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Wine Festival September 21, 2013



Plans are coming along for the inaugural Lake Anna Wine Festival this fall at Lake Anna. The event will be held at the Cutalong Golf Course, which will provide enough space for ample parking for the crowd expected to turn out in full force to support the community.

There will be approximately 10 wineries on hand to sample for those who purchase tickets (available now at lakeannawinefestival.com) and additional activities for the entire family.

Hoping to shop? You'll find craft and gift vendors offering wine-related and lake themed gifts, perfect for the holidays, which will be right (continued on page 3)



Cutalong Summer Kickoff June 29th!

Meet with Super Bowl Champion Gary Clark and learn about the new championship golf course under construction at Lake Anna.

On Saturday, June 29th, the Cutalong Golf Course site will be buzzing with activity as those in attendance will have a chance to pan for gold in Contrary Creek, take their best swing at a hole-in-one for the chance to win a free lot in the community, and hobnob with Washington Redskin Gary Clark.

(continued on page 3)





Scenes from Lake Anna page 5



Lake Anna Helped Break the World Record!

On May 18th, Lake Anna participated in the world record attempt for most life jackets worn at the same time in the Ready, Set, Wear It! campaign and news just broke - we broke the world record! The previous record for 3,993 was set in 2012 and with our help this year, the new record was set!

This year's event included 5,774 participants -- 1,781 more than last year! Thanks again to all who turned up, including Kyle Austin, Mark Tinsman of Lake Anna Island Realty and Dave Dumas from the Lake Anna Islanders! You braved the rain and we helped promote boating & water safety - remember every time you're on the water, bring your life jackets and Wear It!





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Thank you for purchasing this edition of The Lake Anna Breeze!

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Story ideas? Suggestions? Questions? Please feel free to contact us with a letter to the editor.

Issue No. 16

events?

Check out the

for the most





To the Editor:

I see July 4th is in the middle of the week: when are the Lake Anna Fireworks this year?

Steve Shultz, Louisa

The Lake Anna Fireworks this year will be on Saturday, July 6th and start at approximately 9:15 pm! The Lake Anna Civic Association raises money throughout the year to fund this amazing display by Zambelli Fireworks.

In case of inclement weather, there is a rain date of Saturday, July 13th. For up to date information an the display, please feel free to visit www.lakeannavirginia.org.

The public display is at Dike Two. Make sure you take your camera & send your best photos of the show to info@lakeannainfo.net!





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合 🗉 ennie Lukstat asociate Broker, Lake Anna Island Realty Cell: 540-273-7321 jennie@lakeanna-va.com

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Free Concerts at Louisa Arts Center

From 7:00 – 9:00p.m. on July 11, 18 and 25 the Louisa Arts Center will launch a new program, "Concerts InThe Park." Concerts are free to the public and are family friendly. There will be outstanding music, a kids playground and food vendors.

All concerts will be held on the Louisa Arts Center campus at 212 Fredericksburg Avenue in Louisa. In case of rain, concerts will continue inside the Center's Cooke-Haley Theatre.

To offer even more fun, the Louisa Arts Center's Purcell Art Gallery and the Louisa County Historical Society will be open.

July 11 - SOUTHERN VELOCITY

Southern Velocity is a popular Louisa County band playing a variety of up-beat music from classic rock to popular country.

July 18 - GOSPELFEST

The GospelFest features a wide range of gospel music with three groups performing.

- THE GOSPEL LABORERS is a wonderful Louisa County based African-American gospel quartet.

- RISING SUN BAPTIST CHURCH of Cuckoo, Virginia will perform with their energetic large gospel choir.

- NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH of Louisa brings their Contemporary Christian Band with music ranging from the standards to positive contemporary Christian rock.

July 25 - LOVE CANON

What do you get when you cross conservatory-trained musicians with raucous bluegrass and the mega-hits of the 80s? Think Cyndi Lauper, ZZ Top, Dire Straits, Police and Journey played with banjo, mandolin and high lonesome vocals. Love Canon always makes their audiences smile...and they love it!

