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LIFE AT  
**Center Hill Lake**  
& The Upper Cumberland Region

# FOR THE LOVE

If anyone deserves the title of “Mr. Lake” in the Center Hill Lake area, it’s probably Tony Luna. The local realtor and business owner has practically grown up on the beautiful waters in DeKalb County, and the lake is still an important part of his life today. He loves the area for its beauty and the hometown atmosphere of the nearby communities.

Luna was born in the town of Covington, KY, but was adopted and moved to Sparta, TN, right on the DeKalb/White County line, near Ragland Bottom, when he was just seven years old. From then on the lake was part of his life.

“I’ve always been a part of Center Hill Lake,” Luna explained. “I was one of those kids that was skiing at seven and eight years old, and my dad bought Sligo Marina in the early 80s, so we would naturally end up at Sligo all summer. It became a huge part of my life.”

The family the marina about five years ago to the current owners, and today, Tony Luna sells real estate through his company, Lake Homes Realty. “I’ve been with Lake Homes Realty for about five years, but I’ve

been selling real estate around the Center Hill area for 22 years.”

When asked why he loves Center Hill Lake so much, Luna said that being controlled by the Army Corps of Engineers has actually helped preserve the lake. “Center Hill Lake is 18,000 acres, 415 miles of shoreline, with pristine water. It’s an Army Corps of Engineers lake, so you can’t have your own boat dock. There were 27 grandfathered in, but the majority of the lake there are no personal boat docks. That keeps the waters crystal clear. You can fish in it, swim in it, and not worry about the pollution other lakes see. It’s a very deep lake. You can navigate about 98 percent of Center Hill Lake.”

When asked why people would want to move to the Center Hill Lake area, Luna answered with a question of his own. “Why would you not want to move to the Center Hill Lake area? Even though Smithville is growing, it still retains that small town feel. It’s almost a ‘Mayberryish’ feel. If you go into a store around here a couple of times, everyone will remember your name and greet you with a smile. Especially downtown.”



# OF THE LAKE

BY CHRIS TRAMEL

Luna said that today he works with a group of business owners to help maintain the downtown area and preserve that hometown feel. “All these business owners have revitalized their buildings, and really helps the downtown area. We’ve got a core group of owners that meet and all have the same goal, making Smithville great again.”

“We’re just a bunch of business owners that have decided to redo this downtown,” Luna continued. “We meet once or twice a month and discuss what’s going on and what we want to happen. We work close with the Chamber of Commerce.”

Another more recent business adventure Luna has delved into is the opening of his “brotique.” Yes, our spellcheck is working. Luna has opened a boutique for men.

“The Male Room,” Luna proudly proclaimed. “That was an idea that happened one day when I was sitting in the office here and watching all these ladies shopping at all the local boutiques, and all the guys were walking around with a lost look in their eyes, drinking their coffee. I

thought, ‘Man, we need to create something for these guys.’ So, my fiancée, Summer Britt, and I decided that we were going to open a store.”

“We named in the Male Room, and it’s a ‘brotique’ instead of a boutique. We have all kinds of soaps that are geared toward men, beard grooming items, original designed tee-shirts and a lot of lake style shirts. We even have a thing called ‘Beer Bread.’ You put a 12 ounce can of beer in it and it makes the perfect loaf of bread. So, any guy can bake bread now.” The shop opens May 1, and is located at Walnut Alley in downtown Smithville, right next to Lake Homes Realty.

So, if you’re thinking of moving to the area and are interested in buying some property, or you’re a man looking for a shopping experience geared just for you, or if you just want to stop by and say “Hey,” visit Tony Luna in Smithville. Lake Homes Realty is located at 106 West Main Street in Smithville, and you can contact them by phone at 615-210-9522 or at their website [www.lakehomes.com](http://www.lakehomes.com).



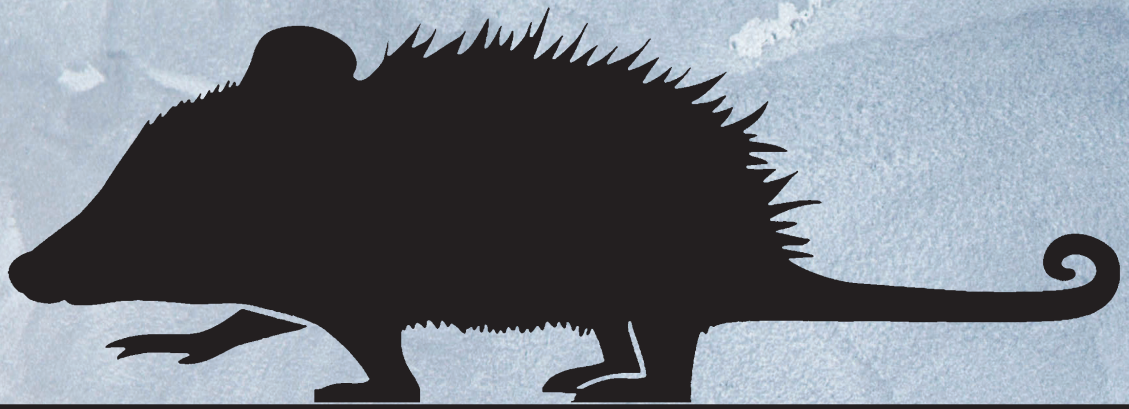
TONY LUNA  
“Mr. Lake”



Luna proudly shows his brotique, The Male Room, which is a boutique for men.



