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# LAKER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024  
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Welcome

EDITOR'S NOTE

# Thank You for Voting

Our 23rd Annual Best of Smith Mountain Lake issue reveals who readers chose as their favorite people and places in 2023. Congratulations to the winners



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## In The Garden

Pictured are a mix of annuals and perennials. Plants include Salvia, Coleus, Zinnia, Petunia, Angel Wing Begonia, Elephant Ear Caladiu.

# Mark's *Garden* of Eden

## HORTICULTURE

story and photos by REED DILLON

Mark Earnhardt isn't sure how to characterize his attraction to horticulture. Hobby, passion, obsession, addiction all seem to ring true. That's evident upon arriving at the lakefront property that Earnhardt has transformed his garden of Eden in the North Lake area features an array of annual, perennial and tropical plants, most of them started by seed and some decades old.

Earnhardt caught the horticulture bug while in college, although he came by his obsession honestly. Both of his parents "had green thumbs" and were avid gardeners, he said. His father worked as a produce manager at a local supermarket in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where Earnhardt grew up.

The younger Earnhardt shared fond memories of his parents clipping, pruning and caring for their 50-foot-by-

100-foot garden. He recalled the bounty they harvested, and how they canned their beans, peas, okra, squash, cucumbers, onions, peppers and rhubarb, among other crops.

While attending N.C. State University for electrical engineering, Earnhardt also took horticulture classes as

**Earnhardt caught the horticulture bug while in college, although he came by his obsession honestly. Both of his parents "had green thumbs" and were avid gardeners.**



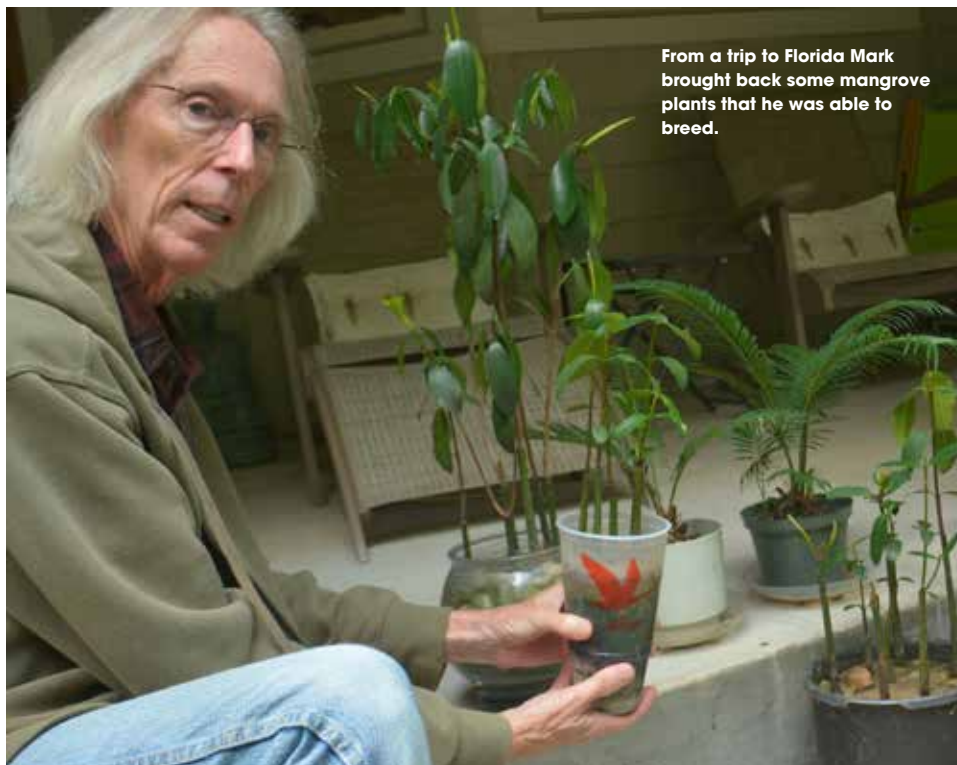
electives and, to this day, still has the descendants of the Spider, Cyperus and Kalanchoe plants he grew in his dorm room in the mid-'70s.

Earnhardt said he enjoys the challenge of being able to grow something that came from a simple seed and relishes in the fact that this an imperfect science, a departure from his former career as an electrical engineer.

"I'll have two pots next to each other and I'll do exactly the same thing in both, and one will grow and the other will not," he said as he gave a visitor a tour of his property.

The self-described "seed collector" is always on the lookout for unusual plants and flowers whenever he travels. Once Earnhardt collects the seeds, he brings them home to see if they'll germinate and grow, often not knowing the species or origin. If he successfully cultivates it, he will then look up what the species he's grown.

The amateur botanist has an innate curiosity and appreciation of nature's beauty. He estimates he spends about two hours a day during the summer months watering, fertilizing and



From a trip to Florida Mark brought back some mangrove plants that he was able to breed.

Carolina Reaper peppers, which looks like crimson red Christmas ornaments, are not to be toyed with, Mark Earnhardt cautions.



Pictured are a mix of annuals and perennials. Plants include Salvia, Coleus, Zinnia, Pefunia, Angel Wing Begonia, Elephant Ear Caladiu.



pruning. Throughout the years Earnhardt has learned what each plant likes and doesn't, as well as how to sew seedlings, splice, fertilize and nurture. Fertilization is the key to a plant's success, something that most people forget to do.

Earnhardt and his wife, Marie, have owned their waterfront property since 1990 and have lived their full time since 2010. Marie Earnhardt said she appreciates the beauty of the plants and admires her husband's passion for gardening, but leaves the upkeep to him.

That's something Earnhardt said he takes pleasure in. Experimenting with tropical plant varieties to see which ones will take root in the mid-Atlantic climate of Southwest Virginia is challenging and rewarding. He's had success with bananas, different varieties of palm trees, lemons, mangroves and peaches. Each year, Earnhardt harvests around 300





**Green  
Thumb**

**At the rear of the home are an assorted variety of Agastasia, Seagrape, Salvia, Ferna, Hyacinth Bean, Moon Flower, Passion Flower.**



**Some of the peppers produced in Mark Earnhardt's gardens.**



**Sago Palm purchased in 2005. Originally the plant was 6 inches tall in a 4-inch pot.**



**The cornucopia of flora and vegetation surrounding the front of the Earnhardt home include Salvia, Coleus, Zinnia, Petunia, Angel Wing Begonia, Elephant Ear Caladiu plants, along with Agastasia, Seagrape, Salvia, Ferna, Hyacinth Bean, Moon Flower, Passion Flower around the back of the house.**



peaches from his peach tree and dozens of lemons from a tree that originally began as a 6-inch seedling purchased in 1996 for \$4.99.

