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The Breeze

Issue No. 30

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Independence Day!

Lake life is good! We're in the middle of the summer of 2015 and our country is able to celebrate the 4th of July on a Saturday this year with a grand celebration of fireworks near Dike 2 around 9:15pm. The show is produced by Zambelli Fireworks and the show has quickly become a local favorite. The choreographed fireworks display is one of the most impressive in our area and a spectacular view is available from much of the lake, including a great view from your boat near Dike 2. The show is presented by the Lake Anna Civic Association (LACA) and is made possible by donations from citizens and guests of Lake Anna. If you are interested in making a donation, please send a check to LACA Fireworks, P.O.Box 217, Mineral, VA 23117 or visit lakeannavirginia.org for a Donation Form.

Discover Louisa County's Rich History at
the Lake Anna Visitor Center



The Louisa County Historical Society placed a new display in the Lake Anna Visitor Center at 208 Lake Front Drive recently. The information covers the largest all cavalry battle of The Civil War and shows part of the gear that would have been worn during the battle including a Confederate Cavalry saber and two kepi hats to see up close. The display, along with brochures describing all that the Louisa Historical Society does for the county will remain on display at the Lake Anna Visitor Center.

Lake Anna Resort Aims to Please



The Lake Anna Resort project was sent back to the Planning Commission in June, a step directly related to the developer asking for an extension in time to complete the master site plan requested by Stephanie Koren, Mineral district supervisor. In an effort to collect as much information prior to the Louisa Board of Supervisors vote on the project, many members of the Planning Commission want to see all elements of the Planned Unit Development, as the requirements are more strict than the usual requirements for other zoning classifications. The revised master site

(continued on page 3)

You've Probably Heard of Lake Anna's Jerdone Castle...But Who Was Francis Jerdone?



The original Jerdone Castle, circa 1742, sits in the shadow of the 1858 two-story addition.

Francis Jerdone was born in 1721 in the village of Jedburgh in Southern Scotland. His father, John Jerdone, was a prominent local magistrate and treasurer of the town. At age 19 like many young, ambitious, and upwardly-mobile Scotsmen, Francis Jerdone set out for British Colonies in North America. At this time, large mercantile houses in Glasgow, Scotland had begun to dominate the trade of Virginia tobacco and its import into European markets. These merchants often hired Scottish emigres as local "factors", or liaisons, with the tobacco plantations that populated the York and James River Valleys. After arriving at the Port of York in 1740, it's likely that Francis gained invaluable experience and knowledge of the colony in the employ of one of these Scot-

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LETTERS

to the Editor

When are the Lake Anna Fireworks?

Lake Anna Breeze:

I heard that Ally's on the Lake is closing? Say it isn't so!
Christopher, Bumpass, VA

Christopher,

You are correct! Sadly, Ally's on the Lake restaurant recently closed its doors for good at the end of June, but there is good news! The restaurant space will become Vito's Italian Restaurant and open in August. The lake front location will enjoy the new owner's other location in Ashland and will be a welcome addition to the Lake Anna dining scene. Allyson Nails, owner of Ally's, and her son Frank, the chef, spent more than four years serving fine cuisine at the Lake Anna Plaza location and look forward to some time off before starting their next endeavors. We're sure many will miss the food and service at Ally's and we wish them all the best!

The Breeze is available for purchase in stores for \$1 per copy. For a list of our current distribution locations, please visit LakeAnnaBreeze.com.

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Story ideas? Suggestions? Questions? Please feel free to contact us with a letter to the editor. **Issue No. 30**

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Lake Anna Marina Serves Area For More than 40 Years



In 1968 Virginia Power approached a local family about selling 300 acres of farm land to build a lake, this along with other local families in the area helped to create what is now over 200 miles of beautiful shoreline.

The lake was being created to cool the North Anna power plant. However, since this family was privy to specs for the lake they built a new home and boat docks prior to basin construction in their cow fields. Neighbors thought they were bizarre to do this at the time but saw an opportunity coming. This new lake was going to be big, and little did they know it would be one of the premier vacation spots in central Virginia.

When Hurricane Agnes came in 1972, the now-cleared farmland along the North Anna and Pamunkey River filled the hollowed basin. Now those docks didn't look so silly! Joe and Rosie Boggs ran the marina first called Lake No'Anna Marina. The name didn't stick but the business sure did.

