



Snowmobiling around Lake Panorama

Near-record snowfall totals kept the trails busy this winter season.

BY DARREN TROMBLAY
Lake Panorama Times

This is the time of year when Lake Panorama’s Mike Patten rues.

As winter outdoor sports wind down around Lake Panorama in direct proportion with the rate in which temperatures go up, the president of the Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers snowmobiling club looks back on what has been an outstanding couple of months of “sledding.”

Central Iowa was blessed with record-breaking snowfall totals in 2020-21. And while most people stayed inside and complained about Ol’ Man Winter, Patten and his group of 30 to 35 members were outside taking full advantage of it. As were others. The Lake Panorama area and surrounding trails are a perfect combination of beauty and fun for snowmobilers of all ages.

Area snowmobilers have been chomping at the bit for the last five years to get out, throttle up, and put some miles on their sleds.

“In the mid 1990s, we had good snow, but had no grooming machines,” Patten said. “We just kind of freelanced around. Ironically, the last five years,



Members of the Raccoon River Valley Snow Chasers take a break while trail riding around Lake Panorama.

the machines have been better, but the snow has been spotty. This was the first season in which a trail could be ridden for more than a week.”

Like its summer brethren the waverunner, snowmobiling can be a great winter outdoor activity for young and old alike. That is, if the snow falls. Here in Iowa, that’s touch and go. One big snowfall does not

necessarily mean weeks and weeks of great riding.

“One of our biggest problems is that we get a blizzard, and then it takes a couple of days to get the snow settled down to where we can enjoy it,” Patten said. “And then we have a day or two before it melts. When it snows, we have to hit it hard.”

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TAKE A HIKE!

It’s been a great year for snow lovers.

BY DARREN TROMBLAY
Lake Panorama Times

Perennial snow-lovers Coop and Tim Rickert of Lake Panorama left town in mid-January for the warmer weather of the west, thinking Iowa might be in for another snow-shy winter.

Boy, were they wrong.

“We love Iowa snows and were bummed this year that we left just when the Iowa winter was firing up,” Coop laughs. “We love to have a fire inside, but we also have been known to have a fire in the fire pit outside in the middle of winter. All our friends in Iowa kept telling us how much

snow they were getting, and we were wishing we’d stayed!”

Normally, the Rickerts can be found around Lake Panorama doing one of the things they enjoy most in the winter: hiking.

“We hike a lot on the par-3 golf course in the snow and on the nearby cross country trail,” she says.

The wooded area just outside of the 9-hole Panorama West golf course normally used for high school cross country meets during the fall provides a spectacular winter backdrop for the pair, who have been hiking together since 2003.

“It’s 2 miles, maybe a little

more, and it’s where we really enjoy hiking; it’s just gorgeous,” Rickert says. “You’ll see wildlife like deer, fox, owls — and it’s just peaceful. The wildlife is simply amazing.”

The man-made trail near Panorama West is groomed, with no gravel used in the process. Just the way they like it.

“We like it because it’s natural,” Rickert says.

Both will bring walking sticks and have learned to layer up over the years.

“Even if it’s below 0, we’ll go,” Rickert says. “We just make sure we have enough layers on our feet, hands and

HIKING, PAGE 2



Coop Rickert says she enjoys the serenity of hiking around Lake Panorama in the winter.

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HIKING

FROM PAGE 1



Record-breaking snowfall created some great scenic moments for hikers around Lake Panorama.

face, especially.” The walking sticks have been more of a benefit than she could have imagined. “Tim bought them for me for Christmas one year and saw how quickly I could walk and how much easier it was,” she says. “I don’t know how I even did it without them in the past.” Rickert says they always carry a backpack with them to store necessities. Even though it’s cold, they pack water and the requisite hand and feet warmers. In the backpack is also a first aid kit, and the pair

have bandanas tied to their walking sticks to help with any watery eyes and/or runny noses that frequently happen during walks in the winter. Phones are kept in an inside pocket in their jackets and near their bodies to avoid battery drain in the cold. All in all, it’s a winter wonderland for Rickerts and others alike. “That’s one of the things we like about Lake Panorama — on both the east and west sides — is that there are no side-



Tim and Coop Rickert of Lake Panorama enjoy going outside and hiking during the winter.

walks,” she says. “It’s just a real natural setting; it’s a little oasis in itself. We often go on what we call ‘deer patrol’ in the evenings in our golf cart on the Lake Panorama roads in the spring, summer and fall, and we count the deer. There have been a couple of times where we’ve counted more than 80 deer in less than an hour.” ■

ON THE LAKE
A WRESTLER WHO
LEFT HIS MARK...
SNOWMOBILES... AND A
FEW THANK YOUS

BY SHANE GOODMAN
Editor and Publisher

Growing up in north central Iowa, my friends and I spent a lot of time on snowmobiles. Snow was in abundance, and we had no fear. Snowmobiles in the 1970s and 1980s don’t compare to what can be found today, but we were still in heaven. Of course, our 1972 and 1973 Sno-Jets were broken down much of the time, but, thankfully, my brother Steve enjoyed fixing them. I just liked to ride. The need for speed was exhilarating with the feeling of snow hitting our faces, the sound of the engines humming and the smell of fuel in the air. I have great memories of snowmobiling in my youth, but I have not had many chances to re-live those experiences as an adult. Snow has typically not been in abundance in this neck of the woods, and bouncing on snow drifts doesn’t sound as appealing to this 52-year-old today. Even so, this month’s feature on snowmobiling brought back a lot of great memories, which brings me to my next subject.

A few thank yous
I want to share a few thank yous to some folks who contributed to this month’s issue. Darren Tromblay has been a longtime co-worker and friend who I first met at Waldorf College in 1987. We have worked together at newspapers including The Tri-County Times, The Nevada Journal, The Dallas County News and, in recent years, CITYVIEW and our Iowa Living magazines. He continues to do freelance writing for us today, and he wrote the snowmobiling and hiking features in this issue, as well as the ice fishing story last month. Thank you, Darren. I also want to thank Trish Hart, who is featured in a story this month along with her incredible photography, which we also used as our banner photo this month. We hope to feature more of her work in months ahead.

A PHS wrestling legend
Congratulations are in order for Panorama High School’s Wyatt Appleseth, who reached the finals of the



Shane Goodman

Iowa High School Athletic Association’s state wrestling tournament in the Class 2A 160 pound weight class. He dropped a 7-2 decision to Solon’s Hayden Taylor in the championship match. Appleseth is Panorama’s only four-time state tournament qualifier and logged an incredible 170 career wins. He is the son of Ann and Mike Appleseth.

Looking forward to summer
As winter winds down and warmer months start creeping in, we will all be itching to get back to summertime activities at Lake Panorama. And we look forward to sharing your stories. As always, thanks for reading. ■



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SNOWMOBILE
FROM PAGE 1

Being a part of the club
Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers Media Director Jim Wyckoff said the popularity of snowmobiling reached a peak in the 1970s and has tapered off ever since. Former President Eric Chrystal helped jumpstart the club, bringing in new members, sponsorships and, most importantly, renewed interest in the sport. Now that baton has been passed to Patten.

The Chasers became involved with the Iowa State Snowmobile Association (ISSA) in 2009 and won the ISSA Club of the Year award in 2011.

In the ISSA, the state is divided into 10 regions, with individual clubs within each. The Raccoon River Valley Snow Chasers is in Region 7 and includes members from Guthrie, Greene and Dallas counties. Everything within the club is done on a volunteer basis, Patten said. Each club applies for grants through ISSA, which allocates funds to the clubs, covering costs such as fuel and repairs for groomers.

Wyckoff said the efforts of the Patten family have made a great deal of difference, not only in keeping and recruiting new members, but in helping acquire the grooming machines that have made riding much more pleasant.

“They do a great job of keeping the club active,” Wyckoff said of the Pattens’ efforts. “We currently have about 120 miles of groomed trails, and it makes the riding really nice.”

