



The **Breeze**

Serving the
Chain O' Lakes area

JUNE 2023 • VOL. 10 NO. 1
Published by Southern Lakes Newspapers



COMMAND SERVICE

- Heating
- Air Conditioning
- Appliance Repair
- Attic Insulation
- Water Purification



TRANE

It's Hard To Stop A Trane.



Serving Lake County For 52 Years
"Your Complete Service Company"

Since 1970

Diagnostic Fee
\$20 OFF
(1st time customers)

Limited time offer. Not valid with any other offer.
Must mention coupon at time of appointment.
During regular business hours only.
Limit one coupon per system.

\$200 OFF
ANY NEW HEATING & A/C SYSTEM

Limited time offer. Not valid with any other offer.
Must mention coupon at time of appointment.
During regular business hours only.
Limit one coupon per system.

Laundry Room Package
NORMALLY \$199
Includes cleaning and sanitizing of washing machine, inspection and maintenance of mechanical and electrical of washer and dryer and cleaning out the dryer vent.

Kitchen Maintenance Package
NORMALLY \$199
Includes cleaning the refrigerator coils, checkup and sanitation of dishwasher, inspection and cleaning of garbage disposal.

SPECIAL IS **\$149** EACH

(847) 215-9880
www.commandservice.com



Great summertime leisure activities

A warm breeze on a summer day embodies the spirit of this beloved season for millions of people. Seen by many as a season to relax and recharge, summer, not coincidentally, goes hand in hand with leisure.

With more time on their hands due to vacations from school and work and less hectic activity schedules, particularly for families that include school-aged children, individuals often find summer affords more time for leisure. With that in mind, people from all walks of life can consider these summertime leisure activities.

PADDLEBOARDING

Paddleboarding is another leisurely way to spend a summer day. Paddleboarding requires physical exertion, so this might not be the ideal activity for those looking to relax without lifting a finger. However, paddleboarders typically take to the water when it's at its most calm, making this a great activity for those who want to capitalize on peaceful, serene summer vibes.

FISHING

Few activities may be more relaxing than fishing. Though there are many different ways to fish, some of which require considerable physical effort, casting a line and waiting for a fish to bite is a relaxing way to spend a day in nature. That might not seem like much to novices, but spending time in nature has been found to reduce stress and lower heart rates, which the U.S. Forest Service notes are both risk factors for cardiovascular disease.

RELAX BY THE WATER

Whether it's a pool, lake or even the ocean, the water beckons each summer. Simply sitting on a beach or beside a lake or pool is a great way to pass the time without much stress. Nothing needs to be scheduled when relaxing poolside, lakeside or on a beach; simply enjoy some time to relax by the water.

READ

Books make for great companions on

warm summer afternoons. Reading is such a popular summer pastime that many bookstores set up displays featuring books that make for great beach reads, providing inspiration for individuals who aren't sure which book or books to dive into this summer. And much like other summertime leisure activities, reading has been linked to reducing stress.

A 2009 study from researchers at the University of Sussex in England found that reading can reduce stress by as much as 68%.

VISIT A MUSEUM

On summer afternoons when it's raining or too hot outside or individuals simply want to spend some time indoors, a museum makes for the perfect place to visit. Museums do not typically draw crowds in summer, making this an ideal season to visit. Many offer discounted prices to individuals like seniors and students, so this is a great way to relax without breaking the bank.

(METRO CREATIVE)

The Breeze

*Serving the Chain O' Lakes area
A publication of Southern Lakes Newspapers LLC*

1102 Ann Street, Delavan, WI 53115
(262) 728-3411

Editor: Tracy Ouellette

Creative Director: Heather Ruenz

Advertising Director: Vicki Vanderwerff

Page Designer: Jen DeGroot

**For advertising opportunities
call (262) 723-2250**

above: Summer is a season of leisure, and there are many activities that align with that spirit of relaxation.

STOCK PHOTO *The Breeze*

Summer on the water



Chain O'Lakes offers cool times during hot weather

by **Sandra Landen Machaj**

CORRESPONDENT

It is that time of year again when the piers have all been replaced along the shores of the Chain O'Lakes and the boats that have been in storage throughout the winter are now back at home, being polished up by their owners anxious to return to activities on the water.

The opening of the Chain O'Lakes for boat traffic is always the sign that spring is here and summer is not far behind. The Chain extends from the Wisconsin Illinois border where the Fox River meanders through 10 of the 15 lakes and channels that make up the Chain O'Lakes.

The Chain O'Lakes begins at the Wisconsin border where the Fox River enters into the most northerly lake of the chain, Lake Catherine in Antioch and meanders down ending at Pistakee Lake near Johnsburg where the Fox River exits the Chain O'Lakes and continues south through McHenry.