When a fire broke out in 1980, burning the store to the ground, businesses and customers from all over the lake came and helped to rebuild and restock the beloved establishment. The owners of Lake Anna Marina knew they were staying because they loved what they were doing, and to this day, they still do. Lake Anna Marina is located at 4303 Boggs Drive in Bumpass or visit lakeannamarina.net.

(continued from front page)

plan will be re-submitted in July and will reflect all of the changes made through the process of the Development Review Committee, Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meetings.

The revisions will include a reduction in density of the condo residences, at the suggestion of Supervisor Koren. In addition to the residential reduction, there will also be drop in the number of hotel rooms on site, but the commercial portion of the project will still include 10,250 square feet of retail and office space and a 90-seat restaurant.

The new plan will include details that Louisa County has requested through the process. The developer is also adding to the list of proffers, basically promises that will the project will be held to in construction, to include a tree buffer along Route 208.

The developer has been working hard with both county officials and the neighbors near the proposed project to minimize or remove any negative impact and maximize the benefits for the entire county. While trying to be flexible and implement as many suggestions as possible, it's been important to make sure that the commercial aspects of the project have been clearly made a priority, as almost everyone who discusses The Resort sees the hotel and commercial entities as sorely needed in the area. Some of the initial offerings will include the hotel, restaurant, spa, gift shop, boat sales and rentals, and a deli/carryout. The hotel will feature a large pool and have beach access for guests and locals who want to enjoy Lake Anna.

Jerdone Castle

(continued from front page)

tish mercantile firms.

In 1742, the Royal Government in Williamsburg carved a new Louisa County out of the Western sections Hanover County, a reflection of the increasing western settlements in Virginia. Francis Jerdone saw opportunity. That same year, 1742, he acquired 1100 acres of land on the south bank of the North Anna River between Moody Creek and Rock Creek in the newly established Louisa County. On this property, he began construction of his home that would eventually be expanded into the Jerdone Castle. See photo above.

At his strategic location on the North Anna, Jerdone developed one of the first mercantile businesses in Louisa County and one of the most successful in colonial Virginia. He took tobacco consignments from planters for their crops and then filled orders from them for dry goods, household furnishing and other items from British exporters. In addition to a profitable store, the Jerdone business compound also included several mills and a commercial forge. His clients included most of the planters and farmers situated along the North Anna.

Francis Jerdone married Sarah Macon of New Kent County in 1753 and they raised seven of nine children to adulthood at Jerdone Castle. Francis Jerdone died in 1771 and his properties and business would likely have been bequeathed to his eldest son, Francis, Jr. However, historical records show that eldest daughter Mary carried on the family mercantile business. In 1770, she had married George Pottie, a business associate of the senior Jerdone. Upon his death, the Virginia Gazette wrote, "Mr. Francis Jerdone of Louisa, an eminent merchant of that County. He acquired a handsome fortune by trade with the fairest reputation". Today only 125 acres of the original Jerdone property remain submerged by Lake Anna.

Article & photo provided by the Louisa County Historical Society,

Under New Ownership, Elk Creek Country Store Gets a Facelift



A longtime staple at Lake Anna is Elk Creek Country Store, which is under the new ownership of Mike Rasiwalla, who has been undergoing updates and improvements over the last several months, while still keeping the "country store" theme.

The store now features Hunt Brothers Pizza and Krispy Krunchy Chicken. The store also has a great selection of NFL items for your next football party and still offers great ice cream in their "Sweet Spot", perfect after spending a day on Lake Anna. You'll still find all the great food, beverages, and supplies that you've come to know and love from Elk Creek, but stop by today to see all of the improvements.

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These are the Times by Wayman Bishop

Our Words Have Power



The Fourth of July is a day for great celebration...family cook outs, fireworks, and for some, a day off. I know everyone knows we are celebrating the single most significant event in American History – on July 4th, 1776, the Second Continental Congress, representing the individual and collective interests of the Thirteen Colonies, declared that “in the course of human events” it has become necessary to stand up against tyranny and stand up for freedom.

