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LIFE & TIMES

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Quote of the Month

"We expect this project to generate millions of dollars in annual revenue, and will provide jobs for varying experience levels including: full-time, salaried, part-time and hourly opportunities." *Spotsylvania Economic Director Kevin Marshall See story on p. 10.*

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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.

Correction

In our Summer Edition we incorrectly wrote that LABP manages the lake's buoy system. It is in fact, LAAC or the Lake Anna Advisory Committee that manages these buoys.

Cover Shot



Our cover photo is by Lake Anna's favorite pilot, Bill Fosdick.

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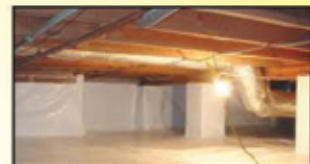
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Think Carefully About A Puppy For Christmas

A puppy can be a special gift, but there are many things to consider before giving one as a Christmas present.

First consider the recipient's lifestyle. Consider the recipient's schedule, energy level, and whether they have the time and money to care for a puppy. Puppies need a lot of attention, including daily exercise and training, and frequent trips to the vet.

Next consider the puppy's breed. Consider the breed's size, energy level, and personality, and whether it's a good fit for the recipient's lifestyle.

You should also think about the recipient's home and consider whether the recipient has space for a puppy, and whether they already have another dog.

The recipient's family is another con-

cern. If the puppy is for a child, consider discussing it with their parents or significant other.

A surprise puppy can be a bad idea, especially for non-children. Instead, you could go to the shelter with the recipient to choose a puppy that's a good fit.

If you do decide to give a puppy as a gift, never wrap it up. Instead, you could attach a bow to the puppy's collar, or put the puppy in a dog carrier or crate with a bow on top.

Lastly, it is great idea to adopt a puppy instead of shopping for one. Avoid bringing a puppy on the eve of Christmas as that can be a stressful time. Do ensure that you have everything your puppy requires at your disposal before bringing it home.

Happy holidays to all and here's to a great 2025 together at Lake Anna!



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- LACA Presidents Council p. 13
- Roosters & Foxes Donate \$8K p. 16
- Proud To Be Cuckoo Awards p. 17

AWS Officially Kicks Off Work At Lake Anna Technology Campus, Expects Over 1,000 Jobs

As most passerbys of the Lake Anna Technology Campus at the corner Rt. 652/Kentucky Springs Road and Haley Drive (Rt. 700) can attest, major clearing and earthmoving duties are well underway at the site that could hold more than 1.7 million square feet of Amazon Web Services (AWS) data centers in four years.

Massive earthmoving efforts and burnings began back in mid-November when a mission-critical memorandum of understanding was granted by various state agencies and a wetlands disturbing permit approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Many residents near the site have noted the smoke from the fires that burned day and night.

A spokesperson for AWS told Life & Times that timber clearing and burning activities at the site will be substantially completed by the end of 2024, but limited timber burns may be required at later stages of the project's development.

"Environmental compliance and winter weather preparation are consistently top of mind for Clark and the on-site crews," Jordan Snelling Tate told Lake Anna Life & Times.

Clark Construction, a national firm and the project's general contractor, is overseeing the transformation of the 153-acre site that will house a seven building, water-cooled data center campus meant to serve the ever-increasing demand for cloud computing and web-based services like artificial intelligence.

Water for the data centers will initially



Members of Louisa County government, Clarke Construction and AWS at the recent kick off event for the Lake Anna Technology Campus.

be sourced from on-site wells while a pipeline is constructed that will bring water from county-owned Northeast Creek Reservoir, some 12 miles away.

In the next 30-60 days utility installation, building pad preparation and stone importing activities will commence on site.

Motorists who travel Kentucky Springs Road will likely see an increase in traffic around the site in the coming weeks as contractors bring in large amounts of gravel and equipment. The gravel will be sourced from Cedar Mountain Stone Corporation in southern Culpeper County, likely increasing truck traffic on Route 522 between Rapidan and Wares

Crossroads.

According to a permit issued by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the campus will include five construction entrances—four off Haley Drive and one off Kentucky Springs Road. The main construction entrance will be located off Haley Drive, and the county's erosion and sediment control plan includes provisions to ensure that adjacent roadways are kept clean and free of debris.

While Clark will act as general contractor, other companies will participate throughout the construction process. Shirley Construction, a Northern Vir-

continued on page 9

John McGuire Wins 5th District Congressional Race

Republican John McGuire will be the newest representative in Washington for much of the Louisa Lake Anna community after winning the election November 5 over Democrat Gloria Witt.

Louisa County Board of Supervisors Chairman Duane Adams has announced he will seek the Republican nomination to run for the Virginia Senate seat for District 10 that McGuire once held.

"As a County Supervisor I have been on the front lines fighting to protect the health and water quality of the lake.

"We know that the control and mitigation of continual HAB outbreaks will be dependent on state and federal funding. Having testified in Richmond on the regional impact of Lake Anna I have helped secure over \$2 million dollars in state funding to begin the process of protecting this vital resource.

"The economic impact to both residents and businesses with regard to the health of the lake requires someone with the knowledge and expertise to fully advocate for a comprehensive, long range approach to protecting the 'Jewel of Louisa County,'" Adams told Life & Times.

Particularly important to residents of Louisa County and the Lake Anna community is having a strong advocate for the lake in Richmond.

If Adams wins the special election in January (or February) the Louisa County Board of Supervisors will appoint a replacement to serve the rest of his' term (until Dec. 31 '25). **LKA**

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HAB Mitigation Results Show Nearly \$1 Million Investment Working For Both Contractors

BY HARRY LOONEY

The upper reaches of the public side of Lake Anna have experienced harmful algae blooms (HABs) and associated recreational advisories since 2018 and there are no environmental indicators that the problem will correct itself naturally.

HABs degrade water quality, produce toxins that are a risk to humans, pets, and wildlife, and have negative impacts on recreation, property values, and the local economy. Legacy nutrients in the lake sediment and concentrated inflows of phosphorus are a key driver of HABs in Lake Anna. Phosphorus is well understood through decades of research as the primary source of HABs in most freshwater lakes.

The Lake Anna Advisory Committee (LAAC) has spearheaded a \$903,500 phosphorus mitigation project to start

addressing phosphorus issues in the upper part of the reservoir.

EutroPHIX, a division of SePRO Corporation, and Clean Streams Rivers and Lakes (CSRL) were selected through a competitive process to undertake this project. The EutroPHIX project scope includes the application of phosphorus inactivating products both directly to the North Anna tributary of Lake Anna, as well as to the North Anna River upstream of the lake to mitigate ongoing phosphorus inputs from the watershed.

The CSRL project scope includes the application of phosphorus inactivating products to the Terry's Run tributary of Lake Anna and the use of innovative, beneficial bacteria "bioreactors" to grow and sustain bacteria that compete with the cyanobacteria for nutrients and other sources of energy.

The long-term goal of the LAAC project



CSRL technicians applying phosphorus binding agents into Terry's Run.

is to improve water quality in Lake Anna and to mitigate excess phosphorus in the upper lake. The project's funding was secured through a Virginia General Assembly FY24 appropriation that went to the Department

of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and was then transferred to Louisa County for execution by LAAC. We are currently completing Phase 1 of the multi-year restoration plan for the northern end of Lake Anna.



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- No Wake Buoys Divide LAAC p. 12
- LACA Presidents Council p. 13
- Roosters & Foxes Donate \$8K p. 16
- Proud To Be Cuckoo Awards p. 17
- The Big Clean 2024 p. 18

The active ingredients of EutroPHIX's products are lanthanum and rare earth minerals that rapidly and permanently bind phosphorus from water and sediment.

The active ingredient used by CSRL is a Calcium Silicate-based granular product and the application of beneficial bacteria directly to the water. The products have a wide margin of safety for aquatic organisms, fish, birds, mammals, and humans, and the treatments have been reviewed and approved by Dominion Energy.