Because of the length of the Chain O'Lakes, and the flow of water through the chain, it is known for attracting more boats than any other inland waterway in the United States during the warm summer months. The boats seen on the chain are both those owned by local residents and visitors from both the Chicago and the Milwaukee Area, who make their way to the Chain to enjoy boating on this gorgeous inland waterway.

"Prior to the 2008 financial crash, we attracted about 28,000 boats to the area each season," said Joe Keller, executive

director of the Fox Waterway Agency. "After the crash the number diminished to approximately 22,000 each season."

Keeping the entire Chain O'Lakes clean and navigable has been the job of the Fox Waterway Agency since it was created in 1984. Their purpose is to improve and maintain the Fox River and the Chain O'Lakes public waterway for recreational use, and to restore environmental quality, manage flooding, promote tourism, and enhance the quality of life along the waterway for both residents and tourists alike, a job they have successfully accomplished over the years.

During the pandemic, many families returned to the water, as a good way for outdoor activity for their family. Fishing, boat rides through the chain, and water skiing became favorite activities that families could enjoy and still maintain their distance from others. After spending so much time indoors during the pandemic, family members were even more ready to be out of doors than they normally are after a long cold winter.

Many families that sold their boats during the financial crash, feeling they could no longer afford the cost of the boat, insurance, licenses and gasoline, have since repurchased boats or have chosen to lease them to get the family out of the house and back on the water.

No matter what type of boat that you are placing in the water, they must have a State of Illinois registration. It can be purchased

A local angler heads for his special fishing spot on the Chain O'Lakes, where he will enjoy a quiet time on the water. Fishermen can be protective of their "hot spots" and don't often share their favorite locations.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE KADER *The Breeze*

GYPSY GLEN

K9 KASTLE • PET RESORT

Please be our guest!

Give a Howl 4 Treating Pets Like Royalty Since 1988



- Dog Boarding
- Dog Day Care
- Animal Acupressure
- Swim Club
- Natural Products

Thank you for being a loyal customer for over 35 years!

815.385.8585 • McHenry • gypsyglenk9kastle.com

437855



Thompson

SPRING GROVE FUNERAL HOME

Debbie Thompson
Owner
Licensed Funeral Director,
Embalmer, CPC

**Pre-Planning • Cremation • Full Service Funerals
Urns • Monuments • Cremation Jewelry**

8103 Wilmot Road
Spring Grove

815-675-0550
ThompsonSpringGrove.com

395652

at www.dnrillinois.gov. In addition, any boat that is planning to enter the Chain O Lakes, must display a Fox Waterway Agency sticker. These can be purchased on line at www.foxwaterway.com or at the Waterway office, 45 S. Pistakee Lake Road, Fox Lake. Contact them by phone at 847-587-8540 for more information.

Fishing

Fishing is one of the most popular activities on the Chain O'Lakes. With so many different lakes, and each one so different from the others, there is a variety of habitats to attract different fish.

Some of the lakes such as Grass Lake, which was once the home of the lotus beds, is a very shallow lake, forcing the boats to stay toward the middle to avoid hitting the ground. This allows for more quiet spots closer to the shore for fish to gather and attracts those fishing. Some of the other lakes such as Pistakee is now much deeper than it was before the installation of the dam in McHenry. Their depth is also somewhat controlled by the Waterway Commission who decides when to open or close the dam.

The Indigenous peoples who made their home in this area found this to be the perfect place for fishing and hunting. With the large numbers of fish and water fowl available, there was always food for all the member of the tribes. Today's residents and visitors continue to enjoy fishing in the chain

People of all ages, from young children who experience the thrill of catching their first little sunfish to the professional sport fisherman, landing fish weighing hundreds of pounds, enjoy the sport of fishing.

Fishing is a sport that helps teaches patience and perseverance as one sits back and waits for the fish to nibble. It is the fish that leads as the fisherman awaits that nibble before the fisherman has to use his skills to land the fish. It is a sport that can be enjoyed alone or with friends or family.

Located on Grass Lake Road in Antioch, Triangle Sports and Marine is the place to go for both the new fisherman or the experienced one.

Triangle Sports and Marine was opened in 1948 by Robert and Toni Dickson as a place that provided fresh bait and other products needed by the local fisherman. Today the shop continues to be the favorite of both local and visiting fisherman. It is still family run with Greg Dickson, Son of Robert and Toni, owning the store since 1977 and sharing the fishing knowledge he gained from growing up in the store and on the lake. The next generation, his daughter Chelsea, is also involved in the business.

"The Chain is the perfect place to fish," Greg Dickson said. "There is a great variety of fish found here, from varieties of the small pan fish such as croppies, blue gills, and perch to larger fish such as muskies, Northern pike, catfish, both large and small mouth bass, and even walleye. All the species are found in all the lakes of the chain but where to find them is dependent on time of year and weather as they move around."



Triangle Sports and Marine is at 23480 W. Grass Lake Road, Antioch. It has been the place for all things fishing since 1948. Current owners Kit and Greg Dickson are pictured here.

SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *The Breeze*

The bait the fish are willing to nibble on, changes throughout the season Dickson said. "It all depends what the fish want to eat," he explained.

Because the staff at Triangle Sports and Marine spend time each day with avid fishermen and are often out fishing themselves, they are aware of where the different species of fish are biting and what their choice of bait is at the time. They are always ready to help visitors find an area where they will hopefully be successful.

For those just beginning to fish here is some advice on how to begin:

- Seek out a store where you are comfortable asking questions about where to look for fish, and what materials to use including rods, bait, and flies until you are sure you know what to do.
 - Purchase your fishing license. Many bait stores carry them such as Triangle Sports.
 - If you are unfamiliar with the area, get a map to help you on your way.
 - Decide if you are fishing to catch and release or are you looking for fish that you can take home for dinner.
 - Fish with someone for safety.
- "Even though our customers confide in us

about fishing spots they have found, there is a code of ethics about sharing specific favorite fishing spots." Dickson said. "While we are always willing to direct customers to the areas where the fish they are looking for are found and biting, but we do not give out their special spots but rather t lead you to where the fish are currently found and biting, so you can locate your own favorite fishing spot."

Walking into Triangle Sports and Marine, you will be overwhelmed by the amount of fishing equipment that is on display and the knowledge of the staff. They are the largest independent bait and tackle store on the chain. If you are new to fishing on the chain, they will steer you to the correct poles, bait, lures, and other equipment that may be needed for the type of fish you plan to pursue. If you are knowledgeable fisherman, they will help you upgrade any equipment that you may need.

Frequently, they are asked when is the best time to fish. The simplest answer, Dickson said, is whenever the fish are biting. Early morning and evening are often considered the best time to fish but fish can be caught throughout the day. In the hot summer, mid-day is often too hot to sit in a

boat and fish. Be sure to wear sun screen and a hat if out in the blazing sun.

While many consider fishing as a warm-weather sport, it is usually a year round activity in the Chain O'Lakes region. In the winter ice fishing brings out the fishermen

This has been a strange winter. Relatively mild with less snow than usual, Dickson said this has not been a good winter for ice fishing as the constant freeze and thaw periods did not allow a thick solid ice to form.

"There were only five days that we felt the ice was solid enough for ice fisherman to safely head out to fish," Dickson said. "In a normal winter there are usually about 45 days of safe ice fishing. When ice fishing, always go with someone for safety and fish in areas where there are others around."

The more you learn about fishing, the more you will learn to enjoy it, adding another fun family activity to your summer on the lake and perhaps even your winter.

Triangle Sports and Marine is 1 at 23480 W. Grass Lake Road, Antioch. The store is open every day except Christmas. Summer hours are from 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends.

Music BY THE LAKE

GEORGE WILLIAMS COLLEGE OF AURORA UNIVERSITY

2023 SEASON EVENTS



Saturday, June 17 | 7:30 p.m.
Linda Eder

Showcasing one of the greatest voices of our time, **Linda Eder's** diverse repertoire spans Broadway, standards, pop, country, and jazz. When she performs live in concert, it is amazing to experience the ease with which she moves back and forth from one genre to another.



Sunday, June 25 | 4 p.m.
Justin Roberts & the Not Ready for Naptime Players

Five-time Grammy nominee **Justin Roberts** is one of the founders of the modern family music scene.

For 25 years, Roberts has been creating the soundtrack to families' lives, helping kids navigate the joys and sorrows of growing up, while inspiring parents to remember their own childhoods.



Saturday, July 8 | 7:30 p.m.
Martina McBride

Multiple Grammy nominee **Martina McBride** has sold over 23 million albums to date, which includes 20 Top 10 singles and six #1 hits. She

has earned more than 15 major music awards, including four wins for Female Vocalist of the Year from the Country Music Association.



Sunday, July 16 | 4 p.m.
Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra

Travel with the **Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra** this summer and visit places across the country through music! Experience Chicago from the musical and Sinatra's New York, New York. Come along for this amazing adventure!



Saturday, July 22 | 7:30 p.m.
The Guess Who

Legendary Canadian band **The Guess Who** enjoyed chart-topping hits in the late 1960s and early 1970s with an impressive catalogue of songs, including "American Woman," "These Eyes," and "No Time." The band has released 11 studio albums, and charted 14 Top 40 hit singles.



Saturday, July 29 | 7:30 p.m.
BritBeat

Take a trip back in time with a fantastic voyage through the days of Beatlemania with **BritBeat's** multimedia concert journey through Beatles music history. See why this nationally acclaimed Beatles show is captivating audiences and generating rave reviews from critics.

Tickets on sale now! Visit musicbythelake.com or call 262-245-8501.

Ferro Pavilion | Williams Bay, WI | musicbythelake.com | [musicbythelake](https://facebook.com/musicbythelake)



verlo takes pride in building your mattress in our **LOCAL MATTRESS FACTORY**, located right in our store.