The cornucopia of flora and vegetation surrounding the front of the Earnhardt home include Salvia, Coleus, Zinnia, Petunia, Angel Wing Begonia, Elephant Ear Caladiu plants, along with Agastasia, Seagrape, Salvia, Ferna, Hyacinth Bean, Moon Flower, Passion Flower around the back of the house. There are two treasured palm trees started as seedlings. A Sago Palm purchased in 2005 and a Majesty palm that Earnhardt bought in 2012 for \$3.97.

Earnhardt's most coveted plants are his hot peppers that he began growing in the 1980s. He started first with the usual varieties such as jalapenos and habaneros and then experimented with more exotic assortments such as the Tabasco, Japanese claw, Thai Dragon and Bulgarian Carrot.

That passion for peppers subsequently evolved into his growing the hottest of all peppers, the Carolina Reaper. According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the Carolina Reaper has a Scoville Heat Unit rating of 1,569,300. By comparison, the jalapeño pepper's rating is 5,000 SHUs.

Those Carolina Reapers have even garnered Earnhardt awards at the Franklin County Agricultural

Fair in 2015 and 2016, the year they won best in show.

While peppers are typically annuals, Earnhardt grows them year round in pots that he moves into his garage during the winter months.

Because he's produced these peppers for more than six years, his plants resemble small trees. The peppers hang off each of the branches like crimson red Christmas ornaments ready for harvest.

Though lovely to observe from a distance, these peppers, especially the Carolina Reapers, which are identified with a distinctive horned tail, command and deserve respect.

"They are way too hot to consume and they are not to be toyed with as a prank," Earnhardt cautioned.

Curious taste-testers should simply prick the skin of the pepper with a toothpick, then put the toothpick on the tip of the tongue to feel how hot they are.

While these aren't meant for regular consumption, Earnhardt said he grows them "because I like to," adding, "It's hard for a gardener to kill a plant intentionally when it is healthy."

While not meant to be consumed like a regular, garden variety pepper, it's the challenge that Earnhardt enjoys most, and perhaps a passion that has been cultivated over the past several decades. 🍷



Lake Views

AROUND THE LAKE

# View From the Dock



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Lake  
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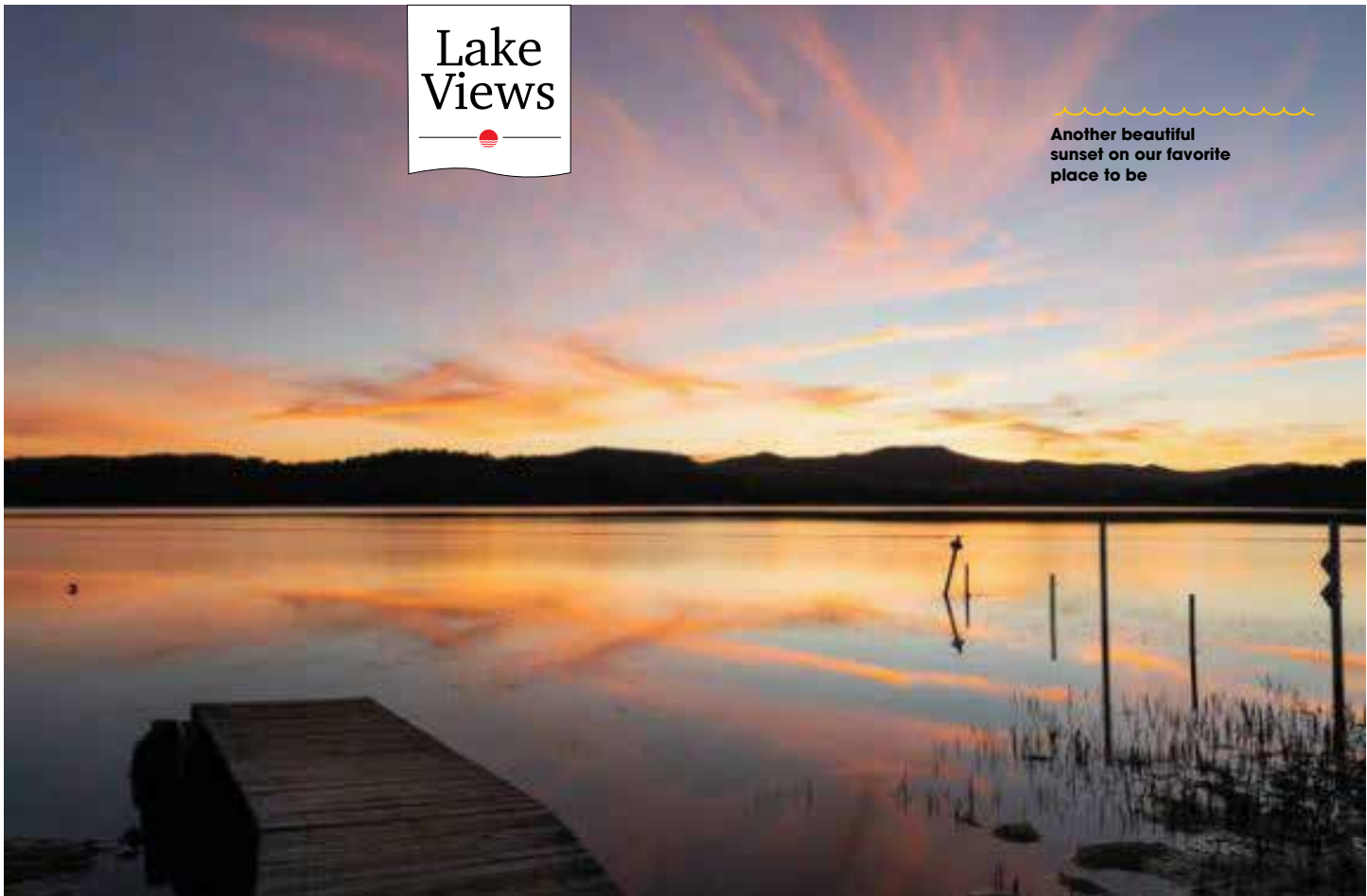
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# Lake Views