Overall, nearly 8,000 miles of snowmobile trails exist in the state of Iowa for riders to enjoy.

The club gathers the second Thursday of each month, November through March, at the Lake Panorama Conference Center.

“They provide us a good

menu, good wait staff, good food, and we really enjoy holding the meetings there,” Wyckoff said.

At the meetings, members review finances and take care of business like most clubs do, but most of the time, Patten says, it’s just about getting together with friends.

“Most of the time, we just get together, have fun, and talk about what we’ve done, where we rode, and how the trails are looking,” Patten says.

Yearly membership dues are \$40. It is \$10 more for a Raccoon River Bike Trail pass, which riders must possess if they plan on taking the trail.

Looking back
Both men have long histories in snowmobiling, dating back to when they were young children. For Patten, his love of the sport extends beyond just getting outside with some friends.

“I grew up doing it, and I like the family aspect of it, but I also like that when it’s cold and snowing out, and everyone is complaining and moaning, you’re the one who is excited,” he said. “You get to go out there and have a great time.”

Wyckoff remembers the days in which he’d have his sled parked in the garage as much as he’d have it outside and running properly.

“Back then, you worked on them more than you rode them,” Wyckoff joked. “Technology has greatly improved over the years. They are so much better ergonomically, and they’re more reliable. Modern snowmobiles are considerably safer than those of decades past. They’re much more expensive, too, but it’s a greater pleasure to ride them these days.”

His father turned Wyckoff on to snowmobiling when he was 10 years old. His first sled

was a 1969 Galaxy, followed by a 1971 Ski Doo Nordic. Wyckoff said he got away from the sport once he graduated from high school and moved on to other things in life. But the itch was still there. His decision to scratch it was one of the best he’s made.

“About 20 years ago, I was trying to figure out where I was going to take my family on vacation in the winter, and we decided to go to Yellowstone for a snowmobile tour through the park,” Wyckoff says. “That was an awesome experience. We got to go down snow-covered roads right in Yellowstone Park, rode right next to buffalo that were walking beside the road. That kind of got me back into it, and I’ve been doing that for the past 20 years or so on a regular basis, including several trips to Minnesota and Wisconsin.”



The Raccoon River Valley Snow Chasers’ trail groomer was busy this winter, providing snowmobilers a smooth ride through beautiful terrain.

The rules of law
Snowmobiling rules are similar to those for cars, only you’re not riding on the road, Patten says. He offered the following tips for snowmobilers:

Make sure you know the area or go with someone who does.

Stop at the stop signs along highways and watch out for cars.

Never ride alone, which is probably the most important tip.

Speed is mostly common sense. “I think 50 mph is a good number. We put low speed limits in town to help keep the noise down.”

Wear good gear. “It was so cold this year, and people would ask how we could snowmobile in that weather. If you have good gear, you’ll

SNOWMOBILE, PAGE 5

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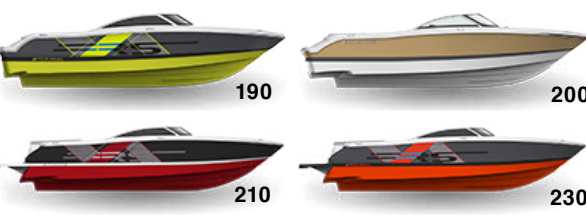


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SNOWMOBILE

FROM PAGE 3



Lake Panorama resident Jim Wyckoff has been snowmobiling since he was 10 years old.

be all right. There’s no such thing as poor weather, just poor clothing.”

Snowmobilers must have an updated registration as well, Wyckoff added, which can be obtained from your local county courthouse. Riders also have to have a state trail pass, including for the Raccoon River Bike Trail, which riders have to obtain as well.

LPA rules

According to John Rutledge, general manager of the Lake Panorama Association, snowmobilers are required to follow LPA rules and guidelines: All regulations regarding snowmobiles promulgated by the State of Iowa shall apply, including, but not limited to, age restrictions.

The off-road recreational

vehicle regulations and laws of the State of Iowa shall apply to the Lake Panorama Sub-division.

Snowmobiles may be operated on a member’s lot only, or on areas specifically designated by the Lake Panorama Board of Directors or LPA management as authorized by the Board of Directors.

Rutledge says the bottom line is people can snowmobile on the lake and on the marked route that is maintained by the Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers organization. “As long as they are on the marked trail and are doing things safely along that trail, we’re fine with it,” he says.

Rutledge encourages people to be especially vigilant now as the season winds down.

“The rapidly increasing

Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers Board Members

Mike Patten - president
Craig Flack - safety director
Jim Wyckoff - media director
For more information, email Mike Patten at mjpat76@aol.com or Jim Wyckoff at jim@jimwyckoff.com. To join the club, email Patten or call him at 515-669-0473. The club meets the second Thursday of each month. ■

temperatures, along with rainfall and snow melt, can make the ice variable and unsafe,” he says. “We encourage people to use a lot of caution as we move into the thaw period.” ■

NEW HEAD GOLF PRO HIRED AT LPN

Rob Riggins comes from the Des Moines Golf and Country Club, where he was a golf professional, tournament director and golf instructor for nearly three years.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

Rob Riggins is the new head golf professional at Lake Panorama National Resort and has been on the job since early February. Riggins has extensive experience in various aspects of the golf industry and has a passion for growing the game of golf with both juniors and adults.

“I am excited to welcome Rob to Lake Panorama National,” says Royce Shaffer, LPN operations manager. “He brings years of experience to LPN. As he settles in, I believe Rob will create an experience that our membership will be proud of. His passion for teaching will grow the game, which ultimately will increase membership at Lake Panorama National and Panorama West.”

Riggins comes to LPN from the Des Moines Golf and Country Club, where he was a golf professional, tournament director and golf instructor for nearly three years.

He got his start in golf at a young age.

“I grew up in southern California in a town called Sausalito, about 30 miles north of Los Angeles. My uncle would drag me to the course when I was a kid. He would just hand me a club and say ‘I’ll meet you at the green.’ I was hooked from the first moment,” Riggins says. “Other times my aunt would drop me off at the course on her way to work and pick me up on her way home. I would spend all day playing and practicing.”

While in California, Riggins was a tournament player for 10 years on multiple golf tours. “I played a few professional



Rob Riggins, shown in the Lake Panorama National Resort pro shop, is the new head golf professional at the LPN. His first day on the job was in early February. Most recently he was a golf professional, tournament director and golf instructor at the Des Moines Golf and Country Club.

golf tours over the years. For instance, the Asian Tour, Canadian Tour, a few Korn Ferry events and some professional mini tours in the U.S.,” he says. “The hardest part about playing golf for a living is being on a different golf course all the time and expecting to play great.”

He was the tournament director and golf professional at the Robinson Ranch Golf Club in Santa Clarita, California, for four years. He also worked at four other golf courses in Valencia, Thousand Oaks and Los Angeles.

Riggins moved from California to Iowa eight years ago.

“For those of us not born in Iowa, it seems we find our way here for either love or a job. I moved here for love, then also found a job,” he says.

He was hired as the gen-


eral manager and director of golf instruction at Jester Park, a position he held for four years before moving to the Des Moines Golf and Country Club. He currently lives in the West Des Moines area. After settling in Iowa, Riggins played in the Iowa Open a few times when it was at Lake Panorama.

“I have always admired the Lake Panorama National Resort,” he says. “I’m so pleased to be here and look forward to helping our members and guests in any way I can.”

Riggins says golf instruction is a passion of his.

“I enjoy helping people advance their skills as a golfer. Seeing positive results in their game reflects directly on their desire to play,” he says. “I plan to develop and grow golf clinics

GOLF PRO, PAGE 7



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Consider the upsides to smaller RMDs. A little more of your retirement money stays in the account, with further potential for tax-deferred growth. As RMDs represent taxable income, a marginally smaller RMD may leave you with slightly less income tax linked to the distribution.


