

OFF-GRID NUGGET

Longwood Lake Newsletter

June, 2024



Welcome Back!

"Bridge to the Lake" by Gail Slockett

UPCOMING EVENTS

LLCOA

ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTIONS



**SATURDAY
JUNE 29 • 5PM**

FOURTH *of* JULY CELEBRATION

**SATURDAY
JULY 6 • 9PM**

the final chapter LLCOA MOVIE

**SATURDAY
JULY 13 • 7PM**



**SATURDAY
AUGUST 10 • 3PM**





WARNING:
BI-POLAR BEAR



A MESSAGE FROM LLCOA PRESIDENT DICK HEITLER

Spring has come to Longwood Lake, and it is my pleasure to welcome you all back to a new season in our little piece of shared paradise. I also want to take this opportunity to say that will be my last President's Message for the annual newsletter. My most recent 3-year term is up, and I do not plan to run again. This is my second stint as President of LLCOA, and one the ironies is that several years ago when I was re-elected this time around, I was the "peace candidate." It was a novel experience for me. Even though I may have mellowed with age (I'm 79), I still carry around the self-image of a somewhat abrasive and combative younger man. But the association did need to restore peace and I tried my best to help to get us there. I was taking over after a brief period in the association's history when factional disputes really did get out of hand. I think we've put all that behind us now. Now for the most part, peace reigns. I hope I made a contribution by keeping meetings productive, making sure that all voices were heard, and trying to moderate discussions and debates so that votes could be taken and decisions made.

LLCOA is now managing its affairs in a relatively peaceful and productive manner, and that's because a lot of people made important contributions. We are now in good shape financially. Every cabin owner is fully informed about the board's proceedings. We have a great new contract for the management of our forests. We have one of the most successful bird habitat restorations in the state of New Jersey. We are making progress in negotiations to control the dam. Our social activities – everything from the picnic to the dinner dance to the movies to docktail – were fabulous. People continue to improve their cabins. The lake is in great shape. And the roads, in spite of the challenge of some severe storms and floods, are being maintained. All of this is due to an outstanding group of committee chairpersons and members, and a dedicated, hardworking board of directors. It has been a pleasure for me to work alongside them.

I have every confidence that this state of affairs will continue. Without divulging details or naming names, I have had some conversations and am aware that some very capable people are planning to run in the next election. This is the season of commencement addresses and Ken Burns, the famous documentary film maker, just delivered a great one at the Brandeis graduation. He said:

"[I]f I have learned anything over those years, it's that there's only 'us.' There is no 'them.' And whenever someone suggests to you, whomever it may be in your life, that there's a 'them,' run away. 'Othering' is the simplistic binary way to make and identify enemies, but it is also the surest way to your own self imprisonment...."

As a community we are blessed with a lot of talented people who love coming to the lake. We don't always agree, but if we can keep the discussion of our differences civil, then we are going to be fine. We need to constantly keep in mind the need to preserve our sense of community. It is never an "us versus them" situation. In the words of Ken Burns, "There is only us." Peace.

