







2013 Spring Turkey Results

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. -Preliminary harvest figures for the 2013 spring gobbler season indicate West Virginia hunters checked in 10,974 bearded turkeys, according to Curtis I. Taylor, chief of the Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Section. This year's harvest represents a 32 percent increase over the 2012 harvest and is 13 percent above the previous five-year average.

"Our biologists expected a higher harvest because of the carry-over of birds from last year's lower harvest," said Taylor. "In addition, the weather was perfect for hunting, especially during opening week when the majority of hunters were in the woods."

The 2013 harvest was higher in all districts and 52 counties compared to 2012. While the harvest in District 2 virtually equaled the five-year average, the other districts saw significant increases



above that average. Harvest in District 3 increased almost 21 percent over its five-year average and both Districts 1 and 4 saw increases of 15 percent as well. The top 10 counties were Preston with a kill of 403, Mason (360), Harrison (355), Kanawha (327), Ritchie (325), Jackson (312), Greenbrier (309), Wood (308), McDowell (305) and Marshall (301).

The 2013 harvest was the highest since 2006 and stopped a declining continue to the next page



Caleb Liggott went to Florida for a sea trout. Photo courtesy of Anderson Otdoors in Buckhannon.

HUNTING/FISHING CABIN

For Rent: Weekends or extended stay. Fully equipped kitchen, bath, hot/cold running water, sleeps up to 12, wood heat.

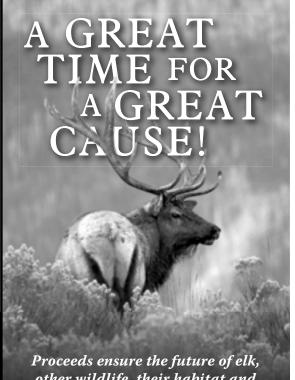
POCAHONTAS COUNTY DURBIN, WV CALL • 304-641-9238





Austin & Patrick Hartley both shot gobblers.





Proceeds ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat and our hunting heritage.

spring harvest trend that began in 2007. Similar to most hunted species, reproduction is correlated to harvests. Average fall mast crops which keep hens in good physical condition through the winter, followed by average springs with moderate rainfall, ensure good poult survival, which increases the population for future harvests.

"Because a significant portion of the harvest is composed of twoyear-old birds, one factor that added to this year's harvest was the successful poult production in 2011," Taylor said. "We are hopeful that this spring will continue to provide moderate-to-average rainfall and we will have above-average reproduction, rebuilding the turkey population to levels we experienced a decade ago."

www.wvasportsman.net

Prizes · Auctions · Dinner · Fun

Attend a **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation** dinner and benefit auction where fun and fundraising combine for a memorable evening.

DATE: Embassy Suites in Charleston, WV

TIME: 5pm

email: bcarman@rmef.org

PLACE: July 27, 2013

TICKET INFORMATION: **Robert Hammack 304-204-1482 or 304-546-6101 201 N. Pinch Rd. Elkview, WV 25071**



www.rmef.org



Masden Ball, with Allen Lee, hooked a 22 pound Ohio River blue catfish.



Holly River Park Recovering

HACKER VALLEY, W.Va. - Holly River State Park has accomplished what many would have deemed impossible tasks following extensive damage from last fall's winter storm. The campground is fully open, the cabins are available and were booked for Memorial Day weekend, and electricity and some of the phones are restored within a seven month time span under mostly winter conditions. Phone service has been restored to the park office.

Damage is still obvious from the late October storm that closed the Webster county destination. Trails are not open due to massive tree loss and debris conditions, and clearing is not anticipated to be completed for many months, perhaps years, according to Brad Reed, district administrator.

The swimming pool may open later in the summer. The park staff has cleared about two miles of trails leaving approximately 40 more miles of work in addition to opening the roadways, cabin and campground areas.

The electric service and communications service had to be totally rebuilt. The park office had operated from a remote park structure that had electricity since November. The terrain is mountainous and primarily a mature oak-hickory deciduous forest, compounding the difficulty in recovery.

Holly River Restaurant is open daily from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Marsha Jordan, office manager at Holly River, says cabins are booking for the summer and there is availability. "It's hard to believe that we're open. People didn't give up on us and continued to make reservations. It's good to be back." To learn more about Holly River State Park, visit www.hollyriver. com

West Virginia took a couple of hard weather hits in 2012. Storm damages effected nearly everyone in the state. Good luck in 2013.



Owen Dorsey hooked a 39" catfish. *Photo courtesy of jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*



Go Online For FREE www.wvasportsman.net



June/July 2013 ~ Page 6

State Anniversary On The Island

PARKERSBURG, W.Va. – On June 20, 2013, Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park will honor the 150th anniversary of West Virginia becoming the 35th state on this date in 1863. The public is invited to this birthday celebration beginning at 1 p.m. on Blennerhassett Island.

The Thursday afternoon activities and entertainment include:

Scott Cain will be on the island playing Appalachian music on the hammered dulcimer.

Dr. Ray Swick will give a presentation about West Virginia's statehood.

Free birthday cake and ice cream will be available.

The Smoot Theater Boys Barbershop Quartet groups will sing in



concert.

The park will provide free bike rentals and games for families to play, including corn hole, croquet, and stick and hoop.

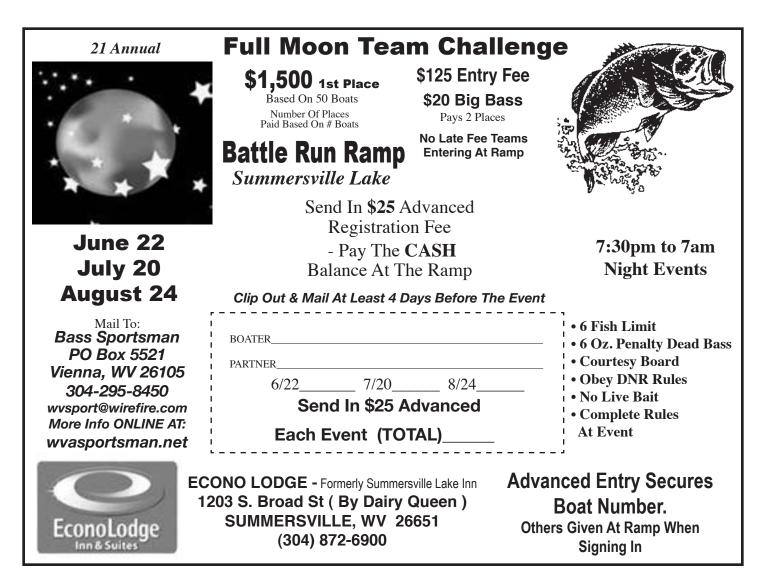
The popular horse-drawn wagon ride tours, mansion tours, bike rentals, gift shop and snack stand also will be available.