This **CUTS OUT THE MIDDLEMAN** to keep prices affordable for you.

verlo M A T T R E S S

SUMMER MELTDOWN SALE

CUT OUT THE MIDDLEMAN AND SAVE



v1 FIRM 1-Sided No Flip
QUEEN SET STARTING @

\$699

TWIN \$499 FULL \$599 KING \$899



v3 PLUSH 1-Sided No Flip
QUEEN SET STARTING @

\$999

TWIN \$749 FULL \$899 KING \$1399



v5 FIRM 1-Sided No Flip
QUEEN SET STARTING @

\$1599

TWIN \$1049 FULL \$1349 KING \$1999



v7 PLUSH 1-Sided No Flip
QUEEN SET STARTING @

\$2099

TWIN \$1399 FULL \$1949 KING \$2699

SAVE UP TO
\$150 OFF
v5 Set Purchase*

SAVE UP TO
\$200 OFF
v7 Set Purchase*

SAVE UP TO
\$250 OFF
v9 Set Purchase*

SAVE UP TO
\$300 OFF
v11 Set Purchase*

*On set purchase with factory select covers. Not applicable on previous purchases. One coupon per set purchase. See store for details.



Only Verlo guarantees you'll be comfortable for the lifetime of your mattress.

Since we build your mattress in our local factory, we can easily adjust it for you throughout the years. A little softer here...a little firmer there. With Verlo's Lifetime Comfort Guarantee, you can just get comfortable – and stay comfortable.

SLEEP. LOUNGE. WHATEVER. BETTER.

Adjustable Bed Bases**
Twin XL Starting @

\$399



**with Verlo Mattress purchase. Does not apply to previous purchases. See store for details.

Relieve pressure by raising your head or feet. Enjoy a relaxing massage at the touch of a button with Verlo's adjustable beds.



Thank You for continuously voting us

One of the Best Mattress Store

CUSTOM MATTRESSES

RVs, Campers, Boats & So Much More!



Available in innerspring & foam mattresses.

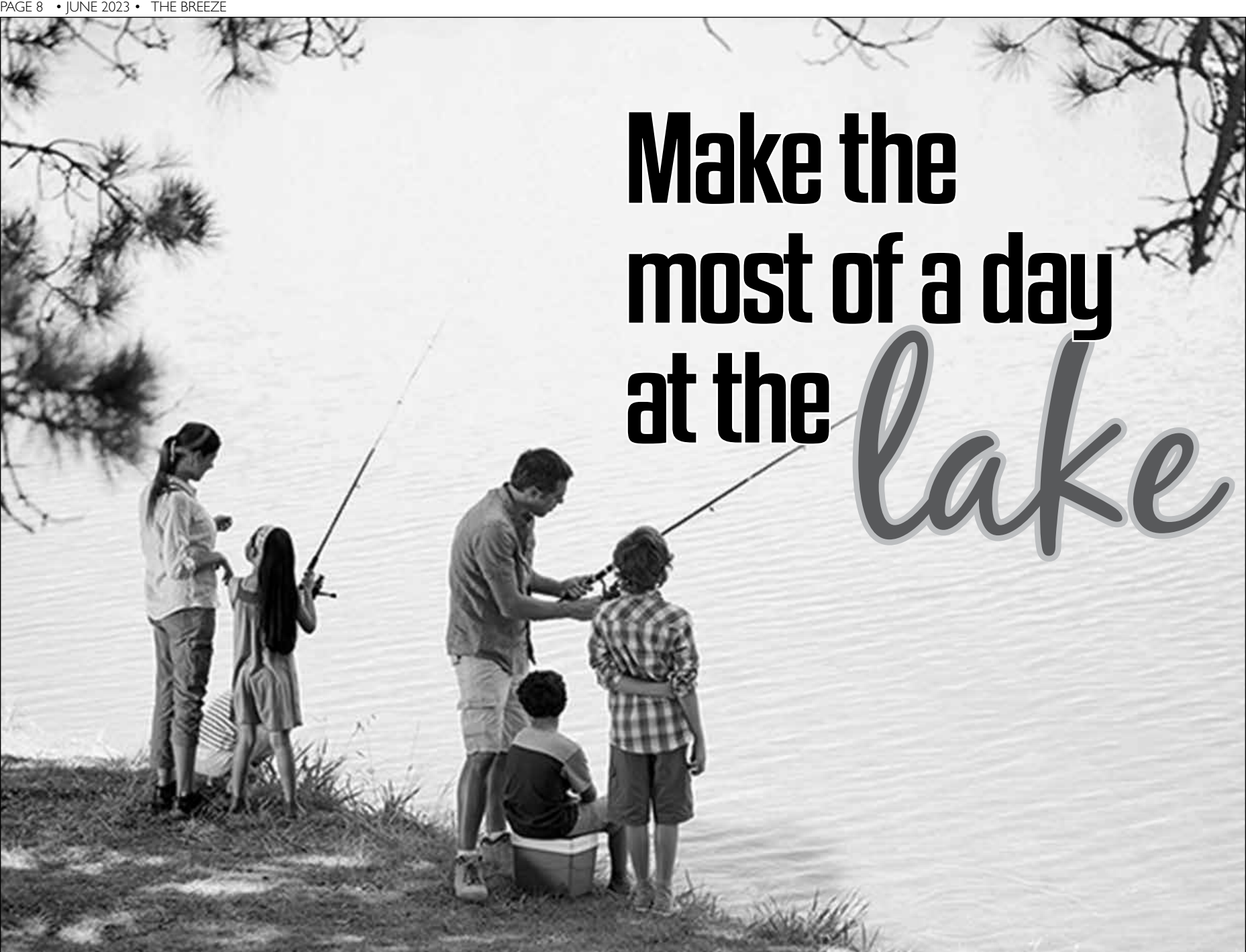
FINANCING AVAILABLE
See store for details.

