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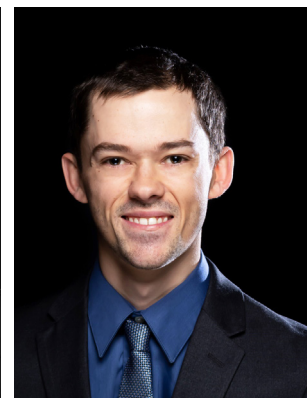


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New beginnings in 2024



It's hard to believe that for 15 years I've been in the editor's seat for Lake Lifestyles magazine and our sister publication Vacation News. Both focus on everything we love about Lake of the Ozarks — a dream job for most writers. I get to go into the kitchens of restaurants before they open, peek inside Lakefront homes everyone wants to see, and pretty much poke around wherever I find something of interest. Looking back I am filled with gratitude for the experiences and the stores I got to share.

As we begin 2024, it is truly a year of new beginnings for me. I am stepping down as editor and focusing on a new job with a Lake area non-profit. With more than 20 years of journalism under my belt, it has been an adjustment to say the least.

I began my career working in a newsroom and spent years reporting on the good, the bad and the ugly (if you know, you know). Long days in the newsroom built character. It was small-town journalism at its finest — who else was going to write about the community for future generations? In 2009, I landed into the role as magazine editor at Lake Media where I've remained dedicated to providing the best experience for our readers and advertisers. I was always on the lookout for fun stories and unique

places, focusing on the locals who create the laid-back Lake life that we all love.

Behind the scenes we have been working on making it a smooth transition. You will continue to see a lot of familiar faces, and hopefully a few new ones along the way. To fill my position at Lake Lifestyles magazine will be regular contributor Marie Krolkowski. Marie has a degree in journalism and public relations so her experience made her the perfect replacement. I am excited about the future of the magazine and look forward to seeing it continue to thrive under new leadership. Our marketing and production departments remain committed on their end as they have been since Lake Life began with its first issue in November/December 1999.

As I embark on a new adventure I will continue to be active in the community. I hope we see each other out and about! For now, wishing you much success and happiness in the coming year.

Your outgoing editor,

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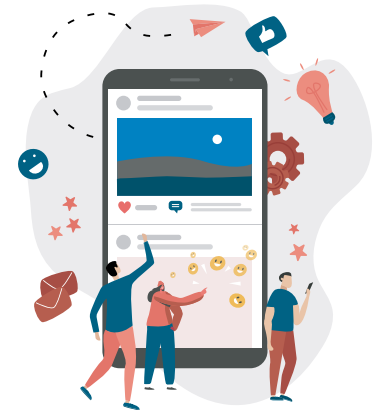
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Say hello!

Lake Lifestyles magazine wants to know what you really think! Send your comments, questions and story ideas to charis.lakesun@gmail.com or send snail mail to 4075 Osage Beach Parkway, Ste. 100, Osage Beach, MO 65065.



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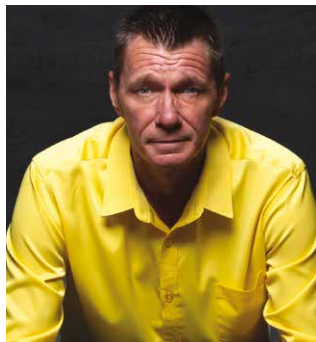
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Contributors

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024



Brad Glidewell

Brad captured two sunset photos with a disposable camera in Puerto Vallarta in 2003. He then found himself looking for the next shot in everything he did! Brad Glidewell Photography is now a full-time photographer capturing weddings, families, seniors, real estate, sports, boats, events, and more. He recognizes the importance of documenting life's most important occasions; going beyond poses and capturing candid moments resulting in storytelling, emotive images. It is an honor and a dream come true to turn moments into memories with the beauty and lifestyle that surrounds us at the breathtaking Lake of the Ozarks. His multi award-winning work can be found at www.bradglidewellphotography.com



Judy Goppert

Judy began her career as a radio jingle writer, then upon graduation from college with a degree in Writing from Missouri State University, worked as copywriter for a variety of advertising agencies in Springfield and Kansas City. She had the opportunity to write for some high-profile clients, including Tyson, Helzberg Diamonds and Lodge of Four Seasons. As reporter and editor of a local small-town newspaper, she spent over 15 years interviewing and telling the stories of unique people in all walks of life.

She is a published author of two gift books and is currently a freelance writer for Kansas City Homes & Style Magazine, KC Parent Magazine, Johnson County Lifestyle, Leawood Lifestyle, KC Going Places Magazine, and Lee's Summit Lifestyle.



Paul Leahy

Paul has been a golf professional at the Tan-Tar-A Resort since 1989 and Director of Golf since 2001. He manages The Oaks golf operation at Margaritaville Lake Resort, Lake of the Ozarks. He has been active in the community via the Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, Convention and Visitors Bureau and various charities. Paul has been a contributor in the golf section of Lake Lifestyles Magazine since 2007.



Doug Beck

Doug has been boating since the age of 14. He moved to the Lake in 2002, and owned and operated an environmental company. He sold the company in 2016 and now focuses his time on boating and water safety.

Doug has taken and continues to take boating education classes. He completed a US Coast Guard Class by the World Wide Marine to earn his OUPV, and vessel assist USCG License. The following year he upgraded to a 25 Ton grade Master and currently holds a 100 Ton Master. He is a National Safe Boating Instructor for Tow BoatUS, Freedom Boat Club and Ozark Boat Safety Training. Doug is an active member of the Water Safety Council and does charter work driving personal boats to water taxis, the Celebration, The Lake Hopper and Playing Hooky.

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A BUCKET LIST DESTINATION

MY EXPERIENCE PLAYING AT AMERICAN DUNES

Story and photos by PAUL LEAHY



For avid readers you may remember a 2021 article I penned about American Dunes and their mission and affiliation with the Folds of Honor Foundation. It was on my bucket list of places to visit and play and I was fortunate enough to meet some college friends this past October to do just that. With the help of our mutual friend and general manager at American Dunes, Doug Bell, we had an experience none of us will soon forget.

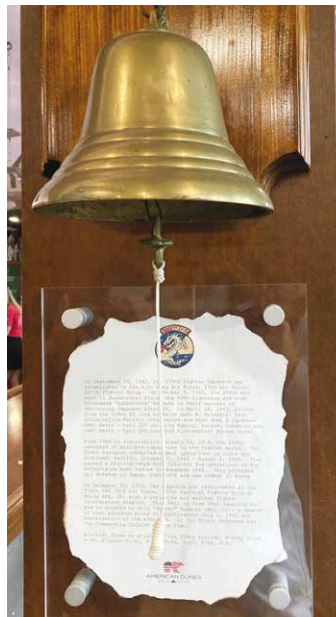
American Dunes opened for play on May 2, 2021. The Jack Nicklaus designed course was a complete redesign of the original Grand Haven Golf Course, located in Grand Haven, Mich. Lt. Col Dan Rooney, PGA Professional and founder of the Folds of Honor Foundation, contacted Nicklaus with his idea to overhaul his family's club. Waving his standard \$3 million dollar fee, Nicklaus created a one-of-a-kind golf experience with all of the profits going directly back to the Folds of Honor Foundation to assist in their mission of providing educational scholarships to spouses and children of America's fallen and disabled service-members.



I arrived at the course around 9 a.m. for our 11 a.m. tee time so I could experience everything I had heard so much about. As I entered the Memorial Walk that leads you to the club house I instinctively removed my cap and moved slowly. As I proceeded through reading the memorials of the fallen heroes immortalized there, standing in their boot prints, it was an emotional and poignant moment of what the day would bring.

I met my buddies at the practice range and we proceeded to the opening hole. We were greeted by the course starter who handed each of us a nickel and told us to hang on to it for later. He explained the mission of the course and the memorial plaques we would see on each tee box. A GPS monitor on the cart played videos of families who have benefited from Folds of Honor. He explained that at 1300 hours Taps would be played and bells will ring 13 times to signify the 13 folds of the flag. At 1730 The retreat is signified by the playing of the National Anthem. Players on the course are asked to stand and face the large American flag situated between the 9th and 18th fairways as guests in the club house are welcomed to stand with the staff on the patio.

As I played the first few holes I took the time to read the individuals memorialized at each tee and was truly impressed by the beauty, playability and the overall golf experience. The first video began to play with a spouse of a fallen hero giving her thanks to Folds of Honor what it meant to them. As we were standing on the Par four 9th tee, Taps began to play. We couldn't have been in a better place on the course, as we looked straight at the gigantic American flag waving in front of us. As I made the turn to hole 10, the tee box we were playing was ahead of the memorial monument. I made a point to back the cart up and read the plaque, which happened to be of First Lieutenant Jeffery Davis. I knew the story of this hero, as his wife who is now married to General Manager Doug Bell. After the round Bell, who was playing in the group behind us, mentioned to me that he had seen me go back to read the plaque on 10 and that he appreciated what he saw as I removed my cap and took a photo.





The back nine was just as impressive and I didn't want the day to end as we proceeded to the 18th hole. A video appeared on the screen in our cart and Lt. Colonel Dan Rooney thanked us for playing and instructed us to pull out the nickel we had been given. He explained the tradition at grave-sites of fallen fighter pilots is to toss a nickel on the grass to give a final salute to a fallen aviator. A cross has been placed behind the 18th tee where this tradition takes place. I asked later what happens to the nickels and was told they never are touched by staff and that Lt. Col Rooney's hope is that one day the pile of nickels is so high a fighter pilot will be able to see them as he flies over the course. With 25,000 rounds played annually, I'm sure it won't take long for that to become a reality.

Back inside the Squadron Bar in the club house we ate lunch and Bell explained a little of the history depicted in the bar. Over the bar is a replica of two F-4 Phantom II aircraft, one above the other, with the tail hook of the top plane resting on the nose of the other. This was to honor Captain Bob Pardo and his heroics in Vietnam, today known as Pardo's Push. On March 10, 1967 both Pardo and his wingman's plane, flown by Captain Earl Aman, were badly hit after a bombing mission north of Hanoi. Aman's plane was fatally damaged and there was no way for his aircraft to reach friendly territory before ejecting. Pardo positioned his plane under Aman's plane and was able to keep the aircraft airborne for 88 miles before both pilots and crew could eject and be rescued. Pardo was initially reprimanded for not saving his own aircraft, but in 1989 the military re-examined the case and awarded both Pardo and his systems officer Lt. Steve Wayne the Silver Star. The flight maneuver has since been depicted in a television episode of JAG, for those who remember the classic show.

For fans of Top Gun Maverick, they have their own squadron bell in the bar. It is not any ordinary bell as it was donated by Bill "Doones" Danbury who was a member of the 347th Tactical Fighter wing when the wing deactivated in 1983. Prior to being the 347th they were known as the 339th Fighter Squadron — the squadron that shot down a Japanese Betty in 1943 with Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto aboard. Yamamoto was the planner and mastermind behind the Pearl Harbor attacks.

Our group of friends plan to make this an annual golf trip each October. You should definitely put it on your bucket list as a must-play. Not only for the championship course but the experience and emotions that this facility elicits in people is special. I didn't realize how special it was until I experienced myself.



ASK THE EXPERT

By PAUL LEAHY

What is the difference between gross and net scores. How does that effect match and stroke play?

George T., Lake Ozark

A player's gross score is the number of shots including penalty strokes to complete their round. The net score is calculated by subtracting the player's handicap strokes from the gross score. The purpose of the net score is to provide a more equitable way of comparing scores between players with different skill levels.

In stroke play, the total score is calculated for all players to determine a winner. Depending on the tournament the event can be scored by the gross scores or the net scores of the players. In most instances a tournament will either have all gross scores or all net scores.

In match play, the most common way to score is to use the net scores of the players on each hole. This equalizes skill levels so you can theoretically compete with anyone. Each hole is its own separate competition. If one player is a 10 handicap and the other is a 5 handicap, the 10 handicap player will be allotted one stroke on the five toughest holes on the course according to the handicap rank listed on the course scorecard. Each hole will either be halved (tied) or won by a player. The player who wins the most individual holes will be the winner.

I am just getting into golf. What is the best way to hold a golf club?

Nancy B., Roach

Start with your non-dominant hand. Your left hand for a right hand dominant player and vice versa. Make sure the clubface is square and place your non-dominant hand on the club wrapping your fingers around the club. A "V" will be formed by your thumb and index finger that should point toward your dominant shoulder. Now place your dominant hand on the club just below the non-dominant one.

Wrapping your fingers around the club you can either interlock the little finger of your dominant hand with the index and middle finger of the non-dominant hand, or overlap the index finger with your little finger.

