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lake anna

LIFE & TIMES



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Of Lake Anna Love
Event Calendar

Remembering Bill Martin

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LKA Life Profile:
Rex Ostrander

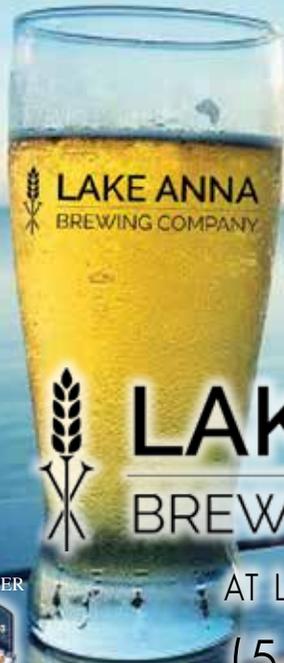
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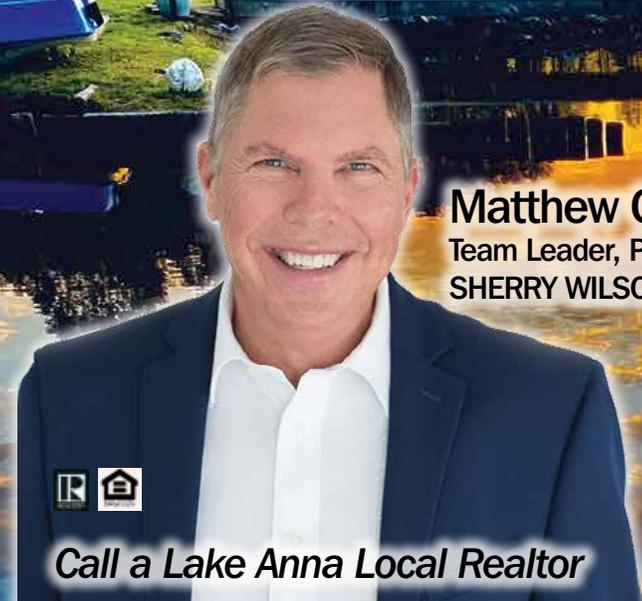


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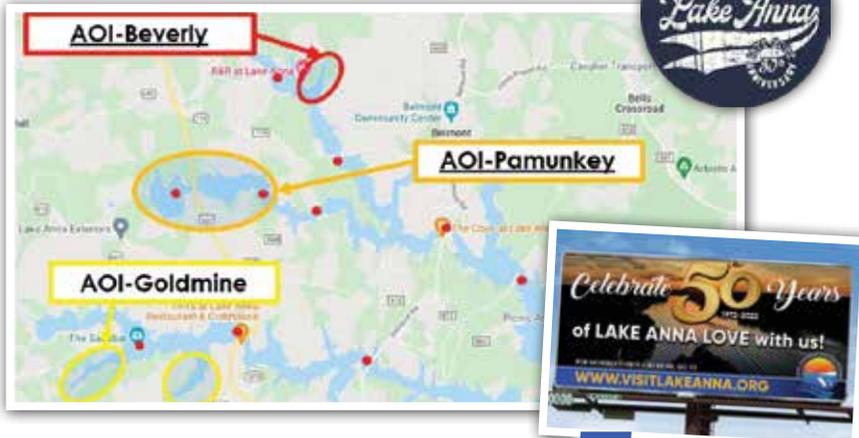
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Quote of the Month

"It has been a challenge in the past to get four votes on Lake issues even when there were four Supervisors representing the Lake area! Now with only two representing the lake it may become more of a challenge to get the results anticipated by the Lake constituency. This is why I voted against the redistricting." - Willie Gentry on p. 14

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Healthy Pet Tips

Anyone who has ever had a dog or cat wishes just one thing — that he or she has a healthy and long life. Here are five tips that can help your pet do just that.

Feed a high quality diet.

Pets fed a high quality diet have a shiny hair coat, healthy skin, and bright eyes. A good diet can help strengthen your pet's immune system, help maintain his or her intestinal health, help increase his or her mental acuity, help keep joints and muscles healthy, and much more.

Keep your pet lean.

Pets that are overweight are at risk for a myriad of health issues. Obesity is the number one nutritional disease seen in pets currently and studies have shown that being overweight or obese can shorten a dog or cat's life span by as much as two years. Why? Being overweight or obese puts your pet at risk for joint disease, heart disease and diabetes, among other things.

Take your pet to the vet regularly

All pets, including both dogs and cats, require

regular veterinary care. However, veterinary care goes far beyond routine vaccinations, even though those are important. A routine examination by your veterinarian can uncover health issues of which you are unaware. In many cases, an early diagnosis improves the chances of successful treatment.

Keep your pet's mouth clean

A common problem among dogs and cats, dental disease and oral health issues can cause your pet pain, making it difficult for him or her to eat. If your pet isn't a big fan of toothbrushes there are other alternatives as well, including dental diets, treats, and toys. Ask your veterinarian for some recommendations

Do not allow your pet to roam unsupervised

Allowing your dog or cat to roam free may seem like you're doing your pet a favor. However, pets that roam are susceptible to a number of dangers, including automobile accidents, predation, exposure to contagious diseases, exposure to poisons, and more. Additionally, allowing your pet to roam unsupervised may alienate your neighbors should your pet ever "relieve" him- or herself in their lawn or bark incessantly.



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Lake Anna Life Monthly is published six times a year. It is distributed on newsstands around the Lake Anna region and inserted into other publications. The electronic version can be viewed at www.lakeannalife.com. Subscriptions are available for \$35 per year (first class mail). We invite the submission of exclusive articles and cannot be responsible to the return of unsolicited works. 114 Old Quarry Lane, Bumpass, VA 23024. News tip and advertising inquiry email: info@lakeannalife.com. Office phone: 540.894.3540. All Lake Anna Monster submissions or Letters From The Lake must be signed with return address. LKA™ is a federally registered trademark used with permission by the trademark holder. Any use must be approved and licensed by the trademark holder - Woods & Waters Publishing. For inquires call 540.894.3540.

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LakeAnnaLife.com is all new with more information about Lake Anna life than ever before. On our new site you'll find our LKA Dining Guide, our LKA Calendar Of Events, information on the Lake Anna Water Trail and Beverage Trail, Side Trips With Style suggestions, the LKA Activity Guide, articles on LKA Building Trends and Top Boathouses, plus a look at LKA Community Leaders and Top Real Estate Pros, plus 50 Must-Dos while you are here, Hotspots, fishing information, a look back at 50 Years of Lake Anna love and some truly incredible photos from you, our readers and followers. Pick up a hard copy at most area retailers or read it online at www.lakeannalife.com.

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Find The Lake Anna Monster...

It's hidden somewhere in this issue. Guess right and be entered to win a \$15 LKA Outfitters gift certificate. Email your guess to us at info@lakeannalife.com.



dock talk

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Short Term Rental Debate Focuses On Lake-Friendly Regulations That Some Owners Think Unnecessary

BY C.C. MCCOTTER

With the popularity of Lake Anna exploding during Covid years and full time residency up 30+ percent in 18 months, the lake community is experiencing predictable growing pains, most recently evidenced by an ongoing debate on short term rental regulations or a lack thereof.

After residents of several Lake Anna subdivisions asked for Louisa County supervisors to look into better regulation of short-term rentals at Lake Anna due to over-crowding of the homes, excessive noise complaints, littering, parking problems and common area access issues, Supervisor Duane Adams (Chairman) acted swiftly.

"I heard some legitimate complaints from homeowners about rental homes in their communities packed with more people than the bedroom/septic field permitted and that caught my attention. Any other issues like renters using common areas or parking on community streets, littering or creating a noise disturbance is an issue for the property owners' associations of these communities to address or for our Sheriff's Department," the Mineral District supervisor told Lake Anna Life & Times.

Adams and the Louisa County Board of Supervisors did move to create a working group to address any need to regulate short term rentals. The group consisted of Supervisor Willie Gentry (Cuckoo District), Dave Moberly of Dockside Realty and the Lake Anna Business

Partnership, Tracy Hale Clark of the Louisa Chamber of Commerce and Adams.

On May 3 staff of Louisa County Community Development referred the proposed draft code amendments to Chapter 86 Land Development Regulations to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation of approval.

There was a Planning Commission public hearing on May 12 at 7 pm in the Louisa County Administrative Building on the proposed regulation amendments and concerned citizens on either side of the issue expressed their views on the list of regulations for consideration.

A number of residents and home owners spoke, including those that rent their lake homes to visitors.

"My clients have called and asked me how these regulations will affect my business. To put it bluntly, they will bankrupt me. Most likely I will have to shutter my business. I will certainly have to lay off employees," Marie Snyder, owner of a linen service that supplies rental homes at the lake told the Planning Commission and those present at the May 12 hearing.

Jim Kogel, a long time resident of Windwood Coves told the Planning Commission the issues arise from a lack of responsibility.

"I can guarantee you the sky is not falling. I support the short term rental guidelines. Things have changed with short term rentals. There's a new avenue of rental. Now there's a third party off in the internet somewhere managing the

property and it causes a lot of problems. The owner of the property takes no responsibility because they aren't here."