Knowing who and what to stand up against and who and what to stand up for is the powerful life-lesson. We must stand up against those who threaten our families, our property, our happiness, and our lives. We must stand up for those things that must be protected...by us and by our government. Think about that the next time you're alone with yourself in a voting booth.

May I be so bold as to suggest that you include the following declaration in your celebration of Independence Day? Have your friends and family declare in unison (write it down and hand it out – like the “signers” did) ...“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among them are Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Happiness” ... exactly as it was written 239 years ago.

Just as it was on the 4th of July 1776, so it is today...our words have power. When we declare these things to be “self-evident” there is a good chance those words will be heard by some-

one who has influence over the “course of human events.”

I'd like to think those 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence had the Magna Carta in mind as they met to deliberate the fate of a new nation and its citizens. Signed 800 years ago this past June 15th, in Runnymede, England, the Magna Carta established the rule of law so as to protect the individual against the the arbitrary authority of government. From it we have now been guaranteed free speech, security of property, habeas corpus, equality before the law, the right to be tried in a court of law by our peers, freedom of worship, and freedom of association.

The Constitution of the United States guarantees these rights of the individual...but so did the Constitution of the USSR. We would serve our children and our grandchildren well by examining carefully the way our government governs. Pay attention, stay informed, be an influence for positive change.

The President, the Congress and the Supreme Court should not be making things up as they go along. Executive Orders, back room deals and a Court that acts to protect its reputation are the worst forms of arbitrary authority. The social experiment of the New Republic is over. The rule of law governs. Read the Magna Carta, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States, so when you ask your elected representatives if they have, you will have.



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Scenes from Lake Anna



Photo by Dottie Easler



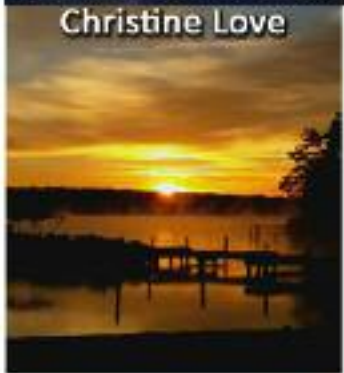
Photos submitted by Christine Love



Photos submitted by Anna Barnes



E-mail your photos to:
jen@lakeannabreeze.com
 to share for our next issue!



Rhonda Jones submitted this photo of her son Brian Johnson skiing on Lake Anna.



Courtney Newton shared these photos of her daughter Adalynn showing off her patriotic spirit!



Colleen Kelly submitted this photo of Jaelyn enjoying a nice day on the lake front



If you've visited the Lake Anna Visitor Center, you may have seen (or been chased by!) the goose plus the two ducks that have taken up residence there for the last four years.

The little family expanded this year and right now, several ducklings are learning to swim in Lake Anna.

Lake Anna's Featured Pets Send your photos to our facebook page or e-mail them to jen@lakeannabreeze.com and you could see your pet featured here next time!

Boating Etiquette 101

by contributing writer Kyle Austin



We all know that the boating industry is growing larger and larger on a daily basis. New boaters to the sport getting into their very first boat and people that have been riding for years getting into their third or fourth. Whether it is a fishing boat, recreational wake boat or even pontoon, we all need to uphold proper boating etiquette while on the water.

Everyone on the water that is the captain of a vessel is supposed to have taken the boater's safety course, which means you are supposed to be knowledgeable of the boating laws on the body of water you are riding on. Here are a few tips and reminders for those that have taken the course or are just new boat owners that aren't sure what to do in a current situation.

First off, seeing a buoy that says no wake means **no wake**. No wake means that your boat should only be propelled by its lowest moving speed. You actually create a bigger wake at around 5 mph than you would at 20. You are just plowing through the water instead of slowly cruising on top of it. **You** as the driver are responsible for any damages caused by your boat's wake. So when you are going faster than idle speed and you cause damage to a boat getting gas at a pump, you are technically responsible for the claim if the other owner sees fit.