Paul Leahy is a PGA Golf Professional and the director of golf at The Oaks at Margaritaville Lake Resort.

What is the difference between a hook and a slice? Is one more common than the other?

Blake B., Eldon

A "slice" for a right handed player will move the golf ball from left to right. This is the most prevalent shot for the average player. A shot shape that starts right and continues to spin to the right is typically referred to as "push" and not a slice or "fade." A fade would be a slight curve of the ball from left to right where a slice is a severe left-to-right ball flight. A "hook" will move the ball from right-to-left.

Better players typically use a right-to-left ball flight to increase distance and it is the natural shape of a proper golf swing as the golf swing is a rotational move. A shot that starts left and continues left is not a hook or draw that would be a pull. A slight right-to-left ball flight is preferred for control and optimum distance.

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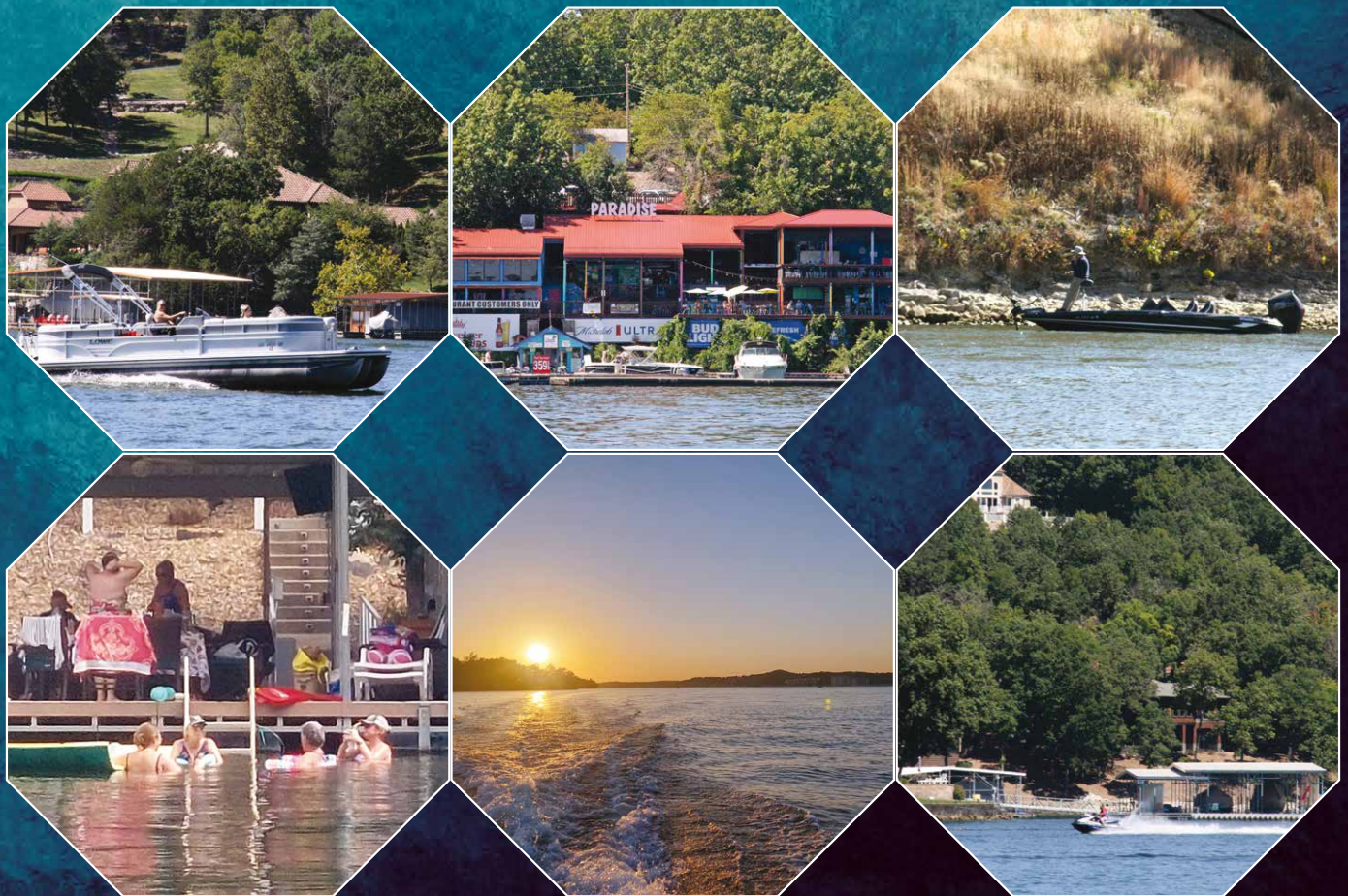
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BOATING

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By CHARIS PATIRES



Lake of the Ozarks is a boating paradise like no other. It is the perfect destination for boating enthusiasts thanks to the diversity offered with secluded coves and packed waterfront bars. The natural beauty, recreational opportunities and scenic shoreline makes it a haven for those seeking a place that magically melts away stress.

From recovering people's valuables from the bottom of the Lake, to what the future holds for the boating industry, we explore what makes Lake life the best life.



Lake are diver Darick Langos recovered a ring from the bottom of the Lake several months after it was lost.

TAKING A DEEP DIVE INTO *the Lake*

WHAT IT IS REALLY LIKE TO DIVE TO THE BOTTOM OF LAKE OF THE OZARKS

By MARIE KROLIKOWSKI

We all know it happens at the Lake. That expensive pair of sunglasses we forgot we had on our head lands at the bottom when we jump into the water. The ring we thought was snug on our finger somehow slips off and also ends up at the bottom of the Lake. Our cell phone slips from our hand and joins the other items lost. For most of us, we just assume

those items are gone forever. Thanks to the efforts and skills of a few recovery divers, these items can often be found.

Darick Langos, owner of Scuba Bear Diving Recovery Service, has been coming to the Lake since he was five years old. With the encouragement of his dad, he became a certified scuba diver at the age of 11 and explored the Party Cove as his first dive.

“We brought beads up by the handful,” he recalled. “There’s so much stuff covering the bottom there it’s impossible to do any kind of a recovery.”

Now 24 years old, Langos started a company that utilizes a sport he loves along with recovery of lost treasures for others.

“I officially started my business two summers ago,” Langos explained. “Before that I just dove for fun. I typically work during the tourist season from June into September.”

Langos doesn’t discriminate in what type of items he searches for but won’t take on any request he doesn’t think he can’t find. This includes items lost in the main channel of the Lake. Most of his searches are for items lost off docks, where owners have a reference point of where the item entered the water. Langos does not charge for his service unless the item is found. He often records his dives and shows the film to his clients.

A very expensive under-water metal detector assists Langos in his search. Large headlamps assist in night dives. In addition to water searches, he uses the detector to search for items lost on land also. Some of the lost items are expensive while others carry sentimental value.

“The most common recovery requests are cell phones,” Langos explained. “Most are still working when I find them. I recovered one that was under water for a week and it was still working.” Apple watches, he said, come in second for lost items followed by jewelry, anchors and boat covers. Some items are lost because they blow off the dock.

“I get a lot of recovery requests after a big wind storm,” he said.

Although each recovery is unique in its own way, there are a few that stand out in his mind.

“One of my last dives this past season was for a dad who had contacted me and told me that his son had lost a ring. He called me in September, and the ring was lost in July. I dove down 20 feet and found it with my metal detector. Didn’t think I would find this one.”

Darick Langos, owner of Scuba Bear Diving Recovery Service, has recovered a lot of items from the bottom of Lake of the Ozarks, as well as some on land.

He made a woman very happy by recovering her \$4,000 gold bracelet and found a lost engagement ring for another woman.

"She lost the ring at the state park beach," Langos said. "Her fiancé had passed away, and I found it for her. She was so grateful."

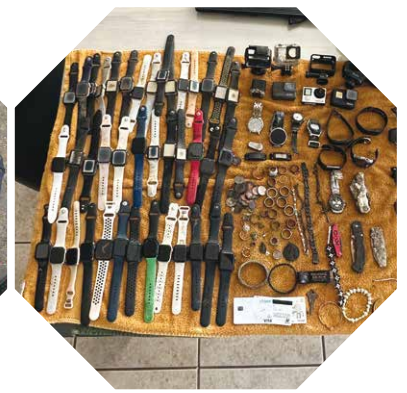
To date, Langos has performed a few hundred recovery dives at the Lake. The most unique item he came across during a dive was an automobile. He has randomly come across over 300 Apple watches while diving for recovery or recreation.

"What I do is dangerous," Langos explained. "If I'm in an area with a nice rocky bottom it's easier. It's easy to get tangled up in fishing line and I've come across giant snapping turtles up to a couple feet wide. There's so many stumps at the bottom of the Lake you have to be aware of and because of the lack of visibility it's easy to get turned around."

Langos has done ocean dives for recreation but prefers exploring random coves at the Lake.

"I prefer Lake dives," he said. "I like to find things."

He hopes to turn this into a full-time business and eventually start recovering boats and other items.



Tim McNitt, otherwise known as "The Walrus," is the owner of Atlantis Dive and Dock Salvage LLC at the Lake. The nickname, he explained, comes from the fact that he collects walrus teeth, tusks and just loves the animal. He has over 40 years of salvage and recovery diving experience in waters from the Mississippi River to the Lake of the Ozarks.

McNitt began his diving career in Iowa in 1984 where he became a rescue diver/EMT. He advanced his skill set to include search and recovery diving, dive master and cave diver. He later added paramedic to his resume. In addition to item recovery, he learned to use chain systems and airbags to raise heavy items from the bottom of the Lake. He also learned about side sonar equipment, underwater cutting and welding, and diving with a helmet with an air hose attached.

"I grew up in Keokuk, Iowa on the Mississippi," McNitt said. "I'm used to swift, dark water and I work year-round. Winter separates the men from the boys, but you have to eat."

In the winter months, McNitt does cable work, recovers sunken boats or hoists, works on docks and recovers fishing poles. He's been at the Lake since 1986. He's also a former owner of TowBoatUS.

To date, McNitt has performed close to 11,000 dives and has recovered over \$2 million in jewelry. He estimates he's installed over 10 miles of cable on docks every year and has raised 50-60 vessels annually.

"I was meant to find things," he said. "The eye is just trained, plus technique and experience makes it possible."

Treasures he's recovered at the Lake include a single tooth, artificial limbs, glasses, phones, a \$10,000 necklace and a \$27,000 bracelet. He's recovered items for athletes and other famous individuals, including a \$70,000 ring for the producer of Nelly's music. Often, he said, he doesn't even know the person is famous.

"Sometimes items are expensive and sometimes they're sentimental," he explained. McNitt has also searched for bodies and dogs and doesn't charge for either.

"I care when people are suffering," he explained. "And I discount my price if I can't find an item." His rates depend on the depth, situation, location and time of year.

"I'm brutally honest if I think I can find something," McNitt explained. "When I get to my clients my soul comes out. I'm serious but when I find the item I'm jovial and we take pictures of what I find." McNitt typically arrives within 30 minutes of a call for help. He dives



Tim McNitt has performed close to 11,000 dives and has recovered over \$2 million in jewelry.

with the aid of an underwater propulsion unit and brings up a clam for the kids during his recovery dives.

The deepest depth he's reached at the Lake is 122 feet.

"I was looking for two sets of car fobs," he explained. "This is a very dangerous dive because my bottom time for air is minimal at this depth. I didn't have enough time on the bottom to find them."

Fans can learn more about McNitt through a book he's currently writing titled "Tails of the Walrus."

"It's a collection of stories and experiences I've had in my life," he explained. "The stories I have are good and are from throughout the years."

Giving back to the community is high on McNitt's priority list. He's a six-year member of the YMCA Board of Directors and a four-year board member for CADV (Citizens Against Domestic Violence). He also coaches USA and high school wrestling.

Now 60 years old, McNitt said he will continue diving until he no longer can.

"My goal is to do it until I'm 72, but my body may break down before then. I will definitely be forced to retire," he said.



Sometimes the job calls for recovering boats that have sunk or trying to keep boats afloat when their lift fails on the dock.

More Info

Darick Langos at Scuba Bear Diving Recovery Service, 847-815-0456

Tim McNitt at Atlantis Dive and Dock Salvage LLC, 573-480-2700

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LAKE RESIDENT ON A MISSION TO KAYAK
ENTIRE LAKE OF THE OZARKS SHORELINE

By MARIE KROLIKOWSKI



Yvonne Townsend injured her shoulder in 2023 after stepping into a hole on a walk. It kept her from kayaking all summer but she made miles up in the fall.

Yvonne Townsend isn't known for walking away from a thrilling challenge. She has experienced more than the average person during her 72 years in this world. Her goal to kayak 1,200 unrepeated miles of the Lake of the Ozarks shoreline is her latest endeavor.