At the meeting the Planning Commission voted to table the discussion on the proposed STR regulations until the June meeting and appointed a committee to discuss the regulations further with Supervisors Adams and Gentry.

The current list of proposed regulations that would affect short terms rentals in Louisa County and Lake Anna include: annual registration with a \$50 fee; submittal requirements required from the applicant (a property management plan; copy of a general liability policy; proof of septic system operation and maintenance; homeowner or property owner approval, if applicable); occupancy limited based on number of bedrooms; safety equipment provided on-site; parking in allotted driveways or designated parking spaces on-site; prohibiting event rentals; maintain a rental list for two years; penalties for violations; upon multiple violations prohibition from rental of unit subject to violation.

No action has been taken, however, Adams believes there will be regulations ready for considering at the July Louisa County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Lake District Spotsylvania Supervisors Kevin Marshall told Life & Times they are watching the Louisa process and have also heard from citizens on both sides of the short term rental issue.

"I have received communication from

constituents concerned about short term rentals at the lake, and I have asked our County staff to look into options to address them," Marshall told Life & Times.

Greg Baker, president of the Lake Anna Civic Association has been a strong proponent of regulations that ensure rental homes adhere to drainfield limitations.

"LACA is absolutely not opposed to STRs. Lake Anna is a magnificent gem in the state and we cannot expect to keep her to ourselves. However, the science is clear that septic systems do not function properly and are more likely to fail if they are over capacity. An over capacity septic system is more likely to release the excess nutrients that cause HABs. It is irresponsible to rent over capacity and put the lake at risk. We strongly support the ordinance that is being proposed in Louisa County. This common sense ordinance does not prevent STRs at the lake but requires that the operators rent responsibly," the resident of Kelly's Landing told Lake Anna Life & Times.

At its May meeting the Lake Anna Advisory Committee discussed short term rental regulations briefly. Both Marshall and Adams serve as supervisor representatives. Chairman C.C. McCotter asked if the group felt like any action was necessary and the committee agreed that until the final regulations were proposed, LAAC need not offer any recommendation.

The LCBS could vote on the proposed regulations at its July 5 meeting. **LKA**

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Lake Looses 2 Districts p. 16
Ham & Oyster Record p. 17

Civic Association To Start Spraying Algae This Summer

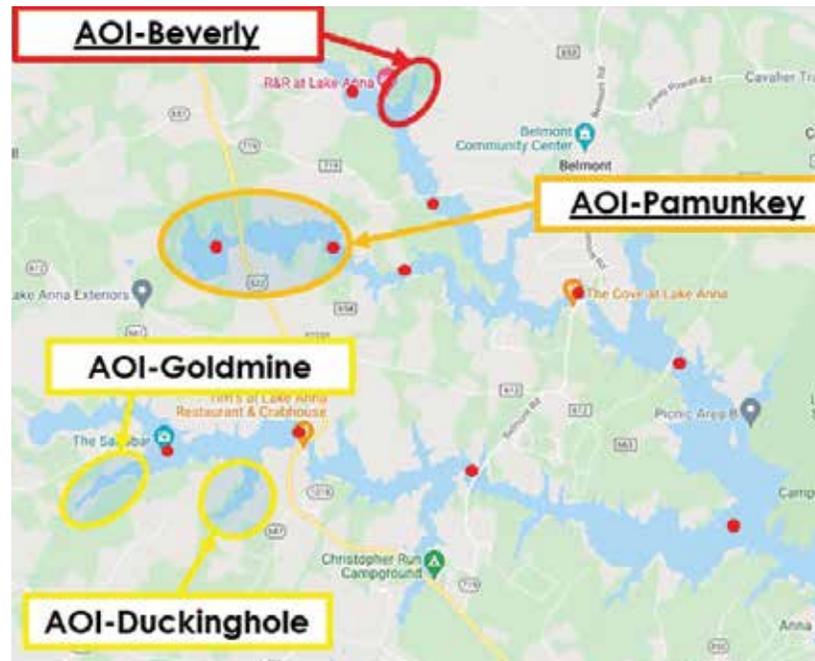
The Lake Anna Civic Association (LACA) has announced a plan to treat algae blooms in three areas of the headwaters of Lake Anna with a hydrogen peroxide algicide.

"LACA has been at the forefront on HAB at Lake Anna. We have expanded our cyanobacteria testing, worked with DEQ and VDH and have hosted several HAB stakeholder meetings over the past two years. Our members are upset and want results, not more testing and studies. With that in mind, we have rolled out the Kick the HAB campaign. This campaign is a 'proof of concept that we can take action on four small areas of interest on the lake with the goal of eliminating the VDH recreational no-swim advisories in these areas. If successful, we have a roadmap on how to mitigate HAB on Lake Anna. Please help support this effort by making a tax-deductible contribution to Kick the HAB at lakeannavirginia.org," LACA president Greg Baker told Life & Times recently.

Baker said BlueGreen Water Technology has received final approvals from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the use of Lake Guard Oxy algicide.

With this approval and Dominion Energy's permission, LACA is moving forward with the first application of Lake Guard Oxy the week of June 20 to the first Area of Interest (AOI) on Lake Anna.

The Cyanobacteria Mitigation Program (CMP) was previously shared with the three counties surrounding



Map of the areas of interest to be treated with algicide.

Lake Anna through the Lake Anna Advisory Committee on May 25th.

LACA solicited RFQs from several licensed contractors to apply Lake Guard Oxy and has chosen SOLitude Lake Management to apply Lake Guard Oxy to four areas of interest: June 16-17 upper Pamunkey Branch, July 14 or 18 Duckinghole and Goldmine Creeks/North Anna, July 15 or 19 Pamunkey Branch/Beverly Cove, August 11 or 15 Duckinghole and Goldmine Creeks, August 12 or 16 Pamunkey Branch/Beverly Cove.

Schedules are tentative based on

lake and weather conditions and LACA will keep their website updated with current dates and times for each application as the summer progresses.

Baker noted the CMP has been in the making for months and is the result of many hundreds of volunteer hours with the goal of eliminating Virginia Department of Health Recreational (No-Swim) Advisories in the AOIs. It is a pilot program (proof of concept) made up of three pillars including (1) Planning & Resourcing,

continued on page 24

LAAC To Review Buoy Application Process

At its May meeting Lake Anna Advisory Committee Chairman C.C. McCotter asked if it was time to review the application process citizens must follow when asking for No Wake Buoys at the lake.

"With so many new homes and applications for buoys it is difficult not to make someone unhappy these days," he told the committee. "I think there might need to be some changes in the process that institute a time limit for official citizen comment on each application as well as some basic physical parameters on when a buoy can be requested via the application and when it cannot."

Louisa Supervisor Duane Adams agreed with McCotter citing his concern that at some point there could be so many buoys most of the lake would be a No Wake Zone.

LAAC Vice Chairman and Spotsylvania Supervisor Kevin Marshall took it a step further, noting he thought the process should be redefined so that the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources was clearly indicated as the final word on all buoy applications that currently are reviewed by LAAC and County staff.

The committee agreed to initiate a buoy application review process coordinated by Navigation & Safety Subcommittee Chair, Jean McCormick. **LKA**



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Lake Business Partnership Promotes 50th Anniversary On Billboard

As part of its Celebrating 50 Years of Lake Anna Love marketing campaign to mark the 50th anniversary of the formation of Lake Anna, the Lake Anna Business Partnership (LABP) has designed a commemorative billboard that will be displayed June 27 through mid August on the main route to the lake off Interstate 95.

"We wanted to highlight the 50th anniversary of the lake and our member businesses with this highly visible promotion," noted LABP president C.C. McCotter, "Our new website will also be live by the time of the billboard so our intent is to promote www.visitlakeanna.org as well."

The billboard features a stunning sunset view of the lake and a call to action to visit the group's website where visitors can discover things to do during their stay and connect with LABP members.

LABP is also working on 50th anniversary commemorative events including a birthday party for the lake (sites and dates TBA soon)

Funding for the billboard is provided by dues from LABP members as well as Spotsylvania Tourism.

The new LABP visitlakeanna.org website will feature a member business directory, more information on Lake Anna activities, a map, a calendar of events and links to over 150 lake area businesses.

LABP will mark 20 years since its founding in 2002 by Steve Mudre, Olivia Ryan, C.C. McCotter and Linda Martunessen. Along the way the organization has been helmed by lake leaders including Mudre, Waymon Bishop, Jeff Heidig, Dick Dickens, Chuck Meeks, McCotter, Jeff Martin and Mark Smith. There are currently 140+ member businesses and social members.

LKA



LABP billboard promotion to appear on Rt. 606 near Thornburg.



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Remembering Dedicated Lake Anna Activist Bill Martin

Long time Lake Anna activist and volunteer William Franklin "Bill" Martin, 82, of Mineral, VA, passed away peacefully on June 10.

He is survived by a sister, four daughters and a son. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. He is predeceased by his wife Gail.

Martin was born in Fort Worth, Texas, on July 28, 1939. He went to Polytechnic High School. He left at age 17 and four days, his mother fibbing about his age to join the Air Force early. He proudly served for four years, and then both in the California and Virginia National Guards.

