means seventy-five years of fish stories. How did it all begin? The lake area's first fish story — the genuine article, documented in the local press — dates to September, 1931. The incident took place in the tail waters of the then brand new Bagnell Dam.

It seems that three Eldon men were trolling in deep water below the dam. Something took hold of the line and began towing their boat upstream. This exciting and, if



truth be known, somewhat unnerving ride carried the boat and its three occupants about a quarter mile. But the fishermen were unable to land the monster fish; the line finally snapped, and that was the end of that.

Though without any way of proving their adventure, the three men told the story in town. You can imagine how that was received. One local wag suggested that the only way to verify the tale was to close the dam and allow the river to dry up, thus exposing the predator.

While it seems likely that these fellows snagged a paddle fish or a catfish, it certainly must have been one big fish to pull a boat with three men and a motor for one-quarter mile upstream. It makes you wonder if that fish has some descendants below the dam to this day.

## BURIED IN THE DAM

Nearly every major concrete structure, Bagnell Dam includ-

ed, is said to contain within its walls the body of some unfortunate worker who fell into the wet concrete and was thus entombed there. It makes for an intriguing tale, but it just ain't so. The laws of physics get in the way.

First, concrete is denser than the human body. A man cannot



sink more than a few inches in concrete. In fact, it was common practice at the time of Bagnell Dam's construction for workers to tamp down wet concrete with their feet in order work out any air bubbles. About the only way to cover a man with concrete would be to tie him down and intentionally bury him. It's not likely that any right thinking construction worker would have stood for such treatment.

And, even if the unthinkable had happened, the engineers on site wouldn't let it go. A body buried in concrete creates a cavity. The cavity weakens the concrete. That's not good — for the dam, or the deceased.

In fact, there were fatalities during the construction of Bagnell Dam. A June, 1930, newspaper article stated that a 25 year-old worker fell to his death from a high scaffold. (His remains were returned to his Iowa hometown — eschewing the notion of burying him in any nearby wet concrete.) The article indicated that there had been other serious accidents, but it did not list them. The number of construction-related deaths at Bagnell is a matter for future historians to discover.



## FIRST BOATING ACCIDENT

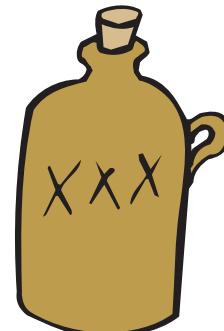
The lake's first boating acci-

dent took place on July 3, 1931, near Gladstone Cove on the Gravois Arm. Three men were thrown into the water when their boat was swamped while attempting to cross the wake of another boat. All three men were quickly rescued, and the swamped boat was towed to shore. It appears that the swamped boat was somewhat smaller than the vessel throwing the wake.

There's something very familiar about this story — a big wake, a small boat, a holiday weekend. It's déjà vu all over again.

## MOONSHINE

It should be remembered that Bagnell Dam was constructed during Prohibition days. Does that mean those



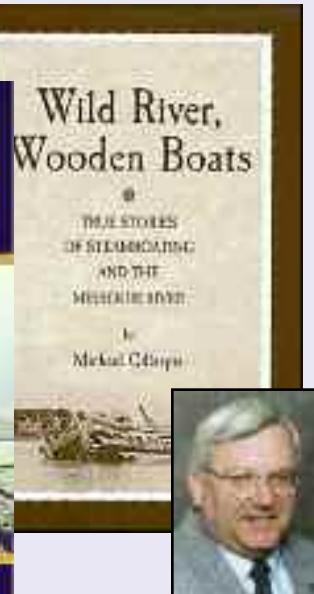
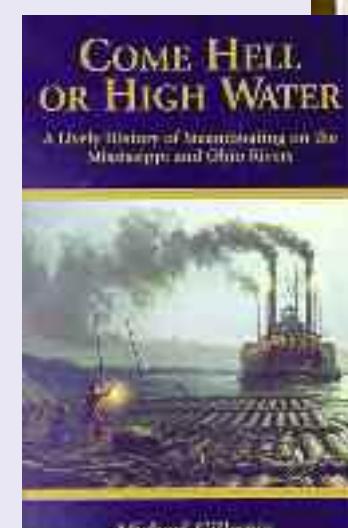
thousands of construction workers never had a drink in their off hours? In the middle of an Ozark forest? With hill folks who were only too happy to supply their needs? Where there's a still, there's a way.



There were places where a would-be buyer could leave some money and expect a bottle of 'shine to magically appear a little later. One account mentions a certain telephone pole alongside a road outside of Versailles. To paraphrase the old song, you drive around the bend and when you come back again, there's a jug of that good ol' mountain dew.

A particular exchange in April, 1931, didn't work out so well for one Joe Rankin, described as a "court character." Apparently he was making good money supplying whiskey in a quiet sort of way. But he had an enemy or two, and one of them went to Sheriff John Otten with the damaging information. The sheriff caught Rankin making a delivery at the telephone pole. Rankin was arrested and 'fessed up. It was speculated in the paper that Joe would get the "big house" for all his hard work.

Historian and tour guide Michael Gillespie is the author of "Wild River, Wooden Boats" and "Come Hell or High Water: A Lively History of Steamboating". He has also penned dozens of magazine and newspaper articles. Both of his books are available online at Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.com.



# State Park Rangers—A special kind of law enforcement

by Michael Gillespie

There are 83 state parks and state historic sites in Missouri. They range in size from one or two small buildings on an acre of ground to multi-use areas covering thousands of acres. Some, such as Bennett Springs or Roaring River, are well known to vacationers statewide; others, like the Thomas Hart Benton Home or Graham Cave, attract only local attention. But all of them are part of the state park system, and all of them are patrolled by a unique law enforcement organization known as the Missouri State Park Rangers.

The Missouri State Park Rangers began with ten commissioned offi-

resources in the state parks.

"We provide complete law enforcement services within a park, just like in any city or town," says the state's Chief Park Ranger, Colonel Bill Blake. A visitor to a state park or historic site may encounter uniformed superintendents, resource technicians, maintenance workers, even campground hosts, but only the park rangers wear a badge — and carry a sidearm.

Make no mistake about it: park rangers are cops. If you're speeding in a park, or creating a disturbance, you're very likely to meet one up close and personal. But they are cops with a different focus. "It's

"People are there to have a good time, and we try to ensure that they do have a good time. If your campground neighbor stays up and plays loud music until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning, or if they get into loud, boisterous arguments, the ranger intervenes and addresses those particular issues."

"We have 16 to 18 million visitors to our park system each year. And it requires quite a bit of time to address the issues within the park. Also, many of them are not strictly

law enforcement matters, but more with regards to regulations within the park — more ecological, protecting our natural resource issues. If you were a sheriff, and somebody cut down a tree for a campfire, it wouldn't be a big issue to you. But a park ranger is sensitive to those issues — damaging our natural resources."

Blake reports that serious crimes are rare in our state parks. The more common offenses are vandalism, domestic issues, speed-

ing, underage drinking, and poaching. Violators are prosecuted through the state court system. Rangers also respond to accidents or injuries involving boating, swimming, automobiles, and bicycles — as well as falls and bites.

Over the years, the Missouri State Park Rangers have participated in several historically significant events. Rangers provided security at Times Beach in 1982 when the community was closed due to diox-

*continued on page 18*



Ranger Doug Scotten makes a warning traffic stop during the ride-along.

ers in the 1968 camping season. Much of that first season was spent rounding up livestock that freely wandered the hills and hollows of Lake of the Ozarks State Park. Rangers were required to purchase their own weapons and were only permitted to carry them at night. They drove used, high mileage state vehicles and communicated with citizens band radios. Those first rangers did not receive any formal training.

Slowly, things began to improve. Over the next several years rangers began attending the Highway Patrol academy. They were given jurisdiction on all state highway and county roads that ran through state parks and historic sites. They were given in-service training in firearms, first aid, CPR, criminal law, arrest procedures, and report writing. They were issued weapons, uniforms, and new four-wheel drive patrol vehicles. In short, they were becoming an organized and effective police force charged with providing professional law enforcement and protection to all park visitors and to the natural and cultural

more recreational law enforcement," says Colonel Blake. "People are there to have a good time, and we try to ensure that they do have a good time. If your campground neighbor stays up and plays loud music until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning, or if they get into loud, boisterous arguments, the ranger intervenes and addresses those particular issues."

"We have 16 to 18 million visitors to our park system each year. And it requires quite a bit of time to address the issues within the park. Also, many of them are not strictly law enforcement matters, but more with regards to regulations within the park — more ecological, protecting our natural resource issues. If you were a sheriff, and somebody cut down a tree for a campfire, it wouldn't be a big issue to you. But a park ranger is sensitive to those issues — damaging our natural resources."

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# Dock restrictions no longer part of shoreline management plan

By Michael Gillespie

In March, the Business Journal reported on the public outcry caused by Ameren's proposed shoreline management plan. The plan, which was part of

the company's power plant relicensing procedure with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), would have established scores of Impact Minimization Zones

throughout the lake. New boat docks in these zones would have been limited to 900 square feet and could be spaced no closer than 150 feet of other docks.

The Impact Minimization

Zones, or IMZs, were located in the backs of most coves, where the water was shallow, and along many bluffs and scenic stretches of the lake. They were meant to protect areas that were environmentally or culturally sensitive.

But many area businesses and lakeshore property owners were caught off guard by the proposed IMZs and took exception to the dock restrictions that Ameren wanted to impose.

State Representative Tom Self, whose 116th district includes Benton and Morgan County, said that he was unaware of the IMZs until late in the filing process. "All the meetings that were held before were pretty much in one county," said Self. "And of course there are four counties that the lake covers, and the most affected county was Benton County. There were zero meetings in Benton County on this thing."

Self and 115th district Representative Rodney Schad, called for a letter writing campaign to try to stop the IMZs from becoming fact. "We had a website up and running where people could send an e-mail to Ameren and to FERC," said Self. "We generated, between letters and e-mail, somewhere upwards of 6,000 messages. The letters were basically stating that they were opposed to Ameren's shoreline management plan and the IMZs specifically."

"I was completely opposed to what Ameren was trying to do. They were taking rights that property owners had bought and paid for. I categorized it as being beyond eminent domain. In eminent domain they take your property, but at least they pay you for it. Here, they were devaluing these people's property that some of them may have been paying a whole lifetime on, and wanted to take away their rights to have a boat dock. And there was no compensation involved."

Schad, who represents Camden, Morgan, and Miller Counties, mirrored the sentiment. "The constituents that I talked to were very much against it," he said. "There may have been some out there that thought it was alright, but they did not contact me. I was very much opposed to it. To place regulations like that on people who have spent their life savings

planning for retirement and not being able to utilize it like they had planned was just wrong. If they had been given a year or

two notice and then put the restrictions in those areas, I think that would have been a better situation. I think that would have been fair to everyone."

Ameren was surprised by the strong opposition. Jeff Green, supervisor of Ameren's Shoreline Management Office said that the company had engaged the public in its re-licensing procedure for the past five years. "We selected what we thought was a cross section of the community to take a look at this plan, and all of a sudden there was opposition to it."

One of the stories that spread earlier this year claimed that new docks would be prohibited on lots of less than 150 feet. "That's a misrepresentation," says Green. "I think in certain areas it required a separation that could prohibit a dock. But it wasn't lake-wide. There was a lot of misinformation going around at the time. That, coupled with some folks who understood the plan very well yet still opposed it, and public input along the same lines, made us take another look at it."

Green says that the IMZs, with their dock restrictions, are no longer part of the plan. "There are still restrictions," he says. "There still are resource protection areas in the plan, but they do not specifically regulate the location, placement, or separation of boat docks. That was really the lightning rod within the IMZs — the boat dock rules and regulations — and those have been removed."

Representative Self said that the withdrawal of the IMZs came after FERC sent a committee from Washington in March to hold meetings. "We're now in the steps of putting something new together that hopefully everybody can live with," he said recently.

The shoreline management team has also been given an overhaul. Its members still represent a cross section of lake area residents, business owners, and government interests, but five of those team members now come from Benton County.

"We're hoping to get word relatively soon that our license has been issued," says Green, referring to the operating license of the dam and power plant. "As soon as we receive that license and make sure there's not something in it that needs to be included within the [shoreline



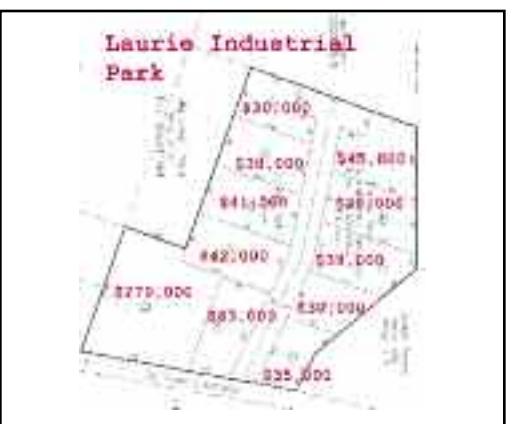
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*continued on page 20*

# Quadski converts from PWC to ATV in five seconds

A small company that started out of New Zealand is making news and turning heads with a series of amphibious vehicles, including the Quadski.



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It's both a 4-wheel ATV and a personal watercraft, marrying seemingly in the best of both worlds. It converts at the touch of a button in under five seconds. Its 140 bhp (brake horsepower—equivalent to slightly less than HP) engine then takes the craft to 50 MPH over land or water.

On entering water, the wheels are retracted into the body of the vehicle at the flick of a switch. Quadski's fuel tank allows it to travel for up to two hours on water and has a land range of 375 miles.

Commenting on the launch of the Quadski prototype, Alan Gibbs, the founder of UK based Gibbs

Technologies Ltd. said, "I know consumers will love the fun of driving a Quadski on land one minute and then head straight into the sea or river the next. But there is a very serious side to Quadski as well: emergency services and aid workers will be able to reach areas and people no two or four wheel drive vehicle could reach."

The company is looking to

license the morphing amphibious technologies to companies outside its current home in Britain.

Their HSA (High Speed Amphibian) technology is also used in their other models, such as the Aquada—a half-car, half speed boat that set the world record for crossing the English Channel in an amphibious vehicle. The Aquada reportedly achieves a record-

breaking 32.8 MPH top speed on water, and 100+ MPH on land. The company's Humdinga concept vehicle - a full time four wheel drive High Speed Amphibian (HSA) is powered by a 350 BHP engine. The 5-seater is capable of travelling on land at 100 mph and on water at 40mph.

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# State Park Rangers—A special kind of law enforcement

*continued from page 15*

in contamination. Rangers provided around-the-clock safety and enforcement duties during the floods of 1993 and 1995. Rangers also participated in three of the largest manhunts in Missouri history. And beginning in 1996, rangers began assisting with inaugural security for the governor.

The operating budget for the park rangers is determined by the Division of State Parks, which in turn is part of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). But when it comes to budget allocation, the Division of State Parks is something of a fortunate step-child. It has a funding mechanism that no other unit of DNR enjoys. The division's money comes from the Soils and Parks sales tax that voters renewed last August. The one-tenth of one percent sales tax generates about \$40 million annually for state parks. The level of park funding will fluctuate from year to year according to the economic health of the state, but the income generated from the dedicated tax protects the state parks from budget cuts mandated on other state offices by the legislature.

There are currently fifty Missouri State Park Rangers, and that number has remained fairly consistent over the past few years. "Right now we can cover everything adequately with fifty rangers," says Blake. "We can't give the complete service that we'd like to, but I think we're doing a good job at it."

Though there are more parks and historic sites than rangers, and some sites, such as the Katy Trail, stretch over large areas, a system is in place to provide adequate coverage. Visitation numbers and past experience play a key role in determining which parks get full-time ranger assignments; indeed, some of the larger parks with campgrounds have two rangers. But a ranger at any given park may be called upon to patrol or respond to other sites within the region if there is a perceived need.