Visit www.investgcsb.com to read this article in its entirety. Contact our office today to discuss your RMD’s or to schedule a free consultation about your specific situation.



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GOLF PRO

FROM PAGE 5

ics and group lessons, because the group atmosphere seems less intimidating. The feeling everyone is watching you is a big fear to those just beginning, and the group environment seems to help players get past that.”

Riggins says he prefers to work with smaller groups.

“Five or six people is my comfort zone to ensure enough attention is given to everyone,” Riggins says. “Private lessons also will be available by appointment.”

Lake Panorama National has offered a junior golf school for more than 20 years, and Riggins plans to build on that to further advance the game of golf at the LPN.

“Growing up, I was involved in a great junior golf program,” he says. “I love to see juniors excited about playing and getting better. The current program will remain, and I will do everything I can to grow the junior program further.”

Riggins says his first few weeks on the job have been spent “getting my head wrapped around the opera-

tion. I don’t like change just for the sake of change. I like to evaluate first,” he says. “I’m sure there will be some changes as we move forward. All 2021 tournaments and special events on the calendar will remain in place. I would like to add some new, fun events and am putting ideas together.”

Riggins plans to play a key role in all LPN golf leagues, and also is eager to help at Panorama West in any way possible.

“I want everyone to feel welcome and wanted,” he says. “I have been involved with all the different leagues at the courses I have been at, and I expect to give everyone the same attention here.”

Michael Kleinwelterink started working at the LPN as a teenager in the cart barn, moved to the pro shop, and was the first assistant pro there for many years. Beginning in 2016, he spent two years as manager of the Links restaurant. In 2018, he returned to the pro shop as manager, a position he continues to hold.

“Michael is a big part of

the operation. He has been involved for a long time, and I will lean on him throughout the season,” says Riggins. “Michael does a lot of the behind-the-scenes work at the club, and LPN is very lucky to have him.”

In terms of merchandise offered in the LPN pro shop, Riggins says much of that has already been ordered for the 2021 season. But, as he gets more familiar with current vendors and sees what members and guests like, some merchandising changes may occur.

“I want the shop full of merchandise that members of the club can be proud of,” he says.

Riggins is eager to get the 2021 golf season underway.

“I understand what drives golfers to do what they do and relate to the enthusiasm as well as the despair that this game can bring,” he says. “I want members at both Lake Panorama golf courses to know I am always available. They can stop by, call or email me with any questions or concerns. I am here to help.” ■

10 Squared Women of Guthrie County presents donations

Bagley Public Library was chosen to receive the first round of funding for 2021.

The 10 Squared Women of Guthrie County held its first quarter meeting both live and with the option of virtual attendance and voting. After hearing three presentations on Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2021, the Bagley Public Library was chosen to receive the first round of funding for 2021 from the group. The group is proud to announce a lump sum of \$10,100 was presented to Bagley Public Library. This consists of 10 Squared Women member donations and several employer matches. The group expects a few more member donations to come in as well.

The Bagley Public Library’s mission is to ensure that the people of the city of Bagley and the surrounding rural areas (regardless of age, financial status or ethnic background) have the right and means to free and open access to ideas, information and technology, which are fundamental to a democracy. The library will protect intellectual freedom, promote literacy, encourage lifelong learning and provide materials, formats and information services to meet these needs.

The Bagley Public Library provides a place for community members to gather and socialize. Their library offers public computer access, 24/7 Wi-Fi, faxing and copying, a meeting room, a large variety of books including large print, free DVD checkouts, Bridges, and their library online card catalog. Their programs include summer reading, story hour, reading with Zoey the therapy dog, gather and chat social hour, and game choice of the week for adults (cards, dominoes, cribbage). The donation from 10 Squared Women will go toward realizing their dream of replacing the original carpet, remodeling the kitchen and updating the bathroom in the library.

“The Bagley Public Library director, staff and board of trustees wish to express our sincere gratitude to the 10 Squared Women of Guthrie County for your generosity. You have made what seemed to be an impossible goal become possible,” says Joni Dvorak, president, library board of trustees.



Bagley Public Library members and volunteers: Jeannie Solorzano (library director), Becky Hasty (assistant library director), Joni Dvorak (board president), Linda Matthews (board treasurer), Sue Mozingo (board member) and Elly Heater (board member)

The 10 Squared Women’s group holds meetings quarterly at Lake Panorama Conference Center the fourth Tuesday in February, May, August and November, subject to change. Upcoming meeting dates are Tuesday, May 25, Tuesday, Aug. 24 and Tuesday, Nov. 16 (held a week earlier due to Thanksgiving). Members in attendance hear from three nominated organizations, drawn from “the hat” of member-nominated organizations at random, and vote on the winning cause that night. COVID-19 has created the need to do things a little differently, as far as electronic conversations and virtual presentations, meetings and votes on the causes that will be funded.

10 Squared Women is focused on helping and donating to local organizations that vow to put those charitable funds to work, right in our backyards. The funds are used in various projects to benefit Guthrie County community’s residents.

The group currently has approximately 93 members and 20 organizations nominated. It strongly encourages additional philanthropic organizations and new members to come forward. Since 10 Squared Women of Guthrie County was formed in January 2017, it has contributed nearly \$186,000 toward various causes in our county. These have included cities of Yale and Jamaica park improvements, and now city of Bagley for its library, daycare and preschool programs in Adair and Guthrie

Center (KidZone) and Panora (Little Panther), School Backpack programs at AC/GC, West Central Valley and Panoram, as well as programs that benefit residents from all corners of Guthrie County: Guthrie County Helping Hands (Habitat for Humanity projects in Stuart, Casey, Guthrie Center, Adair, Panora, Yale, Menlo, Jamaica, and Bagley), New Opportunities, Panora P.E.T.S., Guthrie Activity Center, Tori’s Angels Foundation, Guthrie County Sheriff’s Chaplains, Guthrie County Historical Village Foundation, Guthrie County Hospital Foundation, and Guthrie County Arts Council.

10 Squared Women members are encouraged to talk to their friends, neighbors and family about the group, and to share the group within their social circles. Members are not required to attend meetings; however, in order for their vote to count, must be in attendance at the meeting. All members are expected to write their donation checks whether they can attend the meeting and vote or not.

The group is continuously looking for new members who are excited about helping their communities and Guthrie County. To learn how to get involved, visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/10squaredwomengc>, or email them at 10squaredgc@gmail.com. Membership Forms and Frequently Asked Questions can be found on their Facebook page or by contacting them through Facebook or email. ■

The Lakeside Village director receives Community Impact Award

Amanda Creen recognized for making a positive impact on society through her own volunteerism and philanthropic efforts.

Amanda Creen, director at The Lakeside Village, a senior living community located on Lake Panorama, recently was awarded the 2020 Community Impact Award by Jaybird Senior Living. The Lakeside Village is managed by Jaybird Senior Living, which has more than 60 properties in its portfolio and is the largest operator of senior living communities in the Midwest.

The Community Impact Award is given to an individual who has made a positive impact on society through his/her own volunteerism and philanthropic efforts.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused an already precarious staffing pipeline to plunge into dangerous waters. Guthrie County lacked opportunities for area citizens to further their education and gain employment.

When she learned of the Future Ready Iowa Earn & Learn and Employer Innovation grants, Creen dove headfirst into passionately lobbying for the funds that would present opportunities for local residents. Her efforts paid off, and the community was awarded more than \$245,000 to assist with programming, compensation, training accommodations and educational materials.

“Over 200 people have taken CNA classes, and all will



Amanda Creen, director of The Lakeside Village, is shown with the award she recently received for her efforts to get funding for educational opportunities for Guthrie County residents.

go on to be advanced CNAs. Fifty people have become ServSafe certified, and 15 have taken the Iowa assisted living manager course. None of this would have been possible if it would not have been for Amanda working so hard to help others advance their lives,” says Marla Hammer, hospitality coordinator at The Lakeside Village.

