



# Thirteen Lines

News and Notes from the LaGrange County Department of Parks and Recreation

autumn 2017

Have you ever met anyone famous? I don't mean the local weather man or the keeper of the two-headed snake (though that was rather exciting). I mean "good evening Mr. President" kind of famous.

For most of us it seldom happens, if at all. Yet there those who seem to thrive by collecting celebrities and regularly have encounters.

I have had my share of close encounters; mere feet away from two presidents; eavesdropped on a moon walked astronaut; stumbled upon the first Indy car driver to qualify at 200 m.p.h.; had Don Garlits park in front of me at a race track in Virginia; lodged in the same hotel as Cher; stood in line behind Pat Paulsen at the airport. I even shook the hand behind Oscar the Grouch.

My father has two famous moments that he can brag about. He met Robert Wadlow, at the time the world's tallest man. Another time he happened to be at the same party as James Garner.

I have friends who have some extraordinary claims; supper with Jane Goodall; a stand-in for Johnny Depp; an autograph from Big Bird (I'm still jealous about that one); birding with Roger Tory Petersen; riding a ski lift with Simon Pegg.

I have even tried to figure who is famous that I would like have lunch with? George Lucas, what a storyteller! Neil DeGrasse-Tyson, he can explain the heavens above in a way that folks understand. Jay Leno, the ultimate gearhead.

One lesson to be learned from all of these famous encounters is that folks are folks. Some people just seem to be famous for being famous, but the majority are regular people who have risen when opportunity or circumstances required it of them.

Has anyone famous ever come from LaGrange? Yes! Dr. David Rogers was known across many states for supplying medicinal herbs and then donating his estate to care for orphans. Benjamin and Harriet Waterhouse assisted hundreds of freedom seekers along the underground railroad. Alferd Packer survived a tragic winter mountain crossing and, though accused of something dreadful, cleared his name and earned a reputation for kindness. Byron Price served as Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations.

One County resident even got featured in Ripley's Believe It Or Not.

Open your heart and pursue your passion. Someday someone is going to be glad they know you.

Naturally,

Scott Beam, LaGrange County Interpretive Naturalist





# David Rogers Country Fair

PIONEER AND COWBOY LIVING HISTORY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

DAVID ROGERS MEMORIAL PARK

2655W 550S, WOLCOTTVILLE IN

David Rogers Country Fair is a celebration of the pioneer spirit that settled 19th century LaGrange County. Everyone is encouraged to learn new skills such as; sewing with a hand-crank Singer, making candles, feeding the smokehouse, using pioneer tools.

There will also be food, music, a magic show, Punch and Judy puppet show, a pie eating contest, and the ever popular Cap Gun Fast Draw. Stay for live music and the Folk Dance.



**Saturday 12:00-8:00**

12:00 programs begin

2:00 Cowboy Joke Contest

4:00 Cap Gun Fast Draw

5:00 Pie Eating Contest

6:00 Folk Dance

## WE NEED YOU!

Crowd Sourcing is a new funding model where friends and neighbors combine with corporate donations and support an activity they believe in. You can be a part of supporting David Rogers Country Fair. It doesn't take much.

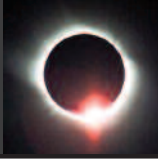
Learn more or contribute at [patronicity.com/davidrogers](http://patronicity.com/davidrogers).

If you want to support, but don't feel comfortable donating online, checks are accepted at LaGrange County Parks.

Support David Rogers Country Fair beyond donations. For volunteer opportunities contact David Rogers Country Fair at [lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com](mailto:lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com).

**[davidrogersdays.org](http://davidrogersdays.org) \$3 person, \$12 for groups**

[click here to download the handout for David Rogers Country Fair](#)



# Solar Eclipse Viewing

A remarkable total solar eclipse is soon going to shade a swath across the continental United States. Practically everyone in the states gets a chance to view at least a partial eclipsing of the sun.

Although we are hundreds of miles away from the zone of totality, we still get more than 80% coverage to observe. Some of you reading this have never experienced a solar eclipse in your lifetime. For the rest of us it has been years. But it is a treat for all of us!

Because we will not experience totality, no part of the eclipse can be safely viewed with your eyes...unless, there is a safe viewing station. Monday, August 21, 1:00-3:30, eclipse viewing is going to be on the lawn of LaGrange County Courthouse. There will be multiple methods for safely tracking moon's transit across the sun. We will not get another chance like this until 2021.

## Fen Restoration Walk

There have been lots of changes at Pine Knob Park's Duff Lake Fen over recent years. A fen is a type of wetland where the soil is significant deposition of peat and the groundwater is close to the surface. Plant, insect, and even reptile communities are all affected by this restoration.

John Brittenham of Blue Heron Ministries leads the fen walk and describes the restoration process. There is also a significant variety of flowers in bloom.

