



# RACCOON RIVER VALLEY TRAIL RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

RRVT is the 35th inductee into the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame and only the second Iowa trail to receive this honor.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
Lake Panorama Times

The 89-mile Raccoon River Valley Trail (RRVT) is the oldest and longest paved loop trail in the United States. On Aug. 12, the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) announced the RRVT as its 2021 inductee into the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame.

RTC began recognizing rail-trails around the country in 2007. Nominations for the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame are accepted annually with potential inductees chosen based on such things as scenic value, high use, amenities, historical significance and community value.

Also nominated for 2021 were Delaware's Georgetown-Lewes Trail and Junction & Breakwater Trail, and New Hampshire's Northern Rail Trail.

Next came a public vote, beginning July 30 and ending Aug. 6. More than 38,000 votes were cast, which broke the record for the number of votes in a year. The Raccoon River Valley Trail received more than 16,000 votes, for 42% of the total.

Panora is one of 14 communities along the trail. A group from Panora representing the Raccoon River Valley Trail Association can claim some of the credit for that impressive voter turnout. Sandy Lowe of Panora is board chairperson for the association. She and others set up



Barb Wollner, Sandy Lowe and Robin Dorr at the RRVT trailhead in Panora with backpacks they distributed at the RAGBRAI Expo in Le Mars on July 24. The backpacks included information about the trail and gave the trio the opportunity to promote votes for the RRVT in the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame contest.

RRVT, PAGE 3



A sign welcomes users to the Guthrie County portion of the Raccoon River Valley Trail. A total of 21 miles of the 89-mile trail are within Guthrie County.

# Lake Panorama residents honored at Iowa State Fair

Bill and Connie Ridgley were named "Iowans of the Day."

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
Lake Panorama Times

On Aug. 19, Bill and Connie Ridgley of Panora were named "Iowans of the Day" at the 2021 Iowa State Fair. The Ridgleys have been full-time Lake Panorama residents since 2005.

The couple is best known for their work with Tori's Angels. This non-profit foundation assists families of Iowa children with life-threatening medical challenges by paying travel expenses to treatment, as well as medical copays, deductibles and medications not covered by insurance.



Speed Herrig, owner of Cookies Food Products, presents a plaque to Bill and Connie Ridgley on Aug. 19 at the Iowa State Fair. Cookies and the Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation co-sponsor the Iowan of the Day award, which is given to a different recipient each day of the fair.

TORI'S ANGELS, PAGE 4

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ON THE LAKE

# BUSINESS NEWS TO COME, SKI TEAM IMPRESSES AND LAKE HUMOR RETURNS

BY SHANE GOODMAN  
Editor and Publisher

**A couple new ideas**  
From time to time, we share local business stories about lake residents and what they do for a living, as well as stories about merchants in Panora and Guthrie County. And if you read this column regularly, you know how strongly I feel about the need to support our local businesses. With that in mind, we are planning to bring a business page to this newspaper each month with business stories, photos, columns and event listings. If you have items to share or ideas to suggest, please send to me. We are also working on a service directory, providing a simple, low-cost advertising option for service industry professionals like deck builders, plumbers, electricians, inspectors, tree trimmers and more. We hope this will be a helpful resource for readers who need to hire folks to do this work and professionals who need to find customers. Look for more on both of these features next month.

**Ski team impresses**  
Hats off (or maybe skis up?) to the Lake Panorama Ski Team for an impressive show at Panorama Days. I had seen ski-

ers (mostly from prior generations) at a show a few decades ago, but I could not recall exactly what to expect. My wife, Jolene, was part of the team in the early years, and she gave me the play-by-play of how difficult the various displays were. The skiers had 17 performances in Act I and another nine in Act II, including barefoot, flags, pyramids, slalom tricks, trick skis, swivel skis, ski lines, dock slides, saucers and much more. A big thanks to Dan and Kathy York for the years of work they have put into this and to all the skiers who made the show so entertaining. While the show is free to attend each year, and all members are amateur volunteers, they do graciously accept donations to help fund the cost of gas, skis and repairs. Check out [www.lakepanoramaskishow.com](http://www.lakepanoramaskishow.com) for photos, details on each performance, or to make any donations.

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Shane Goodman

box each weekday morning. Subscribe or unsubscribe anytime at [www.thedailyumbrella.com](http://www.thedailyumbrella.com).

**Lake humor**  
I haven't shared any cheesy lake jokes for a while, so here's one for you: A couple of men were on the lake in a kayak when they started getting cold. When they lit a fire in their craft, it immediately began to sink, proving once and for all that you can't have your kayak and heat it, too. Enjoy the remainder of your summer, and, as always, thanks for reading. ■

**Shane Goodman**  
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RRVT  
FROM PAGE 1



The RRVT Association sponsored a booth July 24 at the RAGBRAI Expo in Le Mars to promote votes for the Raccoon River Valley Trail in the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame competition. Shown left to right are Barb Wollner, Robin Dorr, Sandy Lowe, all of Panora, and Maria Steele and Pat Steele, Adel. Photo by Scott Sumpter, Bike Iowa



Although many of the users of the RRVT are bikers, the trail also is used by others, including walkers, runners and snowmobilers. These snowmobilers are headed south of Panora near PJ's Drive-In.

a booth at the RAGBRAI expo in Le Mars on July 24, the day before the annual ride across Iowa began. Lowe, Barb Wollner and Robin Dorr handed out 2,500 drawstring backpacks to those attending the expo and encouraged them to vote for RRVT in the contest. Lowe, Wollner and Dorr earlier had filled the backpacks with the RRVT mileage card, Guthrie County and Lake Panoramapans maps provided by Guthrie County Tourism, and City of Adel maps provided by the Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce.

The three women were joined in the booth by Pat and Maria Steele of Adel. Pat Steele also is a member of the RRVT board and the person who suggested applying for the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame. Once a decision was made to apply, there wasn't much time to get the necessary materials submitted.

"The process to submit marketing was challenging," Lowe says. "There was a very short time period to get the video created. Deb Bengtson of Adel Partners Chamber helped us with marketing materials and script for the video. Zach Steele, the son of board member Pat Steele, took several photos to create a slide show to be used for the video. Kevin Cooney, former KCCI news anchor, was about to leave on vacation but took time to record the narration

for the video in his son's recording studio before leaving."

Once the RRVT Association was notified the trail Hall of Fame nomination had been made public, the scramble was on to promote votes. Lowe created posters to hang at the booth that included a QR code for the RTC site. RRTV board members Roz and Stan Boyer used the posters to make larger signs and posted one at each trailhead. They also delivered a poster to each of the bicycle shops along the trail and in the Des Moines area.