LAKE GENEVA
2462 Hwy 120
262.249.0420

CRYSTAL LAKE
5150 North West Hwy
815.455.2570

McHENRY
3710 West Elm St.
815.578.8375

1-866-99-VERLO
(866-998-3756)
verlo.com



Make the most of a day at the lake

Water becomes the center of attention when the temperature climbs because of the cooling relief it can provide. Making a day of splashing through sprinklers, swimming laps in a pool or horsing around with friends at a waterpark is part of the summertime experience.

Even though most people equate summer fun with ocean escapes, those who do not live close to the coast often turn to other bodies of water to cool off and chill out. Lakes can be great places to spend summer afternoons and evenings. Discover how to make time at the lake even more fun with these ideas.

FISHING

Cast your line right into the lake and

take a shot at catching some fish. Bass, trout, perch, and pike may be interested in the bait hanging off of your hook. Be sure to check local fish and game ordinances to see if you need a license for fishing for the season, as well as the recreational size limits, possession limits and fishing seasons if you plan on keeping your catch.

TUBING

Although tubing is often enjoyed on rivers where the rapids carry people along from a starting point to the end, those who desire a more relaxing day may opt for tubing on a lake. Tie several tubes together and create a fleet of friends or family floating leisurely under the sun. With the

addition of a floating cooler full of drinks and snacks, you can stay out on the lake for hours.

WATER SPORTS

Water sports and lakes often go hand-in-hand. Certain water activities are easier on the calm waters of a lake than in the waves and swells of an ocean and particularly for beginners. Canoes and kayaks are one- or two-passenger vessels that can be launched from just about anywhere. They make areas of the lake explorable that may not be accessible to large boats. Plus they require no fuel other than the power of rowing. If you prefer more speed, personal water craft like jet skis may be used on lakes in certain areas. Waterskiing or wakeboarding behind

powerboats are some additional options for thrill-seekers.

