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More Wineries, More Vendors, More Fun!

Enthusiastic Response has increased scale for 1st Lake Anna Wine Festival on Saturday, September 21st



The Lake Anna Wine Festival is slated to be the largest event that Lake Anna has ever seen. The developers of the event are planning for thousands of visitors and the goal is to grow the festival every year to eventually become one of the largest on the East Coast. This inaugural festival will feature ten wineries from the state of Vir-



ginia along with a huge selection of food and shopping vendors. There will also be lots of activities for kids, making it the perfect local family outing. A full list of participating vendors and wineries is available on LakeAnnaWineFestival.com.

The Lake Anna Wine Festival will also be host to the first annual "Lake Anna Idol"

(continued on page 3)

Louisa County High School Groundbreaking August 21st



The latest rendering of the plans for the soon - to - be rebuilt Louisa County High School

It has been two years since an earthquake destroyed the historic Louisa County High School building. The teachers, staff, students and parents of Louisa County Public Schools are ready to move forward. On August 21, the county will break ground on a high-quality new learning facility for students and wants to share this special moment with the community.

On August 23, 2011, a 5.8-magnitude earthquake-with an epicenter in the Mineral area-caused extensive damage to Louisa County, destroying Louisa County High School, as well as Thomas Jefferson Elementary School.

Classes were suspended as school officials (continued on page 3)

Lake Anna Television Covers Local Events



Washington Redskin Gary Clark signs autographs as MeganWilson and Lindsey Jones of Lake Anna TV film a report at Cutalong's Gold Rush.

Lake Anna Television is prepping another episode of *Lake Anna Now*, Lake Anna's first and only talk show. The latest episode set to debut near the end of summer will feature footage from Cutalong's Gold Rush with Washington Redskin Gary Clark, attendees taking a swing at a shot for a lot and will also show some of the fun had at Crunkfest 4.0.

Lake Anna Television is also hard at work on a reality show which will document a large development project at the lake over the next year. Make sure you visit Lake Anna Televisions Facebook and YouTube channels to subscribe for updates. The latest clips can always be viewed at LakeAnna.TV!

LakeAnnaGuide.com



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

Issue No. 17



Looking for more Lake Anna area events?

Check out the Events Calendar at LakeAnnaGuide.com for the most recent updates!





To the Editor:

Living at Lake Anna, sometimes we have to forgo a few luxuries in order to enjoy the rural charm. Before the Food Lion finally arrived, we can remember a longer drive to go grocery shopping. Slowly but surely, the lake is becoming more convenient with many businesses popping up in the Lake Anna and surrounding area.

Most recently on the scene in the town of Louisa is a brand new dry cleaners - no longer do I have to trek once a week toFredericksburg to drop off my dry cleaning, I can go to Premium Care Dry Cleaners on Main Street in Louisa. When we stopped in, Jacob Hamilton introduced himself as the owner and appeared to be very customer service oriented. Glad to have this convenience a little closer to home!

That's right, Premium Care Dry Cleaners is now open in the Town of Louisa and can be reached via phone at 540-967-1622 or via email at premiumcaredrycleaning@gmail.com.

Got an interesting observation you'd like to share? E-mail info@lakeannainfo.net. Thank you!



September 21st Lake Anna Wine Festival Growing Rapidly

Scenes from Lake Anna

Sponsors such as Tim's Lake Anna,

93.3 WFLS, The

Free-Lance Star, New Home Media,

Sure Site Satellite, Voss Construction,

Just For Looks Salon, Debbie Price of

Century 21 and more are making the

event possible.

(continued from front page)

competition where talents from around the area will compete in front of a panel of judges to win the coveted title of Lake Anna Idol along with the chance to win studio time to record a song and music video. The details for this competition will be available on LakeAnnaWineFestival.com and the deadline to submit your entry will be Friday, September 13th.

In addition to the singing inflatable obstacle course and other fun events.

siastic response from the area to help pitch in and make this day possible. If you're interested in volunteering, please email info@lakeannawinefestival.com with your contact information and it will be forwarded to the volunteer coordinator.

Local sponsors are also key to making the Wine Fes-

tival possible and local companies such as the Free-Lance Star, 93.3 WFLS, New Home Media, Sure Site Satellite, Just For Looks Salon, Voss Construction, Debbie Price of Century 21, and more have lent their support to the project. Tim's at Lake Anna has also stepped up to be the Ticket Sponsor and will be the perfect spot for the after party when the festival is complete!