The annual Jaybird Achievement Awards were announced in the fall of last year. This was the inaugural award cycle with

11 awards given in the following categories: Community Director of the Year, Community Nurse of the Year, Community Team Member of the Year, Jaybird Team Member of the Year, Dare to Dream of the Year, Innovation Award, and Community Impact Award. As appreciation for their dedication to providing red carpet service, each winner received a cash prize and award.

For more information, call (800) 366-6716, or visit www.jaybirdSL.com. ■

Fundraising continues for dog park; grant received for playground

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

The current priority project for Friends of Lake Panorama is a dog park. Fundraising for this project began in September 2020. The goal is \$50,000 to construct the park and provide all desired amenities. So far, \$33,000 has been donated to the project, which will be open to LPA members and their guests.

The park will be located at the corner of Sage Trail and RV Road near the east campground. Plans include a 6-foot-high chain link fence 650 feet long and 155 feet wide. There will be two sections, one for small dogs and one for large dogs. A single entrance will be protected by a keyless lock.

A sign recognizing donors of \$500 or more will be posted at the park. Dog park supporters who donated in 2020 can keep the fundraising momentum

going by making a second donation that will be deductible on their 2021 tax returns. Organizers hope enough money can be raised to begin construction in fall 2021 and have the park open in spring 2022.

Donations can be made by check payable to Friends of Lake Panorama and mailed to Friends of Lake Panorama, P.O. Box 488, Panora, IA 50216. Donations also can be made by credit card on the Friends website at www.friendsoflakepanorama.org.

The previous priority project for Friends was new playground equipment at Shady and Boulder beaches. Early donations and proceeds from the 2020 Beach Ball made it possible to order the play equipment for Shady Beach, which was installed last October, the same month the \$70,000 goal was reached.

Additional donations of \$1,700 in the last two months

of 2020 made it possible to add one bench and a second spring rider to the Boulder Beach playground. That equipment was ordered in January and will be delivered and installed this spring once ground conditions allow.

In early February, Friends of Lake Panorama was notified it will receive a \$500 grant for the playgrounds from Aureon, a technology products and services provider. The grant is being given in conjunction with Panora Telco, which sponsored the grant application submitted last fall by the charity. The Aureon Charity Grant program was created in 1993 to increase service and support to rural independent telecommunications companies and the communities they serve.

A sign recognizing playground donors of \$500 or more is in the works and will be installed at Boulder and Shady beaches this summer. ■

LPN Easter Brunch April 4

Lake Panorama National’s annual Easter Brunch will be Sunday, April 4 with reservations available every half hour from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The Lake Panorama National Resort food and beverage team is offering a wide variety of both breakfast and lunch entrees.

For breakfast, there will be cheesy scrambled eggs, Fiesta egg casserole, hickory smoked bacon, sausage patties, biscuits and gravy, crispy red potatoes, and an assortment of breakfast sweets, includ-

ing cinnamon rolls and mini muffins.

Lunch items will include pecan crusted chicken with peach marmalade, fried chicken legs and thighs, roasted pork loin with apple butter, carved honey glazed ham, mashed potatoes with gravy, rice pilaf, sauteed squash medley and green beans almondine.

There also will be a fresh fruit display, garden salad with assorted toppings and dressings, spring time pasta salad, pea salad and coleslaw.

Dessert options will include bread pudding, peanut butter cheesecake cups, coconut cream pie and other sweet treats.

The cost is \$23 for adults, \$10 for children 5-12, and free for children ages 4 and younger. The Links regular breakfast menu will not be available that day. Reservations are required. An 18 percent gratuity will be added to groups of eight or more. Call the LPN front desk at 641-755-2080 or 800-879-1917 to reserve a table. ■

Lake Panorama **TIMES**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 14
Daylight Savings Time Begins



Monday, March 15
6-7 p.m.
Special Board Meeting
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, March 16
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser - Junior Class
www.panoramaschools.org



Wednesday, March 17
Saint Patrick's Day

Monday, March 22
6:30 p.m.
Panora City Council meeting
www.cityofpanora.com

Tuesday, March 23
5 p.m.
LPA Board Meeting
www.lakepanorama.org

Saturday, March 27
9 a.m.
Soccer: Boys Varsity Scrimmage vs. Greene County, Perry, Storm Lake
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, March 30
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls Varsity Earlybird vs. Earlham, Grand View Christian, Iowa Christian Academy, Saydel Community Schools, Van Meter, West Central Valley
Earlham High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, March 30
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Boys Varsity Earlybird vs. Earlham, Grand View Christian, Iowa Christian Academy, Saydel Community Schools, Van Meter, West Central Valley
Earlham High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 1
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls Varsity Meet vs. Carroll Community, Ogden, Pella Christian, Perry, Saydel Community Schools, Van Meter, Winterset
Ogden High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 1
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Boys Varsity Meet vs. Carroll Community, North Polk, Ogden, Pella Christian, Perry, Saydel Community Schools, Van Meter
Ogden High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 1
5 p.m.
Soccer: Boys Varsity Game vs. Tri-Center Community Schools
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 1
No school spring break (possible)
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 2
No school
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, April 5
No school spring break (possible)
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, April 5
4 p.m.
Golf: Girls Varsity Meet vs. Earlham, Interstate 35, Van Meter
Winterset, LVCC
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 6
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls Varsity Meet vs. AC/GC, Glidden-Ralston, Greene County, Harlan Community, Madrid, Ogden, Woodbine, Woodward Granger
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 6
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Boys Varsity Meet vs. AC/GC, Glidden-Ralston, Greene County, Madrid, Ogden, Woodbine, Woodward Granger
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 6
5 p.m.
Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Des Moines Hoover
Des Moines Hoover High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 6
7 p.m.
Soccer: Boys Varsity Game vs. Des Moines Hoover
Des Moines Hoover High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 8
No school
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 8
5 p.m.
Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. East Sac County
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 8
5 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls Varsity Meet vs. Van Meter
Van Meter High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 8
5 p.m.
Track & Field: Boys Varsity Meet vs. Van Meter
Van Meter High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 8
7 p.m.
Soccer: Boys Varsity Game vs. East Sac County
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, April 12
6:30 p.m.
Panora City Council meeting
www.cityofpanora.com

Monday, April 12
6-7 p.m.
School Board Meeting
www.panoramaschools.org



Monday, April 12
4 p.m.
Golf: Girls Varsity Meet vs. Des Moines Christian Schools, Interstate 35, West Central Valley
5 x 80 Golf Course
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, April 12
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls JH Meet vs. Adair-Casey/Guthrie Center, Earlham, Martensdale-St Marys, Nodaway Valley, Saydel Community Schools, West Central Valley, Winterset
Earlham High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 13
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Boys JH Meet vs. Adair-Casey/Guthrie Center, Earlham, Martensdale-St Marys, Nodaway Valley, Saydel Community Schools, West Central Valley, Winterset
Earlham High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 13
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls JH Invitational vs. Des Moines Christian Schools, Glidden-Ralston, Madrid, Pleasantville, Van Meter, West Central Valley, Woodward Granger
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 13
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls Varsity Meet vs. Adair-Casey/Guthrie Center, Colo-NESCO, Coon Rapids Bayard, Des Moines Christian Schools, Earlham, Exira-Elk-Horn-Kimballton, Grand View Christian, Harlan Community, Interstate 35, Iowa Christian Academy, Nodaway Valley, Ogden, Orient-Macksburg Community Schools, Southeast Warren, Van Meter, West Central Valley
Earlham High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 13
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Boys JH Invitational vs. Des Moines Christian Schools, Glidden-Ralston, Madrid, Pleasantville, Van Meter, West Central Valley, Woodward Granger
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, April 13
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Boys Varsity Meet vs. Adair-Casey/Guthrie Center, Colo-NESCO, Coon Rapids Bayard, Des Moines Christian Schools, Earlham, Exira-Elk-Horn-Kimballton, Grand View Christian, Harlan Community, Interstate 35, Iowa Christian Academy, Nodaway Valley, Ogden, Orient-Macksburg Community Schools, Southeast Warren, Van Meter, West Central Valley
Earlham High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 15
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls JH Meet vs. Van Meter Van Meter Junior-Senior High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 15
4:30 p.m.
Track & Field: Boys JH Meet vs. Van Meter
Van Meter Junior-Senior High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 15
5 p.m.
Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. North Polk
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, April 15
5 p.m.
Track & Field: Girls Varsity Meet vs. AC-GC
AC/GC High School
www.panoramaschools.org



Saturday, April 17
Prom
www.panoramaschools.org

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NEIL WRIGHT

Neil Duane Wright, 69, of Panora, passed away Feb. 20, 2021, after a year-long battle with lung cancer.