"I am so excited the Raccoon River Valley Trail is being inducted to the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame," Lowe says. "This recognition will bring more visitors. The RTC has members all across the United States who plan cycling vacations based on the Hall of Fame trails. It is like a bucket list of trails for cyclists. Even before the voting started, a Pennsylvania cycling tour company contacted us to get information for a trip they are planning for late September 2021. We are so blessed to have this extraordinary trail in Guthrie County."

The RRVT is owned and managed by the conservation boards in Greene, Guthrie and Dallas counties. The three county conservation directors — Dan Towers in Greene, Brad Halterman in Guthrie and Mike Wallace in Dallas — are members



RACCOON  
RIVER VALLEY TRAIL

of the RRVT Association board of directors. Sandy Leiferman, who lives at Lake Panoramapans, also serves on the association board. Another board member with a local connection is Jason Tuel. He lives in Waukeewauke but is vice president of business banking at Iowa Trust & Savings Bank in Panora.

The RRVT opened in 1989 and offers views of woodlands, prairies, public art and a lighted bridge that crosses the Raccoon River east of Adel. The trail connects rural communities like Panora, Linden and Yale to larger towns and cities such as Adel, Jefferson, Perry and Waukeewauke.

Plans are in the works to connect the RRVT to the High Trestle Trail. The RRVT also is a segment of the Great American Rail-Trail, which will connect Washington, D.C., and Washington State across 3,700 miles of trail.

One section of the RRVT south of Jefferson that has been closed since March 2019 recently reopened. A bridge collapsed when large chunks of ice hit the wooden pilings that support the 600-foot bridge, and about 70 feet of the bridge fell into

the Raccoon River. A ribbon cutting was held Aug. 25 at the bridge to celebrate its reopening after more than two years.

The Raccoon River Valley Trail was developed using the former right-of-way of a railroad built in the 1870s. Artwork on the trail highlights the region's railroad history, including restored depots and a 350-foot-long trailhead gateway in Waukeewauke. More than 350,000 people use the trail annually. That number is expected to increase with this new designation.

The RRVT is the 35th inductee into the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame, and only the second Iowa trail to receive this honor. The Wabash Trace Nature Trail in southwest Iowa was inducted in 2011.

An induction ceremony for the RRVT is planned for Sept. 30. A short program will begin at 9 a.m. at the Waukeewauke trailhead. This will be followed by a group bike ride to Perry and a ceremony at the Hotel Pattee.

"I want to thank all who helped make the nomination possible and all who helped get out the vote, especially Barb and Robin," says Lowe. "There are many people who love the



These drawstring backpacks, purchased from T&K Designs in Panora, were distributed at the RAGBRAI Expo in Le Mars to promote the trail, plus votes for the RRVT in the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame.

RRVT and appreciate how much of an asset it is to all the communities along the trail."

Hall of Fame rail-trails receive a variety of honors, including special signage to place along the trail and a feature in the "Rails to Trails" magazine. Learn more about the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame at railstotrails.org/halloffame. More information about the RRVT is at raccoonriver-valleytrail.org. ■

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# BURCHFIELD STREAMBANK WORK UNDERWAY

Project is expected to be complete by mid-September.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

Work is underway on a project near the mouth of Burchfield Cove, funded by the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ). The project involves modifying an old silt basin downstream of the Burchfield Bridge to accommodate long-reach excavator access and rip rap bare shoreline. JNC Construction, Clearfield, Iowa, was awarded the contract in June with a bid of \$269,338.50.

This project is taking place on the west side of the Burchfield channel, between Panorama Drive and the stream that flows into Burchfield Cove.

The contractor is nearing completion on the bench for future long-reach excavator work with a pit on the backside. The pit parallel to the bench and channel is where material dredged in the future with a long stick excavator will be placed.

Next, JNC Construction will be placing limestone rip rap along the entire west side from the bridge south to the end of LPA property. This will amount to about 1,700 feet of shoreline. The work being done will allow better access for LPA crews and create a convenient location for dredge material coming out of the channel.

LPA crews previously have used a long-reach excavator to dig sediment from this area, but access has been tight for this size of equipment, and the ability to dewater sediment has been marginal. These improvements will create a safer bench for the excavator, while also improving LPA's ability to dewater removed sediment.

Weather permitting, this project is expected to be complete by mid-September. ■



This “bench” created along the west shoreline of the stream that enters Burchfield Cove will be used by LPA crews as they dig sediment from the stream with a long-reach excavator.



Many tons of dirt have been relocated recently during a project near the mouth of Burchfield Cove. An old silt basin is being rebuilt between the stream and Panorama Drive to better accommodate sediment dug from the stream.



The Burchfield stream project, financed by the Lake Panorama RIZ, involves the construction of a bench on the west side of the stream, with an adjacent pit to accommodate silt removed from the stream. Once the dirt work is complete, 1,700 feet of the west shoreline will be rip rapped with limestone.

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**Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors Meeting July 27, 2021 Lake Panorama Conference Center**

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met July 27, 2021, at 5 p.m. at Lake Panorama National Conference Center. Board members in attendance were Mary Jane Carothers, Emily Donovan, Gary Evans, David Finneseth, Julie Fulton, Rich Schumacher and Jim Spradling.

LPA Staff in attendance: Danna Krambeer, Lane Rumelhart and John Rutledge.

Visitors in attendance: Marty Derry, Rick Hayes and Hillary Nielsen, LPA members.

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

**Agenda Item 1 – Approval of the Agenda**

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

**Agenda Item 2 – Open Forum – No one spoke**

**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 06.29.2021 LPA Board Meeting

c) Acceptance of 06.30.2021 consolidated financial report – LPA & LPN, LLC

d) Set date for next board meeting, 08.24.21

e) Accept minutes from 06.28.2021 LPN LLC Board of Managers meeting

f) Accept minutes from 07.12.2021 Building Codes Committee Meeting

**Agenda Item 4a – Marty Derry request to demonstrate used boats at Lake Panorama**

Rutledge explained Derry's request to demonstrate used boats at Lake Panorama was made to the Board at the May Board meeting; Derry was not in attendance at that meeting. The Board denied the request, citing concerns about boat density, boat safety and invasive species. Derry requested to be added to the July meeting agenda to present his request in person.

Derry made a request to the board to allow the demonstration of used boats for sale on Lake Panorama. Board questioned Derry on the number of boats in a year, where the boats come from and to whom the potential buyers are. Derry responded it would be a small number of boats each year, and the boats are acquired from various places. Potential buyers are from all over; buyers are not just LPA members.

Board directed LPA staff to research insurance and legal concerns with commercial entities operating on Lake Panorama.