Next up is passing etiquette. When you are traveling at a regular speed and so is another vessel headed towards your direction you both pass on your own right. That way you will always be on the furthest distance while passing. **Never** pass to the left as a certified

boater will turn and aim directly into you when they are obeying the proper law. The proper etiquette while passing a boat with someone in tow is to slow down to a safe speed as the boat approaches and to increase speed back up once it has passed. Wake boats while being very fun can now create wakes very large in comparison to older boats. We all need to be aware of the direction our wakes are headed and to make sure that fishing vessels and kayaks are not damaged or sunk because of the wake. Some wake boarders and surfers will not like that to be said, but it is very true. We are out to enjoy boating but they are out to enjoy fishing and recreational water time. Please try to respect all boaters as best as you can on the water at all times.

Tubers, that's right, tubers: please read this and understand that we are all here to have fun. Tubing is a fantastic recreational way to go out and enjoy the water, but remember that you have to be driving properly in order to be lawful. Tubers like to be whipped around and tossed all over the place. While doing this, however, you are recklessly driving your vessel and causing wakes to roll in all sorts of directions. While pulling a tuber you are actually supposed to drive straight ahead like every other boat and not be making giant "s" shaped turns. We all see tubers flying off the tube like a rag doll for "fun", but just remember you can be ticketed for these actions. The driver of the tubing boat also needs to remember that a tube is not controllable and the captain is solely responsible for the well-being of the tuber. If the tuber is harmed and files a suit against the driver, the driver will be held responsible every time.



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Outdoor Life at Lake Anna

It's a Dock Thing

best summer bass strategies include docks

By Taylor McCann

Fishing Guide, Kistler Rods Pro-Staff

July, August, and September is when the Lake is at its warmest and bass, just like you, enjoy a little shade. It is a matter of understanding the subtle, and not so subtle differences from dock to dock that allows you to put together a solid dock pattern. Docks are not all created equal. Obvious differences include size, water depth, age, and its proximity to other docks. Are the support posts metal or wood, how far is the dock from the channel, is there any submerged brush, vegetation, or rock under or around the dock are less obvious characteristics that begin to separate one dock from the next.



Good docks are good. As you pound the shoreline you will realize that certain docks will regularly payoff if given a little time to recover. Very few will continue to produce if you fish them every day. Bass will often sit in the same spots / posts so make mental notes as you get bites even if you don't hook the fish so that next time you can focus more time on the higher percentage areas. Isolated docks with no other docks in sight, large covered marina docks, and docks that are close to main channel edges are typical summer hangouts but you have to experiment. Some docks are just unexplainably good.

Tackle selection is easy. Shakey head worm, wacky rigged stick worm (weightless), and a small square billed crankbait. Shakey head worm will allow you to work the bottom third of the water column and keep you bait stationary for extended periods of time if necessary. The weightless stick worm will allow you to slowly cover the top two thirds of the water column and is very easy to skip with a spinning rod to reach way under the dock. The square billed crankbait will give you that reaction bite as you bounce off ladders and posts. It will also let you know if the bass are in the mood to chase or if you should pick up the slower moving baits. For docks you should fish the smallest crankbait you can and still be effective given the water depth. Cover your soft plastic baits with attractant, make sure that you have sharp strong hooks on your crankbait, and constantly check your line for damage to avoid heartbreak. Dock fishing spawns heartbreak. Big fish will inevitably bite you on a short line, wrap you around the dock post, test your patience, and expose any weakness in your game and your tackle. Good Luck!

July Fishing Report

By Charlie Bowles

Fishing Guide, Bass Pro Shops & Lowrance Pro-Staff

Summer has set in and the fish are responding as expected. Water temps have already risen to at least the high 80's. Weekends are busier than ever, making mid-day difficult to navigate. Fishing for us has been phenomenal this year and I expect the same through summer. The Bass and Striper catches have been great and should hold throughout the summer with the right approach.

Bass:

Most of the sizeable bass will be in deeper water on underwater humps, points, ledges, wood cover and of course docks. These fish will move to nearby shallows and hit topwater baits in the morning and evenings. Poppers, buzzbaits and Zara Spooks can bring some explosive action if you can time it right. If you're not having luck with any of your shallower offerings, don't hesitate to go to deeper structure (15-30 ft) and docks near deep water. My favorites are diving crankbaits, texas rigged & shakey head worms and jigs. Locate fish on prime structure, such as a 20 ft ledge, and make long casts to past the fish to get your bait to the "strike zone" effectively. Summer time bass fishing can be very difficult for those who like to "beat the bank". But if you are willing to fish deeper structure and cover, it can be very productive.