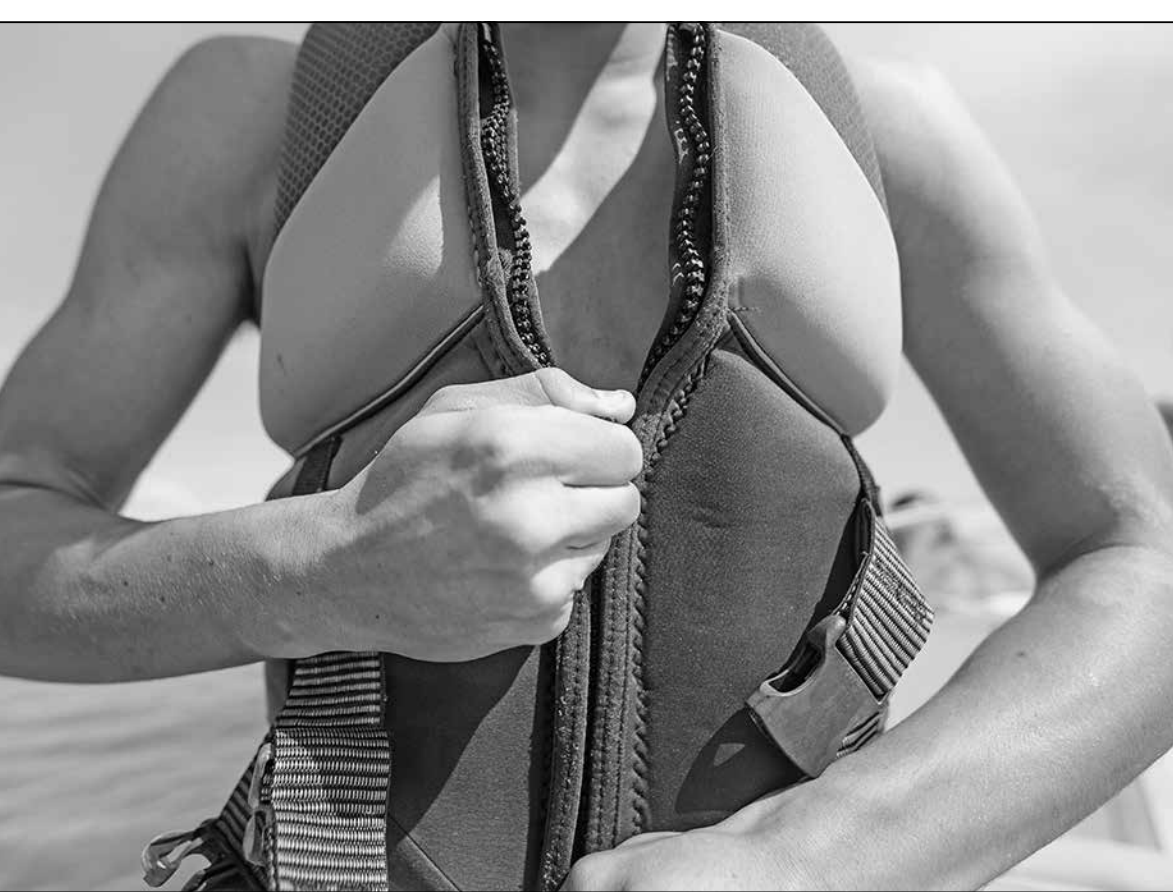
LAKESIDE CUISINE

If you're lucky to have a lodge or restaurant dockside, you can enjoy a delicious meal overlooking a sunset on the lake. Time in or on the water can build up an appetite, which can be satiated by a meal while you listen to the water lap against the shoreline.

(METRO CREATIVE)

Days at the lake can be memorable ways to spend summer vacations.

STOCK PHOTO *The Breeze*



TYPE I



TYPE II



TYPE III



TYPE IV



TYPE V

Life jackets, vests and PFDs – How to choose the right fit

Life jackets, life vests, ski vests...they're all common names for PFDs, or personal flotation devices. Their job, as the names imply, is to keep the wearer alive and afloat should they unexpectedly end up in the water or elect to participate in watersports such as skiing or wake surfing. Although the goal might be simple, life jacket styles, fit and method of use can all affect whether your PFD does the job it's intended for.

Here's a guide to selecting, fitting and using various life jackets, vests and PFDs.

- Select the proper type based on activity or boating conditions.
- Check for a proper fit.
- Examine the outlined size and weight requirements.
- Ensure the life jacket is in good condition—look for holes and tears.
- Don't forget to wear it!

LIFE JACKET TYPES

Personal flotation devices come in various

types, and ideally should be chosen to best match your activity or boating conditions.

- Type I jackets offer the greatest buoyancy (more than 20 pounds) and are designed primarily for offshore use. They're bulky to wear but have the distinct advantage of turning an unconscious person face up in the water.

- Type II jackets are likewise designed to turn an unconscious person face up in the water. They offer a minimum 15.5 pounds of buoyancy and are typically chosen for nearshore boating excursions. Though not exactly fashionable, their inexpensive price and often simple construction make Type II life jackets a longstanding favorite for boaters looking to satisfy U.S. Coast Guard safety requirements.

- Type III jackets likewise offer 15.5 pounds of buoyancy. Often referred to as "ski vests," their comfortable, formfitting style makes them an excellent choice for watersports as well as general passenger use. Type III jackets typically feature a front entry and buckle, or buckle-and-zipper closure. The catch with Type III jackets is that they are designed for conscious wearers with an imminent chance of rescue; a Type III jacket is not guaranteed to turn an unconscious wearer face up in the water. Type IV personal flotation devices are designated as "throwables," and typically take the shape of a ring or flat cushion that can be thrown to a person who lands unexpectedly in the water.

- Type IV PFDs are designed to be held onto, rather than worn, by the user. They offer a minimum 16.5 pounds of buoyancy. Tip? Though some might look the part, don't use a

designated throwable as a seat cushion. Over time, the practice will degrade the foam and reduce the amount of flotation.

- Type V jackets are special-use PFDs, often combined into flotation coats, whitewater rafting vests, even sailboard harnesses. They should be used only for their intended purpose.

CHECK FOR A PROPER FIT

Once you select the proper type of PFD for your conditions and/or activity, make sure it is in good condition, with no holes or tears, and fits properly. A jacket that is too large can slip off the wearer. One that is too small might not offer sufficient buoyancy to keep the wearer afloat.

- Look for the manufacturer's labeling that details the size and weight the jacket is intended to fit.
- Once you have the proper size, put on the jacket, fasten any closures (buckles, zippers, etc.), then lift your arms up straight over your head and ask a friend grab the top of the jacket above the arm openings and pull upward.