Neil was born April 2, 1951, to Donald and Juanita (Kennett) Wright in Jefferson, Iowa. After graduating from Jefferson Community High School in 1969, he attended Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge. In 1970, Neil was married to Susan DeWitt and had a daughter, Nichole.

Throughout his life, Neil had many business ventures, including working for Morton Buildings and most recently owner of The Trash Man in Webster City, Iowa. Neil was a passionate businessman and loved being involved in the community. He served on the Lake Panorama Association and Panora State Bank Boards. He was a member of the Jefferson Elks. Neil was an avid golfer and a long-time member of the Jefferson community and Lake Panorama National Golf Courses.

Neil married Jolene (Golden) Wright in Hawaii on Dec. 1, 2001, and they have lived at Lake Panorama for more than 20 years. Neil and Jolene enjoyed playing cards, traveling, boating and, of course, golf, golf, golf. They also enjoyed spending



time with their seven grandchildren. Neil will be remembered through many stories told on the golf course and around the card table.

Neil was preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Juanita, and his grandson Kenneth Declan Cunningham. He is survived by his wife Jolene, his daughter Nichole Campbell of Cumming, Iowa; his stepchildren, Joell and Buddy Herrick of Waukee, Danny and Gina Cunningham of Perry; grandchildren Grant, Gaven and Gage Campbell, Sydney and Halle Herrick, and Skylar and Eliza Cunningham.

Services were held Feb. 25, 2021, at Slininger-Schroeder Funeral Home in Jefferson, followed by burial in the Jefferson Cemetery. ■

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RECIPE

Fish tacos

Fresh, fast and flavorful.... a lesson from my daughter

BY JOLENE GOODMAN



Jolene Goodman

One of the many joys of witnessing your children growing up is learning from them as they master their talents. Shane and I are blessed to have three amazing cooks in the family... our daughters! I have learned so much from them in recent years and am working to up my cooking skills, as it has become very obvious that I am now pretty lazy in the kitchen. One of my favorite recipes from Sara is fish tacos. These can vary each time she makes them, always flavorful and easy to prepare. The best part about this basic recipe is that it truly is fresh, fast and flavorful. Experiment with your taco toppings by adding avocado, chopped carrots, cabbage and different cheese varieties. Then, start tweaking the sauce. Enjoy! In a bowl, mix spices for fish. Season each tilapia fillet with season mix. Over medium-high heat, cook two fillets at a time for eight minutes, flipping halfway. Repeat for the remaining fillets (or dust off that grill!). While those are cooking, prepare your taco toppings and mix the taco sauce. ■

Jolene Goodman is the advertising director for Lake Panorama Times and resides with her husband Shane on Lake Panorama.

FISH TACOS

4 Tilapia fillets
16 flour tortillas

Seasoning for fish

1/4 tsp cayenne pepper
1/2 tsp garlic powder
1/4 tsp cumin
1/2 tsp nature's season (or salt)
1/2 tsp pepper

Taco toppings

Cilantro, chopped
Fresh greens, chopped
Red onion, diced
Tomato, diced
Feta

Taco sauce ingredients

1 cup sour cream (or mayonnaise)
2 tbsp Franks hot sauce (or more)
1/2 tsp paprika
1 tsp garlic salt
1 tsp lime juice (or less, don't use too much!)



NEW LPA MAINTENANCE FACILITY
PROVING ITS WORTH

The 10,000-square-foot shop is the main building at the new site.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

This winter has been the first full season the new LPA maintenance facility has been available to staff. And to say the facility is working as planned would be an understatement. "The 2019 maintenance facility is proving to be an excellent infrastructure investment for the association," says John Rutledge, LPA general manager. "Although it has only been 15 months since we moved in, it is difficult to recall how we functioned without this facility. The shop provides our crew the opportunity to repair and maintain essential equipment, which has been especially critical during the heavy snowfall winter of 2020-21."

This project first was introduced to the LPA board in the fall of 2014. It was the fall of 2018 before plans were completed, a location was chosen, and construction began. Move-in began in mid-October of 2019, and 200 people attended an open house Nov. 22, 2019. But it was a few months into 2020 before the move was complete and all shelving and cabinets had been assembled and installed by LPA staff. The new maintenance complex, located on the lake's east side at the corner of 200th and Chimra, includes a shop that measures about 10,000 square feet. Also on the site is a cold storage building that has a crushed rock floor. It is used for storing items that don't need to be kept in a heated environment.

There are two large hoop structures, one for salt and one for sand storage. A smaller hoop structure is a dedicated space for mixing brine, which is used on Lake Panorama roads in the winter. This keeps this process out of the shop, since brine is corrosive. Also at the site are storage bins for aggregate and other materials. The facility replaced the old maintenance facility located a quarter-mile further west that was built in 1973. It was



The 10,000-square-foot shop is the main building at the new maintenance site. During the winter months, the heated building houses several vehicles overnight. This includes the five LPA trucks with snowblades that are kept loaded with sand and salt, ready to clear roads as needed. Picnic tables from the beaches that need stained or repaired are brought to the shop in the fall and worked on as time permits.



There are two large hoop structures at the new maintenance facility. Both are used for salt and sand storage. A smaller hoop structure is a dedicated space for mixing brine, which also is used on Lake Panorama roads in the winter.



Being able to work on vehicles and other equipment in a heated building in the winter is one of the best features of the new facility. Here, Dalton Allen, a member of the LPA maintenance staff, works on one of the LPA trucks.

4,000 square feet and didn't come close to providing the needed space for the maintenance equipment and employees that now support the Lake Panorama community. In addition, signs of corrosion were discovered in late 2016, and the building was temporarily modified in the fall of 2018 to support LPA operations that winter. The LPA board confirmed staff and engineer recommendations that LPA crews not spend another

winter in that facility. Mike Monthei, LPA operations supervisor, manages the facility. "Being able to repair equipment in a clean and controlled environment helps to keep our equipment in good order," Monthei says. "This is not only important from a productivity standpoint, but also from a worker safety standpoint." The new shop provides a heated space for storage and maintenance of key pieces of

LPA equipment. Large overhead doors on both sides of the building allow trucks and trailers to be pulled through the building. A lift in the southeast corner makes it easy to perform routine maintenance on vehicles. In addition to serving the LPA maintenance department, the facility houses equipment that serves the LPA security, water and erosion control departments. An earthen berm was built

to the west and south of the facility. On top and outside of this berm are evergreen plantings that provide a visual screen. Cupolas, wainscot and a stone entrance to the shop's office area all "dress up" the facility. The maintenance complex cost was \$1.7 million. LPA worked with a consortium of local banks to finance the project with payoff structured as a 20-year loan. The cold storage building

located at the old maintenance facility site was repurposed for boat storage, beginning last fall. The old shop was torn down in early 2020. "On behalf of the Lake Panorama staff, I want to thank the LPA board and membership for their support of this important project," says Rutledge. "This facility will help our team continue to provide top-notch service to the LPA membership for decades to come." ■

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HELP WANTED
Wood Duck Landscapes has immediate opening for full time Landscape Crew leaders and members both on its Lake Panorama and Des Moines based crews. Starting wage of \$18/hr for entry level positions. www.wood-ducklandscapes.com/careers. Call or text Josh at 515-661-3208 to apply.