Another beautiful sunset on our favorite place to be



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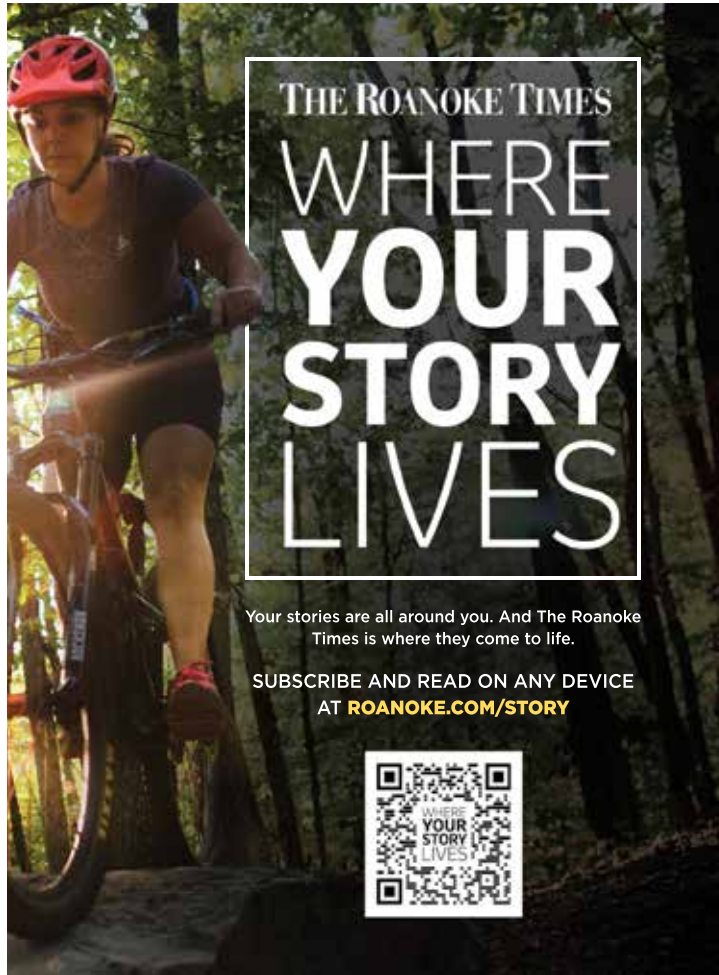
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January/February 2024

COVERING LIFE AT SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE, VIRGINIA,  
& SURROUNDING LOCALITIES

**EDITORIAL**

Creative Designer **MIKE WILSON**

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

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Jason Dunovant

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*Laker magazine* welcomes story, ideas, photos for our, Travelers and Lake Views, sections, calendar items, and creative, works essays, poems, paintings, and photography by local artist.

For time, sensitive content, including calendar items or local events coverage, the deadline is the first of the month preceding the desired issue. (Example: June 1 for the July/August issue.)

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Contact [laker@roanoke.com](mailto:laker@roanoke.com) for more information.

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**ON THE COVER**



Our 23rd Annual Best of Smith Mountain Lake issue reveals who readers chose as their favorite people and places in 2023. Congratulations to the winners pages 18-19

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Smith Mountain Lake



Smith Mountain Lake



Lake Views

AROUND THE LAKE

# Fun on the Water



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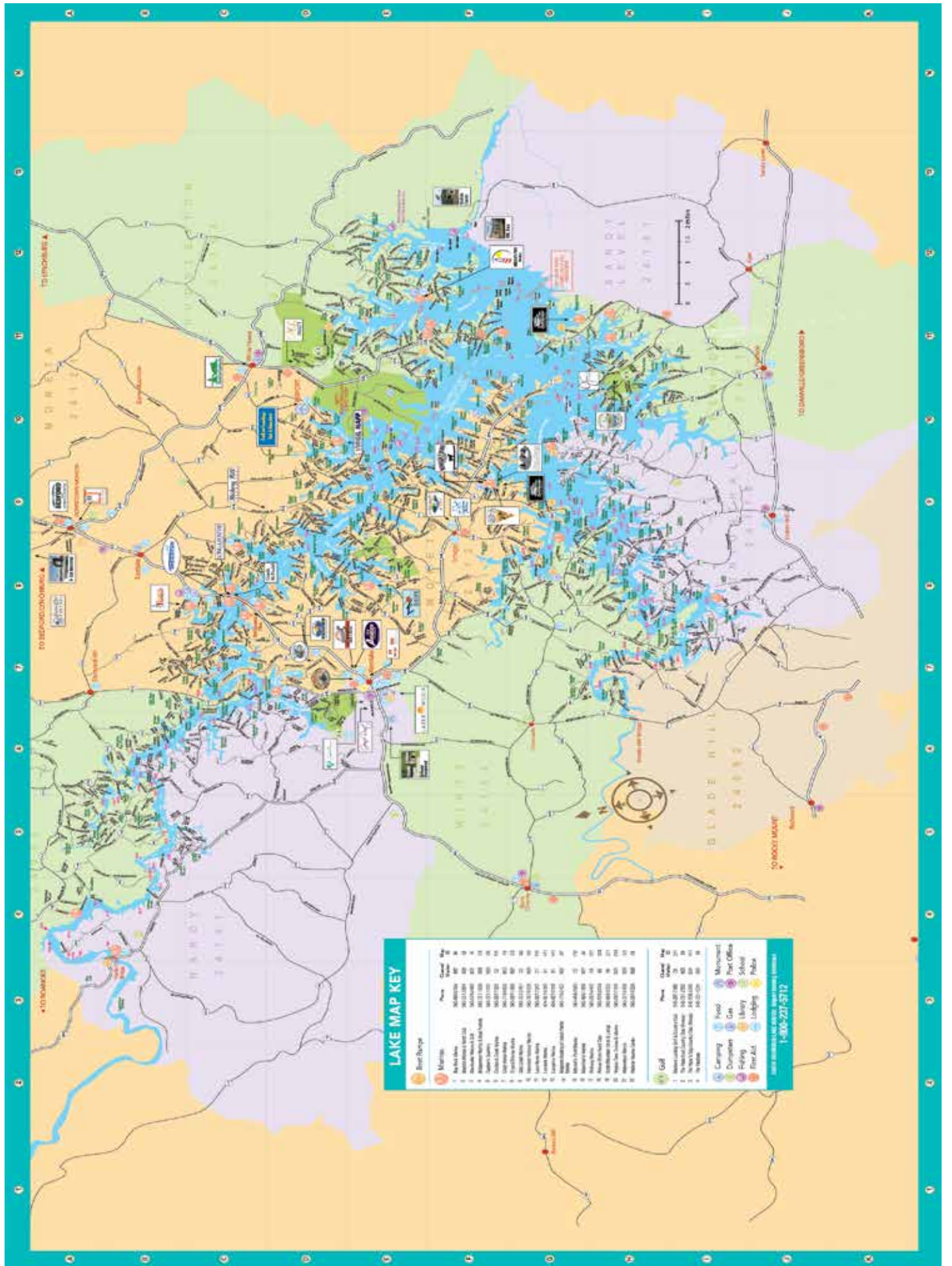
Great Room with Fireplace. Custom Kitchen with Granite Countertops. Lots of Glass looking out to the lake. Entry Level Master Suite and 2nd Lower Level Master Suite and Family room. Large full length decks. Paved drive and Dbl Car Garage. Public Water and Sewer. Great Location to Shopping and Dining. MLS 901295

Contact Glenda McDaniel Today To Get More Property Details:  
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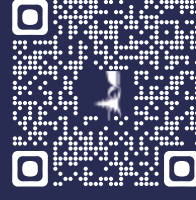


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# Thank you for voting for us!