Lake Homes Realty just off the Smithville Square.



# WHITE POSSUM

The White Possum has been serving Smithville and DeKalb County for over 10 years now, with locals and tourist alike making their way to the restaurant that has a reputation for good food and a nice atmosphere. While the Covid-19 pandemic may have slowed the restaurant's patronage slightly over the past year, the eatery recently took some time off to not only make some cosmetic changes, but start a radically new menu.

Owner/operator Rawlin Vanatta said that the changes the restaurant has made comes not from necessity, but rather from his conscience and his faith in God. The restaurant has moved to what Vanatta says is a healthier menu that eliminates meat, dairy, and oils.

"We have remodeled, renewing the menu ... everything," Vanatta told the Smithville Review. "It was obviously a good time to do it, with the pandemic."

Vanatta told what had led to the drastic menu changes and how he hopes to help people lead healthier lives. "About six years ago, my cousin was eating really weird, or at least it seemed weird to me at the time. His dad had had a heart attack and he told me, 'I can prove to you how, through the scientific literature, that there is no reason anyone should ever have a heart attack, or have high blood pressure or high cholesterol.' I didn't believe him, but it got me to study it a little bit out of curiosity."

According to Vanatta, the research took on new meaning when health

issues hit close to home. "My dad had digestive issues and acid reflux forever. He had it so bad that a couple of times he nearly died because of it. If acid reflux gets bad enough it will shut off your windpipe, and that's what happened."

"As I looked into this research, I found that so many different studies had been buried by the food industry. It was not good for the food industry as a whole, including my business, but I discovered these food secrets could help people. I shared it with my dad, and he lost 50 pounds, his high blood pressure went away, his arthritis went away, and all his digestive troubles just disappeared."

Vanatta said that his new found knowledge didn't stop with just helping his father. "Then I shared it with my father-in-law," he continued. "His pain in his knees were so bad that he was afraid he wasn't going to be able to keep mowing. He has a landscaping business and he had really high blood pressure, and then was diagnosed with diverticulitis. I sat him down and told him, 'I promise you that if you follow these food secrets, as I call them that they will fix you.' After about three months, he lost about 35 to 40 pounds, his knee pain went away, and his diverticulitis went away."

It was around that same time that Vanatta's son was born and according to him, it was then that he had an epiphany. "For a long time I struggled with what I had learned. I would see people coming into the restaurant







The White Possum Restaurant Owner/Manager Rawlin Vanatta and his family and staff invite you to try the new healthier menu choices.

# Making a Healthier Change

BY CHRIS TRAMEL

and they would complain about going to the doctor, and that they had high blood pressure, or they had high cholesterol ... so many different things that it would eat at me. It felt to me as if I were keeping secrets. I was selling many of the foods that were causing these problems.”

“After my son was born, I was looking down at him. I was in my rocking chair, and was praying, thanking God for giving me my son. Then, I felt really guilty. It was like a voice popped into my head and said, ‘You’re happy that you know this. How many other parents would want to know this?’ It literally felt like bricks were hitting me on my back. I knew at that moment that I wouldn’t be able to continue doing the restaurant the way I had been doing it.”

According to Vanatta, the restaurant will eliminate the three most dangerous types of foods from its menu, but with alternative recipes some of customer’s favorite dishes won’t disappear. “The three most dangerous things that people consume is meat, dairy, and oils,” Vanatta said. “A lot of people ask, ‘Are we going vegan?’ I don’t like calling it vegan, because it’s really not. I call this food hacking.”

“I look at food, say for instance biscuits and gravy. It’s made with flour and dairy. Instead of using the fats that are used in biscuits and gravy, I can use some plants that have types of fat in it too. I’ve experimented with different things and people can’t tell a difference. Obviously, I can’t reproduce a steak, but what I can do is reproduce barbeque, and nachos,

make cheese sauces, and lasagna. I can make some of the best lasagna that people have ever eat in their life.”

Vanatta said that while favorite dishes will still be available, new items will also be featured at the revamped restaurant. “Our menu has nachos, lasagna, in the spring we’ll have a really big salad bar, fresh made smoothies at the bar where people can see the ingredients going into it. We also have burgers and fries, but not with real meat. We will not be serving animal products, and the only oil we will be using in the entire place will be used to fry our chips. Everything else will either be baked or done in a different way.”

In the end Vanatta knows his changes are a gamble, but hopes that the people in the community will give it a chance. “Everyone that gives it a chance for more than a week, especially those that have health problems, they will be able to tell a difference. I’m not saying we will solve every health issue, but if you have digestive issues, or weight problems, you will see a difference. The results speak for themselves.”