Louisa Arts Center director, Michael Bollinger, stated "In an effort to attract new individuals to the Louisa Arts Center we are introducing new programs like Music and Wine At Sundown, Summer Cinema Series and Concerts In The Park. Bring a blanket or your favorite lawn chair. Audiences can let the kids play in the park, enjoy tasty food, experience great music, art and history all in one night!"



Gold Rush on June 29th

(continued from front page)

The developers will be on hand to offer additional information about the site, which is located at the intersection of Routes 208 and 652 in Louisa County. There will be a special presentation given by Wolf Mountain Equestrian Center and you can check out the Equestrian lots in the neighborhood. Bring your family and friends and enjoy the day's festivities! Music and refreshments will also be available.

Cutalong will be the first community on Lake Anna to boast its own 18-hole golf course, complete with a driving range, practice area and clubhouse. Allow yourself to get distracted by the views of one of Virginia's most beautiful lakes. Rolling hills and waterfront landscapes provide the perfect backdrop of golf, boating, hiking, picnicking or pretty much anything outdoors.



Wine Festival (continued from front page)

around the corner.

There will also be a huge array of food vendors serving up your favorites, perfect for pairing for wine or standalone hits that will satisfy even the toughest cravings.

There will also be kid-friendly activities to make sure the youngsters are captivated during the day. Additional activities including hot air balloon rides and unique experiences will be available to create a one-of-a-kind day at Lake Anna.

Volunteers are still needed to help coordinate the day and those who contribute will receive free admission to the event! Make sure you email info@lakeannawinefestival.com to sign up today & visit LakeAnnaWineFestival.com to purchase your tickets today before they're gone!

* Centrin rules and restrictions apply Please see a sales specialist for details.

Fun for the whole family...with music and refreshments. Sat., June 29th, 11 AM to 4 PM Other activities for the day will include:

- Training Camps- Gary Clark, Washington Redskins Super Bowl Superstar, will talk about his involvement in the community and his training camps to be held at Cutalong.
- Dressage Horse Show- presented by Wolf Mountain Equestrian Center
- + Wine Tasting- Lake Anna Winery will be offering a special wine tasting experience
- · Picnicking- Bring the family and make it a day
- See what everyone is excited about- Meet the developers and builders at Cutalong, and take a tour of this expansive community with one of our sales specialists. It's your chance to get in early.

www.cutalong.com

978 New Bridge Rd., Mineral, VA 23117 Toll free: 1-855-4-CUTALONG + (1-855-428-8256) + Local: 540-223-9180



The Lake Anna Breeze

Choosing the Perfect Hair Dryer

by Heather Mechler-Fickes of Chameleon & Co. Salon

As a stylist, I have used my share of blow dryers. When I first started my career in the beauty industry I didn't invest a whole lot of money in my equipment. I didn't realize investing in quality items would make my job easier. I decided to invest a portion of my income to improve my toolbox. In this case - You really do get what you pay for.

One of the most important tools you shouldn't day then choose for the price alone is your blow dryer. For those people who don't blow dry their hair, and are blessed to have their hair looking salon perfect without any styling tools, buying a blow dryer doesn't matter to you. But for those that have to actually take the time to have their hair looking it's best, then these tips might be helpful.

Sometimes looking for the best blow dryer can be overwhelming. The boxes all have these special things, like ceramic, ion, tourmaline, watts, and cool shots. With all these options it can be hard to find the best blow dryer for you.

- Ceramic- increases shine, keeps the natural mois-ture in the hair, and tames frizz.
- Ion protection- reduces frizz
- cuticle) and locks in moisture.

Watts- is the strength and power of the motor. Usually the lower the watts the less expensive the blow dryer

will be. If you don't blow dry your hair every day or have fine hair you might choose a lower watt. If your hair is thick and

course and you use it every-

V O u might

choose a blow dryer with more power and strength. It probably will be a little more expensive but it will make your drying time faster.