Bill and Gail were married February 10, 1968, in Las Vegas. Martin was in the United States Postal Service from May 1962-October 1992, starting as

a mail carrier and retiring from the postal service headquarters in Washington, DC.

Bill and Gail retired to the Bumpass area of Lake Anna where they both became a tireless volunteers and activists for the area.

Bill was a volunteer of Louisa, the Louisa County 2065 National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), Louisa County Planning Commission, Crime Stoppers, Stage Alive Community Concerts, Elections, Lake Anna Rescue Squad, Lake Anna Civic Association (LACA), Lake Anna Advisory Committee (LAAC), Louisa County Clean Community Commission, Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA's) Home Delivered Meals program, and Meals on Wheels. Bill and Gail maintained a

four-mile stretch of Adopt-A-Highway roads and served on the board of directors for the Louisa Republican Committee and a board member for Stage Alive Community Concert Association. Bill loved helping animals through the Green Dogs Unleashed charity.

Bill and Gail were adventurers. He had traveled to all 50 states and extensively throughout the world. He touched lives all along the way.

The Celebration of Life service for Bill Martin will be held at the Lake Anna Rescue building on Sunday, June 26 at 3 pm ET

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Green Dogs Unleashed at greendogsunleashed.org. **LKA**



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REAL ESTATE NEWS ROUND-UP

First Half Of 2022 Shows Good Pace For Lake Real Estate

BY LIBBY SANDRIDGE

The Lake Anna housing market exploded the past several years and luckily for sellers and buyers it has continued into the first half of 2022. We have experienced steady interest rates along with the supply and demand working together to push sales through the first part of this year. With the recent rise in mortgage rates, we can expect that the remainder of 2022 will present some affordability challenges.

The challenges are due to low inventory, rising home prices and interest rates that are steadily rising which are expected to affect some buying power. This chain of events along with inflation have many predicting a slowdown in 2023.

To put into perspective, the real estate sales at Lake Anna over the past several years,

are reflected in the numbers. For example, in 2020 we sold 308 homes and 189 lots, at the lake. The surge then continued in 2021 with a total of 274 homes sold and 237 lots. With the lowering of home inventory and competing offers at the lake, lot sales greatly increased. Many

were choosing to build their lake home instead of competing and paying over list price.

So far this year we are looking at 137 homes and 97 lots sold (as of June 2022). You can see the decrease of inventory is driving the numbers down.

You may have heard that

Lake Anna has a new subdivision coming up on the private side called Rock Island Landing. We expected sales to begin this spring however, driving by I see that the roads are still being developed. One builder, Evergreen Homes, has already begun reserving lots with the developer and homes are currently being advertised in the MLS. You can check out the new home plans online or get your agent to send them to you. The best advice I can give you is to make sure you have buyer representation. That subdivision is located off Elk Creek Rd.

So, if you are considering selling or buying, now is the time! You will want to partner with a local agent who has your best interest in mind. That does not always mean the one with the most listings or advertised sales. You want an experienced lake agent that answers the

phone and returns emails and texts immediately.

The low inventory can cause a deal to get away if you don't have a local agent who can quickly respond. Also, for the absent seller you need a local agent that can check on your home on a regular basis. Having an experienced local agent that is dedicated and driven to serve you is very important.

Being a Laker I not only love where I live, I love sharing my knowledge of the hundreds of communities dotting the shoreline here at beautiful Lake Anna, as do many of our local agents. I look forward to seeing you on and around the lake! **LKA**

Author Libby Sandridge is a long time Lake Anna Realtor that works with Dockside Realty. You can contact her at libbysandridge@comcast.net.



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WHAT'S NEW?

around the lake

Lake Anna Special License Plate Effort Underway With Design Contest

The Lake Anna Business Partnership (LABP) has begun the process to create a special Lake Anna license plate.

"At our April Board of Directors meeting we heard a presentation by LABP member Matt Custer who was passionate about creating a Lake Anna license plate. He had researched the entire process and gave an effective presentation that convinced the Board to support it," LABP Vice President Jody Korman told Life & Times.

The process will begin with a Facebook design contest inviting members of the community to submit designs for the plate by an announced deadline.

A review committee will then choose the best five plate designs and an online vote counting Likes will determine the winning design.

The process also requires a minimum of 450 pioneering applicants that pay \$10 each into an escrow fund. If the 450 threshold is met,



LAKE ANNA, VA

Example design of Lake Anna Special License Plate.

the plates will be made and the \$10 fee will be applied to the plate fees and the process will proceed. If the threshold is not met, the \$10 fees are refunded.

"As a new, full time resident I wanted to find something to be part of and the Lake Anna Business Partnership was a good fit. Managing the special license plate project is something I

am passionate about, and I hope the rest of community is too," Custer told Lake Anna Life & Times.

"While I don't know for certain, I am guessing our community has grown to the point where it might be ready for this special license plate. Other lakes like Smith Mountain have them, and I hope our residents will want to show their community pride, too. I am grateful for new members like Matt that come to us with dynamic, new ideas and a plan to actualize them," said LABP president C.C. McCotter.

For more information about how to participate in the contest and to be a pioneering special license applicant, visit www.facebook.com/lakeanna-businesspartnership or www.visit-lakeanna.org.

You can also write a \$10 check out to Lake Anna Business Partnership, License Plate Escrow Account in the memo, and mail it to: Matt Custer, 11709 Tuxworth Trail, Bumpass, VA 23024. **LKA**

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WHAT'S NEW?

around the lake

Developer Says RV Park Not Dead, Considering Options

The Wills Group has withdrawn a special use permit application that if approved would have enabled the development company to create an RV resort in the upper Pamunkey Branch of the lake.

The application detailed a plan to create a 250+ site RV park on 175 acres in Spotsylvania County.

The plan drew the ire of the Lake Anna Civic Associations and an entity called Defend Lake Anna and was not positively supported by the Spotsylvania Planning Commission.

As it stands with the agricultural zoning, the Wills Company can build 12 homes on 175 acres in Spotsylvania - not a good use of the land according to the developer.

"We're evaluating the next steps for the properties," Wills Company spokesman Lonnie Carter told Life & Times. "As developers we are looking at what's best for the lake and the community. Withdrawing doesn't mean would couldn't come back in

the future and try again."

Carter noted it looks like they were going to be submitting plans for homes on the parcel that could support 50+ homes with rezoning.

Greg Baker, president of the Lake Anna Civic Association was part of organized opposition to the proposed RV resort and told Life & Times, "LACA is pleased that our efforts to preserve and protect this portion of Lake Anna were successful. We are aware that the developer has purchased the property and we are eager to hear what they have planned. We hope that they will listen to the very loud statement that the community made by proposing a low density development that is in harmony with the surrounding community and in line with the comprehensive plan. That would mean no more than one home per two acres. LACA is very open and willing to meeting with the developer to share the concerns of the community when they have a new proposal

in mind."

The Wills Company is also working to develop the Hairfield property also in Spotsylvania County located along Rt. 208. This parcel consists of 152 acres on lake side of the road and 85 acres on the other side.

Carter told Life & Times there's a possible component of commercial development on both sides of the road but the bulk of the properties would most likely be developed with homes.

The Gateway at Lake Anna, another Wills Company project, remains on hold until VDOT finalizes the planned construction of a roundabout at Wares Crossroads (intersection of Rt. 208 and Rt. 522). The entrances to The Gateway have to be settled before it can begin signing leases for the 60+ acre parcel that will eventually include a grocery store, hotel, restaurants and more. **LKA**

Anna Point Marina Sold

According to Matt Bauer, in early June, Founders3 entered into a management agreement with the new owners of Anna Point Marina/Lake Country Marine; Allied Strategic Partners, to operate the facility located on Rt. 208.

Bauer is an executive manager for Founders3, a Wisconsin-based real estate management company that has a speciality in managing marinas.

Allied Strategic Partners is an equity investment group based in Texas that "invests and partners with industry leaders driving growth in high quality marine and waterfront hospitality businesses." **LKA**

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WHAT'S NEW? around the lake

Louisa Supervisors Approve Redistricting, Lake Loses Two Districts

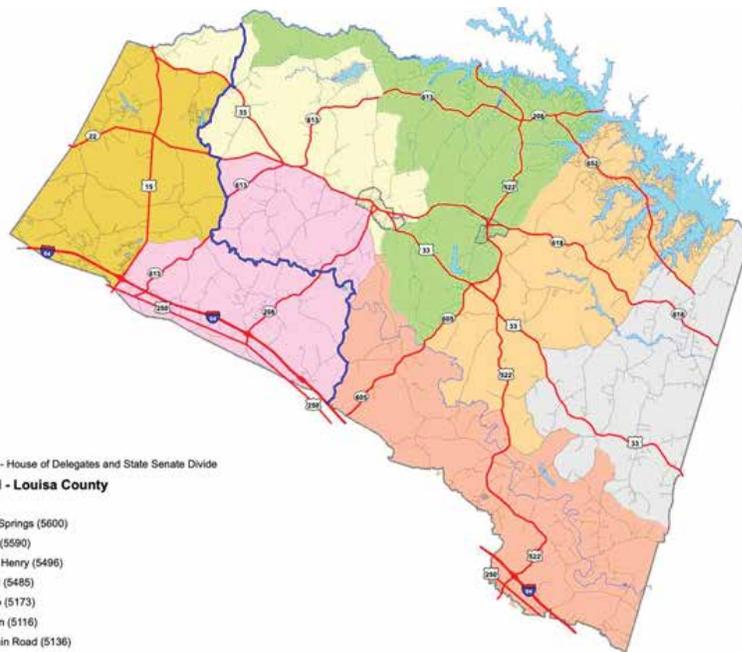
The Louisa County Board of Supervisors has changed the boundaries of voting precincts and districts in several parts of the county, especially around Lake Anna.