Having been open a couple of weeks, Vanatta has received many compliments and return customers.

## THE TENNESSEE PLANT BASED EATERY



# ART FOOD & FUN MUSIC

BY CHRIS TRAMEL



**W**oodbury, TN is known for many things. The area has been making wooden chairs for generations. There has been some wonderful pottery that has come out of the region, as well as their fine woven baskets. The town is also known for its old time music.

Today, there is a place where you can experience all of Woodbury's arts and craft history, as well as hear some great music. The Arts Center of Cannon County consists of a playhouse, art gallery, and concert venue in a single facility, and showcases local artists and their works.

"Originally, the Arts Center was created in 1980," ACCC Chief Operating Officer, Beth McCrary, said. "Last year was our 40th anniversary. It started out at the Lions Club in Woodbury, and then it moved to the old gym where the high school used to be. It was located there until around 1990. It was started by a group of local people that loved the theater and the arts, and it just grew over the years."

McCrary continued, "The Arts Center consist of a theater, gift shop, galleries, classrooms, and a fermentation kitchen. The theater is where we do live theater productions and concerts, and can seat about 250 people. Before Covid, we had nine productions, every year, three of them being school shows, which school field trips would come see. The other

six were evening performances and matinees for all ages. Some of our plays are musicals, some are not. They are in house produced with all volunteers. It's a community theater. We've also had all kinds of concerts with a variety of different types of music."

According to McCrary, the gift shop offers a variety of arts and crafts from artist from around the region. "We have a gift shop which features local artists. They sign their work there. It's mostly white oak artists, run by the White Oak Association. All of our artists in our gift shop are local artists from here or the surrounding counties. He have birdhouses, woodwork, furniture, artwork that hangs on the wall like oil paintings and watercolors, we have free standing art ... quite a variety of items and it's a good place to shop around Christmas. There's everything from gourd lamps to displays of local quilts."

While the Art Center is a good place to see or hear the arts, the venue also features event space. "We have two galleries. The front gallery is called the Burger Gallery and the one in back is called Cannon Hall. We also sometimes have rental space there, where we host weddings and get-togethers."

Another rental area in the front of the center features another unique aspect of the facility. "We have another rental space in the front that hosts





**THE ARTS  
CENTER**  
of Cannon County



Short Mountain Cultures,” McCrary explained. “It is a fermentation kitchen that sells local produce and they make sauerkraut, kimchi, kvass, tempeh, and hot sauce. You can find fresh baked breads there, as well as a lot of vegan items that are hard to find in the area.”

While the Arts Center showcases local artists and performers, it is also a place for learning. The site features classroom space that is used for dance rehearsals, summer camps, and various other things. The center is even the locations for the local farmers’ market, held every Saturday morning, where local growers come to sell their fresh produce.

The center even has its own recording studio. Begun in 2002, Spring Fed Records is the Arts Center’s in-house record label, which focuses primarily on anthologies and re-issues of traditional bluegrass, country, folk, gospel, and blues recording.

If you would like to see what upcoming events are coming to the Arts Center of Cannon County, visit their Facebook page at Facebook [www.facebook.com/artscenterofcc](http://www.facebook.com/artscenterofcc) or visit their website at [www.artscenterofcc.com](http://www.artscenterofcc.com).

McCrary also said that any artist interested in displaying their work can contact the center at 615-563-2787. The ACCC is located at 1424 John Bragg Highway, Woodbury, TN 37190.



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# The Hidden Wonders

BY CHRIS TRAMEL



**CUMBERLAND CAVERNS** U.S. NATIONAL LANDMARK





The Upper Cumberland region is known for its natural beauty and wonders. From the rolling hills and mountains, various plant life, and rock formations and waterfalls, there are marvels that simply have to be seen to be believed. But hidden in the mountains just outside of McMinnville, TN, there's a hidden gem that delves deep into the Earth itself. A place of splendor for nature lovers and artists alike.

Cumberland Caverns is not a secret. The cave system has been known for at least 200 years, and some of its natural recourses were used during turbulent times in American history.

According to Brittany Fults, Office Manager and Reservations Specialist at Cumberland Caverns, the site was first discovered in 1810 by a land surveyor named Aaron Higgenbotham. "He was surveying Cardwell Mountain at the time when he sat down on a rock near a small hole about the size of a basketball," she explained. "He felt a cool breeze coming out of that hole, and it sparked his curiosity. He decided to crawl into the hole and see where the breeze was coming from. That's how Higgenbotham Cave was discovered."

About the same time, another cave was also discovered in the area, known as Henshaw Cave, which was named for the land owners of the property. This cave proved to be a source of saltpeter, which was used to create gunpowder, and was operated as a saltpeter mine during the War of 1812 up until the end of the Civil War.

Higgenbotham Cave became a favorite spot for adventurers in the 19th century, when groups would make their way to a part of the cave known as the Ten Acre Room, also known as the Big Room. For years visitors have been awed by the stalactite and stalagmite formations, clumps of cave coral, and the massive rooms nature has carved from solid stone.

