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Currents



July 2011 / NEWS FROM THE WABASH & ERIE CANAL • DELPHI, INDIANA



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**CELEBRATE
INDEPENDENCE
DAY...CELEBRATE**

**CANAL
DAYS!**

**Saturday-Sunday
July 2-3**



IN THIS ISSUE:

- New, Interactive Exhibits!
- Canal Days
- Horseshoe Tournament

Kids Will Enjoy New Exhibit



Guests at this weekend's [Canal Days](#) can enjoy our hands-on "pull me" boat exhibit. It runs in a track on dry land beside the towpath and canal for all to enjoy. This permanent exhibit was [sponsored](#) by the daughters of John and Ruth Rhine: Ellen Hostetler, Marie Harris and Nancy Farrier.

Volunteers Complete The Scale Shed

Join us for old-fashioned canal music and crafts, artisan demonstrations, food, patriotic shows and boat rides!

**Saturday, 10am-5pm;
Sunday, noon-4pm**

MORE DETAILS>

Delphi Rotary Club

Horseshoe Tournament

at Canal Park

Monday, July 4

Registration begins at 8am.

Play begins at 9am.

A \$5 entry fee is charged to each player with all proceeds going to support Rotary scholarships. Cash payouts for top 3 teams.

**Call (765) 564-4962 to
reserve a place on the
bracket.**

BIKE AND BOAT RENTAL!

[Noble Bikes at the Canal](#)

carries many types of bikes, as well as kayaks and paddleboats. Enjoy our extensive trail system or a leisurely excursion in the canal!



HELP US CREATE THE TOTAL CANAL EXPERIENCE!



This early scale balance was donated by Richard and Joyce Wiegand from north of Lafayette. Their home sits on a strip of land bordering the Wabash & Erie Canal, and they believed we would have the best use of this unique balance. The scale was once used to weigh products as they came or left the docks along the canal.



The ultimate finish of the Scale Shed comes with the tin roofing sheets. This lean-to post and beam building was completed after six months of diligent work both indoors (in the winter while making the mortise and tenon joints) and outdoors with the setup and pegging of joints. The original platform scale, big enough to weigh a farm wagon or a pen of hogs all at once (8 ft.by 14 ft.) was donated by the late Ernie Avery. He was a farmer near Michigantown for years before he retired. He died just a couple months after we picked up the scale over a year ago but we know how he appreciated us getting it rather than going for scrap.



Bring history alive by sponsoring an exhibit or interpretive panel.

[Find out more>](#)

BECOME A MEMBER

Your financial partnership restores and preserves a rare, important piece of early American history and provides hands-on learning opportunities for people of all ages.

[Find out more>](#)

VOLUNTEER



Do you enjoy sharing history with others? We need docents to take groups on guided tours throughout the year. **To find out more, contact us at 765.564.2870.**

We have many volunteer opportunities to suit your skills and time!

[Find out more>](#)



Volunteers Roy and Dave work on the horse water pump and tank. Later, a pump with handle will be installed for young and old alike to "test" their stamina in drawing water into the tank.



Here, our M-W-F volunteers take a break from working on the scale shed. From left: Vern Cripe, Roy Patrick, Clay Sledd, Dave Smith and Al Auffart. They work from 8am-12noon, three days a week, year around. Sometimes there are over twice this many working.



Volunteer crew member Vern Cripe tries out the horse water tank and pump. It works! Just imagine the farmer or merchant...coming with goods to sell or pick up and leading his horse to water.



The completed platform scale and post/beam shed was [sponsored](#) by Ken and Julie Pyle in memory of their parents. It is an authentic 1800s facility as you might have seen when products were being shipped on the canal. This working exhibit can weigh a farm wagon or a whole 4th grade class at once.

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