PEACE, GARBAGE, **SNOW REMOVAL AND** SOME MORE LAKE HUMOR PAGE 2

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PICKLEBALL NET INSTALLED AT SUNSET BEACH SPORTS COURT

BY SUSAN THOMPSON Lake Panorama Times

A portable pickleball net now is ready for players at the new Sunset Beach sports court. The fully assembled net is on four wheels. It can be stored along the fence when not in use, and rolled into place as needed. A brake on each of the four wheels unlocks and locks, so the net can either be moved or secured in place.

The court was completed last November. The Friends of Lake Panorama board of directors had discussed a basketball half-court at Sunset Beach for several years. The idea of expanding the basketball court to include pickleball was raised at a Friends informational meeting last summer.

Adding an extra 10 feet to the original plan made it possible to accommodate both basketball and pickleball. The 40foot by 60-foot concrete pad is covered in sports court tile with painted lines for both basketball and pickleball. Black paint shows the basketball free throw line, lane and three-point arc. The basketball lane is green tile. The regulationsized pickleball court also is green tile, painted with white lines. The rest of the court is covered in blue tile.

A total of \$17,500 from the Friends of Lake Panorama's 2022 Beach Ball was used for this project. Mark and Karen Einck donated \$25,000 for the court, with another \$5,500 received from other donors. A sign recognizing donors will be added to the fence this spring.





Max is the grandson of Merlin and Jody Muench, who live at Lake Panorama.

2023 LPA ANNUAL MEETING IS MAY 13

On the ballot this year are four candidates running for two seats on the LPA board of directors.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON Lake Panorama Times

The 55th annual meeting of the Lake Panorama Association will be Saturday, May 13 beginning at 10 a.m. at the Lake Panorama National Resort event center. Each year, the LPA annual meeting provides a formal statement of the association's financial position plus reports on activities during the past year and plans for the coming year.

Reports will be given by Rich Schumacher, LPA board president; Dennis Flanery, LPA board treasurer; and John Rutledge, LPA general manager and LPN, LLC director of operations.

An official announcement of the meeting will be sent to all LPA members in mid-April. Included in this mailing will be a ballot plus a numbered envelope in which to return the ballot. Ballots must be returned in the numbered envelopes to ensure ballot authenticity. If an envelope is lost, contact the LPA office for a replacement.

On the ballot this year are four candidates running for two seats on the LPA board of directors. Mary Jane Carothers is completing her second three-year term on the board and is ineligible to run this year. David Finneseth has completed his first

term and is running for re-election. The other three candidates on the ballot are Rick Langel, Tim Schafer and Sue Thompson.

Members are asked to deliver or mail their completed ballot in the numbered envelope to the LPA office before Friday, May 12. This allows the majority of the ballots to be counted in advance of the annual meeting. Ballots also can be brought to the annual meeting.

LPA bylaws require each board candidate to provide a 100-word statement. This year's four candidate statements are printed here in alphabetical order. In mid-April, additional information provided by each candidate will be distributed via email to those who are signed up to receive official LPA emails.

BOARD, PAGE 6

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ON THE LAKE

PEACE, GARBAGE, SNOW REMOVAL AND SOME MORE LAKE HUMOR

BY SHANE GOODMAN

Editor and Publisher

I am preaching to the choir with this comment, but there is truly something about water that brings peace. Studies show that people who live near water report feeling less stress and better health than those who don't, but what is it about water — and specifically Lake Panorama — that makes us feel this way?

Mathew White, an environmental psychologist at the University of Exeter, conducted extensive research on the link between water and our mental state. He and marine biologist Wallace J. Nichols, who explores the topic in his book "Blue Mind," created theories about why water possesses such calming qualities. Their thoughts were shared in a 2016 article in the Huffington Post.

Nichols writes in his book, "It's all about catching a break from the screen-fueled, fast-paced rhythm of our modern lives." Off the screens. On the water. He might be onto something.

They also claim water, weather and sound interact in a way that produces an overwhelming sense of mental tranquility that even slows down brainwaves. I am all in with giving the brain a rest.

These experts say water can deprive us of our senses — but in a good way. They cite studies showing how floating in skin-temperature water makes participants lose track of where the water ends and their bodies begin. Now that truly sounds wonderful. Not in April water, but soon.

Well, I am not an environmental psychologist or a water expert of any sort, but I do know peace and tranquility when I see them, and they are quite abundant at Lake Panorama.

Littering

I have written about my concerns about littering in my Daily Umbrella (www.thedaily-umbrella.com) column along with my personal commitment to pick up 10 pieces of garbage each time I go out for a walk. Surprisingly, in most places across Iowa, that number is not difficult to reach. I am disturbed by the number of people who simply throw their trash anywhere they see fit. This becomes especially visible in the springtime when the snow melts and litter rears its ugly head.

Meanwhile, here at Lake Panorama, I don't see the littering problem near as much. It might be because there are fewer people here, which

results in less trash. But I think it's more than that. The folks I know here seem to appreciate nature's beauty more than most others. It is a respect for water and trees and wildlife. Styrofoam cups, plastic wrappers and empty bottles don't add to the scenery.



Shane Goodman

We can always do better, but I am proud of the lake residents who do their best to put garbage in its proper place.

A thanks to the LPA roads crew

Now that it is April, we hopefully have the snow behind us and can look forward to the showers and flowers. But while the white stuff is still fresh in our minds, I want to extend a thank you to the folks on the LPA staff who do the snow removal on our roads. I assume many of you who spend winters here appreciate their work as well. Once again, I am impressed with how quickly and efficiently they plow the snow to make our roads safe and manageable. Thank you.

And some more lake humor

By now, you are probably wondering how many more lake jokes I could possibly share in this column. Well, at least for this month, I have a few more.

My friend Ron told me he is quite frustrated by all the Canada geese on the lake. Mostly, he is fed up with the bills. Argh. ...

A husband and wife on Lake Panorama were discussing car problems. The wife said, "Honey, the car won't start. I think there is water in the carburetor." The husband replied, "You don't even know what a carburetor is. Alright, where's the car?" The wife said, "It's in the lake." ...

And finally, this may not be a lake joke, but

it does deal with water. What are the two reasons you should refrain from drinking toilet water? The answers, of course, are number one and number two.

Have a great April, and thanks for reading. \blacksquare

Shane Goodman

Editor and Publisher shane@dmcityview.com 515-953-4822, ext. 305



LOCAL FILM REVIEWS

12 REVIEWS INCLUDING ONE ON THE YEAR'S FIRST GREAT MOVIE

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY

Lake Panorama Times

Here's how I ended last month's column... "Enjoy the crazy March weather which could bring anything from 60- and 70-degree days to a foot of snow. See you at the lake!"

We got both. Maybe I need to go into the weather business instead of the movie business. Move over, Ed Wilson.

I'm happy to tell you that the movies are getting better almost every week, and I have now seen the year's first great movie.

"Operation Fortune" (now on Prime Video)



Guy Ritchie writes/directs a little seen film about a group of soldiers on an undercover mission. I had no idea going in what this was, and I walked out completely amused by what I just saw. Jason Statham does his usual good work as one of these operatives, but the movie really comes alive with the introduction of a character played by Hugh Grant. If you are an action fan, this is a must-see. **Grade: B**+

"Champions" (in theaters)



Woody Harrelson is perfectly cast as an NBA minor league coach who is demoted to coach a team of special education kids in Des Moines, Iowa! Of course, nothing was shot in Des Moines, nor will you see anything more than a glance of a skyline in the film. That being said, the movie is absolutely hilarious and charming at the same time. Harrelson is

perfectly cast, and these kids are really special and super funny. This movie didn't get its chance to grab the large audience that it was due. **Grade: B+**

"65" (in theaters)



Adam Driver and a team of explorers are brought down by an asteroid storm. Everyone but Driver and a young woman have died. Without giving anything away, they are on Earth 65 million years ago, and let me tell you, it is a nasty place to be. This is truly great sci-fi and a really good action/adventure film written and directed by two guys from Des Moines. **Grade: A-**

"Shazam 2: The Fury of the Gods" (in theaters)



I'm certain that we didn't need a sequel to the first film, but this one grew on me. It's a fun and funny story about the ancient gods returning to take the planet back. One for the whole family. **Grade: B+**

"The Boston Strangler" (on Hulu)



Keira Knightly is excellent as a newspaper investigative reporter in Boston

during the early 1960s covering the infamous attacks by who was eventually called The Boston Strangler. The movie does a great job showing the journalistic hard work that went into solving (or not) this horrific string of crimes. **Grade: A-**

"John Wick: Chapter 4" (in theaters)



Keanu Reeves is back as the man on the run from a group of evil bad asses looking to kill him. I enjoyed the first film, but the sequels went downhill from there. This is an action-filled, nearly-three-hour bloodbath. The sequences are brilliantly choreographed, but the plot is mindnumbing and even the action, toward the end, is too over the top. The ending is a relief, but I was less than thrilled with JW 4. **Grade: D**

"A Good Person" (in theaters and probably streaming soon)



Writer/director Zach Braff gives us a look at a young woman whose life is thrown into chaos after a fatal car accident. Florence Pugh plays the young woman who spirals into substance abuse and depression. Morgan Freeman (always good) plays a man who tries to help. Difficult to watch at times but still very well done, and the acting is top-notch. **Grade: B-**

"The Lost King" (in theaters and probably streaming soon)
This might be the find of the month

This might be the find of the month. Sally Hawkins plays a woman in a

dead-end relationship who, after seeing Shakespeare's "Richard III," is inspired to learn more about him. She is amazed at how little is known about the former King of England, and she takes it upon herself to help right this wrong. Based on a true story, this is a wonderful film. **Grade: B**+

"Spinning Gold" (in theaters, if you hurry)



Any movie that opens with the song "Oh Happy Day" immediately has my attention. This is the story of Casablanca Records and the people behind it. They introduced us to Gladys Knight, The Isley Brothers, Donna Summer and KISS. A great story, but very poorly told and even more poorly acted. **Grade: C+**

"Dungeons and Dragons" (in theaters)



My only experience with the game Dungeons and Dragons was walking through the Iowa Union on my way to classes and seeing all these students playing the game. I was excited to see Chris Pine heading the cast. I've always enjoyed him, but the movie is a mess of special

effects and a horrible story. Don't waste your time. **Grade: D**

"Air" (in theaters)



I've now seen the year's first great movie. Anytime Ben Affleck and Matt Damon team up, it is an event. "Air" tells the story of Michael Jordan and NIKE and the magic they made with a little tennis shoe called Air Jordan. Viola Davis, as Jordan's mom, steals the show. **Grade: Very solid** A

"Nefarious" (in theaters)



If you remember Steve Deace from The Jock, KXTK, KXnO and WHO Radio fame, there's a new movie coming out soon called "Nefarious" that was based on a book he wrote. Steve shared a copy with me last month, and even sitting at home, I found it to be super creepy — in a good way. It's an intense look at what happens when you tangle with pure evil. **Grade: B+**

See you at the movies. ■

Michael C. Woody has been reviewing movies on radio and television since 1986 and can be heard talking movies every



Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. on KXn0 106.3 with Keith Murphy and Andy Fales. You can also follow him on Twitter @MrMovieDSM. He and his wife, Susan, are residents of Lake Panorama.