Finneseth moved to table the decision for the request to allow used boats to be demonstrated on Lake Panorama. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item 4b – Sale of LPA lot 3306**

LPA received an offer presented by Sunset Realty for buyer to purchase lot 3306, in the amount of \$20,000, no contingencies. The lot is a B lot located at 4142 Panorama Drive, northeast end of the lake.

Land sales committee (LSC) reviewed the offer and are recommending the Board accept the offer of \$20,000 for lot 3306. LPA staff has reviewed the lot and has no objection to the sale of the lot.

Carothers moved to accept offer by James & Susan Elwell, II, of \$20,000 for lot 3306. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item 4c – Shoreline Setback variance lots 106 & 107, Jared & Hillary**

**Nielsen, 7067 Andrews Terrace, funicular and cantilever dock**

From Building Codes Minutes:

*Rick Hayes represented Jared and Hillary Nielsen (owner of lots 106/107) and requested a variance to build a funicular that would run its tracks up to the shoreline (within 50-foot setback) and a variance to build a cantilever dock/deck structure within the 50-foot setback up to the water's edge. Hayes presented a detailed plan showing the steep nature of the lot. Hayes and Nielsen believe that by allowing a funicular and an elevated dock/deck structure near the lake, the natural landscape of the lot would be preserved without having to greatly disturb the lot. The funicular would act as an electric elevator that would send a cart up/down the hill from the home to the water. Westercamp wondered if this would add liability to LPA if we allowed this structure and the cart were to end up in the lake in the future. Hayes pointed out that there was another funicular at the lake, and he thought it was within the 50-foot setback. Rumelhart was unsure of this and needed more time to research how close it was built. Based on the fact that Rumelhart was unsure if the other funicular at Lake Panorama was built within 50 feet, and if LPA could be found liable if the structure were to fail and cause harm to the lake, Evans made a motion to defer to the judgement of the Board of Directors in two weeks once LPA Staff was able to look further into the request. Motion seconded by Miller and unanimously approved.*

The elevated deck/dock structure would be built on the opposite side of the lot and allow another way of accessing the water. Rumelhart pointed out the structure might not be considered just a cantilever dock, as there was a separate platform above

the water's edge with steps leading down to the dock in the bank. Nielsen pointed out that a home right next to their lot had a very similar structure and wondered why this was present if it could not be built. Rumelhart mentioned it could be grandfathered in and would need more time to look at the history of similar structures around the lake. Based on the fact that Rumelhart was unsure if the structure was considered a deck or dock and a similar structure was next door, Evans made a motion to defer to the judgement of the Board of Directors in two weeks once LPA Staff is able to look further into the request. Motion seconded by Miller and unanimously approved.

Due to the timing of the request, additional research was needed to make an informed decision. After further review, the committee voted five to one to approve the funicular construction within 50 feet of the lake due to the lot's steep nature.

The committee unanimously agreed a freestanding deck should not be built within 50 feet of the lake. It was recommended that the structure be approved once amended plans were provided to show the landing area for the stairs is built to the minimum size needed for safe construction of the stairs.

Rick Hayes and Hillary Nielsen presented the plans to the Board and explained the plan, purpose and reason for the variance request. The lot elevation drops drastically, 70% slope in the 50' to the water. They are working with Tometch Engineering to develop a structural plan for the landing and stairs.

Evans moved to approve the funicular within 50' of the lake and steps and platform limited to only what is necessary to be structurally safe, as is determined by structural engineer and approved by LPA staff. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item 4d – 2021-22 LPA Deer Hunting Regulations**

No changes are recommended for the 2021-22 Deer Hunting Program. A member may register up to 3 guests. LPA will continue to charge \$50 for each guest. This fee will be used to recover administrative costs for registering the guest, educating them on the LPA hunting regulations and reviewing hunting zones with them.

Carothers moved to approve the 2021-22 Deer Hunting Program as presented, with no substantive changes from the previous

season. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

**Old Business Agenda Item 5a – Building Codes 2860 Boathouse Repair Permits and Requirements**

From Building Codes Minutes:

*Rumelhart presented the committee the following updated version of the new boathouse revision to be entered into the Building Codes following approval from the Board of Directors. (Underline is new language; strikethrough is deleted language.)*

**2860 Boathouse Repair Permits and Requirements**

**2860.1** No new boathouses may be constructed on any lot. All boathouses constructed prior to August 21, 1997, are considered grandfathered, but shall remain subject to the rules set forth below.

(adopted 8/21/97)

**2860.2** Any construction on existing boathouses will be for the purpose of maintenance of the boathouse with no structural changes, including change of roofline, allowed.

**2860.3** Maintenance permit is required.

**2860.4** Any existing boathouses determined to be structurally unsafe must be torn down.

**2860.2 Boathouse Maintenance**

**2860.21** Boathouse Maintenance shall be defined as painting, re-shingling, re-siding, or replacement of windows and doors. Boathouse Maintenance items do not require an LPA building permit.

**2860.3 Boathouse Structural Repair**

**2860.31** Boathouse Structural Repair shall be defined as anything beyond Boathouse Maintenance, as defined in 2860.2. Boathouse Structural Repair shall require an LPA building permit prior to any work being performed on such boathouse.

**2860.32** A complete set of drawings to scale shall be provided as part of the LPA building permit application, including an exterior elevation sketch.

**2860.33** LPA Management shall be provided an opportunity to confirm dimensions and location of existing boathouse prior to LPA building permit approval and prior to any commencement of any work or demolition of the existing boathouse.

**2860.34** Adequate footings are required for the boathouse and shall be specified in the LPA building permit application.

**2860.35** Doors and windows, including measurements, shall be shown in the LPA building permit application.

**2860.4 Limitations on Boathouse Structural Repair**

**2860.41** Boathouses must be reconstructed in the exact location and to the original dimensions, provided the exact size and roof pitch are maintained.

**2860.42** No overnight or bathing facilities shall be installed at any time.

**2860.5 Boathouse Removal**

**2860.51** Boathouse Removal shall be defined as demolition of a boathouse. Boathouse Removal shall require an LPA demolition permit.

**2860.52** Any boathouse demolished without obtaining an LPA demolition permit, or without obtaining an LPA building permit for Boathouse Structural Repair at the same time, shall permanently forfeit grandfathered status provided under 2860.1.

From the building codes minutes - *Miller made a motion to accept the updated version of the Boathouse Revision. Brown seconded and carried unanimously.*

Rutledge stated the language was developed between Rumelhart, LPA attorney Williams and Rutledge, per the recommendation and direction from the Board of Directors and the Building Codes Committee.