Ticket sales are now open and

selling fast – they are limited, so if you have your heart set on experiencing the first Lake Anna Wine Festival, don't wait – purchase your tickets today!

There is still time for vendors to apply – visit LakeAnnaWineFestival.com for information and registration forms or call 540-872-0684.

competition, there will also be live music playing throughout the day to keep attendees entertained. In addition to the audio festivities, there will also be hot air balloon rides taking place on site throughout the afternoon (weather permitting). Kids will also have the chance to enjoy an

The organizers of the event see this becoming a premiere wine event for the region and in the coming years would like to see the addition of more activities, such as a chili cookoff, pageant, and other exciting events for everyone to enjoy.

Volunteers are the key to a successful event like this and the Wine Festival has been lucky to receive an enthu-

Louisa County High School Groundbreaking After Earthquake Shakeup

(from front page)

and others developed a plan to adjust for the losses in student capacity. Students at Louisa County High School shared time and space at Louisa County Middle School while a pod school was constructed in the parking lot of the damaged LCHS building. The extensive damages to the LCHS structure, parts of which dated back to the 1930s, required demolition. Despite the modular accommodations, student achievement is on the rise at LCHS. Louisa's young learners continue to post region-leading SOL scores, and now have the option to earn an associate's degree through PVCC on campus. LCHS' diversified Career and Technical Education program continues to grow and exceed expectations. School spirit is strong and the county is proud of its success despite the challenges.

When: Wednesday, Aug. 21, 6:00 p.m. Where: 757 Davis Highway Mineral, VA 23117 What: A time to celebrate the next step forward for Louisa County High School and Our Community Who: Louisa County High School, Louisa County Pub-



Lake Anna's Featured Pets

into@lakeannainto.net and you could see your pet featured here in our next issue!



lic Schools, and YOU!







The Chop is all the Rage

by Heather Mechler-Fickes of Chameleon & Co. Salon

The biggest trend right now, is a haircut called "the Chop." I skimmed through the magazines and noticed a lot of celebrities are wearing it. It's a shoulder length haircut with a new twist. Instead of the classic one length bob haircut this has a slight layer. Sometimes a just below the eyebrow, thick bang is added to some variations.

In some photos it looks like a standard blunt cut but it actually has a lot more movement and style. Shoulder length hair can look good on many women regardless of what type of hair you have. If your hair is straight it can be cut to look little more wispy and shattered on the ends without making it look too thin. If your hair is wavy or curly, shoulder length hair can accentuate your natural texture without it looking too bushy. It also compliments all face shapes.

"The chop" is also very versatile and can be worn up in a sweeping carefree up-do or can be worn down for a more sophisticated look. I have a feeling this trend might be around for a while and become one of those classic haircuts. If you are looking for a new haircut, but don't want to do something too drastic, this might be just the style.



The Lore of the Lake by Wayman Bishop

The Farmhouse on Plentiful Creek

Horse drawn ambulances were de-

livering dead and wounded Union

Soldiers to the farmhouse, which

from Corporal Pen's vantage point,

appeared to be a makeshift hospi-

tal, perhaps similar to the one that

is now a museum in Gordonsville.

I didn't give him a name, and if he is to carry this tale (lore of the lake), he needs a name. Corporal Pendleton Jeremiah Watney, IV. His friends called him "Pen" so we shall call him Corporal "Pen." I think Hunter would approve... Hunter Perkinson, late owner of the farmhouse on Plentiful Creek and founder, builder and original owner of Hunter's Landing at Dillard's Bridge, where Day's Bridge Road crosses over Pamunkey Creek.

You might recall that in the last posting of this column, our not so heroic Corporal "Pen," having his fill of The War Between the States, was racing west toward home, maybe somewhere near Ruckersville or farther west into Greene County. In flight, his stolen horse threw a shoe and then him. Badly broken in the fall, he managed to struggle to the crest of the rise on the west bank of Plentiful Creek. It was then that he spotted the farmhouse that would

become the waterfront home of Hunter Perkinson, his wife Sue and their three children.

From fear, pain and physical exhersion, Pen's breath was heavy and uncontrollably loud. That in itself would have been of little consequence, save the fact that what he saw next elevated his heart rate and stopped his breathing. Horse drawn ambulances were delivering dead and wounded Union Soldiers to the farmhouse, which from Corporal Pen's vantage point, appeared to be a makeshift hospital, perhaps similar to the one that is now a museum in Gordonsville.

