



BRACKELSBERG FAMILY ENJOYS LONG HISTORY AT LAKE PANORAMA

“Having a lake home is a good way to keep families together.”

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

In 1966, Paul Brackelsberg was a new animal science faculty member at Iowa State University. Three years later, his wife Phyllis joined the ISU textiles and clothing faculty. One day they were driving to a conference together when they decided to stop in Panora to check out Lake Panorama.

“The lot sales location was on the west side,” Paul says. “We didn’t have much money, but we ended up buying some lots on the west side that we were told would be real money-makers for us. It didn’t really turn out that way.”

But eventually they bought

a boat and started spending time on the new lake. Phyllis had grown up in Minnesota so was familiar with the family fun of living on a lake. The couple now had three children and decided it was time to build a house on Lake Panorama. In 1988, they purchased a waterfront lot on the east side near the entrance to the Narrows, plus three B lots across the street.

They built a small home – just 1,040 square feet. But it was a place for them and their extended family to gather.

“Phyllis’ parents from Minnesota came to visit and said we made a good decision, that having a lake home is a good way to keep families together,”



Paul Brackelsberg stands near the caboose of the wooden train he built for his grandchildren, which now gets a lot of use from his great-grandchildren.



A high fence surrounds Paul Brackelsberg’s small tree farm and various play pieces for grandkids and great-grandkids, including a large tree house and a wooden train.

Paul says.

The couple combined the three B lots across the street into one. Paul says he was “too tight” to pay taxes on land and just let it sit, so he planted pine trees. As they grew, he sold some for Christmas trees and gave some away. He still has some people who choose a tree each year and come cut it down when they are ready.

The first trees were scotch pine. As those grew and were harvested, Paul decided to replant using white pine. He says the softer needles don’t hold Christmas ornaments as well, but each year many tree branches are cut and turned into wreaths and garland.

The area is surrounded by a tall fence in an attempt to keep deer out. Once the pine trees were planted, Paul decided to add play features for his grandchildren. A large tree house was built. A tire swing hangs

BRACKELSBERG, PAGE 4

Donations support vaccine roll out, Tori’s Angels

Ten Squared Women and Ten Squared Men assist with local needs.

Ten Squared Women and Ten Squared Men announced donations would be made to Tori’s Angels Foundation and Guthrie County Public Health, respectively.

The Ten Squared groups’ members agree to make a \$100 donation each so that, when combined, a sizable donation can be made to a local charity. The women’s group has 100 members and the men’s group close to 150.

Tori’s Angels Foundation helps pay for medical expenses not covered by insurance for children with life-threatening conditions. The Foundation helps with travel expenses related to treatment (such as airfare, hotels, meals) as well

as co-pays, deductibles and medications. The Foundation has supported 73 children in the last 10 years.

The donation by Ten Squared Women will be used to help pay expenses of children in Guthrie County.

Ten Squared Men chose to give their donation to Guthrie County Public Health to help with the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccination within the county. The donation will help purchase software that would register Guthrie County residents to verify that only residents of the county receive the county’s allotment of vaccines. It will also help in making sure that those vaccinated are called back for their second dose. ■



Pictured left to right: Lexi Buckner, Jo Rasmussen, Cheyenne Hester, Abby James, Jotham Arber and Kent Irwin.

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NEW EXECUTIVE CHEF JOINS LAKE PANORAMA NATIONAL

Joshua McCurnin comes to the LPN with more than 17 years of experience in the food industry.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

Joshua McCurnin is the new executive chef at Lake Panorama National. He has more than 17 years of experience in the food industry and most recently worked at Edgewater in West Des Moines. Over the years, McCurnin also has worked at Wobbly Boots, Des Moines Golf & Country Club, Sysco, Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse and 801 Chop-house.

McCurnin will be working closely with Blake Wenzel, who was hired in late July as the LPN food and beverage manager.

“Josh’s past experience makes me excited for the future of the Links restaurant,” says Royce Shaffer, LPN operations manager. “I am pleased with the teamwork that already has developed between Josh and Blake. They are sure to create events our members and guests will love, and I am excited to have Josh on our staff.”

McCurnin grew up in Mitchellville and started working in restaurants when he was 12 years old.

“My dad’s friend had a place, and I would come in to wash dishes and fold pizza boxes,” he says. “After a couple years, it was the classic line cook calling in sick, and the owner asking me if I want to learn how to cook. I never looked back.”

McCurnin graduated from Des Moines Area Community College with a double degree in culinary arts and hotel restaurant management. During that time, he was

able to do a six-month internship with a chef in France.

What interested McCurnin about the LPN position?

“What intrigued me about the job was the variety of different types of foods that we are going to be executing,” he says. “And that I was given full creative control in menu changes and recipes.”