## Beauty & Fitness

### Best Hair Salon/ Barber Shop

- 1st-Twisted Scissors
- 2nd-Eric & Company Salon Suites
- 3rd-Hair Therapy by the Lake

### Best Nail Salon

- 1st-Modern Nails
- 2nd-Family Hair Care and Nail Spa
- 3rd-Diva Nails

### Best Place to Work out

- 1st-Full Distance
- 2nd-Body Shoppe Fitness
- 3rd-Carilion Wellness

### Best Skin Care or Day Spa

- 1st-Serafina Spa
- 2nd-The Skin Company
- 3rd-Robin's Nest Spa

## Boat & Water Services

### Best Boat Services

- 1st-Bridgewater Marina and Boat Rentals
- 2nd-Webster Marine Center
- 3rd-Nevermind Marine Services

### Best Fishing Charter

- 1st-Captain Marc's Striper Guide Service
- 2nd-Mitchell's Striper Guides
- 3rd-Patriot Fishing Charters

### Best Marina

- 1st-Mitchell's Point Marina
- 2nd-Bridgewater Marina
- 3rd-Magnum Point Marina

## Finance

### Best Bank

- 1st-Bank of Botetourt
- 2nd-Ridge View Bank
- 3rd-American National Bank and Trust Company

### Best Credit Union

- 1st-Member One Federal Credit Union
- 2nd-Freedom First Credit Union
- 3rd-Blue Eagle Credit Union

### Best Financial Planner

- 1st-Ridge View Bank
- 2nd-Faber CPA Firm
- 3rd-Charles Schwab

## Food & Drink

### Best Asian Fare

- 1st-Edo Grill and Sushi
- 2nd-Teriyaki House
- 3rd-Peking Chinese Restaurant

### Best Bakery/Sweet treats

- 1st-Smith Mountain Lake Coffee House
- 2nd-Westlake Coffee Shop
- 3rd-Mia's Sweet Treats

### Best Breakfast

- 1st-Old Oak Cafe
- 2nd-Smith Mountain Lake Coffee House
- 3rd-The Bagel & I

### Best Caterer

- 1st-Farmhouse Catering And Meals To Go
- 2nd-Napoli by the Lake
- 3rd-Smith Mountain Lake Coffee House

### Best Cocktail

- 1st-Drifter's Restaurant
- 2nd-Napoli By the Lake
- 3rd-Mango's Bar & Grill

### Best Coffee

- 1st-Smith Mountain Lake Coffee House
- 2nd-Westlake Coffee and Cafe
- 3rd-Napoli Cowboy

### Best Italian Fare

- 1st-Vinny's Italian Grill & Pizzeria
- 2nd-Napoli Cowboy
- 3rd-Napoli by the Lake

### Best Lunch

- 1st-Drifter's Restaurant
- 2nd-Moosie's Bar & Grill
- 3rd-Smith Mountain Lake Coffee House

### Best Mexican Fare

- 1st-Cancun Mexican Restaurant & Grill
- 2nd-Cilantro Mexican Grill
- 3rd-El Toreno Mexican Bar & Grill

### Best Outdoor Dining

- 1st-Drifter's Restaurant
- 2nd-Mitchell's Restaurant & Pizzeria
- 3rd-Mango's Bar & Grill

### Best Pizza

- 1st-Mitchell's Restaurant & Pizzeria
- 2nd-Vinny's Italian Grill & Pizzeria
- 3rd-Napoli Cowboy

### Best Place to Come by Boat

- 1st-Bridgewater Plaza
- 2nd-Drifter's Restaurant
- 3rd-Mitchell's Restaurant & Pizzeria

### Best Place to Go for a Night Out

- 1st-Mango's Bar & Grill
- 2nd-Drifter's Restaurant
- 3rd-Napoli by the Lake

### Best Restaurant Service

- 1st-Drifter's Restaurant
- 2nd-Napoli Cowboy
- 3rd-Napoli by the Lake

### Best Sandwich/Burger

- 1st-Drifter's Restaurant
- 2nd-Moosie's Bar and Grill
- 3rd-Napoli Cowboy

### Best Seafood

- 1st-Napoli By the Lake
- 2nd-Drifter's Restaurant
- 3rd-The Landing Restaurant

### Best Steak

- 1st-Bull Docks
- 2nd-Napoli Cowboy
- 3rd-Napoli by the Lake

### Best Winery

- 1st-Ramulose Ridge Vineyards
- 2nd-Brooks Mill Winery
- 3rd-Hickory Hill Vineyards

### Best Wings

- 1st-Portside Grill & Bar
- 2nd-Jake's Place
- 3rd-Napoli by the Lake

## House & Home

### Best Electrician

- 1st-JM Blair Electrical
- 2nd-Moser Electric
- 3rd-Davis Heating, Cooling, Plumbing & Electric

### Best General Contractor

- 1st-TBS Construction, LLC
- 2nd-M.H. Eades Inc.
- 3rd-F&S Building Innovations, Inc.

### Best Heating and Ventilation (Air Conditioning)

- 1st-Carter's Heating and Cooling
- 2nd-Davis Heating, Cooling, Plumbing & Electric
- 3rd-Moneta Heating & Air

### Best Home Builder

- 1st-TBS Construction, LLC
- 2nd-M.H. Eades Inc.
- 3rd-F&S Building Innovations, Inc.

### Best Interior Design

- 1st-Alicia Smith, CID, F&S Building Innovations, Inc.
- 2nd-By Design Interiors
- 3rd-Envisions Flooring & Interiors



# Reader's Choice



## Best Landscaping/Lawn Care

- 1st-Seven Oaks Landscapes
- 2nd-SML Landscape Designs
- 3rd-Top Notch Lawn Care

## Best Real Estate Agent

- 1st-Wil Childress, Lake Retreat Properties
- 2nd-Phyllis Johnson, Re/Max Lakefront Realty
- 3rd-Deb Beran, Deb Beran Properties

## Best Real Estate Company

- 1st-Lake Retreat Properties, Inc.
- 2nd-RE/MAX Lakefront Realty
- 3rd-Deb Beran Properties

## Best Real Estate Team

- 1st-Lake Retreat Properties, Inc.
- 2nd-Phyllis & Casey Johnson, RE/MAX Lakefront Realty
- 3rd-Deb Beran Properties