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THE LINKS LOUNGE NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Hours of operation during the month of April are 3-10 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

The Links Lounge at Lake Panorama National Resort opened to the public Friday, March 31. Customers that day reached 200, buoyed by the chance to watch the Iowa Hawkeye women play in the NCAA Final Four on multiple televisions. The Links also was open April 1, beginning at 11 a.m.

Nick and Lynn Kuhn are the new tenants for The Links Lounge and all events scheduled at the resort. The couple owns The Beerhouse in Urbandale and The Hall DSM in Valley Junction, and lease the Sun Valley Lake Clubhouse Bar & Grille.

Hours of operation for The Links during the month of April are 3-10 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday. The kitchen closes at 9 p.m. Hours may expand in May to include lunch on more days than just Saturday, with a final decision made as the new month gets closer and customer demand can be evaluated.

"Every business has come with learning opportunities we can apply to the next business," Nick Kuhn says. "We've really perfected our business model. We've learned how to get food to customers quicker, keep the beer colder, and get their tickets to them faster."

Rather than a server bringing menus to tables, there are QR codes with table numbers on display on each table. Customers scan the code with their phone to review food and drink options and place orders. A name, phone number, email address, and credit card information must be provided to finalize the order. The menu is subject to change and is available online during business bours.

Customers can choose to close out their tab when they place their first order or keep it open in case they want to order additional items. Customers will want to close it before leaving. Any tab left open overnight is charged a 25% gratuity.

"If you look at our three other busi-

LINKS, PAGE 5



Most of the time, The Links Lounge seating will be contained in the current bar area, with the west dining room reserved for special events. Yet, on opening night, The Links staff had a group of friends arrive who wanted to sit together, and they were accommodated in the west dining room. Shown standing are Deb Douglass, who is the lead at Spikes and was helping out in the lounge this night, and Lynn Kuhn, who, with her husband, Nick, is renting the LPN kitchen operation. Seated around the tables, left to right, Bill Winkleblack, Ron Bristle, Jim Tibbles, Rick Langel, Bob Nevitt, Lorrie Motsick, Julie Tibbles, Mare Langel, Sherri Miller, Karla Bristle and Jeanette Winkleblack.



Bar seating is popular at the recently reopened Links Lounge at the Lake Panorama National Resort. Orders can be placed by scanning a QR code and choosing food and drink options online, or order directly from the bartender.



INVESTING IN YOU

APRIL IS FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

April marks the start of Financial Literacy Month, a nationally recognized movement to promote and support financial understanding in children and teens. For many, it's a fantastic opportunity to teach and connect with their children or grandchildren, and these kids are ready to learn! Recent data shows that nearly 74% of teens desire to be financially literate, and 86% want to learn how to invest.

Teens tune in

Every parent has questioned if their child is actually paying attention. But rest assured, our children and grandchildren are listening: 75% of teens in America identify their family as their most trusted source of financial education. In other words, our youngest savers and investors are looking to us for their financial education.

How to start

It all begins with a frank conversation regarding finances. By demonstrating your openness to discussing what many consider a "taboo" topic, you're also modeling how to approach finances for your young learner. In time, they'll learn to view financial issues and goals clearly with as little unnecessary stress as possible.

A bright future

Financial literacy month has been shown to have a lasting, positive impact on our future investors. Children who are taught personal finance from a young age are more likely to secure lower-cost loans and grants when paying for college and less likely to rely on private loans or high-interest credit cards.

If you decide to put your "teacher" hat on this month, let us know! We're always happy to help educate and support our future generations.



Kristen Crouthamel, AIF®, Financial Advisor

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LINKS

FROM PAGE 4

 $nesses, you'll\,see\,technology\,is\,the\,common$ thread," Kuhn says. "Using technology makes it possible for us to reduce costs, so we can keep our products priced fairly."

Lynn Kuhn says The Links customers are providing positive feedback on the ordering system.

'Many restaurants now are using this type of system," she says. "The COVID pandemic permanently changed the food and beverage industry. As restaurants had to pivot from in-house dining to takeout, many server positions were eliminated. Once bars and restaurants reopened, many of those who had worked as servers were no longer available."

If customers prefer, they can order both food and drink directly from the bartender. If they want to pay with cash rather than a card, they can see the bartender for that, too. Food and drinks are delivered by bartenders, kitchen staff and others working in

A printed version of The Links menu is posted in the hallway near the entrance to the lounge, with some paper copies available in the lounge. Water, ice and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages are available at a self-serve station. A bottomless glass of soda or lemonade costs \$4. Napkins, condiments and plastic plates and silverware can be picked up at a self-serve table.

The Links Lounge offers a full bar, including signature cocktails, well drinks, wine by the glass or bottle, and beer on tap and in cans. The menu covers several categories. For instance, shareables and sides include such things as chicken wings, truffle fries, sundried tomato dip, Cajun tots, onion rings, a giant soft pretzel, fried Brussels sprouts and a side salad.

In the "handhelds" category, customers will find chicken tenders, fish and shrimp tacos, an Iowa tenderloin, shrimp basket, a couple of chicken sandwiches and a fried shrimp Po' Boy sandwich. Another category features one-third pound burgers with a wide selection of topping options.

In the "soup, salads, wraps" category, customers will find beer cheese soup, three hearty salads, and buffalo chicken or vegetarian wraps. There's also a kids' category, and a wide variety of extra sauces available.

Lynn Kuhn is coordinating all events scheduled in the LPN banquet room and west dining room. Those who already have events on the LPN calendar for 2023, or would like to schedule an event, can contact her at lkuhn@ lakepanorama.org.

Spikes and the beverage carts are included in the lease agreement. Deb Douglass, who has managed Spikes in the past, will again



A soft opening with invited guests was held the night before The Links opened for the 2023 season. Here Lynn Kuhn delivers food from the kitchen to MJ Brown and MJ Carothers.



An invitation-only soft opening for The Links Lounge was held March 30. About 50 people attended, giving staff the opportunity to work out any kinks. Shown here are Brenda and Chris Duree. Chris was recently appointed to serve on the LPN Board of Managers.



Attending The Links Lounge soft opening March 30 were Diane and Dennis Flanery and Shane and Jolene Goodman.



and John Rutledge, and Emily and Billy Donovan.

lead the snack shop and beverage cart operation for 2023. Deb McCurdy, who has worked in the LPN food and beverage operation for many years, has been hired to help in the lounge and with special events.

The Kuhns expect to have the kitchen fully staffed soon. Bryan Manning is the head chef for the Kuhns' restaurants and is leading the LPN kitchen staff. Ryan Smith, who owned and operated the Lake Panorama Pizzeria, has been hired as the daytime prep chef. Jen Symonds, who has extensive experience in the food and beverage industry and owns a restaurant in West Des Moines, has been hired as the catering chef.

"While we've filled many positions, we are always looking for good people," says Lynn

Kuhn. "Applications can be found at the LPN front desk. Completed applications can be dropped off at the bar during open hours or at the front desk when The Links is closed."

All revenue from food sales at the couple's food operations, including The Links Lounge and events held at Lake Panorama National, passes through to the Justice League of Food (JLF), a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded by Nick Kuhn in 2017. After spending a few years feeding the hungry and homeless in Des Moines with local food trucks, Kuhn realized his efforts were not having the kind of impact he wanted.

The JLF program offers a paid 18-month culinary job training program for at-risk individuals, plus learn-to-cook workshops. These take place in the JLF kitchen, which

Dr. Grambart

Dr. Miller

Dr. Collins

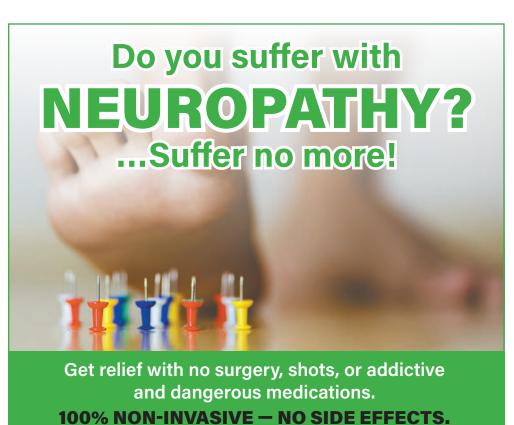
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is adjacent to The Hall DSM. The JLF goal is to reduce homelessness in central Iowa through skills training and job placement in the food and beverage industry.

The Kuhns have created a new Facebook page. Search for The Links Lounge + Events, and "like" the page to receive news feed updates. Hours of operation are listed, and announcements of specials and any closings due to private events will appear there.

'We're excited to get to know and serve Lake Panorama National golf members," Nick Kuhn says. "We also need their help to get the word out The Links Lounge is open to everyone. We're going to provide a great bar with great food, and we are eager to build a great customer base." ■

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TURKEYS, SOUTH SHORE, **EROSION CONTROL AND MORE**

BY SUSAN THOMPSON Lake Panorama Times

Lane Rumelhart is project manager for the Lake Panorama Association. His duties include managing the LPA building codes, projects financed by the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ), LPA communications, hunting programs, campgrounds and beaches, and "other duties as assigned." In this month's Q&A, Rumelhart talks about turkey hunting, erosion control issues, variance requests and more.