Traditionally, there has been considerable turnover among park rangers, and it has often been the result of pay disparity. Large police departments, with their higher salaries, sometimes lure away park rangers. Ironically, even the Highway Patrol and Water Patrol—both state agencies themselves—offer better pay. But Blake feels that the salary field is leveling out. "We recently got a four percent increase,

and all law enforcement in the state got an additional four percent. So a lot of people seem pretty comfortable with our salary right now."

The improving salary picture, and well-rounded benefits package, has enticed new employees from other law enforcement entities. "We have higher pay than the sheriffs' departments and smaller municipalities in many areas," says the chief ranger. "We attracted some really qualified applicants from Iron County because the state park rangers paid more than Iron County."

Blake says that four or five new rangers probably will be hired over the next year. Generally, the Division of State Parks prefers to employ individuals with prior law enforcement training for its park ranger ranks, but occasionally the division will open up the employment register to park ranger recruits. "You can come in as a park ranger recruit," says Blake, "and in that case we will send you to a certified academy, and you get 630 hours of training, and you'll receive a Class A law enforcement license. Then, based on Missouri statute, you can enforce all the laws in the state of Missouri regarding misdemeanor, criminal offenses, and also ordinance violations."

But why would an individual want to become a park ranger as opposed to a regular cop? "I think it's one of the best kept secrets in law enforcement," responds Colonel Blake. "You're a certified law enforcement officer. You receive all the training; in fact you probably train more than a lot of the municipal law enforcement officers because we have some down time in the winter months. You work outdoors and you have a lot of autonomy to make decisions on how to handle specific incidents. You interact with people who are there to have fun. And the criminal element is minimal in our parks."

Perhaps one drawback to becoming a park ranger is that many of the situations occur in remote areas. Although the Highway Patrol or the local sheriff's department will send assistance, it may take awhile for them to respond. "That's why we really train our rangers to rely on themselves to handle a situation," says Blake. "There are some times when they have to be more self-reliant and handle things more cautiously. We stress that in our in-service training. We do role playing so they get a

lot of training on situations where they are going to have to be by themselves."

Though their duties are similar to other law enforcement agencies, Missouri State Park Rangers operate on a different level. They are a dedicated and capable group of officers who strive to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all who visit our state parks and historic sites. Their motto is "Service, Safety, and Enforcement." They live by those words.

## RIDE ALONG

by Darrel Willman

Officers Clint Kincade and Doug Scotten were kind enough to let us ride along for the day and see the types of duties they perform routinely. With the start of the firearms deer hunting season the following day, both officers were involved in conservation issues more than would be normal. Hunting inside the Lake of the Ozarks State Park's 17,241 acres is banned. Missouri's state parks are a wildlife refuge, and a retreat for visitors—shooting within the boundaries would necessarily endanger park patrons as well as violate conservation laws. Clint, Doug and Ranger Galen Barlow who is assigned to Ha Ha Tonka State Park nearby, work closely with the area Missouri Conservation Agents.

Kincade says, "We work with the Conservation agents to get the best case put together—they've got more experience in that area. They have as much authority as any peace officer in the state."

Learning the role they play in cooperation with conservation is an important one. Scotten agrees, saying "Talking to the agents is the best tool. Going out, getting with one of the agents."

It's not easy to become a Missouri State Park Ranger, or a conservation agent for that matter. Both take a great deal of training and the number of applicants for these positions is surprisingly high.

Kincade told us the Rangers attend an area law enforcement academy, "We use LETI (law enforcement academy) up in Columbia. It's over 600 hours. We all have to have a Class A license in Missouri which is 600 plus hours of training."

As the article details, applicants for the position have a couple different avenues. "There are two ways to get to be a Park Ranger," he explains, "You can come in at entry level as Park Ranger Recruit. You

don't have to have any previous law enforcement experience to do that, but you do have to be able to be post certified in the state of Missouri and you have to have 60 college credit hours of related education. Criminal Justice, there's several different fields—we have them listed on our website. It's got the minimum qualifications for each."

Clint said they get a number of applicants from prior law enforcement as well.

"We also have a lot of officers that have prior experience too. They come from Counties (Sheriff's Departments), P.D.'s (city Police departments). We've also had State Troopers come and work." Kincade said, "I'm 29. I was just always interested in law enforcement. I got my degree in criminal justice and started applying for jobs. I'm from the Lake area, so it worked out great."

People might not take the Rangers seriously when they see the familiar green and white Jeeps along the byways of the park. They are however, sworn peace officers with badges, guns and all of the other accouterments one would expect.

"We're equipped just like any other law enforcement," Kincade says. "We have radar units. We carry shotguns. We have bullet proof vests, mace, we carry a sidearm, all that stuff."

However, with the remote setting and a more peaceful working environment, they stress all the hardware is merely a toolkit, they resolve problems with other methods.

"The best weapon we have is right under our nose. The way we talk to people has got to be indicative of their behavior back towards us, so if you can communicate with them, usually you can get them to do what you want them to do with good success." Clint says.

"We just try to have a pretty good presence," he continues, "We either come through in our vehicles, or at night, we do a lot of foot patrols. We just walk through—we get to be more personable. And I like the interaction. We get to talk to the people. We get out—and most people are real nice, they want to talk to you and find out things about the park."

"It's just one of our many duties  
concludes on page 56"

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## Nokia's 3250 XPress Music

The Nokia 3250 XpressMusic features a 2 megapixel camera with a 4x digital zoom. It can hold around 100 albums on a 2GB microSD card—and you can use headphones with the 3.5 mm headset jack. Turn and capture still photos or video in a single twist. Share your playlists with friends over Bluetooth, MMS or e-mail. The phone also has dedicated music control keys: Play/pause, stop, rewind, and forward. Enhanced music features include Sound Check, equalizer, stereo widening, reverb and bass boost. It supports many audio formats including: eAAC+, AAC+, M4A, MPEG-4 MP3, AMR-NB, AMR-WB, 64 polyphonic MIDI, RealAudio, WMA and others. For customization freaks, it ships with Tunes Studio, an application to create



your own ringtones from the about 40 MIDI tones Nokia has pre-loaded. In assorted colors for around \$320.

## Pioneer HTS-GS1



You say you got an Xbox, but the sound just wasn't there? Well, fret no more, Pioneer comes to the rescue with the HTS-GS1 5.1 surround system made just for you gaming junkies that need big audio. It boasts a 6 channel digital amplifier with DSP, Dolby Digital and DTS 5.1 processors. The set is made up of a powered 30W subwoofer, two swivelling 25W/channel satellites and a 25W center channel speaker—155 watts of total playing power. How much, you ask? A paltry \$399.

## JVC's "iPod Ready" NX-PS1



JVC unveiled a "made for iPod" line with four new products. The new line includes a pair of stylish compact desktop systems and two portable units. The NX-PS1 as shown, ships with a matching subwoofer. The UX-EP25, is a CD micro system, the RA-P10 is a low-profile boombox with a full complement of clock radio functions.

The NX-PS1 is comprised of four cubes—a center control unit, a subwoofer and two matching

speakers, each about four inches square. The powered subwoofer is a nine-inch cube with a six-inch driver. The main unit features an iPod connection with play, stop, skip and volume controls. It also features USB connections to allow you to connect other USB devices, or play your sound selections directly from your PC. 10 watts per channel for the main speakers, with 30-watts output for the subwoofer. \$275.

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## **Dock restrictions no longer part of shoreline management plan**

*continued from page 16*  
management] plan, we're going to take the plan to the public for review again. That's probably going to consist of four public meetings, one in each of the lake counties. We're hoping to get those public meetings done by the first of the year and then either at the first of the year or shortly thereafter submit the final plan to FERC."

In the meantime, Representative Self has read the first draft of the new shoreline management plan. "There are some things in there that are bet-

ter," he says. "But there are still some concerns about the definition of wetlands and identifying what they call resource protection areas. In the meeting that we had with them [Ameren] a few weeks ago, they asked everybody to put their concerns in writing and e-mail them by September 30. They were going to look those concerns over and see if there was some way to address these things, and they would be getting back to the shoreline management team with whatever decisions they made, and that's where we are today."

# GLIMPSES OF THE LAKE'S PAST *With Dwight Weaver*

**BAGNELL DAM GIFT SHOP** - The Bagnell Dam Strip (The Strip) begins at the west end of the dam and extends westward for about three-quarters of a mile. Traditionally, the west end of The Strip ends at the Lake Ozark Christian Church next to Dogpatch. Along this historic stretch of Business U.S. Highway 54, officially called Bagnell Dam Boulevard, are a number of commercial buildings that were constructed in the 1930s, 40s and early 50s. Two of the oldest are The White House building, erected in 1932, and the rock building that currently houses Frick & Frack. Built around 1937 by E. R. Wiseman, the Frick & Frack building originally housed the Bagnell Dam Gift Shop. It was the largest gift shop on The Strip until Dogpatch was established in the 1940s. The Wiseman family lived on the second floor and the accompanying photo shows the business as it appeared around 1950 on a real photo postcard sold in the gift shop. The photographer and publisher of the postcard are unknown. The rockwork is native sandstone. Ozark pottery was a hot souvenir item at the Lake in the

early decades and the Bagnell Dam Gift Shop obviously had a wide selection for shoppers to choose from.



This vintage postcard image is from the collection of H. Dwight Weaver. The photographer and publisher are unknown. Weaver is the author of three books on the history of Lake of the Ozarks. "History & Geography of Lake of the Ozarks, Volume One," his newest book, is now available from Stone Crest Book & Toy in Osage Beach or by mail. For information, contact the author at [dweaver@socket.net](mailto:dweaver@socket.net) or call 573-365-1171. Other books on the Lake by Dwight Weaver are available online at [lakeoftheozarksbooks.com](http://lakeoftheozarksbooks.com)



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# New owners, new outlook at Big Thunder

By Michael Gillespie

Big Thunder Marine, with its showroom on Highway 54 and its marina near mile marker 8, is now under the ownership of Crestwood Capital Management, Inc. Based in Davenport, Iowa, the investor group consists of fifteen families who, according to principal Joel Lorentzen, have a "bullish outlook on North America."

"We homed in on water-based properties as getting more rare everywhere," says Lorentzen. "So we started looking that whole arena over. We have experience at Lake of the Ozarks; we have several people in the group that are property owners here, and we said this is a great place to be."

"We looked at, over the course

of three years, probably twenty marinas at the lake. Nothing came together for a variety of reasons. But Big Thunder did."

The purchase of Big Thunder became effective on November 1. Bill Lorentzen is president, cousin Joel Lorentzen is interim CEO/CFO. Bill's wife, Maggie, will be contributing as the hostess and "decorator extraordinaire." Joel's wife, Ann, a Crestwood employee, will be involved from time to time with event management.

Joel Lorentzen says that Big Thunder will be offering much more come next season. "We currently have a seven-acre marina and about 1,600 feet of shoreline. We have 64 slips, but we're building that out. By next April we will have 106 slips. We're

doing that as we speak. We've got gas and a sports store here; we've got a customer lounge area, and a big deck. It's really a very attractive marina."

"We intend to build it out and start to lease it up. We want to get that resident storage — people coming to the marina to be at the marina. So we're going to build out amenities like a bathhouse, an improved customer lounge, and more store opportunities. We're spending a lot of money, probably between \$400,000 and \$500,000 before the season. We'll be the newest marina here."

Big Thunder will continue operating its retail store on Highway 54, where most of the firm's boats are sold. "We sell Baja, and we sell Donzi. And we're really proud of them. Both

of them have small boats; both of them have a cruiser category of boats. But our emphasis is really more on performance boats."

The dealership will present its line at the Overland Park, St. Louis, and Kansas City boat shows this winter.

Lorentzen says that with so many marinas and boat dealers at the lake, Big Thunder plans to carve its own niche: "First of all, we compete with product. We're not trying to be everybody's boat dealership. We're trying to be [there for] people who want to get into performance boating. We're the only place on the lake that focuses on that."

"The second thing is the facility. We're expanding the facilities to make it a very pleasant place to be. You may decide to buy the

boat at the store; hopefully then slip it at our marina. And then this is the place that you want to come when you boat on the lake. We want to be the premier boaters' place to be on the lake."

"The third thing is staff. We want a country club feel when you're here at the marina, and we want our staff to reflect that. We like to hear 'sir' and 'ma'am,' because the people that buy these boats are well-to-do people; they're going to spend a lot of money while they're here."

In sum, Big Thunder Marine is aiming for overall quality. Says Lorentzen: "We're going to be the best place to have a boating experience at the Lake of the Ozarks."

## Local radio group's D.J. goes to Washington

*continued from page 3*  
listeners were able to stop in at different business locations and submit questions they would like to see answered. Thomas went armed with over 200 questions and a portfolio of bios.

Thomas was seated right next to conservative talk show host Sean Hannity. Because of their proximity he was able to chat with Rumsfeld and Rice but couldn't get them on the air because of timing of pre-booked interviews.

The following is a sample of Thomas' pre-booked interviews: Joel Kaplan— Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy said the President is an early riser with meetings before 7 am, and a day sched-

uled in five minute increments. He described the President as very focused and optimistic. "I help the cabinet secretary and other staff advisors to develop policy consistent with the President's vision. He asks about a hundred questions and we come back with new answers until we get it right." According to Kaplan, since 2003 the economy has created 6.6 million new jobs, and an unemployment rate of 4.6% which the President believes his tax cut policy has helped create.

Eric Ruff— Press Secretary of the Pentagon to Donald Rumsfeld, graduated from the University of Missouri Journalism School and after

graduation applied at the Sedalia Democrat. His best friend was a farmer from Clinton, Missouri. His father's last military assignment was in Missouri. "Ninety percent of the violence happening in Iraq is within 30 miles of Baghdad — the capital. That's where the media is housed and they plan their attacks to catch the most media attention. They have not won a battle yet in this war, but they know what the real battle is — it's a test of the will of the United States."

Michael Jackson— Deputy Chief of Homeland Security said the agency was formed 3.5 years ago and now employees 208,000 people. "The day we think we are done with Homeland Security will never come." He doesn't understand opposition to wire tapping phone calls of known terrorists who are making overseas calls. He says currently only about 2% of containers are inspected that come into port via ship. "We screen all data to help ascertain which containers should be inspected and are getting better at it all the time." Says we have got to be able to continuously look at the ways and means of attack. Terrorists want catastrophic attacks for big media play. Proposed doubling border patrol by 6,000 troops.

Karl Rove— Senior Advisor to the President. Dad did some geological work in Sedalia area and is from Kirksville. Did not believe

Republicans would lose House or Senate. Described North Korea as a "remarkably backward country with a remarkably backward dictator who literally starves his people." He asserted the need to have China, Japan, South Korea and Russia involved in order to provide economic pressure. Said there was an enormous economic turnaround after WWII with South Korea becoming far more prosperous than North Korea. "If you google the map of Korea at night there is literally one point of light at the capital of North Korea and South Korea is almost totally lit up." He described Iran as a very economically vulnerable country with large oil resources but no refining capacity. Most consumer and electronic good are imported and the younger people are very westernized. He believes economic pressure can have a big effect.

Tony Snow— White House Press Secretary says in regard to the troops, "The President signs every condolence letter. He gets choked up every time he visits the troops." He claims that in the entire war we have not lost a single engagement. "We are training Iraqi forces to take over themselves — hopefully within the next 12 to 18 months. We won't abandon them totally. When the fighting's done, you still have to have political freedom and the ability to create jobs." He said the

American war effort is more popular in Iraq than in America. A great many schools have reopened, radio stations are back on air, infrastructure rebuilt outside of Baghdad area, women are back in school and government is working in other parts of country.