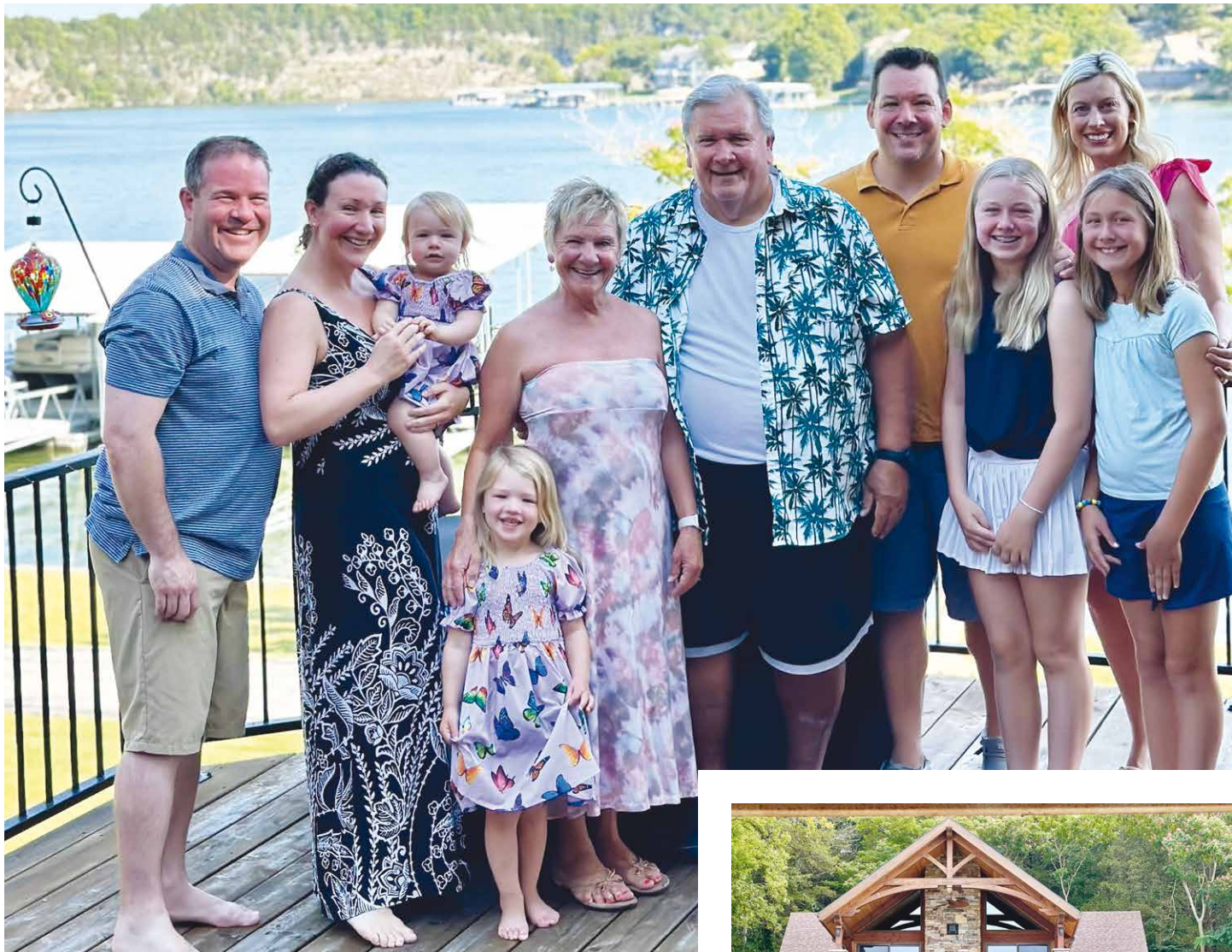
"I started kayaking in 2017," Townsend said. "I just loved it. It's so relaxing, beautiful and peaceful. I got bored kayaking just in my area so I started branching out into other areas of the Lake. I then decided to see how many miles of shoreline I could do. I thought I might as well turn it into a challenge."

Townsend began working on this goal in 2021. As of the end of 2022, she already had paddled 289 miles. An injury sidelined her for a period of time, but she persevered and is back at it.

"This past April I was power walking and I fell into a hole," she explained. "I tried to catch my fall and dislocated my shoulder." In May, Townsend had rotator cuff surgery.

"I lost my entire summer of kayaking," she said. "It was very disappointing."

She was released from her doctor in September with instructions to "not go crazy." The first day back, she completed four miles. By the end of the fall, she was paddling nine miles a few times a week. She added another 52 miles this fall to bring her total miles kayaked to 341.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Yvonne Townsend has kayaked more than 340 miles of Lake of the Ozarks shoreline. Her goal is to do all 1,200 miles of the Lake.

Townsend trailers her kayak on a wave runner trailer and researches different places to launch. She trailers and launches her kayak by herself. The logistics are all part of the challenge, and this includes wind speed. She typically only kayaks during the week.

“My kayak weighs about 20 pounds and is 10 feet long,” she explained. “I try to get my trailer as close to the launch and water as possible and slide it off.” She makes sure she’s well stocked while out on the water. This includes a cup of coffee to start, a snack, and a cooler with lunch and water. She wears a hat, sunscreen and applies bug spray.

“I have been known to have a glass of sangria in the cooler for late afternoon,” she said.

Her kayak is recognizable by the flag she flies that reads “1,200 miles or bust.”

“The people who know about me recognize my flag,” she said. “I pulled up to Margaritaville once and a bunch of people were hanging over the railing and cheering me on. I’m not trying to become famous. It’s just something I like to do and it’s nice to have a goal.”

A full-time Camdenton resident, Townsend has been coming to the Lake since she was a young girl. Her husband Gary always wanted to retire at the Lake, and in 2018 they made it their full-time residence. She and her husband purchased a 1960s 1,200 square-foot home where all her memories lie and turned it into their 3,200 square-foot slice of heaven.





Always up for an adventure, in 2014 Townsend went sky diving in Dubai and has ziplined over the Zambezi River in South Africa. From having drinks at Captain Ron's to celebrating her 200-mile mark at Bear Bottom Resort, she often stops at restaurants along her route.

"We added to this little concrete block house," she explained. "We encapsulated it into a beautiful cedar and glass home. There are still remnants of the original house here and we kept the old gally kitchen as a back-up second kitchen. We've had so many great memories here."

Townsend and her husband are high-school sweethearts and have been married 51 years. They have two grown children, Michael and Christine. They also have four grandchildren, Claire who is 12, Lanie who is 9, Elizabeth who is four and one-half and Katherine who is 20 months. Their life has been filled with travel and adventure. Her husband designed and built power plants and was the managing director of India, the Middle East, Africa and Europe. They've lived in England, Dubai and Indonesia and visited a slew of other countries.

In December of 2009 she was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent a double mastectomy, chemotherapy and battled with lymphedema. All her physicians advised her not to water ski anymore because of potential damage to her arm, but in 2015 she decided to give it a try and did fine. She slalom skied and skied on trick skis until she was 70 year old, but is not sure if she will continue.

"My mom, who is now 94, skied until she was 70," she explained. "My goal was to beat her, but I might be ok with just being tied."

"After having cancer, I do more," she explained. "I have very active friends who live life to the fullest. After breast cancer my husband knows he can't talk me out of my ideas."

In 2014, Townsend went sky diving in Dubai.

"It was Valentines Day," she recalled. "We were a group of five girlfriends and we all said let's do this, and we all jumped out of a plane."

That same year, she learned to scuba dive and got certified in Dubai. She dove a huge shark tank and ziplined over the Zambezi River in South Africa.

"This was scarier than skydiving," she said. "I almost turned back. There was a 14 foot dead alligator in the river below me."

Come summer, Townsend will be back out on her kayak. Her plan is to paddle two to three times a week. She's already completed the entire big Niangua and the Little Niangua in Linn Creek. She did the main channel from the big Niangua to the Grand Glaize Bridge and parts of the Osage Arm. She's over halfway complete with the Grand Glaize and plans to finish that, and she has yet to do any of the main channel from the Grand Glaize to Bagnell Dam.

"I've met some very nice people kayaking who have helped me out, offered me water and margarita pops," she said. "I really meet such nice and interesting people. It's fun. It's just fun."



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The St. Charles Boat Show will be held Feb. 29-March 3, 2024.
CHARIS PATIRES PHOTOS

HOW TO NAVIGATE *Boat Show Season*

WHAT NOT TO MISS AND TIPS ON BUYING YOUR NEXT BOAT

By DOUG BECK

The boating season has ended, and the new year is here. Like many boaters the lurer of something new is calling. The question is where can you go to find all your boating-related needs in one place? The answer is found at this year's boat shows hosted by the Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers Association.

Lake marine dealers and other local businesses will be on hand with every type of boat, PWC, dock accessory and other products and services to enhance your Lake life experience. Even if you are not in the market for a boat, a range of experts showcasing everything from automatic lift installation to home remodeling. You can meet with the right professionals to upgrade your dock ladder or find the perfect furniture for your outdoor living space.

Boat shows allow you to see the newest models on display but they can also be a wealth of knowledge. They typically will host many new product reveal events, as well as offer information and training. Keep in mind that all boat shows are different and let's face it, that's what makes them a great event to attend.



GEORGE DENNY PHOTO

With so much to see and do, here are some of our best tips for boat show season so you can be ready to head out on Lake of the Ozarks when the season arrives.

Lets start with the obvious purchase...a boat. Buying new or used is a tough call for many, especially a first-timer. There's no right or wrong answer. It all depends on your tastes, your budget, and your mechanical aptitude. You decide, but there are many factors to consider if you are in the market for a used boat.

If buying used, you get more boat for fewer dollars, lower cost per year of ownership, and less on the line if you decide a different boat would better serve you. It sounds funny, but there's a peace of mind in knowing you are not going to put that first scratch or ding on your shiny new boat.

With a used boat, any initial bugs in the boat or motor have likely surfaced and been dealt with accordingly. For reassurance, and before signing, get a marine survey. Marine surveyors see what you can't and look where you won't. Once you have the survey complete, you will be ready to make an offer and negotiate the best price.

It's easier to do research on a boat that's been out on the market for a while. You get time-tested technologies that other boaters will report via Internet sources. Another benefit of buying used are the number of purchase options — from trading in with a dealer to using a broker who has reduced overhead costs, or a private seller who may be motivated to sell.

Who doesn't like a shiny new toy? Buying a new boat has many advantages. No need to wonder how the boat has been used or misused, or if it's been adequately winterized and commissioned. There's no history to uncover. Also, you can buy exactly what you want and get the latest technology and innovations. If something does go awry, you'll have a manufacturer's warranty for backup. The warranty is served by the selling dealer, so it's a good reason to buy nearby.

WHY YOU SHOULD BUY AT A SHOW

Boat shows not only give you the opportunity to look at dozens and dozens of the latest competing models in the same place at the same time, they also often offer some of the best special deals, incentives and pricing of the year.

Depending on location, time of year, model, inventory, and other factors, the amount will vary from 10 to 20 percent. You may do even better on a closeout of a previous year's model since it is already a year old. Pick a price around five to 10 percent of the asking price, but not so much lower that the seller is offended. You may go lower, but the price point should tell the seller you are serious.



TIPS FOR ATTENDING THE SHOW

Now that you are ready for the boat show, here are a few tips from BoatUS you will want to know before you go.

1. Dress comfortably. You will be walking a lot, so comfortable slip-on shoes are best for getting on and off boats as you browse. Most dealers ask that you remove shoes before boarding. Wear loose-fitting clothes, avoid dangling jewelry, pack light, and bring your own water, hat and sunscreen.

2. Attendance cost. Tickets typically range from \$12 to \$35, depending on the venue. BoatUS members get special discounts at many shows (visit BoatUS.com/Tickets). Some shows host a “VIP Day” before the show opens. These special-admission tickets are more expensive but often well worth it. Crowds are lighter with serious buyers. You’ll get more attention from dealers on these days, and unhurried tours of the boats.

3. Security. Especially at the bigger shows, expect a screening at the entrance. Your bags will likely be scanned and/or inspected. Lines back up during the opening rush.

4. Getting around. Most shows divide boats by category: dayboats, cruisers, fishing, sailing, sport, etc. Every show will have a brochure with a detailed floor/dock-layout map. Larger shows have free-download apps for their specific show.

5. Electronics. Take cellphone pictures of the boat and navigation station so the salesperson will have an idea of what you are looking for, and your installation needs. For instance, if you plan on fitting a new chart plotter into a spare spot on your dash, take dimensions so you will know if the unit you’re considering will fit.