Striper:

The summer is the best time to employ trolling techniques for catching numbers of stripers on Lake Anna. The fish will be on 25-40 foot flats in large schools. You'll need to get the baits deep by using trolling sinkers, downriggers, Crankbaits etc. Once you locate a school of fish on your sonar you can troll swimbaits, spoons, crankbaits, etc. to catch dozens of 5-10 pound fish, with an occasional 15 to 20 pounder. There is also some peppered topwater action so be sure to have a zara spook or popper tied on just in case.

Guide Service

We offer full and half day trips for all three species mentioned above. This has been a great year for our new and repeat clients with several citations and 50 fish plus days.

Call 540-287-3591 for any inquiries about booking a trip, lodging or tips.

CVO clients pose with a limit of Lake Anna Stripers caught on deep diving crankbaits during "Happy Hour"



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



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LAKE ANNA

Cajun Zydeco

July 18, 2015. 6:00pm-10:00pm; Lake Anna Winery
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 (shrimp and chicken gumbo, red beans & rice, Cajun Chicken fried oysters in a "special Hot Sauce", and blackened fish tacos). Consistently the Lake Anna Winery's most popular event. \$15.00 fee includes souvenir wine glass, and tasting. Gumbo, Beads, and Dancing... Almost like Mardi Gras but CLOSER! For more information, please visit www.lawinery.com.



Jet Ski Poker Run

July 19, 9am, Tim's Lake Anna

Start the morning at Tim's at Lake Anna for a breakfast buffet. Breakfast Starts at 8:30am. Registration will be ongoing during this time. (Please arrive no later than 9am.) When you register, you will obtain your T-Shirt, ID band, and most importantly, your first card. Mandatory Captains' meeting at 10:15am. Target departure time is 10:30am. timslakeanna.com



Lake Anna Elite Series Fishing Tournament

Sunday August 9, 2015. 6:00am-2:00pm.
The annual Elite Series fishing tournament held at Sturgeon's Creek Marina. Entry forms can be obtained on Sturgeon Creek's website at www.sturgeoncreekmarina.com.



LACA's 20th Annual Public Fireworks Display

Saturday, July 4, 2015

Funded by local citizens and guests of the lake and produced by Zambelli Fireworks, the show is a local favorite, drawing visitors from all over! It is splendidly choreographed and well worth the trip. The fireworks can be viewed at Dike 2.



LOUISA / MINERAL

Mineral Bluegrass Festival

July 16, 17, 18th, Walton Park

The local annual favorite returns to Walton Park this July with performances from some of the nation's most prominent bluegrass performers, including the James King Band, The Virginia Ramblers, The Martin Brothers and more! Ticket information available at www.mineralbluegrass.com



Saturday in the Square

July 11, 2015, 6pm-9pm

Saturday in the Square is a FREE concert series held from 6pm until 9pm in the Courthouse Square in the town of Louisa. These summertime celebrations are a chance to socialize with your friends while listening to some great area bands. There will be food vendors and a beer garden hosted by Ducks Unlimited for those adults over 21 (bring your ID). These concerts are sponsored by LCPRT, the Junior Women's Club, and other local businesses in our community. No Outside Coolers or Food Permitted. The Marc Ellis Band will be performing classic & modern cuntry music. Saturday August 8th's concert will feature the Burnt Orange Band. lcpri.info for more information!



Toast to Art

July 10, 6:30pm-8:30pm, Louisa Arts Center

Socialize and raise a glass to celebrate the unique artists within. Toast to Art provides all the tools and guidance to create a masterpiece all your own. No painting experience required! At the end of the class take home your 16x20 canvas version of our subject in Acrylic Paints. Please Schedule Ahead. Cost is \$30. Please visit louisaarts.org or call 540-967-2200.



It's Finally Friday!

July 24th, Walton Park, Mineral; 6pm-9pm

It's Finally Friday, the FREE concert is an optimal place to unwind from the work week with a great live band, playing some of the best songs. There will be food and beverages available, free admission. Bring your own lawn chair. More info available at www.lcpri.info



FREDERICKSBURG

Winery Trolley Tours

July 19, 11:00am, Spotsylvania Towne Center

The four Spotsylvania wineries are pleased to announce they have teamed up with Trolley Tours of Fredericksburg to bring you a unique winery experience and day to remember! Ticket includes 5-hour guided tour provided by Trolley Tour of Fredericksburg Trolley service to/between each winery so you can relax & enjoy your day. Cost is \$65 & includes wine tastings at each location. www.fredericksburgtrolley.com.