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ASK

Lake Panorama **TIMES**

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

Q: I heard there is a shortage of boats available at dealerships due to COVID-19-related issues. Is that true?

A: Shutdowns at manufacturing facilities and an increase in demand have certainly impacted the inventory of new and used boats of all types including pontoons, wake/surf boats, fishing boats, jet skis and fiberglass runabouts across the entire USA.

Lyn Coulter of Coulter's Panorama Marine told us, "Almost all boat manufacturing plants and their suppliers were closed during the second quarter of 2020 from the pandemic. At the same time, retail demand was increasing because many people saw boating as a safe way to recreate away from the crowds. With no new boats being produced and retail demand increasing 41 percent over the same period of 2019, there simply weren't enough boats on dealer lots to fill the demand. Most all boat dealers sold out their stock of boats by the middle of June 2020."

Coulter says the demand has not yet abated and most all boat manufacturers are already sold out for 2021. Manufacturers report they cannot keep up with retail demand and that they are only building boats that are sold orders. Coulter says he has been told that they cannot build very many boats for dealers to stock.

"For example, the marina should have between 35 to 40 new boats in stock now for 2021," he says. "We currently have only 16 in stock, and that will be it until the 2022s begin to come out in August."

Coulter also says there are spot shortages of some parts needed in the production of new boats, thus hampering efforts to build the new boats to meet demand.

Coulter's advice?
"It's going to be a challenge to find a boat, new or used, for 2021," he says. "Shop now because there might not be anything on dealer lots again this summer." ■

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



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Lake Panorama **TIMES**

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER TURNS LOVE OF NATURE INTO BUSINESS

The serenity of being in a rural setting and near water drew Scott and Trish Hart to Lake Panorama.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

Seeing a diversity of wild-life is one of the joys of Lake Panorama property ownership. One property owner recently turned her interest in the birds and animals outside her window into a small business.

Scott and Trish Hart bought a lot at Lake Panorama in 2007. They had a home built, which was completed in 2012, and moved to the lake fulltime in 2014.

"I've always been an avid nature lover and thoroughly enjoy capturing nature's beauty," says Trish. "Lake Panorama and the surrounding area has such an amazing variety of wildlife we're blessed to enjoy throughout each season. When we first moved to the lake fulltime, I used my Samsung Galaxy cellphone to snap photos. But, after buying a digital camera last year, the photography bug really bit me."

Hart purchased a Panasonic Lumix FZ80, which she says has "some pretty amazing built-in zoom features, so I can capture colorful images

of wild birds, fox, deer, turkey, raccoon and bobcat, in addition to Lake Panorama's beautiful sunrises and sunsets," she says.

"I've enjoyed capturing nature's beauty and sharing it with others on my personal Facebook page," Hart says. "We have several birdfeeders on our upper deck, which we can see from our kitchen windows and sunroom. The other wildlife images I've been fortunate to capture were all in close proximity to our cove."

After seeing so many friends and family commenting on and enjoying her images on Facebook, Hart decided to launch "Nature's Canvas Photography" in January 2021. She created a new Facebook page for the business and now offers custom prints on high quality paper, metal, or glass, plus custom canvases in a variety of shapes and sizes.

The Harts were high school sweethearts while attending school at Coon Rapids. But they took a long and circuitous route to reach Lake Panorama, just 30 miles south.

Trish's parents and grandparents are from South Dakota,

and that's where she was born. Her father was a high school principal, and the family relocated to Coon Rapids when she was in grade school. Scott grew up in Coon Rapids, and they dated throughout high school.

They both graduated from Iowa State. Trish earned a bachelor's degree in logistics/supply chain with a minor in information systems management. Scott earned a bachelor's in agronomy, with an emphasis in seed science.

"We're big ISU fans and have been football season ticket holders for more than 20 years," Trish says. "We love our Cyclones!"

The couple married in the fall of 1987. Shortly after graduating from ISU, Scott had an opportunity with Pioneer to oversee their western sunflower acres and production facility in Woodland, California.

"We packed up and headed west to live in Northern California for seven years," Trish says. "We loved our experience there, fell in love with all the natural beauty, and made many lasting friendships."

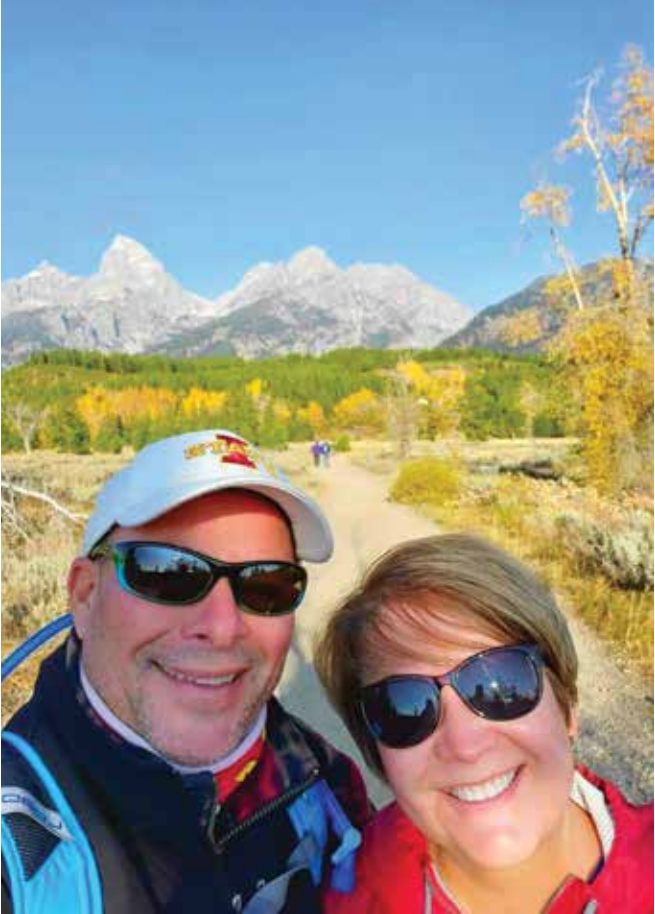
While living in California,

Trish's college roommate, who was a human resources recruiter with Principal Financial Group, contacted her about a leadership role available for someone who had a logistics and information systems management background.

"I flew back to Des Moines, interviewed and was offered the position," she says. "Scott and I were thinking about starting a family at that time and welcomed the opportunity to move closer to home and be near extended family."

The couple lived in Grimes for more than 20 years, while she was an assistant director with Principal and Scott was a marketing director and agronomist with Pioneer, which now is known as Corteva Agriscience.

The couple has one son, Logan, who also is an ISU alum. He graduated with an industrial engineering degree in December 2019 and started his fulltime career with Crane Worldwide Logistics in Ohio a year ago. In December he accepted a promotion with



Scott and Trish Hart like to walk and hike together. When they have a chance to get away, they enjoy traveling and exploring U.S. National Parks. Here they are shown at the Grand Teton National Park.

PHOTO, PAGE 14



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Q&A: LPA PROJECT UPDATES FROM GM

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

The Lake Panorama Association (LPA) staff already is gearing up for spring and summer projects, while managing the daily changes of an Iowa winter. This month's Q&A with John Rutledge, LPA general manager, includes information on several topics important to LPA members.

Q: What changes in COVID-19 policy can LPA members expect for this spring and summer?