6. Do your homework. A productive show starts at home. Narrow down the list of boats you’re most interested in. All shows provide a list of exhibitors and often free seminars on their websites. Before you go, look into the manufacturer’s website to learn boat details. Think about a list of questions about the priorities on design and accessories you are most interested in, including specifics on warranties, servicing options, and any training options. Be prepared with a good sense of your financial abilities, including what it will cost to insure your new pride and joy.

7. Getting the best deal. Special boat show price signs are seen at every show and the discounted price can be significant. Dealers offer that price “while the show lasts,” but the reality is they want to sell boats so some may honor that price for serious buyers ready to make a purchase. As a further show-only incentive, many dealers will include significant packages of products you’ll need anyway, which could include gear such as electronics, dock lines, life jackets, or extended warranties and service contracts.

The boats are the main attraction, of course, and a boat show offers the opportunity to see a lot of them all in one place. Larger national-level shows will often feature boat displays presented by the manufacturers, which may be staffed by the factory or by local dealers. New boats are often debuted at these shows.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Vendors offering everything from dock lines to electronics, wake boards, foul weather gear and fuel additives will be at the show. Where else can you compare 20 different styles of boat shoes and actually try them on? See new fenders in every size and color, meet an artist that can hand-paint your boat name on your transom, and speak with real experts about your recreational needs.

Boat shows often have a number of demonstrations and seminars, most free to attend. Topics range from boating safety and seamanship to fishing tips from professional anglers.

As we move into 2024, be prepared, be informed, have fun at the shows and then... get ready to enjoy the boating life.



Located at the 19-mile marker, Dog Days will host both in-water boat shows in 2024.

GEORGE DENNY PHOTOS

When & Where

The Lake Ozark Marine Dealers Association promotes and presents four boat shows annually in Missouri. Here is a list of their upcoming shows.

- Overland Park Boat Show, February 15-18
Overland Park Convention Center
www.overlandparkboatshow.com
- St. Charles Boat Show, February 29-March 3
St. Charles Convention Center
www.stcharlesboatshow.com
- Lake of the Ozarks In Water Boat, April 19-21
Dog Days, 19MM
- Lake of the Ozarks, In Water Boat Show, September 20-22
Dog Days, 19MM

www.lakeozarkboatdealers.com



NAVIGATING THE *Future*

Q&A WITH THE LAKE OF THE OZARKS MARINE DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Compiled by CHARIS PATIRES

The Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers Association is made up of over 38 Lake area marine dealers as full members, and 46 associate marine related members representing all the top lines of boats, marine accessories, docks, personal watercraft and everything else to promote fun on our local waters. It's no secret that boating has a major economic impact on Lake of the Ozarks. Recreational opportunities are a big reason tourists and second-homeowners flock to the Lake.

After more than 10 of leadership, Executive Director Mike Kenagy will be retiring from LOMDA in the fall of 2024. He looks back on adapting during a worldwide pandemic and what the future holds at Lake of the Ozarks.

What do you think the future holds at Lake of the Ozarks when it comes to the boating industry? Are there any particular challenges or opportunities you see in the coming years?

In my opinion, the future is still bright for the marine industry, especially the boating side of that industry. Lake of the Ozarks is a wonderful place to live and raise your family. With the national attention that the Lake has received, we have had numerous new residents move here and I believe that will continue. Opportunities are limitless as new residents move and settle here, which will continue to add to the economic diversity of the Lake. Over-regulations of the boating lifestyle will continue to be a challenge as it is the other side of growth.

What advice would you have for boaters looking to buy or sell in 2024?

Find one of our great dealers and work with them on finding the boat that works best for you and your family. The dealers are a great group, and I have seen numerous times that a customer will be looking for a specific type of boat, and the dealer they are working with at the time will give them another dealer's contact information in order to get them into the boat that best meets their needs. They are trying to make owning a boat a lifestyle, not just a sale, knowing that experience will come around again when that customer either upgrades or decides to change the type of boat that they are using.

What have been the most significant accomplishments in the industry at the Lake (during your time with LOMDA)?

The ability to adjust to the ever-changing economy and still provide top-quality sales and service. The way we navigated the COVID crisis and helped to keep the Lake economy moving.

How has the marine industry evolved during your time as executive director?

As with every industry we have seen consolidation along with a larger selection of boat models for the consumer.



Who is taking over

After a nationwide search, The Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers Association selected Leah Martin as their Executive Director following Mike Kenagy's retirement.

Kenagy will stay on with the Association through next year's September In-Water boat show. Martin began her new position December 1 and is working with Kenagy through all four of next year's Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealer Association's boat shows.

Martin has 23 years of working in the non-profit sector, including the American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, and most currently as the Executive Director of the Lake of the Ozarks Shootout. Martin will continue her position with the Shootout as well as LOMDA.

"I am excited to strengthen my relationship within the marine industry and the Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers Association membership," Martin said. "I look forward to bringing my knowledge of community collaboration, event planning, fundraising, and passion for the boating community and industry to the Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers Association. While the Shootout and Lake of the Ozark Marine Dealers Association are different organizations, the missions align to promote the marine industry and grow tourism at the Lake. I look forward to serving the community in both roles."

A large, multi-level lake home with a stone fire pit and two blue Adirondack chairs in the foreground. The house features a mix of wood and white siding, with a prominent stone fire pit in the foreground. Two blue Adirondack chairs are positioned on a stone patio next to the fire pit. The house has multiple levels, including a deck and a balcony, and is situated on a grassy slope overlooking a lake. A large tree is visible on the left side of the image.

Perfected WITH Precision

LAKE HOME MAXIMIZES SPACE TO CREATE WATERFRONT RETREAT FOR FAMILY

Photography by STUDIO V HYPERMEDIA ENTERTAINMENT

Story compiled by CHARIS PATIRES

Anyone who has been in the market to buy a Lake home knows it can be hard to find exactly what you are looking for ... enough space to entertain, outdoor living areas, the dock, plenty of parking, the slope of the land and proximity to the Lake are just a few things most people consider. Sometimes to get what you want, you have to start from scratch.

Located in Sunrise Beach, the original plan was to remodel the entire home but after considering all of the changes, it only made sense to tear down the existing property and make way for something better.

Well versed in the trade, the homeowners are an architect and a realtor so it was the perfect combination for building a one-of-a-kind Lake home. Attention to detail and design

were thought through with the utmost care. The homeowners were heavily involved in the design, construction, drawings and interior decorating. They selected all of the building materials, appliances, light fixtures and exterior finish materials.

Heading up the building of the project was Otto Construction. Owned by Tony Otto, the family-owned company started in 2003 and has a reputation of building quality lake homes.

James O'Neal, sales consultant with Otto Construction, says they are seeing a lot of demand for outdoor living spaces, additions to homes for full-time living, and detached areas such as recreational rooms and mother-in-law quarters for guests to hang out. This home has all of that and more.

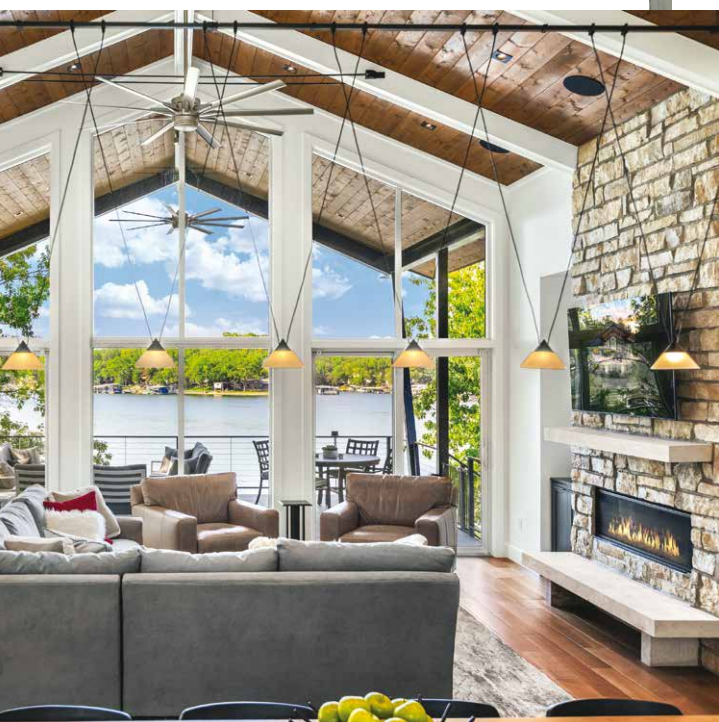


The existing house was demolished and replaced with a two-story home with a detached carriage house. Despite its compact size, the home maximizes every square inch. The house feels connected to the Lake and its surroundings while not imposing to the neighbors around. The views from the house to the Lake were the main focus of the design. Almost every room has a view. The design was developed to overlaying the exact footprint of the original house, with the expansion of stacking additional bedrooms on one side and an expansion of the kitchen from the original floor plan.

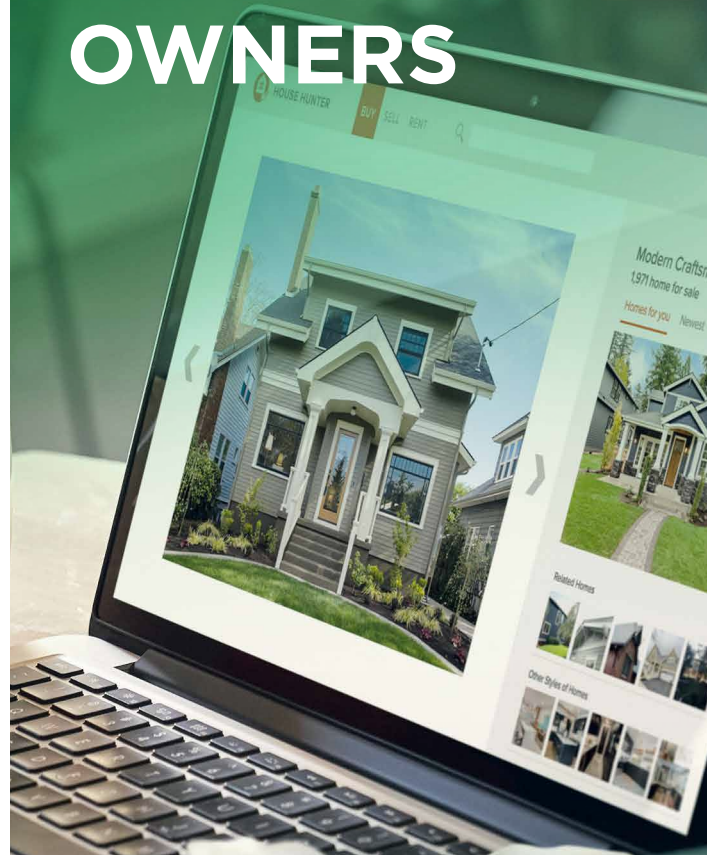


The open concept design includes the entryway, kitchen, dining room and living room all in one space. The interior of the great room allowed for a clear, free span of the roof with tension rod bracing. A natural gas fireplace complements the design with limestone surround, mantel and hearth design. Wood floors and wood ceilings were the design statements of the upstairs living spaces.