The active ingredients used by both contractors have excellent phosphorus binding capabilities but the process of binding dissolved phosphorus can take 90-120 days to be fully achieved after application.

The data clearly show that the applications in both the North Anna River and Terry's Run are working and they are having positive impacts on Lake Anna water quality but patience is required as it will take several years to achieve the excess phosphorus reductions needed

to put the lake back in balance.

The LAAC monitored the upper lake throughout the year to determine the amount of improvement in water quality and effectiveness of the treatments. In addition, the upper lake continued to be monitored by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Lake Anna Civic Association (LACA) and both contractors were required to conduct water quality monitoring as part of their technical approach.

The contract included a Phase 1 outcome-based measure of performance (MOP). The MOP is based on a five-year average of Total Phosphorus data from 2019 through 2023. The Phase 1 MOP was a 10% reduction in excess phosphorus for both contractors as measured at the final sampling of the period of performance. We are awaiting results from November and December sampling by DEQ and LACA to make final decisions but the current data indicates both contractors will meet the 10% reduction outcome-based MOP.

LAAC is working on plans for what we want to do in 2025 with the funding we have available. That plan will be presented to the members of the LAAC at the January 2025 meeting. The date for the LAAC meeting is January 23rd at the Louisa County Executive Office building. The public is welcome to attend all LAAC meetings – please attend in January if you are interested in hearing the final results.

The LAAC is seeking funding for implementation of our phosphorus remediation efforts in future years. This project can provide a tremendous benefit to the local community by improving recreation, supporting growth of the local economy, and protecting this valuable resource and downstream uses of water. The lake is an extremely important resource to the region and a focal point for recreation, and it is critical to restore the compromised water quality for the citizens that enjoy the lake. **LKA**

Lake Anna Technology Campus

continued from page 7

ginia-based firm, is handling the rough grading phase.

A kick-off event at the site was held November 12 drawing members of Louisa County government, AWS, Clark and Shirley.

A spokesperson for Clark noted the site will see up to 1,000 workers during the site preparation and construction process and a number of local food vendors have been contacted to provide meals for the workforce. Clark is also working with the Louisa County Public School system to recruit and train construction workers for the site that will be moving 10,000-20,000 square foot of dirt per day at the height of the site preparation phase.

Each data center is projected to generate just over \$2 million in tax revenue annually over a 15-year period. Twenty to 25 people are expected to be employed at each facility. **LKA**

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Massive Waterpark Project Well Underway At Thornburg

BY WALTER CLAXTON

A 135-acre site at the Thornburg exit off Interstate 95 is currently undergoing a massive transformation to become Virginia's newest waterpark resort and convention center.

Kalahari Resorts & Conventions is building a 1.38 million square foot facility scheduled to open at some point in 2026 after a \$900 million investment.

The resort will offer 907 guest rooms and suites (one, two and three bedroom) and include microwave, refrigerator, iron, ironing board, in-room safe, complimentary Wi-Fi, remote control television with cable, voice-mail, hair dryer and luxurious bath amenities. Registered guests will re-

ceive admission to Virginia's largest indoor waterpark.

The 175,000 sq. ft. waterpark will include 10 acres of seasonal outdoor pools and the 90,000 sq. ft. Tom Foolery's Adventure Park featuring thrill rides, ropes course, climbing walks and indoor zip line, bowling, laser tag and 250+ arcade games.

There will also be 12 on-site food and beverage outlets, including four signature dining experiences along with buffet and grab-and-go options.

Restaurants include Double Cut™ Steak House, Sortino's Italian Kitchen, Cinco Ninos, B-Lux Grill & Bar, M-rakesh Market, Java Majaro, The Last Bite, Baobob Social, Café Mirage, Cracked Coconut Bar and the Grotto Swim-Up Bar.



Aerial photo of Kalahari site at Thornburg next to I-95.



Artist rendition of the indoor waterpark at Kalahari Resort.

The plan also calls for 10,000+ sq. ft. of retail space with three shops, a state-of-the-art fitness center and a Build-A-Bear Workshop™.

The convention center will consist of 150,000 sq. ft. of flexible space including two ballrooms (30,000 and 19,000 sq. ft.), 16 additional meeting rooms and multiple hospitality suites, a full-service business center plus an 50,000 additional sq. ft. of outdoor event space that includes an event barn, covered terraces and an outdoor lawn.

"This project will diversify the property tax base by bringing a new industry — the resort/convention business — to Spotsylvania. We expect

this project to generate millions of dollars in annual revenue, and will provide jobs for varying experience levels including: full-time, salaried, part-time and hourly opportunities," said Spotsylvania Economic Director Kevin Marshall.

Spotsylvania County has provided significant tax incentives and grants to Kalahari to build the resort and convention center.

Local firms are working on the construction currently and the vast majority of workers for the resort will be local to the Spotsylvania County area. The project is expected to generate 1,200 jobs. **LKA**



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- Lighted Boat Parades p. 20

LAAC To Examine Hydrilla Management Protocol, Requests More Funding

At its November meeting the Lake Anna Advisory Committee (LAAC) discussed updating its Hydrilla Management Protocol to allow the group to be more flexible in how they manage the aquatic weed.

LAAC Chair and Louisa County Cuckoo District Supervisor Christopher C. McCotter told the group during discussion, "It's time to examine how we prioritize areas for hydrilla management so we can be sure we are nimble enough to address problem spots going forward."

At the meeting McCotter appointed a work group to review the current process and make recommendations for an updated process for the January 2025 LAAC meeting, appointing Harry Looney (Louisa County representative), Jeff Palmer (Orange County representative) and Robin Horne (Louisa County representative) to the group.

As part of its ongoing efforts to manage hydrilla in Lake Anna, the Lake Anna Advisory Committee oversaw the treatment of 20 acres of the aquatic grass in Pigeon Creek in mid-August.

LAAC received the approval of Domin-

ion Energy and the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources to contract with an aquatic herbicide applicator per LAAC's Hydrilla Management Protocol, which includes multiple annual surveys to determine which, if any areas hydrilla impedes navigation on the lake.

The hydrilla was effectively treated in August. Two weeks after the application a follow-up survey found no hydrilla within the treatment area.

LAAC also stocked 100 grass eating carp into the back of Mitchell Creek last spring to address hydrilla growth surveyed in 2023. While the hydrilla wasn't completely eliminated, the carp have managed it, so it hasn't posed a navigational impediment.

"Remember our stated goal is not to eradicate hydrilla but to manage it. Some hydrilla is beneficial to the lake, acting as a sediment filter and nutrient eliminator. Where you have hydrilla, you don't have harmful algae blooms," Looney told the group at the November meeting.

McCotter noted there are other areas around the lake with significant or no-



Grass carp stocking truck.

table hydrilla growth this summer including on the Waste Heat Treatment Facility or "hot" side of the lake and told committee members he was concerned about LAAC's budget being enough to treat hydrilla.

"I don't think we are going to be able to keep up with it getting \$17K in funding a year from Louisa, Orange and Spotsylvania Counties for hydrilla management and buoy maintenance."

LAAC did increase its annual funding requests to all three counties (\$8,500

each) and recommended all three include hydrilla maintenance funding in the annual legislative agenda for the upcoming General Assembly.

Looney noted he and McCotter had recently participated in a meeting with the Lake Gaston Association, a similar group to LAAC that manages hydrilla on the 20,000-acre Dominion Energy-owned lake that straddles the Virginia/North Carolina border.

"We learned that LGA manages hydrilla very differently and has a \$1 million budget, part of which comes from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. They also work closely with North Carolina State University to survey hydrilla tubers with sediment samples and use over 100 volunteers to do a whole lake survey. We learned a lot during the conversation."

Another topic of discussion during the November meeting was the option for HOAs to treat the hydrilla themselves with a permit and a licensed applicator.

Looney noted the work group would look into that possibility. **LKA**



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WHAT'S NEW?

around the lake

Advisory Group Makes No Wake Buoy Decisions For Lake

The Lake Anna Advisory Committee considered three No Wake Buoy applications at its November 21 meeting, two of which divided the group and caused other representatives to abstain.