## Lifestyle

### Best Annual Community Event

- 1st-Smith Mountain Lake Pirate Days
- 2nd-SML Charity Home Tour
- 3rd-Smith Mountain Lake Live Music Festival

### Best Charity Event or Service Project

- 1st-Smith Mountain Lake Charity Home Tour
- 2nd-SML Gives, Smith Mountain Lake Good Neighbors
- 3rd-Smith Mountain Lake Live Music Festival

### Best Club or Civic organization

- 1st-SML Good Neighbors, Inc.
- 2nd-Smith Mountain Lake Live Music
- 3rd-American Legion Post 62 Smith Mountain Lake

### Best Historical Site

- 1st-National D-Day Memorial
- 2nd-Booker T. Washington National Monument
- 3rd-SML Dam

### Best Local Band

- 1st-Five Dollar Shake
- 2nd-Analyse Marie & Tim Rowlett
- 3rd-Christian Q. & The Groove

### Best Place for a Kid/Family outing

- 1st-Bridgewater Plaza
- 2nd-Drifter's Restaurant
- 3rd-Smith Mountain Lake State Park

### Best Place to Hear Live Music

- 1st-Mitchell's Restaurant & Pizzeria
- 2nd-Mango's Bar & Grill
- 3rd-Drifter's Restaurant

## Best Place to Meet New People

- 1st-Bridgewater Plaza
- 2nd-Drifter's Restaurant
- 3rd-Mitchell's Point Marina

## Best Place to Play Golf

- 1st-Mariners Landing
- 2nd-The Waterfront Country Club
- 3rd-Hot Shots Bar and Grill

## Best Place to Take Visitor

- 1st-Bridgewater Plaza
- 2nd-Mitchell's Restaurant & Pizzeria
- 3rd-Smith Mountain Lake Coffee House

## Best Place to Watch a Sunset

- 1st-Mitchell's Point Marina
- 2nd-Drifter's Restaurant
- 3rd-Eastlake Church

## Best Vacation Retreat (Hotels, Resorts, Rental Properties)

- 1st-Lake Retreat Properties
- 2nd-Mariners Landing
- 3rd-Bernard's Vacation Properties

## Services

### Best Auto Services

- 1st-West Lake Automotive Services
- 2nd-Heath's Tire & Lube
- 3rd-Automotive-Diesel Network

### Best Customer Service

- 1st-Drifter's Restaurant
- 2nd-Smith Mountain Lake Coffee House
- 3rd-West Lake Automotive Services

### Best Customer Service

- 1st-JBohnBishop Mercantile Boutique
- 2nd-Capps Home Building Center
- 3rd-Moneta Farm & Home Center

### Best Dentist

- 1st-Dr. Bryan G Sicher, DMD, Smith Mountain Lake Dental Practice
- 2nd-Dr. Sheila Hardee, DDS, Blue Ridge Dental Group - SML
- 3rd-Dr. Vishal Shah, DMD, Moneta Dentistry

### Best Hearing Center

- 1st-SML Hearing Center
- 2nd-Carilion Clinic Otolaryngology & Audiology - Westlake
- 3rd-Connect Hearing

### Best Insurance Agent

- 1st-Susan Balderson, State Farm Insurance Agent
- 2nd-Phil Hager, Phil Hager Insurance Agency
- 3rd-Don Evans, State Farm Insurance Agent

## Best Law Firm

- 1st-Coley Law Firm
- 2nd-Gilbert Law, PC
- 3rd-Vogel Law Group

## Best New Business (Opened 2022 or later)

- 1st-The Bagel and I
- 2nd-Bull Docks
- 3rd-Breez Ice Cream Parlor

## Best Pet Grooming/Sitting/Boarding service

- 1st-K-9 Yacht Club
- 2nd-Camp Happy Tails
- 3rd-Bark Avenue Grooming

## Best Photographer

- 1st-Jolly Jen Photography
- 2nd-C. Chisom Photography
- 3rd-Annette Foxx Photography

## Best Physician

- 1st-Tara Stone, NP, LewisGale Physicians Family Medicine
- 2nd-Dr. George Chaconas, MD, FNLA, Family Medicine
- 3rd-Dr. Brandon K. Cox, MD, Centra Medical Group

## Best Place for a Summer Job

- 1st-Drifter's Restaurant
- 2nd-Bridgewater Marina & Boat Rentals
- 3rd-Lake Retreat Properties

## Best Place to Buy Clothing and Accessories

- 1st-JBohnBishop Mercantile Boutique
- 2nd-Gifts Ahoy
- 3rd-Cottage Gate

## Best Place to Buy Gifts and/or Smith Mountain Lake Souvenirs

- 1st-Gifts Ahoy
- 2nd-Cottage Gate
- 3rd-Evie's at the Lake SML Market

## Best Place to Buy Jewelry

- 1st-Jo & Co Jewelers - Formerly Haywood's Jewelers
- 2nd-Evie's at the Lake SML Market
- 3rd-JBohnBishop Mercantile Boutique

## Best Place to Stay Overnight

- 1st-Lake Retreat Properties
- 2nd-Mariners Landing
- 3rd-Bernard's Landing Resort

## Best Place to Work

- 1st-Drifter's Restaurant
- 2nd-Capps Home Building Center
- 3rd-Lake Retreat Properties



# SMLA looks for additional funding to prevent harmful algal blooms, boating incidents

## IN THE LAKE

story by JASON DUNOVANT

The Smith Mountain Lake Association hopes to expand the types of testing performed at Ferrum College to speed up analysis of algal blooms, like the one that shut down water recreation in part of the lake last summer.

Smith Mountain Lake faced a challenging 2023 with the emergence of harmful algal blooms as well as multiple boating fatalities. It is a trend members of the Smith Mountain Lake Association are working to reverse before recreation activities begin to ramp up again next year.

The Smith Mountain Lake Association is seeking to significantly increase monitoring on the lake to more quickly find and identify harmful algal blooms. When they were discovered in June, a swim advisory was put in place in the Blackwater River arm of the lake.

The harmful algal blooms, usually blue/green in color, are created by cyanobacteria. They can cause skin rash and gastrointestinal illnesses, such







**Citizen scientists consisting of local residents have been used for years for the SMLA’s Water Quality Monitoring Program done in partnership with Ferrum College. They also contribute to the work done by Save Our Streams that monitors local tributaries into Smith Mountain Lake.**



as upset stomach, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Multiple tests conducted by the Virginia Department of Health to identify if the cyanobacteria discovered in multiple locations was producing harmful toxins sometimes took more than a week to get results that were sent to a lab at Old Dominion University in Norfolk. The long swim advisory during July and much of August is believed to have had a significant impact on tourism revenue.

The SMLA is reaching out to state representatives and organizations for assistance in studying and identifying harmful algal blooms in the future. They are requesting a budget amendment in the state that would fund a two-year study by Virginia Tech to investigate and respond to harmful algal blooms at Smith Mountain

Lake in the future.