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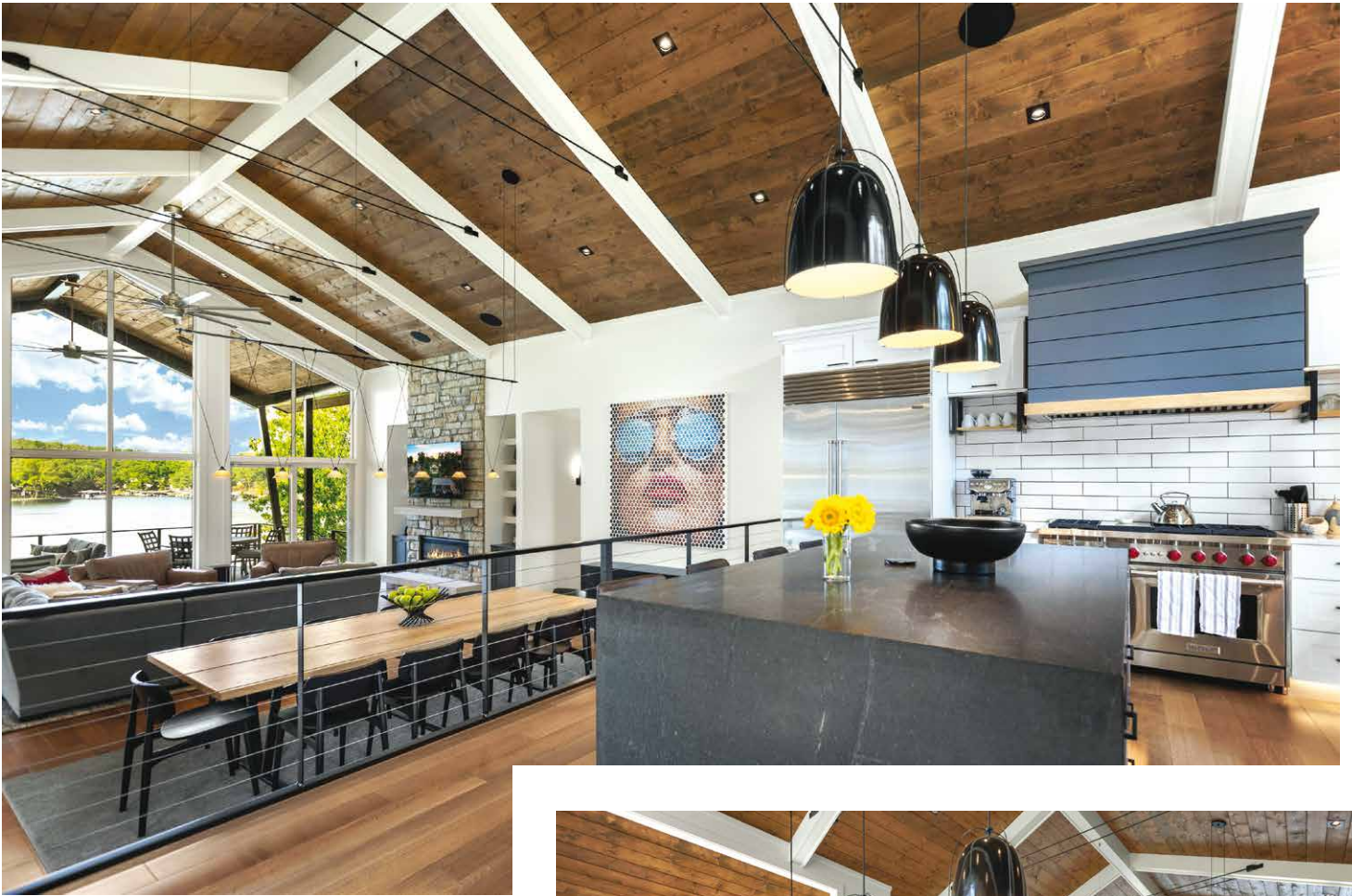


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Special attention was paid to the cabinet and door styles to match throughout the house with panel frame designs for both. All countertops are quartz and all lighting is LED, selected from Lumens Lighting. Artwork is a main focal point of the house which was designed around a Lake and water theme. Art was to be playful and emphasized the basis of the design for the house.



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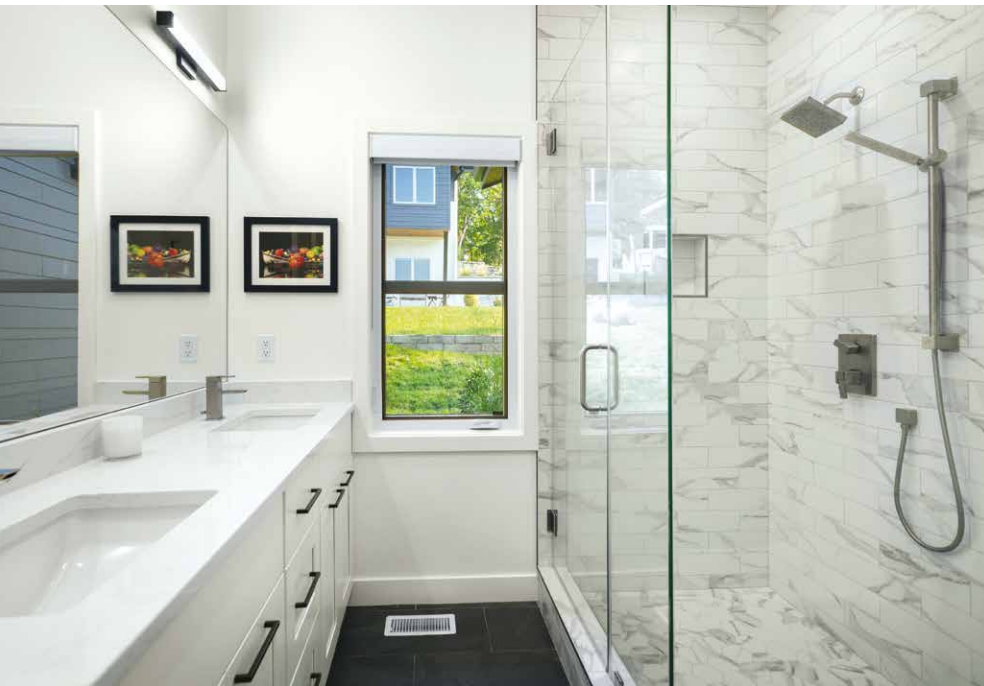
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The view from the upper deck.



Bedrooms on the upper floor are carpeted, while the lower floor bedrooms have area rugs under all the beds. Hunter Douglas automated blinds are used throughout the home through Dugan's Paint & Flooring Centers in Osage Beach (they also provided all tile, wood floors and carpeting). The porcelain tile in the bathrooms was designed with underfloor electric heating systems for comfort in the winter. Special tile selections were from lines sponsored by Virginia Tile.



Bedrooms were designed to be smaller so that the living areas and decks could be spacious. The home has two master bedrooms, one on the main level and another on the walk-out lower level. There is a guest bedroom upstairs and a fourth bedroom sleeps eight, thanks to the genius design of a bunk room for the grandkids.



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The carriage house was designed for the owner's mother and husband to live in during the summer. It is about 700 square feet per floor. The two-car garage is located on the upper level and is equipped with Tesla electric car charging. The lower level contains the living area. The design allowed them to continue to experience the Lake with privacy from the main house. It is an easy walk down a sloping sidewalk to allow no steps to the quarters which was a key design feature to allow access to a wheel chair if necessary in the future.





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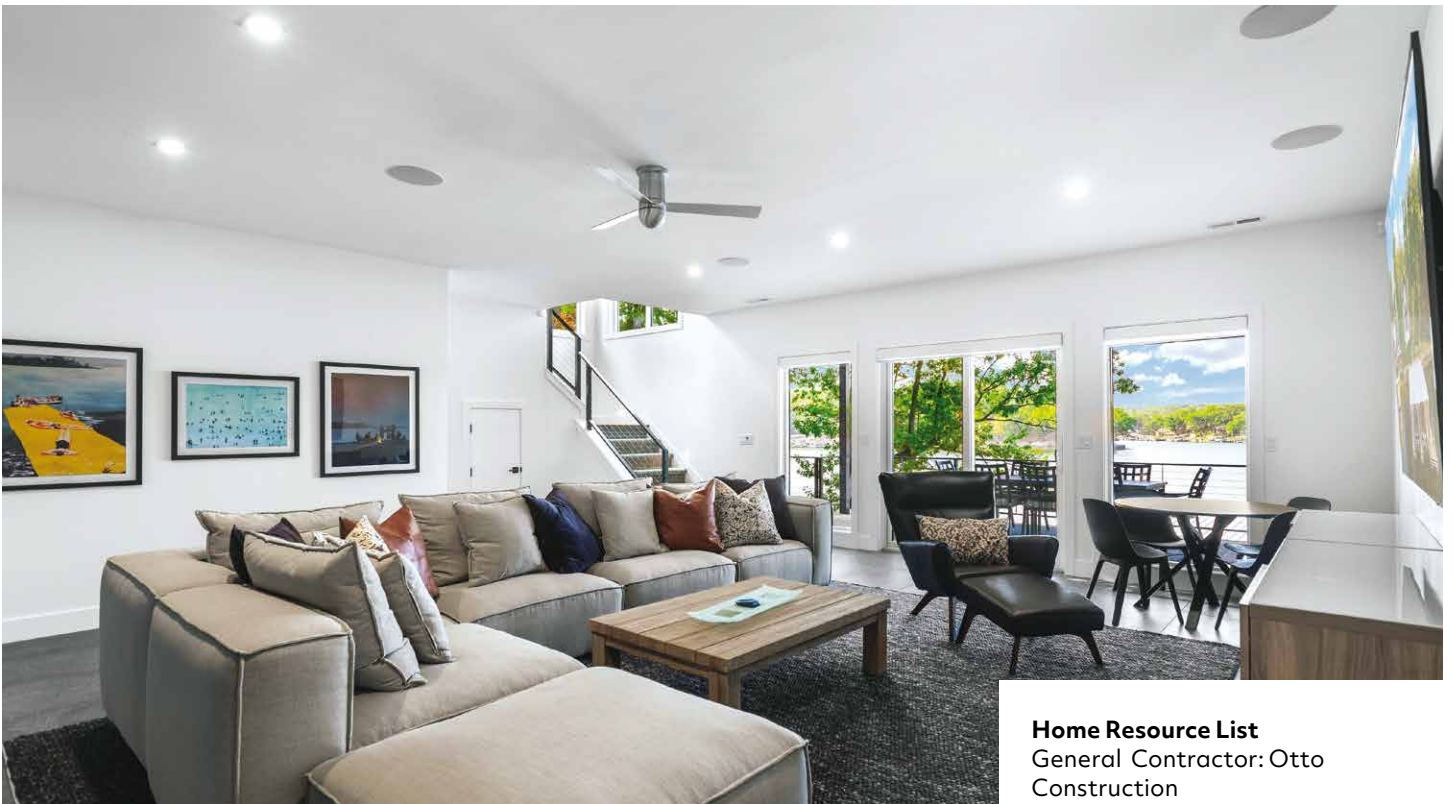


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 Plumbing: CM Plumbing
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 Solar: Catalyst Electric
 Drywall: Mark Barklage Drywall
 Heating & Cooling: Controlled Heating & Cooling
 Windows: Quaker
 Insulation: Triple A Foam
 Garage Door: Alliance
 Fireplace: HMI Fireplace Shop
 Doors: Boone County Millwork
 Flooring: Dugan's Paint & Flooring Centers (Osage Beach)
 Shower Door: Wells Glass
 Counter Tops: Ragan Cabinets
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 Appliances: Jacobsen Appliance
 Painting /Finish work: Barklage Painting
 Exterior Finish/Siding: Otto Construction
 Roofing: Elite Roofing
 Decking: Dugans (Tile Paver system) TimberTech (Composite Decking)
 Pest Control and Insulation: AB Pest
 Concrete: Nate's Excavation
 Deck Pans: Easy Access Welding & Fabrication
 Stone Insulation: Juan's Masonry Construction
 Plumbing Fixtures: DKB/Plumbing Supply
 Fireplace Stone: Southwest Stone Supply

LOW MAINTENANCE, LONG-LASTING MATERIALS

The lot is very steep. The drop from the street to the water level is 75 (vertical) feet tall. The house uses this drop in grades to its advantage for walk out spaces off of the lower level of the garage walking to almost grade level into the house.

Long-lasting materials that would be low maintenance were carefully chosen. Energy efficiency was also a part of the master plan. The design incorporates 21 solar panels on the roof of the garage to allow for the home's energy needs. The power systems are backed up with a gas generator and hook ups for future battery storage capability.

The HVAC system is the most efficient on the market today. It is designed with Amana heat pumps and natural gas supplement for extreme temperatures. With six-inch thick exterior walls, a foam insulated ceiling, the use of solar, and well water, the home could be occupied off-the-grid with the future battery storage installed.

The design of the home includes porcelain tile decking on pedestals on the upper deck with stainless steel cable, aluminum guard rails and aluminum stairs for ease of maintenance. The exterior siding is Hardy plank flat cement siding done in a unique pattern of four, eight and 12-inch planks for unique definition of the exterior. The unique painting of the siding compliments the Quaker aluminum casement windows that were designed with center mullions to have the proportions of a traditional double hung window. A unique structural steel framing system was used on the exterior of both the main house and carriage house to create a statement for the design of the home.

The home is equipped with a full home-monitoring system, light control, and a security and surveillance camera recording system.