Fults said that the two caves were discovered to be connected in 1953 through a small passageway, about 14 inches by 33 inches. "A man named Tank Gorin crawled through the passage and came out the other side into the Higgenbotham cave, where his friends were waiting for him. They told him that he looked like he had been through a human meat grinder because he had been cut by all the small sharp rocks." From then on, the passage Gorin took was known as the meatgrinder.

According to Fults, the site soon became a tourist attraction. "The name was changed in 1955 to Cumberland Caverns because of the close proximity to the Cumberland Plateau. Then on July 4, 1956, we gave our first tour as a commercialized cave. By this time paths, trails, and lots had been made in order to open it up to the public."

"The first room you enter on the Discovery Walking Tour is called the Saltpeter Room, because that is the only room we have found that they mined out of in the entire cave system. There are still some leaching vats in there that they used in the mining process."

Today, the tours continue but there is so much more than just walking through the caverns. "We have all kinds of tours," Fults said. "We do walking tours of the cave. We do daytime adventure tours, where you can crawl and climb, and actually take the Higgenbotham historic entrance, the same route some of the early explorers took. It's called the Higgenbothams Revenge Tour. We also do overnight adventures, concerts, weddings, birthday parties ... you name it, we got it."

The caverns were once the site of the popular Bluegrass Underground series, but now the venue hosts Cumberland Caverns Live, which features a variety of different types of music, from bluegrass to rock and roll. "We usually try to have one concert a month, but sometimes we have more than that."

For more information on Cumberland Caverns, visit their website at [www.cumberland-caverns.com](http://www.cumberland-caverns.com). Concert information and tickets can be purchased online at [www.cumberland-cavernslive.com](http://www.cumberland-cavernslive.com).

Cumberland Caverns is located at 1437 Cumberland Caverns Road, McMinnville, TN, 37110, and their phone number is 931-668-4396. Come out and go on an adventure.

# EAT

## **Kilgore's Restaurant**

2595 Nashville Hwy  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-215-8249

## **Sonrise Diner**

305 W Broad St  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-215-3463

## **White Possum Grille**

1060 W Broad St  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-9009

## **Patty's Restaurant**

715 W Broad St  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-318-1158

## **Cloverleaf Restaurant**

10905 Nashville Hwy  
Liberty, TN 37095  
615-536-5534

## **Twisted Oaks**

3349 Nashville Hwy,  
Dowelltown, TN 37059  
615-318-1290

## **F.Z. Webb Soda Fountain**

605 S. Congress Blvd.  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-4186

## **McDonald's**

502 S. Congress Blvd.  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-8944

## **Hardee's**

135 W Broad St  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-8570

## **Arby's**

510 S. Congress Blvd.  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-215-6565

## **KFC/Taco Bell**

105 E. Broad St.  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-215-1050

## **Sonic Drive-In**

602 S. Congress Blvd.  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-9494

## **Bumpers Drive-In**

303 E Broad St  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-6190

## **El Rancho Mexican Restaurant**

1101 W Broad St  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-4272

## **Los Lobos Mexican Restaurant**

106 E Broad St,  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-215-8971

## **Disco Tienda Latina**

431 E. Broad  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-2695

## **Fiesta Jalisco Mexican Grill**

130 Walmart Dr  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-215-8220

## **China Garden**

130 Walmart Dr  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-215-9001

## **Dairy Queen**

303 West Broad  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-5545

## **Subway**

100 E. Broad St.  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-7111

## **Pizza Hut**

120 E. Broad St.  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-1462

## **Dominos Pizza**

408 E. Broad  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-0001

## **Wheel House Restaurant**

350 Sligo Rd,  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-5245

## **Blue Water Grille**

1287 Floating Mill Rd,  
Silver Point, TN 38582  
931-858-2275

## **Blue Water Grille on the Hill**

1560 Craft Center Dr  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-215-0315

## **Fish Lipz**

6323 Jefferson Rd,  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-4807

## **Coppertop Restaurant**

450 Cove Hollow Cir  
Lancaster, TN 38569  
615-548-4115

## **Hwy 56 Market & Deli**

600 N Congress Blvd  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-597-3300

# STAY

### **Evins Mill**

1535 Evins Mill Rd.  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-269-3740  
www.evinsmill.com

### **The Retreat at Center Hill**

358 Relax Dr,  
Smithville, TN 37166  
(615) 597-4298

### **Timber Ridge Inn**

16300 Smithville Hwy,  
Silver Point, TN 38582  
(931) 858-4032

### **Bridgeway Motel**

713 W Broad St  
Smithville, TN 37166  
(615) 597-4166

### **Eastside Inn**

598 E Broad St  
Smithville, TN 37166  
(615) 318-1268

# PLAY

### **Harmony Lane Farm & Creamery**

285 Harmony Lane  
Smithville, TN 37166  
615-684-7659

### **Greenbrook Park**

812 Fisher Ave.  
Smithville, TN 37166



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# MARINAS

## CENTER HILL MARINA

Center Hill Marina features over 600 rental slips, a fully stocked Ship Store, cabin rental, pontoon rental and a floating eatery The Copper Top Restaurant.