"This is a time for us to reflect on our heritage and, as residents of West Virginia, to be reminded of our state motto, 'Mountaineers Are Always Free," said Pam Salisbury, Blennerhassett Island activities coordinator.

The Island Belle Sternwheeler departs hourly for Blennerhassett Island from Point Park in Parkersburg, beginning at 11 a.m. with the last boat leaving from the island at 4:30 p.m. The boat ride is feebased and tickets are available at the Blennerhassett Museum of Regional History at 137 Juliana Street

continue to the next page





near Point Park.

The Blennerhassett Museum will have a display of West Virginia themed quilts created by area quilters. These quilts were entered during the annual Mid-Ohio Valley Heritage Quilt show and will be on display from June 20 through July 8, 2013.

For more information about West Virginia Day on June 20, activities on June 21-23, and other events and evening activities, 304-420-4800 or visit www.blennerhassettislandstatepark.com, "Events."

> Advertise In The W. Va. Sportsman Rates On Page 3

Sportmart Bass Winners

Kevin Spears and Billy Redmond won the 17th Annual Sport Mart Master Series Bass Tournament held on the Kanawha River.

With the temperature hovering in the mid 30's at 7:00am, 92 boats blasted off from the Frontier boat ramp in search of largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass. High blue skies and mild temperatures found early fishing brisk but slowed down in the afternoon.

Many of the teams caught their limits which led to a total catch of 471 pounds of fish. We are proud to report that 100% of the weigh in was released live back into the Kanawha River. Spears and Redmond collected the \$3400 first June/July 2013 ~ Page 8 place prize with a catch of 13 lbs, 7 oz. Total prize money awarded through the top 10 places was \$10,740.

Sport Mart would like to thank all the anglers who have helped make this tournament one of the top in the state.

This magazine will be printed every six weeks. Eight issues will be printed a year instead of eleven. Trying to cut back on miles driven. Thanks for your support!



Harold Farnsworth shot a massive 28 pound wild turkey with a homemade .32 caliber muzzleloader. *Photo courtesy of Anderson Outdoors in Buckhannon*.





Looking For Hard To Find Guns & Ammo? Come To WHEELERS!

* Areas Largest Stock Of Ammo

* Over 1,000 New Rifles, Pistols & Shotguns In Stock





Jake Jett landed a 28 pound Little Kanawha flathead. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Ekizabeth*.

Concealed Carry Permit Class

H. Lee Gilliam, NRA Certified Firearms Instructor, with 20 + years of experience is offering one day classes for beginners to advanced shooters teaching the latest shooting techniques.



Rifles • Pistols • Ammo Muzzleloaders & Lots Of Accesories www.cainsoutdoor.net Located on Rt. 14 - Boaz - North of Vienna Come check us out We're not

just Muzzleloading any more !







Jalen Cook, from Logan, caught a nice New River smallmouth bass.



Ricky Kinder went to Braxton Co. for this nice buck.



June/July 2013 ~ Page 11









Tracker Jon Boats 10' - \$539 12' - \$619 14' - \$839 15' - \$1,189



Mercury 9.9 4 Stroke \$2,355





WV's #1 Pontoon Dealer Huntington, West Virginia

I-64 Exit 8, then 4 miles south

(304) 525-4556

www.thegreatoutdoorsmarine.com



Early Summer Bass Fishing

According to 2007 Bassmaster Classic champion Boyd Duckett, postspawn/early summer bassin' can be one of the most productive times of the year if it's approached correctly. Approaching things correctly means thinking about what the bass are doing and then fishing with a plan.

"Immediately after the spawn, the big females go into a kind of funk for two or three weeks — sometimes as long as a month. They don't recover as fast as many anglers think, and fishing can get tough. But, after they pass through that stage they'll eat until the dog days of summer," he says.

"When they start feeding, I look for baits that move quickly. I want to take advantage of their appetites. Two of my favorite lures at this time of the year are buzzbaits



A 20" New River smallmouth was hooked.

and deep-diving crankbaits. They'll both catch huge stringers of bass in June and early July, if you fish them in the right places.

Duckett reminds us that bass are going off crawfish and the shallow water feed. They're starting to eat baitfish. That requires a change of tactics if you expect to be successful. Success won't come from merely switching lures, however. There's more to it than that.

"I start near the spawning flats with my trolling motor on high and work my way out towards the deeper ledges and channels. Bass don't turn around and just swim out into deep water. It doesn't happen overnight. They move slowly continue to the next page



Lamont Smith landed a 4 pound, 2 oz. smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton*.



* May 31 - June 1...Memorial Day Rodeo. Fri. Night \$100 Winner/Sat. Night \$100 Winner. Plaque given each night for most combined weight. June 1 - Extra \$100 Tribute to Veterans

* June 28 - 29...Catfish Hole Car Classic. Bluegrass Band Music/Car Show 11am to 4pm Biggest 3 fish each night awarded 1st \$250, 2nd \$100 & 3rd \$50 (must be entered in biggest fish contest to win \$\$\$) Hourly Jackpot Winners/Additional Jackpots
• July 19-20....John Henry Days & Nights. 2 Tournaments Each Night. Most combined weight total. 1st Prize \$200 + Trophy, 2nd Prize \$100 + Trophy. Biggest fish pool every 2 hours - 6pm to 6am each night.

* August 30-31...Labor Day Luau. Pig Roast & Brown Beans Sat, Aug 31st. Biggest fish of the year trophy & purse. Extra \$50 added each night to the biggest fish jackpot.

metabolism stabilizes, they gain strength and their appetites increase."

As they're making their move Duckett will search for them with a buzzbait. His preference is for a custom model built locally near his home in Demopolis, Ala.

"I have them put the blade from a 3/8-ounce bait on a 1/2-ounce body and I do that with all my sizes. In other words, I always downsize my blade at least one full size. The smaller blade creates less air resistance on the cast. And, I want to make long casts, always keeping my lure as far away from the boat as possible. That'll help avoid short strikes.

"If you think about it, almost all your short strikes come close to the boat, on the second half of the cast. That's because the fish get hesitant and skittish when they're near a big bass boat. They want to eat but they're afraid; their strike is tentative. Keep your buzzbait away from the boat. You'll catch more bass that way."