Significant changes were proposed by the Supervisors' Redistricting Committee for the lake in March which were then reviewed, discussed and approved at the Supervisors' April 4 meeting with a 6-1 vote.

For many years, Lake Anna was divided into four voting districts: Louisa, Mineral, Cuckoo and Jackson. The new approved redistricting grouped the lake's voters into the Mineral and Cuckoo districts.

Each voting district would have between 5,116 voters, at the low end (Jackson District) and 5,600 voters (Green Springs District) at the high end of the range, with a total county population of 37,596.

The population of districts is supposed to be substantially equal, but they must also be compact and contiguous geographically according to



Legend
 — APPROVED - House of Delegates and State Senate Divide
2022 Proposed - Louisa County
Voting Districts
 100 - Green Springs (5600)
 200 - Louisa (5590)
 300 - Patrick Henry (5496)
 400 - Mineral (5485)
 500 - Cuckoo (5173)
 600 - Jackson (5116)
 700 - Mountain Road (5136)

Map of Louisa County voting districts that shows Lake Anna now is represented by two - Cuckoo and Mineral.

federal government mandates that kick in after 10-year census data is compiled and analyzed.

"Overall, I believe this is a positive for lake residents as the issues surrounding the lake are very particular to this community. Bringing together the various neighborhoods and subdivisions that share a common stake in the health and future of Lake Anna bodes well for our representation in County government," Mineral District Duane Adams noted.

The dissenting voice on the redistricting vote also weighed in.

"It has been a challenge in the past to get four votes on Lake issues even when there were four Supervisors representing the Lake area! Now with only two representing the lake it may become more of a challenge to get the results anticipated by the Lake constituency. This is why I voted against the redistricting," said longtime Cuckoo District Supervisor Willie Gentry. **LKA**

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WHAT'S NEW?

around the lake

Return Of Belmont Ham & Oyster Dinner Produces Record Results

When a community came together to enjoy a cherished, annual event that hadn't been held for two years due to Covid the result was a record-setting fund raiser.

After two years of having to cancel the Belmont Ham & Oyster Dinner due to COVID-19 concerns/restrictions, the 2022 event was an overwhelming success.

"We extend a huge thanks to all of the volunteers from the Belmont Ruritan Club and the Belmont Club of Women and to the community for their support of this iconic event," Belmont Ruritan President John Marsh told Life & Times.

On April 9 the Belmont Community Center was buzzing with volunteers cooking up oysters and preparing meals tending to the various duties necessary to host hundreds of guests.

The much-missed event used 45+ gallons of oysters (approximately



Volunteers for the Belmont Women's Club served over 600 meals during this year's Ham & Oyster fundraiser.

2,900 individual oysters) and required 64 volunteers from both the Belmont Ruritan Club and the Belmont Club of Women along with extended family and neighbors. Co-chairs from each group were Gary Crider and Cheryl Marsh.

Sides, beverages and desserts were

donated by 68 folks. A total of 282 takeout meals were served and 320 attendees dining in the Belmont Community Center.

According to Marsh, the net profits of \$9,801.07 exceeded the prior year results (2019-\$4,340; 2018-\$8,328.98; 2017-\$3,756.68; 2016-\$5,640; 2015-

\$4,230.40).

Proceeds from the Ham & Oyster Dinner support local charities, scholarships for local students and help maintain the Belmont Community Center. **LKA**



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focus on lake business

Family Opening Bakery In Lake Region



Anna Prezioso and family members at The Mad Batter Bakery opening soon in Mineral.

When you ask both Lakers and Weekenders what they would like in the way of new businesses at the lake you get a variety of answers that range from everything from Chick Fil-A to WalMart.

Keep listening and you'll eventually hear someone say: "a bakery," and that is just what one local woman is going to open in the Lake Anna community.

Anna Prezioso also known as Susie or Gigi is a 54-year-old entrepreneur and self-taught baker building a forever home on the lake and opening The Mad Batter in Mineral.

She's originally from New Kent County and currently moving from Mechanicsville. Her oldest daughter and her daughter also live at the lake. The Preziosos moved to the lake in September of 2021 when their daughter's home was complete.

We asked her why she decided to open a bakery in the Lake Anna community?

"I am a self-taught baker and I have been cooking/baking my entire life and love seeing the joy on people's faces when they eat great food. I opened a home bakery in 2018 after undergoing many surgeries on my left foot. A close friend encouraged me to start selling my cakes and within two months of starting I was so busy I had to purchase a commercial refrigerator for my home."

"My husband and I have loved visiting Lake Anna with family and friends on our boat for years. One day we talked about building our forever home here and created a five-year plan that we acted on after only a year. We are super excited to be a part of the lake community and Louisa County."

We asked Anna to describe what a visitor can expect to find in the bakery.

"People can call and place orders

for specialty/custom items. We will offer an online ordering platform for simple orders and we will have some walk-in grab-and-go items. The plan is to offer a couple flavors of the week for sweets for the grab-and-go's. Those flavors will be posted at the bakery and on social media on Sunday for the week to come. We will also have limited seating options for those who want to stop in and enjoy a sweet treat."

As with any new business, the owner plans to work to address customer needs and wants. Prezioso has a plan for her initial offerings, though.

"When we first open the plan is to start off with mainly sweets. A lot of cakes, custom cupcakes, cupcakes and other items. We are paying attention to everyone's comments about wanting breads and doughnuts among other things. We have started working to see what it will take to provide these items as our goal is to provide the community with what they want. The more support we receive the quicker we will be able to add more items."

Anna says she's planning to open towards the end of July and working on planning a grand opening celebration and would love to see lots of the community there. More details about the grand opening will be coming as the date gets closer.

Lastly, we asked why Mineral, a main street community about 15 minutes from the mid lake region of the lake?

"I love the small town feel and the friendliness of the community. We are building our forever home here and I wanted to serve the local community."

You can check out The Mad Batter bakery is on Facebook, Instagram and Prezioso invites all Life & Times readers to stop by in person and check them out. **LKA**

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focus on lake business

Lake Resident Opening Home Furnishings Business

Home Point Lake Anna Located At Anna Point Marina

This year will mark the 50th anniversary of Lake Anna and, like many lake communities around the country it is experiencing a boom in residential and commercial activity. With that boom comes ideas for small businesses to serve the growing residential population. One of the newest businesses coming to the lake this season is a home furnishings store.

Home Point Lake Anna is Tammy Prestipino's dream. The 50-something from Montgomery County, Maryland has owned a home at the lake for 20 plus years and has raised three daughters on lake life.

"We started on the private side right behind Elk Creek Store where my girls and friends could walk up to almost every night for a treat. That was huge for us since at the time there was really nothing else around. Then we found this fantastic waterfront spot off of Old Burruss Road on the public side and we've been here for 17 years .

Prestipino says she and her husband, Vince, plan on living full time at the lake soon and she felt like she needed a project to keep busy and be able to get to know the community. She recently joined the Lake Anna Business Partnership to meet local businesspeople and get involved.

Tammy told Life & Times she has extensive retail experience.

"I owned and operated with my sister/best friend Kim, a small restaurant/boutique called Sisters Sandwiches in Olney, Maryland for nine years. It's still going strong. We always wanted to do a fun furniture salvage shop. We did that. But the food took over. We were very successful, Lord willing, however, tragedy struck our lives and we needed a change and decided to sell."

She noted that she spent a year-and-half at her husband's dental practice working front desk during Covid. Then it was time to move on.

"Just like with Sisters, a light bulb went off. Why don't I open a home decor store? And like that it began."

Further assisting her with the store, Prestipino has a background in interior design which she studied in college. She and her sister even had a small decorating business in Maryland for a few years before the Sisters business.

Tammy told Life & Times she thinks she inherited her creative talent from her mother.

"I was born and raised in a Washington state small town on the Columbia River and watched my mother who



Tammy Prestipino plans on opening Home Point Lake Anna in the early fall at Anna Point Marina.

was always ahead of her times with decorating and furnishings."

"Mom always had all the most current decorating magazines around the house. I painted my first bedroom 'the rainbow look' in 6th grade in the 70's."

Home Point will have new home furnishings, lighting, accessories and great gifts and offer in-home design consultations.

"I've recently met some fantastically talented ladies that are planning to join me part time. We will be able to furnish a full home and provide fun accessories and gifts."

Prestipino notes her favorite style is eclectic.

"I love color and mixing new transitional pieces with vintage. Our home here is a fun, vintage rambler, which we are always updating and adding onto."

The new shop owner told L&T she feels the store will be a needed improvement for the area so homeowners won't need to travel far to get the furnishings they need for a brand new home, or if they just want to update and change the space they're in.

