

celebrating family

# Preserve those summer memories



LISA LUCKOW-HEALY

Summer is a wonderful season to produce memories that last a lifetime. Many of us have fond recollections of school breaks spent in the glorious sunshine as lemonade stand entrepreneurs, tree house climbers, varsity football team hopefuls, cheerleading camp superstars and summer camp leaders.

Summer break is prime time for family vacations. The excitement in a young child's eyes when the first cool Lake Michigan wave touches his toes is priceless. The lack of enthusiasm a teenager projects about a family vacation is long forgotten in her adult years when she fondly recalls the moment she learned to water ski with the resort ski team.

Summer is synonymous with memories. If you haven't already snapped

photographs or videotaped these special times together, there's no better time like the present.

After a memorable trip or special occasion, many of us have probably made a scrapbook or memory book. Perhaps you videotaped the event as a keepsake. That's the idea behind the summer memory magazine, a compilation of special moments spent with family, friends and new acquaintances.

To produce the printed version, you will need a bound scrapbook that can be purchased at some specialty card shops, large department stores or local art supply stores. To save space for valuable photographs and clippings, you and your family may wish to combine both your title page and table of contents on the first inside page opposite the inside cover. Give your memory magazine a title such as, "The (family name) Memory Magazine, 1997," or something that uniquely pertains to your contents.

Review the desired contents of your magazine. Categorize the photographs

by trips, weekly activities or even special occasions such as birthdays, weddings, concerts or neighborhood block parties. Pair photographs with cherished mementos such as ticket stubs from your child's first baseball game, a score card from a round of golf at a renowned resort course or the invitation from a relative's wedding.

Set aside your required number of pages for each category you have chosen. Once your page numbers are determined, it's time to complete your title page/table of contents. If you have access to a personal computer, you may prefer to design this page with your own graphics, print out the page and glue it onto the first scrapbook page.

To secure your photographs to each page, acid-free photo corners add a finished look without permanently binding your photographs to the page. Take a few moments to write a short story for each two-page spread. Like a journal entry, it is something you can read and enjoy years from now.

If you prefer video over print, the approaching Labor Day weekend is typically marked with one or more family gatherings, pool parties, concert events or trips to a college campus to help move a friend. Grab your video camera, a new videocassette and a title card you create.

To begin your video magazine, videotape your title card for five or ten seconds prior to taping your event. For example, a title card might read, "Westwood Neighborhood Back-to-School Parade, produced by All the Parents," or "Jake's Move to U of M, produced by (friend's name)."

Whether you choose to produce a print magazine or video magazine, you've taken the time to capture summer bonds between family and friends that make lasting impressions.

Lisa Luckow-Healy is a marketing and public relations consultant and the mother of two from West Bloomfield. To leave her a message from a touch-tone phone, call (313)953-2047, then her mailbox number, 1903.

## Is Your House Trying To Tell You Something?



Before

I'm dark and cramped My unused deck is insect ridden and cold.



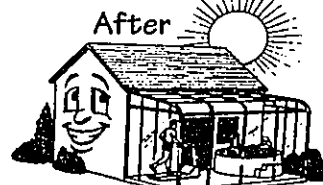
After

I give my family sunlight and comfort all year long. My recreation room is very popular.



Before

It's hard to stay motivated in my dark, dingy basement.



After

My sunroom offers year around comfort and a special place to exercise and relax.

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