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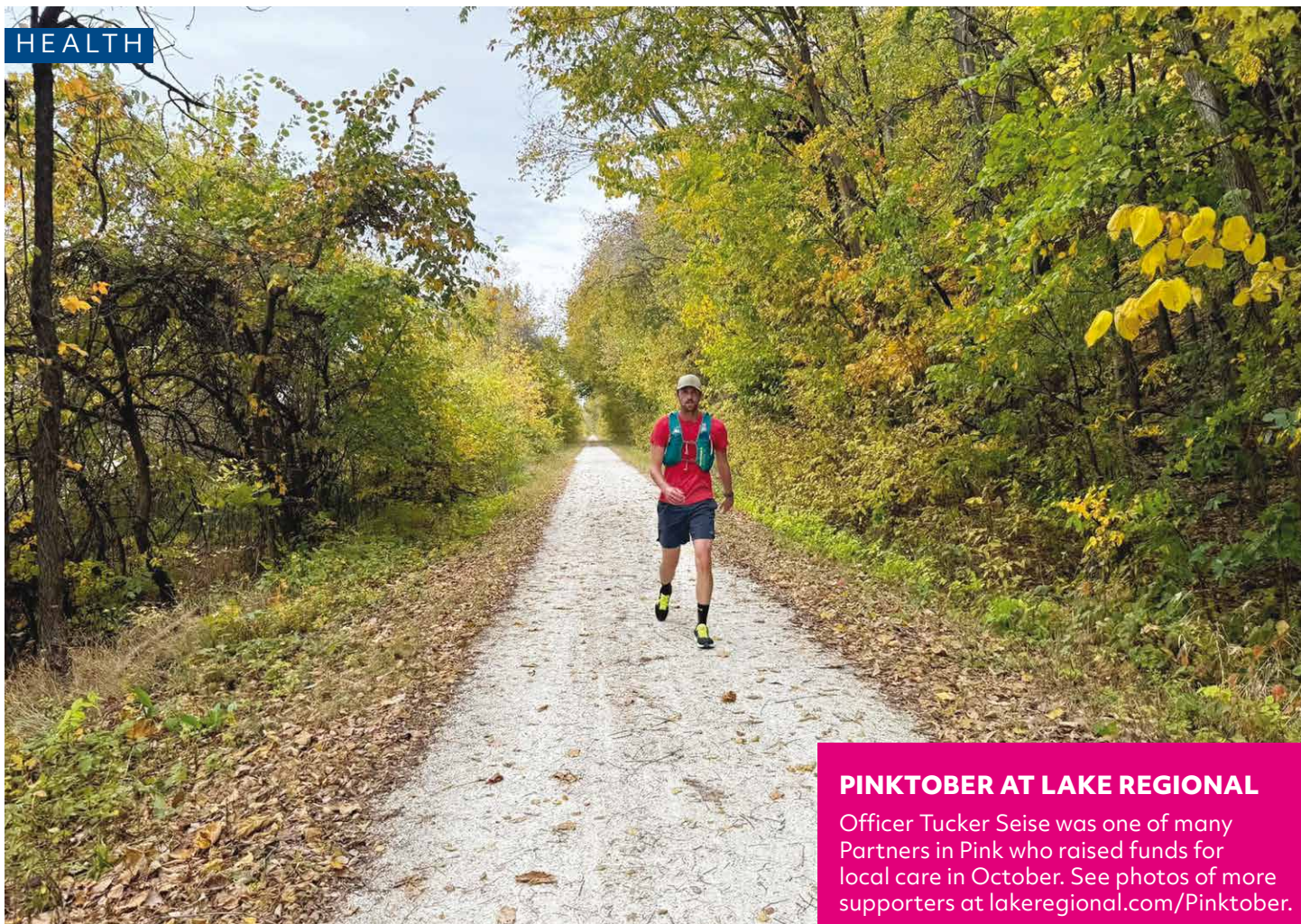


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PINKTOBER AT LAKE REGIONAL

Officer Tucker Seise was one of many Partners in Pink who raised funds for local care in October. See photos of more supporters at lakeregional.com/Pinktober.

Going the Distance

LAKE REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER TUCKER SEISE RUNS 234 MILES, RAISES \$1,900 FOR LOCAL CANCER CARE

Submitted by LAKE REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM



PROVIDED PHOTOS

The winding trail kept going and kept going. The sun set, twilight deepened and a light rain started to fall.

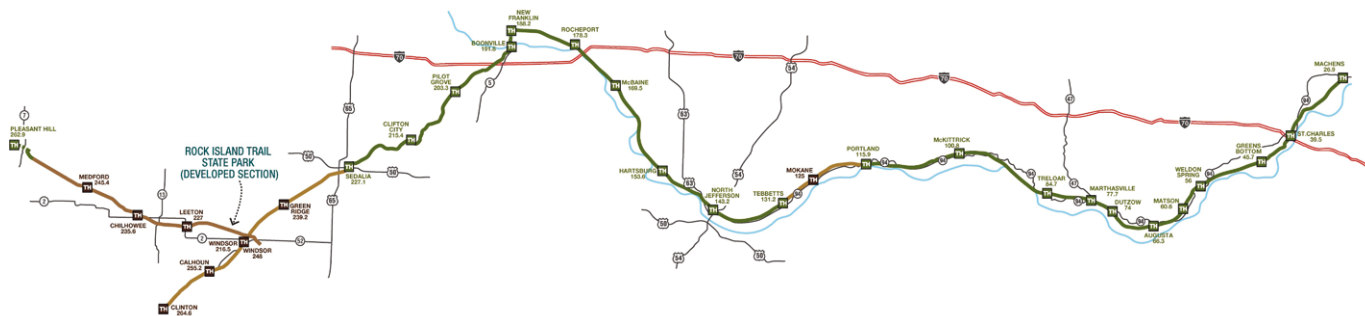
More than 230 miles down and just a couple left to go — ultra-marathoner and Lake Regional Security Officer Tucker Seise was tired and hurting, but his deep commitment pushed him forward.

“You have to be in good physical shape,” he says of running ultra-marathons. “But after a certain point, it’s all mental. It meant a lot to have the hospital behind me. I was getting tons of comments on Facebook and messages from Lake Regional staff encouraging me through the week.”

THE CHALLENGE

Seise was on the Katy Trail for the longest run of his life — a five-day, 234-mile run that began in Clinton and ended in St. Charles. Along the way, he raised money to support breast cancer awareness and local care at Lake Regional Cancer Center. He got the idea to make his longest race a fundraiser from a fellow Lake Regional security officer, Joel Grout.

“Joel rode his bike in a 200-mile race and raised money for childhood cancer awareness,” Seise said. “I thought, ‘Maybe I can do something like that, too.’”



A map of the Katy Trail stretching across parts of Missouri. PHOTO PROVIDED BY DNR

FIVE DAYS ON THE KATY TRAIL

Day One: Clinton to Sedalia – 33+ miles

Day Two: Sedalia to New Franklin – 46+ miles

Day Three: New Franklin to Tebbets – 59+ miles

Day Four: Tebbets to Treloar – 47+ miles

Day Five: Treloar to St. Charles – 46+ miles

Total: 234 miles

Seise planned to run the trail as part of The Katy 225, an organized ultra-marathon. He reached out to Lake Regional Public Relations for ideas on how to make his run a fundraiser and learned his October race would take place during Lake Regional’s Pinktober — a month dedicated to raising breast cancer awareness and funds for local care. He became a Lake Regional Partner in Pink and soon had his own fundraising page.

“We set his goal at \$1,500,” says Stephanie Dehner, Lake Regional community liaison. “That felt a little ambitious, but we wanted a goal worthy of Tucker’s effort.”

BEND IN THE ROAD

The longest race Seise had ever run was 70 miles. He completed weeks of training. Then, just a couple of weeks out, the race permits were pulled and The Katy 225 was cancelled.

Seise decided to run anyway.

“Running is a way to see what I can do — what I can push past in the next race, whether it’s the distance or a time I want to beat,” he says. “And I knew I had people counting on me.”

He took off at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15, from the trailhead at Clinton. His parents, Mike and Julie Seise, drove nearby, meeting him with food and water as needed. He was off the trail each evening around sunset — closing time for the Katy Trail

State Park — and then he would either camp or sleep in accommodations near the trail. His evening routine included icing, ibuprofen and Biofreeze — and a good seven to eight hours of sleep before hitting the trail again between 6 and 7 the next morning.

Much of the trail shadows the Missouri River, and “running along the river was really pretty,” Seise says.

STRONG FINISH

At the end of his third day, Tucker had made it to Tebbets. In his Facebook post the next morning, he noted: “Just need 45-50 miles today then bringing it home to St. Charles tomorrow!! We are over halfway there in both distance and donations!”

The next day got off to a great start.

“The best memory for me was waking up that last morning in Treloar and seeing that we had passed our donation goal,” he says. “That pushed me, and I knew, ‘I have to finish this now.’”

Finally, through the light rain and near dark, he saw the St. Charles trailhead. His parents and a couple of college friends were there to celebrate with him.

His watch showed 234 miles.

“Knowing I had people following along and donating to a cause kept me going when it started getting tough towards the end,” Seise says. “Everybody else did their part; I had to finish mine.”

TEAM PRIDE

News of Seise’s success inspired more people to give — and soon, he had \$1,900 given in his name.

His Lake Regional supervisor, Security Officer Chet Mackiewicz, wrote a note of congratulations that captured the pride all of Lake Regional feels in Seise’s run:

“Tucker, as a night shift officer, you have proved yourself as an ambitious, thinking, capable officer. Your recent event of what was supposed to be a 225-mile run in four days was actually 234 miles, and you did what few people in the country could do, which proves your superior athletic ability. Then you top it off with making that a Pinktober fundraiser for Lake Regional, showing your true heart and character. To say that I am proud of you is an understatement. I am honored that you are part of our team!”

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OUR
COMMITMENT
RUNS
DEEP

A Magician's

By JUDY GOPPERT

MASTERPIECES

CHARLIE MYRICK SHOWCASES A FUSION OF ARTISTRY



If you are ever by the docks next to Bagnell Dam and Celebration Cruises be on the lookout for the mammoth shark. It's hanging next to a 16-foot alligator. Both are the result of Charlie Myrick, who relishes creating these whimsical creatures for visitors to take selfies and photos of with their kids.

"I have seen children 'riding' the alligator, and parents putting babies in the mouth of the shark for photo ops," Myrick said. The life-sized creatures were created when Joe Harvey, the owner of Celebration Cruises, wanted something cool on his dock and asked if a "big alligator" would be something Myrick could do.

"Since then, I have built other displays, including pirates and such," he said. "I look at pictures and start sculpting. Building these involves a process of adding and subtracting, until you get them the way you want. I then use a special coating, so weather doesn't hurt them."

These are not the only works of art in the Lake area Myrick has been instrumental in building. Another popular venue he put his talent into is The Lighthouse, owned by Bob Thompson in Sunrise Beach. It was once a dirty and dusty concrete plant when he took on the two-year project. This venue is where the Shootout banquet is held, and it is often booked to host weddings and other gatherings. There is also a pickleball court.

Myrick designed the now closed Jerk Shack located on P Road and the big pirate ship inside Captain Ron's. Some long-time Lake folks may recall the Stables restaurant off 5 Highway (the building now houses a dispensary). The restaurant was painted in the theme of a full life-size Western town with a bank, livery stable, hotel and jail.

"It was fun and people took pictures of themselves there," Myrick said. "I built and designed those." In addition, he has painted murals in more than 100 homes all over the Lake.

"People love oceanscapes, mountains and Lake murals," Myrick said. "I also personally paint faux floors on concrete and wood. I did a floor for a gentleman who had a home on the Lake that looks like real teak wood. People ask, 'where did you get this beautiful floor?' He says, 'in a can!'"

His 3D designs seem to shift and change in front of your eyes. "I like people to say 'wow!' Most of the art comes out of my head," he said.

INSPIRED AT A YOUNG AGE

He and his wife, Donna, met in the early 70s while he was immersed in his magic career, which imprinted his life path. Myrick was bitten by the magic bug at age nine, when his older brother showed him a card trick.

"I did magic for 60 years. I credit my teacher, Miss Wiley, for inspiring me and giving me the courage and gumption to pursue my craft. I had attention deficit disorder, and in those days, they didn't understand what it was. Children with disabilities were just put in the back of the room and forgotten about. So, from kindergarten through first and second grade, I had to endure this. In third grade, Miss Wiley didn't listen to them. She put my desk in front, right by hers," he explained. "She was my inspiration. She was amazing. When I showed Miss Wiley that card trick my brother taught me, she got excited and took me to the library. I learned to read through a simple magic book she found. She said, 'Charlie all you have to do is know the magic words. The magic words are 'I can!' My life was changed."

In 1976, after 14 years of practicing and studying Houdini, Myrick went to Las Vegas to compete against the best escape artists in the world.

"When it was all over, I won the world championship. All because Miss Wiley told me I could and I believed," he said.

He traveled to Atlantic City where he opened Resorts International with Bill Cosby and Lou Rawls. He traveled to Japan where he did a command performance for the Emperor and met President Ronald Reagan, along with celebrities Merv Griffin, Art Linkletter, Edgar Bergen and many other famous people.