LAAC is part of the three-body process that includes the county where the application originates as well as the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, which makes the final decision. LAAC makes a recommendation considered by DWR.

LAAC consists of a nine member "board," three supervisors from each of the three counties around the lake (Orange, Louisa and Spotsylvania), two citizen representatives from Louisa and Spotsylvania and one from Orange with a final representative from Dominion Energy.

The group meets every other month at the Louisa County Administrative Building at 6 pm. The agendas are published on the Louisa County website prior to the meetings.

In addition to being tasked with managing hydrilla and the lake's buoy system,

LAAC also review buoy applications – mostly HOA requests for No Wake Buoys.

The three applications included a request from Doug Boggs for a single No Wake Buoy in a cove approximately 250' at the mouth where he and nine other homes are, a request from Lost Cove HOA for a series of buoys 200' off the shoreline just above Stubbs Bridge and a request from Contrary Forest HOA for four buoys to create a No Wake Zone halfway back in Contrary Creek.

During the Public Comment period nine persons spoke in favor of either the

Lost Cove application or the Contrary Forest application, including the applicants themselves.

A motion to approve Boggs' application was approved 6-1 with Louisa Representative Robin Horne voting against and Dominion Representative Sarah Marshall ab-

staining. Louisa County Supervisor and LAAC

Chairman Christopher C. McCotter noted Boggs' application was a common type that the group had approved many times over the years.

A motion to approve the Lost Cove application was passed by a vote of 3-2 with Dominion Representative Sarah Marshall, Orange County Representative Ed Van Hoven and Spotsylvania Citizen Representative Bobby Egan abstaining. Spotsylvania County Supervisor Kevin Marshall, Spotsylvania Representative Barbara Aikens and Louisa County Representative Harry Looney voted for the motion. McCotter and Louisa County Representative Robin Horne voted against the motion.

A motion to approve the Contrary Forest application was defeated by a vote of 2-4. Mrs. Marshall and Egan abstained. McCotter, Marshall, Horne and Van Hoven opposed, while Looney and Aikens voted for the motion.

Prior to the latter two votes McCotter asked LAAC members to carefully consider their vote as they would be setting precedents with their action.

"While it is not pleasant to admit, it is a

fact that there are areas on the main lake that are not good places to swim or enjoy paddle sports on many in-season weekends due to boat traffic and wakes. No wake buoys along shorelines will not remove large wakes that create these areas but will compress activity into smaller and smaller areas," he told the members.

Aikens, chair of the LAAC Navigation & Safety Subcommittee recommended approval of all three applications. She quoted studies that noted large wakes needed more than 200' to dissipate.

Supervisor Marshall suggested the counties better coordinate with the state to get the varying shoreline no wake ordinances in agreement, noting Spotsy's was 200', Louisa was 100' and the state's is 50'.

Mrs. Marshall asked if a subject matter expert on wake dissipation might attend a future LAAC meeting to help the group better understand the reason for no wake setbacks. McCotter agreed and asked Aikens and Mrs. Marshall to coordinate such a presentation.

The group will meet again January 23, 2025. **LKA**



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WHAT'S NEW?

around the lake

LACA President's Council Draws HOA Presidents, Topics Include Civic Group's 2025 Agenda

Lake Anna Civic Association (LACA) President Greg Baker presided over a President's Council Meeting held at the Belmont Community Center on November 15, where members of Lake Anna HOAs gathered to hear the group's agenda for 2025.

Baker told those present LACA was focused on five goals: 1) annual funding for HAB remediation, 2) funding for freshwater HAB testing, 3) restoring funding for the Department of Wildlife Resources' Conservation Police, 4) short term rentals (STRs) no greater than capacity of drainfield and 5) a 500' setback from the shore and 20' minimum for wake surfing.

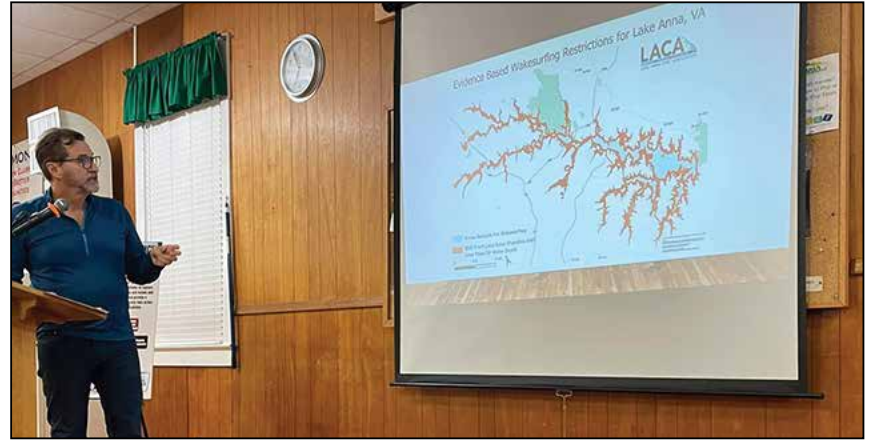
"The Department of Wildlife Resources is authorized for approximately 182 CPOs for the entire state. That works out to about two CPOs per county. Currently, there are only 160-170 of those positions filled. You can imagine how hard it is for the department to manage their resources and provide coverage to Lake Anna, with such a small force. To make matters worse,

CPOs often make less than their counterparts in other policing organizations," Baker told Lake Anna Life & Times.

He also noted that the Virginia General Assembly passed House Bill 38 back in 1998, which authorized DWR to receive sales tax on sales of wildlife equipment (like fishing poles and guns). HB38 also capped the annual amount to \$13 million dollars. Unfortunately, that cap has not changed in almost 25 years. Because of inflation, a dollar in 1998 would need to be \$1.83 today to have the same value. DWR is vastly underfunded because of this un-updated situation.

Regarding STRs, Baker noted "LACA is not opposed to STRs at Lake Anna, but LACA is opposed to renting beyond the capacity of septic systems and renting rooms that do not provide proper egress."

LACA will also push for state code to be changed to create a uniform setback from the shoreline and a minimum depth of 20' for wakesurfing in



LACA President Greg Baker

lakes like Anna. Citing survey data that showed LACA members were very concerned about the effect of wake surfing on shorelines, docks, boats and others in the water swimming or paddling and national data that asserts 500' is the distance at which wakes created by wakesurfing

boats dissipate, Baker showed a slide of Lake Anna with all areas within 500' of the shoreline and less than 20' highlighted. Most of up lake was marked and therefore would be off limits to wakesurfing with this proposed change. **LKA**

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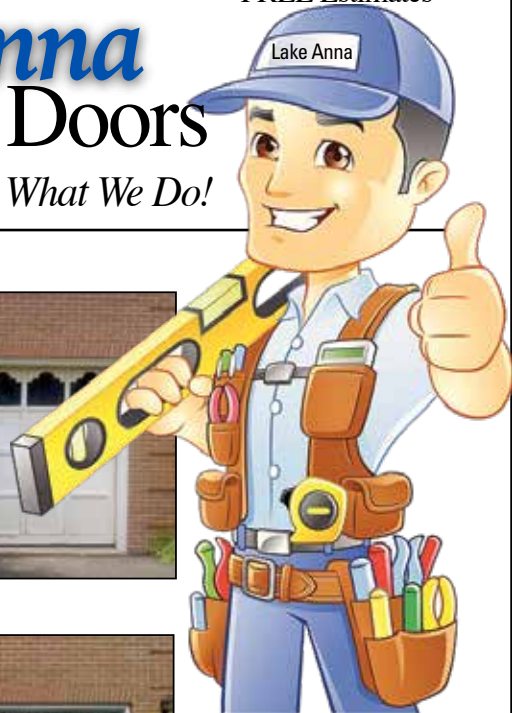
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WHAT'S NEW?
around the lake

Roosters & Foxes Social Club Donates \$8K To Local Causes



Lake Anna Roosters & Foxes Social Club Charity Chair Kristin Barmoy presenting Lloyd Runnett of the Louisa Resource Council with a donation for \$1,500.