- Ideally, the jacket should not rise any higher than the wearer's chin. If it rides up as high as the ears, it's too large and could slip off in the water; size down to get the proper fit.

- Don't overlook the crotch strap found on life jackets designed for young children. This additional strap runs between the legs from the back of the jacket to the front and offers added assurance the jacket will not ride up or slip over a child's head.

above: Different types of personal flotation devices exist for every water activity need. **top left:** Life jackets only work when you wear them. Everyone on the boat needs their own life jacket and the boat shouldn't leave the dock before all boaters have donned their personal flotation device.

STOCK PHOTOS *The Breeze*

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR IT

Don't make the all-too-common mistake of having a life jacket available for every passenger aboard, but having those jackets stowed in a difficult-to-reach location.

Accidents might be rare, but they happen – and when they do, they typically happen quickly. In the majority of cases, they happen too quickly to find and don a life jacket.

Source: discoverboating.com.



MARINE TRADING POST

BUYING, SELLING & SERVICING BOATS AND MARINE EQUIPMENT

CLASSIFIEDS

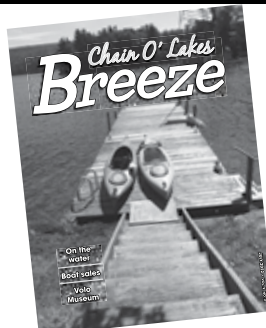
BOATS

1971 STARCRAFT MARINER 18' Fishing boat w/1979 Evinrude 115. Good shape. Can text pics. \$3,000. 608-436-3826.

1973 25' CHRIS CRAFT CABIN CRUISER V8, old tandem trailer. \$800 OBO 847-497-3692

1989 BAYLINER With Cuddy Cabin, nice interior, 125hp Force, newer tires on trailer, not running. Make an offer. 773-213-4834.

1994 LANDAU BANDIT Pontoon boat 20 foot, excellent cond., 2016 Yamaha 70 HP 4 stroke motor & a Trail Star Bunk Trailer. \$13,000 262-877-9337.



Be in the next edition of the **CHAIN O' LAKES BREEZE**
NEXT PUBLICATION DATES:

July 6 & August 10, 2023

For any other advertising needs, please contact Tamera Hamilton (262) 728-3411

437676

LAKES AREA CLASSIFIEDS

BOATS FOR SALE

Ski Boats/Fishing Boats

1990 Mastercraft Prostar 190, low hours, excellent ski boat, trailer, lift kept \$7500 best (262) 949-6997

1995 Mastercraft Sammy Duvall series, Corvette engine, flat wakes great slalom boat \$13,500 best. (262) 742-3665

2000 Supra Legacy, very clean, garage/lift kept, bow rider, 275 hours, \$11,500 best. (630) 886-6667

Fishing Boats

14 foot aluminum fishing boat, trolling motor, oars, battery. \$395. (262) 742-3665.

Lift and Lift Parts

Jet ski lift, Needs some repair \$25.00. (262) 949-6997

Shore station lift parts, cheap. Lauderdale Lakes. (262) 742-3665

Ski Equipment

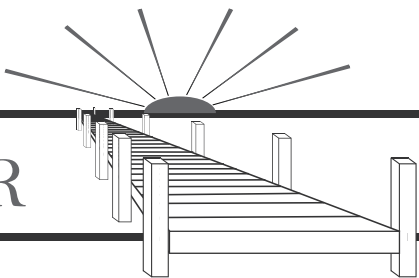
Ski trainer, easy to get up on, builds confidence. \$75. Text (262) 949-6997

Slalom ski, 67", great shape, \$125.00. (630) 886-6667

Skis, doubles, nice condition. \$75.00. Text (262) 949-6997



FOREVER



PIERS

Permanent Pier Solutions

262.379.9175

foreverpiers.com



437676



Be part of the Magic

Wizard's Weekend Day returns June 24

by **Sandra Landen Machaj**

CORRESPONDENT

Visitors to downtown Antioch on Saturday, June 24, will be surprised to see that it has a very different look than normally found on a weekend day. It is not the Antioch of old, rather the town has been magically transformed into a special world, the world of wizards, witches, and even muggles.

Even the local stores, which may have been so familiar to you, now have a different look and many have a different name, more in tune with the wonderful world of wizardry.

For the fifth year, magical folk, and those who wish to become them, will gather in downtown Antioch, for a Harry Potter themed event – Wizards Weekend Day. This most magical of all events will once again be the home of many new experiences to be enjoyed by wizards, witches and muggles.

New this year

This year, new magical experiences include a magical meetup with favorite professors and wizards, a game of Quidditch, and a climb on the Azkaban Prison Tower along with other new and

exciting activities. Each day new activities are being added to Wizards Weekend Day so keep up to date by checking the Facebook page or the Antioch Chamber of Commerce website.