"Also, it will just be a fun place to go with great shopping. I plan to have some fun ladies night and wine night events. I like wine."

The store is located in the Anna Point Marina complex and Prestipino hopes to open at the end of the summer. Furniture and merchandise is just starting to arrive. Visit HomepointLka.com for more information and updates as well as Facebook and Instagram. **LKA**





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focus on lake business

Bark Park Relocated, New Bridge Fire And Rescue Coming Soon

Louisa County has approved the exterior design of the new 5,490 sq. ft. fire, rescue and EMS facility planned for the Lake Anna community.

In early June, Louisa County Board of Supervisors approved the exterior design of the new fire and rescue station planned for 1856 New Bridge Road (Route 208), adjacent to New Bridge Landing (Lake Anna Food Lion).

The two-acre site served as the County's Bark Park. The Bark Park was relocated in March of this year to 17 Sacred Heart Avenue, Mineral, next to the Louisa County Animal Shelter.

Louisa County has approved a total of \$2.3 million for the new station. The Board accepted a contract from BlueScope Construction, the general contractor, with Loudin Building Systems, a Louisa-based company, serving as the primary subcontractor. BlueScope expects to complete the facility by May



The approved exterior design for New Bridge Fire and EMS Station.

2023.

Early in the initiative the Board of Supervisors asked the citizens group Foundation for Lake Anna Emergency Services to raise the first \$100,000 to reflect the community's commitment. Although that timing came in conjunction with the onset of the pandemic the community

pushed forward and raised the requested monies within four months!

The New Bridge Station will open using a County reserve ambulance. The Foundation is currently fundraising \$150,000 towards a \$300,000 price tag so the station can begin services with a new ambulance. The County will apply for a

grant to cover the remaining \$150,000. To that end, the community has currently raised its second \$100,000. Raising the remaining \$50,000 is the current goal.

The Foundation vice president, Jane Gallagher, told Lake Anna Life & Times: "I continue to be amazed at the lake community's dedication to this project. A recent fundraiser at the Lake Anna Taphouse generated almost \$14,000 in donations. We ask the community's continued support in raising the remaining \$50,000 needed for the new ambulance."

To contribute to the fund drive for a new ambulance, send a check to: Foundation for Lake Anna Emergency Services, P.O. Box 1021, Louisa, VA 23093 or go to www.newbridgerescue.com to donate via PayPal or credit card.

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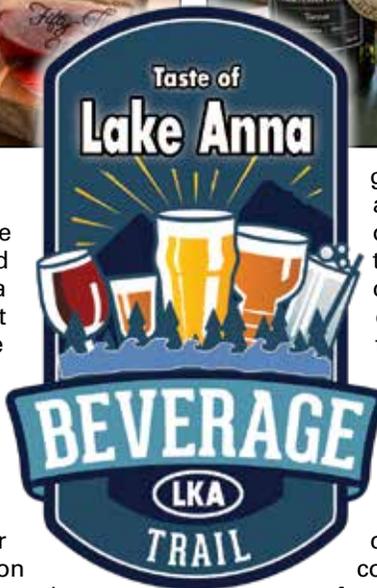
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focus on lake business

2022 Lake Anna Beverage Trail



BY C.C. MCCOTTER

Many visitors to the lake will be interested in the new Lake Anna Beverage Trail that features locally made beer, wine, cider and whisky at a variety of lakeside and lake region venues.

Tourists as well as residents will want to enjoy this tour around the lake region featuring family-owned

businesses offering a pleasing variety of adult beverages. Add in a short drive to the Belmont Distillery just up Rt. 522 and you can also sip some spirits.

We start the tour in the vineyard at Lake Anna Winery where the Heidig family has created "a wide palate of diverse wines to accommodate an equally wide range of diverse palates and settings"

The long-time and award-winning winemaker, Graham Bell, for Lake Anna Winery enjoys creating different flavors with the wines and has earned many recognitions, including for the Petit Verdot, Tannat, and Barrel Select Chardonnay.

Lake Anna Winery's pressing and bottling facility is housed in a completely restored and modernized 1940s dairy barn. The Heidig family operates the winery and a well-appointed tasting room offers cozy seating and a fireplace for cool season visits. When the weather allows,

grab a glass or bottle and take a blanket out and unwind in the vineyard or on the deck; sitting between or overlooking where the magic happens is truly a unique experience.

The popular Soup & Song Series held during the winter and early spring draws visitors to the cozy fire, big screen football games, live music and hot soups!

Your next tour stop is Lake Anna Tap-house, featuring a large variety of beverages on 30+ taps and a cooler packed full of canned and bottled selections. Focusing mostly on Virginia produced beers, wines, ciders, seltzer, and sangrias, Lake Anna Tap-house is the place to go to try almost anything and everything.

With a deck that overlooks the lake and a large "backyard" with seating and games, the view is as equally enjoyable as the beverages. There is a new food menu to choose from or order take-out from a neighboring restaurant to enjoy the lake view. Owner Brian Gilbreth is often behind the bar to welcome your visit and suggest a flight of brews to taste.

Gilbreth's newest venture, Lake Anna Brewing Co. at Lake Anna Tap-house offers seasonally brewed beers ranging from porters to pilsners, ales to stouts. The popular

continued on page 25



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Special People of Lake Anna

Rex Ostrander

by Amy Hager

W

What makes Lake Anna so special to so many people, both resident and visitor alike? Is it the clear, clean and warm water? Is it the abundant fish and birds that also make the lake their home? Is it the lake lifestyle that features both laid back and wild boat parties and places with names like Cocktail Cove, The Sand Bar, Kayakers' Beach, Skinny Dipper's Cove and Bohemian Bay? Or is it places like Tim's, Anna Cabana, Anna Point Marina and High Point Marina that offer

great access and good times?

It's probably all of the above as well as 100 other reasons depending on who you ask. But if you asked folks to name what makes Anna so special it's more often than not something that's natural – a sunset, woods, a beach, a quiet morning.

In this series we'll bring you the story of families/folks that have made sure that those that live and visit here will be able to enjoy this intrinsic beauty of the lake. These are the special people and places of Lake Anna and we should all be grateful for them.

This issue's focus is on Rex Ostrander, one of the quiet driving forces behind much of the development at the

lake. He's the owner of Axis Land Surveying, a Spotsylvania-based business (office on Rt. 208) that works to make sure property lines are where they should be and lots are correctly delineated, along with drainfield marking and other surveying.

Incredibly, Ostrander knew at age 12 he wanted to be a surveyor. He claims that the machetes and axes is what initially attracted him.

Fast forward to over 60 years later, Ostrander has completed surveys from the Everglades in Florida to Vermont, including the mountains of West Virginia and here at Lake Anna.

In the past, he has surveyed for interstate con-



Rex Ostrander poses with a computer surveying device at LakeFest.

struction to build future highways and underground coal mines - he has done about everything.

"One week after my high school graduation in 1964 I was employed for John Weiler and Assoc. in Horseheads, New York, who personally flew me in his private plane to northern Vermont to work with a crew surveying an interstate highway. I started as a front chain man on a three-man survey crew where my future formed," Ostrander explains on his company website.

In 1966 he enlisted in the Army taking basic and training at Fort Dix, NJ and completed six years as a reservist.

Ostrander graduated from Alfred State University of New York (Alfred SUNY) in upper New York with a degree in land surveying and worked for many years under his mentor, Don Strong.

He started his first surveying prac-

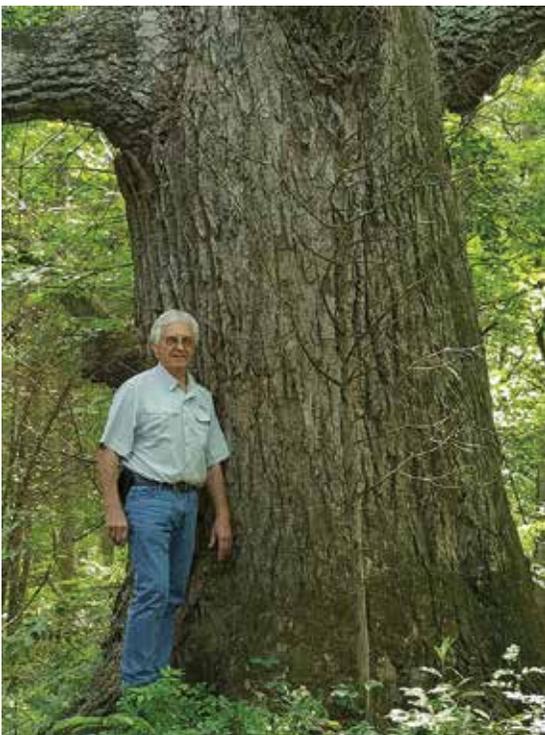
tice in Buchanan, WV in 1975. He said he likes the challenge and resolving problems, being a part of a dream and a vision, and then getting to see the final product at the end because surveying is involved in the full building process.