Be prepared for walking in bright sun and moist ground.

Meet at the Pine Knob Park program center, Friday, August 18, 10:00 a.m.



## Patchwork Trails 2017 Autumn Walks

Tuesday, August 15      Town Square Park  
6:00 p.m.                      Defiance St., Howe, IN

### Howe History Walk

Let's start at the Historic Marker on the north side of the town square park and follow the Philomath's walking tour through the historic village of Howe!

Tuesday, June 20              Pumpkinvine Trail  
6:00 p.m.                      2675N 850W, Shipshewana, IN

### Rails to Trails Walk

Park on 850W, north of Edd's Supply, walk south to the trail access. We'll follow the route of the Pumpkin Vine Railroad through beautiful autumn foliage.

# Pine Knob Hunting and Fishing Day

September 16, 8:00-2:00  
Pine Knob Park, 2825E SR120  
Howe, IN

**Junior Achievement Bow Shoot** 8:00-12:00  
16 and under \$10, adults \$15  
Call Stacey Dumbacher at 260-415-3422.

**Conservation Sports 9:00-2:00.** Pheasants Forever Airsoft, Archery Instruction, and more.  
**Free food** and **Crossbow Give-away** sponsored by Friends of LaGrange County Parks and Whitetails Unlimited.

**Crossbow Give-away at 12:30!** Must be present to win. Earn entries by participation.

# August 2016

		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 12:15 Great Race of 1908 at NE IN Steam and Gas Show	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Patchwork Trails Howe Historical Walk 6:00p	<b>16</b> 8:30 Breakfast with the Birds Chrissy the Skunk Woman	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10 Pine Knob Fen Walk	<b>19</b> Quilt Class MW 9-3 PRFWA Family Day 10-2
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 1:00-3:30 Eclipse Viewing LG Courthouse	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:30 Park Board	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> noon-8p David Rogers Country Fair and folk dance
<b>27</b> 1:30 Folk Jam	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

# September 2017

					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Maple Wood closed
<b>3</b> Maple Wood closed	<b>4</b> Labor Day LaGrange County offices closed	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5:30-9 Hunter Safety Pine Knob Park	<b>13</b> 5:30-9 Hunter Safety Pine Knob Park	<b>14</b> 5:30-9 Hunter Safety Pine Knob Park	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Pine Knob NHF Day JA Archery Shoot sportsman rummage sale
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Patchwork Trails Pumpkinvine Trail Walk 6:00p	<b>20</b> 8:30 Breakfast with the Birds Honey Recipes	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 1:30 Folk Jam	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:00 Friends of LCP at MW	<b>28</b> 7:30 Park Board	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10-4 MW Rug Hook Event

# October 2017

1	2	3	4	5	6 5:30-9 Hunter Safety Dallas Lake Park	7 9:00-3:30 Hunter Safety Dallas Lake Park
8	9 Columbus Day LaGrange County offices closed	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Columbus Day	17	18 8:30 Breakfast with the Birds	19	20	21 Quilt Class MW 9-3
22 1:30 Folk Jam	23	24	25 6:00 Friends of LCP at MW	26 7:30 Park Board	27	28
29	30	31				

## Naturally Noteworthy

### LaGrange County Offices closed

Sept. 4 - Labor Day

Oct. 9 - Columbus Day

### Maple Wood Nature Center closings this quarter:

Aug. 26 - DR Country Fair

Sept. 16 PK Hunt & Fish Day

Sept. 3-4-5 Labor Day

- **Maple Syrup** is still for sale at Maple Wood Nature Center or the Park Office.

### Delt Church Dash 5K

LaGrange County Parks hosted the third Delt Church Dash 5K run/walk on Friday, June 23, at Delt Church Park. Special thanks to Gary Grogg and Thom Taylor for organizing the event.



- **Receive 13 Lines** newsletter and monthly Park news as emails. Respond to our email address with “13 Lines” or “e-news” in the subject. Or download online at [lagrangepark.org](http://lagrangepark.org).

Please inform us if you have difficulty accessing any facilities or programs. We are glad to accommodate and want to enhance your experience in the parks.



# Breakfast with the Birds

Breakfast with the Birds is for anyone who is free one Wednesday morning of each month. The program starts with coffee and doughnuts. Then a talk or discussion is offered by the naturalist. Bring your binoculars and enjoy a hike in the woods afterward. Recommended donation is \$2.00.



## Chrissy

### the Skunk Woman

August 16 8:30a  
She was famous because she loved skunks. She fed them. They lived with her. People drove for miles to witness her spectacle. Believe it or not!



## Honey Recipes

September 20 8:30a  
Honey is the other natural sugar that can be harvested wild in northern Indiana. Though honeybees are not native to North America, they thrive here. Their sweet treat does not spoil and imparts its own flavor to cooking.