“I would like to get to the point where we have golfers having a grill-out at Spikes after 18 holes, prime rib going on in the Links, a beer dinner on the patio, and for maybe a more intimate evening, I come to a member’s house and prepare a menu that we build together,” McCurnin says. “All this while we are prepping for a wedding on Saturday.”

“I was fortunate enough to work the Solheim Cup in 2017 at Des Moines Golf and Country Club,” he says. “There were a couple days that week we were executing seven to 10 different menus. It was a lot of planning and strict timing, but it was a lot of fun, too.”

McCurnin says he’s learned over the years that to be successful in the food industry, a person must adapt quickly to any given situation.

“Adaptability really starts with getting the guest what they want, then exceeding their expectations, whether those expectations are expressed or not,” he says.

As part of the interview process, McCurnin was asked to prepare a meal for a small group of LPN board members and employees.



Joshua McCurnin is the new executive chef at Lake Panorama National Resort. His first day on the job was Dec. 1. He comes to the LPN with more than 17 years of experience in the food industry.

This event gave him some insight into what he might expect as the LPN chef.

“My first impression was the people,” he says. “When I did my cooking demonstration, I had never felt so welcomed by people that I just met five minutes earlier. Their comments were thoughtful and generous.”

Wenzel and McCurnin already are discussing ways to increase business for the LPN kitchen.

“We have to ride out this COVID thing first,” McCurnin says. “But what we have talked about is wine dinners, beer dinners, cooking classes. I want to do some guest chef nights, where the guest chef and I prepare a special menu, one night only. We also want to do some ‘take and bake’ options, and more family carryout meals.”

What foods does he enjoy when he’s not cooking for others?

“My brother and I smoke a lot of meats in our free time,” McCurnin says. “He’s a chef at Facebook in Altoona, so our family get togethers were pretty awesome before COVID hit. That’s our favorite, but anything seafood interests me, too.”

McCurnin and his family live on the west side of Waukee. His wife Stacy also works in the restaurant industry. They have two teenage children — Liam and Lola. ■

ON THE LAKE

Get smart

It’s not the 1980s any more.

BY SHANE GOODMAN
Editor and Publisher

We have been working to make our lake home a little “smarter” recently, and this world of gadgets that we now live in reminds me of “Get Smart,” the television comedy series that parodied the secret agent genre in the late 1960s (and was also made into a movie in 2008). Although I don’t envision talking on a phone in my shoe anytime soon, I do at least try to seek out some of the latest technology — eventually. Admittedly, I may be a bit late to the game at times, but even Maxwell Smart “missed it by that much.”

With all this in mind, I am reminded of one of my first “digital” purchases — a Pioneer single disc CD player in 1986. I dropped \$249 of my hard-earned cash on this “high-tech” device that was to change the world with a sound so sharp that I was told it could blow my home speakers. My vast collection of cassettes, albums and even a few of my brother’s 8-track tapes would soon be obsolete, as this CD player was to transform how I would listen to music. And it did. My friends stopped by one day and listened in amazement at the crisp sounds and the ease of play, and then one asked, “But how do you run with it?” OK, the CD player wasn’t perfect, so I kept my Sony Walkman for that purpose. But this stereo component did change life as I knew it then, and it was kind of fun being a techie.

That was 35 years ago, and as my kids so often remind me, it’s not the 1980s anymore. I may no longer feel the need to be the first in line to buy the latest and greatest technology, but that doesn’t stop me from dabbling with a few new gadgets.

Our lake home became “smarter” with a Ring doorbell that we installed. Then our home became even “smarter” with a few Amazon Echos. But why stop there? We purchased a Nest thermostat to control our home’s heating and cooling. And then, lo and behold, one of my daughters showed me a deal on smart plugs that we clearly needed to turn our lamps on and off remotely. So what’s next? Who knows? In the



Shane Goodman



meantime, does anyone need a single disc CD player?

Oops

Speaking of getting smarter, as lake-home owner newbies, we are still learning the ropes. The lesson for this past month was to remember to take the dock ladder out of the lake before the water freezes. Ouch.

A chuckle

And finally, a little lake humor. What is a lake’s favorite subject? Algebra. Happy New Year, and, as always, thanks for reading. ■

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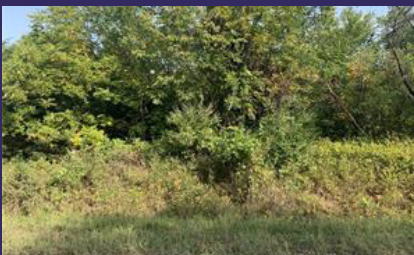
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Gift card incentives for 2021 golf memberships paid in January

LPN golf memberships paid by Jan. 31 will receive a \$100 LPN gift card.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

Golf membership applications for 2021 now are available for both the 18-hole Lake Panorama National Resort and the nine-hole Panorama West golf course. Both courses are owned by the Lake Panorama Association and managed by Lake Panorama National.