Q. We know members and their guests can hunt deer at Lake Panorama. What about wild turkey?

A. The Lake Panorama Association does allow turkey hunting for members and member dependents only. No guests are allowed. Unlike the deer hunting program, LPA does not have a registration signup for turkeys. Members are allowed to hunt turkeys in the same hunting zones designated for deer. Some zones are bow only, so members must check the most current and updated map by signing in to the LPA website at lakepanorama.org. From there, toggle the view to see the differences between deer hunting and turkey hunting zones. LPA does not allow any other kind of hunting on LPA property. Members interested in other types of hunting may check out the Smith Wetland or Helens Cove Wetland. These areas are owned by the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ) and have their own rules and guidelines. Q. In some communities, homeowners are allowed to have chickens so they can have their own eggs, and goats to keep vegetation under control. Is this possible at Lake Panora-

A. Yes, the price of eggs has increased, but no, you can't have chickens on your lot. Chickens are considered a form of livestock, as are goats. According to the LPA covenants, no livestock shall be allowed on LPA property. The official covenants section reads, "No animals or fowl shall be kept or maintained on said lots except customary household pets in reasonable numbers." So, the only types of animals allowed on LPA property are customary, household pets such as cats and dogs.

Q. Give us an update on the rip rap project that began late last fall on Lake Panorama's south

The south shore project is nearing completion. JNC Construction has been fantastic to work with and is scheduled to finish up the project in April. Right now, they have completely rip rapped approximately threefourths of the entire shore. One part of this project included JNC salvaging the existing field stone and re-laying it on top of a dolomite (white limestone) base. It has been estimated that JNC will run a little short on the necessary quantity of field stone to complete the project. The RIZ Board approved a change order to adjust the final quantity of fieldstone and add additional

dolomite to keep the project moving, and make sure the entire shoreline is armored ahead of this upcoming boating season. JNC will line the last few hundred feet with just dolomite, past the no wake buoys, and in the area where little-to-no wave action occurs. Beyond rip rapping, JNC still needs to install several drainage tubes to the lake. The company also is working with Fin and Feather to add rock piles strategically located to create better fish habitat along the south shore. The fish habitat work is a separate project, funded 100% by Fin and Feather. These rock piles will be 20 to 30 feet from the shoreline, placed well below the water level so as to not create any sort of hazard to boat traffic or water sports enthusiasts.

Q. I've read the LPA has adopted new erosion control requirements for property owners. Share the details on this.

A. Late last fall, the LPA Building Codes committee recommended, and the LPA board approved, new language in the LPA building codes to require erosion control on all projects that include any excavation or soil disturbance. This will apply to both land-disturbing permits and building permits. Past language only required erosion control on waterfront properties. As more homes are built on B and C lots, more ground is being disturbed. Many, if not all, of these areas still drain to the lake, and LPA has had a substantial increase in plugged culverts and drainages from projects on offshore properties. This new language also helps LPA management permit projects, as permits won't get approved until proper erosion control is in place. Erosion control also can serve as a good boundary between property owners to help ensure loose material does not get strewn across lines. The LPA building codes specify what types of erosion control are required. If members have questions about permitting, erosion requirements, or anything else related to building or landscaping, they should contact the LPA office at 641-755-2301 or lpa@ lakepanorama.org.

Q. Tell us more about the role of the LPA Building Codes committee, including how member requests for building variances are handled.

A. The LPA Building Codes committee does a lot of great work for Lake Panorama. It is made up of nine volunteers who have nothing but the best interest in mind for the lake community. The purpose of this committee is to periodically review the LPA building codes and discuss possible updates. The committee also reviews all variance requests from members. The committee meets monthly, unless there are no variance requests or other business. Members seeking a variance for a building permit should consider several factors before applying. I'd first recommend calling the LPA office to see if similar requests have been made to the committee, and what past building codes



Lane Rumelhart

committee meeting minutes say. More often than not, the request has been made before. Another thing to consider is why you are requesting a variance. If your reason is simply "because I want it," that probably is not good enough. Members with unusual or unprecedented situations where a variance may be needed to make practical sense to accommodate their needs are encouraged to request a variance. The weekly Panorama Prompt newsletter includes the monthly deadline for variance requests. Decisions made by the committee then are passed on to the LPA Board of Directors, which has final say on variance requests and proposed changes to the building codes. Members who do want to request a variance must fill out the variance form and pay the associated fee. The form can be found on the LPA website, emailed on request, or picked up at the LPA

BOARD FROM PAGE 1

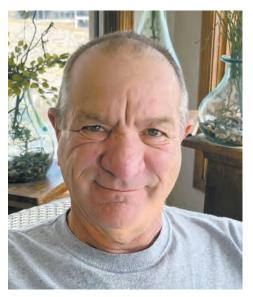
David Finneseth

6256 Panorama Drive



"I've been a member at Lake Panorama since 2011, a full-time resident since 2015, and an LPA board member since 2020. I currently serve as LPA board secretary. I am proud to have supported critical LPA infrastructure improvements while also being an advocate for sound fiscal management. I own Farm Bureau Financial Services in Guthrie Center and Perry and am involved with various boards and committees, including Rotary. I serve as president for the Agents Association covering eight states. I appreciate your support for re-election and look forward to the opportunity to serve the LPA membership for three more years."

Rick Langel 5167 Panorama Drive



"As a business owner, parent, grandparent and neighbor, I've been actively involved in every community I've lived in, serving as a township trustee in Plymouth County, school board member in LeMars, Iowa, and a member of the Hideaway Acres Association (Lewis and Clark Lake, Nebraska), among others. In addition to experience working with federal, state and local agencies, I bring construction, zoning and permitting experience to the LPA, having built and remodeled several homes. My wife, Marian, and I found our "forever" home at Lake Panorama three years ago. I look forward to serving and preserving this wonderful community."

Tim Schafer 5214 Bean Bend



"I'm Tim Schafer. My wife and I are grandparents and have spent most of our lives on our seventh-generation Guthrie County family farm. We have built several successful businesses over the past three decades, but our greatest achievement has been our four children. I enjoy real estate, manufacturing and specialized landscaping services. My wife manages our wedding venues and rental properties. We love Lake Panorama. My dad and I each worked there after high school. We live on the lake, and it's my opinion it's the flagship recreational lake in Iowa. I would like to serve on our board."

Sue Thompson 4683 Panorama Drive



"Our family has owned property and enjoyed living on Lake Panorama since 2004. Prior to retirement in 2021, my career spanned 45-plus years in healthcare including Unity-Point Health-CEO/Fort Dodge Region and UnityPoint Health System-Interim CEO. Past board experiences include local community and federal appointments. My husband, Dave, served as Controller to Lake Panorama National until his retirement in 2020. Dave and I, with our children, Nathan and Katelyn, cherish the memories of family time at Lake Panorama. I would appreciate your vote as we work to ensure the experience of life at Lake Panorama is sustained for generations to come."

PANORA CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT SET FOR MAY 7

The annual Panora Chamber of Commerce golf tournament will be on Sunday, May 7 at Lake Panorama National. Check-in is at noon with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Cost of the event is \$60 per player, which includes golf, cart, range balls, prizes and drink tickets. Payment can be made the day of the event or mailed to: Panora Chamber of Commerce,

P.O. Box 73, Panora, IA 50216.

Chamber officials ask that you make a note on your check that it's for the golf tournament. They also ask that you email the chamber at panorachamber@gmail.com if you plan on attending the event so they can plan accordingly. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. ■

ONE-WOMAN MUSICAL ON APRIL 19

Paradise Playhouse presents an original one-woman musical, "Joan Crawford Bette Davis," written by and

starring Jillann Gabrielle. The storyline involves Joan Crawford and Bette Davis, iconic superstars of the silver screen from the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s and beyond, who find themselves in purgatory... in the same body. The actresses defend their lives to the power that be.

The musical will be held on Tuesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Panora Public Library/Panora Community Center.

Reserve your spot at the Panora Library by calling 641-755-2529. ■



Shane Goodman

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Annual Banquet & Fundraiser SATURDAY, MAY 13

THE LINKS Lounge + Events at Lake Panorama

5:00 p.m. Social Hour • 6:00 p.m. Dinner/Auction Live Auction • Silent Auction • Banquet Games

Fin and Feather volunteers improve Lake Panorama by stocking fish and installing fish habitat. Come join us for the fun!

Tickets are available on the night of the event.

Walk-in guests are welcome!

\$35.00 per Dinner Ticket Questions? Call 755-2301



Includes 2 banquet tickets (\$70),
Big Skipper raffle (\$15) and name in program for family membership (\$40)

Become a member of the Big Skipper Club by sending your check for \$125.00 to Fin & Feather, Doug Hemphill, Farmers State Bank, P.O. Box 110, Yale, Iowa 50277

All dinner and raffle tickets will be waiting for you at the registration table on banquet night.

We look forward to seeing you there!

CATES HONORED FOR **ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS** PRESIDENT OF PANORA AND LAKE PANORAMA **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

BY SHANE GOODMAN

Lake Panorama Times

Mark Cates, left, was presented a plaque by Jeff Bump on behalf of Panora and Lake Panorama Economic Development on April 5, recognizing his efforts as president of the organization in 2022. Cates was recognized for his leadership that furthered the organization's mission to encourage and foster sustainable economic development activities through job creation, job retention, increased tax base and an improved quality of life for the citizens in the Panora and Lake Panorama area.







LAKE PANORAMA **AUTHOR HAS EIGHTH BOOK PUBLISHED**

"Grit, Not Glamour: Female Farmers, Ranchers, Ropers, and Herders of the American West" is nonfiction and targeted to an adult audience.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON Lake Panorama Times

Cheryl Mullenbach and her husband, Dick Wohlgamuth, have lived on Lake Panorama's Jones Cove for more than 20 years. A long-time author, Mullenbach's eighth book was released in March.

"Grit, Not Glamour: Female Farmers, Ranchers, Ropers, and Herders of the American West" is nonfiction and targeted to an adult audience. The paperback book, which also is available as a Kindle eBook, is

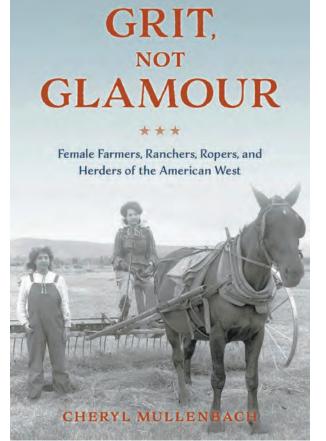
Readers of "Grit, Not Glamour" will meet a community of spunky, brazen, plucky (and in a couple of cases dishonest), hardworking gals who donned trousers, tucked long hair under a straw hat, nurtured plants and baby livestock, studied the markets, fretted over the weather, disseminated vital information, scraped animal dung from their boots, enjoyed a few hours of deep sleep afforded by hours in the fresh country air, only to rise early the next day and start all over again.