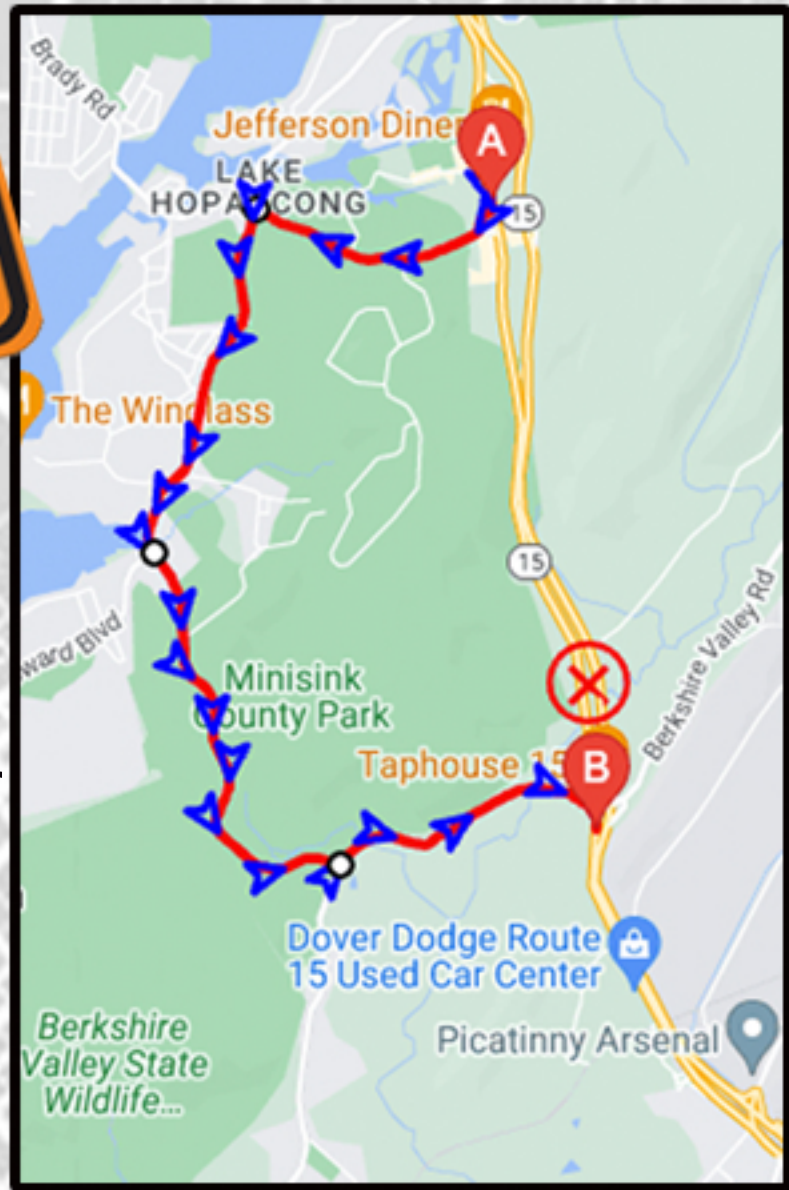
- Dick Heitler



SUMMER TRAFFIC



All motorists be advised that a section of Rt. 15 South has been temporarily closed, due to a unsafe bridge. Here's the map of the detour in case you cannot avoid the area. Certain cabins at the Lake will be asked to open their doors during rush hours to facilitate traffic.





A MESSAGE FROM THE SOCIAL DIRECTOR



Hello my fellow Lakeheads!

Can you believe its 2024?! Here we are back for our best season yet (I'm putting it into the universe) and lots of things in store for us. You can see the event calendar for details on docktails, bingo/trivia, movie night and some new activities – a kids hike and a new kind of movie making project activity.

Its my personal hope and wish that we will have big turn outs for our social events this year and that for those who enjoy privacy and peace and quiet, they find it among our many beautiful acres. There have been whispers of resurrecting the old water carnival and adding more kids fun to the mix – but to do this we need volunteers. So drop me a line if you can help with planning. I know we have regular volunteers and we thank you, and would like to see more who don't typically get involved!

We need some creative people to think of some new things to do –group puzzle day? Book club? Paddle Out day/meetup? Arts & crafts ? Coffee hour? I'm here for it!