The Ship Store offers a full range from groceries to snack, cold drinks, beer, ice, boating supplies, marine parts, bait, tackle, resort apparel, sunglasses, souvenirs and many other essentials for your boating experience. It also offer non-ethanol fuel in 87 and 93 octane, as well as oil and propane exchanges.

After spending a full day out on the water, end the evening with a delicious meal at Copper Top Restaurant. It is open mid-May thru Labor Day and offers a wide variety of delicious foods.

Center Hill Marina is located at 450 Cove Hollow Circle, Lancaster. Visit their website at [www.ctrhill@dtccom.net](http://www.ctrhill@dtccom.net)



## COOKEVILLE BOAT DOCK

Cookeville Boat Dock is located at 13800 Cookeville Boat Dock Rd., Baxter, TN and is a family friendly marina. They offer yearly dockage, boat and gear rental, a pro shop, mechanical services along with a floating restaurant. This marina has been family owned and operated for over 50 years.

They offer pontoon and fishing boats, kayaks and stand up paddleboats. The store is stocked with everything from cold drink to wake boards.

Drive down or boat up and enjoy a meal with a beautiful view from the floating Lighthouse Restaurant,

The menu includes something for every taste- catfish, burgers, homemade pie, ice cold sweet tea, and fresh salads, just to name a few.



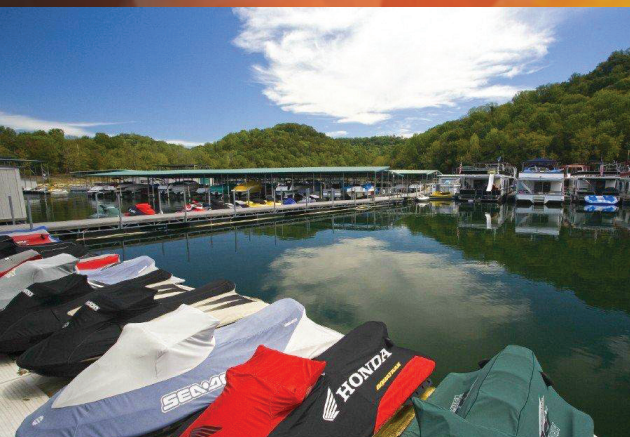
## EDGAR EVINS MARINA

Edgar Evins Marina is located inside Edgar Evins State Park, on one of Tennessee's cleanest and most beautiful lakes. You will discover the marina is family oriented, eco-friendly – a full service marina offering over 350 private slip rentals, security staff and coded entry gate, free wi-fi, plumbed in pump-out system throughout for boats withholding tanks, a full rental fleet including luxury houseboats, ski boats, pontoon, bass and fishing boats and jet skis.

The marina has its own gas island and a Ship's Store featuring grocery items, fishing license and tackle, boat supplies, live bait, film, apparel, refreshments, snacks and more.

The Galley, one of the finest restaurants on the water, features gourmet cuisine with indoor/outdoor dining.

Edgar Evins State Park is located at 1630 Edgar Evins Park Road, Silver Point, TN 38582







# HIDDEN HARBOR

Hidden Harbor Marina knows that boating is central to enjoying your vacation, provides an assortment of pontoon boat rentals, fishing boat rentals and houseboat rentals, so you can have several options! All boats are well-maintained and designed for your fun and enjoyment. Whether you are looking for a houseboat, pontoon, deck or fishing boat, you can find it right here.

After spending a fun day on the lake, pitch your tents at one of the camp sites or stay in one of the cozy cabins. Cabins are comfortable and welcoming home-away-from-home where your family and friends can grill out, relax and enjoy the surrounding beauty near the lake. We offer two different sizes of cabins for our guests to choose from. Each of these cabin rentals in Tennessee include a bathroom with shower, kitchenette with refrigerator, electric stove and oven, microwave oven, and cooking utensils for your convenience. Each cabin also has a front porch with charcoal BBQ, picnic table and rocking chairs so that you can enjoy the beautiful weather at Hidden Harbor Marina. With so many amenities, there isn't much for you to do except relax and enjoy your stay.

The Ship's Store at Hidden Harbor Marina carries all the supplies you might need including grocery items, cold drinks, souvenirs, fuel, fishing supplies and more. A short order grill is also located at the store.

Hidden Harbor Marina is located at 2685 Casey Cove Road, Smithville. Visit their web site at [www.hiddenharbortn.com](http://www.hiddenharbortn.com)

# HURRICANE MARINA

Hurricane Marina is located off Highway 56 North at 864 Floating Mill Road, Silver Point and offers 600 boat slips, boats and houseboat rentals.

Center Hill Lake's oldest marina has been transformed into a state-of-the-art facility in one of the lake's only natural harbors. From their 24-hour fuel stations that accept all major credit cards to the new Blue Water Grille restaurant, every inch of our marina was designed with the boat owner's convenience in mind.