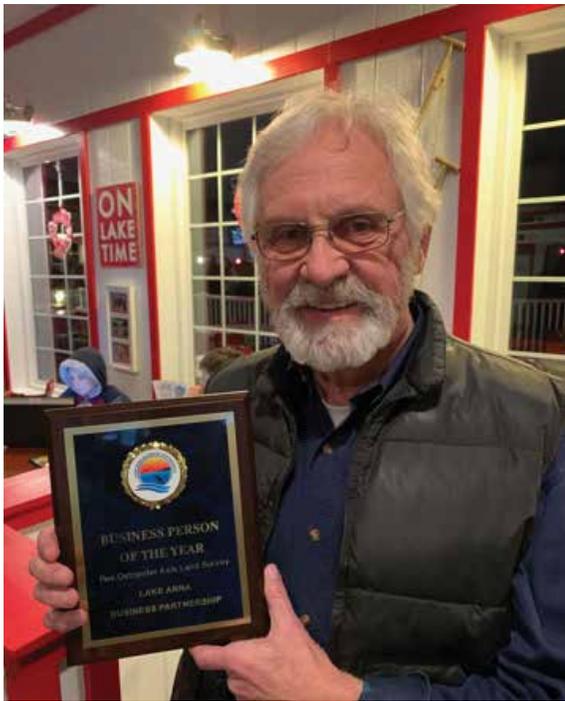
"It is a great business. It's healthy, you are out walking all the time," he smiled as he explained. "Every day is different," he told Life & Times.

It was his late wife, Bonnie, who landed them at Lake Anna. She said he would never have to buy her another gift the rest of her life if they moved to waterfront property.

They lived in Fredericksburg at the time and had a friend who owned a lot that he wanted to sell on the Spotsylvania side, which is now known as the Dovey Luck Subdivision.

They built a home and in 1993 he received his Land Surveying License in the State of Virginia and opened his current practice, Axis Land Surveying.





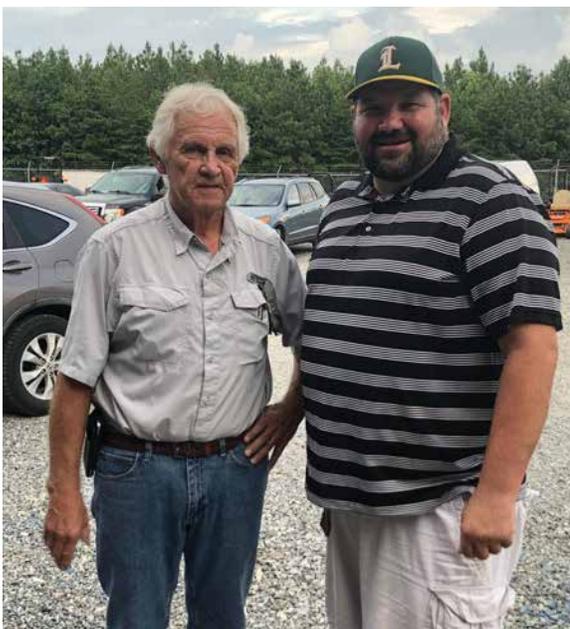
Rex Ostrander was the Lake Anna Business Person of the Year in 2020.

Over the years, Ostrander has covered many counties, worked with several builders and different lots in many subdivisions in Virginia, but he prominently serves Lake Anna. Many homeowners don't know their property lines or what they own when first purchasing their homes. Ostrander says it is important for him and his crews to educate people about boundary laws and the legal aspects of property lines and lake use lines so they know what they own.

Ostrander remarried on July 25, 2020. His wife, Marjorie Ann, sometimes can be seen on a survey site.

He shared a fun fact about his bride with us: she retired from martial arts as a 4th-degree master black-belt, as he talked about how they enjoy jumping in a vehicle and exploring the state and country. They met back when he completed surveys for her over the years at properties in King George, Virginia.

Currently Axis Land Surveying has 11 employees,



Ostrander with his manager Anthony Walters.

which includes drafters, office staff and accounting at their office space on 208 across from the Exxon gas station.

Last year, he and his three crews completed over 500 surveys company wide. He is a volunteer with the Louisa County Chapter of the Habitat for Humanity and belongs to the Knight of Columbus.

Ostrander truly enjoys teaching young surveyors and expresses open concern about the future of the industry.

"There isn't a draw to the younger people in the industry - every state is dropping," he explains.

He is a member of Virginia Association of Land Surveyors, the local Rappahannock Chapter of Land Surveyors, as well as the Virginia Floodplain Management Association. Currently, it takes about eight years for one to complete surveyor training without a college degree. Some college degrees will shorten the time to four years. Math is very im-

continued on next page

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LKA Profile: Rex Ostrander

continued from previous page

portant to the profession, as well as people skills.

The technology has changed over the years, instead of hand drafting plots, it is all computerized. But, the fundamentals of the industry are still very much so the same as when Ostrander started his career and even when he first decided he wanted to be a surveyor.

"I did not realize I was preparing myself for this career by taking the math (at age 12) that would be required to succeed in surveying."

This 76-year-old is training his team to take over the business. He also currently holds his real-estate license and practices a little on the side. He will continue to do real estate after he retires from his business and he adds he will always be available for insight on surveying, he loves it too much to completely leave.

Ostrander relates surveying to two things: "1) Puzzles – we have all completed at least one in our lifetime, so surveying is like putting a puzzle together and completing the picture it makes (hopefully without pieces missing). 2) Dot to Dot - we have all completed a picture be-



Ostrander with his wife, Marjoire Ann.

ing made up dots with numbers in sequence. Starting at one and tracing to the last number we all drew a picture. I do that everyday in surveying. A survey completes a puzzle and drawing that everyone can recognize." **LKA**

LACA Spraying Algae

continued from page 7

(2) Mitigation and (3) Monitoring. For more information, please visit www.lakeannavirginia.org/KicktheHAB.

Baker presented the plan to the Lake Anna Advisory Committee at its May meeting. While no action was asked to be taken by the LAAC, members expressed interest in the plan to use algaecide.

"While I cannot speak for others on the committee, I would say we all can agree that any time anyone wants to treat the lake with any chemical, we need to carefully understand the goals and effects of such efforts. I have personally looked into the use of algaecides on other waters around the country and did not find any reason to oppose this experimental treatment," noted LAAC Chairman C.C. McCotter. He added: "While this treatment might eliminate algae blooms in the area of treatment short term, the long term causes of our harmful algae blooms need to be addressed and mitigated. LAAC and Dominion Energy have each expressed support of planting native vegetation in the headwaters of the lake to absorb the excessive amounts of phospho-

rus and nitrogen entering the lake via the watershed."

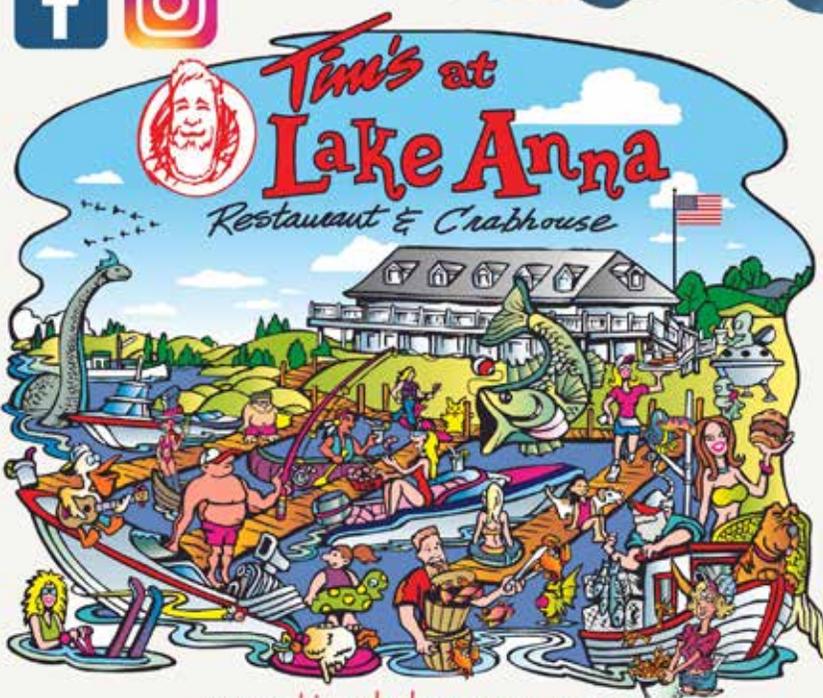
BlueGreen Water Technology has been using Lake Guard Oxy to successfully eliminate algae in waters around the country including Florida and Ohio with no discernable negative effects on native plants, zooplankton, fish and other aquatic residents of the ecosystems they treat.

Lake Anna has experienced harmful algae blooms as documented by the Virginia Department Environmental Quality and the Virginia Department of Health. Starting in late June/early July levels of microcystin toxins released when algae blooms have reached thresholds that trigger VHD issued HAB advisories.

The advisories warn lake users to avoid swimming in the affected areas which could lead to skin irritation, inhalation/respiratory issues and other allergic reactions. The advisories, have in the past years, lasted through September in the upper portion of the lake (North Anna, Pamunkey Branch and Terry's Run). The furthest down the advisories have reached is at the Lake Anna State Park. **LKA**

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lake business

Lake Anna Beverage Trail

continued from page 21

Lake Anna Taphouse Mug Club offers Lake Anna Brewing Co. products to members prior to public release as well as complimentary beverages on birthdays.