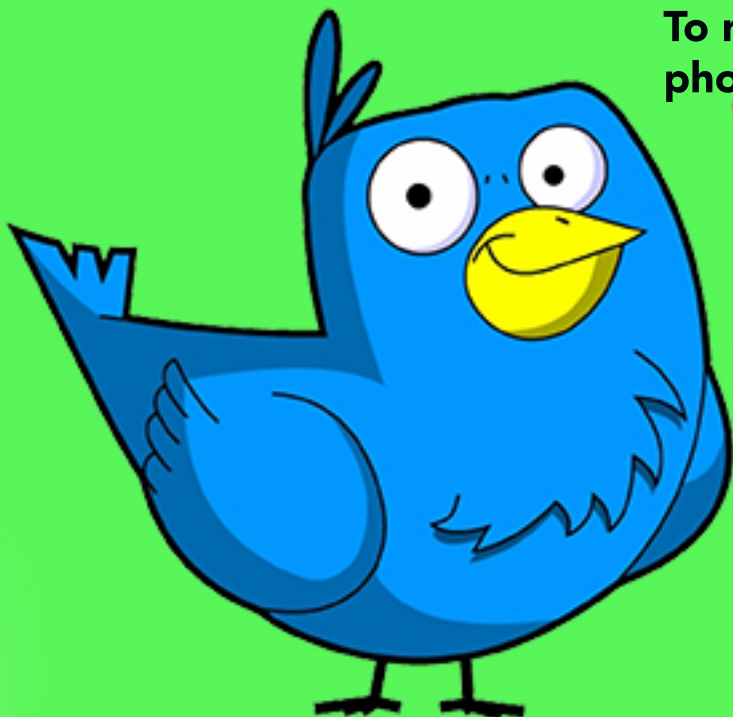
- LISA





Sharon Petzinger from the NJ DEP has sent me the data and results from our 2023 Bird Survey. The attachments are really interesting as it shows the changes in our bird populations and the vegetation growth at our three sites. The information is very clear. At all our sites we did see a small uptick in total bird species from last year and the year before. Unfortunately, Sharon will not be surveying LLCOA sites this year (2024) but hopes to come next year. She did suggest we do our own recording at the sites with the Merlin Sound ID App and we can share the results with her. (The Merlin App is really easy to use, free and I would recommend it to everyone just to know what birds you are hearing and seeing at your cabin). I will attempt to do a hike this season to take a survey with the app and will let you all know when I plan to go, if any of you would like to join me.

–Ken Rosenfeld



To read the Survey, point your phone camera to this QR code



CATCH OF THE DAY



Congrats to our Yellow Rd.
neighbor Joanne Zeppi Paris
for catching a really big one.



Time to pass the torch.

**BOARD ELECTIONS
JUNE 29**



NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!

LOOKING FOR OUR NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

POSITIONS OPEN:

BOARD PRESIDENT

VP OF MAINTENANCE

2 VP'S AT LARGE

NOMINATE NOW • VOTE ON JUNE 29

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



ENERGY

COMMITTEE REPORT

It looks like a couple of new solar power systems will be coming online this season at the Lake. That would make at least a dozen fairly robust systems that I am aware of. Along with these numbers, a pretty good knowledge base has developed as well. Which is good news for those considering an installation: there are lots of examples to draw from and an abundance of free advice available within our community. However, while such advice may be well-grounded and helpful, it is best to turn to an actual professional for any design and installation work given the complex electrical equipment and connections involved. The professional would also guide you through any necessary electrical permitting. Also, please refer to the LLCOA Member Handbook for rules and guidance on solar installations, and incorporate any requirements into your design. Finally, a reminder that LLCOA has an oversight committee: the LLCOA Energy Committee, which must sign off on any system proposal. So be sure to notify me of your plans and share your design with one of the co-chairs (Dick Leigh or Ted Heisler). I expect that the Energy Committee will be meeting in June sometime. I'll circulate a note to members soon. New members are welcome, so if anyone would like to join the Energy Committee, please be in touch with me.

**Ted Heisler,
Co-Chair, LLCOA Energy Committee
tedheisler@yahoo.com**



While many members may be well acquainted with their neighbors, lots of us would love to know more about each other! So, we continue our "800 lumens" on one of our LLCOA members.



800 LUMENS ON: PAT & GARY



How long have you been coming to the lake and how did you find it?

I have been coming here for 52 years. My best friend's grandmother owned the cabin next to mine and we came up to spend a week of summer vacation. I noticed my cabin for sale. Spoke to them and they lowered their price to \$1,000.00. I was a teenager... so I asked my mom to lend me the money. The rest is history. Gary has been coming up here for 43 years.

What are some of your best memories?

There are so many. One is when I invited all the people I worked with at a t.v. station... and combined that with a group of ballroom dance teachers from Fred Astaire Dance Studios. I worked part time as an instructor. They danced on the cabin roof...all slept over...outside and in...and the following day _Sunday - my mom came up with my sister and they made pounds of pasta for everyone. The first picnic I attended - in back on Blue Road. Doris Fisher made all the home made sauerkraut. What a great time.

How have times changed for you at the lake over the years?

People do not mingle as before. Back then...everyone got together within their own areas. Not much is the way of complaints from most because rules were few and not needed.

What was your favorite movie making experience at the lake?

My favorite movie - of the 33 years - was a remake of the Vincent Price Classic - House on Haunted Hill. We called it Night on Haunted Lake. We had to film every Saturday night...sometimes until 2-3am. Back in those days..only way to charge a battery was to have an outlet. Many times I rode down to the Yacht Club and sat there for an hour charging my camera battery. By the time I returned - almost all of the cast was drunk... and that made the money a barrel of laughs even though it was designed to be spooky. Those movies are precious memories of our lake then and now...and of the people who are no longer with us. Let's not forget how much money it saved the Association is taxes. Just too bad that most cabin owners never took a part in it...nor even came to see the finished product.