"In recognizing this collection of individuals, we celebrate the memory of women who devoted their lives to farm and ranch-related pursuits," Mullenbach says. "Some embraced their roles; others did not. Most would agree their contributions were frequently minimized or overlooked."

All of Mullenbach's books are nonfiction and explore historical topics. Her first five were for young people, with her next three

"My experiences as a social studies educator, public television content developer, and social studies consultant gave me a solid background in education foundations," Mullenbach says. "A love of history evolved throughout my childhood and adulthood, and today I search for stories about people and events from the past to include in my books — focusing on previously overlooked stories."

Her work has been recognized by the International Literacy Association. The National Council for Social Studies has included her



books in its "Notable Trade Books for Young People." Her book "Double Victory" was listed by the American Library Association in its "Amelia Bloomer Top Ten List." Her talk at the FDR Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York, was featured on



Cheryl Mullenbach

C-SPAN's "Book TV" series.

All of Mullenbach's books are available online at Amazon and Barnes & Noble, and some independent book stores. Her books also can be checked out from the Panora Library. More information is available at her website: www. CherylMullenbachInk.com. ■





You Ride 'em Hard, We Keep 'em Running.

SECOND ANNUAL AGRITOURISM EVENT FEATURES RURAL IOWA ROOTS

A unique agritourism event called "Evolution of the Heartland" will be held for its second year by the Manning and Audubon communities. On Aug. 3 and Aug. 4, this event will showcase the heart of America's rural communities and the evolution of agriculture to those who are unfamiliar with the advancements in rural Iowa and especially agriculture.

Following the first year, the Iowa tourism office was impressed with the execution of the event and its ability to highlight agritourism in rural Iowa, something that has not easily been done in the past.

"The Iowa tourism office has made a financial commitment as the presenting sponsor so that Emerge Marketing Solutions can scale the event statewide over the next five years," shared State Tourism Manager, Amy Zeigler. "This is an excellent model for how we can showcase Iowa's rural communities, Main Streets, roadside attractions and innovative businesses."

All are welcome to register for the event. Participants have the option to travel from the Des Moines and Omaha metro areas on charter buses or drive themselves to the Manning Hausbarn-Heritage Park for the tours.

Tour options for day one will feature: Main Street Entrepreneurs, Innovation & Technology, Niche Farming, Spirits of the Heartland, Templeton Distillery, Beef Immersion, Swine Immersion, Shouse Tour, Historical Church Architectural Tour, Manning Hausbarn Heritage Park tour, and an Audubon Historical Tour. Participants have the option to stay overnight for a second day of immersive tours. Day two will focus on micro farming; however, it is only available to the first 50 registrants.

Participants will get a taste of rural Iowa at the Farm-to-Table lunch. This will be a family-style meal featuring local foods, accompanied by conversations with local agricultural ambassadors and area 4-H and FFA students. The Community Tailgate supper will feature food stations with pork, beef, a mashed potato bar, veggies, desserts, and more. Food will be provided by Two Palms Catering



(Audubon), Deb's Corner Café (Manning), Daryl's Place (Hamlin), and The Bakery on Broadway (Audubon).

Local community members are welcome to attend the Community Tailgate supper for \$15 a plate and browse local produce and goods at the Iowa Vendor Showcase. This year, the Iowa Vendor Showcase will also include an outdoor "mini farm show" featuring local agricultural businesses.

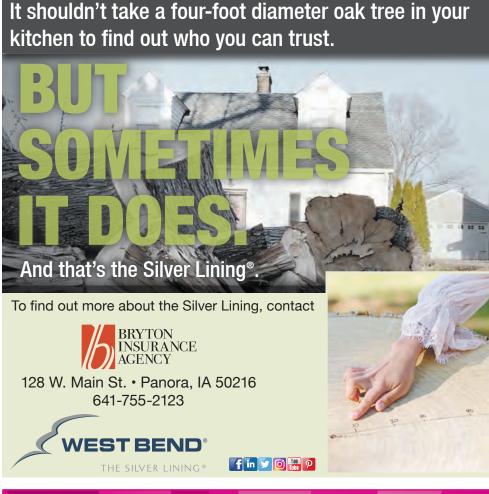
After a full day of learning and networking, participants will have the option to stay overnight for another immersive tour the following day or return home that same evening. The cost to attend the event is \$175 for just the first day or \$325 for an overnight stay and the day two immersive tour. Registration opens May 1 and closes July 15 or until all spots have been reserved. Early bird registration features a \$25 discount

per person and ends June 1. Participants can register at www.evolution-oftheheartland.com.

Join the Evolution of the Heartland tour and discover what the future holds for rural Iowa and the agricultural industry. See firsthand how agriculture has evolved from its early roots in Germany in the 1600s to 1900s farming, and now to advanced technology in many Iowa agricultural businesses and Main Street communities.

Evolution of the Heartland is also seeking local vendors for the Iowa Vendor Showcase, local and statewide sponsorships, as well as local volunteers for the event. For more information, complete the online forms or contact event coordinator, Paige Hepp, at info@evolutionoftheheartland.com.









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LAKE PANORAMA FIN & FEATHER BANQUET MAY 13

Funds raised at the banquet, plus annual memberships and direct donations, are used to stock fish in Lake Panorama.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON *Lake Panorama Times*

The 2023 Lake Panorama Fin and Feather fundraising banquet will be Saturday, May 13, the same day as the LPA annual meeting. The event will be held at the Lake Panorama National Resort with social hour beginning

will follow at 6 p.m. All ages are welcome. Funds raised at the banquet, plus annual memberships and direct donations, are used to stock fish in Lake Panorama. Nearly \$18,000 worth of fish were added to the lake last fall. Fish stocking totals for 2022 included 1,500 walleye, 1,500 smallmouth bass, 3,000 largemouth bass, and 1,000 perch. The group also helps improve fish habitat and sponsors

at 5 p.m. A dinner and silent/live auctions

Panorama Days.
In 2022, the Fin and Feather club reached an agreement with JNC Construction of Clearfield to add some fish structure along the south shore. This is the same company that has been riprapping the south shore, beginning last fall and wrapping up in April.

an annual fishing derby for children during

The club spent \$20,000 to add eight rock piles along the shore to create better fish habitat. These piles are strategically located to optimize the best depths and contour of the lake. The piles will be deep, not pose any threat to boat traffic, and be 20 to 30 feet from shore. The club is developing a map of the rock pile locations, which will be available on the website.



Dinner tickets to the May 13 banquet are \$35 each, with children 12 and younger \$20. Another option is to join the Big Skipper Club at a cost of \$125. This covers two dinner tickets, one Big Skipper raffle ticket and an annual family membership. The cost of just an annual family membership is \$40.

Supporters can either mail a check or register online with a credit card or PayPal account at the group's website: http://panoramafinandfeather.com/banquet/

If payment is made by check, make it payable to Fin & Feather and mail to Doug Hemphill, Farmers State Bank, P.O. Box 110, Yale, Iowa, 50277, along with a completed membership application, which is available on the website.

Members who pay in advance will have their tickets waiting for them upon arrival. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door for walk-in attendees. ■





The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met Dec. 13, at 5 p.m. at Lake Panorama National Conference Center. Board members in attendance were Mary Jane Carothers, Emily Donovan, David Finneseth, Dennis Flanery, Rich Schumacher, and Dirk Westercamp.

LPA Staff in attendance: Danna Krambeer, John Rutledge.

Visitors in attendance: Shawn Foy, LPA Member

President Schumacher called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 - Approval of the

Donovan moved to approve the agenda. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

No conflicts of interest were disclosed by the Board of Directors regarding agenda items.

Agenda Item 2 - Open Forum - Shawn Foy addressed the board to request a detached garage be allowed on an undeveloped lot that is across the road from his waterfront lot, on which his house is located. The septic field for the waterfront house is located on the offshore lot. Rutledge noted this was currently prohibited by the LPA covenants, which prohibit any structure from being built before a dwelling is constructed. Rutledge stated it was his understanding the lots cannot be combined, as they are separated by the LPA-owned roadway and are not contiguous. Foy asked the board to review with LPA attorney to determine if it would be possible to combine the lots based upon the fact they are used jointly to accommodate the waterfront home's septic system. The board directed the LPA attorney and Rutledge to review the covenants and follow up with Foy.

Agenda Item 3 - Consent Agenda

Carothers moved to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Consent agenda to include:

- a) LPA General Manager's Report
- b) Approval of minutes from 11.22.2022 LPA Board Meeting
- c) Authorization to make 2023 investment in subsidiary LPN, LLC of up to \$250,000 per budget
- d) Set date for next board meeting, March 28, 2023
- e) Accept minutes from 11.21.2022 LPN
- LLC Board of Managers Meeting
 f) Accept minutes from 12.12.2022
 Building Codes Committee Meeting

Agenda Item 4a - Land Sales - Lot

6641 plus easement

Land sales committee (LSC) reviewed offer from Rick and Kerry Jacobsen for Lot 6641 in the amount of \$20,000, including a request for easement allowing limited access across LPA property to reach parcel owned by buyer. LSC collectively agreed to offer counter of \$30,000, with Jacobsen paying legal fees for easement. Jacobsen accepted the counter.

Finneseth moved to approve the sale of Lot 6641 to Rick and Kerry Jacobsen for \$30,000, and to approve the easement for non-exclusive and limited access across LPA property. Easement to be prepared by LPA attorney and paid for by Jacobsen. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 5a - LPA Building Codes revision regarding sediment control

The current version of the LPA building codes requires sediment control on waterfront properties. The committee recommended the following changes to require sediment control on all properties (both waterfront and non-waterfront).

2804 Erosion Control Practices

2804.1 Silt fence or SUDAS acceptable practices must be in place for all projects designated under section 2810, 2820, and 2830 prior to permit issuance and through completion of the project.

2804.2 All other projects may be required to install silt fence or SUDAS acceptable practices at LPA Management's discretion.

2810.60 Silt fence or SUDAS acceptable practices must be in place on lakefront lots prior to permit issuance.

2821.35 Silt fence or SUDAS approved practice shall be included in permit if determined by Management to be necessary

3504 LPA specific regulations that supersede SUDAS.

3504.1 At least one properly installed silt fence shall be placed on all waterfront lots unless there is no land disturbing activity within 100' of the lake.