"Edward Bergen told me about the days at RKO and working with Mae West, W.C. Fields, Chaplin and knew Houdini per-



sonally," Myrick said. "I was like a kid in the candy store listening. It was amazing. You think about all the people you meet along the way. It was an amazing time when you can change people's lives. I went back to my roots and now do school shows to change the hearts and minds of students and teachers and have them believe in themselves. Like Miss Wiley did for me so many years ago."

He honed the craft he uses today in his creations working on scenery for those magic shows. He owned Kansas City Scenery and Sign, which he sold in 2000.

His road to the Lake began 17 years ago in the springtime. His sister, Suzanne, moved to the Lake first, and owned Hava Space RV Park in Gravois Mills, which they sold a couple years ago. Charlie and Donna were living in Liberty, and Suzanne showed them some land 16 miles south of Stover, at Brown's Point on the 64-mile marker.

"We wound up buying four acres. We fell in love with it because we have a great view of the Lake. We cleared the ground like homesteaders and loved all of it. We built a completely recycled house."

His son, Charles Myrick II (CJ) lives off P Road and works for Lightning Landscape. When he was younger, CJ was the Teeny Houdini on the "That's Incredible!" TV show. He traveled with his parents to Japan and later was his dad's spot person when he did dangerous escapes.

He is a gifted mechanic and helped in the development of many of his dad's tricks. Myrick noted that his son also designed the cannons at Captain Ron's that automatically come out and fire inside the restaurant.

When COVID broke out, Myrick had a full magic tour booked, but when it hit everything stopped and the tour was canceled.

"I had to do something, so I made a couple magic props and put them on eBay, and they sold immediately. I kept building and started Ozark Magic Manufacturing," he continued. "Today I'm one of the largest manufacturers of magical props for magicians all over the world, based here at Lake of the Ozarks. A future dream is to one day have a theater on the west side for family entertainment and creating magic for the families that visit the Lake."

In his spare time, Myrick remodeled the food pantry in Ivy Bend, when he helped get a 501c3 grant to build the half million-dollar facility. Today, the food pantry not only distributes food and provides assistance, it offers a medical clinic, a GED program, serves meals to seniors and more.

More Info

Charlie Myrick School Show on YouTube, www.ozarkmagicmanufacturing.com.





Angela Case with a few of her handmade works of art.



Story and photos by CHARIS PATIRES

UNDER THE Sea

LOCAL ARTIST USES BEACH
FINDS TO CREATE CORAL REEF
ART PIECES

She is known locally as “Gigi - The Sailor Chick.” In 2000, Angela Case and her husband, Loren, took their 24-foot sailboat down the Missouri River to a destination unknown. They launched in Jefferson City and took eight months traveling down the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. It was the adventure of a lifetime, Angela said.

The original plan was to go wherever they felt like going and stopping whenever they felt like stopping but after spending a few weeks in the Florida Keys, they couldn't leave. For 13 years they lived on board their sailboat, enjoying the favorable weather and even settling down to find employment. Loren worked as a tour guide for the Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum while Angela was a licensed cosmetologist and worked in a floral shop to further put her artistic talents to use.

Angela mainly uses finds from combing beaches and other up-cycled treasurers but she enhances each piece with purchased items. Sometimes it can be hard to spot the difference her finds have been preserved so well.

During her free time, Angela would comb the beaches looking for treasurers that would wash up on shore — particularly after hurricanes. She would also scour the banks of rivers in her canoe on the lookout for arrowheads and other relics. Her favorite spots to comb were Smathers Beach in Key West and Fort Zachary Taylor Park.

Angela began creating beachy decor when a friend asked her to do something with a sea sponge she had collected. It was turned into a cornucopia arrangement and was so well liked Angela began incorporating her beach finds to enhance the floral arrangements she was creating at her job. She would use whatever could be cleaned, dried and preserved — starfish as a base to a vase, pieces of a wood from a lobster trap for a frame, crushed glass to create mosaics, and embellishments such as fish scales, a horseshoe crab or a seahorse. Just about anything can be turned into art.

Angela started branching out and making other things such as framed wall decor, succulents, ornaments and decoupage tiles. Eventually her art was on display in the gift shop at the Hemingway home giving people the opportunity to take a piece of the Keys back home.

Family brought Angela back to the Midwest in 2013. Having grown up in Osage Beach, she was familiar with the Lake area. She continues to create pieces and sells them at a booth located at LOZ Antique Mall outside of Eldon. She has been commissioned to make shadow boxes so that people who collect their own beach finds from their vacations have a place to store them.

“I enjoy doing it because I want people to enjoy it in their home. It is a focal point you can go to and remember your time back at the beach,” Angela said.

Where to find Gigi

LOZ Antique Mall
21 Cave Drive, Eldon
angie.case@aol.com



SHOW OFF YOUR TEAM SPIRIT WITH THESE CHIEFS FAN OUTFITS



RANDY DEARING
owner of Redd's BBQ & Saloon

WHAT HE'S WEARING: Chiefs Arrowhead New Ear ball cap, \$32; "Mahomes Magic" baseball-style tee 3/4-length sleeve, \$45; Skechers hands-free slip-ins men's athletic shoe, \$75.

KELLY BRAZEEL
owner of Lake Vibes

WHAT SHE'S WEARING: Harris Butker "But Kicker" baseball-style tee, \$45.

MARK BRAZEEL
owner of Lake Vibes

WHAT HE'S WEARING: Kansas City Chiefs ball cap, \$39; Travis Kelce 87 baseball-style tee, \$45; Skechers outdoor relaxed fit men's boots, \$79.

GAME DAY Fits

Compiled by CHARIS PATIRES
Photography by BRAD GLIDEWELL

Celebrate those touchdowns in style and stand out in the sea of cheering fans at Arrowhead Stadium. These outfits are perfect for game-day or for showcasing your team spirit this winter.



ALEXIS PARSONS
employee at Redd's BBQ & Saloon

WHAT SHE'S WEARING:
Chiefs ladies sunglasses, \$20; Patrick Mahomes long sleeve tee, \$45; Judy Blue ladies denim jeans, \$67.

JENNIFER MCCARTHY
employee at Redd's BBQ & Saloon

WHAT SHE'S WEARING:
Travis Kelce long sleeve tee, \$45; KanCan denim jeans, \$59.

KC New Era ball cap, \$39;
"On Fridays We Wear Red in the Kingdom" tee, \$30.

Chiefs Show Me State New Era ball cap, \$34; "Welcome to the Kingdom" tomahawks, \$44.





KC Kingdom sweatshirt, \$47; Judy Blue ladies denim jeans, \$67.

Chiefs New Era stocking cap, \$32; "Kansas City Football arrowhead, \$44.

KC Headdress sweatshirt, \$49; KanCan denim jeans, \$59.

Chiefs New Era stocking cap, \$32; "Best Team Ever" long sleeve tee, \$42.



"I love big sacks tight ends and the Chiefs" long-sleeve tee, \$42; Judy Blue ladies denim jeans, \$67.

Touchdown Kansas City hoodie, \$59; KanCan denim jeans, \$59.



ABOUT THE STORE

Lake Vibes
 100 Brooke Lane, Laurie
 Open Monday-Friday 9 a.m. -5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
 and Sunday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

- Shot on location at Redd's BBQ & Saloon in Laurie (743 N. Main St., Laurie).



A ONE-HORSE TOWN

THE SALOON SERVES UP STEAKS, SEAFOOD AND BURGERS FOR A COWBOY'S—OR COWGIRL'S—APPETITE



Story and photos by CHARIS PATIRES

There's a restaurant in Miller County where you can saddle up and enjoy one of the best steaks you'll find west of the Mississippi. There's even horse parking, which happens occasionally, although most customers arrive by car given the proximity to Highway 54.

Located outside of Eldon, The Saloon sits just off the highway and is easily missed by distracted drivers headed to the Lake unless they happen to spot the billboard luring them in.

When you step into The Saloon, it is a step back in time. Owned by Wendy Cantrell, this one-horse town is only open a few days a week and is serving up some of the best grub in the Lake area.

During the day, Cantrell spends her time at the Miller County Regional Stockyards, located next door to The Saloon. She built the sale barn in 2005, opened in 2006, and is one of only a handful of women in the United States to own and operate a stockyard.



The Saloon's owner Wendy Cantrell.

To accomplish all of this, Cantrell says she works “eight days a week” but loves every minute of it. In early 2020, she was contemplating what business move to make next and decided to build The Saloon to showcase her talent and interest in culinary arts. The restaurant has been open since Valentine’s Day 2023.

It feels like an immersive dining experience, where no one is in a hurry to leave. Customers are diverse. You might see a cowboy, a family eating a meal together, or professionals commuting from St. Louis or Kansas City stopping off the highway for a bite to eat.

The weathered, wooden building has been made with old tin and other reclaimed material from run-down cabins and barns, and is complete with a hitching post. The dimly-lit interior holds has a 1920s copper still, saddles, bull horns, and other western-themed décor that creates a warm environment.

QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

With a deliberate focus on quality over quantity, Cantrell’s zest for perfection carries through into the kitchen. Each appetizer is made to-order with choices such as Bacon-Wrapped Sea Scallops, The Bosses Grilled Cheese, Shrimp Cocktail or Dippin Oil. The most popular appetizer is the Pig Candy, tick-cut bacon with a sweet bourbon glaze and a light dusting of pepper.

Each plate is curated to let the main dish shine, and the star of the show is the beef.



Go big or go home. The Big Man’s Ribeye Dinner is a 22 to 24 ounce ribeye with a large helping of herb-buttered potatoes, a vegetable and homemade pickled onion.



The Saloon is located near Eldon, off of Highway 54.

Choose between a 12 to 14-ounce ribeye or the 24-ounce Big Man Ribeye. The meat comes from locally-sourced beef. Other items include Linguini with shrimp, scallops and crab meat, a Bacon-Wrapped Tenderloin Filet, several signature burgers, and a chicken entree served with an herb-butter cream sauce.

Cantrell admits she is picky about where she sources ingredients, and grows her own herbs and vegetables including tomatoes, lettuce and the beets used in the homemade beet salad. Other times, ingredients come from the local community.

On the menu is an impressive dessert — a homemade loaf of banana bread served with ice cream, a drizzle of chocolate and strawberries. Many people get it to-go.

A full bar is stocked with a wide variety of beer, wine and cocktails. There are always specials and signature drinks listed on the chalkboard behind the bar. Cantrell's homemade Bloody Mary mix is the base in the popular drink, and comes garnished with Pig Candy, shrimp, olives and celery.

Cantrell's husband, Dan Mahurin is often around the property and lends his skills in the kitchen by helping prepare steaks and making burgers. He also plays a large role in caring for their multiple Missouri farms.

ABOUT THE STOCKYARDS

As one of nine children in southern/rural Missouri, Cantrell grew up going to the sale barn with her dad. He died when she was 11, forcing her to learn the business quickly. She bought and sold cattle across the United States most of her life but after growing tired of constantly traveling, she settled back down in Missouri and opened the Miller County Regional Stockyards. Today, she is the only sibling to have carried on the family tradition of farming and owns land in Springfield/Republic and Iberia.

Besides the sale barn, the stockyard offers locally-sourced beef, lamb and other meats. Cuts of meat and beef sticks are also available, but if not in-stock, it can be ordered.

Cantrell prides herself on the cleanliness of the sale barn and attached cafe, and one look around proves she's a stickler for perfection. The cafe serves breakfast and lunch Sunday-Tuesday.

More info

The Saloon

4 Kent Road, Eldon

Open Thursday-Saturday 4-9 p.m. Closed in winter. Open on Valentine's Day for the season.

573-392-5838 (leave a message for reservations)

The Saloon on Facebook

Miller County Regional Stockyard

4 Kent Road, Eldon

Cafe open Sunday & Monday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tuesday 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

573-392-5572

www.mcrstockyards.com



For dessert there is the homemade banana bread loaf served with ice cream, drizzled in chocolate sauce and topped with a strawberry.



The Bacon-Wrapped Filet comes with herb-buttered potatoes, a vegetable and homemade pickled onion.



There are several burgers to choose from and they all come with a cowboy-sized helping of seasoned fries.



The Linguini is made with real cream and parmesan, and topped with shrimp, scallops and crab meat. Served with a charred lemon and grilled bread.

LIFT YOUR Spirits

THIS WINTER

BOTTLE SHARE CLUB MEETS MONTHLY AT LOTO

Story by JUDY GOPPERT

A new club at Lake of the Ozarks invites you to warm up with laughter and socialization. The LOTO Bourbon, Tequila & Spirits Society bottle share events are held at bars and restaurants around the Lake area once each month.