One of Lake Anna's most popular social groups has donated \$8,000 to local charities and raised another \$1,200 on the night the big checks were awarded.

"We are a 2,267-person strong social, community service group bringing our beautiful lake community together and supporting local businesses," Lake Anna Roosters & Foxes founder Mark Strauss told Lake Anna Life & Times recently after the night of generosity. "I rely on Kristin Barmoy, the Chair of the Roosters & Foxes Charity Committee and that those that raise money through various activities to provide her the monies and figure out the best way to support the various charities the committee chooses. My job is to post to Roosters & Foxes social media, help and guide others with their ideas, set up events, get donors and work annual blood drives. I never thought Roosters & Foxes would be so time consuming!"

Strauss founded Lake Anna Roosters & Foxes as a Facebook Group in 2020 after he and a bunch of friends that enjoyed getting together for dinner decided it might be fun to organize a more formal, goal-oriented social club. Word spread online and now four years, later the group is

setting a high standard for community service and fellowship.

At the recent annual Roosters & Foxes Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner held at Cooling Pond Brewery, the group donated \$1,500 to the Louisa County Resource Council (LCRC), \$1,500 to Emerging Stars, \$2,500 to the Journey Home and \$2,500 to Giving Words. An additional \$1,200 was raised that night to purchase winter coats for area elderly and children which LCRC will distribute.

On the Roosters & Foxes Facebook site visitors can find a weekly live music performance schedule, corn-hole event date listings, group litter clean up date listings, inspirational messages, travel deals, home decorating tips and more, all from local members.

In 2024 the group performed a number of additionally commendable special events/efforts including a four blood drives that collected 278 pints and St. Patrick's Day Potluck Dinner that raised \$300 for the Lake Anna Rescue Inc Rescue Boat fund drive. On December 19 they will hold their annual Christmas Dinner at El Gran Patron that is expected to draw nearly 200 members to the popular down lake restaurant.

For more information visit www.facebook.com/LKA

"We are a 2,267-strong social, community service group bringing our beautiful lake community together and supporting local businesses."

- Mark Strauss, Lake Anna Roosters & Foxes Social Club

WHAT'S NEW? around the lake

REC Recognized For Big Brother/Sister Support

Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) was recently celebrated for its commitment to youth empowerment, receiving the 2024 Thomas G. Faulkner, Jr. Award from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Fredericksburg. The award, presented at the Empowering Potential Business Breakfast on Oct. 10.

Named for the founder of the Fredericksburg Big Brothers Big Sisters chapter, the Thomas G. Faulkner, Jr. Award is bestowed annually to an organization demonstrating outstanding and sustained contributions to the community.

"Over the years, REC has increased their sponsorships, provided us with The Power of Change grant and their employees always show up with enthusiasm to help local youth," said Sandra Erickson, Executive Director. "We are proud to recognize REC with our most prestigious award with grateful acknowledgement of their generous contributions."

REC's The Power of Change allows members to round up their electric bills each month. The funds are then donated to local nonprofits such as

Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The Power of Change program has become a critical funding source for Big Brothers Big Sisters, and REC employees consistently support the organization's flagship events like Bowl for Kids' Sake and Golf for Kids' Sake.

REC's Managing Director of Communications and Public Relations, Casey Hollins, expressed the Cooperative's deep commitment to the cause: "At REC, being a cooperative means more than delivering reliable power – it's about making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.



Lindsey Edwards, Casey Hollins and Sandra Erickson

Our partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters allows us to support local youth in impactful ways, and we are excited to continue this mission for years to come." **LKA**

Supervisor Announces Proud To Be Cuckoo Recognitions For Community Leaders

Louisa County Supervisor Christopher C. McCotter has announced the finalists for his Proud To Be Cuckoo Recognitions.

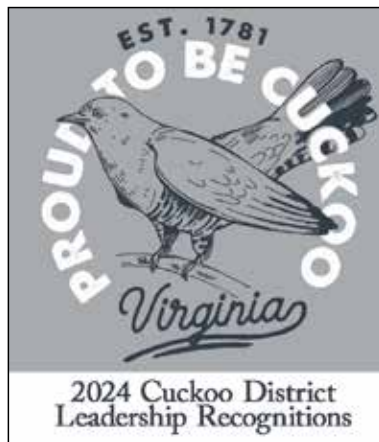
"I received a number of fine nominations from all over Cuckoo District. The goal of this recognition to show that Cuckoo District is standard-setting in Louisa County and to inspire others, not just in our district, but around the county to step up their efforts to lead in volunteer and community service efforts," noted McCotter.

The finalists are Dr. Rex Hardrader, Dick Shrum, Carol Dezorzi, Jody Korman, Mark Strauss, Steve Harris and Jeff Martin.

Harkrader is part of Louisa Family Practice a general medicine office serving the lake and Louisa commu-

nity. Dezorzi is a dedicated volunteer for Louisa Clean, as is Korman. Mark Strauss is a founding member of Lake Anna Roosters & Foxes, a social club that raises funds for various local causes. Dick Shrum is a long-time member of the Lake Anna Advisory Committee. Steve Harris is a lawyer and a member of the Louisa County School Board. Jeff Martin currently serves as chairman of the Fluvanna/Louisa Housing Foundation, served on the Louisa Industrial Development Authority and served as past president of the Lake Anna Business Partnership.

McCotter plans on recognizing the winners at an upcoming community event where attendees vote on the finalists. **LKA**



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WHAT'S NEW?

around the lake

Big Clean Event Brings Members Of Lake And Louisa Community Together

Louisa Clean, a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to make Louisa County the cleanest county in Virginia, hosted a second "Big Clean" event on October 19 and 20. This event was held in cooperation with the Louisa County Board of Supervisors, the Louisa County Sheriff's office, and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).

Organizers from Clean Louisa and selfless volunteers targeted litter along community roads for this event, and residents participating in the Adopt A Highway program were encouraged to clean their sections of area roadways.

In the end volunteers collected 166 bags of trash from Fredericks Hall, Bumpass (Louisa), and Byrd Mill Roads, Rt. 609/Buckner Road, Rt/ 701/601 Bumpass Road, Mitchell Point Road, Pottiesville Road, Byrd Mill Road, Hickory Creek Road and Route 208 near New Bridge Landing Food Lion shopping center.



Members of Louisa Clean that participated in the fall Big Clean event.

All volunteers who helped in this clean up received a Louisa Clean hat and a tee-shirt.

Louisa Clean founder, Jody Korman personally worked with seven other

volunteers to collect 20 bags of litter to support Peace Love Waterski Corey Vaughn's Adopt A Highway group on Bumpass Road.

"We found tires, large pieces of metal,

wood, buckets, the typical assortment of aluminum cans and bottles, etc. It was a great day to work outside with beautiful weather. May thanks to B & L Store for allowing us to park," Korman told Life & Times.

On October 9 six busloads of Louisa County High School students did their part, cleaning 22 miles of six roadways to clean up the Louisa County community.

Students collected at least 40 bags of trash on Rt. 522 alone! The total for the day was approximately a whopping 219 bags or roadside litter.

"The spirit of the groups was outstanding and committed. It was so well organized," Korman noted. "Thank you to Lee Downey, Superintendent Doug Straley, Andrew Woolfolk, LCPS staff and the 19 Louisa Clean chaperones for making this day a true success. It's events like this that can change the culture of littering in Louisa County." **LKA**



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REAL ESTATE NEWS ROUND-UP

2024 Real Estate Sales Will Surpass 2023 Numbers

BY LIBBY SANDRIDGE

The Lake Anna housing market is still rising although it is by a slight margin of homes sold this year compared to last year.

Last year 195 homes sold, including all homes plus the town homes. So far this year 231 homes have sold, including all pending sales.

A total of 93 waterfront homes sold last year, and so far this year we have 96 sold. Also, as usual the access home sales exceed the waterfront with a total of 135 sold.