Flannery moved to approve the rule changes as stated above. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda 6 - Other Business - None

Agenda Item 7 - Closed Session - The board entered closed session at 5:31 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Board exited closed session at 5:50 p.m.

Donovan moved to decline LPA roadway easement for septicline, as discussed in closed session, due to the excessive length of the easement requested. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Adjourn - With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m. ■









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RECIPE

HONEY BALSAMIC BRUSSELS SPROUTS

BY JOLENE GOODMAN

DREES CO.

Brussels sprouts intimidate me. In fact, it has only been in recent years that I even tried them. That happened at a restaurant, with a professional chef preparing them, and they were amazing! But, to prepare these delicious morsels and serve them at home, I never thought I would be capable. However, I now have faith that I can. My friend Laura has inspired me to try a new recipe. Recently, I invited my group of girlfriends who I hike with every year in Colorado to my house for dinner. My contribution was grilled salmon and rice, with the invitation to my companions to supply sides. Laura walked in with brussels sprouts and the fixings to roast Jolene Goodman them in the oven. She commented that she has never been successful at making these but had a new recipe to try. Well, I



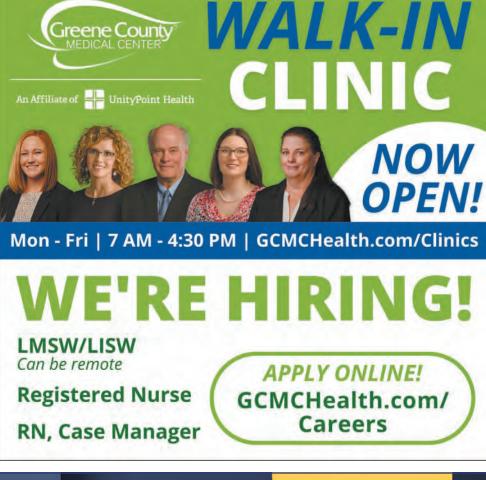
thought, she is much braver than me. And, I don't know if I would have risked the years of ribbing from our friends if the experiment failed. Dinner was amazing with grilled Mediterranean spiced-salmon, herbed rice pilaf, green salad loaded with vegetables, and, the star of the show — Laura's Honey Balsamic Brussels Sprouts. Don't be intimidated with this recipe. Give it a try. You'll be eating leftovers like candy. ■

Jolene Goodman is the advertising director for Lake Panorama Times and vice president of Big Green Umbrella Media.

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HONEY BALSAMIC BRUSSELS SPROUTS

Side dish for 6

- 3 lbs Brussels Sprouts
- 1/2 olive oil
- 1/2 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1/2 cup honey
- · 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 4 tbsp butter
- 3 gloves garlic
- · 1.5 tsp salt, divided • ½ tsp black pepper
- Lemon zest
- · Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Trim ends of brussels sprouts and cut in half. Toss sprouts in a bowl with 1 tsp of salt, black pepper and olive oil until evenly coated.
- Arrange spouts on 2 baking sheets, cut sides down. You want to let them have plenty of room to spread out. Roast for 20 minutes. Do not flip these guys.
- For the sauce, combine and heat honey in a saucepan for 1-2 minutes, just until it gets bubbly. Remove from stove, add



balsamic vinegar, Dijon, butter, garlic, chili flakes and ½ tsp of salt. Return to the stove and cook on medium-low heat for 5-6 minutes or until the sauce thickens.

• Add glaze to brussels sprouts, toss to coat evenly. You may serve the sauce as a side and/or garnish sprouts with lemon zest. Enjoy!

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR JUNE 16 BEACH BALL

The Friends board voted to return to all indoor seating for 2023.

BEACH BALL 2 223

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

Plans have been finalized for the Friends of Lake Panorama's sixth Beach Ball fundraiser. It will be Friday, June 16 at the Lake Panorama National event center. Registration will be 4:30-5:30 p.m. with a buffet dinner served beginning at 6 p.m.

Registration now is open for those who want to attend. Attendance will be capped at 240 people. There are 30 round tables available with seating for eight at each. All seating will be in the LPN banquet room. The option for outdoor seating began in 2020 in response to the COVID pandemic and continued the last two years. The Friends board voted to return to all indoor seating for 2023.

For the third year, attendees can become members of the Friends Beach Club at one of three levels. Friends Beach Club members provide additional financial support to Friends of Lake Panorama beyond the cost of the meal. Prices for Beach Club memberships are:

Friends Beach Club - Premier: \$700 - includes table sponsorship, eight dinner tickets, name in the 2023 Beach Ball program; Friends Beach Club - Couple: \$250 — includes two dinner tickets, name in the 2023 Beach Ball program; and Friends Beach Club - Sponsor: \$150 — includes table sponsorship, name in the 2023 Beach Ball program.

There will be a limited number of individual meal tickets available for \$50 each. Those interested in becoming a Friends Beach Club member, or purchasing dinner tickets, can contact Susan Thompson, thomcomm@netins.net, or 515-240-6536.

The 2023 Beach Ball will include a 50/50 raffle and both live and silent auctions. The Beach Ball committee is soliciting quality items for both auctions.

Funds raised at this year's Beach Ball will support enhancements to a trail system on Lake Panorama's south shore. Funds also may be used for additional low-impact recreational amenities on the south shore, which are under discussion between Friends of Lake Panorama and the LPA board of directors.

The 2022 Beach Ball raised \$30,000. Some of those funds were used for a half-court sports court at Sunset Beach that offers both pickleball and basketball, and trees and benches at the Lake Panorama dog park.

Details on all past and current projects are available on the Friends website. Friends of Lake Panorama also has a Facebook page.

Tax-deductible donations can be made at any time by check payable to Friends of Lake Pan-P.O. Box 488, Panora, Iowa, 50216. Donations also can be made through Venmo @Panorama-Friends or by credit card on the Friends website at friendsoflakepanorama.org. ■





OBITUARIES

Submit FREE obituaries at www.lakepanoramatimes.com.

WANDA J. BOWERS

"A whole life, a complete life, 93 years of a

When asked how she was doing, "fat and happy" was often Wanda Bowers' reply.

Wanda began her life on a farm near Runnells on March 15, 1930. She was born to Ross and Ines Smith and was the third of their three children. Her siblings, Mervyn Smith and Norma Leaming, along with her parents, preceded her in death.

She grew up on a farm in the Runnells area and graduated in 1948 from Runnells High School. After graduation, she moved to Des Moines and worked for Solar Air Craft. She married Max Bowers in 1952, and in 1954 she gave birth to a son, Brent, and in 1957 a daughter, Cindy. She spent the next 20 years being an incredible wife, mother and daughter. In her retirement years, she spent a lot of time at their home on Lake Panorama.

Wanda was a beautiful seamstress, and in later years she enjoyed her embroidery projects just like her mother did. She joined several clubs while living at the lake and found her best friend, Julia. The Red Hat Ladies, Garden Club, and Bridge were the clubs she really enjoyed. Building floats for the Panorama Days Parade were some of her favorite memories.

Wanda was a fantastic cook. She practiced

"farm to table" before it became popular.

She canned, made pies and always had a homecooked meal on the table at 5:30 p.m. She also loved



whether it be on a cruise, a bus trip or out to California to see her kids and grandkids.

Wanda lived the past seven years in Folsom, California, after moving there with her husband, Max, to be near their children. Surviving her are her husband Max, her son, Brent Bowers (Linda); daughter, Cindy Shannahan (Tim); grandchildren, Jennifer Evanko (Jack), Matthew Shannahan (Shannon) and Michael Shannahan; and great grandchildren, Spencer Evanko, Jett Shannahan and Violet Shannahan.

As were Wanda's wishes, cremation has taken place, and her ashes will be interred in Lowman Cemetery at a later date. Condolences can be sent to clshannahan@gmail.com. ■

WALTER BRAMMER

Walter C. Brammer, 97, son of Carl and Martha (Howe) Brammer, was born July 14, 1925, in Sioux City. He passed away March 16, 2023, at the Guthrie County Hospital.

Walt grew up and graduated from high school in Sioux City. Walt had a love for flying in high school; his passion was to become a pilot. After high school, he joined the United States Navy and enrolled in flight school. After some time, the demand for mechanics was greater so unselfishly he moved over to being an airplane mechanic. Walt served in the Navy from 1943 until 1946. Following his discharge, he returned to Sioux City and finally received his private pilot's license. From a previous marriage he had David and Barbara. On April 10, 1970, he married Dorothy Wanser in Sioux City. He became a stepfather to seven children, Cheri, Michael, Mary Colleen, Jim, Tim, Jane and Bob. They were both transferred to Bloomington, Minnesota, and they lived there until his retirement in 1990, when they moved to Lake Panorama.

Walt loved golfing, bowling, playing cards, and recently he played cribbage three days a week. He was a member of St. Cecilia Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his children, David (Jeri Lynn) Brammer of Bellevue, Nebraska, and Barbara (Larry) Cooper of Council Bluffs, along with his stepchildren and



many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Dorothy in 2018; stepchildren, Michael, Bob and Barbara.

Funeral services were March 21, 2023, at St. Cecilia Catholic Church, Panora. Burial will be in Resurrection Cemetery, rural Guthrie Center. Twigg Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

THOMAS JESCHKE

Dr. Thomas Alan Jeschke, age 80, of Panora, died March 20, 2023, at Kavanagh House Hospice, in Des Moines after a short battle with pancreatic cancer.

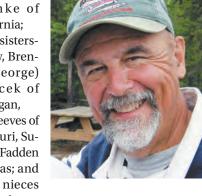
Tom was born Sept. 12, 1942, in Dayton, Ohio, and adopted by Reuben and Sabina Jeschke. He was raised in Sioux Falls and graduated from Sioux Falls College with a teaching degree in 1962. Tom married Conni Bishop in 1963 in Des Moines. They moved to Greeley, Colorado, where he completed his master's and doctorate in special education at the University of Northern Colorado.

In 1965, Tom began his career as a teacher in Sioux Falls. They moved to Des Moines in 1970, where he started as principal at Rose School. Dr. Jeschke was known to his colleagues, staff and students as a compassionate, caring educator who received many awards during his tenure at the Des Moines Public Schools. In 1977 he was given the role of Director and then Executive Director of Special Education. His role was expanded to Executive Director of Student Services in 1990. He served the district for 33 years before retiring in 2004.