Badly in need of medical attention, Pen's options were narrowly defined by the gray uniform he had been wearing for the last seven months, all be it torn and bloody: surrender, fight, or move on.

This would be a great conversation to be having with Hunter Perkinson. It was Hunter who told me, some fifteen years ago or so, he had heard that the home he and his family were living in then was used by the Union

Army to treat it's wounded. History, as it is currently written or at least known to me, makes no mention of any battle fought within twenty miles of Hunter's home. So the questions that Hunter's suggestion raises are...what battle were they fighting, why did they chose this farmhouse, how long were they there, where did they go when they left, and what did they do with the remains of the soldiers who certainly must have died there?

I never knew Hunter well enough to explore the depth of his interest in the Civil War, but I did know him to be a man who avoided reckless speculation. I accepted as fact what he had presented as something that might have been, and decided that someday I would like to be part of the investigation that revealed the truth. That investigation has not yet begun in earnest.

I met Hunter in early Spring in 1984. My wife and I were camping on

the land we bought the previous year and were enjoying the still of the morning on Childs Cove. Sitting on our new 10 x 20 dock, we saw a small boat with a large dog and an angry looking man approaching. Before we could greet him as he drew closer, he called out, "Are you campin' or buildin?"

We were camping, and building was a very distant dream. But so impressed by his demanding tone, and fearing he might be the Sherriff of Nottingham, we both exclaimed in nervous unison, "We're building!!" It was upon this event that we built a friendship. Hunter wore a mantle of daring, romance, ad-

venture and history. I immediately wanted to know his story.

Hunter passed away in January of 2008, and his legacy goes far beyond Hunter's Landing. For me he has been very much a part of the lore of Lake Anna and what I know of "his story" I will share with you in the next posting. Corporal Watney and Hunter Perkinson walked across intersecting paths in Hunter's back yard...right there on the banks of Plentiful Creek.





Louisa Health and Rehabilitation Center's Road to Recovery

"My stay here was exceptional!" That is how Kathi Smith summed up her experience at Louisa Health and Rehabilitation Center. After a successful knee replacement performed by Dr. John Hall of the Martha Jefferson Orthopedic group, Kathi realized the need for an intense therapy and nursing regiment for an optimal recovery. With no prior knowledge of skilled rehab units such as Louisa's, Ms. Smith did some research and settled on Louisa Health and Rehab. She reported, "I desperately needed some therapy. After my experience here, I couldn't have made a better decision."

LHRC is committed to providing the ideal environment for its guests to recover and thrive within in preparation for their return home and in the community. Ms. Smith went on to say, "The staff here are well trained and so friendly. I didn't meet one person who wasn't caring. Everyone made me feel like they cared about my individual needs and I wasn't just a number. The food is good, the rooms are clean, and the building is run in a very organized manner. One hundred percent of my needs were met, and I would rate the staff 100%." A clean, friendly atmosphere, coupled with the highest caliber of staff from housekeeping to dietary and nursing to therapy is something LHRC prides itself on in obtaining unrivaled outcomes for its guests. Ms. Smith also stated, "The staff here act together and work great as a team." This comprehensive approach to individualized care guided by LHRC's unique Lifeworks Recovery Program is unsurpassed and allows Louisa to produce the best results

in the area.

On admission, guests are engaged in the Lifeworks Recovery Program which is a clinical pathway with two phases; nursing and therapy. The completion of each pathway leads them to their ultimate goal of Community Skills on their respective Recovery Map proving they have completed their plan of care and are ready to return home safe,

functional and independent. Ms. Smith reported, "The nurses did an excellent job of managing my pain and teaching me what I needed to know about my condition." While taking advantage of her intense

individualized physical and occupational therapy program, she was engaged in many treatment modalities allowing her the best recovery. "The therapy team is an educated staff. They gave me a variety of therapy options and held my attention in all that they did," she said. Through a comprehensive program, Ms. Smith was provided with manual techniques, an array of therapeutic exercises both on and off of Louisa's specialized equipment. She was also engaged in stair training and educational sessions on ways to comes and send many individuals back to their homes and their better manage her daily routine. She was also issued a home ex- community safe, functional and independent.



ercise program and due to her remarkable recovery at LHRC, she is returning home and needs no further home health or outpatient therapy. She stated, "I came in here in a wheelchair and in lots of pain, and after 3 weeks I am walking out completely independent thanks to the caring folks here."