Continue on to Coyote Hole Ciderworks just off Rt. 208, a place well known for creating cider with apples sourced from the Blue Ridge Mountains. At any given time they have several seasonal and flagship ciders on tap, as well as their staple cider; Oma Smith, "a crisp semi-sweet cider that starts out with a blend of three apples and back-sweetened with fresh-pressed Granny Smith cider."

Sangria more your style? Don't worry they have you covered! With several options that feature a blend of green apple hard cider, cabernet franc, cranberries, blackberries, and tangerines that make a variety of cider-based sangrias.

While you taste, enjoy yard games, picnic tables or kick around a ball in the field. Coyote Hole also has a variety of menu options.

Next, head west about 20 minutes from the mid lake region and stop in at Southern Revere Cellars.

Here you'll find a cozy tasting barn surrounded by picnic tables and yard games where you can enjoy sampling beer and wine.

Southern Revere's mission is to provide high quality "land-made" craft beverage products while honoring both traditional and innovative styles in a communal, agricultural setting. This is a family and pet friendly gathering place for locals and tourists alike. The environment promotes bridging the gap between wine and beer drinkers: a less fussy approach to wine (while still focusing on quality) and a slightly elevated approach to beer.

53rd Winery is approximately 20 minutes southwest from the mid lake region and offers a truly spectacular tasting facility with a number of award-winning wines to enjoy.

53rd Winery and Vineyard of Virginia was licensed as the 53rd Virginia Farm Winery in July of 1999. The facility is nestled among rolling hills in a traditional farming community. The winery now consists of 103 acres with 22 acres planted to different varietals. The goal of owners, David and Susan Drillock, is to create quality wines that express their varietal character including Albarino, Cabernet Franc, Chardonnay, Chardonnay, Petit Verdot, Vidal Blanc and Viognier.

The original "green" tasting room officially opened in 2011 and has earned a coveted Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, LEED, Platinum certification. This is

awarded only to projects that meet the highest-rated standards in green building technology.

Located about 25 minutes north from mid lake on the way to Culpeper on Rt. 522 is Belmont Farm Distillery. Master Distiller Chuck Miller is proud to use a pot still for his famous Kopper Kettle Virginia Whisky and tours feature a look at this throw-back method. Other spirits Miller produces include gin, vodka, bourbon and single malt.

Miller also has Tom Smith from the Discovery Channel's Mooshiners show producing Climax Moonshine on site with a number of different varieties to try like apple pie, butter-scotch, peach and cherry.

Need transportation for a trail adventure? Contact Lake Anna Tours and have their 16-passenger tour bus at your service. **LKA**



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Anna Cabana's Online Reservation System, The Cove's Summer Menu

Summer at Lake Anna means days spent on the boat enjoying the life aquatic and then boating into a waterfront restaurant for a little refreshment and nourishment.

One of the longest tenured waterfront dining options at the lake, Anna Cabana, welcomes your visit this season with a new way of ensuring good customer service and smooth table flow.

Ownership instituted a reservation system for dinners after a couple seasons of struggling to provide the service they wanted to everyone that wanted to enjoy this landmark restaurant.

Would-be diners are now encouraged to log onto www.theannacabana.net and use their online reservation system. Once in the system, diner's tables will be waiting for them with their name on it.

This restaurant is located just inside the mouth of Sturgeon Creek in the mid lake region (off Breaknock Rd.) and offers outside dining on their deck that overlooks the lake and offers outstanding sunsets. Free dockage is available.

Suzie Squiers, owner of The Cove at Lake Anna has her restaurant and staff ready for the summer



Dinner at Anna Cabana.

season. The Cove is part of a complex in the upper Pamunkey Branch of the lake off Rt. 719 that includes Hunter's Landing Convenience Store, a boat ramp and boat rental business.

The Cove features two bars, one inside and one out, a deck and a patio overlooking the lake as well as free dockage.

For the 2022 summer season Squiers told Lake Anna Life & Times her staff is ready with some amazing signature crushes and frozen drinks and delicious menu items.

Visitors will want to try to eat the entire Blackbeard's Platter that includes a pound of steamed, spiced shrimp and heavy clusters of Alaskan snow crab legs. If seafood is not your thing, one of The Cove's wraps is a good choice including a chipotle chicken wrap or a chicken bacon ranch wrap.

Other favorite menu items are the TNT shrimp tacos, the Chesapeake Club (lump crab cake, shrimp salad, bacon, lettuce, tomato, red onion, cheddar cheese and guacamole), blackened mahi-mahi tacos and the famous Cove Burgers an of course, the Cannon Balls. **LKA**

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Vito's Now Serving Breakfast And Delivering Food To Boats In Lake Anna Island Slips Using QR Tags

One lakeside dining establishment at the lake is leveling up its commitment to customer service with a new boatside delivery option and breakfast hours.

Vito's at the Lake, located in the Lake Anna Island Plaza on the Louisa side of the Rt. 208 Bridge, will begin serv-

ing breakfast on Friday, June 24 from 8 am to 11 am.

The menu features American classics with an Italian twist like Nutella Italian pancakes, tiramisu Fresh toast and Italian sausage, pepper and onion omlettes.

Breakfast will be available Friday through Saturday 8-11

am, inside, on the patio or on The Lounge deck overlooking the lake.

Vito's has also developed a new ordering system that enables diners docked in QR code equipped slips at the Lake Anna Island docks to place their orders and have them delivered boatside. **LKA**

Below Deck Pizza And Subs Open At The Boardwalk

Below Deck Pizza & Subs is a great idea for a grab and go on the way to The Sandbar! This is the place to go in the North Anna for sandwiches, Panini's, smoothies, salads, pizza, ice, beer and wine.

From time to time they also offer freshly made donuts, stuffed croissants, breakfast sandwiches, breakfast burritos, and even a breakfast



Josh and Eric Hovey (r) with a fresh Below Deck pizza.

pizza. Catering and call ahead orders are available. The owner has been in Lake Anna food service for over 25 years.

The meat lover's pizza is a great choice for a hungry crew right off the boat.

Below Deck is located under Tim's at The Boardwalk at Lake Anna off Rt. 522 at 200 Boardwalk Way, Mineral, VA. (540) 894-7808. **LKA**

Callie Opie's Celebrates Five-Year Anniversary

After five culinary adventure-filled years, Callie Opie's is still one of Lake Anna's top choices for fine dining.

Mike Kavros opened his dream restaurant in 2017 at the intersection of Chopping Road and Rt. 522, just a few minutes from the lake and constructed a stunning post and beam building featuring a bar, inside and patio dining utilizing farm to table ingredients, trained chefs and signature cocktails.

The community responded well with glowing reviews and Kavros added a popular brunch and began to work expanding his exterior dining areas, which turned out to be wise with the advent of Covid restrictions.

The resident of Oak Grove Estates also makes



Mike Kavros

sure to change Callie Opie's menu seasonally to keep his repeat customer's interest high. He also instituted a half price burger night in the off season to keep locals coming in.

Recent additions include performance facilities, fire pit, even an event barn complete with bar, multimedia capabilities and games.

Currently, Kavros is working on a walking trail along one side of his property and he is a Harvest Host for those traveling in RVs.

The restaurateur can be found at Callie Opie's working all aspects of the business and often visiting the

tables of his patrons.

Kavros says he is planning a five-year anniversary event later this summer. **LKA**

lake life

Our Lake Life calendar is open to advertisers and non-profit organizations. Submit your event at llife@earthlink.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Monday Night - Steak Night at The Cove at LKA. www.thecovelka.com

Every Tuesday Night - Hinkledire Trivia Night at Tim's at Lake Anna, 7-9 pm. General knowledge and theme rounds. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and last place. www.TimsLakeAnna.com.

Every Wednesday Night - Docksidering @ Coyote Hole Ciderworks. Prizes every round from 6 to 8pm, multiple chances to win each night with so many games.

Every Thursday Night - Coyote Hole Ciderworks Trivia Night - 6-8pm. www.coyotehole.com

July 1 - Country Americana Festival - Lake Anna Winery, 4 'till Fireworks - www.lawinery.com or call 540/895-5085.

July 1 - Fireworks and Fun - The Cove at Lake Anna - Visit www.thecovelka.com or call 540/854-7000.