Margaret Spelling— US Secretary of Education was with the President in Texas and brought a lot of ideas from there which were the tenants of No Child Left Behind. "We are going to hold ourselves accountable by making sure every child is reading on grade level by 2014." She gives the program a grade of B+ but says we have work to do at the high school level. She says we are very near the bottom internationally in mathematics. "Ninety percent of the fastest growing jobs require post-secondary education. We have to figure out how to make it more accessible to all Americans. Students specializing in science, technology, engineering and math will receive much greater funding through grants." About 30% of Missouri schools have met No Child Left Behind requirements. Columbia students have exceeded in all areas. Jefferson City schools were up 16 points in math from 2005 to 2006.

Sam Bodman— Secretary of Energy said that ethanol was the

*continued on page 28*



Fellow attendee Sean Hannity of ABC News poses a question.

# Laurie's Festival of Lights

*continued from page 6*

Probably most of all though, I see this being in the spirit of the season, of Christmas. It's a festival of lights and is reflecting in a very dynamic way that Christ is the light of the world. But I think it is simply the Shrine trying to be a part of the local community. The broader community—in sharing light and joy and the beauty of this time of the year." Cole said. n

*Story by Darrel Willman and Katie Miget*



Father Edwin J. Cole

Miget/Business Journal

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# Lake Christmas Parade December 9

By Michael Gillespie

Really big horses, high steppin' dancers, lots of floats, and Mr. and Mrs. Claus all will be part of this year's Lake Christmas Parade to be held along Bagnell Dam Boulevard on December 9, starting at 1 p.m.

"We were able to secure the World Famous Budweiser Clydesdales for the parade this year — the eight horses and the wagon — they will be our feature," said Pat Thurston, co-chair of the parade committee. But that's just the beginning of the list. Also making an appearance are the Marching Cobras from Kansas City, the St. Louis Irish Pipes and Drums, Sprinkles the Clown and Company, the United States Marines mascot bulldog Lance Corporal Liberty Bell, plus floats, boats, and fire engines.

"The parade theme for this year is '75 Electrifying Years,'" Thurston said. "That's one of the reasons why Anheuser Busch was so gracious to allow

us to have the Clydesdales — because of the 75th anniversary of the dam."

Those who have never seen the Marching Cobras are in for a lively surprise. "I call them a very energetic group of marchers and dancers that range in age from five years old to thirty-plus," says Thurston. "They dance the whole parade route. I don't know where they get their energy from! They are an absolutely phenomenal group to watch." The Marching Cobras will stage an additional performance in the Hy-Vee parking lot immediately after the parade.

"We are hoping to have seventy-five floats. Maybe even more than that. This year Glencove Marine is going to provide a boat, and it will be decorated, and Santa will ride in the boat. We're also going to have Mrs. Santa this year. I think the kids will love that."

Although the Christmas parade has been a lake area tradition for the past twenty years, this year's edition has a new twist. "Last year we gave out

cash prizes for the different float winners," Thurston noted. "And some of the participants sent the money back to us and said, 'Why don't you use this for something else?'

Thurston and co-chair Retha Wilson looked around and discovered that there was a worthy cause nearby that would benefit immensely from any money the parade might generate.

"We partnered with Kids' Harbor," said Thurston. "We decided this was a very, very worthwhile organization."

Kids' Harbor is a local, non-profit child advocacy center that provides a child-friendly, safe haven during the investigation and treatment of neglect or abuse. Last year 360 children benefited from its services. Kids' Harbor is totally dependent on donations from the business and private sector to continue its mission.

To raise money for Kids' Harbor, the parade committee actively sought donations through sponsorships and other means. "We had a silent auc-

tion," said Thurston. "And we went around to various banks and businesses, the hospital, the chambers — we've just had a lot of donations come from a lot of areas. The community has been very gracious and helped us in our campaign. All the money we can secure over the cost of the parade, we're going to donate to Kids' Harbor. So it's kind of two fold; it's a parade and a donation to Kids' Harbor.

"Our goal is \$7,500. So far we think that we're somewhere around \$4,000. We would really like to donate \$7,500 in honor of the 75th anniversary of the dam."

The various parade entries, whether floats, decorated vehicles, antique vehicles, horses, marchers, performers, or pulled boats, will be eligible for prize ribbons. In addition, one entry will receive the Judges Choice Award, good for a \$500 gift certificate from The Horny Toad.

The parade will be televised live on Ozark channel 98, and will be re-broadcast on Christmas morning. "Everybody

can get up and watch the Christmas parade on television while they're opening their presents," says Thurston. "That's going to be awesome!"

For all the newfound enthusiasm, the annual Christmas parade nearly died from lack of interest a couple of years ago. According to Thurston, two or three reliable individuals had been organizing the event year after year with little help, "and they just got burned out on it. So a call went out to see if anybody was interested in carrying on the tradition of the parade. Retha has grandchildren who have come to the parade for years, and she just couldn't see the parade not happening. So she called me and said, 'We're going to do the Christmas parade.'

"Last year we took it over late in the year, had some tremendous response, went ahead and put the parade on. And we decided this year that we were going to organize, get a committee, and really do a parade that

*continued on page 27*



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## Thinking of Others

Osage Beach, MO—Radiologic Technologist week was November 6th to 10th. The Radiology Department decided to not to focus this week on themselves, but to direct their activities to helping the cancer patients receiving radiation therapy at Lake Regional Hospital. The group made thirty fleece throws of various sizes and designs for these patients. In addition, Lake Regional Hospital

Auxiliary provided another five throws. Patients have commented on the comfort they feel when they wrap themselves in the throw.

This was a team effort by mammography, nuclear medicine, students, radiologists, clinic staff, and day and night staffs. Some gave money for supplies, others provided fabrics, some designed while others did the tying of the fleece.



Several of the Radiologic Technologists are shown with some of the fleece throws made for the radiation therapy patients. Front row left to right: Anita Durfee, Anna Burns and Tracy Crabtree. Left to right in the back row are Marcy Maxwell, Radiation Therapy Supervisor, Jeannette Hurt, Jessica Butler, Renae Fancher, and Jan Vervaecke.

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# New staff members of The Tonia Grein Team

Lake Ozark, MO— The Tonia Grein Team recently welcomed two new staff members, Tricia Hepner and Stacy Tatiersky.

Hepner has accepted the position of Client Care Coordinator and Tatiersky has accepted the position of Executive Assistant to Lisa



**Stacy Tatiersky**

Elliott. Hepner relocated to the Lake Area from Southern California where she worked as the executive assistant to the president of a busy Los Angeles based company. Her time management, organizational and communication skills honed by previous experience are extraordinarily important to her current position.

Tatiersky earner her Bachelor's Degree at Columbia in

Columbia, Missouri. She worked at University Hospital



**Tricia Hepner**

for 2 years where she developed great communication skills, an eye for detail and dedication to client satisfaction. As a licensed Buyer Specialist, Tatiersky is able to perform her duties in a professional and knowledgeable manner.

"We are always looking for talented professionals to join our team. Tricia and Stacy have proved to be two wonderful additions and we're very proud that they've chosen to work with us," stated team leader, Tonia Grein.

Hepner and Tatiersky can be reached at the Business Highway 54 office in Lake Ozark or by calling 573-365-9700.

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# Lake Christmas Parade December 9

*continued from page 25*  
we could all be proud of. We just felt like we could breathe some new life into the parade. We decided that if we got a good group of people that were willing to help us, we could do so much more."

The committee members,

who along with Thurston and Wilson, donated a great deal of time and effort seek sponsorships, include Tim Jacobsen, director of the Convention and Visitors Bureau; Donna Borders and Lisa Burton, also of the Convention and Visitors Bureau; Buffy Hudson; Helen

Gross, of Prudential Realty; Joan Winkelmann, with A G Edwards & Sons; Cindy Crammer; Tyson Baise, executive director of Kids' Harbor; Diann Jacobs and Lisa Miller, with the Lake Sun Leader; Herb Baker, pastor of Osage Hills Baptist Church; and Trish Creach.

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# Winners from Eldon Rehab open house announced

Eldon, MO— The Election Day open house at the new Eldon Rehab Therapy clinic was a great success. Attendees enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and tours of the center. Door prize winners are listed below: Pedometer - Debbie Thering, Pat Stezelicki, Lisa Schmidt, Eileen Wallace, Carol Edgington, Stadium seats - Rex McCargor, Fred Otto, Paul Edgington, Lake Regional float ring - Crystal Beckerle, Tote bag - Grace Simon, \$25 gift card to Applebee's - Betty Holland, JoAnn Wyrick, 1 month wellness membership - Shirley Stevenson, Nina Berendzen, 3 month wellness membership - Steve Mossman.

The therapists at Eldon Rehab Therapy currently provide physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and cardiac rehab. A wellness program and water aerobics classes will be offered beginning in 2007. Call Eldon Rehab for details, 392-3000.

Laura Gajda, Director of Public Relations and Foundation added, "Lake Regional Health System is proud to offer these expanded rehab services and wellness programs to the residents of Eldon and the surrounding areas."



Physical therapist and clinic manager Jessica Beckman, right, explains the benefits of the center's heated, aqua therapy pool to Erin McDevitt of Eldon.



How warm is the water? That's what Harlie Fair of Eldon wanted to know. Harlie is shown here with John Caine, owner of Eldon Furniture and president of the Lake Regional Health System Board of Directors.



(left to right) Lisa, Erma and Janice Schmidt of Rocky Mount and their friends Terri and Lindsay Mossman of Eldon stopped by the open house after voting.



Colleen Farrington and Jessica Beckman wield the giant scissors at the ribbon cutting during the Eldon Rehab open house on November 7 as staff members and well-wishers look on.

## Local radio DJ goes to Washington

*continued from page 22*

most likely source of significant replacement for petroleum based fuels. He had a meeting in St. Louis in October where they talked about bio-fuel. "About 5% of motor fuel is represented by ethanol. In order to produce that

5% it takes between 15% and 20% of our corn crop." "We just announced today in Chicago a \$100 million dollar series of grants for people working on hydrogen fuel cells." Expect hydrogen powered vehicles on the showroom floor by 2012. Said the President would like to see more drilling for our own fossil fuel sources. It will be decades before we are energy independent.

John Walters— Director of Drug Control Policy verified that Missouri is the number one state for production of methamphetamines. He was in Missouri in October with Bond and Talent who were instrumental in helping put together the Combat Meth Act which is "really starting to have an effect." He said "The media has done a great job in showing the truth about what really happens to you if you start taking this drug." Mentioned new legislation for a 700 mile

border fence and quoted 11 million total illegals in the country. Said Thomas, "What surprised me was affable demeanor of everyone — the human aspect of who they are and what they do. No one acted pressed or put upon to be there."



White House Press Secretary Tony Snow answers a question inside the tent on the White House lawn.



Condoleezza Rice, US Secretary of State listens to a question at the White House during Media Day.



# CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

## Arthur Maier Plumbing Company

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Arthur Maier Plumbing Company is owned by Mark and Leslie Schaub. Arthur Maier Plumbing is a premium plumbing company that has brought its old fashioned work ethic to the Lake Area and are licensed and insured with over 20 years experience.

Mark began his plumbing career by serving five years as an apprentice in residential plumbing, then spent the next seventeen years as a journeyman plumber involved in repair, remodel and new construction in residential and commercial fields in St. Louis, Mo.

Mark named the company in tribute to his beloved father who passed away when Mark was a young boy. Mark always remembers his hard working father who owned Arthur Maier Plumbing Company and along with his mother, taught him, his five brothers and one sister the value of a good days work.

The competitive St. Louis construction industry taught Mark the value of giving quality work for a fair price in accordance with the National Plumbing Code. Mark believes your time is as valuable as

*continues on page 47*

## CPA firm offers software help

By Michael Gillespie

Say you're a small business owner who has been keeping the books the old-fashioned way. You decide its time to go modern, so you buy an accounting software package, such as QuickBooks. It says on the box that it's quick and simple, so you dive right in. But there are so many bells and whistles that you either become lost in the mire, or you don't take full advantage of the program's capability. Sound familiar?

"Quick Books has generally marketed itself as all you need to do accounting, but that's not really the case," says Cheryl Hawken, staff accountant with Bednara, Vanderveld & Co., CPAs, in Osage Beach. Her firm offers help with QuickBooks and similar programs, such as Peachtree. "We're trying to educate people that the set-up is where it's all at. We help them get the system set up out of the box with a customized chart of accounts for their industry, and the preferences that need to be set up so that they don't fail with the software."

As part of her company's services, Hawken teaches a three-session, evening class in QuickBook applications at the Lake Career Technical Center. She also does one-on-one training at her office, or in the client's office. "We help to decide which system will work for the client," she says.

Hawken explains that knowing the software and optimizing its capabilities benefits the small business owner in several ways.

"First of all," she says, "a lot of people spend a lot of time on bookkeeping, but what they really want to be doing is running their business. So if QuickBooks is set up properly, and the client is trained properly, we can cut down the amount of time they're spending on bookkeeping and actually have better results."

"One thing that's really important, I think, is being able to monitor your costs month to month and get some sort of comparative information — and noticing trends and seeing where you might need to be cutting costs. Since it's a seasonal area, a lot of people get in trouble in the winter by not having set aside what they need to survive the winter. Just having up to date, accurate books, helps them make these decisions."

Besides offering training, Bednara Vanderveld is positioned to be of special help to businesses that utilize accounting software. "There are a lot of CPA firms here at the lake that still don't take QuickBooks into their office," says Hawken. "Clients print out the information and take it to their accountant and never get any update or journal entries or anything to put into their software. So they continue on with this information that doesn't mean anything really. We find that we can help the client out better by bringing in their actual live data and correcting that and bringing that up to muster. We are trying to help them have a data base that's more meaningful throughout the year, and up to date."

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\*Based on direct premiums written. Source: A.M. Best, Commercial Multi-Peril ranking, 2005.



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## PROBLEM SHOTS

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## ROUGH LIES

by Darrel Willman

All of the golf courses around the Lake have a couple of things in common. For the most part, they are built on extremely uneven terrain, with hills and ridges coming into play. The

greens areas tend to have their fair share of uneven lies if you go long—and rough. Some have extraordinary rough like Old Kinderhook, where the wild grasses can grow high enough to obstruct your view. Some use broad blade grasses and let them grow up, others use the natural rocks, trees and scrub to ruin your day should you stray into it.

This is another problem shot. For this article, Larry Salsman—Director of Golf at Sycamore Creek, PGA professional, and instructor will give us some help hitting from a buried rough lie.

We'll preface this by stating that if the grass/weeds/scrub you are in is approaching a foot tall, you'll likely just want to take your medicine (and the stroke) and drop. But for the shots that are playable, tall grasses and weeds make for a special approach to the swing. Larry explains, "Anytime you hit from the taller rough you encounter a couple different problems. You have to take a few more things into account. You may not be able to go to the green like you want to go. It depends on the distance that you have. The type of golfer that you are and the height of the grass is a factor as well."

Technology can come to the rescue to a certain extent in this situation. Problem clubs, like utilities and hybrids, have the added mass and the smooth sole that's needed to get down into the grass—and get back out again—to get your shot clear. As Larry mentions, you may not be able to go for the green. The important thing from a buried lie is to advance the ball toward the hole, and improve your lie.

"Some things that have come along that have really helped out are the hybrid's. If you are a lot farther out—seven woods, hybrids, things like that—make it a lot easier to get it out than ever before from long distances. So think about getting rid of the three and the four iron and putting a hybrid in your bag especially if you find yourself in those positions a lot," Larry advises.