Stylist use a blow dryer with over 1800 watts because they use it often and need a hair dryer with more power.

The last feature is the cool shot button. This is a cool blast of air that keeps the style. The heat styles and the cool sets the hair.

When thinking about making your purchase, re-Tourmaline- seals the outer layer of the hair (the member that buying a quality blow dryer is an investment in healthy and beautiful hair.

How did the horseshoe get in the tree? Lore of the Lake by Wayman Bishop

When I introduced this column, I asked the question, "What happened on the banks of Plentiful Creek during the Civil War?" If that question didn't tweak your curiosity, you should probably stop reading this and go to the want ads. If you have no interest in the Civil War that goes beyond curiosity, you should. If you live at Lake Anna or just come here to play, you can't wander very far from the high water mark without standing on ground that once witnessed an event in history that relates in some way with the Great American Civil War.

Consider the battles and all the peripheral skirmishes that took place around us: Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, Spotsylvania Courthouse, North Anna, Trevilian Station. Surely one can easily conclude that war, and rumors of war (Matthew 24:6), surrounded what is now Lake Anna and her waste heat treatment facility. Armies were either moving to contact, retreating, resting or lost somewhere in this area. Soldiers separated from their units, confused by the fog of war, may have found a safe haven in the woods that once stood where your septic field now gurgles.

Someone very famous and very smart once said something like, "Those who are ignorant of history are destined to relive it." Could have been Aristotle, Winston Churchill, Mark Twain or Lady Gaga...pretty sure it wasn't Jimmy Carter. Despite my ignorance here, I do know that this quote has always left me with an uneasy feeling. There is a lot of history I have no interest in living through again, especially my own. So the lesson for me has been to pay attention, stay informed, and be an influence for constructive change. Back to Plentiful Creek ... my wife and I live in a heavily wooded part of the lake adjacent to the "confluence" of Plentiful and Pamunkey Creeks, less than a half mile from a site of some historical significance on the banks of Plentiful Creek. About 25 years ago, before we built our house, I was walking

through these woods when I came across a old rusted and twisted horseshoe, grown over in the cleft of a very old oak tree. The area was surrounded by majestic oaks well over 100 years old. For many years after that discovery, I conducted an imaginary archeological excavation and I have never seen evidence of roads, trails, structures, cultivated land or anything that would suggest to me that there has ever been much going on here in the last 200 years.

So I turned it over to my imagination...how did the horseshoe get in the tree? Here's what I saw: in the heat of one of the battles surrounding the area in the late spring of 1864, a young soldier, bloodied, tired and scared, found an opportunity to escape the horror of the war that had consumed his life well past the end of his second enlistment. Poorly fed, not recently paid, missing his wife and two young sons waiting for him to come home somewhere over the mountains west of here, he seized the moment to end his part in this war he had never understood. Racing west through these woods on a horse he acquired from a dying cavalryman, he was on a dead-reckoned course for home, riding wildly into the setting sun.

Without warning, his westward advance ended abruptly when his horse threw, first a shoe (the one in my tree) and then him. The fall broke his right arm, the stock of his rifle and two ribs. Dazed but not undone, he dragged his broken body down a shallow ravine into Plentiful Creek, paused for a quick, cool drink and then clawed his way up the the other side into a small clearing. From the edge of the woods, he spotted a farm house adjacent to a field of early summer wheat.

That's where my imagination stops. That farmhouse, built in 1809, still stands on the bank on Plentiful Creek. Really!



More about the farmhouse in the next issue.





Recreation & Leisure

Scenes from Lake Anna







E-mail your photos to: Info@LakeAnnaInfo.net to share for our next issue!

ed by DJ Twom

A family bear trip i submitted by JUI Winterrowel

Pepper enjoys the Lake Anna sunshine! Submitted by Susan Biondi

Lake Anna's Featured Pets

Send your photos to our facebook page or e-mail them to info@lakeomnainfo.net and you could see your pet featured here next month!