Colonial Puzzles and Games at the Tavern

July 18, 2015; 10am to 5pm at Rising Sun Tavern

Wenches and servants will interact with visitors of all ages in playing games and working/making puzzles in early America. More information available at www.irishbrigadetavern.com. Rising Sun Tavern is located at 1304 Caroline Street, Fredericksburg.



Wreath Laying

August 22, 11am-2pm, Washington Heritage Museums

In celebration of the life and death of Mary Washington, the Washington Heritage Museum will lay a wreath at her monument. Scott Walker will lead a tour through the town & talk about Mary's life, death & lasting legacy in the Fredericksburg area. 540-373-1569.



Hank Williams, Jr.

July 31, 2015; 6pm at Celebrate Virginia Live

Tickets are available at www.celebratevirginialive.com and range from \$28.50 to \$110.00 for the Platinum Experience.



CULPEPER

Castleton Festival presents Romeo & Juliet

July 5, 10, 18th, 8pm

While two families engage in an endless blood feud, two young lovers secretly bridge the divide embarking on a journey of hidden love and heartbreaking tragedy. Known for its breathtaking duets between the two lovers, even in their last breath. This five act opera will be performed in the original French. www.castletonfestival.org



Downtown 3rd Thursday Summer Concert

Thursday, August 20, 5pm-9pm

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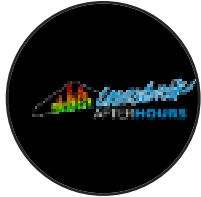
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August 1-2, 8-9, Kings Dominion

A two weekend long festival at the Kingswood Amphitheatre hosting multiple BBQ vendors from around the state. Guests can sample everythign BBQ from sauce to ribs while enjoying LIVE bluegrass music from the area's top artists. kingsdominion.com for details.



The Beach Boys

August 19, 2015, Innsbrook After Hours

Tickets range from \$15-\$99. For more information, please visit www.innsbrookafterhours.com.

ORANGE / MADISON

Big Woods Walk

July 12th, 2pm; Montpelier

Hike through the National Landmark Forest—a rare hardwood climax forest composed of towering poplars, stately oaks, and sprawling beeches. Guests will learn about ecology, conservation, and Madison's role as an early environmentalist. The trail is a gentle mile loop. \$10/person or \$5/person with purchase of a mansion ticket. This guided tour begins at 2 PM at the Visitor Center. Dogs on leashes are permitted. Cost \$10 per person or \$5 per person with purchase of a mansion ticket. 540-672-2728 or visit <http://www.montpelier.org/visit/calendar-events>

Peach Day

July 25, 10am-4pm; Graves Mountain Lodge

Craft Vendors, Fresh Produce, Fresh Peaches, Food Available for Sale, Pony Rides, Horseback Rides, Hayrides, LIVE Music!! FREE Admission & FREE Parking!! Swimming Pool will be open to the public \$5.00/person. For more information, please visit www.gravesmountain.com



CHARLOTTESVILLE

Pancake Breakfast at Chiles Peach Orchard

July 12 9am-12pm

1351 Greenwood Road, Crozet, VA 22932

Pick your own... pancakes! These scrumptious pancake breakfast includes all-you-can-eat pancakes with seasonal fruit topping plus a side of sausage and coffee/milk/oj. Join us on the second weekend of each month for breakfast with family and friends at the Orchard!



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August 2, 12pm-3pm

1575 Keswick Winery Drive, Keswick VA 22947

434-244-3341; Please join Keswick Vineyards weekly "Yappy Hours" every Sunday while the weather stays nice! Bring your four-legged friends to play while you socialize with other animal lovers. On select Sundays, local animal rescue groups will be there with their friends that they have available for adoption! For Halloween, we'll have a special Howl-o-ween Yappy Hours with games for kids and a costume contest with prizes for the best dressed pets!