Lake Anna is still considered a seller's market, although we are straddling that fence between a seller and buyer's market. That is mostly due to Lake Anna remaining a great investment in the short-term rental market.

The median sale price range for waterfront is \$1,299,000 to \$1,350,000. Lake access home medium sale prices have ranged from \$499,000 to \$549,000 with one selling for \$1,000,000.

It is also notable to point out that out of the 231 that have sold this year, 64 of them sold for over \$1 million, and the highest price home sold so far this year went for a whopping \$3,400,000, which



is located on the private side in Noah's Landing.

Currently there are 84 homes on the market, and out of those 35 are waterfront and 49 are access homes.

Active days on the market has increased 14% this year due to the political environment with a presidential election, mortgage rates and home prices. Lucky for us Lake Anna is and has always been a place you want to be not a place you have to be, making Lake Anna homes a more desirable investment.

All in all, the Lake Anna market will still be shaped by the rising home prices, mortgage rates and inventory levels. The 2025 market is expected to have a more favorable outlook than 2024 as we expect the mortgage rates to decrease as the in-

flation rate is expected to lessen.

New home sales are expected to continue, as 27 have sold so far this year with 20 new homes currently active compared to 29 last year. I can also say with confidence that many more new homes have sold this year simply because they were done privately and not listed in the MLS.

Due to the increased prices of existing homes many buyers have decided to purchase a lot and build, which guarantees the buyer can get exactly what they want instead of purchasing a home that will need changes for their needs. Builders and building suppliers are definitely loving it!

Regarding the new homes sales, it is worth mentioning that currently there are only 55 lots on the market. Out of those, 25 are waterfront and 30 are lake access.

Builders have been buying up the lots since new homes sales are soaring and much more attractive to buyers. This year there have been 145 lots sold at the lake compared to 136 last year.

If you are considering a move to the lake or just looking to purchase a weekend home, now is the time to get with a knowledgeable local real estate agent. Experience really does matter, and a local agent will be familiar with all the various communities at the lake including the difference between the public and private side. I cannot stress enough how important it is to have an agent that will be able to explain that and give you a true Lake Anna 101.

If you are looking to sell, now is also the time to explore your options and get with a seasoned local realtor who can provide you with real-time market conditions and a good marketing plan. Also keep in mind a well-priced and well-marketed home will sell quicker, so it is important you have a knowledgeable agent and a well-established brokerage behind you. **LKA**

You can contact author, Libby Sandridge of Berkshire Hathaway Home Services PenFed Realty at 540-223-0350.

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Great Must-Do's For Winter



2024 Lighted Boat Parades

The first Saturday in December has been a special time to live at and visit Lake Anna for the past six years. As the sun sets and the stars come out, so do the lighted boat parade participants, much to the delight of hundreds of on-lookers gathered at Lake Anna State Park, local restaurants and marinas.

"I remember when Mike Cleaves came into our shop and said, 'You should do a lighted boat parade,' and I thought that would be a good idea and took it back to the board of the Lake Anna Business Partnership," recalls Christopher McCotter, a past LABP Board member and owner of Lake Anna Outfitters and Publisher of Lake Anna Life Publishing.

The LABP Lighted Boat Parade was born in 2017 and has been held ever since. Now in its seventh year, the parade has been under the careful guidance of Randy Thomas for the past five years.

"Our parade is fully supported by both Louisa and Spotsylvania first re-



Plan now to attend the 2025 Lighted Boat Parades at Lake Anna!

sponders just in case we have an issue, and we are so grateful for them and the security it provides our participants," Thomas noted.

The LABP Lighted Boat Parade route began at Tim's in the North Anna and finishing up to rousing cheers by the crowd gathered at Lake Anna Taphouse.

The parade route brought the decorated boats down the North Anna River over a promenade in front of Lake Anna State Park where Park Administrator Dan Quesenberry offer free admission and a roaring bonfire for viewers.

"We are happy to open the park for a special night of viewing this parade. We love seeing families being together and enjoying Lake Anna," said Quesenberry.

The Cove Restaurant in the upper Pamunkey Branch of the lake also held a lighted boat parade organized by owner Suzie Squiers and her staff.

The popular up lake restaurant also held its annual Christmas tree lighting and will hold its annual Christmas Car Parade December 14.

Fish



Yes, it's winter but the fishing is just heating up at Lake Anna! Many anglers wait all year for December. With water temperatures ranging from 55 to 40 degrees, the lake's resident striper, wiper, bass, crappie and saugeye are actually pretty frisky. Hire a fishing guide (www.mccotterslakeanna.com) or bring your own boat and arrange to stay at the Lighthouse Inn, Boardwalk Hotel or Hotel Lake Anna and see if you can land a Lake Anna Grand Slam!

Dine



Make plans to visit one of the lake's great restaurants offering everything from hibachi and sushi, to pizza, burgers, steaks and seafood. Like a good cheese burger? Many of our local restaurants feature weekly burger nights. Monday night is steak night at The Cove. Tim's has some amazing specials and specialty drinks every weekend, too! Coyote Hole as a full kitchen for lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Brunch is served on Sundays 10-2.

Taste



The Lake Anna Beverage Trail has seven local options: Coyote Hole Ciderworks, Mineral Brewing, Lake Anna Tapouse, Lake Anna Brewing, Everleigh Vineyards & Brewing, 53rd Winery and Belmont Distillery. The latter located about 15 miles up Rt. 522 from Wares Crossroads. Many of the breweries and the cidery will be offering, special seasonal holiday beverages and events.

Hike



The Lake Anna State Park has eight trails you can mountain bike, hike or horseback ride on during your visit. None are considered difficult and the elevation change is minimal. Glenora, Sawtooth and Turkey Run are three you'll want to combine into a nice ride through the woods. Rent bikes from Lake Anna Outfitters and enjoy the ride! The park's annual First Day Hike is a New Year's Day tradition you'll want to enjoy with a picnic and hot chocolate!

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focus on lake business

Roundabout Plaza At Wares Crossroad Bringing New Businesses To Lake

LKAers will be seeing site work activity this winter as the plan to create a retail/business center just northwest of the traffic circle/roundabout at Ware's Crossroad is underway. A ground-breaking ceremony was held November 9 for what is being called Roundabout Plaza.

Lake Anna Life & Times broke this story back in June when Jon and Stephanie Koren of Koren Diversified Holdings told us that their plan to develop a 13-acre tract they owned next to the Lake Anna Tractor & Hardware store they sold (now called Cardinal Home Center).

The couple is now working with Louisa County Community Development for final approval of their site plan now that the Virginia Department of Transportation and road contractors have completed the roundabout.

"We will build two, 12,500 sq. ft. commercial structures on our 13-acre tract. They will be fully occupied and house a gym, an indoor pickleball center, an arcade, a bakery, offices and a Lazy Parrot restaurant," noted Stephanie.

The recent groundbreaking ceremony featured a number of Lake Anna Business Partnership members in attendance, including president Ronda Guill.

"What a perfect day for the groundbreaking ceremony. LABP members were out supporting other LABP members and new businesses around the lake. What an amazing community we have! We are all so thrilled that the Koren's vision for a family friendly area for recreational activities, to dine and shop is breaking ground."

Also present was Louisa County



Many members of the Lake Anna business community attended the groundbreaking for Roundabout Plaza.

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Board of Supervisors Chairman and Mineral District representative Duane Adams.

"The development of Roundabout Plaza continues to show the strong business climate in Louisa County.

"The investment of local businesses and private individuals shows that the needs of the residents and visitors alike will be provided with additional services.

"These businesses will not only provide employment opportunities for our residents but continues to increase the economic base our our County," Adams told Life & Times.

The Korens wanted to be clear about their plan.

"When Steph and I bought the business six and a half years ago, this was part of the plan. One of the things we did want to do was build a strip mall where families could go eat, re-



New businesses and members of LABP that participated in the recent groundbreaking for Roundabout Plaza.