The Lake Anna Breeze

& Leişure



Diagram 1: Power turns send wakes out in all directions, even toward the rider.

DRIVER ETIQUETTE: The Dos & Donts of the Waterways

Most families want to go out onto the water and have a fantastic day out on the lake. The last thing you want to happen is to have an accident or even have the scare of being in one. Knowing just a few of the proper techniques can help save you from these instances on the water.

One of the biggest and most common problem on the water way is looking forward. As you enjoy your day on the lake you tend to look back at your rider to see what they are doing. If someone is working on a new trick or just finally getting up on a board for the first time you want to watch and enjoy the moment with them. As you can imagine the problem if you are looking back at a rider you are not looking ahead of you. Accidents can happen in an instance. You as the driver of your vessel are responsible for not only your passengers but everyone else on the water as well. The mirror on your boat is for safety and using it to glimpse back at your rider if you are are the only one in the boat. Pulling a rider by yourself is not recommended but when it does happen the mirror is for partial viewing times. Make sure to keep your eyes forward, and discuss safety procedures for when a rider falls and how to communicate while on the water.

The second most common problem on the water is called POWER TURNING. A power turn is when a rider falls and the driver throttles down, whips the boat hard to one side and goes as fast as they can back to the fallen rider. WRONG...WRONG...WRONG. I can sit here and type it all night long that this is not safe nor efficient in any manner, at all. By doing this power turn maneuver, you are throwing wakes in all directions towards the shoreline and also to other riders on the water at that time. You are also burning more gas and more time by doing this as well. The proper way to go back to your fallen



Diagram 2: A slow, controlled turn increases safety and reduces waves.

by contributing writer Kyle Austin

rider is to de-power your vessle back to neutral and slowly turn it to port or starboard side. Having a bright orange flag to put up on your boat when a fallen rider is down is the way to signal to other boats there is a person in the water. You are also burning more gas by hammering down on the gas to get to your rider and taking longer time to get to them, Your boat will actually turn faster in idle than while under power. This is because you aren't having to push and force the boat to a different angle when its thrusting itself forward. For obvious reasons you are burning more gas by using more throttle. So stay slow.

The third and final safety tip of the many that are out there is to always give way to someone under tow, unless a sailboat. a person that is towing a rider is having to protect their rider and perform many tasks at one time. The last thing that a driver needs is a cruiser cutting them off or riding too close to the person in tow. It is for safety reasons and positive conduct for you to stay clear of riders in tow. You will see many people on a jet ski trying to jump a wake being created by boats. Not only is this illegal it is highly unsafe as you may not see a rider fall and your chances of running them over have highly increased. You are responsible for your boat and wake while on the water. Stay back are far as you can, and just go around to those out pulling someone behind their boat.

These are just three things on the water way that can help save lives and create a better day on the water for your friends and family. Make sure to look at all of your local laws and certifications to make sure you are up to date on safety procedures and boating etiquette. You can always look at laws and boating safety on the department of game and inland fisheries' websites.

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Outdoor Life at Lake Anna



For the Past three years, Lake Anna Civic Association's Emergency Services Committee has been diligently working to keep Lake Anna a safe boating environment for all its users.

Here's the specific problem:

Visiting and even resident boaters on Lake Anna who experience an emergency are often challenged to provide 911 emergency call takers with an accurate description of their location on the water. Critical time can be lost finding a victim who is "near some docks" or " at the islands." Every boater-every passenger-should be familiar with their surroundings at all times and be able to describe their location in the event of an emergency situation.

Remedy:

Interstate highways have posted mile markers to help drivers accurately give their location to first responders. We have had nothing comparable to that on the water - until now. The committee has proposed using dock signs to help serve as location markers for emergencies. Most waterfront property owners have a dock, and almost all communities have a common area. The Emergency Services Committee is asking the Lake Anna community to help with this public safety initiative. The response has already been positive and productive. Since last July, there are 150 more location markers on docks around Lake Anna!