Involving guests in a comprehensive and individualized Lifeworks Recovery programprovided by a caring and educated staff with a positive attitude in a home-like environment is the patient experience at Louisa Health and Rehab. Ms. Smith reports, "I will definitely come back after I have my other knee done, and I wouldn't go anywhere else." For Ms. Smith and many others like her, Louisa Health and Rehab continues to drive outstanding out-

Louisa Health and Rehabilitation Center



210 Elm St. • Louisa, VA 23093 Phone 540-967-2250 • Fax 540-967-9771



For Employment Opportunities visit us at www.lifeworkrehab.com



Recreation & Leisure



On June 29th, 2013, Lake Anna played host to the biggest watersports event of the year, Crunkfest 4.0. Crunkfest is the lake's fourth annual contest for wakeboarding, wake surfing, and wake skating. This year also had the addition of the Crunk Twister contest and Best Crunk Dance. With live DJ Tre Justice entertaining all day and live performances from Neszo Rainey and Young, Wild & Reckless, it was a fun day for all in attendance. Special guest "The Virginia Game Guy" stopping by to do a full video shoot of the day's events, which will soon be viewable on local television stations and Lake Anna Television was on hand to document footage which will be seen on LakeAnna.TV.

Crunkfest began 4 years ago and has turned into a monumental day for water sports enthusiasts around the area. The day brings party goers to competition style riders as well as first time spectators. The whole idea of Crunkfest is to bring everyone together at one time regardless of what you are coming for. The live music is a definite help with tunes dropping all day and boat passersby parking to see what going on as well. All in all, if you're alive and you were around the area, you were at Crunkfest 4.0.

DJ Tre Justice is a huge name in the Fredericksburg area and he absolutely killed it with the music at the event. Bing there and keeping the crowd alive and on their feet is a huge part of the event. We were lucky to have him there throughout the day especially during the Crunk Dance Off. Men and women battled head to head to see who could dance the best and crown there trophy as this year's 2013 most Crunk dance king or queen.

There we tons of competitors this year in all three categories: wake skate, wake surf, and wakeboard. Local New Kent rider Justin Smith took second place in the wake skate division on his brand new Virtue 39.5 wake skate. Justin was said to be "Dropping Hammers" in his run...which is a good thing. Zach Tarlton took first place in that

heat and walked away victorious as the Crunkfest 4.0 amateur wake skate champ.

The wake surf category had tons of riders this year, as well, from outlaw riders Jillian Holland to soon-to be outlaw rider Zoey Shields. Both females were ripping it up on the water on that endless wave. Girls make it look so easy and stylish and we are glad to have more and more competing at each contest.

Trevor Fearson, Cody Law and I had to battle it out for the outlaw men's podium spots during the day. Of course Amazing rider once again Trevor Fearson is flawless in his riding abilities and absolutely crushed myself and Cody. But no worries, we expected that. Cody and I ended up duking it out and pretty much ended in a coin-flip decision as to who was placing where.

What more is there to say about the men's outlaw wakeboard contest? There were so many flips and spins going on out on the water you would have thought the movie Shark-nado had made a sequel: Crunk-nado. The best of the best came out to throw down some huge tricks and see who could go home the crunk outlaw king of wakeboard. Whoever said old guys can't hang with the young ones was for sure proven wrong this day. Jimmy Hart brings home the win being at almost twice the age of all the other competitors. Showing everyone the semi-old dogs can most definitely do new tricks.

All in all, I can sit here and write tons of awesome memories about the day, but unless you were there, you'll never grasp the true awesomeness of the event. With Wake Edgers Gear and Gifts playing host to this event two years running and now all the help from sponsors such as Tim's Lake Anna, Custom Embroidery, Virginia Flight Services, Ronix, Fox, Chuck Bowen (Matco Tools), and especially to Johnny's Quick Stop. We were able to put on the Biggest and most Crunk event you have ever seen on the waters of Lake Anna.



LakeAnnaGuide.com







Outdoor Life at Lake Anna



Late summer and early fall fishing on Lake Anna is tremendous. During low light condition (early morning, late evening, and overcast / rain) schools of juvenile threadfin shad will come to the surface attracting the attention of predators. These schools of baitfish can be as small as a beach towel or as large as your house. As predators begin feeding you will see the water begin to boil, baitfish jumping out of the water, and breech feeding. If bass or stripers are present you will be able to see and hear this feeding activity from a distance. This can last for a few minutes or over an hour. For any fisherman this is an exciting event and the first inclination is to get there as soon as possible so that you can get your hook into the chaos. Having a better understanding of what is taking place will help you prolong the action, learn how to reproduce it, and ultimately catch more fish.