July 2 - Commonwealth Bluegrass Band (1-4pm), Grinding Gears (8p-12a) - The Cove at Lake Anna - Visit www.thecovelka.com

July 2 - Lake Anna Fireworks - Starts at

dusk, Dike Two, Lake Anna. Visit www.lakeanna.org

July 1 - Mercy Creek - Lake Anna Taphouse, 6pm. Visit www.lakeannataphouse.com

July 1 - Scott McMillen Duo - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 6pm. www.coyotehole.com

July 2 - Harlen Simple Live - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 1pm. Visit www.coyotehole.com

July 3 - Big Rob Duo - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 3pm. www.coyotehole.com

July 3 - Rick Hollowell - The Cove at Lake Anna, 1-4pm - www.thecovelka.com

July 7 - Meet Me on Main - Music, Shop & Dine in Downtown Louisa - 4-9:00pm. Visit www.louisaarts.org

July 7 - Jerry Wimmer Duo - The Cove at Lake Anna, 8-11pm. www.thecovelka.com

July 8 - Cherry Red Band Live - Callie Opie's Orchard, 6:30pm. Visit www.callieopiesorchard.com

July 8 - Music & Wine at Louisa Arts

Center - Dan Trull, 6-8:00pm. Visit www.louisaarts.org

July 8 - The Phipps - The Cove at Lake Anna, 8-11pm. www.thecovelka.com

July 9 - Eric Misa - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 5pm. Visit www.coyotehole.com

July 9 - Reckless Brigade (1-4pm) Josh Misner (8-11pm) - The Cove at Lake Anna - www.thecovelka.com

July 10 - Big Gavel Band - The Cove at Lake Anna, 1-4pm - www.thecovelka.com

July 10 - Mackenzie Roark - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 3pm. www.coyotehole.com

July 14 - Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre - Callie Opie's Orchard, 6-9pm. \$50 ticket includes buffet style dinner and non-alcoholic drink. Visit www.callieopiesorchard.com

July 15 - Mercy Creek - Lake Anna Taphouse, 6pm. Visit www.lakeannataphouse.com

July 15 - The Phipps - The Cove at Lake Anna, 8-11pm - www.thecovelka.com

July 16 - Colonial Seafood Band - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 5pm. Visit www.coyotehole.com

July 16 - Kennedy O'Hanley - The Cove at Lake Anna, 1-4pm. www.thecovelka.com

July 17 - Dave Goodrich - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 3pm. Visit www.coyotehole.com

July 17 - Nathan Oyler - The Cove at Lake Anna, 1-4pm - www.thecovelka.com

July 22 - Dakota Kensy - The Cove at Lake Anna, 8-11pm - www.thecovelka.com

July 22 - Fridays After 5 Concert - Big Gavel Band - Fifty-Third Winery, 6-9:00pm. Visit www.louisacounty.com

July 22 - Music & Wine at Louisa Arts Center - "California Bob" Hale, 6-8:00pm. Visit www.louisaarts.org

July 23 - Joker Band - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 5pm. Visit www.coyotehole.com

July 23 - Nice Couch Live - Callie Opie's Orchard, 7pm. Visit www.callieopiesorchard.com

July 23 - Cajun Zydeco - Lake Anna

Winery, 6-10pm. www.lawinery.com or call 540/895-5085.

July 23 - Macbeth by William Shakespeare - On stage at Louisa Arts Center, 3pm, \$20. Visit www.louisaarts.org for tickets.

July 23 - Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare - On stage at Louisa Arts Center, 7:30pm, \$20. Visit www.louisaarts.org for tickets.

July 23 - RFR Rocks Lake Anna Taphouse - 1pm. Visit www.lakeannataphouse.com

July 23 - Reckless Brigade (1-4:00pm), Josh Misner (8-11pm) - The Cove at Lake Anna - Visit www.thecovelka.com

July 24 - Billy Brockman - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 3pm. Visit www.coyotehole.com

July 24 - Chris Hanks - The Cove at Lake Anna, 1-4pm - www.thecovelka.com

July 29 - Josh Misner - The Cove at Lake Anna, 8-11pm - www.thecovelka.com

July 30 - Big Gavel Band - Coyote Hole Ciderworks, 5pm. Visit www.coyotehole.com

July 30 - Kennedy O'Hanley - The Cove at Lake Anna, 1-4pm - www.thecovelka.com

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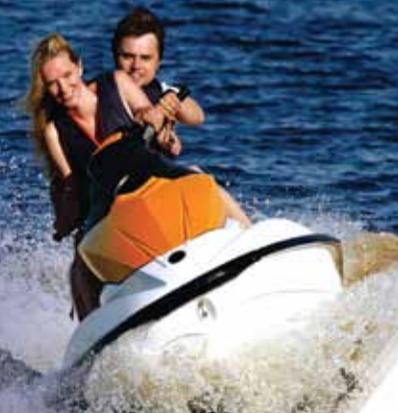
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lake anna reflections

Keep The Drawbridge Down Or Raise It?

As our summer season begins here at Lake Anna we have a number of issues confronting our community that I chalk up to growing pains.

At 50 years old this year, Ms. Anna is holding up pretty well despite some heavy, recent use. The two Covid years saw more people than ever wanting to visit and live in the community and many local businesses have thrived, including real estate, right? Wow!

Our commercial economic engine was stoked by a nationwide return to the outdoors and our restaurants, boat rental businesses, marinas, motels, contractors, property management companies, and really anything lake-related, boomed to the point where many of us just barely kept up. Businesses that exist just to serve lake visitors and community members sprang up and made lots of money.

Rental homes were the same way. Gone are the days where VEPCO employees were about it as far as renters. Today's Lake Anna has everyone from second home buyers to investment groups buying or building homes to rent. It's all about the money.

Subdivisions and non-subdivision residents find themselves inundated with fun seekers flush with Benjamins looking to enjoy every aspect of the lake at nearly every hour of the day.

Most times things are fine. But sometimes the delicate balance between a fulltime neighborhood and a resort area gets off kilter and situations arise.

Noise issues, parking issue, access area situations, rental homes over capacity, stinky septic systems; you get the picture. Folks that moved here to live a quiet retirement learned very quickly that Lake Anna has become a top vacation destination as well as a top waterfront community to live in and own a second home/rental home.

Now when unregulated activity exists, regulations follow. Laws and regulations aren't made/set for those that obey and act responsibly, no they are enacted because there is a lack of control that needs addressing.

Recent proposed short term rental regulations have brought some in our community (mostly owners of these rentals and the businesses that cater to them) up in arms. The May 12 Planning Commission meeting included a Public Hearing that was well-attended by folks on both sides of the aisle on the proposed regulations that eloquently expressed their views. (See

our story on it on page 6).

As the owners of four businesses that rely on the lake for the vast majority of the income generated, my wife and I are leery of anything that unnecessarily burdens our way of life and businesses. However, we have always lived by a simple mantra when it comes to where we stand on issues around the community: If it's good for the lake, it's good for business.

If a regulation is proposed that ensures the lake is protected and also addresses a quality of life issue, we would say that's good for the lake and good for our businesses.

Remember, what you came here for in the beginning and what keeps you coming back and staying here now; a quiet sunset, the hoot of an owl after dark (not your neighbor's rental), the opportunity to find a quiet cove to pursue your water passion (fishing, boating, wakesport, sunbathing, swimming, etc.). I could go on and on.

You must have intrinsic beauty here in order to have good business. Make it like NOVA or NJ and you will have a problem or a different kind of folks travelling here.

Yes, Lake Anna is changing and yes, we are having growing pains. We'll probably keep having them for a while yet, but let's not lose sight of the bigger picture of what drew us to central Virginia's best-kept secret all those years ago, and let's never stop working to protect and preserve that aspect of Lake Anna life.

In the coming weeks, months and years, you will probably talk about these issues and others that come before you as a community member and you'll come to realize where you stand; to keep the drawbridge down or raise it a bit. I encourage you to examine your positions carefully and participate in all manners of civic involvement. Hopefully our newspaper will help you with the facts to form those opinions.

C.C. McCotter
Publisher, Lake Anna Life Media



Editor's Note: Have a Lake Anna issue you'd like to express your views on? Submit your piece to us and make your voice be heard! The opinions expressed in this column are meant to elicit a response from our readers. If you'd like to submit an essay for publication please email it to us at info@lakeannalife.com



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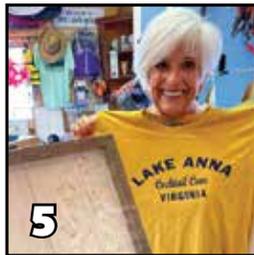
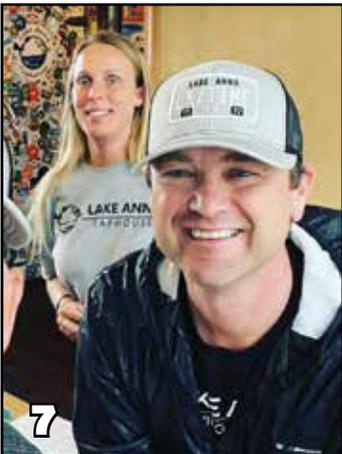


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Photos - 1/ Steve Harler of Mid Atlantic Watersports, Larry Simpkins of Sterling Aero Marine, Jody Korman and C.C. McCotter at the May Lake Anna Business Partnership Business After Hours. 2/LKA'S favorite Karen with a 50th anniversary shirt from LKA Outfitters. 3/ Doug Bar-moy and Ronda Guill. 4/LeeAnne Kratzer, Chrissie McCotter and Joe Messett at Anna Cabana. 5/ Stephanie Koren. 6/Terry and Dave Moberly. 7/Brian Gilbreth and Hillary at Lake Anna Taphouse. 8/LABP President C.C. McCotter with realtor Lindsey McClellan, Lonnie Carter and Supervisor Kevin Marshall. 9/Pat and Jane Gallagher at the LABP May BAH event. 10/ Three friendly faces we found at Moo Thru thanks to Alexander Menton.

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