Here's how it works:

Go to LACA's website at www.lakeannavirginia.org to download an application for a dock sign.

Enclose a check for \$16.00 to Rainbow Graphics in Mineral. That price includes a 8" x 16" yellow aluminum sign with black vinyl lettering that will be mailed to you once the dock number is assigned and the sign is fabricated. Suggestions on installation and who to call if you have any questions are on the application.

3. Your application is then forwarded to Louisa County Fire Chief Keith Greene who has agreed to verify the latitude / longitude of your street address. Your dock sign includes the following information for 911 purposes: County, Up Lake or Down Lake (relative to the 208 bridge), and three randomly assigned numbers.

For Example: SD012 says this location "SD" is in Spotsylvania County and it is down lake (relative to the 208 Bridge.) "012" tells the 9-1-1 operators the specific street address of that dock sign.

Wind down in the evenings with our "Summer Happy Hour" trips 5p - 9p



The Lake Anna Breeze



Gold Rush Saturday June 29th

Come on out to Cutalong for a day full of fun! Pan for gold, meet former Washington Redskin Super Bowl Champion Gary Clark, watch a special presentation given by Wolf Mountain Equestrian Center, and



meet the developers and builders behind this golf course community project. Bring your family and friends and enjoy the day's festivities! Music and refreshments will also be available.

More information at www.cutalong.com

71st Annual Louisa Fireman's Fair / Parade-Louisa Fairgrounds July 3 - 6th

Includes traditional fair rides, games and the best fair food around! A small entry fee is required, along with the cost of tickets for the rides, but there's fun for the entire family! Bingo, giveaways, and a July 4th parade will keep you entertained! For more info: (540) 967-1330.

Cajun Zydeco

7/6/2013 Lake Anna Winery Time: 6 to 10 pm

Fireworks are over, but the sparks still fly at the winery for live Zydeco music



with "Zack Smith & The Dixie Power Trio" and Cajun Fare from Gregory's Grill. Consistently our most popular event. \$15.00 fee includes souvenir

wine glass, and tastings. Food is available for sale on site. Sold out in 2012! Gumbo, Beads, and Dancing...Almost like Mardi Gras!

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Saturday, September 21st 11am-5pm Cutalong

Wine, Gifts, Food, Activities & More!

Eickets & Information: LakeAnna WineFestival.com 1, 2, or 3 Bedroom Styles Plus Penthouses

To view our floor plan designs. please visit LakeAnnaResort.com

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LakeAnnaGuide.com





Crunkfest 4.0 Saturday, June 29th The Boardwalk

Here it is: The Biggest, Baddest Contest/Party in Lake Anna History is BACK! June 29th, we'll be bringing down the

house with live music at this huge wa-

tersports festival with wonderful activities, great sponsors, and amazing wakeboard and wakesurf contests - don't miss it! Visit

www.crunkfestlakeanna.com for more information!

18th Annual Lake Anna Fireworks Display

Saturday, July 6th, 2013 (9:15 PM) Rain Date is Saturday, July 13th

Produced by Zambelli Fireworks, the show is a local favorite, drawing viewers from all over! It's splendidly choreographed, and well worth the trip.

The show is funded by citizens and guests of the lake and organized by the Lake Anna Civic Association. www.lakeannavirginia.org.

Mineral Bluegrass Festival



July 18-20 Single and 3 - d a y passes a r e available to bluegrass legends in-

cluding Dark Hollow & Ralph Stanley II. For more information, visit www.mineralbluegrass.com

2013 Jet Ski **Poker Run**

Tim's Lake Anna

July 27th

More details will be available as the date apstay tuned proaches, to

www.timslakeanna.com & their Facebook page for updates as the event draws near.



