

Galvin's News and Views from *Lake of the Ozarks*

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DID YOU KNOW....

Although the Lake itself is only 83 year old, the area is rich in history. The Osage Indians first settled the Ozark Hills by 1673, but Lewis and Clark were the first to describe the natural wonders of the Ozark Mountains. Civil War, westward expansion, and railroads all helped to develop this area, long before the Osage River was dammed.



News From Around the Lake.....

Lake Dodges Icy Bullet

Although the area experienced high winds in the latter part of February when the thick sheets of ice on the Lake began to thaw and break apart, there were no reports of flipped docks. And that was a miracle, according to Nina Gennetten, owner of Ozark Dock and Barge Service.



“Some of the pieces were as large as an acre. When the wind starts pushing them, they’re like bulldozers, mowing down everything in their path. I’ve been here at the Lake for 26 years and I’ve never seen the entire Lake freeze over like it did this year but about eight or nine years ago, we had a lot of ice in shallower areas. Then we had a lot of high winds come through as it started to break apart and the sheets of ice were, at the least, pushing the flotation out from docks and in some of the worst cases, they were tipping docks and ripping them apart,” she said, adding that this year, the majority of the damage was confined to stiff arms, walkways, connections and, in some cases, the center of docks where they joined the walkways.

“As the lake froze, it just pushed the docks up against the shoreline, buckling the ramps and causing a substantial amount of damage to piers where they were attached.”

Dave Markovitz, owner of Boat Lift Marine Center in Osage Beach, said he too had heard of s numerous cases where docks had nearly been pushed to the shoreline by the ice.

“Fortunately, the lifts seem to be holding up ok. We’ve heard of a few incidents where tanks have gotten cracked and a few others where the ice formed on top of square tanks, pushing them down under water, but for the most part, there haven’t been a lot of issues,” he said.

Gennetten and Markovitz both said many of the problems could have been avoided by using dock deicers – but when people finally realized they needed them, there were none to be found.

“I started the season with 30 on hand and sold every single one. I was finally able to find three others at one of my suppliers but I had them sold before they were even shipped to me,” Gennetten said.

By the beginning of February, Menards was the only retailer that could be located having dock deicers in stock and those were sold in just a few days. Nancy Zoellner-Hogland March 2014 Lakebusjournal.com

Park it! BDSA does what it can to make that happen

This summer it may be a little easier to find a parking spot on the Bagnell Dam Strip. That’s because the Bagnell Dam Strip Association (BDSA) has partnered with the city of Lake Ozark to build from 12 to 16 additional spaces in the mid-section of the district.

“There’s a great need for more parking on the Strip but because of the terrain, we’re limited on what we can do. The area between the road and the old 10-cent skee ball is city right-of-way so we looked into the cost of cleaning it up, taking out the old islands and adding spaces there,” explained Alderman Jeff Van Donsel, who also serves on the BDSA board. “We had someone offer to do the excavation work at no charge and we’re talking to someone else about providing a survey for free or at a very low fee so the only cost to the city will be some simple engineering and the asphalt. The BDSA has already committed to covering the cost should any surprises pop up.”

In addition, Ameren Missouri agreed to right a leaning utility pole and Charter Communications and AT&T agreed to move utility lines, clearing the way for the additional spaces.

Park it... Continued from page 2.

At their January 28 meeting, Lake Ozark aldermen voted unanimously to move forward with the plan. Van Donsel said if all “falls into place,” they hope to have the work completed by the start of the summer season.

The city is also looking into the cost of tearing down the old police station behind Old Time Photos and turning that land into an off-street parking lot. “The city has been the topic of some unpleasant discussion lately – people saying it’s run down and abandoned-looking but that’s just not true,” Van Donsel said. “We have only a couple empty buildings, we have a lot of new businesses going in and those new owners are making some changes and cleaning things up. Our future is looking better and better.”

Part of that could be due to Hot Summer Nights, a monthly car show that has been dubbed a “mile-long slice of Americana pie.” The shows, put on by the BDSA with the help of several sponsors, has drawn a lot of attention, drawing an estimated 8,000 to 9,000 spectators and participants to each event and winning the 2011 Missouri Tourism Innovator Award, which pays tribute to those smaller tourist entities that achieved great results on small budgets.

This year’s family friendly cruise-ins are set for May 9, June 13, July 11, Aug 8 and Sept.5.

On June 13 the Lake will salute Route 66. The Route 66 Association of Missouri and the author of “Route 66, The Highway and It’s People” have been invited as special guests and towns that were located along the infamous highway have been invited to showcase any history they represent.