Donovan moved to adopt the changes as listed to the LPA building codes 2860 regarding boathouses. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.


**Agenda Item 5b – Approve counter-offer for the purchase of 30' wide section of land on south end of Boulder Beach, for combination with existing lot/home on adjacent Lot 1506**

At the June LPA board meeting, Russ Hawley presented an offer for \$40,000, plus expenses, to purchase the above-described property. Negotiations between Rutledge and Schumacher, Board President, lead to an agreement of \$45,000, plus expenses. Board has agreed to the counteroffer via email communication.

Spradling moved to accept the offer of \$45,000, plus expenses, for the purchase of a 30' wide section of land on south end of Boulder Beach, for combination with existing lot/home on adjacent lot 1506. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item 7 – Closed Session – The board entered closed session at 6:17 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Board exited closed session at 6:55 p.m.**

**Adjourn** - With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m. ■



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# FAFSA Simplification Act

Learn how legislative changes can help you finance your loved one's education.

As a parent or grandparent, you know the challenges of funding a child's education. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Act passed in 2020 changed some of the qualifications for students to receive financial aid.


**These changes will affect those applying for financial aid for the 2023-2024 school year.** You'll notice these changes on October 1, 2022, which is when the FAFSA opens for the 2023-2024 school year.

**A simplified questionnaire.** The FAFSA has been greatly reduced in size, from 108 questions to a maximum of 36 questions.




**529 plans from grandparents are no longer counted as cash against**

**financial aid.** One of the most confusing parts of the FAFSA process was how to account for cash funding. While the FAFSA doesn't require 529 accounts owned by grandparents to be disclosed, families are required to disclose cash support that the student receives. This cash support may then include money from a 529 account. If students received money from these accounts, the student was still expected to disclose these disbursements as cash and financial aid was reduced.

Visit [www.investgcsb.com](http://www.investgcsb.com) to read this entire article which details additional changes to the updated FAFSA application process and requirements. As always, contact our office to discuss your specific college funding needs.



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# 2021 BEACH BALL FUNDS WILL COMPLETE 3 PROJECTS

Friends board plans to hold its next Beach Ball on Friday, July 22, 2022.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
Lake Panorama Times

The Friends of Lake Panorama's Beach Ball fundraiser July 30 had a profit of \$25,000. At its Aug. 16 meeting, the Friends board of directors voted to spend the Beach Ball proceeds to complete three projects.

## DOG PARK

First is the Lake Panorama dog park. Fundraising for this project kicked off in September 2020. The idea of a dog park on LPA property had been discussed for nearly a decade. In April 2019, Friends conducted a survey to gather input from LPA members on possible future projects. The Friends board reviewed and discussed the survey results, and approved several action items.

One action item dealt with the possible development of an LPA dog park. In September 2019, Friends recruited volunteers to serve on a dog park task force to study location, design, costs and rules. The Friends board received the task force report at its June 2020 meeting and voted unanimously to endorse the project and advance the report to the LPA board.

The LPA board reviewed the dog park proposal at its July meeting and gave unanimous approval at its August meeting for Friends to begin

fundraising. A goal of \$50,000 was set to build the park and provide all desired amenities.

At the time of the July 30 Beach Ball, donations for the dog park stood at \$45,000. The Friends board voted to provide another \$5,000 from the Beach Ball proceeds to reach the \$50,000 goal.

Construction on the park is underway. It is located at the corner of Sage Trail and RV Road. A 6-foot-high chain link fence 400 feet long and 150 feet wide is being installed. There will be two sections, one for small dogs and one for large dogs. A single entrance will be protected by a keyless lock. Once inside this gate, users can choose a gate to either the large dog or small dog areas.

Crushed rock will create a 5-foot-wide walking path along and under the fencing to provide a weed barrier and keep dogs from digging. A gravel parking lot will be adjacent to the park to the east. Once construction is complete, the park area will be fertilized and grass seeded. Two red maple trees, donated by the Isom Tree Farm, will be planted.

Amenities inside the park fence will be a picnic table in each of the two sections, a dog water fountain in each section, stations where bags for dog waste will be available, and waste receptacles. Opening of the park is planned for spring/summer

2022, and will be dependent on how quickly the turfgrass establishment is complete and all amenities are in place.

The facility will be open to LPA members and their guests. Signs will be posted for responsible use. A sign recognizing donors of \$500 or more also will be posted at the dog park.

## TRAIL ENHANCEMENTS

Another project that will receive Beach Ball funding involves enhancements to an existing trail near the Panorama West golf course. This project has been estimated at \$5,500. Donations of \$700 already have been received. The Friends board voted to provide \$5,000 from the Beach Ball proceeds to complete fundraising for this project.

The existing trail is used by the Panorama School District as a cross-country track site and covers a variety of terrain including timber pathways, golf fairways and roadways. A task force of volunteers has developed plans that include marking a portion of this trail and designating it as the "official" multi-use trail.

For safety reasons, and in compliance with current LPA rules, users of this 2.5-mile trail, which includes a 1.5-mile out-and-back section, and an optional 1-mile

loop, may include hikers, runners, cross-country skiers and dogwalkers, but no motorized vehicles.

The newly marked trail will wind its way through grassy open areas and timber but will not cross any portion of the golf course or roadways. A trail map will be developed, and placed on an informational kiosk that will double as a trail head sign. The trail head, with limited parking, will be located at the end of the Nicholl Drive cul-de-sac just east of the Panorama West clubhouse.

Low profile 4x4 recycled plastic lumber posts with directional signage, recreational symbols, and distance markers will be installed along the multi-use portion of the trail. To avoid confusion, these park-style, recreational markers will be different from the cross-country signage. One or two recycled plastic benches will be placed along the trail.

Task force team members will meet soon to finalize design details for the kiosk, markers and benches. Product orders will be placed this fall, with installation and project completion planned for spring 2022.

## SUNSET BEACH SWINGS

The third project to receive proceeds from the 2021 Beach Ball is the addition of three swings to the

Sunset Beach playground. These will be the same swings as the ones now at both Boulder and Shady beaches and will be placed directly west of the existing playground. The budget for this project is \$8,000, and the Friends board voted to provide the full amount to this project.

The swings were ordered Aug. 20 from Boland Recreation of Marshalltown, the same vendor that now has provided new play equipment at all three of Lake Panorama's beaches. The swings will be delivered and installed in spring 2022.

The Friends board voted to hold the remaining \$7,000 raised by the Beach Ball in reserve until these three projects are complete, in case costs increase beyond what has been budgeted. If the funds are not needed for any of these three projects, the money will be applied to a new project.

Because of the success of the 2021 Beach Ball, the Friends board plans to hold its next Beach Ball on Friday, July 22, 2022.