The Lake Anna Breeze

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Due to space limitations, we will only display the current signs a the rest will be available online at LakeAnnaGuide.com

Cancer: Try not to leave anything unfinished right now ... those loose ends will be your downfall, if you leave them lying around. You'll feel like you need a break, but if you get all your ducks in a row, you'll be able to rest more comfortably, anyway. You'll have a few days where things seem hazy, but a pristine clarity is on the horizon and it will shed some light on the situations that currently have you frustrated...there is relief in sight!

Leo: You'll be feeling a little overwhelmed with responsibilities, but, as usual, you won't let that keep you down. Your strong personality keeps people interested in everything you're doing, whether you welome the spotlight or not. Make the best of this time and make sure you keep some of your thoughts on current struggles private for now. You're prone to speaking too soon and promising more than you're ever able to keep, so pull in the reigns and don't overextend. Make sure you don't let too many days go by without a break in routine, or you'll be burned out before you know it.

Lake Anna SUDOKU

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Solution to this puzzle will appear online at LakeAnnaGuide.com





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Featured Food: New Bridge Market & Deli

Dining Spottig

I was driving over the Lake Anna bridge on Rt. 208 on my way to Rt. 522 when I noticed my gas light turn on and then heard a ding, a warning that the tank is nearing empty. After crossing the bridge I pulled into the Gulf gas station outside of New Bridge Market and Deli. When I went in to pay I saw advertising for, of all things, Cajun food!

Jambalaya with chicken and andouille sausage, boudin balls, red beans and rice, Cajun catfish...where am I, New Orleans? I am immediately asking a dozen questions from the staff about their 'on-the-fly' Cajun cuisine and am quickly educated on their Krispy Krunchy Chicken Cajun Recipe line that they recently added. Mouth now drooling as she pulls a pan of hot-out-of-the-oven honey-glazed buttermilk biscuits from the back and unloads them into the showcase. Okay, my gas tank got filled up now its my stomachs turn, I thought, and I am glad I did.

Starting off with the chicken...fresh, not frozen Tyson chicken that has been marinating in a wet Cajun bath, then they are hand floured in a secret Cajun mixture of spices. Although they have breasts, thighs, drumsticks, and wing pieces, I opted for the chicken tender. OMG, this was probably some of the best breast-of-chicken I have ever eaten, with or without waffle. This huge all white piece was super moist, tender, succulent and full of flavor on the inside while the outside was a light, thin, crispy-crunchy spicy coating. No sauces needed, period. This was no doubt one half of a huge boneless, skinless Tyson breast.

The Krispy Krunchy Cajun Catfish had cornmeal in the coating which added to the crunchiness and was pure delight! The thin coat had just the right amount of Cajun spices and the whole piece was super moist on the inside, again, no sauces (except hot sauce if you're from the South) is needed at all. I was starting to think I heard jazz music when the large Boudin Ball and Red Beans and Rice showed up on my table, which they have a few inside and some picnic tables outside to get your Cajun on there. The Boudin Ball was the size of a plum with a thin and crisp shell but once you broke it open it revealed a rich Cajun aroma and a mixture of soft rice, Boudin, and spices. I wanted another but knew the red beans and rice were a'waitin...the brown gravy had a rich, Roux flavor to it which coated the white rice. A perfect side dish to any of the forementioned items.

One of those hot, honey-soaked buttermilk biscuits made its way to my plate. The bottom was crisp from sweet butter, honey and the heat of the oven but once you bit in it turned to a soft, billowy, sugary cloud of what dreams are made of. These could become addicting. Half a dozen and a half gallon of milk and life is sa-weet!

This place has been selling made from scratch deli items to lakers', boaters' campers' and passer-byers' for a long time and items like their egg, tuna, chicken, potato and macaroni salad have become legend. With bits of sweet relish, diced celery, chopped tomatoes and visible paprika in the luscious macaroni salad I ate, I can certainly see why. It's the kind your Aunt so and so makes and you look forward to at every family gathering. Now, you can just get your fix here, drama-free.