Tom also served as Chair of the school district's Pupil Assignment Council, Executive Council Administrators for Special Education, and a member of the Juvenile Justice Task Force. He was a board member of the Governor's Council for Developmental Disabilities and Director of the Iowa Special Olympics for 11 years. Tom served on the boards for the Polk County Health Service Board, Easter Seals Advisory Board and acted as vice president for EdCo Credit Union Board for seven years.

Survivors include his wife, Conni, of Des Moines; two children, Lorie (Kent) Altemeier of Johnston, Amy (Mike) Wandrey of Norwalk; one grandchild, Elaine Greiner of Illinois; one brother

Paul (Anne) Jeschke of California; three sistersin-law, Brenda (George) Vasecek of Michigan, Kay Reeves of Missouri, Susie McFadden of Texas; and seven nieces and nephews.



He was preceded in death by his parents.

In his free time, Tom enjoyed spending time with family and his dogs, grilling, golfing with his wife and friends, fishing in Canada, and playing cards. He was a creative artist at heart, developing skills in painting, pottery, stained glass and much more. He turned his greatest passion into Dr. Tom's Workshop and The Raccoon River Carving Club, in which he carved thousands of Santas and specialty items. He was later featured for his Santas in Better Homes and Gardens. Tom also had an excitement for travel. During college, he was an exchange student in the Philippines. He traveled to many countries abroad with his wife, Conni, but his favorite trip was to China with his granddaughter.

Visitation begins Friday evening April 28, with the family present 4-8 p.m. at Caldwell Parish Funeral Home, 8201 Hickman Road, Urbandale. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Saturday, April 29, United Methodist Church, 111 West Main St., Panora. Family inurnment will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be directed to Tori's Angels Foundation, P.O. Box 186, Panora, Iowa 50216. ■

DOLORES LILLIAN (KINKEL) CREIGHTON

Dolores Lillian (Kinkel) Creighton joined her beloved husband, Robert Joseph Creighton, in their new heavenly home on March 25, 2023. Dolores was born on June 3, 1924, in Longville, Minnesota, on the shores of Girl and Woman Lake. Dolores, Bob and their family would return to the lakes of northern Minnesota each summer for the remainder of their active life.

Dolores left Minnesota in 1941 after graduating from Longville High School. At the age of 17, she joined the first Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), which had only recently been created by Congress in response to the bombing of Pearl Harbor. She enlisted at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, and received basic training at Fort Des Moines (the first ever U.S. army training facility for women).

She was stationed at Base Headquarters, Mason Field, West Palm Beach, Florida, where she decoded top-secret orders from the Pentagon regarding the sending of troop transports to the War. Soon the Army requested volunteers from the WAAC to staff the China/Burma/India theater. The 17-year-old who had never left Minnesota put her name at the top of the volunteer list and headed to India where, among other duties, she processed the near-death young soldiers who had been tortured in the infamous March of Bataan.

At war's end, Dolores and four fellow WAACs decided to head to California to utilize the education benefits of the G.I. Bill by attending San Jose State University. It was here Dolores Kinkel met marine veteran Bob Creighton. They were narried at the Stanford University Chapel in June 1948.

Soon thereafter, they moved to New York City where Bob secured his Doctorate and Dolores worked as a secretary to Dwight David Eisenhower, then President of Columbia University.

After a short year in Davenport, they moved to Shenandoah, in 1953 where they raised their four children in their welcoming and loving home. Dolores was a championship golfer, an ac-

complished bridge player, an avid outdoorswoman, a member of P.E.O, and a devoted wife, mother, community volunteer and friend. Dolores loved life and looked for the best in



everyone with a positive and caring attitude.

Preceding Dolores in death and welcomed into eternal life were her beloved husband, Robert; mother and father, Sadie and Clarence Kinkel; brother, Kenny; sister, Lavonne Jones; and brothers, Merlyn and Gene.

Those who survive Dolores will forever miss her laughter, wit and the twinkle in her eyes. They are son, Tom (Dennis O'Connor) Creighton and his children, Robert, Laura (Jens) Kottke, and Sarah (Jacob) Greene; daughter, Deb (John) Long and their children, Shakira, Kezia (Scott) Peterson, and Micah (Tia); Bob (Mary) Creighton, and their children, Paul (Kathleen) and Kelley (Wen); and Melodie (David) Whiton, and their children, Katelyn (Colby) Brelsford and Jackson (Jessica); her sister-in-law, Luraine Kinkel; her beloved 22 great grandchildren; nieces and nephews; other relatives; and her many, many friends to whom

A celebration of life funeral for Dolores was held March 30, 2023, at Nishna Valley Funeral and Cremation Service in Shenandoah, with Pastor Carl Phillips officiating. Burial took place with full military honors at the Rose Hill Memorial Cemetery in Shenandoah next to her beloved husband, Bob. Memorials in Dolores' name are being directed to the Shenandoah Iowa Education Foundation.

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LOCAL CAR WASH EXPANDS

Jon and Kim Peters have been in the business since 1980.



Entrances to the two automatic bays are on the south side of the building. A stone exterior and windows in the west bay make the building more appealing.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

The U.S. car wash industry is growing, a trend that is expected to continue. In 2022, the market value of the industry was \$30.85 billion. By 2030, that number is projected to be \$38.61 billion.

Jon and Kim Peters have been in the car wash business since 1980 when they purchased an existing car wash in Perry. About 25 years ago, they purchased the car wash on the west side of Panora, which includes two self-serve bays, two automatic bays and two vacuums. They recently opened a new car wash with two automatic bays south of the Panora Casey's.

"We saw a need for an additional car wash in Panora, especially on the busy days at the west location," Jon Peters says. "That location doesn't have the best traffic flow, with customers sometimes lined up for the self-serve bays hindering access to the automatic bays. The new location relieves this congestion and makes it easier for customers to get in and out."

Jon grew up and attended school in Adel before earning a business degree at Iowa State University. Kim grew up south of Ames and attended Ballard Community School. Next for her was a nursing degree at Des Moines Area Community College. The couple has been married 42 years. They lived in Perry 38 years, bought a home at Lake Panorama in 2014, and moved here fulltime in 2018.

"We have two married daughters and five grandchildren," Peters says. "We are blessed they are close, and they like coming to the lake and enjoying what it has to offer."

The couple bought a second car wash in Perry, along with some storage units, in the late 1990s. At about the same time, Kim left nursing to join the business and has been involved ever since. The couple continues to operate two car washes in Perry.

The new car wash in Panora offers several advantages, both to the owners and their customers.

"The new construction let us build a building to accommodate today's equipment and not have to retrofit an old building," Peters says. "We were able to keep things like the electrical service and electronics in a 'dry room' that is separate from the water and pumps. Water leaks do happen."

For customers, there are more options. From the basic wash and rinse, the customer can add products and services, Peters says. "For instance, the premium wash is the basic wash plus an underbody wash with wheel blasters and a dry. The ultimate wash includes the premium wash plus a 'triple foam' wax application."

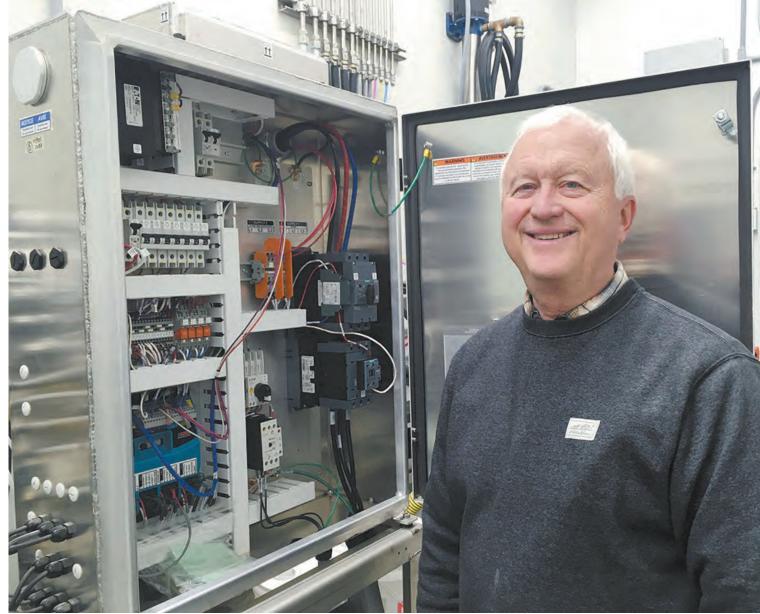
The ultimate wash can be upgraded to include a salt shield soap product added to the underbody spray that targets cleaning off salt and brine applied to roads in the winter.

"This option will be seasonal and will change to extra 'bug passes' during warmer months," Peters says. "There also is an upgrade to include a Carnauba wax, which is a ceramic-based wax designed for the finishes on today's vehicles. Finally, the allinclusive package includes all of the options in one wash."

 $The\, technology\, incorporated\, into\, the\, new$ car wash makes it possible to offer a twostep presoak process.

"This uses both high and low PH chemicals to address the different types of dirt on vehicles," Peters says. "For example, one works well for road film, while the other works well for bird droppings."

A water softener system and a reverse osmosis system combine to produce "spot free" water for the final rinse.



Jon Peters and his wife, Kim, have been in the car wash business since 1980. They recently built a new building with two automatic bays in Panora. Jon Peters is shown in front of a control panel in an area tucked in between the two bays.

"Overhead dryers operate while the vehicle is still stationary after the wash, which eliminates the driver trying to time the exit through a stand-alone dryer and getting the full length of the dryer time." Peters says.

In the new automatics, the menu board that tells the customer to "drive forward, stop, back up and exit" is located overhead in the center of the bay.

"This makes it easier for customers to stay in the center of the bay and to see and follow instructions," Peters says. "We also have a light on in the bays throughout the day to add light on cloudy, overcast days."

The concrete bay floors, along with the approach and exits, are heated by a boiler and circulating antifreeze in the winter to eliminate ice buildup. Peters says "dark sky friendly" lighting was installed to minimize light reaching beyond the property. Stone was added to the exterior wall to make the building more appealing.

Peters says the car wash on the west side of Panora will remain unchanged. That is where a change machine is located, and where "Customer Value Wash" cards can be purchased, balances checked, and money added to existing cards.

"At the new location, cards cannot be purchased, but balances can be checked and cards recharged at the touch screens at the bay entrances," Peters says. "Cards are offered at a discount. A \$100 card can be purchased or recharged for \$80, a \$50 card for \$40, and a \$25 card for \$20. The cards can be used at both locations."