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

## OBITUARY

Submit FREE obituaries at [www.lakepanoramatimes.com](http://www.lakepanoramatimes.com).

### Robert DeHaan

Robert DeHaan, 87, of Panora, died Monday, Aug. 16, 2021, at the Guthrie County Hospital in Guthrie Center following complications from hip replacement surgery and a stroke. Memorial services were held at Faith Bible Church in Panora on Aug. 20, 2021.

Bob was born Dec. 9, 1933, the son of John and Freida DeHaan, in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He graduated from Kalamazoo Central High School in 1951. He graduated from Western Michigan University with a degree in industrial management in 1955. He then enlisted into the U.S. Army in October of 1955 and served in Germany for two years and four more in the reserves.

On June 28, 1958, he married Gerrie Pitman, also from Kalamazoo Central class of '51.

Bob began his career in heating and cooling when he joined his dad's company, DeHaan Heating. He spent several years with Rheem Manufacturing. In 1969 Bob accepted a job offer from Amana Refrigeration

in Cedar Rapids and moved his family there. He retired from Amana in 1991 as vice president of engineering, then immediately went to work for Frigidaire as the director of engineering where he retired again in 1995.

Bob loved the Lord with all his heart. He attended 3rd Christian Reformed in Kalamazoo, Hope Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, Cedar Hills Community in Cedar Rapids, First Methodist in St. Cloud, and Faith Bible in Panora. Bob shared his leadership abilities in all churches he attended. He was a youth sponsor, financial planner, building team chair, deacon, VP of consistory at these churches and always supported the pastors at the church he attended.

Bob's faith permeated his entire life. His model of husband, father and son are examples of a Christ filled life. He loved his family and extended family with his whole heart as evidenced by his lake life, tubing escapades, fierce croquet games and card shark abilities

with pinocle and cribbage. Bob enjoyed wood working and creating household items. He was an accomplished mechanic and built a 1939 Jaguar from scratch. He loved tinkering in his shop and nightly boat rides with his wife and family.

Bob DeHaan shared his faith with all his children and grandchildren. His kindness, generosity and willingness to serve showed his love for Christ. His compassionate spirit continues on in his family and friends. Bob will be remembered for his quick wit, easy laugh and loving demeanor.

Bob is survived by his loving wife, Gerrie; three children, Michael (Jane DeBoer), Deb and Mark (JoAnn) DeHaan. His seven grandchildren include Ali (Andree Salcedo Galazzo) DeHaan, Lindsey DeHaan, Robert DeHaan, Kallie (Mason) Kleitsch, Karly (Mack) Kleitsch, Katelyn (Jason) Rex, and Ashley (Anthony) Morelli. Bob was blessed with six great-grandchildren, Camillo, Easton, Kimber, Bella, Brooklyn and



Barrett.

The family would like to thank The New Homestead Care Center in Guthrie Center for their excellent care given to Bob and his family. Memorials may be directed to Faith Bible Church, Panora, in memory of Bob. ■

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# SKI SHOW!

The Lake Panorama Ski Team performed on Saturday, Aug. 7 at 2:30 p.m. near the South Shore of Lake Panorama as part of Panorama Days. The team started 37 years ago when a group of friends whose passion for skiing drove them to start a show performance team. The group learned stunts like pyramids and barefooting and since then has passed on their knowledge and enthusiasm to other members of the Lake Panorama community. The team now includes skiers of all ages and talents and continues to put on a show during the first weekend of August every year. Learn more at [www.lakepanoramaskishow.com](http://www.lakepanoramaskishow.com). Photos courtesy of Peter Freymark. ■



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<b>NUTS FOR NUTELLA</b> Roasted marshmallow with nutella spread on graham crackers	<b>LEMON MERINGUE PIE</b> Roasted marshmallow with lemon curd on a graham cracker
<b>REESE'S</b> Roasted marshmallow with Reese's Peanut Butter Cup and graham crackers	<b>AMAZING MINT</b> Roasted marshmallow with Andes Mint or Peppermint Patties and chocolate candy on graham crackers

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# SKI SHOW!



## RECIPE

# GAME DAY CHICKEN WINGS

BY JOLENE GOODMAN

I love game day. I grew up in Ames, and my parents were true Cyclone fans, attending games and tailgates every Saturday for decades. Iowa State fans tailgate in style with an abundance of food, games and friends gathering for one common purpose: to cheer on their team. Through the years, I have learned the good, the bad, the easy, the hard and then the most loved food choices at a tailgate. It is undeniable that chicken wings are always a hit. Try this recipe out for your next gathering! ■



Jolene Goodman

Jolene Goodman is the advertising director for Lake Panorama Times.

## Game Day Chicken Wings

(Family Features) To find more gameday recipe inspiration, visit Culinary.net.  
**Total time:** 50 minutes  
**Servings:** 4

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 cup butter, cubed
- 1/3 cup flour
- 2 teaspoons paprika
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 10 chicken wingettes, thawed
- dipping sauces (optional)
- fresh parsley (optional)

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- Preheat oven to 425 F.
- Line baking sheet with foil. Arrange butter cubes on foil.
- In medium bowl, combine flour, paprika, garlic powder, salt and pepper.
- Coat both sides of wings in flour mixture then evenly space among butter cubes on baking sheet.



- Bake wings 30 minutes.
- Turn wings over and bake 15 minutes, or until crispy and fully cooked.
- Serve with dipping sauces and sprinkle with fresh parsley, if desired.

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# RSVP 55+ VOLUNTEER PROGRAM NOW IN GUTHRIE COUNTY

RSVP administers four programs, and all are free services.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
Lake Panorama Times

An organization that helps coordinate volunteer opportunities recently expanded into Guthrie County. The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is one of the largest volunteer networks in the nation for people 55 and older with about 700 programs nationwide. In Iowa, 37 programs are offered in 66 counties.

Key funding for the program comes from a federal grant through AmeriCorps Seniors, yet a local sponsoring entity is needed; that sponsor is Boone County Hospital. RSVP in Boone County began in 1987. Services were expanded into Greene County in 2004 and into Guthrie County in late July 2021.

Michele Hull of Boone is the director for the RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program now offered in these three counties. She's

been with the organization since 1997.

"This got started because I received a call from an individual in Panora asking if there was a way to get any of the services we provide in Boone County into Guthrie County," Hull says. "I wrote an expansion grant in 2020 to allow us to expand into Guthrie to help the county's elderly population and also explore other partnerships."

The approval of that grant made the Guthrie County expansion possible. Iowa received 19 RSVP expansion grants.