IT'S A WRAP.

**the
final
chapter**

**A compilation of 34 years of
movie-making, with lots of
laughter, chills and even tears.**

**SATURDAY, JULY 13 @ 7PM
CLUBHOUSE / STUDIO
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED**

RSVP

snowpagano@gmail.com



FORESTRY REPORT

by Dick Leigh

We treat about 640 acres of our land as a tree farm, reaping very substantial benefits in the form of reduced taxes. To maintain that status, we must do defined minimum amounts of work on the land, initially to show "devotion to agriculture." More recently, we are carrying out the program defined in our Forest Stewardship Plan, prepared by Andy Bennett and Dylon Borger of Ridge and Valley Foresters (R&V) to improve the environmental quality of our woods, as well as to harvest timber occasionally. The plan has gotten full approval from the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) which is part of the US Dept of Agriculture, and will provide significant incentive funding to help with the work. An NRCS representative, Nicole Porter, has visited our property, discussed our goals with some of us, and approved the work we will do.

But about the work: over the years, we have performed almost all of this work ourselves, but recently we have made a significant change in the way it is carried out. In 2022, Dick sent notices to the Members asking for paid volunteers for tree and vine cutting and got only two responses. Those were not enough to do the job effectively, so our forester, Andy Bennett of R&V, arranged to carry out the work. He ended up charging less than the amount that had been set aside to pay cabin owners for the same jobs.

Our work in 2024, which will take place near the end of the year, will consist of cutting a large number of invasive shrubs, primarily multi-flora rose and barberry. R&V will do this task, using a large brush cutter (a sort of super lawnmower). The work will occur uphill from Blue Road, and will happen in October or later, when fewer of us will be around. Gail has arranged the budget to include our share of the cost of this, and the NRCS will cover about half of it. For the next two or three years, the NRCS will cover almost all of our expenses, and if we want, we can arrange a timber harvest near the end of that period, although we have no obligation to do so.

Our financial and other decisions are vetted by the Board of Trustees and by the Forestry Committee (Dick Leigh, Chair, Paul French, Jeff Galloway, Feliks Kiselyuk, Ken Rosenfeld, and Dave Zavracky). If any members would like to join, you are welcome, and if any members would like to review our work plan and financial expectations, we can share a copy of that document. Contact rwleigh@earthlink.net.

Finally, the reconstruction of the dam may have an impact on our forests. We must keep in mind that finding places on our land to dispose of muck from the lake safely will be complex and may require professional help at the planning level.