July 11 will be “muscle car” night; the movie “Grease” will be the theme for the August 8 show; and September 5 will honor veterans. The Lake of the Ozarks Corvette Club will salute Lake-area heroes by handing out American flags and then taking them for a cruise of the Strip.

The car shows will also include a variety of music, clowns, face painting and activities for the kids as well as food and shopping specials. For more information, visit event’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cruisehotsummernights. Nancy Zoellner-Hogland March 2014 Lakebusjournal.com

Two Local Businesses to Close

Frick & Frack and Artsy Fartsy owner Lisa Frick cites the decline of the Strip as a catalyst for closure. She will be relocating to Marthasville, MO to relax, to paint and to continue to create some of the most unique art mid-Missouri has experienced. She has sold the building to someone she believes will carry on the tradition. She can be contacted on facebook and www.lisafrick.com

Wobbly Boots Road House Now open in the Old Shoney’s Location on Osage Beach Pkwy

Dick’s Sporting Goods and Bed, Bath & Beyond Now Open next to Dierbergs at Lakeview Pointe

Not everyone happy about Charter's all-digital

On February 25, all Lake-area customers of Charter Communications who didn't have their televisions connected to a digital cable box lost their ability to receive programming.

That's because the cable and internet provider made the decision to go to a 100-percent all-digital format and Charter set-top boxes are required to get the signal.

Charter is supplying customers with one digital set-top box, one HD set-top box or 1 CableCARD at no cost for 12 months. Additional boxes must be leased at an additional cost of \$6.99 per month. According to information provided by Charter, standard rates will apply after the promotional period ends.

"Most people have high-definition TVs now and if you have a high-definition TV, you obviously want to watch high-definition quality," said Kimberly Noetzel, senior communications manager with Charter. "HD offers a sharper resolution. Even my children can tell the difference. When we turn on the TV, the first thing they'll say is, 'Put it on high-def mom.'"

Noetzel said the company invested more than \$2 billion to update its network in order to provide better services to customers. Those "better services" also will include 200 HD channels and faster Internet speeds. She also said Lake of the Ozarks is not the only community affected by the decision. All customers across Charter's 29-state service area will receive the upgrade by the end of 2014. She said Charter has been getting nothing but good feedback from customers in areas that have already made the transition.

Charter may get a different response from the Lake area. After receiving complaints from residents, the Osage Beach Board of Aldermen asked City Attorney Ed Rucker to look into the legality of the move under the franchise agreement the city has with Charter. As of deadline, Rucker said he was still researching the issue to determine if the Video Service Providers Act adopted by state legislators in 2007 made that agreement null and void. Tom Laird, city clerk at the Village of Four Seasons, said that since January, when Charter started notifying customers of the change, he has received one to two phone calls or in-person visits per day from people who are irate about being forced to spend an additional fee to obtain a service they are already paying for.

"A large percentage of our owners are here only on weekends and feel they already spend a lot for a service that's used very little. Many of them have said they're dropping Charter both here and at home and they're going with satellite because they can just bring their dish and receiver with them, hook it up to the TV at their Lake house and they have service – at no additional cost. It's very simple. Then we heard from other people who say they have older TVs and won't even be able to tell if their picture is digital – or they just don't care about a sharper picture, especially if it comes with a higher price," he said. "Unfortunately, I have to tell them there's nothing we can do."

Noetzel said although the set-top boxes that are required to receive a signal from Charter are not transportable between locations, Charter does have seasonal offers available. Customers should contact Charter at 1-888-Get Charter for eligibility.

She also said that customers who do not yet have the required set-top boxes can either pick them up from the local Charter office or they can call 1-877-959-1617 to have boxes, which come with self-installation instructions, delivered to their home. Nancy Zoellner-Hogland March 2014 Lakebusjournal.com

**Buffalo Wild Wings Grill and Bar
Coming Soon to Eagles Landing**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Shoreline Cleanup



Ameren Missouri will need all hands on deck during this year's spring shoreline cleanup to get rid of the tons of trash and debris that is scattered around the Lake's shoreline. Last year's summer floods and high Lake levels left behind a variety of debris. It will be up to the hundreds of volunteers to make sure Lake of the Ozarks is in good condition for boaters this season. The Adopt-the-Shoreline program is scheduled for March 15-April 13.

Ameren Missouri sponsors the Adopt-the-Shoreline program each year — in the fall and spring. Ameren pays to dispose of all of the trash and debris collected. And there is a lot of it.