## Brother Bear

October 18 8:30a  
In general bears are not found in Indiana any more. There has not been a credible LaGrange sighting in nearly 170 years. But they are prevalent in North America and all over the world. We look at bears as co-survivors in a bountiful world.

## Friends of LaGrange County Parks

[http://www.facebook.com/  
FriendsOfLaGrangeCountyParks](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfLaGrangeCountyParks)

The Friends of LaGrange County Parks are sponsoring new targets at Pine Knob Park through a grant from Whitetails Unlimited. They are also sponsoring food and crossbow giveaway at Pine Knob Hunting and Fishing Day, September 16.

Friends of LaGrange County Parks autumn meetings are September 27, October 25, 6:00 p at Maple Wood Nature Center. There is no August meeting. Contact (260) 350-3036, [friendsoflagrangeparks@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoflagrangeparks@gmail.com).

## Folk Jam



Folk Music Jam Sessions are hosted the fourth Sunday of each month. Jams are mostly folk, country and bluegrass music with other styles thrown in from time to time.

This quarter's Jams are August 27, September 24, October 22, 1:30-5:00p.

For questions contact Erv Troyer, 463-2247, [reo43@aol.com](mailto:reo43@aol.com) or Maple Wood at 463-4022, [lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com](mailto:lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com)



## Autumn Hunter Safety Classes

Successfully passing Hunter Safety Class is required before obtaining an Indiana hunting license. Class is no charge, On-line registration is required. Register at [http://registered.com/events/view/“number of event”](http://registered.com/events/view/number%20of%20event). Questions regarding hunting seasons and hunter eligibility can be answered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, [in.gov/dnr](http://in.gov/dnr) or Indiana Conservation Officers at 260-244-3720.

Three sessions are available as follows;

- September 12, 13, 14, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 5:30-9:00, Pine Knob Park, 106793
- October 6, 7, Friday, 5:30-9:00, Saturday, 9:00-3:30, Dallas Lake Park, 106794
- November 6, 7, 8, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 5:30-9:00 Maple Wood Nature Center, 106795

## PRFWA FREE Family Fun Day

LaGrange County Parks joins Pigeon River Fish and Wildlife Area for FREE Family Fun Day! Saturday, August 19, 10-2, FREE Family Fun Day is at Pigeon River Headquarters, 8310 E 300 N, Mongo, IN.

Celebrate wildlife conservation with hands-on learning. Multiple wildlife professionals will be present. Popcorn, snow cones, and refreshments provided. Call Pigeon River office for more information (260) 367-2164.

## The Great Race of 1908

The impossible challenge, New York to Paris the long way, when motoring was new is Friday's Feature program at the Northeast Indiana Steam 7 Gas Show, Friday, August 11, 12:15p at LaGrange County Fairgrounds.



## Rug Hook Event

The Autumn Northeast Indiana Rug Hook Event is at Maple Wood Nature Center on Saturday, September 30, 10:00-4:00.

Wooly for Ewe hooking group is sponsoring a day of personal projects and exhibits. Bring projects to work on while enjoying the woods setting. Participants are encouraged to bring finished projects for display. Those curious about hooking and fiber arts are welcome.

Seating is limited, so participants are required to contact Judy Werling, [werlingabout@frontier.com](mailto:werlingabout@frontier.com).

## Autumn Quilt Classes

Autumn Quilt Classes are August 19 and October 21 at Maple Wood Nature Center, 9:00-3:00. Cost is \$25. Indian Summer is the theme for August 19. It is suggested for two/three colors or a variety color theme. There is a choice of sizes. Instructions provided upon registration.

Bring a dish for potluck lunch. Registration is required, [lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com](mailto:lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com) or call the park office, (260) 854-2225. Or contact instructors Julia Wolhete, (260) 367 1449 or Ira Johnson, (260) 367-1438.

**LaGrange  
County  
Parks**



**and recreation**

**0505W 700S  
Wolcottville IN 46795**



## Thirteen Lines

News and Notes from the LaGrange County Parks

### **LaGrange County Parks**

0505W 700S  
Wolcottville IN 46795  
(260) 854 2225  
lagrangeparkparks@yahoo.com  
<http://www.lagrangeparkparks.org>  
Parks open 8:00 am - sunset

### **Park Office Hours:** Monday-Friday

8 am - 12:00 noon, 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

### **Maple Wood Nature Center**

4550E 100S  
(260) 463-4022

Hours: Wednesday 8 am - 4 pm  
Saturday 9 am - 5 pm  
Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm

other days by special appointment  
closed Sundays in July

### **LaGrange County Board of Parks and Recreation**

Dr. John Egli: President  
Robert Arnold; Vice President  
Ardala Hepler: Secretary  
Mark Thompson  
Julia Wolheter  
Paul Yoder

download Rental Facilities brochure