LAKE COOKING

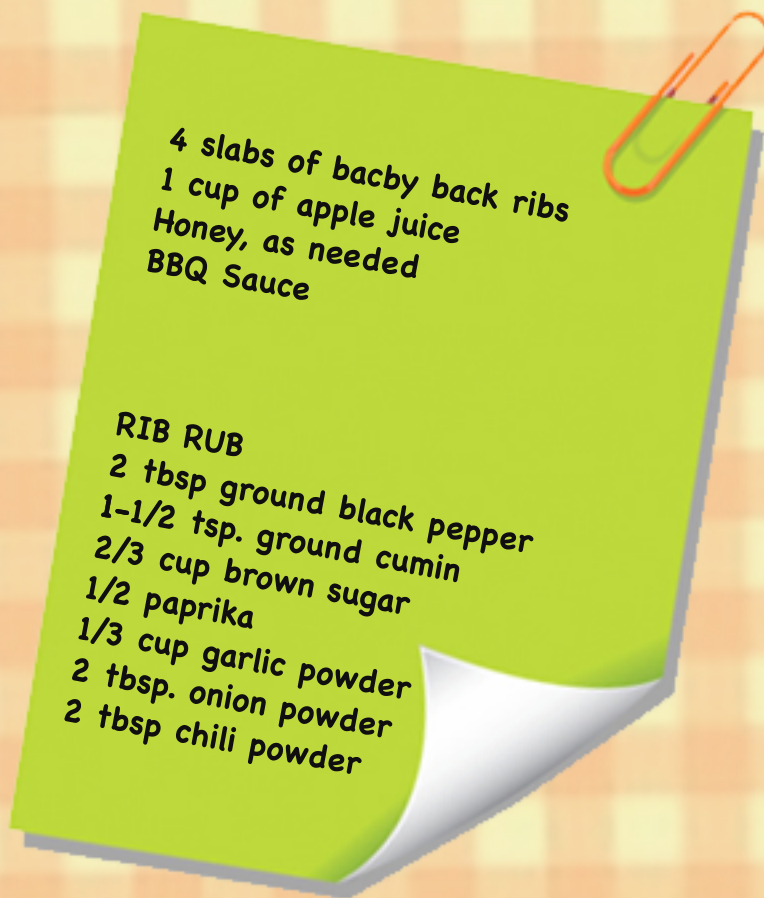
GARRISON LONGWOOD RIBS

by Gary Garrison



**If there is a reason why
there are no vegetarians at the
Garrison household,
this has to be it!**

- Mix all rub ingredients together well.
- Rub ribs down. Get grill to 275°
- Put ribs on grill bones down.
- Cook for 45 minutes.
- Remove ribs from grill.
- Wrap each slab in aluminum foil, sealing edges.
- Add 1/4 apple juice to each package.
- Liberally, coat each slab with honey and seal each slab.
- Return ribs to 275° grill or oven for one hour.
- Remove ribs from aluminum foil.
- Raise grill temperature to 350°.
- Grill ribs for 30 minutes, bone side down.
- Slather ribs with your favorite BBQ sauce and grill for additional 5 minutes to tighten up BBQ sauce.
- Remove ribs and let stand for 5 minutes, then cut ribs individually.



SUMMER GAZEBO CONCERTS

Sponsored by the Jefferson Arts Committee

**FREE
ENTRY**

**FAMILY
FRIENDLY**



**MOVES TO
JT HIGH
SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM
IN CASE OF
RAIN**

**JUNE 28 - THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY CONCERT & JAZZ BANDS**

JULY 5 - WHISKEY CROSSING

JULY 12 - VERA & THE FORCE

JULY 19 - JERSEY SOUND

JULY 26 - GROOVIN' EASY

AUGUST 2 - CARNABY STREET

AUGUST 9 - THE KOOTZ

AUGUST 16 - TEQUILA ROSE

FRIDAY NIGHTS @ 6:30 PM

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP GAZEBO

1033 WELDON ROAD, OAK RIDGE

MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMPLEX

**BRING A CHAIR OR BLANKET,
SNACKS, NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES***

REFRESHMENTS/SNACKS FOR SALE

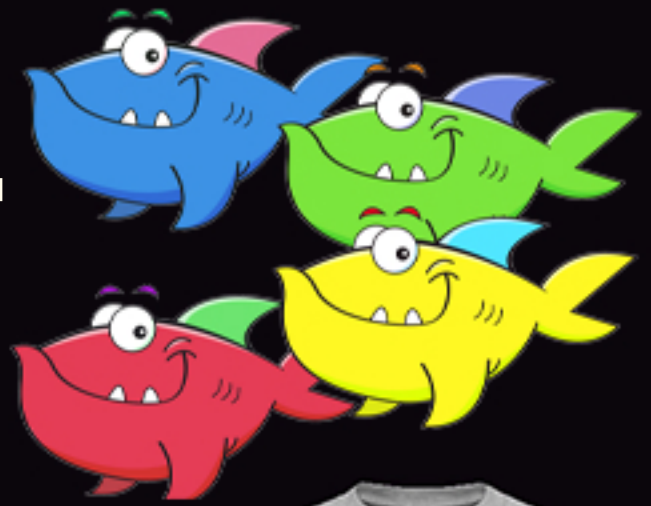
PORTA JOHN ON SITE - FREE PARKING

***Carry in/Carry Out Trash**

Info: 201-230-8879 or 973-697-3828
<https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonArtsCommittee>

**Free will donations
are appreciated**

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Order your 2024 shirt today!

Available in all sizes, kid sizes and different colors.
Hats, mugs, hoodies and baby sizes available
upon request.



ORDER, POINTING
YOUR PHONE CAMERA HERE



Independent vendor. Not affiliated to LLCOA board or regulations.