A: Like everyone else, we're looking forward to a return to a pre-pandemic environment. We remain optimistic but will approach all policy changes with a measure of caution. Policies may differ between the LPA and Lake Panorama National/Panorama West, due to the nature of those businesses and the facilities in which they operate.

Lake Panorama National and Panorama West are looking forward to welcoming guests for golf and dining. The dining facilities will continue to utilize the ample space we have available and ensure those who wish to maintain social distancing can continue to do so. As in 2020, golf will continue to offer members an opportunity to safely enjoy the outdoors and get some much-needed fresh air.

Lake Panorama National policies continue to require the wearing of masks by staff who are in contact with customers. We understand some customers appreciate this and others think it is unnecessary. Please know we don't seek to be part of a political debate on masking, but rather, we strive to ensure we can provide all of our customers with a level of comfort

and service they expect.

The LPA office will continue to be closed to walk-in traffic until further notice; however, we will accept visitors by appointment. This decision is based upon both the limited physical space of the LPA office and the well-defined peak of spring traffic LPA experiences.

For instance, LPA issued 2,841 boat stickers during 2020. In pre-pandemic times, it was common to have dozens of members cycle through the small space of LPA's front office on a given day. But in 2020, LPA office staff and the LPA membership worked through the pandemic by communicating via email, telephone and by using the LPA drop-off box. This strategy worked extremely well and allowed us to avoid the concerns associated with a congested waiting area.

Due to the uncertainty of the year to come, the LPA office will continue our COVID-19 protocol into the 2021 season. Thanks to all of our members who have helped make this a very safe and effective approach to conducting business with the LPA office.

Q: Look ahead to 2021 and share some dates LPA members should have on their calendars.

A: The 2021 LPA annual meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 8, at the LPN Conference Center. The meeting will include the election of three members to the LPA board of directors, as well as an annual overview on the business of the association. If the board of directors determines it is imprudent to host a large gathering on May 8, then the backup date of Saturday, June 26, will be used.

The annual Fin and Feather fundraiser banquet generally coincides with the date of the LPA annual meeting. This year, the Fin and Feather officers have set Saturday, June 26, as the date for the organization's 2021 banquet.

With COVID-19 concerns continuing, the officers decided waiting another seven weeks would be best so committee members could more safely and effectively accomplish banquet preparation. The banquet will be held at the LPN Conference Center with social hour beginning at 5 p.m. A dinner and silent/live auctions will follow at 6 p.m.

The Independence Day weekend always marks a highlight of summer for many LPA members. The annual Fire in the Sky Fireworks Show is scheduled for Saturday, July 3, 2021.

Q: What capital projects does LPA have planned for 2021?

A: LPA's largest capital expenditure for 2021 involves a proactive maintenance project at the LPA dam. Over the last several years, LPA, Shive-Hattery Engineers and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources have been working together to develop a plan for improvements to the dam's auxiliary spillway. This project is designed to ensure the dam remains sufficiently protected in the rare occurrence of a major flood event that utilizes the auxiliary spillway.

In 1986 and 1993, the LPA dam's concrete principal spillway was unable to keep up with the inflow of epic rain events. So, as it was designed to do, water discharged over the earthen auxiliary spillway, which ensured the structural integrity of the dam was not



threatened. On both occasions, the auxiliary spillway functioned effectively.

The principal spillway and the auxiliary spillway are separated by a substantial earthen berm. This berm is critical to ensure any flows over the auxiliary spillway are kept away from the concrete walls of the principal spillway. Inspections of the separation berm identified the importance of proactive maintenance in this area.

Bids will be requested for this earthwork project in early 2021, with the work being completed by September 2021. Total earthwork and engineering for this project is anticipated to cost be-

tween \$200,000 and \$250,000. The project will not require any adjustment of the lake's water level and will not impact the 2021 boating season.

Also on the list for 2021 are the replacement of an LPA security boat and a security pickup. This department continues to maintain a fleet of three patrol boats and two security trucks.

A final notable improvement will be replacement of the bathrooms at Shady Beach and Sunset Beach. Timing of this work is up in the air but will be communicated to the membership as the project advances. ■

Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors Meeting

Dec. 15, 2020
(Unapproved Minutes – Will receive final approval at the March 23, 2021 LPA board meeting.)

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met Dec. 15, 2020, at 5 p.m. via Web Conference. Board members in attendance were Larry Babcock, Mary Jane Carothers, Emily Donovan, Gary Evans, David Finneseth, Rich Schumacher and Jim Spradling.

LPA Staff in attendance: Danna Krambeier and John Rutledge.

Visitors in attendance: Cheryl Howard

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

Agenda Item 1 – Approval of the Agenda –

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

Agenda Item 2 – Open Forum – Cheryl Howard, lot 930, 4211 Panorama Drive, addressed the board regarding a variance request for side lot setback of 4 feet at foundation and 6 feet at roof line. This would leave 4 feet from lot line to roof line. Howard explained that septic field location and setbacks from waterfront prohibited the addition at a different location. The Building Codes committee has recommended to deny the variance request. Howard is asking the Board of Directors to consider the request.

Carothers moved to Agenda Item 4c

Agenda Item 4c – Variance Request – lot 930, side lot setback, Cheryl Howard

Rutledge reviewed the rules regarding 10-foot side lot setbacks for the purpose of a useable easement to be able to access this area for future drainage and utility purposes. Board discussed the information presented.

Babcock moved to deny the side lot setback variance request for Lot 930 – 4211 Panorama Drive, Cheryl Howard. Motion seconded. Roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda

Donovan 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 11.24.2020 LPA Board Meeting

c) Acceptance of 11.30.2020 consolidated financial report – LPA & LPN, LLC

d) Set date for next board meeting – 03.23.2021

e) Accept minutes from 11.23.2020 LPN LLC Board of Managers meeting

f) Authorization to make 2021 investment in subsidiary (LPN, LLC) of up to \$250k per budget

Agenda Item 4a – Accept Building Codes Minutes from

12/14/2020 meeting

Building codes meeting was held 12/14/2020.

Spradling moved to accept the 12/14/2020 Building Code Minutes. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4b – Variance Request – lots 789/790, front lot setback, Don and Linda Eckles

The front lot setback request was denied by building codes committee. Based upon the committee's denial, the member developed an alternate plan and withdrew variance request. No board action required.

Agenda Item 4d – Appointment to fill a vacancy on the LPA Building Codes Committee

Rod Knudsen is currently serving on the Building Codes committee, with a term expiring in May 2023. Knudsen recently informed Rutledge his availability for this obligation has changed and he has respectfully tendered his resignation.

Building Codes Committee

has recommended the appointment of Terry Gebard to complete the term.

Schumacher moved to accept the resignation of Rod Knudsen and appoint Terry Gebard to the balance of Knudsen's term on the building codes committee, running through May 2023. Motion seconded, carried unanimously

Agenda Item 5 – Old Business - None

Agenda Item 6 – Closed Session – None

Agenda Item 7 – Other Business

Rutledge updated the Board on the LPN Board of Managers meeting from Dec. 14, 2020. John Coghlan was elected president for the upcoming year. The PPP loan granted to LPN, LLC in 2020 was officially forgiven by the SBA.

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

LAKE PANORAMA FIN & FEATHER BANQUET JUNE 26

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

The officers of Lake Panorama Fin and Feather recently set Saturday, June 26 as the date for the organization's 2021 annual banquet. The banquet had been tentatively scheduled for May 8 to coincide with the LPA annual meeting, but with COVID-19 concerns continuing, the officers decided waiting another seven weeks would be best so committee mem-

bers could more safely and effectively accomplish banquet preparation.

The 2020 Fin and Feather annual banquet was cancelled because of COVID-19 public gathering restrictions. However, the organization was able to continue the 2020 fish stocking effort through its use of fund reserves generated at previous fundraising banquets.