So what is the technique to getting down deep into the grass and making good contact—very important if you want to avoid blocking it or missing the shot completely?

"Let's say that we are 120 yards out, and we're in the tall stuff right now," Larry explains, "You do need to take into account a few different things, but the ball definitely wants to be in the middle of your stance, so that you can get more of a descending blow on it. You might also want to think about trying a few different tricks—Take a larger club, a more lofted club, and just try to advance the ball. If from 120 yards out, I can hit it maybe 80 yards and just aim at the fairway—and knock it back into play, I'm better off."

Striking a buried ball out of grass is difficult. It requires a "stronger" shot. A firmer grip and a more descending blow, hitting down on the ball, resisting the grass' tendency to grab the hosel and shaft and turn the club face.

"The ball a lot of times is going to come out left of your target," Larry says, "What happens is—as the iron comes down—the taller grass wraps around the hosel of the club and is going to force it to shut, to the left. That's why long irons—3 iron, 4 iron—are very difficult to hit in the tall stuff. Almost impossible—because once the grass wraps around the hosel, it shuts that club down. This takes the 21 degree loft of a three iron and shoves it into a minus two degree loft—and then you can't get the ball airborne anymore. You need to account for that. You'll want to



**Down deep in the tall stuff, if your lie is covered up, you'll need a couple techniques Larry says will help get you out, and back into play.**

aim a little bit more to the right of your target than you normally would. How far you aim right depends on the club. Obviously a three iron is more affected than a sand wedge. With a three iron, you might aim 20 yards right—and the sand wedge you might aim 10 feet right. You just have to play with it. It's a shot that definitely requires some practice."

The descending blow, or "chopping down" on the ball is shortening the effect of the grass wrap, getting you to the ball quicker. Larry explains, "By moving the ball into the middle of your stance, you can have that descending blow. In the tall stuff, you might even experiment with moving it a hair bit back in your stance, trying to just trap the ball against the ground—because you do need to make quite a descending blow. If you take it back long and low and try to sweep it, you encounter so much more grass on your way back and on your way down, that you're taking out, it'll seem like a lot more. Hold on a little bit tighter to the golf club. It's going to help fight the turn—and it requires practice. It's a tough shot."

Like every lie that isn't fairway, deep rough requires a special technique that requires some practice in order to be able to use it well. Next month, Larry will talk about obstructed shots, and some strategies for getting around that big tree. n

La Jolla Men's Mid Back Irons Closeout \$189	Nickdent Steel & Hybrid Men's \$499	Callaway X-18 Pro Demo Men's \$550
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### IRL'S CHRISTMAS GIFT GOLF IDEAS

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Larry says that the very skilled

# Ten tips for a better golf game next year

by Darrel Willman with Master Clubmaker Irl Robinson.

Winter is the perfect time to get out your clubs and see why you didn't enjoy all of your rounds over the summer, if that's the case. With most player's games there is some room for improvement. Winter is also the time you can look at new equipment, get yourself fitted, or spend some time indoors on a launch monitor to find out what's up with your swing. We asked Irl Robinson, Master Clubmaker and CGA Clubmaker of the Year, what he thought were ten things (from least expensive up) you could do.

## 10. Check Your Grips

"You can improve a round of golf 6-10 strokes simply by changing worn-out grips. The grip has got to yield you the comfort, texture, softness, whatever you desire. Size, it's got to be comfortable in your hand. So it's essential that the grip fits all your requirements as far as feel. If there are medical problems, grip pressure problems, shoulders, back— go with oversized grips, arthritic grips or jumbo grips. If you have a certain style that doesn't come in a jumbo grip, for example tape can be built-up and make it oversized. Don't think that the only grips available are what's on the rack—a standard size. There are other choices."

## 9. Excessive Bag Wear

"You'll notice this especially with graphite shafts— discoloration where some paint has rubbed off— this is the shaft wearing on the bag. If you just see a slight discoloration, take some clear nail polish, and brush that spot up. That'll keep it from wearing through. If the paint is worn through, then it cuts into the fibers. Here, replace the shaft—it could break on the course. Look for loose heads, this happens over time. If it's a steel shaft, just grab the grip and the head and twist it. Graphite, you don't want to do that because you'll tear the shaft up. But down at the bottom of the shaft, you'll see the ferrule, a black plastic piece above the hosel. If there's a space

there, the ferrule can get loose, or the shaft is loose. Get these professionally re-epoxied for safety."

## 8. Toss Problem Clubs

"Look at your game and analyze it— find out what your strengths and weaknesses are, then address the weaknesses. Replace your long irons if you don't hit a three or four iron consistently. If don't hit your five iron consistently, get it out of your bag as well, and replace them with hybrid clubs. If you have trouble hitting a fairway wood off the deck, put in a hybrid club. This helps your long game tremendously. Then look at an A wedge—they call it an alternate wedge or a gap wedge. Most pitching wedges are around 42 or 44 degrees. You have a sand wedge at 56 degrees. That's a huge gap, so look at a 51 or 52 degree gap wedge or alternate wedge, and put that in your bag. It gives you full shots from in-between distances and makes it tremendously easier to get on the green and score."

## 7. Rethink Your Driver

"Look at your driver— especially in relationship to loft angles with these bigger heads. Most clubmakers and gurus in the industry say that most golfers don't play enough loft. Look at what you truly generate in club head speed, but if the ball's not carrying where you think it should, odds are you do not have enough loft in your



Irl shows some of the different styles of grips available.

driver head. Also look at shafts than can help compensate for poor loft angles. They have shafts that are high launch, low spin you can get into for \$75-\$100. Buy the shaft and get it splined, get it trimmed properly and

installed in your current driver head— odds are you're going to improve distance and accuracy.

## 6. Adjust Loft & Lies

"I recommend getting your loft and lies checked when you get your clubs re-gripped— every year. Get them professionally checked for the lie angle to make sure that when you make contact with the ground the club head is in the middle of the sole and it's flat. Otherwise if you hit it to the toe side or the heel side that's going to cause a push or a pull shot. A pro can make the adjustments on the irons to fit the individual golfer."

## 5. New Technology

"If your current set of clubs is over 2 years old, you really need to look into the new technology. The club heads and the shafts are totally different than they were 2-5 years ago. They are a lot more forgiving. A lot of set configurations are now five iron through sand wedge, with three and four hybrids. It fits so many more people. Especially mid-to-high handicappers and seniors, take a look into the modern technologies to improve your game."

## 4. Analyze Your Swing

"Everybody, in the off season, get on a launch monitor. It gives you tremendous detail as to your golf swing. It gives you a lot of parameters on what your swing and the ball are doing. It'll help lead you to the changes you need to make— whether it's a shaft change, a little more loft, or maybe a length change in your clubs."

## 3. Spend More on Less

"When you're playing golf 60% of your shots in a round are inside 100 yards. That includes your approach shots, putts and chips. So when you're building your new set, put some thought into where you're going to be making the majority of your shots— that's inside 100 yards, so that's where the wedge comes in. Guys will buy a \$700 driver and then go get a \$29.95 putter. You can buy an excellent driver for \$250, and an excellent putter for \$150. You want to



Two-putting instead of three can make a 6-8 stroke difference.

almost split 50/50 on your short game and your tees game. I don't think you need to put the majority of your money in the driver. Save some off the driver and spend it on your short game."

## 2. Retro-fit Your Clubs

"If you've got a new set of clubs, but they're off-the-rack, or you've had them a year or two, it's great to go to a professional, go through the fitting process and get retrofitted. If you like your club heads, shafts— but just want them tweaked a little bit, a marvelous thing is to have the shafts digitally spine-aligned for consistency. Then get measured to see if we need to adjust the lie angle, or adjust shaft length or flexibility. We can maybe take apart your existing set, spine align the shafts and reinstall them— you've still got your favorite clubs, but now they're going to perform a whole lot better, because they've been retrofitted to match your game."

## 1. Get Custom Fitted

"I believe that anybody who's going to buy clubs, get them fitted. I do a tremendous amount through OEM's— my number one brand is Callaway, because it's the same price that they're going to buy them from a discount golf shop. Instead, they can get measured and fitted, order them, have them drop shipped to their house within 5-7 days— custom fitted for the same money (pro shops can as well). A lot of people don't know this service is available. If you look and you want to buy that Callaway set, Nike set, the new irons that are coming out, you can order them and you've got your new clubs— that will perform the way that you want them to perform, because they're going to be fitted to you."

# Five tweaks for better golfers

You've got a good game. You're enjoying the fruits of all that practice, those lessons, the new driver. Here's some quick tweaks for power golfers to get the most with the least.

Of course leading the list is **loft and lie**. Especially with softer, forged clubs, Irl advises that the loft and lie can change throughout the season. Get them checked periodically for best results. Next up, isn't one you'd normally look at— **bounce angles**. Irl says, "Understand the relationship between your clubs and the turf you play on. If you are playing out of real plush sand, get a higher bounce angle on your sand wedge, say 12 degrees. If you're playing off of hard sand maybe a bounce angle of 8-10 degrees is best. Tour players will adjust wedges based upon the conditions— they may have eight or ten different wedges." **Weighting**.

Irl advises an easy way to get response is to add weight to your short irons with lead tape. It'll let you get through the rough stuff easier, and allow you to "pop" that shot to the green.

**For putters, adding weight** will help play faster greens, using a lighter putter will aid on slow greens. Lead tape is cheap and easily applied before a round. **Spline alignment** of course has to come up in this list somewhere.

Whether or not you believe in it, Irl does, and we've seen more consistency and straighter shots because of it. Most players will swear they get added distance as well. Don't forget to get a better stick when you take in that club for splining. Shaft technology can work wonders.

# Golf simulator moves into game improvement

Is the world ready for indoor golf? Maybe— companies like AboutGolf are banking on it. What was once a tool only for custom clubfitters and OEMs has gradually moved out into higher-end retail and smaller shops for looking for a technological edge over the competition.

We've covered shot analysis machines, and when used for

simulators". Ohio-based AboutGolf uses a soft wall to catch the shots, and two others to define the space in front of a tee. Here, microwave technology is used to perfectly recreate the shots you take on computerized golf courses. You can choose from famous and not-so-famous courses, with more being added all the time.

Sensors behind the screen



The AboutGolf display uses high-tech graphics for realism.

tweaking a driver or custom-fitting a set of irons, they are a vast improvement over going out to the range with some masking tape and a yardstick. But for the most part, these are simply small PC's connected to a sensor that tracks the ball's flight from a rubber tee.

AboutGolf's 15x22' virtual indoor golf courses come plug and play. Everything from the sounds of birds and breeze, to hitting that great eight iron into the green and watching it roll up. It's all here— virtually, that is. It is also a launch monitor with sophisticated data available on everything from ball speed and backspin to clubhead speed and bias travel. AboutGolf has these all over the country used as fitting and teaching aids—but increasingly the firm is putting them in unlikely locations.

At \$40,000 installed, these are not for Joe Sixpack weekend duffer—but they are well within the reach of the affluent golf course home owner, and his burning desire to improve— year 'round. Elegant homes and their owners are ever more often equipped with the AboutGolf's never-ending playability in their six-figure-plus entertainment areas.

Because the weather is never a factor for the users of these "golf

displaying the hole read the ball's flight and the path of the club-head. The result is accurate—wind, weather (if you choose), hazards—and the depth of the cut, all factor into how well, or poorly, you hit the shot.

A few retail locations even have several of these, each accommodating a round of golf in about an hour— there's no walking, you see. And at \$20-40 per hour, per golfer, you can imagine the business model behind the investment.

In a recent interview, Bill Bales, AboutGolf's CEO said "The simulator is the ultimate launch monitor. The goal of AboutGolf, in addition to having fun, is to apply simulator technology in ways that will help golfers improve their games. We do not see ourselves competing with golf courses. In fact, in-season, just as much as the offseason, this is where you go to get good. The course is where you go to play golf."

So with a place to play no matter what the weather is doing outside, we can all take a critical look at our swings and our games, with the help of About Golf and the data their system delivers. We can just hope they catch on fast. I can't wait to try one out around here.

# We test Adams' Idea Pro Forged irons

At first glance, this set would appear to be a lot like the other offerings from Adams. If there's one thing Adams Golf has always done very well, it's aesthetics—they vary the finishes and tones on their clubs to come up with some very visually appealing designs. The Pro Forged irons are similar in shape and form to the other lines of Adams irons. And, they retain a few of the design elements from the others as you can see (photo 1). What they lack is the chrome finish and varied colors and textures. But this isn't a flaw, it's a benefit. The Pro Forged set is done in a satin finish for low glare, and lacks the colorful graphics that better players can find distracting. So it's clear this set is not marketed for the average club buying consumer.

Marketing and design aside, there are also a couple other things you don't see in the stock photos. If you take a glance, you'll notice the thin topline (picture 2) and the thin sole (picture 3)—you'll also see the nice glow from the new Black Gold shafts by True Temper. They frequency tune these shafts to +/- 2 cycles per minute and hold the weight to within +/- 1.5 gram from shaft to shaft. The distinctive warm color of the shafts results from a exclusive gold-nickel plating process. Ours shipped in stiff, they're also

available in regular and extra-stiff flexes.

For the hybrids, Adams has placed their faith— deservedly so, in the new Aldila "By You" VS graphite shafts. The 81 gram shafts have just 2.2 degrees of torque and are very hot on the PGA Tour now. Go out and buy one of these shafts, you'll pay \$180 each. For that matter, the Black Gold iron shafts will run upwards of \$150 per set of eight. These numbers tell you one thing quickly, and that's Adams, as well as most of the OEMs, has realized the importance of premium shaft technology.

The hybrids themselves are second most prevalent hybrid on tour, and number one on the Champions and Nationwide tours. Our hybrids shipped in stiff—and they were universally thought of as having great stability, and allowed for good control. The hybrids also have an adjustable weight port that allows players to either compensate for shaft differences or alter swing weight. The zero-offset low CG (center of gravity) design is unobtrusive from address, and sports a very high MOI. It's also one of the smaller hybrid heads on the market. Moment of Inertia (MOI) is one of the buzzwords in the business right now. Look for it to quickly become the hottest idea in clubs in 2007.

But back to the irons. The most important difference is the material they're made from— instead of the cast stainless steel



A look at the Adams lineup. (photo 1)

used in the other lines (while good), these clubs sport forged 8620 carbon steel for the feel, sound and control that better players crave.

But there are reasons why the Adams Idea Pro Forged irons are suitable for more than just pro level and scratch amateurs. They've retained the cavity back form that's made the Idea OS and the Idea A2 so successful—and there's a slight offset in the irons that runs (decreasing) from the

*continues on page 34*



The iDea Pro Forged irons have an unobtrusive yet attractive satin finish and limited graphics. Note the warm color of the Black Gold shafts (photo 3)



The iDea Pro Forged irons sport a very thin topline and sole, but feature a forgiving cavity back design. (photo 2)

# Tonia Grein Team ads new position

Lake Ozark, Mo— Whitney Backsen, previous Office Manager with the Tonia Grein Team, has recently accepted a new position with the team. After earning her real estate license, Backsen has taken on the position of Buyer Specialist.

Jessica Esteb, Closing Coordinator, recently earned her real estate license.

Nancy Hudson has accepted the position of Office Manager. Her background in management and marketing and her license in real estate have been particularly useful in fulfilling her daily responsibilities. Hudson's previous experience as Tonia Grein's Executive Assistant has allowed her to make a smooth transition into her new position.

"We encourage all of our team members to continue to gain knowledge and grow in the real estate industry. It is an honor to see these women obtain their goals," stated team leader, Tonia Grein.

Backsen, Esteb and Hudson can be reached at the Business Highway 54 office in Lake Ozark or by calling 573-365-9700.