Your first concern should be not spooking the fish. You can do this by running your gas motor sparingly and at low rpm's. Make your final approach with the electric motor or by allowing the wind to push you through the fish if conditions allow. Be careful not to drop anything in the boat, slam hatches, or trim your motor.

As you observe the blitz take notice of wind direction, current, and the general direction that the school is moving in. While this feeding action will take place over open water it will be much more dramatic as the school passes over shallow humps and points. By keying in on these environmental factors you can not only anticipate where the school will surface next but also predict where to start looking next time you are on the water. Once you have determined the direction they moving you can make a wide turn to get in front. It is much easier to allow the fish to work towards your boat than it is to purse them.

Once you are in the action you want to work the entire water column. While you can visibly see fish breaking the surface, a surface presentation may not be the preferred method to put size or numbers of fish in the boat. For the top third of the water column you should present poppers, chuggers, and walking baits to cover the surface. Soft plastic jerkbaits and lightweight swimbaits are also excellent choices for the top third of the water column. For the mid-range depths a ten-foot suspending jerkbait or heavier swimbait is hard to beat. Spoons and deep diving crankbaits should round out your arsenal and get down to the bottom third of the water column. Be sure to probe all depth during a surface feeding frenzy. Even though small fish may have the bait pinned at the surface, big fish will often lay beneath. As water temperatures begin to cool off in late summer it becomes more common for big fish to school in the vicinity of small fish and bass to school with stripers and large white perch as well.

Above all be courteous to other anglers on the water. Do not crowd anyone and never cut between the school and another boat that is casting to the school. If there is too much company for your taste remember that if conditions are right for this type of feeding action it's probably happening somewhere else. Use your electronics to locate the bait, focus on the surrounding structure and ambush points, probe the entire water column, and get ready for some fast fishing action because it is right around the corner!

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

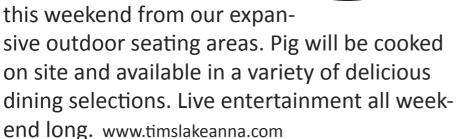


on the Calendar

Labor Day Weekend Pig Roast

August 30th-September 2nd Tim's at Lake Anna will

Tim's at Lake Anna will celebrate Labor Day Weekend with our Annual Pig Roast from Friday, August 30, through Monday, September 2. Enjoy the sun





Michael Hoover is the winner of numerous Elvis Presley vocal contests. Each year Memories of Elvis performs internationally. Revisit the original King of Rock n Roll!



 7:30 pm. \$25-Adult \$20-Senior/Student.
 For more information: www.louisaarts.org



The 1st Annual Lake Anna Wine Festival

Lake Anna's 1st Wine Festival! Join us at Cutalong on Saturday, September 21st for a premiere wine event at the heart of Lake Anna in the Cutalong Golf Community at 978 New Bridge Road in Mineral.

10 wineries, food vendors, shopping, kids' activities, music, fun for everyone - even hot air balloon rides! Visit LakeAnnaWine-Festival.com or call 540.872.0684 for more













Last Days of Summer Jazz

Lake Anna Winery 8/31/2013

Time: 6 to 10 pm



mers end as
we wind
down the
summer
season with
a tribute to
the classics
(Beach, Rock &
Roll and Mo-

town). \$15.00 Fee in-

cludes live music with Richmond sensations SPECTRUM, wine glass, and tasting. Great food will be available for sale from Gregory's Grill. Another can't miss event. These guys can really cook!

For more information:

www.LAwinery.com or 540-895-5085

TristenFest Blue Grass Festival

Location Small Country Campground

Date: 8/24/2013 Cost: \$10 Phone: (540) 967-2431

Email: camp@smallcountry.com

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

3 day fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in memory of Tristen Roach. More than 15 bands will play

Blue Grass and Gospel Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Food and craft vendors. Donations of \$10 each day; bring your own chair. Make camping reservations early. The 2012 event raised more than \$8,000 for St. Jude. More info available at www.Tristenfest.com.





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Lake Anna SUDOKU

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www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Solution to this puzzle will appear online at LakeAnnaGuide.com



Lake Anna *Horoscopes*

Aries: You might feel like something is slipping away, but this might be the break you've been looking for...a little distance can go a long way.

