CHRIS' CROSSING
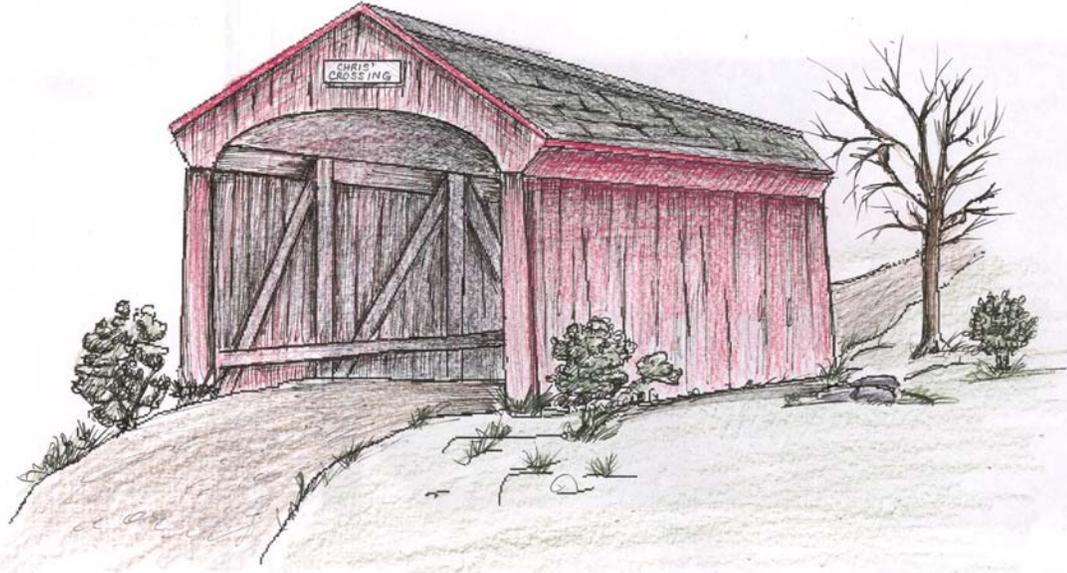

Covered Bridge at Hoosier Horse Park

Welcome to the Covered Bridge Project at Hoosier Horse Park. This covered bridge is the brain child of Chris Copeland and is dedicated to his memory. Chris passed away November 25, 2007 at the age of 48. He was a ardent supporter of equine endeavors, particularly combined driving, and he was always behind the scenes offering to help anyone in any way he could. Indiana Whips and Wheels club will build this bridge and dedicate it to his memory. The bridge will not only enhance the landscape of the park and be the focal point of those entering the compound but it will also add to the equine experience as it becomes part of the marathon course. The bridge will be called Chris' Crossing.

The club has completed its site survey and, based on measurements Chris took before he died, has selected a site just outside the north entrance to the horse park compound over a small waterway adjacent to our hazard called "the Petting Zoo." The bridge will be 38' long, 12' wide and 11' high. The floor will be 3" oak planks supported by I beams while the bridge itself will be the King Post design with vertical board siding, capped off by a steel roof.

The steel I beams and the floor planks have already been purchased. As soon as a complete materials list can be created, the remaining lumber will be ordered from a local sawmill so that the wet lumber can dry naturally, out of the sun, to prevent cracking and warping. Concrete for the support columns will be obtained locally, if possible, as will all other construction material. The club intends to provide as much of the construction labor as possible.

If you or your business would like to donate money or goods and services to this project, please contact Dave Sadler, club President and Construction Manager, at 217-621-5547 or davlin@sadlerfarms.net. Covered bridges are the heritage of Indiana and this one will be a show piece in the heart of Johnson County for many years to come. 12/23/07