Mary Porter of Guthrie Center has been hired as the Guthrie County coordinator for the program that helps senior volunteers find opportunities to help others locally, while also taking requests from those in need of assistance. The Lakeside Village, 2067 Highway 4, north of Panora, is providing

in-kind office space on the facility's fourth floor.

"Mary is very enthusiastic and looking forward to meeting and talking to people about the RSVP services," Hull says. "People can meet her at her office, or she can meet those interested elsewhere, in their homes or a public location such as a library. She'll also be spreading the word through meetings with churches, businesses, pharmacies, medical clinics, hospital departments and local clubs and organizations."

RSVP administers four programs, and all are free services. RSVP Respite provides the gift of time, rest and relief to a full-time caregiver of an adult family member or friend who cannot be left alone. Respite volunteers offer quality companionship to care recipients; no personal care of the recipient is involved.

The In-Home Visitation and Phone Friend programs provide friendship and companionship for older adults who are socially isolated, who may be lonely, or just want good conversation. In-home and phone friend volunteers brighten someone's day by bringing some friendship and fun into their life. Recipients can participate in either program or both.

The Grocery Assistance Program (GAP) helps disabled adults of any age and individuals 60 and older who may have difficulty getting groceries from the store to the kitchen. Participation may be short term, such as during a temporary illness or recuperation period, or long term. GAP volunteers shop for groceries to help individuals eat healthy, maintain their independence and remain in their home.

Additional programs will be

available through two partnerships. Elderbridge, which is the area agency on aging for Guthrie County, offers an Errand Buddies/Transportation program and a Telephone Reassurance program. Volunteers will be recruited through RSVP and referred to Elderbridge to help with these programs.

Fraud Fighters is a partnership with the Iowa Insurance Division. Recruited volunteers will be trained by officials in the insurance division to give short presentations on fraud and scams targeted to the population audience of people aged 50 and older.

Hull says they hope to build other partnerships with nonprofits, education and health entities as they grow.

"Through these partnerships, community needs will be met or enhanced through volunteerism," she says.

RSVP volunteers choose how, where, and how often they want to serve, says Hull.

"Also, volunteers do not have to be retired to volunteer. Folks can be fully working, semi-retired or retired. The volunteer opportunities we currently have can be done day or evening," she says. "Becoming an RSVP volunteer is as simple as visiting about your interests and the volunteer opportunities, fill out an enrollment form, and we connect you to where you will volunteer."

In addition to providing valuable services to individuals and communities, Hull says older volunteers also are

living active lives through volunteering.

"A growing body of research shows an association between volunteering and mental and physical health benefits," she says. "In particular, older volunteers report lower mortality rates, lower rates of depression, fewer physical limitations, and higher levels of well-being than those in the same demographic who do not volunteer."

When requesting grant

funds to expand into Guthrie County, Hull was required to set certain goals. One of those was to have 85 volunteers working with RSVP programs and community partnerships in Guthrie County within three years.

"We hope to get to that sooner," she says.

To learn more about how to get involved by volunteering or receiving services, contact Mary Porter at 641-431-0132 or [rsvpguthrie@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpguthrie@gmail.com). ■



Mary Porter is the Guthrie County coordinator for the RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program. The Lakeside Village, which is supportive of this volunteer program expanding into Guthrie County, is providing free office space for Porter on the facility's fourth floor.



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Event dates and times are subject to change. Contact hosts for updated details.

**Panora Chamber Shop Local, Be Local events**  
**Friday, Sept. 10, Saturday, Sept. 11**  
Shop Local, Be Local Events the second Friday and Saturday of every month.  
[www.panorachamber.org](http://www.panorachamber.org)



**Iowa vs. Iowa State Couples Golf Friday, Sept. 10**  
**5 p.m. - SHOTGUN START**  
Entry Fee: LPN Golf Members: \$10 per Couple; Non Member Guest: \$40 per Couple. LPN Members may invite a guest couple. Entry includes golf and prizes. Format is 4-Person Couples Best Shot with “Football Scoring.” Direct any questions to the Pro Shop at 641-755-2024. [www.lakepanoramanational.com](http://www.lakepanoramanational.com)

**2021 Walk to End Alzheimer’s - Raccoon River Valley Saturday, Sept. 11**  
**Registration at 8 a.m. Ceremony at 9 a.m. Walk at 9:30 a.m.**  
**Michael Mills Memorial Park S.E. Fifth Street, Panora**  
You can join at this local event or walk from home in your neighborhood. No matter where you participate, know that your health and safety are top priorities. All local events will implement safety protocols including physical distancing, contactless registration, hand sanitizing stations and more. Per CDC guidelines around crowded outdoor settings, they ask that all Walk attendees be vaccinated against COVID-19 or wear a mask when in an overcrowded area. Masks will be available on-site. Contact Danielle Fuglsang at 515-218-2675 or [dfuglsang@alz.org](mailto:dfuglsang@alz.org) for more information.

**Aquarobics classes**  
**Monday, Sept. 13, Wednesday, Sept. 15**  
**Monday, Sept. 20, Wednesday, Sept. 22**  
**Monday, Sept. 27, Wednesday, Sept. 29**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
Aquarobics classes are offered every Monday and Wednesday at the Lake Panorama National Resort pool. Classes begin at 9:30 a.m. and are free of charge to Lake Panorama National Resort pool members. Those who haven’t purchased an annual LPN pool membership will need to pay the \$3 daily fee in the LPN pro shop before entering the pool. No sign up needed.  
[www.lakepanoramanational.com](http://www.lakepanoramanational.com)

**Panora City Council meeting**  
**Monday, Sept. 13**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
[www.cityofpanora.com](http://www.cityofpanora.com)

**16th Annual Pirate Open Golf Sunday, Sept. 19**  
**10 a.m. - Registration**  
**11 a.m. - SHOTGUN START**  
**4 p.m. - Cocktails/Awards**  
Entry Fee: Non-LPN Members: \$260 per Team; LPN Golf Members: \$140 per Team. Entry Includes golf with cart, range balls, hors d’oeuvres, prizes. Direct any questions to the Pro Shop at 641-755-2024.  
[www.lakepanoramanational.com](http://www.lakepanoramanational.com)

**LPA Building Codes Meeting**  
**Tuesday, Sept. 20**  
**6 p.m.**  
Lake Panorama National  
[www.lakepanorama.org](http://www.lakepanorama.org)

**LPN Member’s Eagles Club Golf Outing**  
**Wednesday, Sept. 22**  
**12 p.m. - SHOTGUN START**  
Are you an Eagle Club Member? Score gross or net eagle in LPN sanctioned event and be eligible for the 16th Annual Eagles Club Outing.  
[www.lakepanoramanational.com](http://www.lakepanoramanational.com)