OUT & ABOUT
Tales from the Lake Anna Event Scene



A large crowd turned out for the 2015 edition of Crunkfest - Lake Anna's premier on-water event at The Boardwalk on Lake Anna on June 27th.



photo by Lena Henn Photography



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Crazy Good Eats - Homemades by Suzanne

You don't have to make it homemade to have it homemade. Who doesn't love homemade food? When planning a picnic lunch or entertaining guests dockside calls for delectable made by hand (who said it had to be your hands?) head to Ashland, VA!

Forget the deli counter at the grocery store and stop in Homemade by Suzanne in downtown Ashland for a break from the ordinary prepackaged same old-same old. I was delighted to stumble upon showcases presenting a plethora of homemade pies, cookies, cakes, salads, quiches, crab cakes, tarts and soups. This was like hitting the "house guests are coming" jackpot.

I took shelter there on a recent near 100 degree day and cooled down with a creamy lobster salad stuffed into a perfectly ripe Hanover tomato. The perfect summer lunch! Chunks of lobster pieces coated in a light dressing, diced celery and seasoned with dill seed. The large, ripe, red Hanover tomato was the perfect vessel to hold the delicate lobster salad. I ate all of the lobster salad when cut up and the tomato that was sitting atop a bed of greens. Being a seafood lover, the lump crab cake and the crab quiche were screaming my name but I opted for something a little different- A feta cheese and purple onion quiche. They warmed a huge slice and served it with a ripe Hanover tomato slice what I think was a homemade pickle a 2 pieces of buttered and toasted homemade baguette. Yum, Summer has arrived! The sweetness of the onion against the contrasting background of sharp feta all nestled in a buttery crust- you won't find stuff like that at the grocery deli!

Another summertime staple and new to the menu at Homemade by Suzanne's is the quintessential summer lemon cooler cookie. What a great way to end a meal! The huge cookie is topped with a lemon icing that hardens up so it's great for traveling. Tart, soft, sweet, buttery- A bite of summer heaven!

The lemon cookie was my favorite dessert and let me tell you it was a tough choice as the case was packed with homemade cannolis, over loaded brownies, sugar cookies, cheesecakes, pineapple upsidedown cakes, sour cream coconut cakes and pies...lots of pies! Pies for days!

Summer just got easier and more delicious with this little hidden Ashland, VA gem. Homemade when you don't have to make it with your own hands? Now that's Crazy Good!



Monica Van Cleve is the owner of The Van Cleve Seafood Company and co-author of the cookbook, Girls with Crabs- 'Slingin crabs ain't no piece of cake'. When Monica is not traveling the world and stuffing her face with Crazy Good Eats she spends her time trying to learn how to cook something other than seafood.

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Let's Get This Party Started!



photo courtesy of Garden and Gun Magazine

...or as last weekend's Wall Street Journal declared, "GET THIS PATIO STARTED"!

This super fun article with pictures for each of the 50 really worthy ideas, should be a keeper... at least in your memory bank. Almost all are worth mentioning, but I won't make you endure my enjoyment in this. #1 begins the collection with "cook as if you grew the food". Take advantage of the local Farmers Markets this season and enjoy serving your home grown food.

Mindset is a important component of anything we take on, either in thought or actions. Life really can be more fun if we keep our mindset in check. Years and years ago, Wayman commanded a unit in the Marine Corps who with their families were invited to our home for a backyard cook-out on a regular basis. Given a five year age difference and the fact that I was the wife of their commander, the wives had nothing to do with me while they were there. I was quick to understand the human nature of this rather than take it personally. None the less, I was always sad as the day played out, especially after all the advance cooking and preparation and expectation of a good time. Finally, after about three of these events, I decided to "pretend" (hence, change my mindset) I was catering the parties. The outcome was life changing for me beyond the following enjoyable gatherings at our house.

I was inspired by the books I was reading to take a few cooking classes. This provided me, as a young stay-at-home mom, to develop a new identity and an increased self esteem. The love for food and cooking still plays out today with a fervency that only gets better in my thoughts and ideas and then on the table. Lifestyle stages may change how we currently "do life", but should not dissipate your once-found loves. They may appear different over the years, but they are still there.