The Ship Store has everything you need to host a party or outfit your boat on Center Hill Lake, and the golf cart valet service will take you directly from the parking lot to the pier. To ensure that you have the safest boating experience, Hurricane Marina has also installed an extra-wide main pier that won't buckle or warp over time and increased the lighting in parking areas and along all docks. A security gate and cameras throughout the marina and parking lot for your safety.

If you are hungry after a day on the lake check out the The Blue Water Grill. The restaurant was voted Best Restaurant on the Water" by Nashville Lifestyles Magazine. Menu items include appetizers, sandwiches, pizza, salads, steak, chicken, grouper and lobster. Visit them at [hurricane@suntexmarinas.com](mailto:hurricane@suntexmarinas.com)



# PATES FORD MARINA

Pates Ford Marina, located at the southern end of Center Hill Lake at 6323 Jefferson Road in Smithville, not only features pontoon boat rentals, boat slips, cabin rentals and FishLipz Grill, it plays host to numerous events including one of the largest on the lake, WakeFest.

The Annual In-Water Boat Show, scheduled to be held May 30-31, will feature houseboats, wake boats, pontoons, fishing boats, personal watercraft and more – all on the water and ready to drive. A new Sea-Doo Spark will be given away on Sunday after the show.

TNT Watersport's WakeFest is a community outreach event designed to promote the sport of wakeboarding. Started in 2005 on Old Hickory Lake, WakeFest has ever growing popularity not only locally but in the southeast. With divisions starting as young children and up to professional, all ages and skill levels are celebrated in this grassroots tournament.

In 2012, Wakefest re-located to Pates Ford Marina at Center Hill Lake in order to expand and attract an even larger group of riders and spectators. The re-location was a success with over 75 riders and 2,000 spectators making it one of the largest grassroots tournaments in the Southeast.

This year's Wakefest again will award thousands of dollars in prizes. For more information and registration details visit the marinas site at [www.patesfordmarina.com](http://www.patesfordmarina.com)



# SLIGO MARINA

Sligo Marina offers pontoon boat rentals, boat slip rentals, Ship's Store, cabin rentals, gas island, and the Wheel House Restaurant.

Pontoon boats are available for half-day and full-day rental. Double deck pontoon boats include a slide and have a 14 person limit. If you are looking for a place to store your boat at Center Hill Lake Sligo Marina has multiple options available. Slips available include covered and uncovered and can accommodate boat sizes ranging from Jet Ski's to large pontoon boats. The marina has a launch ramp and nightly tie-ups are available. Electricity and water are available.

A rental cabin is a great way to spend the weekend at Center Hill Lake. The rustic rental cabins sleep six and include three full beds, two baths, kitchenette, and screened porch. The cabins overlook the lake and include a boat slip.

The Sligo Ship's Store carries most common items needed for a day on the lake. There is also a gas island for boat refueling. If you are hungry after a day on the water stop by the Wheelhouse Restaurant for a great meal.



# FISH

## WHO DOESN'T LOVE TO FISH?

It's just one of the many favorite pastimes at Center Hill Lake. Whether fishing from the shore or a boat, enjoying casting for the big one year round. Fish species found in the lake include Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, White Bass, Spotted Bass, Rock Bass, Striped Bass, Walleye, Sunfish, Catfish, Crappie, Paddle Fish and Bluegill.

<u>FISH SPECIES</u>	<u>SIZE LIMIT</u>	<u>DAILY LIMIT</u>
Striped Bass	15 inches	No Limit
Large Mouth Bass	15 inches	5*
Small Mouth Bass	18 inches	5*
Spotted Bass	No Limit	5*
Rock Bass	No Limit	20
White Bass	15 inches	No Limit
Walleye	16 inches	5
Sunfish	No Limit	20
Crappie	10 inches	15
Paddlefish	Off Limits	Center Hill Lake is closed to taking or possessing paddlefish.
Catfish	No Limit	No Limit

NOTE: Fishermen may only keep one catfish longer than 34 inches per day.

Tennessee State Fishing License to fish on Center Hill Lake is required anyone 13 years and older.

[WWW.TNWILDLIFE.ORG](http://WWW.TNWILDLIFE.ORG)  
**CENTER HILL LAKE**  
**CANEY FORK RIVER**



# COOL EATS

## for Summer Weather

Written and Photographed by ANGIE MEADOWS & BARBARA ANN ERVIN

**W**ith the heat of summer, it's the perfect time to devote to cool foods. Just as soup is delicious in the fall, cool dishes and chilled desserts are perfect for hot weather. Crank up a bucket of decadent homemade ice cream or combine nutritious leafy greens for a healthy salad. Keep cool in the warm weather by dining on cool foods.

For breakfast, try assorted fruits and sliced melons and have tuna or chicken salad for lunch. These foods are fresh and tasty, and you won't heat up the kitchen on days that are hot already.