Taurus: You tend to forget that your indifference can come off as aloof make sure you let your friends & family know you're paying attention...and try to follow through!

Gemini: A little disappointment can't get you down and your ability to focus on the positive things right now will help attract more positivity to you.

Cancer: It's smooth sailing right now and you enjoy this time of clarity there are surely bumps in the road, but enjoy the ride you're on .

Leo: You're having trouble focusing on what's important...eliminate the distractions and you'll know what to do...

Virgo: Hindsight is 20/20 but avoiding problems before they happen is even better. Steer clear of the drama and you'll be seeing your world through rose colored glasses.

Libra: It's easy to get into a slump, but keep your momentum going and do something new, go somewhere you've never been and you'll feel rejuvenated.

Scorpio: You're dealing with some tedious tasks right now, but if you put your nose to the grindstone now, you'll feel a huge relief later,

Sagittarius: You've gotta get back into your regular routine, even if you're not looking forward to it. You're always able to find the fun in everything, you just hate having to change!

Capricorn: Something you've been working on for a long time is finally coming to fruition. A little nervousness will come along with it, but will also keep you on your toes.

Aquarius: Days seem to be going by faster than ever - make sure you're keeping up, as little details can come back to haunt you.

Pisces: Go with the flow and there's no limit to what you can accomplish. A little extra effort will pay off in a big way, so make sure to take advantage of all opportunities...

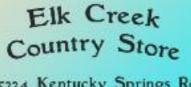
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Dining Spotlight

Featured Food:

When you think of Mexican fare you often think of heavy enchiladas, huge burritos and rich queso. I was on the hunt to get my Mexican fix without wanting a nap or having to hit the gym for a week before putting my bathing suit back on. A taco truck would fill the bill but I could not find one on any corner in the county. Being the middle of a Virginia summer day, I was hot and sticky from the humidity and hungry for a quick Mexican meal on the run. I walked into my Old Faithful, El Charro located at Southpoint in Fredericksburg to see what I could find.

Upon entering the dark and cool foyer I see a tray loaded down with ice cold Margaritas rimmed with grains of salt and garnished with fresh lime wedges...um, now I am not only hungry, but thirsty, too. I just happened to stop in during Happy Hour and I am in need of some Happy!

I decided to break my diet immediately by going for the house margarita. Oops. It was well worth it...no too sweet, not too tangy. Just refreshing. This addition makes up for not finding a taco truck for sure. Mexican décor with that Fiesta feeling accompanied by peppy Mexican music while sipping on a fresh and frosty Margarita...welcome to Mexico. I was feeling a bit like I was on vacation in the middle of a workday in July. I'll take that.

What's a Mexican vacation and a Margarita without guacamole? I then ordered the typical guacamole. Hey..the main ingredient is avocados which is a vegetable. The guacamole was well processed so it was extremely creamy and rich. I asked how they make it and was told it starts from mashing fresh, ripe avocados and adding sour cream. It is almost like guacamole butter it's that smooth and pure. It's made fresh daily and you can taste it.

I was looking for a simple, but good, taco. After reading the extensive menu I decided to order the Tacos de Carntinas. I have to say these did not come as expected. They came even better than expected. Inside the fresh flour tortillas was only one ingredient; the juiciest, most tender pulled pork without any sauce or spices, just pure pork. Fresh pica de gallo with diced onions, tomatoes, jalapenos and cilantro is served on the side, next to fresh salsa. This allows you to load up exactly what you want on your pork taco. I put the pica de gallo on the shredded pork, some salsa, chopped cilantro, a dash of Mexican hot sauce, a squeeze of lime, a dollop of guacamole and a smidge of sour cream. I asked for extra lime wedges and a side of chopped cilantro before building my masterpiece. The end product was better than going to Mexico, well, minus the white sand and turquoise waters, and a lot cheaper, too. Three of those pork taco beauties come on that dish so I stayed in my Mexican mirage sipping Margaritas, dipping smooth guacamole and eating pork tacos for a wonderful hour before returning to the real world that awaited me on the other side of their doors.

Check out El Charro's Crazy Good Eats at 4611 Southpoint Parkway, Fredericksburg, VA 22407.

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.

