In addition to state funding, the SMLA is working on obtaining funding locally to create a local lab that can be used to identify harmful cyanobacteria in conjunction with the ongoing Water Quality Monitoring Program done in partnership with Ferrum College.

“We have put together a pretty comprehensive plan of what needs to be done at this lake,” said John

Vidovich, communications director for the SMLA.

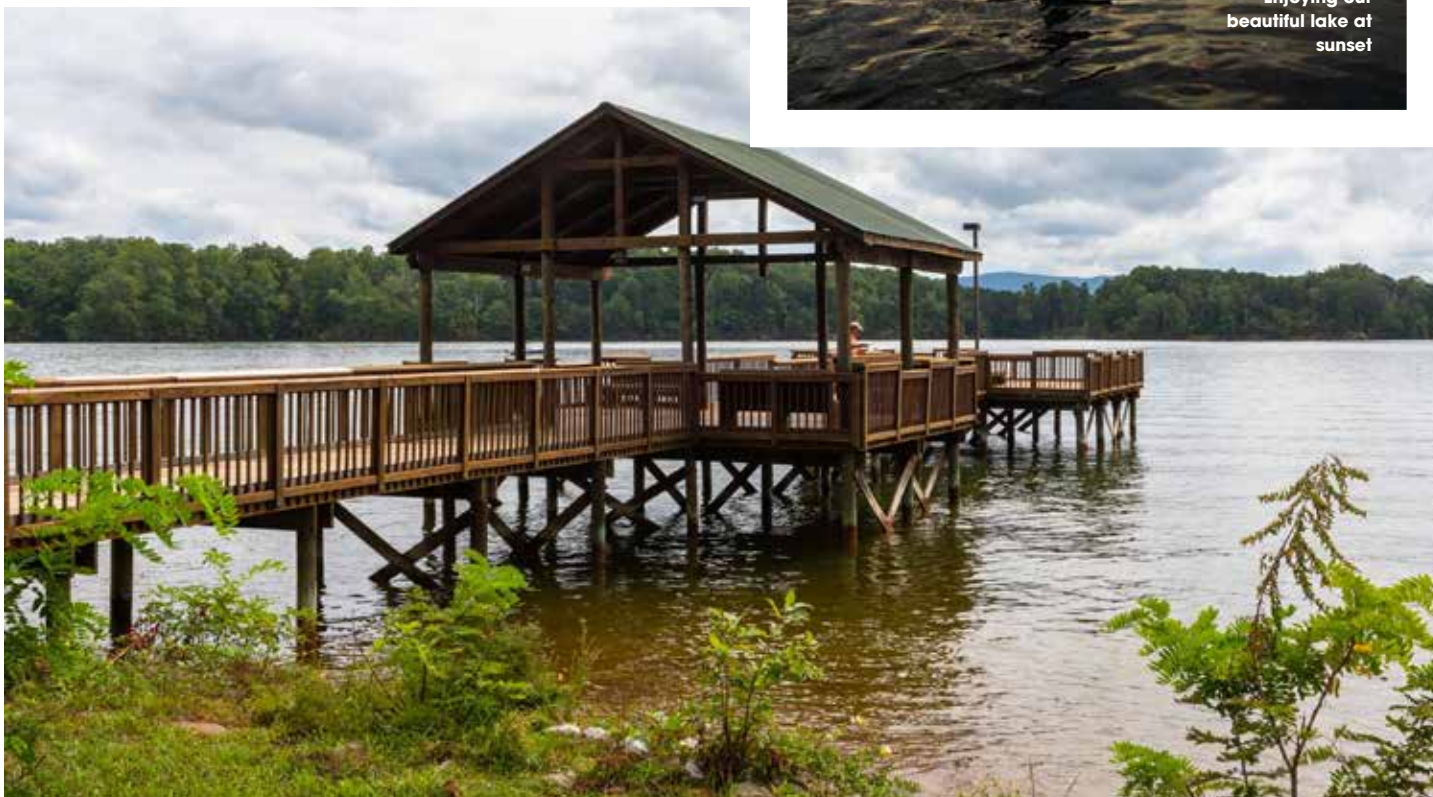
The SMLA recently began a campaign with the goal of raising \$100,000 to fund their expanded work to study harmful algal blooms. A portion would also be used to increase boating education on the lake.

“Everyone who enjoys Smith Mountain Lake can help protect it,” said Bill Butterfield, SMLA’s president, said in a press release. “No one wants harmful algae, injuries or anything else to damage the lake’s reputation as the Jewel of the Blue Ridge. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 to protect SML — today and for future generations. We’re asking all lake lovers to make a financial donation to help safeguard SML.”

The current plan is to have a functioning



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laboratory in the SMLA office in Westlake that can actively monitor the lake and keep a closer eye on any potentially harmful algal blooms. Kerri Green, chair of the SMLA's Lake Quality Council said a SML Dock Water Program will be created with citizen scientist trained in analyzing samples.

Citizen scientists consisting of local residents have been used for years for the SMLA's Water Quality Monitoring Program done in partnership with Ferrum College. They also contribute to the work done by Save Our Streams that monitors local tributaries into Smith Mountain Lake.

Green would like to see the new program work in conjunction with help from state groups. "We need more support from the Commonwealth to understand what's happening in the SML watershed and how to protect it from continued HAB activity," Green said in a recent press release. "We have partnered with Ferrum College for 37 years to monitor water clarity, chlorophyll-a and phosphorus in SML. I'm excited to complement this work by collaborating with DEQ and Virginia Tech. Our combined resources are necessary to evaluate and mitigate unwanted cyanobacteria in the lake."

Butterfield said work is also

underway to have the Ferrum College lab certified to analyze samples in the future instead of being sent to Old Dominion University. The change could significantly speed up results, he said.

While much of the \$100,000 fundraising goal is expected to go toward combating harmful algal blooms, a significant portion will be used to increase safe boating efforts. Vidovich said the SMLA will use the funding to create materials and signage to reinforce the importance of safe boating as well as wearing a life jacket.

This year on Smith Mountain Lake, there have been three boating fatalities from two incidents. Two other fatalities occurred from individuals believed to have drowned after falling from a dock.

No boating fatalities were recorded at Smith Mountain Lake in 2022. One boating fatality was reported in 2021 and 2020.

The SMLA joined with the Tri-County Lakes Administrative Commission to fund a Wake Education Task Force earlier this year with the goal of educating those involved in towed water sports about the large wakes they can create and the harm they can cause to docks, shorelines and other boaters. This expanded fundraising effort would focus on safe recreation overall. ●

MORE INFORMATION ON THE SMLA'S FUNDRAISING EFFORT AS WELL AS WAYS TO DONATE CAN BE FOUND AT [WWW.SMLASSOCIATION.ORG/DONATE/](http://WWW.SMLASSOCIATION.ORG/DONATE/).