'We've been asked about monthly wash packages similar to what is available in the metro and suburbs," Peters says. "As of now, we are not planning on that. The discounted



This car wash on the west side of Panora was purchased by Jon and Kim Peters 25 years ago. No changes are planned for this location. However, customer value cards offered at a discount can be purchased here for use at both locations.

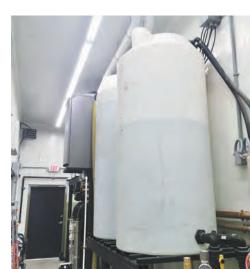
wash cards we offer provide a number of washes without being restricted to a given number of days the washes have to be used." Both locations are open 24/7 unless the

temperature drops into the single digits. "Even though the washes are self-serve,

we check them at least once daily, and sometimes more, depending on the weather and how busy the wash is, to make sure things are running the way they're supposed to," Peters says. "Also, the pits in the bays at both locations that collect mud from the washes are 5-feet deep and need cleaned out three to four times a year."

Yet most times, Peters isn't on-site when customers arrive.

"This isn't the typical over-the-counter business transaction where we can thank them for using our wash," he says. "But we certainly don't take their business for granted and really appreciate our valued customers. This new wash took a while to get up and running, but we are happy with the way it turned out. And we are thankful for the patience the community has shown." ■



Two large water tanks are included in the utility room between the two bays. One holds water directly from the Panora water system. The other holds water that has been channeled through both water softener and reverse osmosis equipment to produce "spot free" rinses.

RUTLEDGE SHARES ASSOCIATION UPDATES AT GM COFFEE

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

About 65 LPA members attended the April 7 GM Coffee to hear updates from John Rutledge, Lake Panorama Association (LPA) general manager. Rutledge started with a report on the Lake Panorama National Resort.

"I'm happy to welcome Nick and Lynn Kuhn to Lake Panorama as our new food and beverage tenants. They and their team have a 2023 lease for the restaurant, events and Spikes," he said. "I think they are a good fit for our organization, and I encourage our LPA members to support them."

Hours through April are Wednesday through Friday 3-10 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Rutledge said the Kuhns hope to expand hours in May and include lunch on more days.

"This will depend on both demand and staffing," he said. "We know the LPN food and beverage operation is seasonal, going from low traffic to very high traffic quickly. I think Nick and Lynn are off to a good start."

In other LPN news, Rutledge said golf leagues at both Lake Panorama National and Panorama West will begin soon; the pool at the LPN is scheduled to open around Memorial Day with annual pool memberships now available; and the LPN has some part-time openings for positions in the golf and lodging departments. Check the LPN website for details or call Royce Shaffer, LPN operations manager, to discuss.

RIZ, wetlands and dredging

Turning to the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ), Rutledge said the project to repair the rip rap along the south shore of the lake's main basin is about 85% complete. The project, which is expected to cost \$850,000, will wrap up this spring.

"I can report the RIZ board is very pleased with this project," Rutledge said. "The RIZ and LPA boards worked cooperatively to make this project possible. The LPA signed an agreement that the south shore must be kept free of residential and commercial development for the next 15 years. If that type of development did occur, the LPA would be required to pay a prorated amount of this project's cost to RIZ."

Expansion of the old CIPCO basin, which has been renamed the 180th Trail Basin, continues. Spring Lake Construction was awarded a \$3.2 million contract in August 2021, and RIZ expects the project to exceed \$4 million in total cost once completed.

"This is a multi-year, multi-faceted project," Rutledge said. "This will be the basin we use for dredging spoils once the current basin is full, which is expected to be several years from now. Sometimes RIZ has to address immediate issues, and sometimes the board can look a decade or more ahead. This is one where they were able to look a decade ahead."

In recent years, RIZ was instrumental in

the development of three wetlands that help protect water quality in Helen's, Hughes and Burchfield coves. Rutledge reported water levels in those wetlands have been raised to catch spring rains.

"Although wetlands are primarily designed to reduce nitrogen in the water, we also implemented some design enhancements to catch sediment," he said. "This is especially helpful during the early period of spring when crops have not yet been planted and row crop fields in our watershed are bare."

In 2022, RIZ operated a pilot program for cover crop incentives with two upstream farmland owners, and now plans to expand the program with other local producers in the Lake Panorama watershed.

"Along with wetlands, this cover crop program addresses the same concept of erosion vulnerability and nutrient runoff during the period between fall harvest and spring planting and plant emergence," Rutledge said.

Dredging is ongoing in the Narrows and may continue into May. Rutledge said boaters should avoid this area unless they live there, and those who do live there need to use extreme caution.

"If you must cross the pipe, cross at the green marker," he said. "The green marker indicates the steel pipe flange that joins together two sections of pipe. This is a heavy flange and is the low point of the pipe. Avoid the orange markers, as these indicate the halfway point between two flanges and are the high point of the pipe. Green equals 'go.' Orange equals 'no go.' Always trim up your boat's motor and advance at idle speed."

Rutledge said a full probing of the lake's coves will be done in May.

"Those smaller coves can be difficult to get much added depth, but we will do what we can at the back of some of the lake's smaller coves by using the utility barge and, in some cases, our long-stick excavator," he says.

The fiscal year 2023-24 RIZ budget is complete with anticipated tax increment financing (TIF) revenues of \$2.94 million. RIZ is a government entity and is managed by a board of five trustees.

Swim platforms vs. swim steps

Next up, Rutledge reviewed topics related to the LPA. The water safety committee was scheduled to meet April 11, with the main topic being an effort to differentiate between swim platforms and swim steps.

"Swim platforms have long been included in LPA's measurement of boat length," he said. "These are generally full width and remain in a fixed position while the boat is underway. Swim steps are new and will be available on most new boats. These are not full-width and are designed to be retracted while the boat is underway. The committee will discuss whether swim steps should be excluded from boat length."

Rutledge emphasized no final decision has been made yet. If the water safety committee does make a recommendation, it next would go to the LPA board of directors for consideration.

Trailers on undeveloped lots

A rule on boat trailers was amended at the August LPA board meeting, which expanded the items that can be stored on undeveloped lots. The rule now allows boat and personal water craft (PWC) trailers, boats, PWCs, and non-enclosed utility trailers. Utility trailers must have a current registration displayed, be open in design, not longer than a 14-foot model, and be completely empty. Recreational vehicles, campers, motor vehicles, enclosed trailers, dump trailers and other equipment storage are prohibited on undeveloped lots.

Rutledge thanked members who have taken action to be in compliance with the amended rule. He said a survey of undeveloped lots was completed this spring, and members who have not yet complied will receive letters from the LPA in April.

Road paving and resurfacing

Just seven miles of LPA roads will be seal-coated this year, with that number split evenly between the lake's east and west sides.

"The west side will be first this year, and we hope to get both done before July, but that is dependent on weather and Sta-Bilt's schedule," Rutledge said. "The cost for seal-coating has skyrocketed to over \$30,000 per mile, which does not include the increased cost of LPA's rock and prep work."

Rutledge said getting Guthrie County to pave Sage Trail on the east side of the lake continues to be a topic of discussion among some LPA members, especially those who live in the Burchfield Cove community.

"LPA has been reasonably pleased with the county's efforts to upgrade Sage Trail from normal gravel to stabilized gravel since 2012," he said. "This provides a better surface and substantially reduces dust. It's not hot mix asphalt or concrete, but it is better than a normal gravel road."

Rutledge said he believes the county will continue to look for funding options, but "I've seen their numbers, and it seems extremely unlikely the county could afford this in the near future. The county has not upgraded a gravel road to hard-surface for a very long time. I have been assured that if and when they do, the decision about which road comes first will be based on traffic counts and not anecdotal or political perspectives."

Rutledge said he thinks Guthrie County will need to resurface and widen 200th Road on the east side of the lake before Sage Trail can be paved.

"And long-term, we need to make sure Redwood Road on the west side remains on their radar. Those are the two main arteries to the

lake, and we need to make sure those don't go backwards," he said.

"I know many of you would like to see Sage Trail paved soon, but the funding component is complicated. I believe my job is to tell you what you need to hear, even if I know it's not what you want to hear," Rutledge said. "With Sage Trail, we just need to keep advocating for traffic count-based decisions and ask the supervisors to keep this on the top of their priority list."

Property value assessment notices

Finally, Rutledge addressed property value assessment notices property owners have received from the Guthrie County assessor's office.

"Let me begin by emphasizing it is a complex process, and LPA does not have a role in this," he said. "However, we understand the process and can help with member education."

"First, let's talk about the lake as a whole. In 2022, the assessed value of Lake Panorama was about \$580 million. The proposed assessed value for 2023 is \$855 million. That's a 47% increase across the lake as a whole," Rutledge said. "For perspective, the assessed value in 2015 was only \$380 million. This 2022 to 2023 increase is playing out everywhere in Iowa but is more likely to be in the 20% range in communities than what we're seeing here at the lake. We are clearly outpacing other communities."

Rutledge said assessments are based on actual sales; the 2023 property value assessments don't come into play until property tax payments are due in September 2024 and March 2025; and there are two important safety provisions that will kick-in to soften the blow.

First is an annual "rollback" that happens in October. Currently that is set at 54.6%, which means that for every \$100,000 of assessed property, owners will pay taxes on \$54,600. Rutledge said he expects the rollback percentage is likely to drop somewhere into the upper-40s but emphasized it is impossible to accurately predict this until fall.

Second, there are budget growth limitations.

"The State Legislature currently is looking at legislation that could limit local budget growth in the fiscal year 2024-25 budget," Rutledge said. "That won't be finalized for a month or two, and it is impossible to predict what the final version will say. But it is reasonable to assume the current tax rate of roughly \$28 per thousand at Panorama will drop into the mid-20s."

Rutledge said entities like the school are limited to how much can be levied based on enrollment, and the county has provisions about how much that budget can grow from one year to the next. Rutledge wrapped up by saying he's confident a 50% increase in assessed value will not result in a 50% increase in fiscal year 2024-25 property taxes.

Two more GM coffees are scheduled for 2023. Those will be Friday, July 7, and Friday, Sept. 1, both at 10:30 a.m. at Lake Panorama National. ■

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I have heard different comments on what I can burn on my property and what I can't burn. Can you set the record straight?