**Panora City Council meeting**  
**Monday, Sept. 27**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
[www.cityofpanora.com](http://www.cityofpanora.com)

**LPA monthly board meeting**  
**Tuesday, Sept. 28**  
**5 p.m.**  
Lake Panorama National  
[www.lakepanorama.org](http://www.lakepanorama.org)



**Panorama High School Homecoming Football Game Varsity vs WCV**  
**Friday, Oct. 1**  
**7 p.m.**  
Panorama High School  
[www.panoramaschools.org](http://www.panoramaschools.org)

**The Chili Dipper Open**  
**Sunday, Oct. 17**  
**11 a.m. - SHOTGUN START**  
Format: 2-Person Best Shot 8” CUPS  
Entry Fee: Non-LPN Members: \$120 per Team; LPN Golf Members: \$60 per team  
Entry includes golf with cart, chili buffet and prizes. Direct any questions to the Pro Shop at 641-755-2024 [www.lakepanoramanational.com](http://www.lakepanoramanational.com)

**Iditarod XX**  
**Sunday, Nov. 7**  
**11 a.m. - SHOTGUN START**  
Format: 4-Person Best Shot  
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# VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EVENT SET FOR OCT. 7

This is the 14th year for this free social time and dinner recognizing Lake Panorama volunteers.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

Volunteers play a big role at Lake Panorama. Many maintain landscape beds at the lake’s three beaches, two golf courses and lake entrances. Others organize the Lake Panorama ski team and serve on the board of directors for the Lake Panorama Association, Lake Panorama National, and Friends of Lake Panorama.

Board members for the Southern Panorama Sewer District, On-Site Waste Water Management, and the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone also volunteer many hours. The same is true for members of four committees appointed annually by the LPA board — appeals, building codes, land sales, water safety.

To celebrate the many volunteers who help make the Lake Panorama community great, a special event is planned for Thursday, Oct. 7 at the LPN Conference Center. This is the 14th year for this free social time and dinner recognizing Lake Panorama volunteers. The last one was held in October 2019, as COVID led to a cancellation of the 2020 event.

Social time begins at 5:30 p.m. with a “comfort food” dinner at 6 p.m. featuring fried chicken, meatloaf, mashed potatoes, additional sides and chef’s choice dessert.

Invitations will be mailed to known volunteers. But if you volunteered in the last two years and didn’t receive a formal invitation, please know you’re invited and can bring one guest. Reservations are due by Oct. 4 and can be made by calling the LPN front desk during business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at 641-755-2080. ■

# 2 ACES AT PANORAMA WEST

Paula Hansen and Mary Kay O’Grady each had a hole-in-one.

Two women each had a hole-in-one within two days at the Panorama West golf course in August. Paula Hansen aced the seventh hole Aug. 23. Lyle Hansen and Bill and Karen Eby were witnesses. She used a five-wood for the 132-yard shot. This was Hansen’s third hole-in-one.

A day later, Mary Kay O’Grady aced the fifth hole during the Tuesday morning women’s league, using her five-wood for the 125-yard hole. Her feat was witnessed by Coop Rickert. This was O’Grady’s first hole-in-one.

Each year, those who get a hole-in-one at Panorama West have their name added to a sign in the pro shop and receive a handmade plaque in recognition of their achievement. ■

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# ASK *Lake Panorama* TIMES

If you’ve got questions, we’ll find the answers.

**Q:** Are hovercrafts allowed on Lake Panorama?

**A:** A hovercraft is generally described as a vehicle that rides over water or land supported by the pressure of a stream of air generated by downward-thrusting fans and is propelled forward by an air propeller. The short answer to your question is no, according to the LPA Rules and Regulations handbook. The only stated exception is for rescue hovercrafts.

**Q:** Is there an engine size limit for pontoon boats on Lake Panorama?

**A:** Well, bigger isn’t always better, at least according to the formal rules and regulations for Lake Panorama. As such, pontoon boats do have engine size limits. Outboard-equipped pontoons can’t have engines that exceed a 200 horsepower rating. Inboard/outboard-equipped pontoons shall not exceed 299 horsepower.


**Q:** I hear various things about what can and what can’t be burned on personal property. I heard that tree limbs can be burned but lumber cannot? Can you set the record straight?

**A:** Burning of household refuse and other materials is not permitted at Lake Panorama. Burning of leaves, branches, trees or other items that grow on one’s property is permitted. And although it would be nice if 2x4s actually grew on trees, they don’t. So you can’t legally burn lumber or any construction debris. ■

Submit your questions at [www.lakepanoramatimes.com](http://www.lakepanoramatimes.com) or email [shane@dmcityview.com](mailto:shane@dmcityview.com).



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# Q&A: GUTHRIE COUNTY COVID UPDATE

Booster dose will be available in Guthrie County as soon as it is FDA-approved and CDC-recommended.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
Lake Panorama Times

Jotham Arber, an epidemiologist, is executive director of health services for the Guthrie County Public Health department. While his position in the public health department covers many areas, since January 2020, much of his focus has been on COVID-19. In this month's Q&A, he provides an update on the impact of COVID-19 in Guthrie County and beyond.

**Q. What is the current recommendation on getting a third shot, and how will these be available in Guthrie County?**

A. On Aug. 13, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommended an additional (third dose) COVID-19 vaccine for moderately to severely immunocompromised people in order to provide sustained boosted protection. This includes people who have the following:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood (currently receiving chemotherapy or radiation)
  - Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
  - Received a stem cell transplant within the last two years or taking medicine to suppress the immune system
  - Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome); currently receiving IV treatment with Immune Globulin (IgG) medication
  - Advanced or untreated HIV infection
  - Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress a person's immune response (prescribed oral steroids for longer than two weeks or prescribed oral steroids more than three times over a one-year period)
- This vaccine can be received 28 days after your second dose.

The additional dose is the same dose as the first two, and it is recommended you receive the same brand as your first and second dose. These are currently available in Guthrie County at all of our pharmacies and through the health department. You can go to [healthyguthrie.com](http://healthyguthrie.com) to make an appointment or go to any of our pharmacies for a walk-in appointment. Make sure to bring your vaccination card so the third dose can be noted on the card.

The CDC also has indicated it is working toward FDA approval and has provided recommendations for a booster dose, which CDC officials would like to see initiated in September of this year. The booster dose would be given to people who have fully functioning immune systems. The hope is that providing this booster dose six-to-eight months after the second dose will increase the level of neutralizing antibodies to provide a longer and more robust protection against Sars COV2.

