

Showboat showcases unique burgers

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The Showboat – specializing in burgers and beer – isn't new, but its owner is.

The tavern is located off the dam in the Village of Indianford. Never been to Indianford? It's not far. If you're going there from Milton, go west out of town on County Highway M, turn right at U.S. Highway 51, go about a mile, then turn left on Highway M and go about a mile. You'll find a small group of restaurants right before the dam.



Showboat interior

Corky Neuenschwander bought the building at 3516 County Highway M in Edgerton and nearby pier last year. Since then, he's redone the 1,600-square-foot building inside and out. He's added a kitchen to serve food 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Seating is available at the 15-seat bar, eight tables inside and outside on the patio.

If you like burgers, The Showboat has 18 you can try.

"Quite a few people have said they're the best burgers they've ever had. I don't know if they're just saying that or if it is actually true," said Neuenschwander, a lifelong Evansville resident who owned a bar and restaurant in the 1980s.

The meat is fresh-ground daily. Buns are homemade, and the creative combinations on the menu are his own.

Ever tried eggs on hamburger?

The top burger on the menu is the biggest burger: the Showboater. The 16-ounce burger comes topped with some of the usual toppings – lettuce, tomato, mayo, bacon, cheese, fried onions – plus fried eggs.

Next on the list is the Breakfast Burger with egg, bacon, cheese and hashbrowns.

Only want hashbrowns? The Spud Burger's for you.

From there, the list continues with burgers that have toppings you might not expect.

Really they're not a surprise because they're in the name of the burger. There's the mac and cheese burger, pastrami burger, Stump's Hot Olive burger, kraut Swiss burger, chili cheeseburger and ham slam cheese burger.

More common favorites include the butter burger, bacon cheeseburger, mushroom Swiss burger and patty melt.

For those who don't fancy being fancy, no worries; Neuenschwander himself likes basic burgers.

"Hamburger" and "cheeseburger" also are on the list. Cheese choices include Swiss, American, cheddar, pepper jack and a pepper-flavored cheese so hot it's scary: ghost pepper.

Who doesn't like burgers? There are people who do not.

Neuenschwander understands this, so he also has other sandwiches on the menu.

They include the ribeye steak, grilled chicken breast, fish, grilled ham and cheese, grilled cheese, hot dog and loaded dog (cheese, bacon, chili, onion and kraut).

Sides choices include french fries, coleslaw and applesauce.

Beverages include patron favorites and some new ones, such as Henry's Hard Orange, a malt beverage with natural orange flavor that tastes like orange soda.

Before he owned The Showboat, Neuenschwander was a patron.

"I used to come here in the '70s and always had a good time," he said. "It's been known in the area for a lot of years."

Neuenschwander was told that in the 1950s, only half the building was a bar; the other half was a barbershop.

Patrons can arrive by boat, motorcycle, car or truck.

He concluded by saying, "If you want a burger, this is the place to go."