More than \$14,000 worth of fish were added

in November 2020 to Lake Panorama. Fish stocking totals for 2020 included 2,500 walleye, 1,200 smallmouth bass and 1,000 largemouth bass.

Volunteers in the non-profit Fin and Feather group have been stocking fish and working to improve fishing conditions in Lake Panorama since 1984.

The June 26 Fin and Feather banquet will be held at the Lake Panorama National Resort with

social hour beginning at 5 p.m. A dinner and silent/live auctions will follow at 6 p.m. All ages are welcome.

Tickets to the event 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, raffle tickets, name in the program and an annual family membership. The cost of an annual family membership is \$40.

Donations, tickets and

other payments made in 2020 were carried over to 2021 and can be used for 2021 memberships and meal tickets. Those who would like to use their 2020 payment as a donation can do so and also make 2021 purchases and payments.

To purchase dinner tickets and memberships by check, make it payable to Fin and Feather and mail to Doug Hemphill, Farmers State Bank, P.O. Box 110, Yale, IA 50277. Dinner reser-



vations and payments also can be made online using a credit card or PayPal account. Visit the organization's website at www.panoramafinand-feather.com. ■

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PHOTO
FROM PAGE 11



While most of the photos Hart offers through Nature’s Canvas Photography are taken at Lake Panorama, this one of a bald eagle catching a fish was snapped at Saylorville Lake.



Two young fox took a break from exploring last summer, just long enough for Hart to snap some pictures.



Getting this photo of a barred owl was more difficult because they are more active in the evening. It’s striking how the colors of the owl match the wintery surroundings.



Feeders on the Harts’ upper deck not only attract birds, they attract squirrels.



This winter’s weather has given Hart the chance to snap photos of her favorite birds and wildlife in frosty conditions, such as this male blue jay.



The Harts have a variety of bird feeding stations on their upper deck. This female oriole is enjoying an orange.

Crane into a new leadership role in California. He and his girlfriend, Danielle Armstrong, now are settled in the southern California area.

In 2007, while living in Grimes, Scott and Trish bought a lot at Lake Panorama in An-

draws Cove, on the northeast side of the lake just before the Narrows.

“I enjoyed many summers with my family on the water, boating and camping at Gavin’s Point Dam in Yankton, South Dakota, so lake life is in

my blood,” says Trish.

Their good friends, Larry and Heidi Wolinski, had built a home in Burchfield Cove and own Azcon Construction. The couple partnered with Larry on the custom design and build of their home and moved to Lake Panorama fulltime in 2014.

“We were drawn to Lake Panorama for many reasons,” Trish says. “The boating, skiing, tubing and fishing, the variety of wildlife, the serenity of being in a rural setting and near the water. We also own a farm and recreational timber south of Guthrie Center where Scott has a cow-calf operation. Scott’s a big hunter and enjoys spending time there.”

Hart says, when they started building, they quickly discovered Andrews Cove and the surrounding area had some “generous and warm neighbors nearby. We learned this the first winter snowstorm we experienced after moving in, when we received 14 inches of snow. David Van Ahn came to our rescue with his tractor and blade and quickly scooped us out. And we’re delighted Dave still graciously does this for us every snowstorm.”

Another example of that neighborly compassion involved Mary and Ray Pals, who helped tow their boat to Coulter’s Marine after a faulty battery was discovered.

“Scott and I love hosting our family and friends at Lake Panorama,” Trish says. “We’ve made so many great memories here and look forward to making many more.”

By the winter of 2017, after 25 years in a fulltime leadership role with Principal Financial Group, Trish was ready for a change.

“This was before COVID-19, and the commute into downtown Des Moines was taking its toll,” she says. “After many great years with the company, I resigned and was ready to look for something part-time.”

Within a few weeks, Trish saw Lake Panorama National Resort was looking for someone to work at the LPN front desk.

“I interviewed and started working 20 to 25 hours a week in April 2017,” she says. “Working there has been a welcome change and allowed me to get to know many more Lake Panorama residents and LPN club members.

“I enjoy interacting with everyone and seeing them enjoy the variety of amenities LPN offers, especially in the busy spring and summer seasons,” Trish says. “I cover the phone lines and help guests make lodging arrangements for the townhouses and hotel, prep their keys, and assist guests with check-in and check-out. It’s a completely different vibe

A woman and a young girl are sitting on a light-colored carpeted floor. The woman is on the left, wearing a pink sweater and grey pants, and the girl is on the right, wearing a white sweater and dark pants. They are both looking at a golden retriever that is lying down next to them. The dog is looking towards the camera. In the background, there is a wooden dresser and a window with white curtains.

The Mohawk logo, featuring a stylized red and white 'M' above the word 'MOHAWK' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

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PHOTO
FROM PAGE 14



While Lake Panorama residents don't appreciate it when deer browse on their landscape plantings, there's no denying the cuteness level of a mother doe and her baby fawn.



Trish Hart captures photos of many vibrantly colored birds, including this bluebird. Hart says, since ancient times, bluebirds have been a symbol of good luck and happiness.



This bright red male cardinal with a snowy beak was perched on a feeder on the Harts' deck when Trish captured this image.

from my previous role, and I've enjoyed getting to know a new set of colleagues at LPN and LPA."

Scott now works as a marketing director with AgVenture, one of Corteva Agriscience's seed brands. The couple likes walking together and hiking, and when they have a chance to get away, they enjoy traveling and exploring U.S. National Parks.

But when they're at Lake Panorama, they often are on the water.

"Our family loves being on the water, and Scott's an avid fisherman," Trish says. "One of our favorite activities is taking the boat out right before sunset and heading to the upper basin to relax and savor those rapidly changing colors on the horizon. Iowa sunsets are magical, and we're so blessed to be in an area where we can enjoy heaven's artistry."

"As I look back on 2020 when the virus hit and we all started sheltering at home, it seemed the perfect opportunity for me to slow down, pay attention to what was going on outside, and truly appreciate nature's seasonal blessings and rhythms," Trish says. "That's what Nature's Canvas Photography is all about. For those interested in adding some color and life to their walls and décor, I would love to help make it happen."

Prices for Hart's custom prints vary as she partners with a variety of production houses that may be offering special promotions

throughout the year. Some clients have been interested in simply buying a digital download of an image, which they can turn into a custom mug, blanket, puzzle, keychain, computer mousepad, Christmas ornament or a host of other items.

Hart recently did a photo shoot at The Lakeside Village for marketing purposes, after Gloria Dahl of Windy Ridge Interiors & More staged several apartments in the senior facility. She says while her first love will always be nature photography, she's open to considering other projects. Hart can be contacted by visiting www.facebook.com/NaturesCanvasPhotos. ■

LAKE DOG & COVE CAT

By CHERYL TEMPLE
Lake Panorama Times

Lake Dog
Name: Tanner
Nickname: T-Bone
Breed: Yellow lab
Age: 15 years old
Owners: Andrea and Justin Rishel



Tanner was a rescue that was being fostered by neighbors of Andrea and Justin Rishel. Tanner chose the Rishels as his family one night at a neighborhood get together.

On nice days, you will find Tanner laying outside soaking up as much sun as possible (even on the hottest of days). He enjoys going on long walks, swimming in the lake, car rides to PJ's for ice cream and Grandma and Grandpa Pipers' for sleepovers or just to say "hi" and grab a treat or two. Tanner's pet peeve is when his feline siblings try to snuggle with him on his bed. ■

Cove Cat
Name: Lucky
Breed: Calico
Age: 6 years old
Owners: Andrea and Justin Rishel



How appropriate for our March Cove Cat to be named "Lucky." She is a 6-year-old Calico rescue kitty that wandered into Andrea and Justin Rishel's garage.

She enjoys the outdoors, hunting and rolling around on the concrete. Lucky comes running when she hears the treat bag. She likes napping in drawers, playing with her kitty brother Houdini, and hiding under the blankets with her family. Her pet peeve is an empty food bowl. ■

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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