

Section 2

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Special note

A directory of churches for much of the Lakes Edition area can be found in section one, pages 37-39.

Toy Train Barn shares Guthrie's love of hobby

Adapted from submission by Toy Train Barn

A former train engineer has turned the barn on his family farm – which used to house cows – into a toy train wonderland.

Buck Guthrie spent 26 years as a railroad engineer. He credits a childhood trip to a train museum for his life-long love of trains.

A lifetime collecting model train bits and pieces has culminated in a toy train museum that inspires dreams whether you're young or just young at heart.

Located in Argyle, Wis., the Toy Train Barn is a world of wonder with full displays and dioramas to

explore and enjoy.

Operating display layouts range from tiny Z scale to G scale along with tin plate and depression-era toy trains.

The largest layout is the American Flyer S gauge collection. The layout features numerous animated action scenes many created from Guthrie's ingenuity with electronics and creative imagination. There is also a large collection of photos and railroad memorabilia from his career as an engineer and conductor.

Outside the barn is a 12" gauge railroad that visitors are able to ride. Known as the Argyle & Eastern Railroad, this layout is built on 18 scenic, hilly acres (near the highest point in Green County) that include natural springs and a creek. The Argyle & Eastern Railroad features a turntable, water tower and depots. There are many curves and trestles, semaphore signals, wig-wags, etc.

You'll constantly find new and interesting things among the toy trains, as Guthrie is a tinkerer who is constantly stealing bits of other electronics to enhance and improve the set-up.

Young and old alike will be fascinated by all the intricate details and history contained in this toy train barn.

Though the Toy Train Barn is clearly a labor of love for the Guthries, it is also an important bit of history that not many peo-

ple get a chance to learn about.

The Toy Train Barn may be just a small part of the history of trains in the U.S., but it is the Guthries' part and they love to share it.

Located 7.5 miles west of Monroe at W9141 Hwy. 81, the toy train barn is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.whrc-wi.org/trainbarn/ or call 608-966-1464 for more information.



Inside and outside the Toy Train Barn. (Photos courtesy of Toy Train Barn)



Above: Buck and Jan Guthrie inside the Toy Train Barn. Left: More of the layout. (Photos courtesy of Toy Train Barn)



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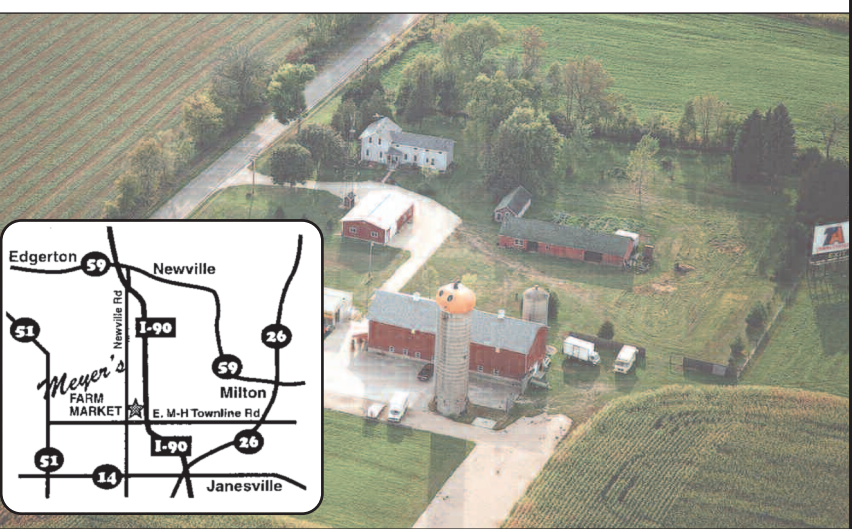
Antique Tractor Display
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