### Easy Egg Salad

2-4 tbsp. light olive oil based  
mayonnaise  
1/4 teaspoon of mustard  
1/2 teaspoon of salt  
1/4 teaspoon of pepper  
1/4 teaspoon of paprika  
6 large hard boiled eggs  
1/2 tablespoon of diced dill

In a large bowl, whisk together mayo, salt, pepper, paprika, and dill pickles. Add in hard boiled eggs. Stir to combine. Serve and enjoy. Store leftovers in an air tight container in refrigerator. This recipe is quick and easy, healthy, vegetarian, low carb lunch. Prep time: 10 minutes

Notes: You can add sweet pickles instead and onion. Or you can eat with crackers. Makes about 4 sandwiches.

*Recipe by Barbara Ann Ervin*



## Salted Watermelon Juice

6 cups cubed watermelon  
3/4 tsp. kosher salt  
lime wedges

Puree watermelon in a blender until smooth. Strain through a fine-mesh sieve into a large pitcher or measuring glass, pressing on solids to extract as much juice as possible; discard solids. Mix in salt.

Pour juice into ice-filled glasses. Garnish with lime wedges if desired.

*Recipe by Angie Meadows*



## Fruit Pizza

16<sup>1/2</sup> oz. pkg. sugar cookie dough  
8 oz. pkg. cream cheese (softened)  
1/2 cup powdered sugar  
2 T heavy whipping cream  
Fruit toppings - fresh strawberries,  
fresh blueberries, kiwi, pineapple

Preheat oven to 325.

Grease a pizza pan with nonstick cooking spray. Spread dough into prepared pan. (Put a sandwich bag over your hand and spray with cooking spray, and use to press down cookie dough.)

Bake 10-12 minutes or until golden brown and center is set. Cool completely.

Beat cream cheese, sugar and cream together until smooth with hand mixer. Spread onto cookie. Top with sliced fruit.

Refrigerate until ready to serve. Cut into pizza size slices and enjoy!

*Recipe by Angie Meadows*

## Easy Summer Corn Salad

### FOR THE SALAD:

- 2 cans whole sweet corn yellow or white (I used one of each)
- 1 can black beans (rinsed and drained)
- 1 diced tomato
- 1/4 cup green peeper
- 1/4 cup red onion
- 1/4 cup basil (fresh) or 1/2 teaspoon of dry basil
- 1/4 cup feta cheese optional (or your favorite cheese)

### FOR THE DRESSING:

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
- 1/8 teaspoon salt

In a large bowl combine corn, bell pepper, tomatoes, onion and basil. Whisk together dressing ingredients and toss with salad. Toss with feta cheese. Serve cold. Prep time: 15 minutes. Serves: 4.

This delicious corn salad with bright fresh flavors will be the highlight of your summer BBQ!

*Recipe by Barbara Ann Ervin*



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It was a Saturday evening and I had been traveling on the lonely roads in northern Indiana all day. The radio station I had been listening to was slowing fading and being replaced by static and unintelligible sounds, so I reached over and began searching for a new station that suited my tastes. It was then that the unmistakable sounds of a fiddle and banjo started blaring across my speakers. I listened and as it turned out it was the Tennessee Mafia Jug Band playing at the Sutton Old Time Music Hour in Granville, TN. It was like I was home.

Granville is one of those sleepy little towns that you see all over Tennessee, unassuming at first glance but in actuality brimming with history and interesting places to visit. Nestled along the banks of the Cumberland River, at what is now Cordell Hull Lake in Jackson County, Granville was once an important river port where riverboats would load and unload goods to be shipped up and down the river. The town was even given the nickname “Banana Town” by one of the riverboat captains as the town imported more of the tropical fruit than any other stop along the Cumberland.

When the Cordell Hull Dam was constructed in the early 1970s, much of the town’s farmland was destroyed, resulting in the town nearly becoming a “ghost town.” But the town has seen new life in recent years with its many festivals and a nationally known radio show at the town’s general store.

“The T.B. Sutton General Store originally opened in 1880 and was run by the Cooper family,” Vice President of the Granville Museum and the Sutton Old Time Music Hour Chris Neeley said. “Later, Ben Sutton, who worked here, purchased the store and ran it for the community until around 1970. They were here for about 50 years.”

“After that the store was home to other types of businesses,” Neeley explained. “There was an auction business and some other things going on here, but the building fell into disrepair. The building was actually leaning 36 inches to one side.”

“In 2000, Harold and Beverly Sutton came to a festival in the town called Heritage Day. They were no relation to Ben and Ethyl Sutton who had previously ran the store, but the couple decided to buy the store, because Harold’s father was also named Ben.”

According to Neeley, the Suttons put a lot of blood sweat and tears into remodeling the old store, and would open it for special occasions. Then, in 2008, they decided that maybe there was a better way for the old store to continue. “They donated the store to the Granville Museum,” he said. “The donation was under two conditions, that they keep it as a general store, and that we have bluegrass on Saturday nights. We’ve been doing that for 13 years now.”

“The Granville Museum, located next door to the general store, was originally a Church of Christ and when it came to a time when the parishioners weren’t using the church anymore, they decided to donate the building to the Granville Museum. We opened in 1999. It features all kinds of interesting items.”