To start the day, adults and children will gather in downtown Antioch dressed as their favorite character. Armed with their wand (or perhaps their smart wand also known as a cell phone) they will be ready to participate in special wizards' fun activities throughout the day.

The day will begin with a visit to downtown Antioch, where a search will be made for the Ministry of Magic Information Booth. It is here that the Marauders Map can be obtained with the purchase of the magical band that will allow visitors to enjoy the many magical moments fun activities. The map will identify the magical village shops with their Wizards Weekend Day special identifying names. It will also contain the hours that the various events will take place.

Enjoy the magical craft pop-ups where visitors are certain to find all their wizardly desires. The craft pop-ups are located in the heart of Wizard Village, adjacent to the Ministry of Magic booth. Take the time to shop the magical craft pop-ups for uniquely crafted wizard items to add to your collection.

For the Kids

The highlight of Wizards Weekend Day, for children age 7 to 13, who are in love with the idea of becoming a wizard or witch, will be attendance in the Kids Hogwarts School

of Magic. This will not only be the start of their day but most likely the most interesting event of their day, as they participate a variety of classes to hone their wizarding skills.

The students will be sorted into four magical groups, just as they are in Harry Potter's world. In these groups, they will work with others to learn new wizarding or witching skills or to improve the ones they already have.

While each student may have chosen to dress for a different House than the one they are magically sorted into, it is not a problem. They will find their niche in the house that they have been assigned to by the magic sorter. For the magic sorter knows which house they are best suited to enjoy.

The classes include, but are not limited to, Defense Against the Dark Arts, Care of Magical Creatures, and everyone's favorite Broom Flying. Other magical classes are still being developed and will be eagerly added to the schedule.

The classes will begin at 9 a.m. and finish at 11:30 a.m. Check in begins at 8:30 a.m. so that classes will be able to promptly begin at 9 a.m. There is so much to learn and so little time to do so.

It is recommended that students bring their own, or their parents' smart wand (also known as a cell phone) to be used for photos. The regular wand is not needed as they will be provided to the students in class.

The classes are held indoors and students will be picked up by parents at the end of the Kids Hogwarts's School of Magic when they

are dismissed after completing their classes.

Tickets for classes are limited and must be purchased ahead of time to secure a spot in the class. They may be purchased either online at www.wizardsweekend.com or at www.antiochchamber.org prior to Wizards Weekend Day.

Register young wizards or witches soon so they are not disappointed by the class filling up before their applications are received. Just like any school, an acceptance letter will be sent to those who are accepted. These letters will be sent by snail mail so get your application in early so there is ample time for it to be sent to you.

Grown up fun

So, what is there for Mom and Dad to do while their children are in class? What else, but shop or if they have purchased their arm band begin to enjoy all the Magical Moments which are available for wizards, witches and muggles of all ages.

Begin with a visit to the magical pop-up crafts and enjoy the Wizard Shops in downtown Antioch.

The Magical Scavenger Hunt which can be completed anytime between 10 am to 3 pm begins by using your magical map as you meander through the downtown magical shops following the spiders to find all seven of the Horcruxes.

At each of the Horcrux items don't forget to use your Collins Camera, perhaps you know it as your cell phone camera, to take a selfie or two of yourself at each Horcrux to prove that you actually found them.

Once you have located each of the Horcrux and taken your selfie there, it is time to take them all over to the Minister of Magic Booth by 3:30 p.m. and share your selfies to be entered into the chance to win a handmade Nimbus 2000 Broom which will be given to one lucky winner.

New this year is an event specifically for the adults. The Tri Wizard Potion Crawl will begin at 4 p.m. and continue until whenever the party ends. It will start with a kick-off party to meet your favorite Professors or Wizards. There is a separate ticket that must be purchased (by adults only), to participate in the Tri Wizard Potion Crawl. Deadline for purchase of these tickets is June 5.

You will receive the magic band along with the Potion Crawl ticket to enjoy magic moments in the Wizard Village from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and then be ready to join the kick-off party at 4 pm and begin the Wizard Potion Crawl.

All adults on the Potion Crawl will receive their own magical swag and will include potent samples of magical beverages and magical bites. The party will move along to various participating locations where the adults will receive 20% off all food and drink at participating magical venues.

Wizards Weekend Day is a community event hosted by the Antioch Chamber and sponsored by Raymond Chevrolet Kia and is not associated in any way with J. K. Rowling or Warner Bros Entertainment.

ARONSON AFENCE^{CO., INC.}

SERVING NORTHERN ILLINOIS AND SOUTHERN WISCONSIN



▪ Wood ▪ Aluminum ▪ Polyvinyl ▪ Cedar ▪ Chainlink ▪ Custom



CONTACT US AND REQUEST A FREE ESTIMATE

(262) 248-3390

FINANCING AVAILABLE

Check Out Our Website Gallery at
aronsonfence.com ▪ info@aronsonfence.net

▪ **Over 25 Years In Business** ▪