12













LIFESTYLE Reflections

Hey, my Breeze friends! I truly hope your summer thus far has been all you have wanted it to be. This issue of Lifestyle Reflections is a bit "all over the page". Don't try too hard to find a common thread. It is all about grabbing the gusto of the last days of summer and having fun with them. We still have time to make our mark on this summer season! The freedom of ease in our lifestyle does not have to end with Labor Day.



Outdoor parties are perfect through fall. Make sure you grab up any remaining torch fuel in the stores now before it is stashed away 'til next spring. Go figure. We use our torches all year round and hate when we're out of fuel. Late last September, we hosted an "après wedding" party for Kyle and Laura Hayden Austin, with Bonnie and Andre Lambert. What fun that was! The chill was in the air and the hint of approaching fall weather was apparent. Hosting a party

with friends is one of the best ways to entertain. Bonnie and I had fun planning the party. The weather was perfect. Sunset was as beautiful as ever from the deck that night. The torches were needed for overall lighting 'til late without having to rely on bright deck lights.

Think about creating a memory for yourself as well as for someone else. Plan a BYOB and buy some pizzas from Big Cheese. Cut them in small bite size pieces and you will be amazed how many people you can feed. Pull out salsa and chips and peanuts in the shell. Great parties don't have to be about the money and trouble spent on food and drinks. Spontaneity works. Pick up colorful paper plates and napkins to have on hand when the mood hits you. Get those text invites out to people you have fun being with. People like to know they are thought of when putting a "spur of the moment" party together. This also "gives them permission" to have a similar last minute event. You will be on their guest list, for sure.

Before you have to focus on Back to School or fall activities, have some more fun with your house. Once all the organized events set in, plans will be nonstop 'til New Year's. Funny how that happens! This is not a bad thing, but seeing Christmas decorations in stores prior to Halloween, somehow, is not a great fit.

In your shopping escapades, keep a lookout for the new mirror for your dining room buffet or switch out the pillows for the fall season. Check

out what Ballard's has. People are always asking me where I shop or who I use for things. Here are some that come to mind: if you enjoy buying fabric and occasionally, actually sew it, U-Fab is a fun, fun place. U-Fab (U-Fab.com) is in Richmond & Charlottesville. I just got an email that they are now online. This is a "happy shopping place". You can't help but have fun while buying what you need. My two go-tos at Lake Anna for upholstery and slipcover needs are McRae Upholstery at the lake and Lassman Stitching (boats and furniture) in Mineral. When looking for stone for your countertops, you can select your granite from a supplier, like Marble Systems, Dorr Ave., Fairfax or Marva Marble, Richmond, and it can be delivered to the fabricator of your choice. The finished product will be your testimomy. When I look for a granite fabricator, communication is very important. My favorite is Empire Granite on Rhoademiller Street in Richmond. Owner Jeff Fastige is very likable and easy to work with. Before you go to HomeGoods or the likes of World Market, "bone up" on your high end style furniture or accessories. When at Home-Goods, you will probably see a "wanna be" chair or mirror. Buy it now or you may never see it again. You can always return it, so buy it if your head and heart tell you to. Take it back if not right in your home. So many pieces of furniture are copy cats of the real deal. If you need an "edge" to your quasi-

traditional living room, look at the current decorating magazines such as House Beautiful, Elle Décor, Architectural Digest. Take the ideas and copy the furniture arrangements, shapes of lamps, accessories, etc. and run with it. The editors of the good magazines over time tend to move to other magazines. Architectural Digest is a perfect example. Paige Rense was editor for as long as I can remember. The issues were all about furnishings



photo courtesy Ballard Designs

requiring lots of money and formality, which was true for that era. Recently, I found I needed to see some traditional rooms for ideas for clients and subscribed to Architectural Digest. The look had changed totally in a great way, since Margaret Russell is the current editor. She was at Elle Décor for years. Noting these points makes you more a bit "in the know" of the magazine styles and their changes.

The bottom line is to make your rooms what your eye wants to see and not worry what others expect or think. You may find that you have more fun and follow the styles a bit more with this edge of "style knowledge." -BB





Real Estate & Rent

Lake Anna Real Estate Flourishing at the End of Summer

As the August heat relinquishes into September, the real estate market is hotter than ever. Prospective real estate buyers are on the prowl to see all of the choices before the season ends.

ever before. newest development on the scene is the Lake Anna Resort, which will mix onelevel living condominiums with commercial hub of restaurants and retail with the most versatile activities the lake has ever seen. The

Additional commercial and residential projects in the area will only help property values climb.