Whitney Backsen



Jessica Esteb



Nancy Hudson

## Recent staff additions to the Tonia Grein Team

Lake Ozark, MO— Over the past few months there have been many additions to the Tonia Grein Team. Among these additions are four licensed agents who bring diverse talent to the team.

Luke Elliott earned his degrees in Philosophy and Spanish at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Elliott brings knowledge of the lake real estate market and experience to his position as Buyer Specialist with the Tonia Grein Team.

Mindy Siro-Scott earned her Master's Degree in Counseling at the University of Missouri in Columbia. She brings experience, education and knowledge to her Broker-Sales position.

Erika Martin earned her real estate license after her previous experience as a manager with a regional airline. Her management background and knowledge of the lake real estate mar-

ket has prepared her to take on the responsibilities of a Buyers Specialist.

Sam Derikrava is the most recent addition to the Tonia Grein Team. His previous experience lies in 9 years of commercial and land development. Derikrava brings practical knowledge and years of local commercial real estate experience to his position as a Broker-Sales Agent.

"We have truly been blessed to have such knowledgeable and diverse people join our team. All of them have proven to be gifted real estate professionals and we look forward to a lasting and prosperous relationship," stated team leader, Tonia Grein.

Elliott, Scott, Martin and Derikrava can be reached at the Business Highway 54 office in Lake Ozark or by calling: 573-365-9700.

# Bushnell's Pinseeker rangefinder

by Darrel Willman

Bushnell, long known for excellence in its optical products has added the Pinseeker 1500



Bushnell Pinseeker 1500

laser rangefinder to its product line. Our review sample shipped with lanyard, extensive operation manual, carrying bag with strap and lens cleaning cloth.

Not that you'd need the manual mind you. Out of the box, all we had to do was remove the lens cap and we were impressed. The unit powers on with the touch of the button (the only one) and gave accurate distances immediately. It also powers itself off after a few seconds.

The thumb-placed Mode but-

ton gives you the option of aiming at a flag or a larger target such as a green or sandtrap. No annual fees, no setup, no menus, just distances. We found the 7x26 power optics to be plenty long enough, it displays 330 ft. at 1,000 yards.

Better still, it's waterproof—there's no way that sprinkle on the fairway will bother it. The PinSeeker can accurately pinpoint the flag at 400 yards, sand and trees and larger objects

*continues on page 34.*

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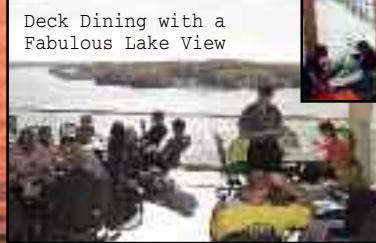
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# Adams' Pro Forged irons

*continued from page 32*  
five (most) through the pitching wedge (least). They also have the same low CG (center of gravity) that made their other irons so playable.

The set as tested retails at \$799 with steel shafts. There's also a 4 iron available for the set as well as wedges in 2 different lofts

Adams line. The clubs were easily worked draw or fade in both the hybrids and irons. We wished the wedges had been included in the set.

The amateurs we had hit the clubs varied in ages and abilities widely. It was immediately apparent the stiff shafts were an impairment for some higher handicappers. Single digit to

who have the ability to take advantage of the premium shafts and forged faces. The hybrids alone in our earlier tests received a perfect score. The set performs exceptionally well and are a bargain when compared to other OEM pro-level clubs. For golfers with 15 or under handicaps, the soft forged faces are an advantage they can cash in on—and



Adams Golf's new iDea Pro Forged irons ship with 6 irons and 2 hybrids. Retail with steel shafts \$799.

On the range, the pros we handed these to were amazed by the hybrids. Not a single negative comment, it was unanimous praise for the small, effective head style and performance. The irons were nearly universally as well liked. The appreciation for the shafts across the set was readily apparent, especially in the irons. The stiff Black Golds are sure to be a big winner this year. A couple testers found the soles to be excessive, a consistent design element across the

teens handicappers appreciated the shafts and hit the clubs very well, the cavity-back design helped everyone. The irons have a very soft feel, and the satin finish seemed to be a hit with all testers. With a regular flex the irons would have been a better fit for the non-pros. Most remarked on the unique gold color of the shafts, but none disliked it. Average ratings were all four and above out of five.

General consensus, these clubs are a sure-thing for golfers

may not have been aware of. For those with higher handicaps, a regular flex would be in order—and for the most part, these players would be better suited with other Adams clubs. We give the set a five out of five for players with 15 handicap and under. Our only fault with the set are the basic grips provided when so many superior styles are currently available. But grips are a personal choice and so will likely be changed in any event.

# Bushnell's Pinseeker rangefinder

*continued from page 33*  
about 1000. You shouldn't need more than 400 yards (if you do you can't use it in sanctioned events anyway, while the PGA has approved laser rangefinders for play, its addition of slope measurement means it's good only for casual rounds).

A touch of the button gives a digital readout on the LCD unit, powered by a 9-volt battery.

The mode button allows for 3 modes, Scan, Pinseeker and Slope. Scan allows you to move along a line and search—perfect for getting the range on a creek or

line of trees. The Pinseeker mode looks for the flag amongst the trees and gives you the shorter distance (the flag is in front). The Slope mode is activated after you find the distance with the Pinseeker mode. Just release the button and the display will compute the distance with slope adjustment and give it to you.

Unlike the SkyCaddie it requires a line of sight. You have to be able to see the target. But it also requires no extras like course data or reflectors like the LaserLink.

It also gives yardage to the pin

itself, not the front, middle and back of the green.

You can also use it for other things, like hunting or photography—nothing like accurate distances (around 1 yd. at 400 yards). At around \$400, it's a bit more than the SkyCaddie but with its slope adjustment it's more than worth it, and you'll save on subscriptions and it requires no reflector to work. If you are playing with friends on a summer day this is the one for you. Playing in tournaments you'll need another way to get the distance. HHHHH

# Main Street Opry's 13th Christmas season runs through December 23

Christmas is a time for traditions and making memories with family and friends; one way that many folks have found to do this is to include Christmas at Main Street Opry as part of their holiday plans. True to the season, the show is focused entirely on Christmas music and comedy; part of its appeal is that it's for families, by families.

Thirty-six year veteran comedian, Thom "Gabby" Gumm, teams up with his 27 year old son, Matt Gumm, to bring some truly hilarious moments to the Main Street stage. This dynamic duo not only knows how to keep you tickled, but amazes audiences with their ability to impersonate so many famous people. Keeping these two characters in line is where wife and mother, Sandy Gumm comes in, rounding them up for family harmony on some great Gospel tunes.

Also, dressing up the stage and providing top notch entertainment are three beautiful

ladies. For the last eleven years, Wendy Warner has added her outstanding vocals and incredible impersonations to make for rave reviews from the audiences. She'll cause a double-take when she enters the stage as Cher, Reba McIntire, or any number of artists.

This year's audiences have loved the newest member of the show, 22 year old Ashlie Tucker. She has an impressive resume which includes a four year stint as a harmony singer for Grand Ole Opry's Sara Evans.

Making for a highlight each and every show for the last seven years is vocalist and instrumentalist, Missy McPheeters. Her singing, fiddlin' and classical violin always bring a rousing response. Her husband, Mark McPheeters, is another unbelievably versatile talent; he mans the lead guitar on any style of music you can imagine. Jo Jo Hargrave stirs things up on the drums and Reverend Larry Cox

adds in a tasteful mix of bass guitar to make for an upbeat, "keep the music coming" kind of show. Dan Schissler, a grade above the rest keyboardist, is the music director and writes the show that will make your Christmas season even more special.

Of course, no Christmas show would be complete without a visit from jolly old St. Nick for the kids! Our season kicks off Thanksgiving weekend with shows running November 24th thru December 23rd, Tuesday thru Saturday at 8PM and Sunday matinees at 3PM. Main Street Opry is located in The Landing on Main Street, just off Highway 54 in Osage Beach, 1/10 mile from KK. Please, call 573-348-9500 or 1-800-348-9501 for reservations. Come make a lasting Christmas memory with Main Street Opry and we'll celebrate together the true meaning of the season!

# Mid-County Fire Protection District awarded grant

Mid-County has received notification of a grant awarded to them from the Department of Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate in the amount of \$36,016 federal money. The Fire District must match 5% or \$1,896 of this grant. This grant is part of a competitive grant process throughout the United States. "The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services organizations." Quoted from [www.firegrantsupport.com/afg](http://www.firegrantsupport.com/afg).

In fiscal year 2006, Congress reauthorized the AFG and appropriated a total of \$539,550,000 to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office of Grants and Training to carry out the activities of the AFG program.

"This is a very competitive grant because you have departments all over the country applying for these dollars, so you have to prove your need is more important than the other departments needs" Chief Ron Gentry said. Chief Gentry also said "These funds that we applied for will be used to purchase much needed personal protective gear and pagers for our firefighters. Our budget has been too tight over the past several years to afford these needed items".

Mid-County Fire Protection District covers 215 sq miles of Camden County with 6 fire stations, 2 fireboats 6 career firefighters, a Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, Fire Marshal Assistant, a secretary and about 35 volunteer firefighters. They are operating on a budget of about \$530,000 during calendar year 2006.

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# The Vandervort Report

## An elementary story about Tax's

I recently read an interesting story written by David R. Kamerschen, PhD, Professor of Economics at the University of Georgia that tells a very true, common sense story about how taxes are paid in this country and the reality about tax cuts, and how ridiculous people are when they make comments like, "tax cuts are just for the rich". I thought I would share the story with all of you.

Let's put taxes and tax cuts into terms that everyone can understand. Suppose that every day, ten men go out for dinner and the bill for all ten comes to \$100; if each man paid their bill the way we pay our taxes, it would go something like this:

The first four men (the poorest) would pay nothing.  
The fifth would pay \$1.00  
The sixth would pay \$3.00  
The seventh would pay \$7.00  
The eighth would pay \$12.00  
The ninth man would pay \$18.00  
The tenth man (the richest) would pay \$59.00

So, that's what they decided to do. The ten men ate dinner in the restaurant every day and seemed quite happy with the arrangement, until one day, the owner threw them a curve. "Since you are all such good customers," he said, "I'm going to reduce the cost of your daily meal by \$20.00". Dinner for the ten would now only cost them \$80.00. The group still wanted to pay their bill the way we pay our taxes, so the first four men were unaffected, they would still eat for free. But what about the other six men, the paying customers? How could they divide the \$20.00 windfall so that everyone would get his "fair share"? They realized that \$20.00 divided by six is \$3.33; but if they subtracted that from everybody's share, then the fifth man and the sixth man would each end up being paid to eat their meal. So, the restaurant owner suggested that it would be fair to reduce each man's bill by roughly the same amount, and so:

The fifth man, like the first four, now paid nothing (100% savings)  
The sixth man now paid \$2.00 instead of \$3.00 (33% savings)  
The seventh man now paid \$5.00 instead of \$7.00 (28% savings)  
The eighth man now paid \$9.00 instead of \$12.00 (25% savings)  
The ninth man now paid \$14.00 instead of \$18.00 (22% savings)  
The tenth man now paid \$49.00 instead of \$59.00 (16% savings)

Each of the six was better off than before. And the first four continued to eat for free, but once outside the restaurant, the men began to compare their savings; "I only got a dollar out of the \$20," declared the sixth man. He pointed to the tenth man, "but he got \$10!" "Yeah, that's right," exclaimed the fifth man. "I only saved a dollar, too; it's unfair that he got ten times more than me!" "That's true!" shouted the seventh man. "Why should he get \$10 back when I got only two? The wealthy get all the breaks!" "Wait a minute," yelled the first four men in unison. "We didn't get anything at all; the system exploits the poor!"

So the nine men surrounded the tenth man and beat him up!

The next night the tenth man didn't show up for dinner, so the nine sat down and ate without him. But when it came time to pay the bill, they discovered something important; they didn't have enough money between all of them to pay for even half of the bill!

And that, ladies and gentlemen, politicians & journalists, and college professors, is how our tax system works! The people who pay the highest taxes get the most from a tax reduction. Tax them too much, attack them for being wealthy, and they just may not show up anymore. In fact they might start eating over-seas where the atmosphere is somewhat friendlier.

Food for thought!  
Merlyn Vandervort, CR, CGR  
President  
Millennium Group of Companies  
Horny Toad Inc.

# Local economic developer attends conference

Lake Ozark, MO— Mike Kenagy, Executive Director-Lake West Chamber of Commerce recently attended the Missouri Economic Development Council's Spring Conference held May 17th through the 19th at the Lodge of the Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, Missouri.

Mike Kenagy joined over 350 of Missouri's professional economic developers and others interested in promoting the expansion and attraction of business and industry in Missouri in attending the conference. MEDC officers and directors were elected and the Marketing Awards Luncheon featured a keynote presentation by motivational speaker T. Marni Vos, who has given presentations to many Fortune 500 companies across the U.S.

Educational sessions at the conference included topics rang-

ing from "Best Practices in Retail Recruitment", "Retail Development Case Studies", "Differentiating Yourself Through Websites", "State and Community Incentives", and "Project Lead Generation". Attendees also received updates from the 2006 Missouri Legislative Session and from Greg Steinhoff, Director of Missouri's Department of Economic Development.

The Missouri Economic Development Council is a state-wide, non-profit association of over 400 economic developers and community leaders. Created in 1979 to provide a unified voice for economic development through its programs in professional education, legislation, and marketing, MEDC is the leading voice and advocate for economic development in Missouri.

## Gripmaster announces new "D" type putter grip

Remember the Acushnet Blade or the Palmer 8802? Gripmaster chose a new version of that traditional grip.

GripMaster is in the business of taking classic grips and updating them available with modern materials and they have done it again with this traditional 'D' shaped putter grip.

Made from the finest hand-selected genuine leather and GripMaster's exclusive thermoplastic under-last, the new 'D' Shape Putter Grip (GMDP130) evokes the grace and timeless quality of golf's Golden Era!

It is a throw back to the days of blade and flanged putters. The grip was made famous on the old Acushnet Blade and the Palmer 8802.

The grip is pre-wound for easy one-piece, slip-on installation. Available now in black and tan (a rich dark brown) and priced at \$25, it is available from many pro-shops and online at [TheGripMasterUSA.com](http://TheGripMasterUSA.com).

Nothing quite matches the feel and texture of genuine leather. Leather grips for many years were standard, now a treasured option. Leather handles wet weather better, and lasts for several seasons.



Shannon Goosen at right, a Cole Camp farmer, spoke to Camdenton Optimist Club about large scale pork production and its advantages to the consumer. Goosen is a member of National Pork Producers Council. At left is Optimist Club President Chic Oostendorp. Optimists meet at CJs Restaurant at noon on Mondays.