Conceptual drawing of Roundabout Plaza.

lax, play and shop. The buildings will be aesthetically pleasing, not unlike the style of Short Pump Town Center or Reston Town Center. The goal is to

make this a destination not an impulse shopping center," Jon Koren told Life & Times.

He also told Life &Times there will be

four pickleball courts open 12 hours a day using a credit card for lights play system at \$25/hour. The Lazy Parrot restaurant will have 7,000 sq. ft. inside and 2,000 outside and include an arcade.

Cuckoo District Supervisor Christopher C. McCotter noted he's looking forward to making the new roundabout a gateway to the Lake Anna community.

"Now that VDOT and their contractors have completed this efficient roundabout and new businesses are coming, it's time to design and install signage in the circle welcoming our visitors to the lake and Louisa County.

"I have received encouragement from other Louisa County businesses in support

of the concept, including the Lake Anna Business Partnership, and I am working with Louisa Tourism to realize this complimentary plan." **LKA**

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Ika business

Cutalong Resort Submits New Master Plan To Louisa County

The Cutalong golf course community and resort has submitted a new master plan for review by the Louisa County Board of Supervisors at its early January meeting. The new plan reassigns the main road for the planned community from the state's responsibility to the resort's. This reclassification of the road will permit Cutalong to create the gated community members have wanted, according to Cutalong Project Director Joe Walsh.

Additional changes to the master plan include more condominium dwellings along the shoreline in the back of Contrary Creek that could reach four stories high as well as the restoration of wetlands on the property to satisfy state nutrient credit requirements for the construction of a wastewater treatment plant. The latter accommodation was suggested by members of the Lake Anna Civic Association (LACA).

"The team and I appreciate the valuable input received from LACA on the Cutalong nutrient credit offset project's scope and design, as well as timely approvals gleaned from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality," Walsh told Life & Times. "With LACA's input, our Cutalong and Stantec Environmental teams were able to achieve 100% of the required nutrient credits onsite at Cutalong, for the benefit of the Lake Anna watershed."

Regarding the nutrient credits and the wetlands restoration, Cutalong has designed and received approval from DEQ for the creation of the required nutrient offset credits, which will be generated 100% onsite at the project's 1,000 acres and for the benefit of the Lake Anna watershed. The plan provides all required credits needed to construct and operate a second wastewater treatment facility (WWTF). That WWTF is currently in design and will be constructed at a future date, as required by development schedules.

In compliance with the DEQ Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (VPDES) issued in June 2024, Cutalong has agreed to create a 75-acre conservation easement, primarily south of Contrary Creek, with parcels also on the west end of the Cutalong golf course. This land, previously used for

agriculture, has been converted into a perpetual forested state, creating valuable nutrient credits.

A voluntary stream restoration project has also begun at the Cutalong site and includes a \$1.5 million effort to restore 3,000 linear feet of stream channels. This project will stabilize stream banks and beds, reducing erosion and preventing the release of nitrogen and phosphorus into the watershed. Construction began in November 2024 and is scheduled to be completed by summer 2025.

The two projects: restoration of 3,000 linear feet of stream channel and 75+/- acres of previous agricultural land placed into permanent conservation easement will be completed in 2025, years ahead of the VDEQ requirement.

Cutalong has also agreed to restore a half-acre of wetlands destroyed during mining activities in the late 1800s when the existing creek was dammed to provide a water source for mining activities. This restoration will reconnect the wetlands to the floodplain, providing additional nutrient uptake beyond the permit requirements.

In other updates, the Cutalong golf clubhouse is currently under construction and on schedule, with a planned opening in summer 2025. The Clubhouse will consist of a golf pro shop, restaurant (members and guests) and bar, outside patio and golf cart storage.

Phase One amenities will debut in late fall 2025 and include temporary docks, a fishing pond, four pickleball courts and three miles of hiking trails.

In addition to the phase one amenities, Cutalong's practice facilities will receive some upgrades for 2025. A revamped short game area includes new chipping greens, a competitive putting green on the driving range and a lighted putting green right off the patio of the new golf clubhouse.

Cutalong is owned by Reef Capital Partners, an equity group based in Utah with resort properties around the country. Reef also owns the Boardwalk Hotel at Lake Anna and The Boardwalk complex. **LKA**



Ika business

Local Broker Could Stand Trial For Embezzlement

Dockside Realty, a local company that has specialized in buying and selling homes, land, and commercial properties as well as property management in the Lake Anna area since 1994 has closed its doors during a time when Lake Anna real estate and rentals continue to boom.

The odd timing may be explained by numerous complaints by Dockside customers claiming the company took their rental deposits but cancelled their rental. Other vendors for the property management side of Dockside have also noted they have not been paid in months.

The principal broker/owner of Dockside Realty is David Moberly. According to the Spotsylvania General District Court system, Moberly

was arrested on October 10 with the charge of felony embezzlement (greater than \$1,000).

Moberly had an arraignment on October 24 through the Spotsylvania General District Court, with his plea currently not listed. That proceeding was continued to November 20 which was also continued to January 15 when a preliminary hearing will be held at 10 a.m.

Moberly could avoid criminal charges by paying back the money his company owes to various clients and vendors. **LKA**



Snap here for more Lake Anna News!

Cardinal Home Center Now Has Lumber On Site

The new Cardinal Home Center near Ware's Crossroads (Rt. 522 and Rt. 208) is your one-stop shop, offering quality building materials, power equipment, and home improvement supplies. The store has undergone a complete reset, building on the trusted reputation of the former Lake Anna Tractor & Hardware.

On top of the brands and products residents know like Scag, Husqvarna, Landmaster, and TYM, Cardinal Home Center is expanding their Benjamin Moore footprint to provide an enhanced selection of interior and exterior paints and stains. Other new brands include Milwaukee, Marvin Windows and Doors, and Hunter Douglas Blinds & Shades.

"We believe in building solid relationships at Cardinal Home Center. That's why our



company president, Toby Allen, has been there since day one, getting to know our customers and neighbors. We're committed to being an active part of the community," Cardinal's Emmet Aylor told Life & Times.

Residents with projects might not realize Cardinal Home Center offers delivery of lumber, fencing, composite decking, tractors and equipment. In addition, pres-

sure-treated wood and fencing materials are now available on site.

"On behalf of the Cardinal family I invited you to stop by and say Hello. We're excited to be part of the Lake Anna community and can't wait to share our latest updates!" noted Aylor.

For more information and upcoming news, visit www.CardinalHomeCenter.com.

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Locals Know New Year's Eve Celebrations Abound Around Lake Anna

Locals know how fun it is to bring in the new year at Lake Anna with many area restaurants offering special New Year's Eve entertainment, dinner and drink packages. With hundreds of short-term rentals to choose from and several, local lodging options including the brand new Boardwalk Hotel, why not make it a night to remember at the lake this year?

Here are some options to consider when making your New Year's Eve plans.

Ring in 2025 with style at the annual Tim's at Lake Anna's New Year's Eve Bash. Join your friends on December 31st for an unforgettable night filled with live entertainment, delicious food and drink specials, and a Midnight Champagne Toast done as only the pros at Tim's can do to welcome the new year in spectacular fashion.

The evening's menu will be announced on Tim's Facebook page. Reservations are required.

With the opening of the Boardwalk Hotel right next store, you can now walk to your room after the big celebration.

If you survived New Year's then roll out and enjoy a New Year's Day Brunch at Tim's complete with specialty mimosas and bloody Marys starting at 11 am.



Lobster tails are on the New Year's Eve dinner menu at Callie Opie's Orchard.

Callie Opie's, Lake Anna's home for fine dining, will host a special New Year's Eve four-course dinner with three separate seatings. The first course begins with a fresh-baked pumpernickel loaf with honey whipped butter. Next up is your choice of a cup of Maryland She-Crab soup, a wedge salad or Callie's traditional house salad. Course three is a sharing course that features smoke salmon crostini, jumbo shrimp cocktail with Thai chili cocktail sauce and crab-stuffed portobello mushrooms. Your entree is your choice of herb-crusted rack of lamb, grand prime rib with au jus and horse radish cream sauce, almond crusted Chilean sea bass with saffron butter and two, six-ounce lobster tails with lemon butter. Dessert is also included and features a choice of Mexican chocolate lava cake, limoncello berry tiramisu or carrot cake with cinnamon butterscotch drizzle.