Their fruit cobbler is also made with the honey biscuit batter so I could not leave without trying that. Today it was apple, not my fav of fruits for cobblers, but it was great down-home comfort food. I would have topped it with a scoop of vanilla ice cream and called it a day but I had only stopped in to fill up my car, I had a long drive ahead but I packed a little Mardi Gras for my drive. The normal gas station food does not apply at The New Bridge Market and Deli located at 2983 New Bridge Rd. Mineral, VA, go for a bite of Cajun and forget getting gas...that you can get anywhere.



Monica Van Cleve is the founder and publisher of the award-winning food magazine Let's Eat Out Menus, and other food guides. She believes in supporting, and exposing those who have a passion for preparing and serving Crazy Good food.



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The Lake Anna Breeze





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LakeAnnaGuide.com



by Lake Anna Interior Designer Barbara Bishop

"Life is too short to stuff a mushroom"...Shirley Conran, 1979

"CELEBRATE SUMMER" is an 18 year tradition for me. Years ago, I discovered I missed the youthful, lighthearted attitude "just because" it was summer and I began remembering why it was different. This attitude affected every facet of living in the months we consider "Summer". I decided to recapture that feeling no matter what age I might be or how different my life is

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST



photo courtesy Architectural Digest

from the carefree young me of years past.

CELEBRATE SUMMER begins daily from the 21st of June to 21st of September. Each day I tweak life a bit to mix things up, i.e. drive a different route to and from work or pleasure, try different ways to cook meals, try a different wine, rearrange the furniture, take down the curtains for summer, remove the rugs for summer, buy colorful daily napkins, try a different color nail polish, order something different when I go out, learn to use chopsticks, experiment with Asian food, change your hairstyle or way of parting.

Make popsicles. I think you get the idea. I was diligent for keeping this going all summer long, missing a few days here and there, but would pick back up.

Recently, life seems to be moving too fast and to "smell the roses" is lower on the list of daily "to do's". If it weren't for my great husband insisting we have a daily DATE for sunset, I would continue to try to catch up with whatever! My list, like many of yours, does not end with "7:30pm dates", whether with your Best Friend or Best Self, you. Anticipating the 21st of June was rather daunting, knowing my commitment to this annual three month transformation and my encouragement to so many others with this healthy endeavor.

In 1979, when Shirley Conran wrote the book "SUPERWOMAN," an international bestseller. I bought the book and lived the life for three years. This was long before "Celebrate Summer" was in my life. Filling the hours till they overflowed was my joy. We were a happy, very busy family. The accomplishments and experiences in those three years were wonderful. However, I find today that without planning it this way, my hours are just as overloaded as then, but definitely this is not my joy today. Last week, I ran across Conran's

book in a giveaway pile right next to Alan Lakein's book, "How to Get Control of your TIME and your LIFE," which I purchased in 1972. They both smelled of mildew from years in the garage. I read Conran's motto at beginning: "Life is too short to stuff a mushroom," and rejoiced, thinking how RIGHT ON she was! Spending time on this type of thing is nonsense. Ironically, when I bought this book years ago, stuffing mushrooms and making carrot curls for hors d'oevres, were tasks that brought me greatest joy!

So, yesterday, June 21st, here I stood ready to pack as much in the hours ahead, glad that sunset was a bit later these days...allowing me to continue on. I picked up my daily devotional, "Jesus Calling," before heading out the door, to read His words to me yesterday, "...Time can be a tyrant, ticking away relentlessly in your mind. Learn to master time or it will be your master."

My day was already planned, BUT, instead, I took the Beaverdam country route to Richmond, taking time to see what a little thrift shop "Great and Mighty Things" was about and discovered an amazing shop, "Thrill of the Hunt" in Ashland, Va. Check it out on Facebook. Go and have lunch at "The Iron Horse" which is within walking distance of "Thrill of the Hunt." I also took time out while on a client stop at Home Depot, to photograph my new col-

orful summer bag. It was made and sent to me by my friend in Ghana. She will get an email with pictures from all the places her beautiful gift went with me on its maiden voyage.