Once the bass have moved out to deep water Duckett breaks out his crankbaits. He concentrates on river channels, creek channels, drops and ledges — "key feeding areas" as he calls them — for this pattern.

"All reservoirs will have a cranking pattern at this time of year - Idon't care where it's at. The key is



to throw them in the right places. Channels, drops and ledges are the right places. That's where you'll find bass. True, some of them might wander into shallow areas continue to the next page

Catch A Big Fish This Year?

Mail or email them For Review Form On Page 38



Ashley Farley hooked a nice bass. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.*



occasionally, but that's all they're doing, wandering. They want to be on the drops."

But, keep in mind why the bass are there ... at least according to Duckett. It's not because they like channels and drops. It's because the food's there — the baitfish. That's always going to be true no matter where you're fishing. The key to the pattern is to find those areas where there's a drop and baitfish. That area's called a crankbait hole.

All that said, however, Duckett has a word of warning for his fellow anglers. "This is not a fall baitfish situation. Don't try to match the hatch. That's important in the fall, but not now. It means nothing in early summer. A big, heavy Fat Free Shad — that's what I throw most of the time — doesn't look like a threadfin shad but they eat it because they're feeding and it's moving fast.

"And, don't expect every spot to have bass on it. Don't get discour-



Colton Travis brought in a gobbler. *Photo courtesy of Wabash Trading Post in West Union.*



aged if you have to fish three, four or even five places before you find a bunch of them. That might be a lot of work, but it'll be worth it in the end because once you do find them it's 'bite on!' You can whack a bunch of three- and four-pounders in just a few minutes."

FREE ONLINE www.wvasportsman.net Back Issues Too!



Chris Smith, from Lost Creek, hooked a 40" musky.



June/July 2013 ~ Page 15

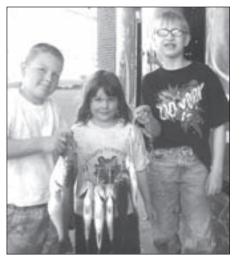


Catching Crappie

Many crappie anglers are great at catching crappie during the spring spawn run with their technique of using a pole, bobber, ainnow. However, when the slabs move into different types of cover, their stringers are usually empty. Most crappie chasers have only one method of catching their favorite eating fish. Recently, I had the chance to talk with some top crappie anglers who were more than willing to share some of their favorite techniques. Jig "N Bobber

Fred Washburn of Carterville taught me a number of years ago that fishing a jig below a bobber for early season crappie is always leathal. On warm days during February or March, Fred would head to Lake of Egypt and fish this combination over the submerged weedbeds. He prefers an overcast day which seems to bring the crappie into the submerged weeds like a magnet. He will position his boat up wind and let the boat slowly drift down the shoreline. Occassionally he will turn the trolling motor on the position the nose of the boat for a better series of casts.

He will tie a jig on anywhere from a foot to four feet below the bobber. The depth that he will fish the jig depends upon the location of the crappie. Fred will cast towards the shoreline and slowly reel the bobber towards him. He will either twitch the bobber or if their is any wave action, he will use this to his advantage to impart action to the continue to the next page



Dallas, Lacy & Brady Pigott landed a stringer. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*



Brian Thomas caught a Kanawa River citation crappie. June/July 2013 ~ Page 16



 On The Internet Each Month

Info On Page 3

OHIO RIVER TEAM 2013 March 30 - Sat - Moundsville April 14 - Sun - St. Marys April 28 - Sun - Moundsville May 19 - Sun - St. Marys June 16 - Sun - Moundsville June 30 - Sun - St. Marys July 28 - Sun - Moundsville Aug 4 - Sun - St. Marys Aug 18 - Sun - Moundsville

Sept 7 & 8 Championship St. Marys & Moundsville Ramps - 2 launches for this event

Sept 22 - Sun - Moundsville Oct 20 - Sun - Moundsville

jig below.

Some anglers will use a light spinning rod or a long, graphite rod to cast a 1/64 ounce jig below a very light weight Thill float such as the Mini Stealth. These slab anglers will use four pound Berkley Tri-Max for these tough to catch fish which are going to barely touch the jig. Try fishing this combination over brushpiles or stake beds. This is an excellent method to use during post-spawn crappie and even

21 Country Market Live Bait & Tackle * Minnows ~ Crawlers *Mealworms ~ Shiners * GAME CHECKING * HUNTING & FISHING LIC. Everything you need for a day on the water! 372-9697 Rt. 21 North Ripley, WV for those touchy late summer or early fall fish.

Flipping For Crappie

Several years ago Shelbyville Crappie Guide, Walt Watts, told me about a new method of flipping his jig for slabs. "You have to come up here and see how easy this method is," said Watts. "I can put that ol' jig anywhere I want and the crappie can't resist. Any angler can flip a jig under limbs and drop the lure into the heart of the meanest brush pile and pull out crappie."

Equipment is critical to this technique. I use a B&M Buck's Crappie Classic rod which is extremely light and very sensitive. You can cast all day without the rod wearing out your wrist. Line is very important to the system. I prefer 6 pound test TriMax because the line won't coil up in cold weather. You don't need a fancy spinning or spincasting reel. I find that Zebco Crappie Classic or Zebco Classic 444 Triggerspin to be ideal for flippin'.

The advantage of this system is that you can cast a variety of jigs. For example is you want the jig to fall slowly through the strike zone at 6-8 feet, then use countdown method and the light jig will continue to the next page



June/July 2013~ Page 17



Best 5 weights out of the first 9 river tournaments determines starting numbers for the Sept 7 & 8 Championship All Events Are 7am to 4pm Entry fees for river events \$90 + \$10 Big Bass Sign up (pay cash) at the ramp - no late fees

Championship Entry Cost Will Be \$120 Plus Daily \$10 Big Bass (\$20 For Both Days) Guaranteed \$1,200 1st place

> Mark Goudy 304-482-7217 wvasport@gmail.com

slowly fall into the crappie's strike zone and stay there for a few precious seconds. This is very important when the water is cold and the crappie are very sluggish.