Coyote Hole Craft Beverages & Mineral Brewing invites you to join them for a New Year's Day brunch from 10 am to 2 pm. Indulge in classic brunch favorites like pancakes, breakfast bowls, French toast, biscuits and sausage gravy, croissant sandwich and a hot honey chicken biscuit and enjoy a build-your-own mimosa bar! **LKA**

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Lake Anna Discount Card Now Available At Participating Businesses

The Lake Anna Business Partnership (LABP) is now offering a "Lake Anna Card" for purchase that entitles the holder to special offers/discounts at area restaurant venues and funds the Young Leaders of Lake Anna LABP Scholarship Fund.

"We wanted to do something different to support our member restaurants and fund the Young Leaders scholarship. The Lake Anna Card is our answer and we think it's going to be very popular among our locals and visitors," said LABP President Ronda Guill.

The Lake Anna Card is the same size, shape, and weight as a traditional credit card. However, on the back of the card, are promotions for 10 LABP food and beverage business members. The card can be used an unlimited amount of times at each of the participating members' establishments. The card's term will expire December 31, 2025, at which point LABP



anticipates offering a new version for 2026.

Participating venues and other selected merchants around the lake will be selling the cards for \$20 each. According to LABP, based on some of the promotion offers, it will only take a couple of uses of the card to recover the \$20 cost.

The card features area favorites like The Cove, Tim's, Callie Opie's, Mad Batter, Lake Anna Winery, The Cooling Pond, Lake Anna Taphouse, Vito's/The Lounge, Smokin' Eddie's and Cream & Caffeine.

"We feel like the card is a win-win-win because, 1) local residents and visitors will be able to enjoy some nice discounts, 2) LABP food and beverage members see an increase in traffic and loyalty and 3) we are hoping to raise tens of thousands of dollars for local scholarships and all profits will go to them," LABP Board member Jim McCoy told Lake Anna Life & Times. **LKA**



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Tim's Top 44 Countdown To Christmas

Tim's at Lake Anna has a new way to enjoy the holiday season with Tim's Top 44 Drinks For Just \$5. The special promotion started November 11, and as the countdown ticks, grab the corresponding drink for only \$3 with the final day to enjoy festive sips December 23.

Patrons can enjoy special concoctions like the Jellyfish, the Jamies Jungle Bells, an Intimidator, the High Tide, a Heat-wave/Grasshopper, a Grape Nehi, a Freight Train, Fisherman's Port, the Electric Eel, the Drowning Oyster,

DATE	DRINK	DATE	DRINK	DATE	DRINK	DATE	DRINK
11	THE PLUNKY BERRY SMOOZE	12	GRASSHOPPER	13	THE JELLYFISH	14	THE FREIGHT TRAIN
15	THE DROWNING OYSTER	16	THE ELECTRIC EEL	17	THE GRAPES NEHI	18	THE HEAT WAVE
19	THE INTIMIDATOR	20	THE HIGH TIDE	21	THE JAMIE'S JUNGLE BELLS	22	THE FISHY FISH
23	THE FISHY FISH	24	THE FISHY FISH	25	THE FISHY FISH	26	THE FISHY FISH

Deadman's Float/Day On The River, a Butterfinger, Blue Marlin, Big Mouth Bass, Bikini Fuzz, Amy Jamie and Amy's Anchor/Almond Joy.

While you are visiting Tim's consider donating to their Holiday Hope Drive, a way to raise funds to benefit those impacted by Hurricane Helene via the United Way and Goodwill Disaster Relief Mobile Distribution Unit, coordinated with the efforts of the Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster. **LKA**



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sundays –
Brunch at Coyote Hole, 9am-2pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
Brunch at The Cove 10am-2pm. www.TheCoveLKA.com.
Brunch at Callie Opie's Orchard 11am-2pm. www.CallieOpiesOrchard.com.
Mimosas & Bloody Marys at Lake Anna Taphouse, 12noon-8pm. www.LakeAnnaTaphouse.com.

Mondays –
Half Price Pizzas at Lake Anna Taphouse, 12 noon-9:30pm. – www.LakeAnnaTaphouse.com.
Half Price Pints, Luna cans & Bavarian Pretzels at Coyote Hole. www.CoyoteHole.com.
Steak Night at The Cove 5pm-9pm. www.TheCoveLKA.com.
Steak Night at Tim's Lake Anna 4pm-9pm. www.TimsLakeAnna.com.

Tuesdays –
Taco Tuesday at The Cove 11am-9pm. www.TheCoveLKA.com.
Taco Tuesday at Lake Anna Taphouse, 12 noon-9:30pm. www.LakeAnnaTaphouse.com.

\$2 Walking Tacos and Pints at Coyote Hole. www.CoyoteHole.com.

Wednesdays –
½ Price Burgers at The Cove 11am-9pm. www.TheCoveLKA.com.
½ Price Burgers at Tim's Lake Anna 11am-9pm. www.TimsLakeAnna.com.
½ Price Flatbread Pizzas & \$2 off select Pints at Coyote Hole. www.CoyoteHole.com.
Wing Wednesday at Lake Anna Taphouse, 12 noon-9:30pm. www.LakeAnnaTaphouse.com.
Winner Winner Chicken Dinner at Callie Opie's Orchard, 5-9pm. www.CallieOpiesOrchard.com.

Thursdays –
½ Price Pitchers with any food purchase at Coyote Hole. www.CoyoteHole.com.
\$6 Lagers & Apps at Lake Anna Taphouse, 12 noon-9:30pm. www.LakeAnnaTaphouse.com.
Trivia Night at Coyote Hole, 6pm. ½ priced pitchers with food purchase all day. www.CoyoteHole.com.

Karaoke Night at The Cove 8pm. www.TheCoveLKA.com.
Shrimp Thursday at Tim's Lake Anna. www.TimsLakeAnna.com

Fridays –
\$2 off Fish & Chips at Lake Anna Taphouse, 12 noon-10:30pm. www.LakeAnnaTaphouse.com.
\$5 Pints & appetizers are BOGO half-off at Coyote Hole. www.CoyoteHole.com.

Saturdays –
Sangria Saturday at Lake Anna Taphouse, 12 noon-10:30pm. www.LakeAnnaTaphouse.com.

December 14 & 15 – Santa Claus is coming to Tim's Lake Anna, 12 noon-6pm. www.TimsLakeAnna.com.
December 15 – Pictures with Santa at Callie Opie's Orchard – No charge for those dining, \$5 otherwise. www.CallieOpiesOrchard.com.
December 15 – The Cove's Annual Breakfast with Santa, 10am-1pm. Reservations required. www.TheCoveLKA.com.

December 18 – Pints, Paints & Player Pieces at Coyote Hole, 4-7pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
December 20 – Free Line Dancing at Coyote Hole, 7pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
December 26 – Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
December 28 – Everleigh Vineyards & Brewing Co. – Curt & Rob Acoustic, 5-8:00pm. www.EverleighVineyards.com.
December 29 – Everleigh Vineyards & Brewing Co. – Déjà Vu 4-7pm. www.EverleighVineyards.com.
December 31 – New Year's Eve Dinner at Callie Opie's Orchard – 5-11pm. Call for reservations. 540/894-4343.
December 31 – Tim's Lake Anna New Year's Eve Bash – 1pm-until? Reservations required. www.TimsLakeAnna.com.
January 1 – Tim's Lake Anna New Year's Day Brunch & Lunch 11am-3pm. www.TimsLakeAnna.com.
January 1 – New Years Day Brunch at Coyote Hole – 10am-2pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.