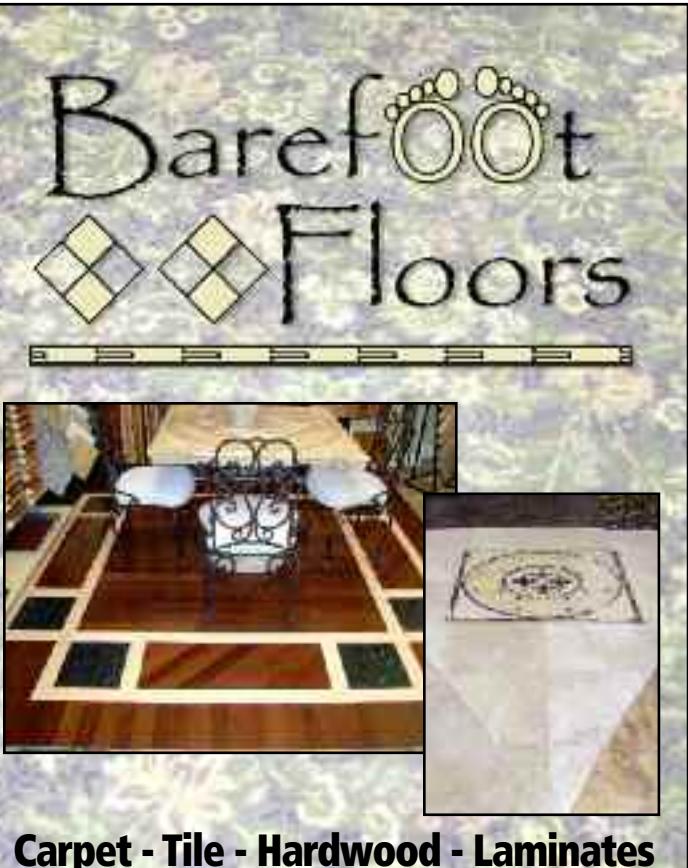
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## **Glencove, Mix 92.7 announce Sea-Doo summer giveaway winner**



Contest Winner Greg Rocque pictured with wife Paula on their new Sea-Doo.

Glencove Marine & Mix 92.7 Sea-Doo summer giveaway drawing was held September 29, 2006 at Backwater Jack's, Osage Beach, MO. The lucky winner was drawn at random by Glencove Marine owner & president, Jan Thompson along with Mix 92.7 radio personality Mike Clayton & Shannon



Contest Sponsors & winner left to right: Jan Thompson, Paula & Greg Rocque, Carol & Willie Sieg, Julie Law, Mike Clayton & Shannon Melton.

Melton, and Glencove Marine co-owners Willie & Carol Sieg. In attendance for the drawing were visiting patron's of Backwater Jack's and Formula 97 participants.

The contest sponsored by sea-Doo, Glencove Marine, & Mix 92.7 began April 28, 2006

and lasted all summer long attracting over 700 entries! Greg Rocque of Springfield, MO and part-time resident of Osage Beach, Mo had the lucky entry drawn for the brand new Sea-Doo 3D!

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# Foundation awards \$2 million in grants

St. Louis, MO— Thirteen mid-Missouri organizations have received a share of \$2,033,076 in grants recently made by Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH).The grants came through four Foundation funding programs: Healthy & Active Communities Initiative (two-year grants to prevent obesity and promote active and healthy lifestyles); Co-Occurring Disorders priority area grant (three-year grants to eliminate the traditional barriers between mental health and substance abuse systems); Basic Support (two-year allocations to help organizations maintain existing programs and services); and Strategic Organizational Development (grants that strengthen organizations' operations and development).

Those organizations receiving grants are:American Heart Association, entire MFH region, \$282,962. This grant funds implementation of the Healthy Schools program, a

nationwide effort to encourage active living and healthy eating. In partnership with nine school districts, the program develops wellness policies and staff wellness programs, establishes a school wellness council and works to improve vending machine choices.

Arthur Center, Mexico, \$246,324. The organization's "Options for Hope" program targets persons living in Audrain, Callaway, Montgomery, Pike, Ralls and Monroe counties through outpatient treatment programs in Mexico, MO.

Boone County Council on Aging, Columbia, \$57,537. Funding provides operational support to the organization, which connects seniors to resources in Boone County.

Boys & Girls Town of Missouri, St. James, \$15,000. This grant enables the organization to update its strategic planning and improve long-term growth.Eden Heritage Foundation, Vienna, \$100,000.

This grant allows the organization to maintain its Alzheimer's care unit at Maries Manor in central Missouri.

Laclede County Health Department, Lebanon, \$26,780. This funding helps the central Missouri county update its computer network system.

Missouri Foundation for Health Foundation Awards Grants Add One

Missouri Family Health Council, Inc., Jefferson City, \$16,150. This grant enables the organization to develop a strategic plan to improve their service.

Montgomery County R-II Schools, Montgomery City, \$295,051. Through the "Improving Community Activity and Nutrition (ICAN)" program, the school district is focusing on walking trails, after-school exercise and promotion of healthy eating.

New Horizons Community Support Services, Inc., Jefferson City, \$258,551. This grant targets adults in Boone

and Cole counties. The program includes providing services to the uninsured and underserved in supported housing and in the judicial system.

Osage County Community Living, Inc., Linn, \$65,991. This grant provides salaries and supplies to help the organization address the health needs of developmentally disabled adults in north central Missouri. Phelps/Maries County Health Department, Rolla, \$98,300. Funding enables the organization to continue providing prenatal services and educational classes in central Missouri.

Phoenix Programs, Inc., Columbia, \$296,314. The grant introduces the "Assertive Community Treatment" (ACT) program to residents in Boone County. A nationally recognized program, ACT uses treatment teams to bring appropriate services to clients.

Pulaski County Health Department, Crocker,

\$174,116 - For residents in south central Missouri, this grant funds school-based nutrition and physical activity programs, construction of walking trails, worksite wellness programs in the schools, and a community-wide awareness campaign for "Fired Up and Fit in Pulaski County." \$100,000 – This grant provides for salary and supplies expenses for this central Missouri health department.

Established in 2000 through the for-profit conversion of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Missouri, MFH is the largest non-governmental funder of community health activities in the state. MFH is in its fourth year of grantmaking, issuing more than \$180 million in grants and awards to date. It is dedicated to serving the uninsured, underinsured and underserved in 84 Missouri counties and the City of St. Louis.

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## Bank Star One names administrative officer

Lake Ozark, MO— Darla Helvey of Eldon has been named Administrative Officer at Bank Star One, it was announced today.

Mrs. Helvey joined the bank in 2002 after having served as Executive Vice President of the Bagnell Dam Association of Realtors. At Bank Star One, she manages all administrative duties for the three Lake area branches, including computer management, Bill Pay and internet banking management, and provides assistance and administrative support to the Lending Department.

Her many activities include coordination with area service organizations, participation with the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), and membership in the Enon Baptist Church. Bank Star One is a subsidiary of the Festus-based BancStar Inc., a bank holding company with 14 branches and \$362 million in assets. Bank Star branches are located in Lake Ozark (2), Osage Beach (HyVee Supermarket), Fulton, New Bloomfield, Festus (2), Farmington, Park Hills, Leadwood, Desloge, Pacific,

Caruthersville, and Steele—all in Missouri.

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Darla Helvey

Star One is a Member FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

## Bandana's Bar-B-Q and Bank Star One award "Walk on the Rocks"



William Vaught (center) accepts a \$100 gift certificate to Bandana's Bar-B-Q from Bandana's owner Austin Craddock (second from right). Vaught and his wife Cindy were the winners in Bank Star One's sweepstakes at the Walk on the Rocks Halloween program in the HyVee parking lot October 31. From left, Sara Charlton and Dianne Steingrubey (both Bank Star One Customer Service Representatives), Robert Tostenrud (Bank Star One Branch Manager), Vaught, Craddock, and Kristy Hamilton (Bank Star One Assistant Branch Manager).





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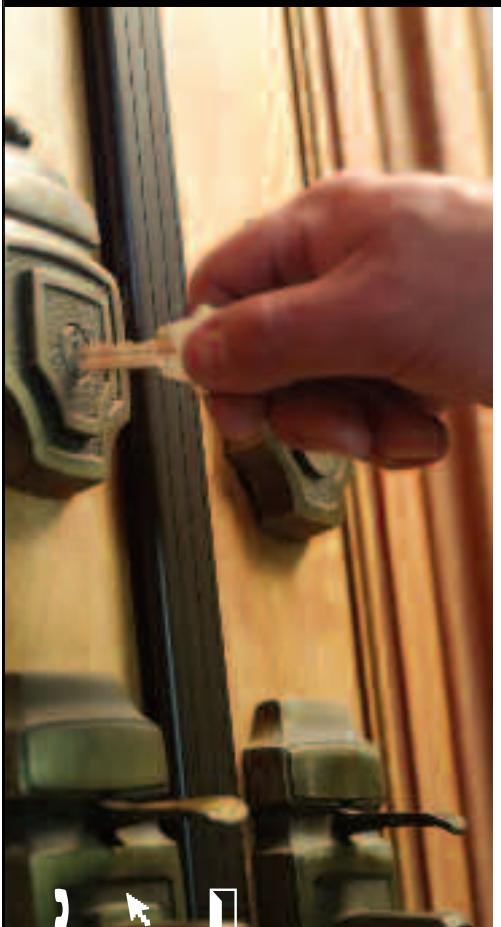
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## AmerenUE expects to present revised shoreline management plan for public review in early 2007

Lake Ozark, MO—AmerenUE officials have made significant changes in their new Shoreline Management Plan at Missouri's Lake of the Ozarks to address concerns about certain provisions of the original version that were raised by some property owners, developers, public officials and others earlier this year. The company is now awaiting receipt of a new operating license for Bagnell Dam and the Osage Power Plant from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to ensure that the revised plan meets all licensing requirements. After the new license is received, AmerenUE officials say they expect to present the new plan for public review at meetings in each of the four counties surrounding the lake in early 2007.

The revised plan removes the Impact Minimization Zone (IMZ) limits on the size, separation and placement of new boat docks, which were the main source of public concern in the original version. Instead, the new plan focuses primarily on excavation and bank stabilization provisions to address federal and state resource agency desires to protect sensitive areas such as heads of coves, wetlands, and historically or culturally significant areas along the shoreline.

The latest plan is based on a revised plan that was reviewed in September by a 40-member shoreline management team composed of lake residents, public officials, resource agency representatives and business leaders that was originally formed in 2001. During the meeting, AmerenUE gathered written and verbal input from the group, and has continued to receive

additional comments. The current plan attempts to address the comments and requests for clarification that have been received.

"We had expected to have the new FERC license and be ready for public meetings this fall," says Mark Jordan, general supervisor, Real Estate, for Ameren Services. "But it now appears that the license will likely be issued around the end of this year, allowing us to proceed with public meetings in early 2007. It is very important that we see the new license to ensure that all agency and FERC license provisions can be met with the revised plan. If we held public meetings now, it is possible that we might have to make changes and then do them all over again if FERC specifies something in the license that needs to be in the plan."

AmerenUE is responsible for shoreline management at the Lake of the Ozarks under provisions of its FERC license for the operation of Bagnell Dam and the Osage Power Plant, which created the lake in 1931. The existing license expired Feb. 28, 2006, but FERC granted a one-year license extension to allow more time for review of AmerenUE's application for a new license.

Jordan says FERC typically issues licenses for hydro projects like the Lake of the Ozarks with a deadline for submittal of a shoreline management plan later—in many cases 12 months after the license is issued.

AmerenUE is subsidiary of St. Louis-based Ameren Corporation. The Ameren companies serve 2.4 million electric customers and nearly one million natural gas customers in a 64,000-square-mile area of Missouri and Illinois.

# Law change to increase use of electronic medical records

By David Twiddy—AP

Kansas City, MO—Health care advocates have long encouraged physicians to switch to computerized medical records, saying they could improve patient care and increase efficiency.

Doctors, however, have been more concerned about the high price tag — often more than \$20,000 per physician for software, hardware and Internet connections — as well as having to maintain a computer network. Surveys estimate less than 20 percent of doctors have fully automated their offices.

"They're saying, 'I'm shelling out the money and everybody else is getting the benefits,'" said Tom Leary, director of federal affairs for industry group Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society.

But federal officials last month paved the way for hospitals to come to the rescue, allowing them to donate medical record systems to physician practices to blunt some of the financial bite.

In addition, those inside the industry recently agreed on technology standards that allow soft-

ware from different companies to share data, taking some of the fear out of the purchasing decision.

Those moves are apparently loosening purse strings as medical software makers say they've seen a surge in new interest and new customers and predict this may be the spark they needed to pull the \$1.5 billion electronic health records industry into the medical mainstream.

"It's been a month since the (new regulations) were announced and the increase in engagement has been immediate," said Sunny Sanyal, group president for clinical solutions at San Francisco-based McKesson Provider Technologies, which serves about a third of the nation's hospitals. "Physicians weren't ready to provide a big investment. The fact a hospital can now provide it for them completely changes the picture."

Added Rick Heise, an executive with Kansas City, Mo.-based software provider Cerner Corp., "It's created a huge amount of excitement so there's an opportunity for a lot of money to go

around."

Electronic medical records have slowly gained acceptance in the health care industry, especially after President Bush in 2004 said he wanted all Americans to have an electronic patient record by 2014. Proponents, who envision a nationwide online database of medical information, say the records can speed up medical decisions, avoid errors and save lives.

Such information would be protected by federal privacy laws covering medical records, and supporters say secure networks would move information between health care providers bound by those laws.

Annual sales of records software are expected to more than triple to \$4.9 billion by 2010, said Jewson Enterprises, an Austin, Texas-based research firm.

But while hospitals, with their deeper pockets, have steadily evolved to electronic medical records (EMRs), doctors' groups, constrained by declining Medicaid payments and a smaller pool of capital, have proven slower to adapt.

Hospitals weren't allowed to help, blocked by federal laws preventing physicians from referring Medicare patients to businesses in which they have a financial relationship or accepting compensation from a health care provider that could be viewed as an incentive to refer patients.

On Oct. 6, however, federal officials established exceptions to those laws that would cover medical record system donations, albeit with a host of conditions. For example, computer systems that are donated must be able to talk and interact with other health care computer systems around the country — a protection against hospitals using their donations to deter competition.

Doctors still must pay at least 15 percent of the system's cost and donations are limited to software or such things as maintenance costs or Internet fees. Donations of hardware, other types of software or personnel to run the systems are not allowed.

James Kumpel, a health care analyst with Friedman, Billings, Ramsey & Co., said he expected it

will take several quarters of working through the legal questions and mapping out hospital-physician partnerships before the market sees a significant increase in sales, but they will come.

"Bush said he had a 10-year plan for (records). This is a good first step," Kumpel said. "It's all gravy because it hastens purchasing decisions and broadens the addressable market for them."

For example, Cerner has started to put more sales focus on physician offices, rather than just hospitals, leading the company to sign up more small-scale customers in the company's third quarter than in all of 2005, said Reise, director of Cerner PowerWorks, whose division now serves around 3,000 non-hospital clients.

He added that hospitals are also looking at records networks as an edge in the fight to attract high-quality physicians.

"They weren't able to pay them" before, he said. "Now that this relief has played out and been communicated by (federal

continued on page 44

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# SCORE thanks Tonia Grein Team

The Lake of the Ozarks Chapter of SCORE recently recognized the Tonia Grein Team for funding for this year's annual scholarship. Ken Schaeffer, Chairman of the Lake of the Ozarks SCORE chapter presented a certificate of appreciation to Mike Grein of the Tonia Grein Team in recognition of their financial support for the SCORE

scholarship. The \$2,000 scholarship was presented at a luncheon in August to Cathy Martin of Phillipsburg Missouri. Ms. Martin is the 11th annual recipient of SCORE's Business Education Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a local resident who is taking business management courses and currently active in a local business.



Mike Grein and Ken Schaeffer

SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" is a nonprofit association dedicated to providing entrepreneurs with free, confidential face-to-face and email business counseling. Business counseling and workshops are offered at 389 chapter offices across the country. Lake of the Ozarks Chapter 493 of SCORE was founded in 1981 and was National SCORE Chapter of the Year in 2000. The 28 members of the Lake's chapter have over 1,000 years of business experience, and provide counseling, educational workshops and scholarships to small businesses in a seven county area.

To seek free business counseling or to learn more about our workshops, business scholarship and how you can become a SCORE counselor, visit the Lake of the Ozarks SCORE web site at [www.lakeozarkscore.org](http://www.lakeozarkscore.org) or contact us at 573 346-2644.