Basically the flippin' technique is very simple. 1) If I am using a spinning reel I open the bail or with spincast I push the release button, which releases the line. 2) I measure out enough line so that the jig and line is even with my wrist. 3) I close the bail or engage the gears on the spincast reel. 4) I raise the rod tip and take in line with my left hand. I do this by grasping the line between the reel and the bottom rod guide and swing the line away from the rod. 5) I keep the bail closed and swing the jig near my body. As the jig travels toward the brush, I release the line in my left hand. 6) I regulate the exact location where the jig falls with my rod



Andy Wills, from Beckley, hooked a 22 1/2" smallmouth bass.



hand. I can put the jig on a quarter by raising or lowering the rod.

The jig slowly swims back to the boat. If no crappie has jumped on the jig, then I instantly have the jig back in the water. The jig will always swim back to the boat with a taunt line. The slightest strike by a crappie will be felt. I insure maximum sensitivity by keeping my index finger on my at the base of the rod and the remainder of the hand on the rod handle. The left hand is still holding the line which will instantly telegraph a light strike. Since you are fishing closer to the crappie, you will be able to see line "ticks" better. Crappie will hit a jig very lightly during cold weather continue to page 23





Janet Eakins, from Oldfields, caught a 28" rainbow citation trout.

Senior Marine Technician - Available



- Houseboat Rentals
- Pontoon Rentals
- Fishing Boat Rentals
- Seasonal & Transient **Mooring Slips**
- Dinner Cruises
- Pizza Snacks & More

The Place For Summer Fun

www.suttonlakemarina.com

Paul Nolte 304-765-2120 **SUTTON LAKE MARINA** Take Exit 67 off I 79 Follow The Signs To Bee Run



Chuck Southerly, from Moorefield, landed a 7 1/2 pound rainbow.



Mike Dolly hooked a big trout.



Rick Every caught a brook trout.

Hillbilly Haven Log Cabin Rentals



235 Haven Lane, Roanoke, WV 26447 phone: 304-269-3459 or 866-652-3379 . email: info@hillbillyhavenwv.com website: www.hillbillyhavenwv.com

First-class vacation cabins conveniently located one mile off Interstate 79, Exit 91, one mile south on US 19 toward lake

Call or visit website for rates, additional information, and policies. A 50% deposit is . required for reservations. Major credit cards are accepted.

Situated on 50 wooded acres in beautiful Central West Virginia, just two minutes from Stonewall Jackson Lake and Stonewall Resort

- Recently built log cabins are exceptionally clean and beautifully decorated to be your Gas log fireplace and air c home away from home
- Private, romantic, remote, peaceful and safe environment
- Honeymoon cabins with hot tub sleep two Four person cabins have full bed •
- downstairs and two twin beds in loft Six person cabins have king or queen bed and two full beds, whirlpool tub or hot tub, dishwasher, and washer and dryer
- Eight person cabins have four bedrooms, two baths, and an eight person hot tub
- Accessible cabin available •
- Fully equipped kitchen with dishes, cookware, refrigerator, microwave, toaster, and coffee maker

- Gas log fireplace and air conditioning •
- Full bath with shower
- Linens and other amenities provided
- Picnic table, fire ring, gas grill, stocked ponds, playground, and horseshoe pits •
- Convenience store onsite with gift shop, WV souvenirs, and many unique hillbilly gifts
- Open 365 days a year •
- Stonewall Resort with fine restaurants and Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Course, and 2,650 acre Stonewall

Jackson Lake with all types of water recreation, fishing, and hunting, just two minutes away





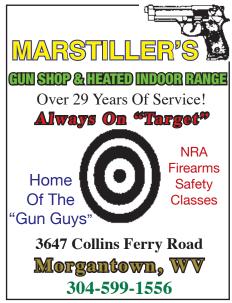
WWW.WVASportsman.net It's FREE BACK ISSUES FROM 2006 ON ARE THERE TOO



James Canterbury reeled in an 18 1/2 pound Ohio River blue catfish.



Steve Freed landed a couple of large Ohio River smallmouths.





Kodi Wigle had turkey success with this nice gobbler. *Photo courtesy of Wabash Trading Post in West Union*.



LAKE VIEW CABINS Overlooking Stonewall Jackson Lake ~ 100 Yards From The Boat Ramp ~

Stay with us while you enjoy the Stonewall Jackson Lake area. Minutes from the state park which offers the Arnold Palmer Golf Course and boat rentals. Also, 1 1/2 milesfrom Stonecoal Lake Wildlife Area

(public hunting & fishing). Only 6 miles from I-79 exit 96 or 4.5 miles from Rt. 33 - Corridor H - near Weston, WV

- A/C
- TV DVD
- Barbecue Grill
- Large Porch Area
- Easy Access
- Great View Of Lake
 Fully Equipped Kitchen Including Dishwasher

NOW BOOKING FOR SPRING & SUMMER SEASON RENTALS Easy Access To Public Hunting Areas. 15,000 Acres On Stonewall Jackson & 3,000 Acres On Stonecoal

For More Info & Reservations 304-452-9876



Jimmy Davis, from Huntington, went to Wayne Co. for a 146 buck.



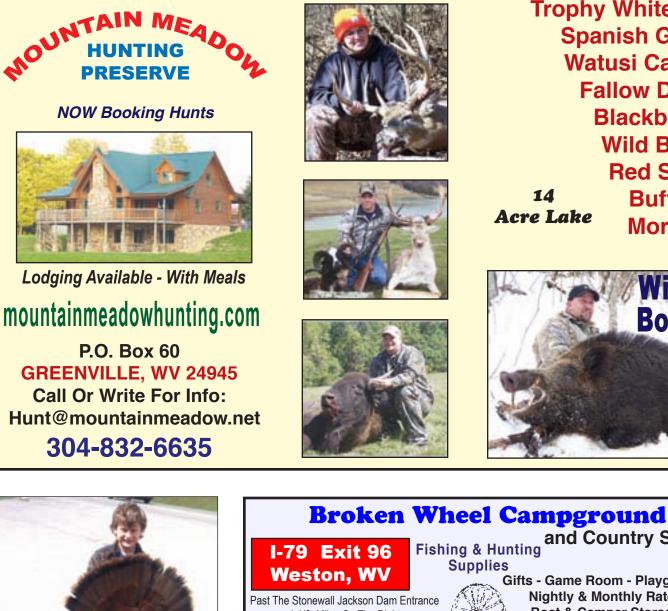
Jerry Randolph hooked a giant carp in Jackson County.



Charles Kincaid, from Drennen, went out west for a mountain lion.



Kimber • T-C Encore • Traditions • CVA • Thompson Center June/July 2013 ~ Page 21



Young Trey Herndon shot a nice

gobbler. Photo courtesy of Anderson

Outdoors in Buckhannon.