Noah's Landing & Mill Run on the private side of Lake Anna are shaping up as great residential buys, with both featuring upgraded common areas for their property owners. These are both wonderful subdivisions with convenient Lake Anna has a lot more to offer buyers than amenities, perfect for those seeking to build on the warm

side of the lake.

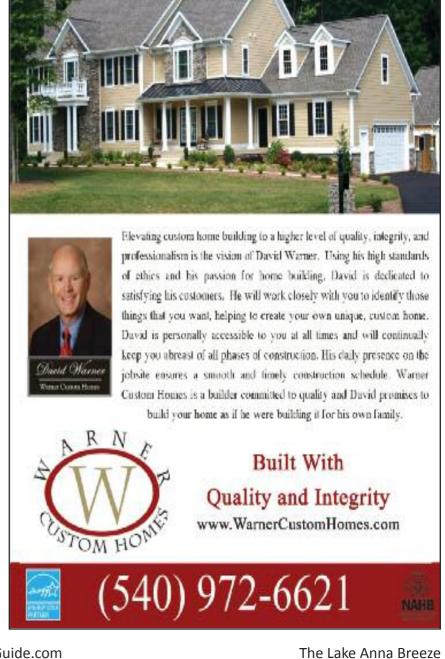
The Cutalong Golf Community is currently under construction and lots are finally being closed on. A few preferred builders are building beautiful models in the community and neighborhood will only gain popu-

community will provide classes, rentals and even a music larity once the fairways are open for use. studio. LakeAnnaResort.com features all of the condo floor plans and pricing, where buyers can take advantage of a huge opportunity by reserving a residence at lower pre-construction costs before the official groundbreaking.

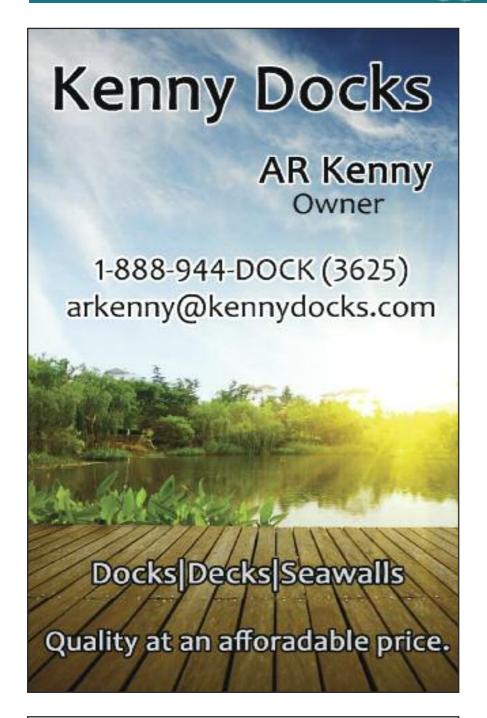
With more commercial ventures than ever in the lake area and the addition of these exciting communities, Lake Anna property values are sure to continue soaring.

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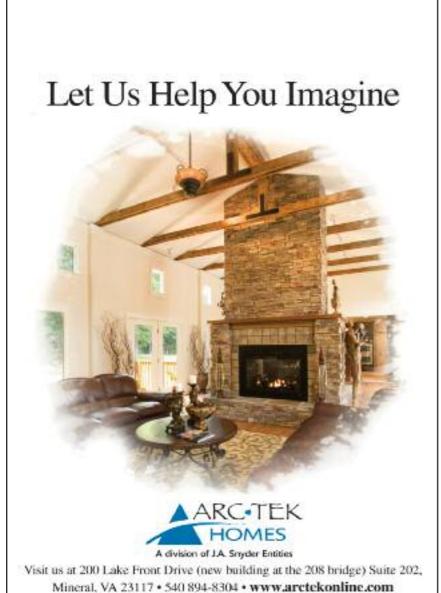
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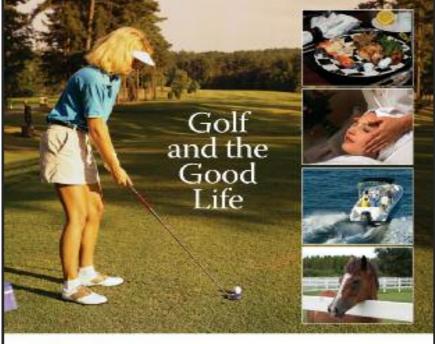


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