Napoli Cowboy Family would like to thank everyone that made Toys for Tots 2023 a complete success. From Our Staff, Bryan & Kim Keaton for entertainment, Marines First Sergeant Alton Currie & Gunnery Sergeant Michael Volker, Elves Tobias & Ella Cryner, Everyone bringing in toys (915)/bikes (45) and all those people/businesses that provided support for the raffle (AAA Septic, Alease Dudley, *All Things Irish* - Eileen McMahon, Bank of Botetourt - Lisa Spangler, Bagel & I, Bernard's Landing Mike & Bob, Becky Rowe, Benny's Adelinas, Blue Ridge Distribution - Keith, Body 4 U, Bull Docks, Cancun Mexican Restaurant, Chic-Fil-A - Bob Deffussey, Cottage Gate, Davis Heating & Air, Dillon Docks, Duane Davis, Fabulous Finds, Gifts Ahoy, Gills Creek Marina, Goodhue Boat Company SML - East Lake Marina, Harvester Music, Hollywood's Restaurant & Bakery - Mark Henderson, Hot Shots, Ippy's - JoDee Jeans, John Hermellio, Kupkavery, Lakescapes Nursery, Magnum Point Marina, Mayberry Pizza & Ice Cream, My Way Bakery, Painted Strands, Parkway Brewery, Performance Food Group (PFG), Robins Cellar - Mark Pretty, Ricky Tony, Salty Shear, Specialty Beverage, Suzanne Kiefer, The Jerkey Outlet, The Willard Companies, Valley Distribution, Westlake Coffee Shop & Wilson Creek Winery - Temecula, CA. Deepest apologies to Trippie Hippie Gift Shop for not mentioning last year).  
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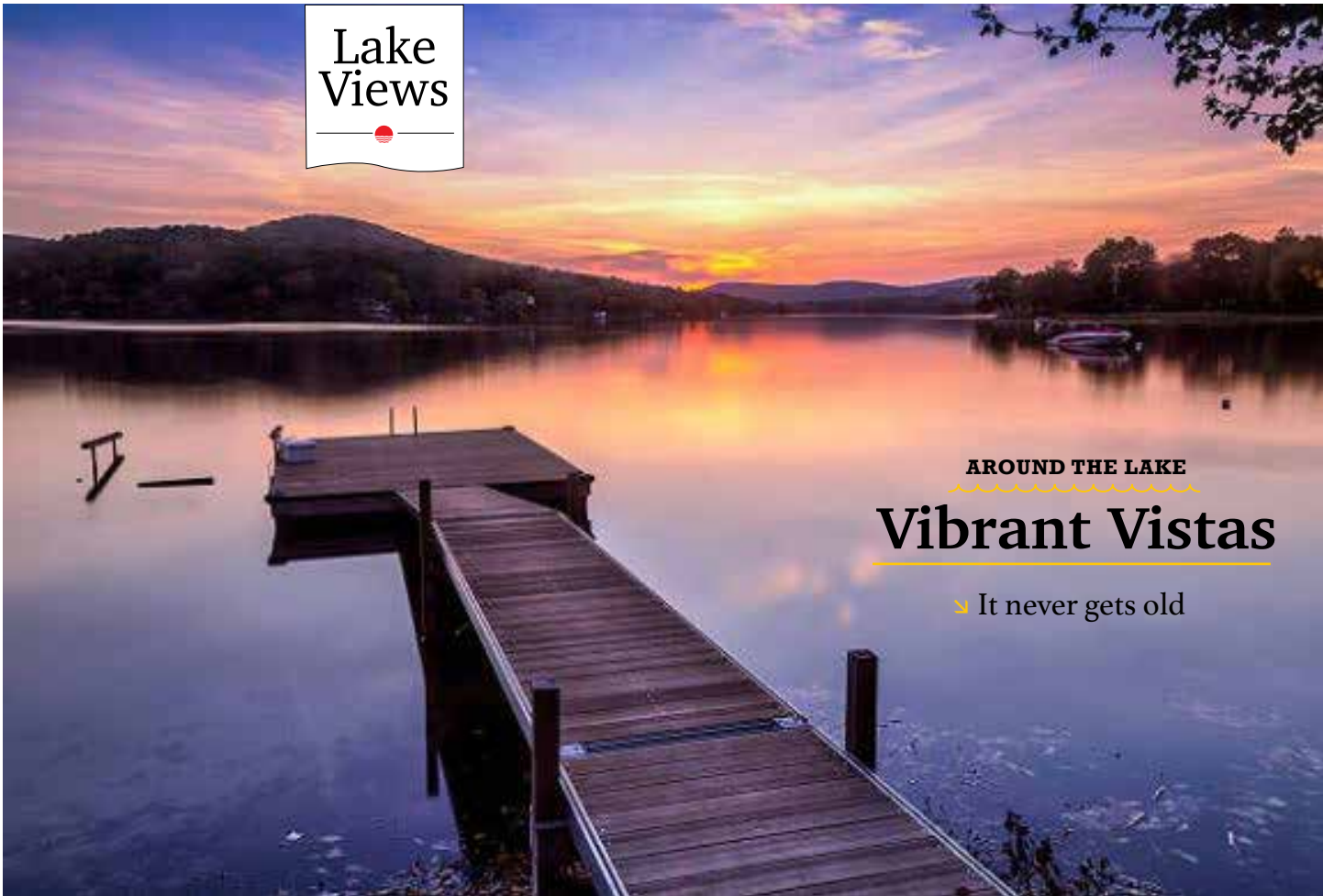