Item #6 is outdoor projector for a fun at home movie experience on the deck. Years ago, on Wayman's birthday weekend, our kids brought a LCD projector for an evening surprise. We set up our ancient slide projector screen on the deck, positioned our chairs and had a great family time watching old movies. The projector mentioned here is capable of live streaming Netflix and more. (Spro 2 Smart Projector, \$499. @ www.zteusa.com per WSJ 6/21/15).

Item # 7 is the last I'll share here i.e., "Bring in a Relief Pitcher". This is not a new idea in lower alcohol party drinks, but the pictures and ingredients are mouth-watering. With names like "Black Beauty Punch" and "Suey's Sangrita", it's worth a glance at the ingredients and pictures. Google "wsjbringinareliefpitcher" for pictures and recipes. Several years ago, we were in a Tommy Bahamas Restaurant and our friends ordered non alcoholic cocktails. I had to taste and they were divine! Google "Tommy Bahama cocktails". I am a fool for the drinking glass. Make sure the presentation is worthy. You know, simple Pellegrino, bitters and slice of lime is perfect in a champagne flute. Great one is Trader Joe's frozen basil cubes to taste diluted in his low sugar lemonade over ice or with sparkling water in a martini glass. It's all FUN FUN! Have a great safe holiday. See you on the water!

'Til next time, *BB*



photo courtesy of Boat US Magazine

The Importance of Hair Conditioner by Heather Mechler-Fickes

Many times I have heard clients say they don't condition their hair after they shampoo. I've heard many reasons. Some people think it weighs their hair down, makes it limp, or just isn't necessary. I can't even imagine not conditioning my hair after shampooing. Conditioner adds moisture, protection and makes detangling easier. I think people just don't realize the importance of a good hair conditioner or they aren't applying and using it properly.

To start, always use a salon quality conditioner. Professional salon conditioners are highly concentrated (so a little goes a long way). Professional products might be a tad more expensive but the quality and the benefits are worth it in the long run.

Hair conditioners contain proteins, vitamins, biotins and other hydrating ingredients. This helps smooth the cuticle, nourish the hair and make it less prone to damage. It also protects your hair when styling and using a blow dryer or any hot tools.

Many times conditioner is not being used correctly. After shampooing and rinsing your hair out, apply conditioner to your ends and the mid-shaft- There is no need to apply product directly to the scalp. Your

scalp produces natural oils. Keep the product on according to the directions and rinse.

Conditioner is very important step to having healthy and manageable hair.



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Speaking of clients, the company provides services for all types, from local government projects, to developing companies, to non-profit organizations. In addition to the impeccable services already offered, the company is reaching new heights by providing innovative amenities. Take Site plans for example, which are required for building permits. Bell Land Surveys is emphasizing them even more. Bell Land is outstanding at supporting their clients through the entire process, assisting in terms of discovering property boundaries, building permits, construction, and mortgage surveys. The company works closely with landowners in structure placement, while taking into account aesthetics, cost, and efficiency of the project. Another new aspect of the company is the incorporation of unmanned drone technology to enhance mapping abilities. Plans to partner with two air pilots are in the works in order to form a new company that will

specialize in Unmanned Aerial Systems for undertakings such as agricultural inspections or tower inspections.

Bell Land hopes to add an even more advanced drone to their long list of services offered. Soon, instead of waiting until winter when the leaves have left the trees, Bell Land will be able to fire 500,000 laser pulses using an advanced sensor fixed onto a drone, to capture even more images of manmade structures or any type of topography. The final exciting aspect is that they are adding a brand new OCA® Plotwave 360 machine for producing any document in color that reaches up to 36 inches wide into various formats such as PDF or JPG. The company can then store them on a flash drive, or if preferred, email the document to the client. Furthermore, much to their clients' enthusiasm, any hand drawn house plans or boat docks may also be converted to PDF copies. Don't be stuck in the dark ages and waiting around until winter to begin your expanding projects! Swing in to see the Bell Land Survey team and their new innovations, where they can solve your surveying needs and goals. Scott Leiffer, the owner of Bell Land Surveys encourages walk-ins from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Bell Land Surveys is located at 30 Industrial Drive Suite 1B, Louisa, VA or contact by phone at (540) 967-1514.

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I have waterfront and water access lots for sale!
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