The idea is to bring a bottle, share a bottle. Each person is responsible for bringing a bottle of bourbon, whiskey, tequila or other fine spirit. The bottle will be placed to share among members and taken home if you'd like after, or donated to the club for the next bottle share. This is a chance to try new things, talk to peers, and learn more about the world of bourbon, whiskey tequila, and other fine drinks.

Founded by Matt Ellmer and his wife, Andrea, and their friends John Buchanan and his wife, Sherri, the group started on Facebook.

"My wife and I enjoy the complexities of bourbon and tequila. We love to share the experience with others and found that the best way to do this was through bottle shares like they have in St. Louis and other big city clubs," Matt said. "We want to foster a club at the Lake of the Ozarks, where we can grow your knowledge of bourbon, tequila and other fine spirits."

Matt and Andrea own the family-operated firearms company MATE Armory in Laurie. The firearms community and bourbon community are often found in the same space. Matt began his bourbon journey as his way to relax and unwind at the end of the day.

"I very quickly found every person in the bourbon community wanted to talk and was so open about their journey in bourbon. It seemed they all wanted to share their information and their knowledge. We all have a different take on the way we smell and taste bourbon, whiskey and other spirits," he said. "And this is what drove me to the spirit and creation of the club."

They plan to do some community outreach and charity donations via bourbon, whiskey and tequila barrel picks and resales. Travis DeJong, owner of Westside Pub, hosted a share at his location in Sunrise Beach in November.

"I have 170 different bourbons," DeJong said. "I've always loved bourbon and I like to give back to people, plus I think it's a good opportunity to meet up with a bunch of like-minded people and have a good time. Many of my regulars haven't had the opportunity to try this stuff, so it's a good way to get more of them into bourbon and tequila."



Pictured Matt Ellmer and John Buchanan in front of the bar at The Tavern at Trails End.

PHOTO BY CHARIS PATIRES

Each month they select a different venue to host. Some months it is held at a bar while other months it will be at a restaurant, and possibly at individuals' homes. The purpose of holding the shares is to educate people and give them the chance to try different spirits they would not otherwise try or gives people the opportunity to try before you buy. The entry fee is the cost of your bottle.

"We do potlucks for food and people can bring whatever they wish and share this as well. The reason the gatherings are so cool and fun is the experience we have trying new things and speaking with individuals who enjoy the same things we do," Matt said.

Anyone 21 and older who enjoys bourbon, whiskey and tequila is invited. Sometimes that bottle you bring is empty when you leave, and other times it will be full. It depends on how well others liked what's inside.

"Since we use different venues, the people bringing the juice (liquor) really make the club what it is. We enjoy the spirits and sharing knowledge of them," Matt said "During October's meeting we had a vendor come in and educate us on different brands of bourbons and a few tequilas and let us taste them."

As co-founders of the LOTO Bourbon, Tequila and Spirits Society, John and Sherri Buchanan are hoping to reach fellow residents at Lake of the Ozarks to enjoy the tastings and meet new members. They are also the owners of The Tavern at Trails End and will soon be featuring a four-course dinner with bourbon pairings that promises to be an unforgettable culinary experience.

More info LOTO Bourbon, Tequila & Spirits Society on Facebook





Eagle Days viewing. GEORGE DENNY PHOTOS

January 6

Eagle Days

9 a.m.-4 p.m., Lake Ozark venues. Lake of the Ozarks Eagle Days will be held featuring birds from the Dickerson Park Zoo and World Bird Sanctuary. Scopes for viewing birds in the wild will be set up at Willmore Lodge and below Bagnell Dam/River Access. Two different shows presented by the Dickerson Park Zoo will be held on the half-hour from 9:30-3:30 p.m. Osage National Golf Resort hosts the World Bird Sanctuary with hourly Bald eagle presentations every hour from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

lakeoftheozarkseagledays.com

January 13 & February 17

Iowa Club

5:30-7 p.m., Lake venues. The Iowa Reunion Club meets monthly with socials and activities at Lake area locations. The club is open to former lowans and part-time lowans at Lake of the Ozarks and is \$10/year.

iowareunionclub.com

January 24

Talent Show

7 p.m., Royal Theatre. The 7th annual Show Us Your Talent show will be held. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for student/child. See a variety of acts on stage.

theroyaltheater.com



Winterfest auction. GEORGE DENNY PHOTO

February 10

Winterfest Fundraiser

6 p.m., Lodge of Four Seasons. The Lake Ozark Daybreak Rotary hosts their annual fundraiser. The theme this year is "Boots & Bow Ties." A dinner, live and silent auction, and entertainment will be held. The event benefits more than 40 Lake area charities.

daybreakrotary.org



February 17

Pub Crawl

The Lake of the Ozarks Mardi Gras Pub Crawl will be held at restaurants and bars in the Osage Beach and Lake Ozark area. Purchase a wrist band and ride the bus to participating stops. Venues will have live entertainment and specials. lakepubcrawl.com

February 23 & 24

Home Expo

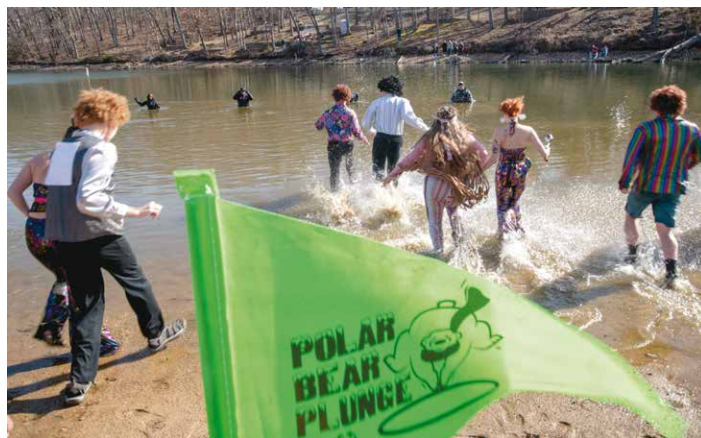
3-7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, The Regalia Hotel & Conference Center. Displays and exhibits from Lake area businesses will be set up for the annual Home, Business and Lake Living Expo. The event is hosted by the Camdenton Area Chamber of Commerce. www.camdentonchamber.com

February 24

Polar Plunge

9 a.m., Osage Beach Public Beach No. 2. The annual Polar Plunge and Strut will be held with registration from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. A chili cookoff and the Pee Week Plunge begins at 11 a.m. The Parade of Costumes begins at 2 p.m. with a plunge at 2:30 p.m. Plunge participants must be at least 10 years old and raise a minimum of \$75. The Pee Wee Plunge (ages 9 and under) is \$25. The Polar Bear Strut begins at 10 a.m. and is \$50 to enter.

2024 Polar Plunge and Strut Lake of the Ozarks on Facebook



Polar Plunge. GEORGE DENNY PHOTOS

People *in* Places

Photos by GEORGE DENNY

PINK OUT PARTY

OCTOBER 21 • THE ENCORE LAKESIDE

GRILL & SKY BAR

A breast cancer awareness event and fundraiser for Lake Regional Health System and local cancer care was held with an evening of music and entertainment.



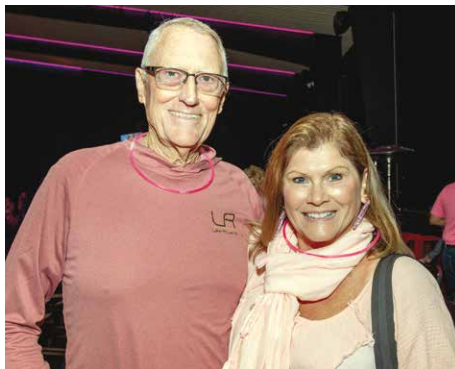
Cathy Hamil, Vickie Vardakis, Sheryl Henry, Jodi Cline, Donna Comelli



Jon and Adrienne Mills



Don and Jo Ann Smallwood



Roger and Caren Busen



Sissy Dilsworth, Jasen Jones



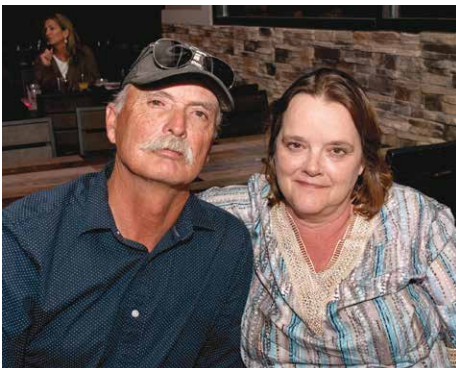
Jeanese and Lance Hedrick



Mariah Swinker, Stephanie Lauren, Trish Creach



Connie McGowan, Mike Clayton, Margie Pyle



Robert and Wendy McGowan



Pam Hendrix, Nancy Blackwell, Beth Eudy, Beth Yancey



Ellen Ensminger, Ben Lupardus

People *in* Places

Photos by GEORGE DENNY

LAKE AREA CHAMBER ANNUAL DINNER

OCTOBER 23 • MARGARITAVILLE LAKE RESORT

The annual fall dinner and awards ceremony was hosted by the Lake Area Chamber of Commerce.



Harrison Fry, Mike and BJ Page



Cold Bradbury and Angie Schuster



Tony and Keri Stuart, Mike Clayton



Michelle and Michael Lasson



Jen Gravatt, Kay Samuelson, Debbie Kostelnik, Al Highwood



Roger and Heather Disson



Mackenzie Short, Wes and Dr. Jenny Powell, Tony Otto



Amanda Bargfrode, Jen West



Emily Kaestener, Erin Burdette



Brian and Angie Schuster, Phyllis Marose

People *in* Places

Photos by GEORGE DENNY

FALL CRAWL

NOVEMBER 4 • LAKE OZARK

The Miller County Business District organized a pub crawl with stops at more than a dozen local restaurants, bars and wineries.



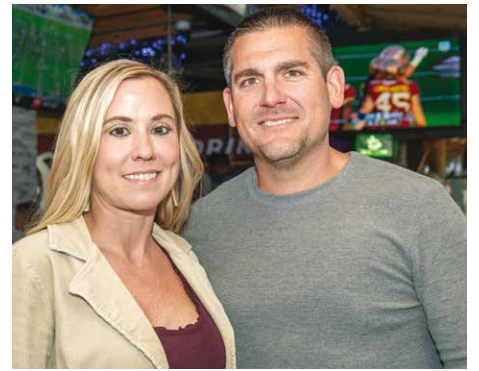
Julie Moss, Lori Pryor, Bobbi Alderman, Teresa Harrison



Marcus Words, Mike Clayton



Tracy McKinney, Lagina Fitzpatrick



Jill and Zach Ashley



Missy Neal, Sandy Jones, Angie Miller



Jenna and Will White



Kim and Matt LBarge



Rick and Donna Lauer, Tony TT Leben



Andrea Rose, Lane Kraft



Fred Mushlit, Elizabeth Messer

People *in* Places

Photos by GEORGE DENNY

PARTY WITH A PURPOSE

NOVEMBER 4 • MARGARITAVILLE LAKE RESORT

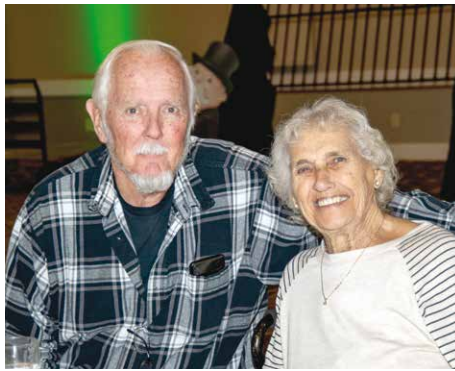
This year's benefit for Wonderland Camp showcased the theme "Campopoly," a spin on a favorite board game.



Mamie Frazier, Becky Lauer, Deanna Bruner



Jerry and Cherie Peters



Ron and Margie Frazier



Tara Vincent, Melody Church



Michael McGinnitey, Rosie Schicker



George and Dorothy Peter



Chris and Alane Colter



Tony and Alicia Jacobson



Michelle Rogers, Laura Garner, Theresa Bayer



Lisa and Kurt Schulz



FORMULA



FORMULA BOATS OF MISSOURI

4810 Formula Dr. • Osage Beach, MO 65065 • 573-302-8000

www.FormulaBoatsMO.com



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We'll leave no stone unturned on your cancer journey.

It's an honor to be a nationally accredited Cancer Center, serving our neighbors across the region. We're proud to provide a team of cancer specialists who go above and beyond for our patients, with state-of-the-art technology, advanced treatments and personalized care.

**SEE BETH'S STORY:
[LAKEREGIONAL.COM/CANCER](https://lakeresional.com/cancer)**



**OUR
COMMITMENT
RUNS
DEEP**