# Lake Regional ends contract with United Healthcare

Osage Beach, MO—Lake Regional Health System of Osage Beach, Mo, recently announced the decision to terminate their managed care contract with United Healthcare, effective 1-1-07. Lake Regional Hospital and its clinic physicians will continue to accept United patients and file claims



with the company after January 1, 2007, but will be considered "out-of-network" providers unless an agreement can be reached.

According to Kristen Prenger, Lake Regional's Director of Managed Care, "The difficult decision to terminate resulted from multiple issues the health system has experienced during the past year. I am still trying to negotiate with United about possible resolution of the issues which include reimbursement, denied claims, and problems

with utilization review but the problems remain unresolved to date."

Additionally, Lake Regional's rate structure with United has not changed since their initial contract in 2002. Prenger began the renegotiation process with the insurance network in September 2005.

The health system wanted members of the community and their patients to be aware of this change so that they have plenty of time to study how this will impact them. Patients insured through United Healthcare are encouraged to call the telephone number on the back of their insurance card to learn how their benefits will be affected by this change. United representatives will be able to tell their customers the benefit differential between accessing healthcare at an in-network provider versus an out-of-network provider. Patients who have Medicare as a primary insurance and United as a supplement may see little impact from our decision to no longer participate with United Healthcare.

Even if an agreement can be worked out between Lake Regional Health System and United healthcare, it may not happen until the end of the year. If you have questions on this matter, please call Kristen Prenger at 573-348-8162.

## Law change to increase use of electronic medical records

*continued from page 43*  
officials) almost every hospital that is in a competitive situation is scrambling to build a (physician office records) strategy."

Michael Raymer, vice president and general manager for global product strategy at GE Healthcare, said his company has "already seen an uptick in unit sales this quarter that we attribute directly" to the rule changes.

For example, the new rules allowed one of his customers, Valley Baptist Health System in Harlingen, Texas, to speed up its plans to link hundreds of area

physicians to its medical records network. Hospital officials said the changes let them offer larger subsidies for doctors wanting to subscribe to the network, rather than forcing them to buy the software themselves.

"This is what I'd best describe is a rural area," said Jim Barbaglia, chief information officer for the 840-bed health system near the Mexico border. "We have a lot of physicians who are solo practitioners. Making them pull out \$25,000-\$30,000 would have been cost-prohibitive."



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# Lake Regional celebrates national health information and technology week

Osage Beach, MO—The move from paper to electronic health records (EHRs) will help doctors, nurses, and other medical staff members make important healthcare decisions on a real-time basis. But who ensures the information is complete, accurate, and kept confidential? This is the role of the health information management (HIM) professional. November 5 through 11 is Health Information and Technology (HI&T) Week—an annual event recognizing the work of the professionals who manage patient health information. This year's theme is "Managing Information, Improving Care."

"Health information management is dedicated to the effective management of patient information and healthcare data needed to deliver quality treatment and care to the public," stated Jane DeSpiegelaere-Wegner, Director of Health Information Management at Lake Regional Health System on Osage Beach. "As the healthcare industry

moves further into the information age, the role of the health information management professional is becoming even more critical."

Fast-paced changes in technology have accelerated the demand for HIM professionals. The US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, projects a 49 percent growth in the number of HIM workers by 2010, making HIM one of the nation's fastest-growing health occupations. The field currently offers nearly 40 different work settings and more than 125 job titles. Opportunities in the field include management of a hospital's HIM department, working in information systems with implementation of the EHR, or designing health information systems for a software vendor.

"HI&T Week is a great opportunity to learn more about the roles these professionals play in our healthcare system, and to recognize and celebrate their contributions to patient care," adds DeSpiegelaere-Wegner.

## Hankins elected president of Board of Realtors

Lake Ozark, MO— Bill Hankins of the Tonia Grein Team was recently elected President of the Bagnell Dam Board of Realtors. He served as Vice President of the Board during 2006. Along with his duties as President of the Board, Hankins will also serve on the Legislative & Regulatory Policy and Governmental Affairs committees of Missouri Association of Realtors in 2007.

"Hankins' background in finance and management has given him the tools needed to be an outstanding president. His knowledge of the Lake Area and his total commitment to serving the Bagnell Dam Board with the highest level of integrity and professionalism have proved to be a great asset to the real estate industry," said Tonia Grein.

"We couldn't be happier for Bill. His dedication to the real estate profession and his accomplishments in the field have been a true source of pride for our team," concluded Tonia Grein.

The installation banquet will be held December 2 at the Country Club Hotel at which time all the officers and new directors will be installed. Along with Hankins, Mary Albers will be installed as Vice President, Ryan Gattermeir, as Secretary and Karie Jacobs as Treasurer. Richard Elefson will continue on the board as Immediate Past President.

Hankins can be reached at the Tonia Grein Real Estate office at Business Highway 54 office or by calling 573-365-9700.



Bill Hankins

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## The Al Elam Column

With Greg Tolbert

### Common Sense Mortgage Tips

Added Principle Payments. You probably have heard the concept of making extra principal payments to reduce interest and payoff your loan early. The concept is simple, but it is rarely practiced. A typical promissory note amounts to incredible interest over thirty years. For example, on a thirty year \$100,000 loan at 9%, you will pay over \$189,000 in interest.

By making extra principle payments, even small ones, you can save significantly on interest. This is because interest is charged on the outstanding balance owed.

For example: If you paid an extra \$50/month the loan described above, you would save \$49,000 in interest and pay off the loan balance six years earlier. If you paid an extra \$100 per month, you would save over \$75,000 in interest and pay off the balance ten years earlier.

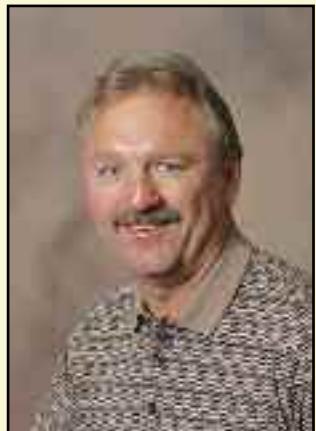
Avoid Late Fees. If you are in danger of paying your mortgage late, send your payment via overnight mail. The cost of doing so is probably much less than your late payment. For example, a 5% late penalty on a \$1,000 payment is \$50. Sending the payment via Federal Express will cost you less than \$15.

Bi-Weekly Payments. Change your payment frequency from once per month to making half-

payments every two weeks. By converting a monthly mortgage pay-

ment of \$1,000 to \$500 on a bi-weekly basis, you will make 26 one half payments over a year's time. That's the equivalent of 13 monthly payments.

For example: Take a \$100,000 loan at 8.5% on a 30 year mortgage. Instead of making one monthly payment of \$1000, a bi-weekly payment of \$500 will have the loan paid off in 22.6 years instead of 30. Instead of paying \$176,809 in interest, you will



**Greg Tolbert**

spend \$125,075. A total savings of \$51,734. With time and money savings like this, you cannot argue the results you'll get by using this payment method.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the buying or selling of your home, please give me a call or stop by the Al Elam Real Estate Co. office; (573) 365-2311; 2860 Bagnell Dam Blvd., Lake Ozark, MO 65049

*When someone reaches for help, the strength of the community is there...*

# CADV

Citizens Against Domestic Violence

Victim Outreach Center

**573-346-9630**

Established in 1985, CADV is a nonprofit organization that provides crisis intervention, advocacy, and support to victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.



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# Public invited to the sixth annual Christmas House at Laurie Terrace Mall

Once again a special invitation is being extended to everyone in the community and around the lake to come and enjoy a winter wonderland experience the annual Christmas House.

This is the 6th year that Nancy and Jess Wadle are presenting this seasonal delight free of charge. They want everyone to know that the Christmas House is for children---of ALL ages.

Inside the Christmas House, visitors will see an array of teddy bears, a mini-Disney display, animated Christmas figures, and dolls representing both yesterday and today as well as representing different nationalities. Someone is always on hand to read the children a story, and we invite everyone to color a Christmas picture, to be displayed in the art gallery. Of course, we can't forget the large train display; that's always a favorite, and this year promises to be better than ever. Children leave the Christmas House with a gift just for them.

This year a new display will have several dolls representing different time periods in the history of American education. Visitors will see just how different school was for a student in the 18th century, for example, compared to today. There are dolls and school supplies representing the years 1774, 1854,

1864, 1904, 1934, and 1944. This is really an exciting addition this year.

The Christmas House will open for the first time on Friday, Nov. 24, the day after Thanksgiving, at 5:00 p.m. It will then continue to be open Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. until December 24. It's important that visitors know the Christmas House has moved to inside the Laurie Terrace Mall.

Families who visit the Christmas House each year enjoy this special treat, and parents are encouraged to bring their cameras. The children are so surprised and excited by what they see, and their eyes get so big when they walk through the door! This, of course, is the whole purpose of this project. A visit to the Enchanted Village of Lights and the Christmas House makes a wonderful season tradition.

Anyone wishing more information can call 372-3649. If no one is available to answer your call, there is a reliable answering machine. No one should miss a visit to the Christmas House, so your call will be answered.

Please come and enjoy the annual Christmas House. Remember, it is now located in a new location this year on Hwy. 5 in Laurie, in the Laurie Terrace Mall.



Debbie Rankin was honored as November's recipient of the Laurie/Sunrise Beach Rotary Club "Lead the Way" award. Club president Linda Lagergren chose Rankin for her exemplary work as Chairman of the Community Service Committee as well as her efforts on behalf of the survivors of the March 2006 tornado in Gravois Mills. Lagergren says, "Debbie's support, encouragement and enthusiasm embody the Rotary Four Way Test."

# Arthur Maier Plumbing Company

*continued from page 29*

his and prides himself on answering and returning calls promptly, as well as being on time.

Mark and Leslie are happy to be new members of the Lake of the Ozarks West Chamber of Commerce. While their business is located on the wet side, Mark provides service to the entire Lake Area. You can reach him during normal business hours as well as after hours and weekends for

emergencies at 573-480-7797.

**Family:** Mark from St. Louis and Leslie from Kansas City and are still newlyweds. They have one daughter Anne (who Mark calls Moe), a son Shaun and his lovely wife Nancy, a 4 year old granddaughter Lexie and 2 adored black labs.

**Favorite Getaway:** They are lucky enough to call their favorite getaway, The Lake of the Ozarks, home.

**Activities:** Mark is a skilled photographer who likes to hunt, fish and golf...BUT DON'T WORRY, WORK COMES FIRST! Leslie is a published writer who also has a passion for photography and reading.

**Business Philosophy:** "To do what you say you are going to do and the job will get done right the first time because all you have is the integrity of your name."



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# A great ballroom dance coming soon

There is a WHOLE "LADA" DANCIN' GOING ON here at the lake! The Lake Area Dance Association and Camden County Museum are sponsoring the December Holiday Ball on Saturday, December 2 from 7:00 to 10:00 PM. Dance the waltz, fox trot, cha-cha, swing and others to the big band sound of the Lake Jazz Band. The cost is \$6.00

per person to the general public. Join the fun and bring a small wrapped generic gift (around \$3.00).

The Lake Area Dance Association sponsors five dances throughout the year and promotes dancing in the lake area. In 2007, the dances will be the Spring Tea Dance - April 1, Spring Fling - May 19, Fall Tea

Dance - September 16, Salute to Veterans November 11 and the 2007 Holiday Ball on December 1. The Lake Jazz Band will be performing at all LADA dances.

For more information on the dance or membership, contact Jeanne Laminger at (573) 365-6155. Everyone is welcome! Come join the fun!

# Crestwood acquisition of Big Thunder Marine

Gravois Mills, MO— Effective on October 31, 2006, Crestwood Capital Management, Inc. of Davenport, Iowa has acquired Big Thunder Marine, Inc. through a new affiliate – Big Thunder LLC. •Big Thunder Marine is a premier boat dealership and marina in Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri with ~\$10M of annual revenues. The terms of sale will not be disclosed. The business will continue to operate as Big Thunder Marine. Going forward, the President and General Manager will be William Lorentzen – formerly of Duluth, Georgia.

Joel E. Lorentzen, President of Crestwood Capital Management, states "Big Thunder Marine is a great strategic fit for Crestwood's recreation

property investments. We are excited by the expansive opportunity offered in the Lake of the Ozarks region. The Baja and Donzi boat lines are a strong foundation for a Lake dealership."

Crestwood Capital Management, Inc. is a Davenport-based private equity management company focusing on basic metals, recreation, and agricultural technology industries. Big Thunder Marine is Crestwood's second portfolio company. In 2004, Crestwood acquired Golden Aluminum in Fort Lupton, Colorado.

For more information, please contact William Lorentzen, President of Big Thunder LLC, at billlorentzen@socket.net or by phone @573-374-5692

## Area events



Optimist Club of Camdenton President Chic Oostendorp greets Fire Chief Scott Frandsen and Captain Drew Stark of Camdenton Fire Rescue, who told of the many emergency duties and also education provided for the public. Optimists meet at CJ's Restaurant at noon on Mondays. Visitors are welcome.



The Lake Ozark Fire Protection District received a grant from the Osage Beach Wal-Mart for \$1,000 and a desk top computer. This grant was part of Wal-Mart's Safe Neighborhood Hero's Grant. The money will be used in our training division to assist with the training of our firefighters. Pictured (left to right) are Division Chief Mark Amsinger, store manager Ron Kinnison and fire chief Gary A. Woodson.

# Holiday Magic Lake of the Ozarks

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Holiday Magic Light Park  
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OSAGE BEACH

Drive Thru  
Light  
Parks

December Events

*Light up your holidays!*

- Dec 1: The Sander's Family Christmas Play, Versailles, 378-6226
- Dec 1-31: ELDON A GLOW & MAGICAL HOLIDAY, ELDON, 392-3752
- Dec 1: Classic Club Christmas Gala, Lake Ozark, 346-2761
- Dec 1: Supper With Santa, Linn Creek, 346-7191
- Dec 1-2: Holiday Play, Versailles, 378-6228
- Dec 1-2: Lake Jazz Band Christmas Dance, Linn Creek, 346-7191
- Dec 2: Christmas on the Square, Camdenton, 346-2227
- Dec 2: Annual Lighted Christmas Parade, Laurie, 374-5500
- Dec 2: PTA Holiday Bazaar, Osage Beach, 964-1959
- Dec 2: Lake Area Community Orchestra, Osage Beach, 392-5584
- Dec 3: Lake Area Community Orchestra, Laurie, 392-5584
- Dec 7-9: Children's Christmas Play, Sunrise Beach, 374-6594

Dec 9: Children's Christmas Play: "Best Christmas Pageant Ever". Linn Creek, 346-7191

Dec 9: Lake of the Ozarks Christmas Parade Lake Ozark, 346-5378

Dec 10: Christmas for Kids, Location TBA, 345-3000

Dec 10: Lake Area Community Orchestra, Versailles, 392-5584

Dec 12: Lake Area Community Orchestra, Lake Ozark, 392-5584

Please call phone numbers:  
Events are subject to change.