1 1/2 Miles On The Right

304-269-6097

Supplies

Fishing & Hunting and Country Store Gifts - Game Room - Playground Nightly & Monthly Rates

Trophy Whitetail

14

Acre Lake

Spanish Goat Watusi Cattle

Fallow Deer

Blackbuck

Wild Boar

Red Stag

Buffalo

More....

Boar





2,500+ Acre Hunting Lease in WV Located in North Central WV with easy access to I-79 and

Route 33. Excellent deer, bear, turkey and grouse hunting. Miles of river frontage with trout fishing. Road systems throughout. Multiple tracts available.

BLACK LAND MANAGEMENT

Online Info: blacklandmanagement.com 304-637-2758

Advertise in the W. Va. Sportsman - In Business 22 Years - Details Are On Page 3 Low Advertising Costs - Over 3 Million Printed So Far - Reach Interested Customers

conditions and if you feel the strike it is too late. However, the instant you see the line "tick" you should flip your rod upward and the crappie will be there.

Fishing Coontail and Other Nasty Weeds

Many lakes are blessed or cursed with water weeds. One of the culprits is coontail. I talked with crappie angler one day on an area lake and he was smiling from ear to ear with a stringer of crappie that made most anglers envious. He told me that he looks for patches of coontail rather than large beds of it. This angler likes to locate small areas that has sprigs 2 to 3 feet in diameter. Using a small float and a small minnow or light weight jig, he would fish around these patchy beds very quietly.

On other lakes I have watched anglers use 10- to 12-foot crappie rods to their advantage. Even fly rods or eight or more feet will suffice. Dabble the jig and bobber all around each patch of coontail

The Leather Shop - Booth 132 www.afleamarketstore1.com - WIII Custom Fit Full-Grain Leather Belts (Cut to Size) - Leather Chain Wallets - Leather Fanny Pouches - Nylon Gun Holsters - talian Charms Incense Sticks 15/\$1.00 Electic Touch Oil Lamp - \$12 - Diabetic Socks

FRI - SAT & SUNDAY jpetrel@suddenlink.net 41300 Laurel Cliff Rd. POMEROY, OHIO you can find. Don't get in a hurry but slowly work these areas out. A clear light line is essential to this technique which uses only one hook. Sure you are going to hang up, especially if you are using a minnow.

Fishing At State Parks

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Ponds, lakes, streams and rivers in West Virginia sustain a favorite pastime: fishing. Warm and cold water fisheries in West Virginia include bluegill, bass, catfish other fish species and trout. "Regardless of what fish species a person is angling for, fishing can become an activity enjoyed throughout a person's lifetime. If you're lucky, you start fishing early in life with a parent, grandparent or friend," said Renee Fincham, park naturalist at Cacapon Resort State Park. Cacapon is one of five state parks lakes to participate in a tagged channel catfish stocking program. Catfishing

Tagged channel catfish will be stocked into lakes at five state parks in mid-May: Cacapon (Morgan Co.), Cedar Creek (Gilmer Co.), Chief Logan (Logan Co.), Pipecontinue to the next page





David Perew landed a 21" smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton*.



stem (Summers Co.), and Tomlinson Run (Hancock Co.). Anglers who catch a tagged fish are asked to return the tag or the tag number along with information on the date of capture, if the fish was kept or released, and the name and address of the angler to WVDNR, 2311 Ohio Ave, Parkersburg, WV 26101. Anglers also can call in the information (304-420-4550) or provide the information via email dnrfishtags@wv.gov

Anglers who report a tagged fish will receive the "tagged reward," park information, a certificate and a letter of congratulations via US mail after the information is received and recorded by DNR fisheries biologists. Each certificate has a choice of three prizes: a train ride at Cass Scenic Railroad, a boat ride on the sternwheeler "Island Belle" to Blennerhassett Island or a Recreational Activity Pass at Pipestem resort.

Other state park area lakes stocked with catfish but not tagged include: Berwind Lake (McDowell Co.), Laurel Lake (Mingo Co.), Little Beaver State Park Lake (Raleigh



Becky Stalnaker used a bow to get her turkey.



Co.), North Bend State Park Pond (Ritchie Co.), Pendleton Lake at Blackwater Falls State Park (Tucker Co.), and Watoga State Park Lake (Pocahontas Co.). Fishing without a license

A fishing license is required except for two specific days each year known as Free Fishing Days. In general, Free Fishing Days allow the public to fish without a license. Dates vary from state to state but in West Virginia the two dates in 2013 are June 8 and 9. According to takemefishing.org, "fishing with kids is a great way to connect as a family and to experience the outdoors." There are over 35 state park areas to enjoy fishing. Take Me Fishing at Tygart Lake

A "Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" event, Saturday, June 8 is scheduled at Tygart Lake State park to coincide with the statewide free



fishing day. A youth fishing derby is planned from 9 a.m. until noon. Professional angler Curtis Fleming of The Outdoor Channel series "Fly Rod Chronicles" and a member of his pro staff will be assisting youth at the fishing derby. Children and youth activities from noon until 4 p.m. include KCF Centershot Ministries archery workshop and a bow to give away, K-9 Demonstration, face painting, FBI Community Outreach Fingerprinting and IDs and other drug- and alcoholcontinue to the next page

10

Back Issues Of This Magaine Back To 2006 Are Available Online

www.WVasportsman.net It's FREE



-free themed activities. This fishing event is free and open to every youth in the area. Youth should be accompanied by an adult or parent. For more information about Tygart Lake State Park activities, visit www.tygartlake.com or call Stephanie Bailey at 304-265-6144. First Fish – It's a big deal

Sometimes a youngster or an adult needs a small acknowledgement or recognition to reinforce a positive experience. "Catching your first fish is a big deal," said Kristi Steed at North Bend State Park. "You would have thought my son was Curtis Fleming or Bill Dance with his first, a bluegill." The young Steed received an "I caught my first fish at North Bend" certificate from park naturalist Ken Zebo and proudly displayed it at his home. State parks with naturalists award paper certificates to visitors who catch their first fish in park waters. Presentations can be at campfire programs or with the individual or family.

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources wildlife section offers an online method of fishing rewards, a First Fish Certificate that can be completed online and printed. "This allows a parent to acknowledge a child or an adult with a printed document commemorating the event." The online document webpage is at www.wvdnr. gov, Fishing, First Fish Certificate.