“It’s kind of a cultural museum that also reflects on genealogy, during World War II there were maneuvers here, and also features Uncle Jimmy Thompson. He was the first performer on the WSM Barn Dance, which now we all know as the Grand Ole Opry. He was born just on the other side of the creek over here, and some of his buildings have been moved to our Pioneer Village in town.”

Neeley also told of Granville’s days as an old riverboat town. “We had three stops in the area. Niagara Landing, was where Wildwood Marina is today, and then at the end of the street here at the general store was the ferry for Granville, and then there was another stop called Holleman Bend.”

Today Granville hosts several celebrations throughout the year, welcoming visitors from around the country. “The first we do a Genealogy Festival in April,” Neeley said. “Then our Cornbread and Moonshine Festival is held at the beginning of May. Then we have Heritage Day the Saturday before Memorial Day, and that is our original celebration. During that event we have the Uncle Jimmy Thompson Bluegrass Festival, where WSM comes out and actually judges our fiddle contest. The winner of the fiddle contest gets to open or play at Bluegrass Nights at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville. That’s a great prize. Before Covid, we would have 11-12,000 people come, and we certainly look forward to that again.”

The town also host Fall festivals, including a scarecrow walk and Jazz on the Cumberland held at the Veterans park. The town also features a Mayberry/I Love Lucy Museum, Granville Whiskey Decanter Museum, a pioneer village and a car museum.

But probably the town’s best known event happens every week and can be heard all over the country. “Every Saturday night we have a dinner and live performance for our bluegrass radio show,” Neeley explained. “When we originally started we would record it onto a CD and make copies. Sam Stout, our original host and creator of the show, would deliver those CDs to the radio stations. That’s how we got started. Today we have 60 stations, including WSM, after the Ernest Tubb Midnight Jamboree, they carry our show.”

So if you’d like to visit a town rich with history and old time southern charm, give Granville a try. You can get more information and buy tickets online for dinners at [www.granvilletn.com](http://www.granvilletn.com) where you can also listen to past radio shows.

# GRANVILLE

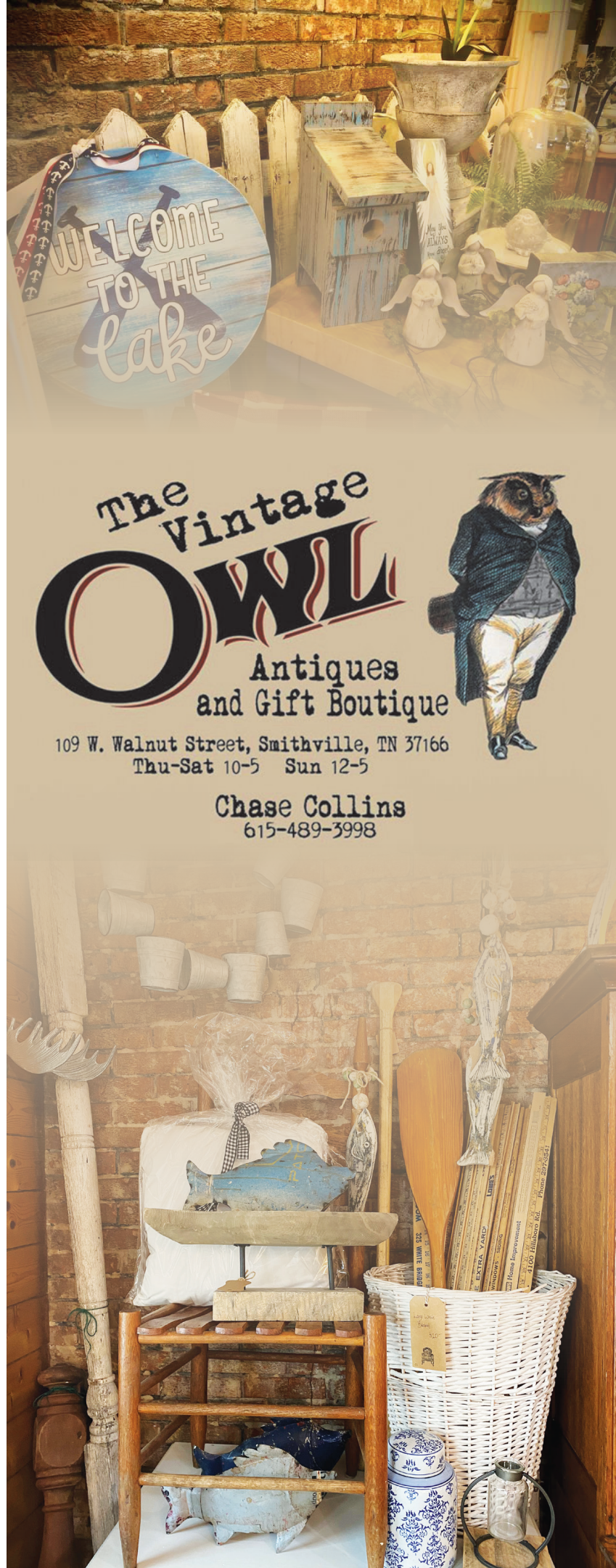




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BY CHRIS TRAMEL

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