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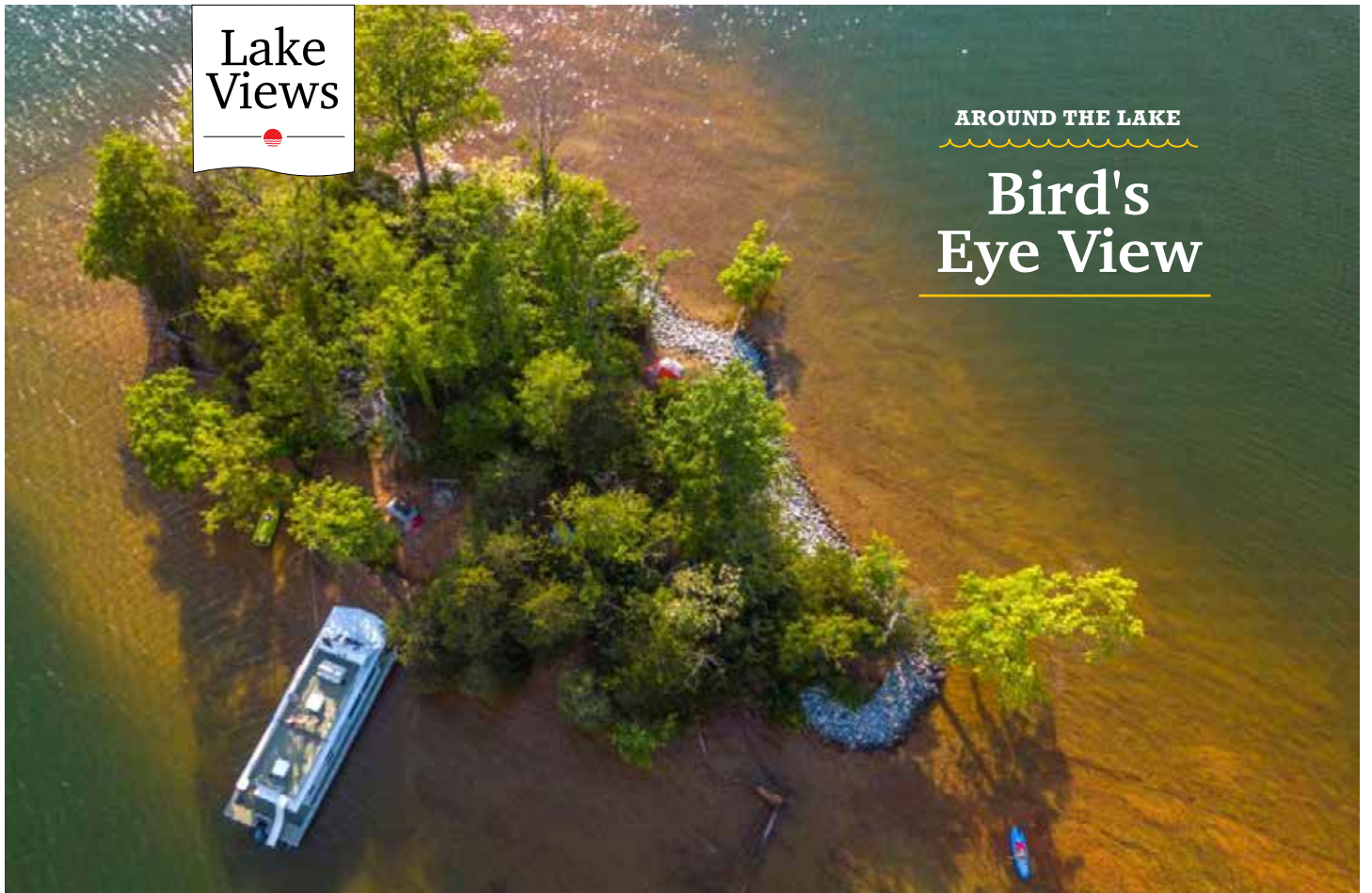
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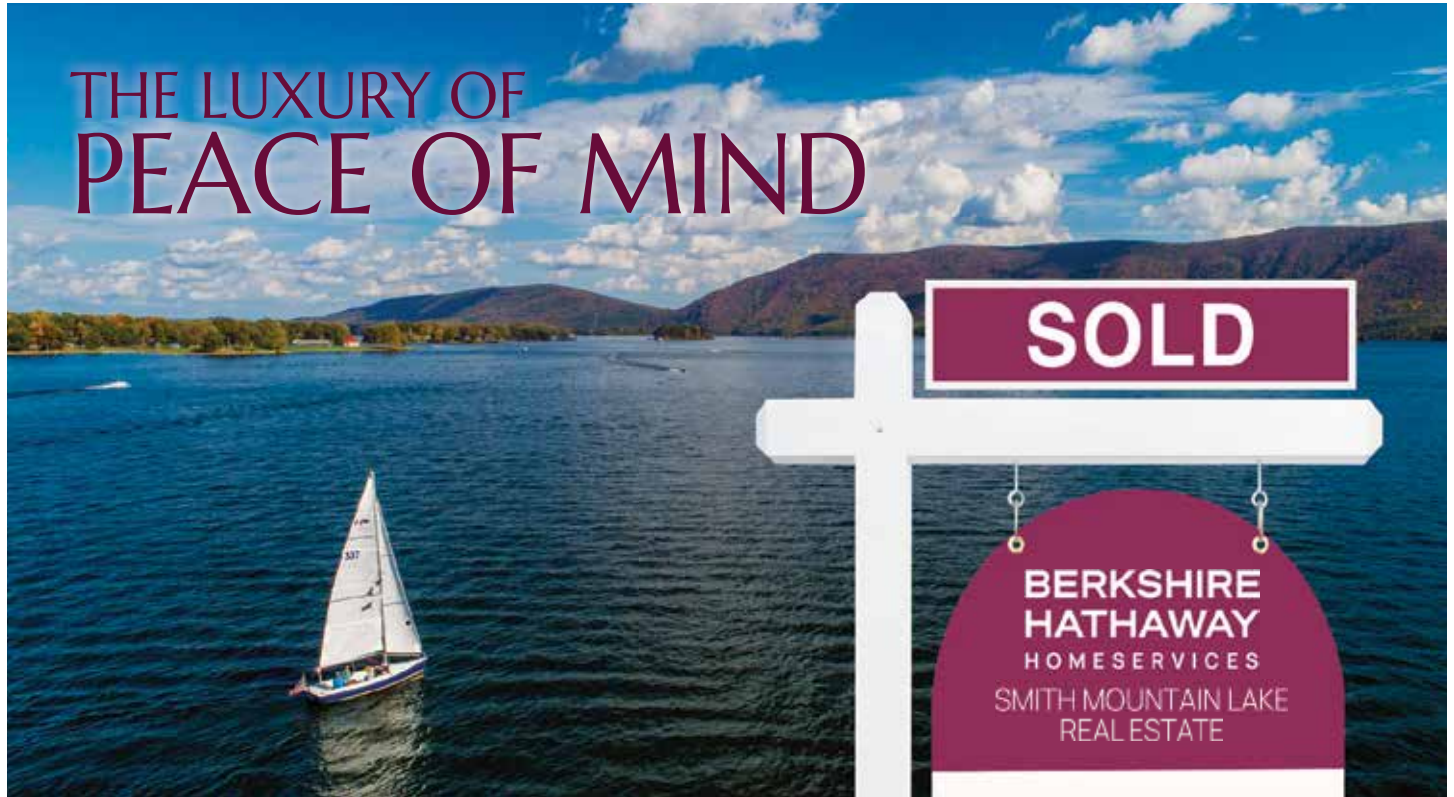
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