So gather a group of co-workers or friends and adopt your own section or shoreline.
www.thelakeonline.com

Spring Bass Fishing Tournaments

Spring is spawning time for bass at the Lake of the Ozarks and that means one thing for fishermen and fisherwomen - big fish and big prize money! The Lake of the Ozarks features two spring fishing tournaments that are sure to be favorites with anglers.



March 29-30 boats take to the water for the Annual Alhonna Resort Early Bird Open Buddy Bass Tournament. This spring tournament offers a great way to start a new fishing season at Lake of the Ozarks and draws anglers from throughout the Midwest. Because the tournament often occurs during the bass' natural spawning period, seven- and eight-pound fish are not uncommon. Take-off occurs at 7 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Weigh-ins are at 4 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday, with cash prizes distributed following Sunday's weigh-in. For more information about the tournament, including registration information, visit www.Alhonna.com.

April 5-6 is the Big Bass Bash, which draws amateur fishermen and women from around the country for one of the biggest prize payouts in the U.S., over \$165,000 in total prizes, with \$50,000 being awarded to the angler who catches the biggest bass. In addition to the top prizes, the amateur-only tournament features 20 prizes awarded in four different time slots, beginning at 6:30 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m. each day. Prizes for the biggest fish of the weekend will be awarded at the awards ceremony beginning at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday at Public Beach #2 in Lake of the Ozarks State Park. For more information or to register for the tournament, go to www.BigBassBash.com.
www.thelakeonline.com



Lake of the Ozarks 64th Annual Dogwood Festival
April 24-26



Spring Fever? Here are Five Ways to Turn your Deck into a Dream Outdoor Oasis



It's easy to dream of perfectly pristine outdoor spaces when looking at the decks in magazines and online, but too often what we want and what we have don't align. If your deck suffers from weathered wood, loose railings or dated balusters, you're not alone. The good news is there are surprisingly simple ways to give your deck a facelift and transform it into the outdoor oasis you want in as little as one weekend.

Consider these five ways you can update your deck and grow your real estate value:

1. Add or update Post Caps

One of the easiest ways to add a dash of design and even some color and light to your deck is to update your post caps. If you currently have post caps, most can be removed by gently tapping them with a mallet. Then it's an easy DIY project to add new post caps simply by using exterior construction adhesive. These decorative caps come in a variety of styles, including basic wood that can be stained to perfectly coordinate with your existing color scheme. If you want to add a bit more pizzazz to your outdoor space, try classic copper post caps or solar powered caps that illuminate once the sun sets.

2. Replace Balusters

Balusters are connected to the railing vertically and provide an important safety feature. But they also add to the visual appeal of the deck and are a main feature in your line of sight. If your wood balusters are worn, you can instantly upgrade your outdoor space with new options. Metal balusters, for example, come in a variety of designs to match any home's style – from contemporary to traditional. Have a stunning view from your deck? Enjoy uninterrupted sight lines with glass balusters that simultaneously maintain a deck's safety and visual appeal.

3. Bring back Deck Boards

After seasons of changing weather and lots of foot traffic, your wood deck boards may be showing wear. Protect the integrity of the wood and refresh the look of your outdoor space by cleaning deck boards and giving them a new coat of paint or stain. Start by scrubbing or power spraying off dirt and grime, and then let wood dry thoroughly. Next, use stain or paint made specifically for decks to help protect the wood from the elements. Just as indoor paint transforms a room inside your home, new stain or paint on your deck boards will make your outdoor area look new and refreshed, making you feel like you have a whole new outdoor area.

4. Refresh Railings

When it comes to deck railings, there are endless options to match any style or price point. You can go with an off-the-shelf product or customize one to fit your personal design aesthetic. For example, Deckorators co-extruded composite CXT railing is ultra-low maintenance and gives you the options to mix-and-match railings, posts, balusters and caps for a look that's entirely your own. Not looking to do a full railing replacement? Sand down wood railings and apply a new coat of stain for an instant update.

5. Install Lighting

A great deck will serve as an extension of your home both day and night, but if you don't have proper lighting, you'll be heading indoors once the sun goes down. Add visual appeal and an element of safety to your deck with easy DIY lighting options. Lighting on your stairs adds a splash of drama and makes it easy to get around. Balusters are an often-overlooked item that can provide a great lighting location too. Solar Baluster Lights install around 3/4-inch round balusters with nothing more than a Phillips screwdriver. Finally, Solar Accent Lights can be placed on posts to illuminate pathways and deck edges. Expanding a home's livable space to the outdoors is a top home improvement trend. With these simple tips, your deck will find new life and you'll be able to enjoy plenty of time outdoors with Mother Nature.

www.deckorators.com