According to Article VIII, section 8 (b) of the LPA Rules and Regulations, burning of household refuse and other materials is not permitted. So you can't burn your garbage, but you can burn leaves, branches, trees or other items that grow on your property. The regulations also state that no fire should be left unattended or beyond the property owner's lot lines. In other words, no burning in the ditches. Check the LPA Rules and Regulations for further details.

Can I put a fuel tank on my property to store gasoline?

Article IX, section 9 (c) of the LPA Rules and Regulations says no fuel storage tank larger than 20 gallons shall be installed, above or below ground, other than for the storage of heating fuel or propane. As always, check the LPA Rules and Regulations for further details.

Submit your questions at www.lakepanoramatimes.com or email shane@dmcityview.com.









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required minimum distribution age (RMD) and tells you how much you must take (based on life expectancy). Currently, RMDs kick in at age 73. Unfortunately, distributions can come with a big tax bill.

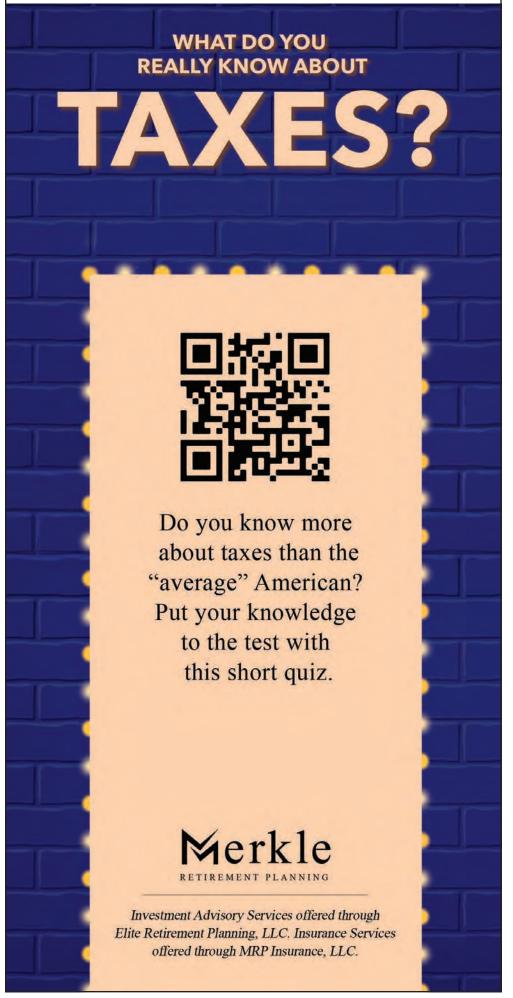
A powerful, tax-free option is the Roth IRA and Roth 401(k). Qualified distributions are tax-free. You must have held the Roth IRA account for at least five years and be 59 ½ or older to withdraw gains without a 10% penalty. These tax-free withdrawals apply to money deposited into a Roth IRA or money converted from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. Roth 401(k) withdrawals are tax-free as long as five years have passed since your first contribution. Currently, RMDs do apply to the Roth 401(k). New legislation eliminates RMDs on Roth 401(k)s starting in 2024.

If you sell stocks, bonds, or mutual funds you've held for over a year, the proceeds are taxed at a long-term capital gains rate of 0%, 15%, or 20%. The higher your income, the more capital gains taxes you pay. For 2023, you may qualify for the 0% long-term capital gains rate with a taxable income of \$44,625 or less (\$89,250 for those married filing jointly). The 20% rate applies to single filers with a taxable income of \$492,301 or more (\$553,850 married filing jointly).

Provisional income determines how much tax you pay on your Social Security benefit. Some Social Security beneficiaries will pay nothing, while others may have to pay federal income tax on up to 85% of their benefit. Provisional income is determined by adding your adjusted gross income plus 50% of your Social Security benefit plus any tax-exempt income you received for the year.

Tax laws and retirement rules are constantly changing. It's important to work with a trusted CPA who can help you play by the rules and a retirement planner who can help you develop a long-term tax plan that lowers your tax bill so you can spend more money on all the fun things in retirement.

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5 LAKE PANORAMA HOMES FEATURED ON 2023 HOME TOUR

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

The Women's Service Organization (WSO) annual fundraising home tour is Friday, June 2. Five Lake Panorama homes will be featured, with two on the west side of the lake and three on the east side.

Tickets are \$30 and include both the home tour and lunch at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center. Tickets will be available beginning May 5 and can be reserved by contacting Mary Beidelman at 641-757-0425. There will be a maximum of 260 tickets available, and organizers say they expect to sell out quickly.

WSO was established in the fall of 1972 when women who worked together to help pass a school bond issue decided they could further benefit the Panora community as a formal organization.

The home tour is the WSO's major fundraiser. The first tour group leaves the LPN conference center at 9 a.m. with three additional groups leaving on the half-hour through 10:30 a.m.

Each group tours three homes before returning to the LPN for lunch, followed by tours of the remaining two homes. Participants are asked to arrive at the LPN conference center 20 minutes ahead of their tour time in order to join the vehicle lineup and receive instructions and description sheets.

Several vendors will be present at the LPN conference center for participants to visit during their lunch break.

Various WSO committees work in advance to gather information for a one-page description sheet and to determine the best order and route. The route isn't always the most direct but is designed for safety and to accommodate the parking of many vehicles at each home.

Money raised through this home tour funds a renewable scholarship awarded to a graduating Panorama student each year, making four scholarships paid annually. Additional WSO donations go to the Panora Library, Food Pantry, Panora Garden Club, Guthrie County Historical Village, Heritage Park, Tori's Angels, Relay for Life, Panorama prom and yearbook. Other contributions are considered as projects become apparent.

PANORA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDRAISER

The members of the Panora Volunteer Fire Department are asking for support with their annual fundraising drive. Past generosity has allowed them to continue with their long-range plans for improvements and updating equipment.

"The money we receive from the city and townships, through taxation, runs our department's day-to-day operation with a portion going into a fund for truck replacement," said Panora Volunteer Fire Department Chief Matt Harmann. "Our fundraising drive allows the fire department to improve our facility, equipment and training opportunities over and above what taxation funds will cover."

Harmann says they are hoping to fund three items this year to further improve the service they can provide.

"We would like to get rescue ropes, harnesses and tripods for grain bin and confined space entry and rescue," Harmann said. "We also would like to purchase an enclosed trailer to carry all of our rescue gear for ice, water and grain bin/confined space. Within this trailer, no matter what time of the year or type of call, we will have all the equipment needed to perform our rescue."

The side-by-side unit has been used this past year for grass fires, bike trail and timber assists with EMS for transporting patients to areas the ambulance can't get to. The Panora Fire Volunteer Department would like to buy tracks for this unit for better access through snow and mud than the wheels and tires provide.

"These items are expensive," says Harmann. "However, we feel they will allow us to be faster and more efficient in emergency situations."

The Panora Fire Department is 100% non-paid volunteer. Members commit, depending on the number of calls, up to 250 hours per year to make the department run.

"Our members do this because they get great satisfaction knowing they have helped people in trouble," Harmann said. "What we do takes dedication, hard work and money. Your help allows us to become better and more efficient through training and updated equipment purchases. This is an investment in your safety."

Donations may be mailed to Panora Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 42, Panora, IA 50216. ■

ANNUAL SPRING WILDLIFE SPOTLIGHT SURVEY UNDERWAY

Staff with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources are currently conducting their annual nighttime spring spotlight surveys across the state, collecting information on Iowa's deer and furbearer populations.

The annual survey is conducted from mid-March to mid-April in each county, beginning an hour after sunset, preferably on nights with low wind, good visibility and high humidity. The routes cover different habitats from river bottoms to farm fields, prairies, woodlots, pastures and timber stands.

The 50-mile routes — two per county — are driven below 20 mph with staff shining spotlights out of both sides of the vehicle, recording the number of deer and furbearers seen along with the habitat type, at different points along the way. Staff are careful to avoid shining homes and livestock while on the survey and contact the county sheriff ahead of time in case they receive any calls.

"This survey produces really valuable information on our deer and furbearer populations, both locally and at the state level, allowing us to see population trends over time," said



Jace Elliott, state deer biologist with the Iowa DNR. The survey began in the late 1970s as a way to collect information on the raccoon population but was expanded to include deer and other furbearers.

"It's an important index that is combined with other data and surveys we use that gives us the most complete picture for these species and guides our management decisions to benefit the resource," Elliott said.

The survey report will be posted later this summer to the Iowa DNR's website at www. iowadnr.gov/Hunting/Population-Harvest-Trends. ■

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TRISH HART'S NATURE PHOTOS OF THE MONTH



BALD EAGLES COMMON AT LAKE PANORAMA

BY SUSAN THOMPSON Lake Panorama Times

The bald eagle has been the national emblem of the United States since 1782. Numbers decreased during the first twothirds of the 20th century, because of hunting and pesticides. In 1940, Congress passed a law that made it illegal to hunt, possess or sell bald eagles, which helped these birds of prey to flourish.

In 2007, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service removed the bald eagle from the list of threatened and endangered species, but the law against hunting, possessing and selling the birds con-

Trish Hart snapped these photos last spring once Lake Panorama turned from ice to open water. Fish is the favorite food source for bald eagles, which means they most often are seen near lakes and rivers. As much as eagles enjoy fresh fish, they also will catch mammals, birds and feed on dead animals and garbage.

When food is scarce, such as when Lake Panorama is iced over, they can ingest large amounts of other food sources and digest it over several days. This makes it possible for them to survive

by fasting for many days, even weeks. Hart offers custom prints of her photos on canvas, paper, metal and glass. Learn more by visiting Nature's Canvas Photography on Facebook. ■



LAKE DOG & COVE CAT

By CHERYL TEMPLE

Lake Panorama Times

LAKE DOG

Name: Zoey Age: 3 years old

Breed: Chocolate Parti Yorkie Owners: Scott and Cheryl Temple

She might be small, but she is mighty. Pontoon rides and golf cart rides are some of her favorite things to do, along with chasing squirrels and bunnies. She loves everyone, especially little kids. Zoey's family has lived on the lake for 30 years.



COVE CAT

Name: Miller Age: 1 year old Available for adoption at: Panora Pets

Miller comes from a litter of feral barn cats. He was the only one from the litter of four that has not been adopted. Miller has the most beautiful black and white markings. He has the coolest ears that are half black and half white. He is such an interesting dude — and very friendly, too! ■



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