January 2 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
January 9 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
January 16 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
January 17 – Free Line Dancing Lessons at Coyote Hole, 7pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
January 23 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
January 30 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
February 6 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
February 13 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
February 20 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
February 21 - Free Line Dancing Lessons at Coyote Hole, 7pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.
February 27 - Trivia Thursday at Coyote Hole, 6pm. www.CoyoteHole.com.

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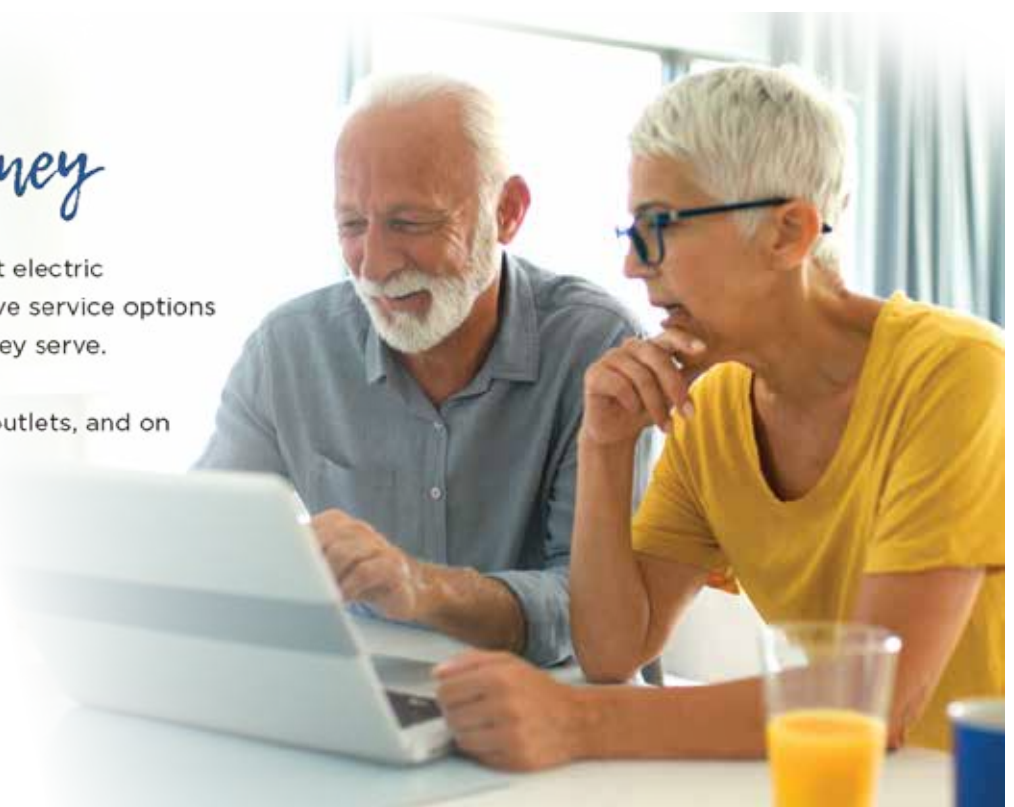


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lake anna reflections

Let's Refund The Police!

We are all fortunate to live and orrecreate at beautiful Lake Anna.

Sometimes what was meant to be a wonderful day at the lake takes a turn for the worst and we want and need our Conservation Police Officers (CPOs) there to help. CPOs or what other states call Game Wardens are no different than any other police officer in the state and are fully certified through the Department of Criminal Justice Services. This gives them the right to enforce all Commonwealth laws.

You might be annoyed (I hope not!) when they check your fishing license or check to see if you have the right number of life jackets on board, but I can assure you in an emergency, an arriving CPO is a huge relief.

One of the things we found in LACA's biennial survey, is that our members want more of a presence from our CPOs on Lake Anna. Certainly, on busy holiday weekends we see the police out in force throughout the lake. On a normal weekend, the police are far more scarce and during the week or in other times of the year, we might rarely see an officer. The reason? It all comes down to funding.

The Department of Wildlife Resources is authorized for approximately 182 CPOs for the entire state. That works out to about two CPOs per county. Currently, there are only 160-170 of those positions filled. You can imagine how hard it is for the department to manage their resources and provide coverage to Lake Anna, with such a small force. To make matters worse, CPOs often make less than their counterparts in other policing organizations.

The Department of Wildlife Resources' CPOs are the only statewide policing organization that does not receive any funding directly from the Commonwealth. DWR's funding comes from fishing and hunting license sales, watercraft registrations, federal dollars derived from outdoor expenditures, sales and use tax on watercraft sales and finally a portion of sales tax related to wildlife equipment sales. That would be awesome if DWR received all of these funds, but they don't.

The General Assembly passed House Bill 38 back in 1998 which authorized DWR to receive sales tax on sales of wildlife equipment, things like fishing poles and guns. HB38 capped the annual amount to \$13 million dollars. Unfortunately, that cap has not changed in almost 25 years. Because of inflation, a dollar in 1998 would need to be \$1.83 today to have the same value. The General

Assembly should increase this cap to \$23 million just to keep up with inflation.

To make matters worse, the state has only appropriated the full \$13 million only once in the last 15 years. The average appropriation for the past seven years has been just over \$11.3 million per year. The same goes for sales tax on watercraft. Every year, the state has appropriated less than the amount collected in watercraft tax. Over the past seven years, Virginia has collected approximately \$7.9 million per year in watercraft sales tax and passed on roughly \$5.6 million to DWR.

If the state just appropriated 100% of the amounts promised, that would work out to approximately \$4 million per year in additional funding. Even if the state does not raise the cap on Wildlife Equipment Tax, that makes a huge difference. That may not sound like a lot in days of multibillion-dollar state budgets, but it would make a significant impact to DWR's ability to provide increased CPO coverage at Lake Anna. Don't get me wrong, we think the state should do both: Adjust the cap on inflation and appropriate 100% of what was promised.

What can we do? Join LACA! One of Lake Anna Civic Association's mandate to promote safety on Lake Anna. We are working hard to speak with our local legislators to provide funding for Lake Anna. If you are not yet a member, please join us at www.lakeannavirginia.org

Secondly, write your state delegate or your state senator and ask them to support DWR's CPOs by fully funding the Authorized Watercraft and Wildlife Equipment Tax.

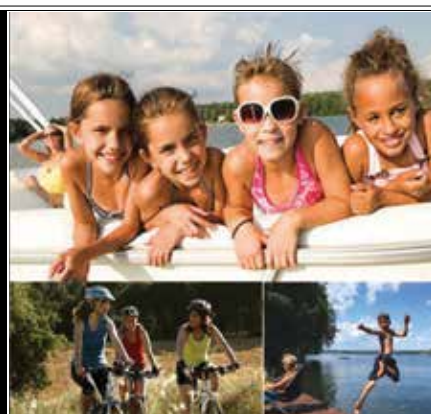
Finally, please show your support for our CPOs and other officers on Lake Anna by giving them a friendly wave when you see them out on the water. Remember, they would rather be out on a boat with their friends and family on a holiday weekend than pulling a double shift making us safe.

Greg Baker, President Lake Anna Civic Association



Graduates of the 13th Academy Class of CPOs, August 29, 2024

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 lakeannalife72@gmail.com.



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Photos - 1/ Reef Hospitality Manager Kristy McGehee welcomes members of LABP to an open house at the Boardwalk Hotel. 2/ Meg Shrum enjoying Lake Anna Life & Times at Food Lion. 3/ Steve McCormick with an LKA striper. 4/ Tom and Carol Dezorzi on Moodytown Road. 5/ Jason and Amanda Ferrell at the November LABP Business After Hours. 6/ Cuckoo District Supervisor McCotter and LACA President Greg Baker at the November Presidents Council. 7/ Lighted Boat Parade volunteers. 8/ Dominique and Matt Stumpf. 9/ Levi at Anna Point Marina catching up on the news. 10/ Wayne and Maureen at Precision Transmission & Auto Repair. 11/ Chrissie and C.C. McCotter with Callie Opie's owner Mike Kavros. 12/ Back 40 Event Barn owner, Melody Bowers with her capable crew during the recent LABP Business After Hours.



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