I took time at my last delivery stop to enjoy a glass of wine with my dear friend. I returned home refreshed after 10 hours on the road. I learned a lot about myself yesterday...what is important and what is not. Lessons I am sure I have learned in the past. I am just so glad God reminded me to master time and not let it master me. Enjoy the



photo courtesy GrandinRoad

days of summer. Today's "Celebrate" is I am sipping cold chamomile tea in a lovely glass with a lime twist as I write this piece.

Have fun adding a mix in your life this summer, personally, and throughout your home. The roses smell so sweet, don't they? Till next month. **BB**





The Lake Anna Breeze

60 Percent of Homeowners Plan Summer Home Improvement Projects

Estate & Ren

More homeowners are choosing to stay in their homes and invest in home improvements due to tight inventory and the fact that more than 25 percent of homeowners nationwide are underwater on their mortgages. To make the most of their current surroundings, 60 percent of homeowners plan to make a home improvement or addition this summer, according to the Zillow[®] Digs[™] Summer Home Improvement Trend and Spending Survey.

"Zillow Digs is a leading resource for discovering up-andcoming design trends as actual consumers and professionals are sharing and discussing what they like," said Cynthia Nowak, Zillow Digs trend expert. "As we head into the long days of summer, we are seeing increased interest in outdoor spaces with very natural elements such as stone fireplaces, as well as bringing more light into bathrooms with clear glass on the walls and shower enclosures."

Home improvement projects and spending varies by age and life stage. Younger homeowners and homes with children are significantly more likely to be planning a home improvement or addition this summer. Homeowners plan to spend a median of \$1,200 on summer home improvement projects. Sub-groups of homes with children as well as homeowners 54 years of age and younger plan to spend onethird more (\$1,500) compared to homes without children and those 55 and older (\$1,000).

Summer home improvement trends: Back to nature and classy glass. The survey found that some of the most popular summer home improvement projects are outdoor spaces (40 percent) and bathrooms (17 percent). Younger respondents and homes with children are significantly more likely to be planning three or more home improvements this summer.

Since more than 80 percent of Zillow Digs users are actively working on or planning a home improvement project and nearly 70 percent are using Zillow Digs to collect ideas or get inspired[iii], Zillow's trend analysts looked at what is hot on Zillow Digs for outdoor spaces and bathrooms to spot trends for summer home design:

Back to nature: Zillow Digs users like a very natural look for their outdoor spaces. Instead of infinity pools and sleek modern decks with well-appointed outdoor kitchens, summer home remodelers prefer camp-like settings that use a lot of stone, particularly stone fireplaces. People want to be comfortable but remember that they're outdoors and feel like they are in a very natural setting.

Classy glass: From glass shower enclosures to glass tiles, Zillow Digs users want open and light bathrooms. Get out the squeegee and glass cleaner – frosted glass is out. Without shower curtains, many homeowners and designers take advantage of the free wall space to showcase beautiful glass tiles.

More than half of young homeowners find inspiration online. The survey also looked at the top sources of ideas and inspiration for home improvement and found online sources are the most popular at 37 percent overall, with more than half (53 percent) of younger homeowners and 50 percent of homes with children finding inspiration online. Zillow/Zillow Digs was the third most common source for online inspiration (6 percent), following HGTV.com (25 percent) and Pinterest (15 percent).

Zillow Digs users can browse more than 44,000 photos from Zillow's database of more than 110 million U.S. homes, or those provided by home improvement professionals and homeowners, and see Zillow's proprietary Digs Estimates for the estimated cost of the actual bathrooms and kitchens they are viewing. They can create, save and share boards of ideas and decor they love, and browse more than 105,000 boards created by others, comment on photos and follow people with similar interests. And, they can connect with local home improvement professionals for help – for free, on iPad[®] and the Web.

From Zillow, Inc. Zillow Negative Equity Report, May 2013







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