Country Christmas Music Show, Main Street Music Hall  
November 24-25, 26-30: 8pm • Nov 3, Dec 3, 10 & 17: 3pm • Dec 1-2, 5-9, 12-16: 8pm  
Please call for show times, ticket information & reservations. Group rates available. 573-340-0500 or 800-340-9501

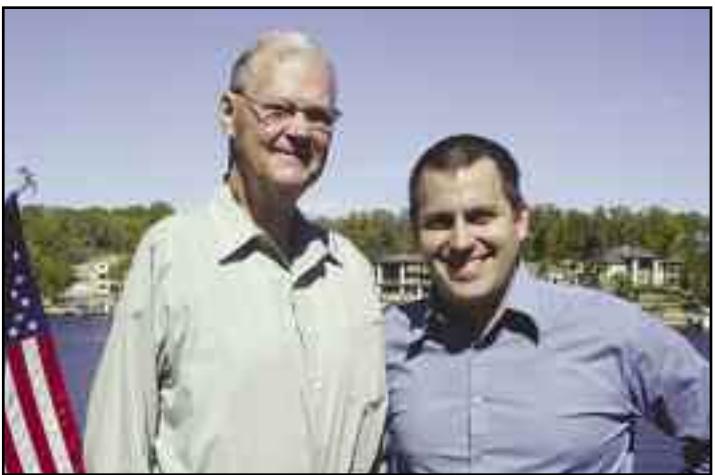


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# Skelton visits with McNally

Lake of the Ozarks, MO—Congressman Ike Skelton took time out from a busy campaign schedule recently to spend some time with lake Realtor Mac McNally.

McNally served on Skelton's



Ike Skelton and Mac McNally

Washington D.C. staff in 1994 while a junior at Camdenton High School. Skelton has served the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri, which includes the lake area, since 1977. He is the ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee.

"It was an honor and a privilege to work for Representative

Skelton," McNally said. "I really enjoyed the opportunity to speak with him about Missouri and lake issues."

Mac McNally, a University of Minnesota graduate, is the newest member of the McNally

Properties real estate organization and spearheaded development of the state-of-the-art [mcnally-properties.com](http://mcnally-properties.com) website. The commercial and residential divisions of McNally Properties are located on Highway 54 in Osage Beach.

For more information contact Lookout Point Consultants 365.9413

## Realtor Mac McNally accepted for membership in Business Network International

Lake of the Ozarks, MO—Realtor Mac McNally has been accepted for membership in the prestigious Business Network International.

BNI is the largest business



Mac McNally

networking organization in the world. It offers members the opportunity to share ideas, contacts and business referrals. BNI was founded by Dr. Ivan

Misner, New York Times best-selling author. Misner is often called the Father of Modern Networking and is one of the world's leading experts in business networking and referral marketing.

"This is a great opportunity," McNally said of joining BNI. "This is an exceptionally strong and important organization. McNally Properties stands on a foundation of strong networking and BNI is a perfect fit for us."

Mac McNally is the newest member of the McNally Properties real estate organization and spearheaded development of the state-of-the-art [mcnally-properties.com](http://mcnally-properties.com) website. The commercial and residential divisions of McNally Properties are located on Highway 54 in Osage Beach.

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# Ribbon Cuttings



The Lake West Chamber was pleased to welcome Scotty's Drive-In into their membership with a ribbon cutting event. Scotty's Drive-In phone number is 374-5529. Pictured are owners Abraham and Tammy Enriquez with children, Chantal, Kahlan, Tiana, and Brenna, Larry and Bitty Sutton, and Chamber Ambassadors.



Snazzie Pets, essentials & accessories was welcomed into the Lake West Chamber family with a recent ribbon cutting. The Snazzie Pets online Store is [www.snazziepets.com](http://www.snazziepets.com). To Order By Phone Call Toll Free 1-800-364-2295, Local (573) 374-2411. Customer Service Hrs: Tues. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. cst. Pictured are l to r owners Bill & Julie Hafer with Russell Wehmeier and chamber ambassadors.



Storage Depot is conveniently located on Hwy 5 and P Road in Gravois Mills, owned and operated by Jason and Jessica Parr and Tom and Ilene Bock. Call Storage Depot at 573-372-5885 for all your storage needs. Pictured l to r: Owners, Tom and Ilene Bock, Jessica and Jason Parr, Trenton and Billy Parr and Chamber Ambassadors.

# Ribbon Cuttings



Boardwalk Grill had their ribbon cutting recently welcoming them into the Lake West Chamber of Commerce. You can call them at 573-374-2002. Pictured with Michael and Jennifer Skoros, owners, are employees David Belles, Niki Brown, Brenda Burnett, Susan DeVane, Ronda Hodges, Shawn Ingemi, Amanda Kelsey, Sharon Matheson, Daniel Pippin, Matt Roberson and Kim Vice, along with Chamber Ambassadors.



Chevron Sierra Security Storage located west of Laurie on Hwy 135 was recognized as a newer chamber member with a recent ribbon cutting. Call 573-372-3300 or toll free 877-969-5263. Pictured with Owner Bill Wolfe are I to r Mary Knerr, bookkeeper and Jana Broekemeier, in charge of sales, with her dog Painter and chamber ambassadors.



Faux Décor was recently welcomed as a new member into the Lake West Chamber with a ribbon cutting. Call to make an appointment for a free estimate or color consultation at 573-378-6032 home or cell phone 573-378-8421. Pictured are Carla Heisler, owner and Chamber Ambassadors.



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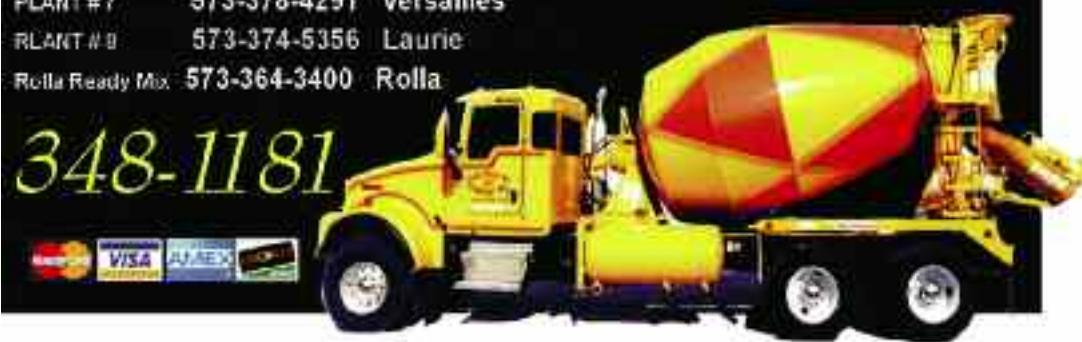
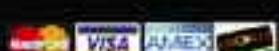
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PLANT #5	417-532-7272	Lebanon
PLANT #6	573-336-4923	Waynesville
PLANT #7	573-378-4291	Versailles
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# Ribbon Cuttings



Marine Max Port Arrowhead recently located in Laurie (next to US Bank on Hwy 5) and is ready to service the boating community on the West Side. They were welcomed into the Lake West Chamber of Commerce at a recent ribbon cutting event. Call 573-374-0547 for all your boating needs. Pictured at Marine Max recent ribbon cutting are: L to R: Brendon Johnson, Debra Miller, Kelly Kleen, Ross Teff, Mark Brodwater & Todd Palmquist along with Chamber ambassadors.



Rebel Harbor Marina, located on 135-12 or 60 MM by water, had a recent ribbon cutting as members of the Lake West Chamber of Commerce. Call them at 372-6713. Pictured are l to r: Scott Reed, owners Joe & Cathie Reed, Scott Miller, Clint Walker, Dave Campbell and Chamber ambassadors.



The Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to welcome new member, New Dawn Counseling Center, LLC to Osage Beach. Pictured during a recent ribbon cutting ceremony are Chamber Active Volunteer Ambassadors; Christine Hentz, Chamber Marketing Director; (with scissors) Loretta Skelton, RN MA PLPC New Dawn Counseling; and Patricia Hotop, MA LPC NCC New Dawn Counseling. For more information contact New Dawn Counseling Center, LLC at 573-348-9979.



J D Hunter at right is greeted by Optimist Club V-P, Mac Decker. Hunter, who is Camdenton High School Girls' soccer coach and 7th grade boys basketball coach, reported on sports programs at Camdenton schools. Optimists meet at CJs Restaurant at noon on Mondays. Visitors are welcome.



The Construction Site Bar and Grill recently hosted the Lake Area Chamber of Commerce for a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating chamber membership. Pictured in the recent ribbon cutting ceremony along with the Chamber Active Volunteer Ambassadors from the Construction Site Bar & Grill are Becky Davis; Terry Evers; Kevin Kerlagon; Cynthia Naegler; Monique Knamiller; Joel Williams and Kim Gentoui. Stop by or call at 573-365-1505.

## Miller & Markus named top agents for October

Tim Tabor, President of the Al Elam Real Estate Co., Lake Ozark, recently announced that Patty

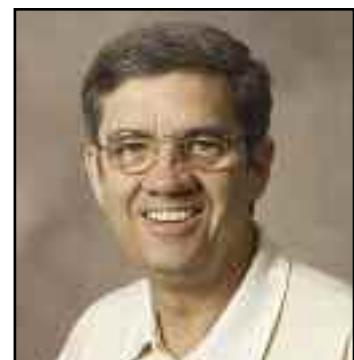


Patty Miller

Miller, ABR was named Sales Agent of the Month for October 2006. Miller has been associated with the Al Elam Real Estate Co. since 1996 and holds the Accredited Buyer Representation (ABR) designation.

Gary Markus, ABR\*CRS\*GRI,

was named Listing Agent of the Month for October, 2006. Markus has been associated with Al Elam Real Estate Co. since 2002 and holds the Graduate Realtor Institute (GRI), Certified Residential Specialist (CRS) and the Accredited Buyer Representation (ABR) designations along with being a director on the Board of the Bagnell Dam Association of Realtors.



Gary Markus

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# Ribbon Cuttings



Cadle McGrew Chevrolet in Versailles, was pleased to have a ribbon cutting for membership in the Lake West Chamber, as the new owners of the former Jim Dornan dealership. Call them at 573-378-5427. Pictured are l to r: Jimmy Dornan, Chuck McGrew, Jim Cadle and Anthony Brown, along with Chamber ambassadors.



Casa De Loco, located just north of Hurricane Deck school on Hwy 5 in Sunrise Beach, was welcomed into the Lake West Chamber with a recent ribbon cutting. Call them at 374-8801 and start getting ready for the holidays. Pictured are l to r: Shayla Viele, Owner Larry Owens, Lana Gieier and Chamber ambassadors.



The Lake West Chamber was pleased to welcome Gravois Mills United Methodist Church into their membership with a recent ribbon cutting. Come see what they are all about! Pictured l to r are: Jewell James, Garry Copeland, Pastor Ellen Hoff, Marilyn Evans, Anita Jacks, Rob Hoff, Jan Copeland, Steve Forbes, Jo Ann Forbes & Chamber ambassadors.



# State Park Rangers—A special kind of law enforcement

*continued from page 18*  
 as law enforcement," he says, "They always have a question for us and if we can't answer it, we'll find somebody who can. We try to get in there and let them know that we're around. We'll go in and ride our bikes through the campgrounds and make contact with people. It's a good way of letting people know that we're around. If there is a problem they can get a



There's more in store at the Lake of the Ozarks State Park: Above, the now unused Camp Hawthorne, until recently a minimum security prison for Missouri inmates. Below, a small tombstone inside an unknown graveyard inside the park.



hold of us."

But when problems do arise, the remote, rustic locations can become problematic. Not unlike the Rangers of Texas lore, these officers are usually alone and on their own. In an emergency, backup comes from area law enforcement.

"We only have one officer," Kincade says, "We're out in the middle of the night, and you go out to one of these sites, and there's a vehicle parked there. You don't know where he's coming from, what his background is. It's a transient population. There's no way to pattern. In a town, you have your bad areas and your high crime areas. Well, in a park, this guy could be coming down from a high crime area and just be onsite selling. You don't know, so it's all observational. There's over 17,000 acres out here. And some of the boundaries are kind of a gray area, so you don't know where people are as far as in and out. You just do the best you can. It's public property. Anybody can come in at anytime they want, they don't have to rent a site. Over time and through experience, you can tell if something just looks out of place. Especially at night. If you're in the middle of the park at two in the morning on Wednesday when there's nothing really going on, to me, they're not here to enjoy the scenery. You want to make contact with them."

We asked "How do you approach that kind of thing? Out here in the middle of the night—who would you have to call for backup?"

Clint says the area law enforcement shows tremendous support for the Rangers, whether it is Osage Beach Department of Safety officers, Camdenton or Miller County Sheriff's Deputies, or the Highway Patrol.

"We would go through the trooper (State Patrol). I've got a high band and a low band. I can contact Highway Patrol, I can contact Osage Beach (city police), Miller County, Camden County, Mutual Aid, State Sheriff Net and all of the assisting agencies. It's just a situational deal. You're on a traffic stop and the guy's giving you a little bit of a problem, you would go to the

troop and say 'can you send me a non emergency 10-60'. If it's something that really looks like you don't want to approach it, before you even go down there you're going to get another unit from Miller County or Camden County. It depends."

They stay, like all law enforcement agencies, in constant contact with their dispatchers, in this instance, the Highway Patrol.

"Communications is the main key for us," Kincade says, "And the Troop's real good as well. You'll get a caution indicator this guy has obstructed a Police Officer, or he's got a violent past. But if it looks like this guy's fought somebody or if there's an assault, you'd want to get another unit down there. Because the situation is already at a heightened level and you don't want that—it comes back to your training and common sense. You're not going to go down into the middle of something like that by yourself. We don't want to get into a situation where somebody's going to get hurt—or a situation where I could end up hurting somebody. You just wait for backup."

The rangers handle situations from routine speeding violations, to domestic issues, conservation violations, but in season, by far the most common occurrences come from the camping and swimming areas. Kincade explains.

"Most of the time it's alcohol related. Down here mainly it's arguments or fights or it comes down to they've had too much to drink and they've had enough of each other—you try to diffuse the situation the best you can."

Unlike other agencies however, the Rangers don't stop with the report, they handle the entire case.

"Here you're going to do all of it. From the beginning of the investigation to the end of it, you're that person."

During our ride, there were traf-

fic stops, suspicious visitors with a hunting rifle and other conservation calls. November is part of the slower time of the year for them, and so they get a bit more time off, and undergo additional training.

Doug Scotten has been a Missouri State Park Ranger for three years. He says, "In the summer months, maybe two-thirds of our shift is out on foot. We'll do two sets of two to three hours out on foot and we do bike patrol in the summer. That's my favorite thing—foot patrol, because you're out with the people, in the campgrounds. In the park, 10 p.m. is when our quiet hour starts. We get out on foot. If there are any violations, see where they're coming from. See if there are any violations. You're just out, doing the foot beat just like they are out in the big metro area. We do it out here."

We're almost autonomous, we actually submit the schedules we want. We make our own schedules. We work as a team, but with the parks, the Ranger program is a different entity and we all have the same mission."



Clint Kincade

The three officers assigned to the areas at the Lake all have homes rented from the Department of Natural Resources, within the Park. While it may seem a bit obtrusive to be so close to your job, they take it in stride, as they are never truly off-duty.

Scotten says, "If anything hap-

pens in the park, one of us is under five minutes away from response. Or two minutes. When I got a call on poaching, I was able to throw on my clothes and be at the scene two to three minutes from when I first got the phone call. Maybe four."

Like Kincade, Doug believes that being a visible presence in the Park is important, and maintaining communication with the various visitors and residents inside and around the boundaries.

"We stop in just to say 'Hi'. We get to know our community and a lot of parks aren't like that. Most parks do not have private entities within the park boundaries, but here we do. So it's nice to work and have that working relationship with your neighbors."

Rangers Doug Scotten, Galen Barlow and Clint Kincade cover the Lake of the Ozarks and Ha Ha Tonka State Parks here at the Lake, and should you happen upon the little green and white Jeeps, don't be afraid to stop and say hello, these are some friendly, dedicated guys working hard for the public.

They can fill you in on the best spots to camp, which lots have the best views, how much the rental buildings go for, you name it. They're you're first and best resource in the state park for information—and assistance, should you need it.



Doug Scotten

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