740-484-4572 Exit 208 I-70 S. on SR 149-2.7 Miles Belmont, Ohio

The wildlife section also offers a "First Deer" certificate option.

The woods and waters in West Virginia make for ideal fishing conditions throughout the year whether at a West Virginia state park and forest area or the multiple Wildlife Management Areas or public waters throughout the Mountain State. To learn more about West Virginia State Parks, visit www. wvstateparks.com. The Division of Natural Resources includes state parks, wildlife resources, natural resources police, Office of Land and Streams and Wonderful West Virginia magazine. The WVDNR website is www.wvdnr.gov.



Peggy & Lucas Godfrey hooked several drum. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.



Don't Feed The Bears

BECKLEY, W.Va. – The Division of Natural Resources reminds all West Virginia residents that feeding black bears is a violation of state law, as well as a misguided disservice to our state animal, according to Colin Carpenter, black bear project leader for the DNR Wildlife Resources Section.

"Some people will illegally set out food so they can get a closer look at this often secretive animal." Carpenter said. "However, these actions often lead to the destruction of the bear. Bear movements are tied to food sources. Bears that roam in and around residential areas in search of food are less likely to stay if they do not find anything to eat."

Capturing and moving bears that have become accustomed to humans is a costly and often ineffeccontinue to the next page

304-275-TRAP

Murray's Lures & Trapping Supplies

www.murrayslures.com **UPS Service Available** Trapping • Lure Scents • Oils • Urine • Traps • Triggers Baseplates • T-bar Springs • Links • Trapline Supplies Trap Holders • Trap Bedder • Trap Tags • Snaring Books Fleshing Tool • Push Pins • Sure Locks • Boots & Clothing

Game Calling Supplies • Assorted Books • Videos and Much More Hawbaker • Carman's • Burkhart's • Sleepy Creek • Duke • Bridger Call or Visit Our Website - Shipments Will Be Sent UPS tive way of addressing the problem, especially if it just moves the problem from one place to another.

Bear populations have increased in both number and distribution in the past 20 years. Bears are now found in areas where they have been absent for decades and have been reported in all 55 counties. Multiple reports of sows with cubs have been received from the northern and western portions of the state. "There is simply nowhere to move bears that have become a problem," Carpenter said.

Human/bear interactions increase during the spring and summer for several reasons. Natural food sources are at their lowest point when bears leave their dens in the



spring. Bears often spend several weeks feeding on green vegetation while continuing to lose weight. High-energy foods such as serviceberries, blackberries, raspberries, and blueberries do not become available until later in the summer.

In addition, the bear breeding season, which peaks from late June



Bobby Gordon caught this carp on fried chicken.



through July, puts many bears on the move. During the breeding season, males will cover large areas while searching for females. This is also the time of year when adult female bears will chase off their yearlings so that they may continue to the next page

Mail or Email Your BIG FISH Pictures The form is on page 38.





John Hunt hooked a big catfish at this paylake. *Photo courtesy of Catfish Paradise in Marietta*.





breed again. Human-related food sources are higher in calories and easier to obtain than natural foods. All bears, especially yearlings that are on their own for the first time, will take advantage of easy food sources. Bears will continue on their way if they do not find easy food.

Bears quickly become habituated to handouts in the form of trash, bird seed, pet food and feed placed out for other animals, and lose their fear of humans. They then resort to raiding garbage, outdoor freezers, storage sheds, vehicles and other structures associated with people. Unfortunately, when these activities are repeated, DNR personnel are forced to humanely destroy the offending animal for safety reasons.

"The unintentional feeding of black bears is something that can be prevented, "Carpenter said.



Lorna Canterbury landed a large flathead catfish.

"Garbage should be secured in a bear-proof facility and placed out for collection on the morning of pick-up, not the night before. Food scraps that produce large amounts of odor should be sealed in a plastic bag before being placed in the trash. Food scraps should not be placed in a compost pile during the summer months. Residents should remove all outside pet food at night, and bird feeders should be taken down, cleaned, and stored until late fall to further discourage bears from feeding around human habitation. If you do not remove food attractants until after a bear has become a nuisance, you may have caused the death of that animal."

Feeding of any wildlife should be



avoided for numerous reasons, including, but not limited to, disease transmission, increased predation, habitat destruction around the feeding site, ethical concerns, and the animal's overall health. Following these practical and common sense recommendations will reduce human-bear conflicts and assure that more of the state's animals remain wild.





ANDERSON OUTDOORS

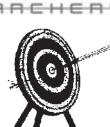
"Everything You Need For Your Next Outdoor Adventure"





Ammuntion · Knives · Binoculars · Scopes · Sunglasses





Martin & Winchester Bows - Crossbows Custom Arrows - Fletching • Rods & Reels Lures • Trout Bait • Hooks & Line

Muzzleloaders • Trapping • Blinds • Stands Dog Supplies • Bub's Nite Timer Nite Lite • Garmin • Tri-Tronics Valley Creek • Predator Boots By: Pro Line • Ranger

Wood'n Trail • Servus • Winchester • Lacrosse

Camo Clothing: Yukon Wood'N Trail • Frogg Togg Russell Outdoors • Big Bill Game Check Station

242 South Kanahwa St. BUCKHANNON, WV 304-460-2317

June/July 2013 ~ Page 28







8AM to 8PM Mon Tue Thu Fri Sat 8am to 5pm Wed Closed Sunday



Lucky Buck Deer Minerals











Gary Bragg reeled in a 38" New River flathead catfish.. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.



Make Those Outdoor Memories Last A Lifetime **26 Years Experience**





Full Time/Award Winning Master Taxidermist Rick Dunlap



John Roe, from Huntington, shot a nice 9 point buck. Ju



Tim Ingram trapped a real large beaver in Tyler County.



Located Off Rt.28/55 on Smokehole Rd. Hunters and Near CABINS, WV 304-257-5411 Fishermen 866-999-2892 Welcome. www.northmountainrentals.com



Brian Galloway reeled in a 3 pound, 3 oz. crappie.



Karista Ferguson shot her first gobbler. Has a nice turkey fan now.







Nathan Rowe hooked a large catfish at the pay pond. *Photo courtesy* of Catfish Paradise in Marietta, OH.