THE FIRST ANNUAL LLCOA VIDEO CONTEST

**Make a very short movie
and you could win
hundreds of dollars!**

TO ENTER:

- Make a reservation by June 30, 2024.
- You must be a member in good standing.
- At least 1 cabin member must be in the movie
- The movie must be between 1 and 5 minutes.
The length will not determine winning (that's what she said!).
- All contestants will receive the same prop to be incorporated into your story/project.
- Your event can be anything from drama to comedy or horror etc.
- Use your iPhone or camera (for details, e-mail Pat)

1st place – \$350.00

2nd place – \$250.00

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR RESERVATION TO:

PAT PAGANO – snowpagano@gmail.com

by 6/30/24

with your name, e-mail and cabin number.

**"MR, PAGANO,
I'M READY
FOR MY CLOSE-UP!"**



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**1 IN 5 DOGS GO MISSING AFTER
BEING SCARED BY FIREWORKS
NOW, IMAGINE IT'S
YOUR BABY OR
YOUR MOTHER.**

**PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE
TO YOUR NEIGHBORS**



I SWEAR,
I WILL EAT A
ASPARAGUS QUICHE
AND THEN PEE
ALL OVER YOUR
FURNITURE





LLCOA WELLS HAVE PFA-FREE WATER!

by Dick Leigh

PFAs (Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) are a very big deal. They are called "forever chemicals" because they are very stable. They are used in thousands of common commodities, from stick-free "Teflon" surfaces in cookware to "Scotchgard" waterproofing for clothes. And they are absolutely linked to cancer in people. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a good introduction, and an active map (QR below) that will allow you to see water sources that have tested positive. New Jersey is covered with them, and the state government has brought lawsuits against many manufacturers and has won some of them already.

Because of lawsuits and the release of a new EPA standard for drinking water (PFAs should be less than 10 parts per trillion, or 10 ppt), PFAs have been in the news a lot this summer. Back in 2022, Dick Leigh and Feliks Kiselyuk took samples from two pumps available to cabin owners at Cabins 161 (LLCOA) and 181 (Rowe) and sent them to the Cyclopure testing service. The good news: the water from the pump near Cabin 161 had no (zero) detectable PFAs, and the water from the pump at Cabin 181 showed a reading of 1.1 ppt. Since the limit of detectability was 1.0 ppt, this could have been contamination or an error, but even if it was valid, it is far below the federal limit of concern, 10 ppt. Our well water is safe to drink, and if your town water is contaminated, you should compare taking drinking water from our wells to getting and maintaining a filter system.

We did not test the lake water, or water from any other wells for PFAs, but these tests make it likely that our ground water is not contaminated. The lake water could be contaminated, since the map noted above shows some contamination upstream, but swimming without drinking cannot lead to meaningful exposure. And New York City folks, your water is free of PFAs, both from testing and from the absence of chemical companies in the Catskill Mountains. Questions or test results? rwleigh@earthlink.net.



AROUND THE LAKE:

**WHAT'S
GOOD?**

Have you found a great
new food place?
Seen something cool and
noteworthy nearby?
Let us know!
Here are a few things
we're loving...



Driving along Rt 15 and stopping around
farmers' markets and then the cool flea market
in Culver Lake



Lamb chops from Giuseppe's!



Knocking around thrift shops of Newton
and the new record store cafe in Denville.



READS:

"Demon Copperhead"
by Barbara Kingslover



GAMES:

Yahtzee and Point Salad



PLEASE HELP THIS MAN:

PACO UNLEASHED



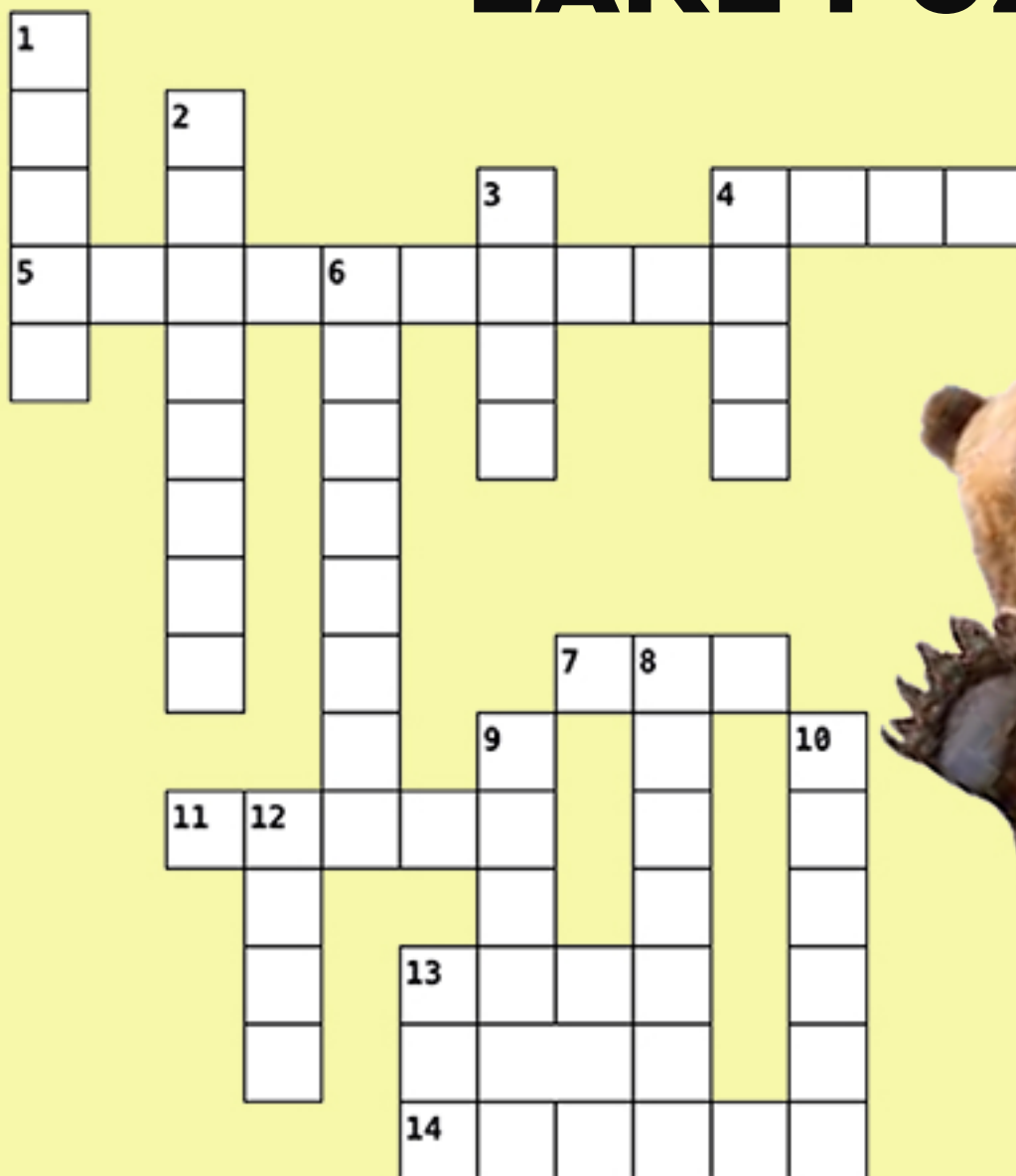
In lieu of the gazebo, the board is proposing
Longwood Lake's new Air & Space Museum



NOPE...
HE WON'T
EAT ME... MY
CHOLESTEROL
IS TOO HIGH.



LAKE PUZZLE



Across

- 4. Subject that Dick Leigh taught
- 5. Mark's last name
- 7. Longwood Lake's weatherman
- 11. Yellow Road's singer
- 13. Road where the orange VW is
- 14. Artesi

Down

- 1. Ted Heisler's wife
- 2. Family coming from Maine
- 3. Lake's current president
- 4. Owns the Jurassic Park jeep
- 6. Mike Rowe's girlfriend
- 8. Paco & Lisa's big dog
- 9. Board Treasurer
- 10. Rowe's patriarch
- 12. Margie's last name
- 13. Devil eggs master



**ABNER!! THEY
DID IT AGAIN!**

**WE MUST
FORBID
THIS
NONSENSE**



OFF-GRID NUGGET

Longwood Lake Newsletter

Created in 2022 to inform, share and have fun.

Editor Lisa Correa
Design and everything else Paco Correa

This newsletter is published three times a year and it is neither officially sanctioned or financially supported by LLCOA.

If you have any stories or pictures to share,
contact us at paco@pacovision.tv
or leave a message on the LLCOA Facebook page.

Member, FDIC
Batteries not included.

The Off-Grid Nugget is not for everyone.
Some side effects might include dizziness, nausea, diarrhea,
growing of extra toes and your head might combust spontaneously.

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