This booster dose will be available in Guthrie County as soon as it is FDA-approved and CDC-recommended. The health department will send reminder cards and is putting people on a waitlist for the booster dose. You can get on the list by calling 833-833-4600. Currently we are waiting for the full guidance for the booster shot to be provided.

**Q. If someone received their first two shots in Guthrie County, will they be contacted directly about the third? What about people who received their first two shots elsewhere?**

A. Once we have the full recommendations for the booster dose, the health department will work to get reminder cards out with recommended dates to every Guthrie County resident who received a shot, regardless of where they got their first shots. Individuals who received the shot at the health department

will be directly contacted at the beginning of the month that they are due for a booster.

**Q. What is the prevalence of the Delta variant in Guthrie County, and what is the trend line?**

A. Over the last three months, the Delta variant has become the most prevalent variant in Guthrie County. It makes up 90 percent of all cases we are seeing in the county. Cases have been steadily rising, and, in the past month, we are seeing case numbers very similar to last year.

**Q. Can we be confident the current vaccines available are effective against the Delta variant?**

A. The current vaccines provide great protection against the Delta variant. Although there has been a decrease in overall efficacies from 95 percent to 92 percent, these vaccines still are keeping people from severe illness and hospitalizations. When we look at the data on who is getting severely ill and hospitalized, the majority of cases are amongst those who are not vaccinated.

**Q. What is the percentage of new COVID cases in Guthrie County for those who are vaccinated vs. those who are not?**

A. Currently less than 10 percent of COVID cases in Guthrie County are in those who are vaccinated. And 95 percent of those vaccinated individuals who have tested positive report very mild symptoms, with most making comparisons to allergies or sinus infections. Ninety percent of cases in Guthrie County are in unvaccinated individuals.

More than 85 percent of all hospitalizations in the last three months have been in unvaccinated individuals. In the hospitalizations that occurred in vaccinated individuals, all patients had immunocompromising conditions that made them much more vulnerable to

hospitalization.

**Q. What percentage of Guthrie County residents are vaccinated?**

A. Countywide more than 60 percent of all residents have been vaccinated. In residents 65 and older, this percentage is more than 98 percent. In adults over 18, more than 65 percent are vaccinated, and we are closing in on 28 percent of residents under 18 and older than 12.

**Q. Some people who have been vaccinated are getting COVID. Why do you think it's still important to get vaccinated?**

A. Vaccines are not 100 percent effective, and we expected some people who were vaccinated would still get COVID-19. Even still, vaccines are the key to keeping people from getting severely ill and staying out of the hospital. When we get vaccinated, we are giving our body the ability to defend itself from the virus with neutralizing antibodies and to rapidly respond when its defense is broken through to prevent severe disease.

**Q. What do you think is ahead for us in the coming weeks and months?**

A. Over the next few weeks, I think we will see cases continue to rise. We have started seeing that trend already. There are close to 4,000 individuals in Guthrie County who remain unvaccinated. Some may have already had a COVID-19 infection, providing some protection. But those who have had neither the vaccine nor an infection are the most vulnerable to severe infection. With the Delta variant being up to three times more transmissible than the variant we saw last year, and having a fairly large pocket of vulnerable residents, we anticipate the virus transmission rates to remain high.

We have seen several hospitalizations in the last two



Jotham Arber

weeks of August and anticipate seeing more primarily in our unvaccinated population while transmission rates remain high. We have also seen breakthrough cases in vaccinated residents and will most likely see more as high transmission rates increase exposures to both vaccinated and unvaccinated residents.

**Q. What are your recommendations about masking and social distancing?**

A. There are things we always recommend to reduce virus transmission and keep people healthy. These include social distancing when transmission is high; wearing masks in indoor, large gathering, high-risk areas; and, most importantly, staying home when you are sick. When we are symptomatic, we are most infectious and most likely to spread sickness, so please stay home when you are sick!

We know not everyone can be vaccinated, and there are people who are much more vulnerable to sickness. So I recommend we all protect our community by getting vaccinated and taking extra precautions when necessary. We can all do our part to keep each other healthy and safe, because in the end, the only way we get through this pandemic is together. ■

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# LAKE DOG & COVE CAT

By **CHERYL TEMPLE**  
*Lake Panorama Times*



**Gidget**  
6 years old  
Standard Poodle, parti-color  
Owners: Jan and Don Graham

The Grahams are avid boaters and campers at the Lake Panorama west campground. They plan to build in the next year or two. Gidget enjoys doing anything with people, including camping and boating. She likes to travel, go for walks, chase birds and eat cucumbers. Yes, cucumbers. Her pet peeves are fireworks, rain and being brushed (which is not handy for grooming). She is pictured with the Graham grandchildren: Owen, Elijah and Paige Martin.



**Mowgli**  
4 months old  
Maine Coon Cat  
Owner: Taylor Schwartz

Mowgli enjoys visiting his grandparents, Tammy and Dave Schwartz, at the lake. So far, his favorite things are bird watching, chasing bugs, watching boats go by and sunbathing in the windows that overlook the lake. His extended fur family includes Solita and Diego (both ragamuffins), Mateo (a ragdoll), and Judge (a Bernese mountain dog). Mowgli may be small now, but watch out, Judge, he might outgrow you! The expected weight of a Maine Coon cat is 25-30 pounds when full grown. ■

**Suggest Lake Panorama residents and their pets for us to cover on the Lake Panorama - Lake Dogs and Cove Cats Facebook page**



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# TRISH HART’S NATURE PHOTOS OF THE MONTH HUMMINGBIRDS STOCKING UP FOR FLIGHT TO THE TROPICS



BY **SUSAN THOMPSON**  
*Lake Panorama Times*

Hummingbird sightings at Lake Panorama bird feeders became more frequent in August, as these tiny birds began to prepare for their winter migration. There are about 360 species of hummingbirds. Their heart beats up to 1,200 times per minute, and they’re the only bird that can fly backwards.

Trish Hart is a local photographer who specializes in Lake Panorama wildlife. Many of Hart’s photos are of birds, which she captures digitally as they sit on feeders on the deck of her home. She says activity at her hummingbird feeder was busy in August, as the birds “bulk up for their long migration south.

“Increased activity at the feeders is an early signal that fall migration is underway. They sense changes in the daylight duration, and the decline in flowers, nectar and insects. These brightly colored beauties fly thousands of miles south to winter in Mexico and Central America,” Hart says.

Ruby-Throated hummers are the most frequently seen breed at the Hart feeders. The males have a bright rose-colored throat. The throat color of females is more muted, yet they have brighter back feathers that shimmer an emerald-green.

Hart offers custom prints of her photos on canvas, paper, metal and glass. For more information, visit [NaturesCanvas-Photos on Facebook](https://www.naturescanvas.com). ■





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