

IN THE YELLOW PAINT

Educator News from the Caterpillar Visitors Center

April 2014 www.caterpillar.com/visitors-center

Plan your field trip to the Caterpillar Visitors Center

The Caterpillar Visitors Center provides children with a great educational experience through interactive videos, detailed displays and simulators that allow them to see how equipment operates. The Caterpillar Visitors Center is the ultimate field trip destination for children of any age!

Children 12 and under are FREE!



Franklin Primary School
Peoria, IL



Bethel Lutheran School
Morton, IL

Visit our [Educator Resources](#) page to...

- ⇒ View our new curriculum aligned to the IL Common Core State Standards
- ⇒ Request a field trip
- ⇒ Print a FREE one day Educator Pass to preview the Caterpillar Visitors Center and prepare for a field trip.

Hours of Operation

Monday—Saturday

10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

*Last entry is at 3:30 p.m.

NEW EXHIBIT FOR A LIMITED TIME!

**Caterpillar Diesels / Peoria Cats
Basketball Team Exhibit
March 8 - June 30**

The Caterpillar Diesels / Peoria Cats Basketball Exhibit opened March 8 at the Caterpillar Visitors Center.

Before the NBA came to prominence, there was the Caterpillar Diesels/Peoria Cats – one of the most dominant teams in the National Industrial Basketball League (NIBL). Peoria was on top of the basketball world in the 1950s and these men, who built yellow iron by day, were some of the world's greatest basketball players by night.

The Peoria area rallied around the team during its games at the Field House on the Bradley University campus, while the nation rallied around the team during its gold medal victory in the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki, Finland. Five Caterpillar players were on the team, which was led by Caterpillar's head coach. Over the course of a decade, the Caterpillar Diesels/Peoria Cats won five Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) titles and were undefeated internationally. Some of the team's major international wins include the 1954 World Championship in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil and the 1958 AAU Tour of Russia. Two Caterpillar players also represented the United States during the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome, Italy. That team also won the gold medal.

The Caterpillar Visitors Center invites you to take an exclusive look at the rich history of basketball at Caterpillar. A 1952 Olympic gold medal is on display, along with game-worn jerseys, trophies, players' personal memorabilia, photographs, game footage and a short film on the team. During the exhibit, commemorative postcards will be available while supplies last.

Former Caterpillar basketball players unveiled the new exhibit at the Caterpillar Visitors Center on Saturday, March 8. The exhibit will be open until June 30.



1949 – Fans from Peoria hit the road to attend a Caterpillar Diesels v. Phillips "66" Oilers game in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Upcoming Events

- March 8 - June 30** Caterpillar Visitors Center - Caterpillar Diesels/Peoria Cats basketball team exhibit
1952 Amateur Athletic Union champions and 1952 Olympic Gold Medal Team
- April 23 - 26, 2014** FIRST Robotics Championship, St. Louis, Missouri
For more information go to <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc>
- April 29, 2014** OCEARCH at the Caterpillar Visitors Center (wait list only)

Contact Us:

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caterpillar.com/visitors-center

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