Mail or Email **Big Game - Fish** Form on Page 38



Cold Beer **Beverages Snack Items** Hot Dogs Hamburgers Pepperoni Rolls Discount Tobacco

"NEW Giant Selection Of Fishing Tackle In Stock" PSE & MARTIN Bows • Expert Bow Tuning • Ammo Rage - Muzzy - Boss - Wasp - Carhart - Scentbloc **Custom Arrows & Fletching - Moultrie Deer Feeders** Georgia Boots - Tree Stands - Dog Supplies - Trapping

Fishing Rods & Reels Tackle - Trout Baits - Custom Flies Nitro • Mike's • Joe's Flies • Berklev

5AM to 9PM 7 Days A Week



June/July 2013 ~ Page 30



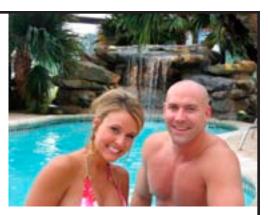


Joel Miller landed a 43" Stonewall Jackson musky and released it.



Isabell Smith reeled in a nice Ohio River smallmouth bass.





Charleston / Cross Lanes WV I-64 Exit 47 Next to Casino 800-798-7886

Two Heated Indoor and Outdoor Pools Hot Tub & Sauna - Fitness Center Lazy Dog Saloon

100% Non Smoking



Bob Foreman brought in a gobbler. Photo courtesy of Wabash Trading Post in West Union.



Caleb Smith hooked a nice Logan Co. rainbow trout.



Chris Hatfield, from Hurricane, landed a whopper Kanawha River flathead catfish.



Fishing Around The Storms

There's a weather phenomenon going on throughout the country that can affect your success on the water.

Here in Michigan, we've been getting thunderstorms and big deluges of rain in short periods of time, coupled with major swings in the barometer.



Nick Hudson landed a 5 pound bass at Salt Fork Lake in the Memorial Day tournament. He and his dad won with 15-12 pounds. There will be another tournament on July 4th. \$90 entry + \$10 big bass.



HOLMES MARKET 304-845-0502 Complete Convenience Store • Beer • Beverages

Hot Dogs • Snacks & More "Where You Get Great In-Town Service...Out Of Town"

GAME CHECKING

ROBERTS RIDGE RD. OFF RT. 2 MOUNDSVILLE, WV

These rapid weather changes often bring violent storms with them and are something to take seriously. A lot of people have lost everything they owned in these storms despite being as prepared as they could be.

In other words, these storms are nothing to mess around with.

However, the changes in the pressure systems have an impact on the bass and provide short windows of opportunity to have some fun fishing.

They really can trigger a good bite.

For example, earlier this week I could feel a weather change brewing and monitored the weather channel as well as the weather app I have on my phone. I knew I had a few hours before it would hit, so

Advertise in the



June/July 2013 ~ Page 33

I slipped down to my pond to do a little casting.

It was amazing. I swear that every bass in the pond was up on the bank, chasing bluegills and feeding like crazy. They sensed the pressure change and were reacting to it.

continue to the next page



Ken Barnette caught a 21" bass in a farm pond.



Now, I'm not suggesting anyone go fishing during or on the very front edge of a storm. But with today's weather technology, if you know the storm is a few hours away, it might be a good time to try a little fishing. First and foremost, monitor your smart phone, update weather maps often and be cognizant of how far the storm is from where you're fishing.

Give yourself time to be safely on the bank, never make a long run and fish close to the ramp. If there's any hint of lightning, get off immediately.

If you play it safe, though, you can squeeze in a good hour or two of fishing and still get off the water and be home before the storm hits.

There are several ways to catch



Joe Beitz reeled in a 20 1/2" New River smallmouth bass..





bass during these pre-storm low pressure systems.

Bass in my part of the country are in postspawn and feeding on spawning bluegill, and that makes for a great time to use topwater poppers and frogs. A lot of our lakes have abundant vegetation, and the fish are keying on whatever shallow cover there is; that's where you can find them when a low pressure system is forthcoming.

Fishing can be really good after a storm hits, too. Typically, these summer storms will blow through quickly, and the lake will calm down afterwards. That slick water makes for some excellent topwater fishing around those bluegill beds.

The bass know where those bluegills are spawning and they will set up ambush areas around those bluegill beds and pick off any fish that wanders by.

There's nothing more fun than fishing topwaters shallow around those bluegill beds. If there's a storm looming on the horizon and you have the time, go get 'em!

It's all about the attitude!





New State Record Skipjack

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. – A state record skipjack was caught by Zachary Hankins of Chesapeake, Ohio on May 7. Hankins caught the 19.21-inch, 2.64-pound fish on a crappie jig while fishing from a boat below the R.C. Byrd Lock and Dam tailwater on the Ohio River in Mason County.

Hankins' skipjack establishes a West Virginia record for length and weight, exceeding the 19.1-inch skipjack that Howard Neal Craig caught last year on the Ohio River. The record also exceeded a 2.61pound fish caught by Steve Skeens from the Kanawha River in 2002.



Janet Eakins hooked a 28" flathead catfish. She received a citation for this fish.

Anglers who believe that they have caught a state record fish should check the record listing in the 2013 Fishing Regulations brochure. The brochure also outlines the procedure to follow for reporting their catch. This information also is available online at www. wvdnr.gov.



Zachary Hankins landed a new skipjack record.

BRUSHY FORK MART					
Brushy Fork Road					
Buckhannon, WV					
(1.3 Miles From US Rt. 33)					
Gas	Gasoline Diesel Kerosene	Live Bait			
WV Lottery & Powerball					
Fishing Supplies					
Knives - Novelty Items					
🗶 M-S 6am-12pm Sun 8am-10pm					
304-472-5132					

Leave Young Wildlife Alone

FRENCH CREEK, W.Va. - The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources advises people to leave all young wildlife alone. "The spring season is the time of year when the woods and fields of West Virginia are full of new life," said Gene Thorn, wildlife biologist at the West Virginia State Wildlife Center in French Creek. "People have a great opportunity to view and enjoy young wildlife during this season, but it is especially important for the public to understand the need to avoid touching or disturbing these wild animals."

Attempts to rescue or rehabilitate young wildlife are often counterproductive, according to Thorn. Picking up or getting too close to wildlife greatly increases the chance of harm to the animal and/ or the persons involved in this unwise practice. By touching young animals, humans leave a scent that may attract a predator. Wildlife viewing is an enjoyable and perfectly acceptable activity; however, Wildlife Resources Section personnel recommend that this pastime be conducted from a safe distance and with the aid of binoculars.

"In addition to being detrimental to the welfare of young animals, handling wildlife potentially may continue to the next page

"Business Goes Where Invited -Stays Where Appreciated"

 Colonial Dotel - Hlotel

 Hunters & Fishermen

 Welcome

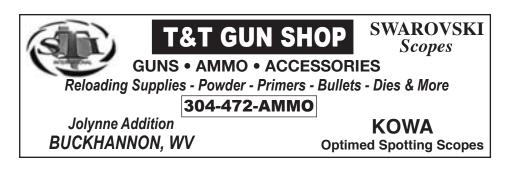
 TV & AC
 Free Parking

 304-472-3000
 Center of City

 24 N. Kanawha St.

 Buckhannon, WV 26201

 Dalton Cutright, owner



humans to various wildlife-associated diseases, parasites and other health-related risks," said Thorn. "Rabies, roundworms and other parasites such as lice and ticks can be transmitted to humans through the improper handling of wildlife."



Todd Zickafoose used a crossbow for this gobbler.



DNR offices statewide receive numerous calls each year concerning young wildlife, especially fawn deer that have been picked up by well-meaning residents. In almost every case these young animals have not been abandoned. The offspring are often hidden as the adult searches for food, and this separation can last for a few hours or all day.

Humans are poor substitute parents for wild animals, because young wildlife require special diets and learn survival skills from their parents. Removing young wildlife from its natural environment almost certainly leads to the death of the animal.



Many people often mistake a bedded fawn, with no mother in sight, as abandoned, but that is usually not the case. Hiding the fawn and leaving it while the doe searches for food is an important survival tactic. The spotted pattern and coloration of fawns and their lack of scent afford protection to these young animals and make them difficult for predators to detect.

If a predator happens to approach close to a fawn, the young deer will normally hold very still until continue to the next page



Mark Malone, from Vienna, reeled in a nice musky.



Eric Young hooked a rainbow trout. *Photo courtesy of Jarret's Bait in Elizabeth.*



the threat passes. If discovered by a predator, the fawn will wait until the very last moment before fleeing to safety. The doe will come back to check on her fawn at feeding time.

As a final caution, remember that state laws and regulations prohibit the possession of wildlife without a permit. Under any circumstances, when you pick up a young animal in the wild, you have taken it into your possession. The fines for illegal possession of a fawn deer, black bear cub, baby raccoon, squirrel or any other species taken or possessed during the closed season range from \$20 up to a maximum of \$1,000 and/or up to 100 days in jail.

"We want everyone to enjoy wildlife in West Virginia," said Thorn. "For your own health and safety and to protect the state's wildlife, remember these wild animals should be left alone and allowed to stay wild."

Look for the next issue of this magazine at the first of August. This publication will print every six weeks in the future. Don't forget to go online. It's FREE! www.vasportsman.net



Dale Surber caught an 8 pound rainbow trout. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton..*



Over 50 Years In Business



Gas - Tires - Groceries - Hardware



MOUNTAIN STATE LOG HOMES "Your Path To Affordable Log Home Living"

Why Choose Mountain State Log Homes?

- Providing Quality Log Home Materials since 1978
- FREE House Package Delivery in WV and Bordering States
- FREE Unloading at Your Site
- FREE Quotes and Custom Designing
- Detail Construction Manual, with Purchase
- Kiln Dried White Pine Log Choices
- Milled Locally, in Jane Lew, WV

D-Logs 6"x 6",6"x 8",8"x 8" **Log Siding** 6", 8", 12" **Douglas Fir Beams**

Dove Tail Log 6"x 12" T/G 1"x 6", 2"x 6" Cedar Posts and Railing

MILL

DIRECT

PRICES!

PO BOX 679, 208 Display Drive, Jane Lew, WV 26378 Visit us on the web at **www.mountainstateloghomes.com** or Email us at **info@mountainstateloghomes.net**

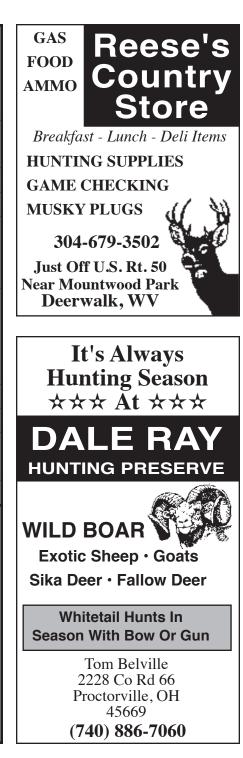
JANE LEW MODELS OPEN DAILY 9am-5pm 800.553.3006 Other Hours by Apt. 304.884.6646 Located in the Industrial Park, 1-79 exit 105 EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE!



WORD SEARCH

Stratos • Evinrude • Crestliner • Nitro • Yamaha • Charger Legend • Triton • Lowe • Skeeter • Waco • Bayliner • Pontoon Johnson • Tracker • Champion • Smokercraft • Mercury • Ski Blazer • Lund • Ranger • Honda • Fisher • Pro Craft • Suzuki Gambler • Outboard • Pleasure • Allison • Sylvan • Alumacraft

Look Up - Down - Across - Diagonally



Clip Out	Large 1	Fish P	Pictures	Wanted
Name			We are l	ooking for large fish
Address_			pictur	es caught in 2013. Send Photo To:
City				WVS
State	Zip			P.O. Box 5521 Vienna, WV
Fish	Poune	dOz		E-mail 26105 wvsport@wirefire.com
L		J	Photos Will Be Returned	L -IIIaII wvsport@wirefire.com



www.superiorautowv.com

www.superiorautowv.com

www.superiorautowv.com



HOOB & CPCC DCC on new TOYOTA trucks and SUVs at Superior TOYOTA in Parkersburg!

> Superior Says " Take A Child Fishing And Enjoy The Great Outdoors"

Superior ΤΟΥΟΤΑ



2013 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER 4X4 SUVS Gas Only

\$750 Customer Cash 0% APR Financing Up To 60 MonthsTo Qualified Buyers

Exp7/8/2013

www.superiorautowv.com

www.superiorautowv.com

TACKLE A 2013 TUNDRA \$2,500 Customer Cash B/C Cabs Only \$2,750 Customer Cash Crew Max Only - OR -0% APR Financing

Up To 60 MonthsTo Qualified Buyers Exp 7/8/2013





The name says it all! SALES, SERVICE, PARTS www.SuperiorAutoWV.com Rt. 50 EAST PARKERSBURG 304-424-5122

Set The Hook On Savings

Superior

www.superiorautowv.com

www.superiorautowv.com

www.superiorautowv.com

www.superiorautowv.com

800-478-5884

ww.sup