There is an extra incentive for those who join and pay their 2021 membership in full in January.

LPN golf memberships paid by Jan. 31 will receive a \$100 LPN gift card. Panorama West golf memberships paid by the same date will receive a \$25 LPN gift card. Those who choose the all-inclusive membership, which includes both golf courses, plus the LPN pool and fitness center, will receive a \$125 LPN gift card if they pay in full by Jan. 31.

Annual memberships are available at both courses for both Lake Panorama Association property owners and those who are not LPA property owners. All memberships include free use of the Lake Panorama National driving range.

In an effort to expand membership access to LPN amenities, a payment program is available for all golf membership categories, plus the LPN pool and fitness center. Those interested can pay their 2021 membership choices automatically through their bank account.

Starting March 1, 2021, and ending Aug. 1, 2021, memberships will be withdrawn in six equal payments from a person's bank account. A convenience fee of \$100 will be charged with the first withdrawal. An authorization agreement is available



Although this photo doesn't look like golf will be possible anytime soon, the two Lake Panorama golf courses often are open by mid-March. It makes sense to get your 2021 golf membership application completed and submitted with payment, so you'll be ready to play when the time comes.

online and in the LPN pro shop.

There are several membership options. Besides regular memberships at both LPN and Panorama West, there is a special "first time" membership available for those who have never been an LPN member. The cost of this membership for

a family is \$1,050, for a couple it is \$892.50 and for an individual, the cost is \$682.50. LPN members who refer a "first time" person who joins will receive \$50 in LPN pro shop credit.

Distance memberships at Lake Panorama National are available for people who do

not own a home at Lake Panorama and who live more than 18 miles from the LPN.

Memberships for the LPN swimming pool and fitness center also are listed on the 2021 membership applications.

Those using private carts on either golf course must pay a

trail fee. At the LPN, members have the option of a cart lease, which entitles one person to a seat on an LPN cart for the season.

Other services listed on the membership form are cart storage at both courses, plus bag storage and a USGA handicap

at the LPN. Those who play in the LPN's leagues and handicap tournaments must pay the \$30 handicap fee. This fee is not required for Panorama West leagues.

Membership forms are online at www.lakepanoramana-tional.com/membership. ■

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BRACKELSBERG

FROM PAGE 1



Paul Brackelsberg chose this white pine not because he wanted to cut it down as a Christmas tree but rather to cut off branches and make Christmas wreaths.



This photo was taken during the 2020 Brackelsberg family weekend at Lake Panorama. Paul is kneeling in the front wearing a white cap with a great-grandson on his knee. The original home was expanded seven years ago.

from another tree. Freestanding playground equipment is located in several spots.

The most interesting play feature is a wooden train, with cars large enough for both children and adults to climb into. The Brackelsberg’s three children all live along Interstate 35. Their son lives in Oklahoma City. One daughter is in Ames, with another daughter in the Twin Cities.

The Twin Cities family used to travel to Strasburg, Pennsylvania, on business, and sometimes Paul and Phyllis would make the trip, too. They stayed in the Red Caboose Motel there, where each room is a caboose. One of the many train-themed parts of the motel and surrounding area is a wooden train, with an engine, caboose and three cars in between.

“The grandkids loved playing on that train so much, I decided I should build them one,” Paul says. “I took pictures and got measurements and came home and started building it,

one car at a time. The grandkids loved it, and now it’s the great-grandkids that play on it the most.”

Phyllis and Paul retired in 1998.

“We both had very successful, productive careers at Iowa State,” Paul says. “We felt we had the best jobs at the university, because we were both teaching and advising undergraduates. It was a huge joy for both of us.”

Phyllis passed away 10 years ago. Paul lives in the Green Hills Retirement Community, located on 30 acres just south of the ISU campus. At the age of 81, he remains active in the community there, while also making regular trips to his Lake Panorama home. This year he cut pine branches and created 15 wreaths to donate for a fundraiser for his Kiwanis Club.

The three Brackelsberg children gave their parents 18 living grandchildren, with one deceased. There now are 11 great-grandchildren, with No. 12 arriving soon. It has been a

long-time tradition for all the close family and descendants to gather at Lake Panorama one weekend each summer, often the first weekend in August.

As the family continued to grow, Paul’s daughter who lives in Ames convinced him the original lake home was becoming too small for the big family gatherings. Seven years ago, the house was expanded and now boasts 2,300 square feet on each of its two floors. Even with seven bedrooms, Paul says those family weekends have kids sleeping on couches and air mattresses scattered throughout the house.

A couple of years ago, all 40 of the Brackelsberg descendants were present for the special family weekend. This year’s pandemic cut into the number of family members who could attend, but there still were about 30 in attendance.

“I let the kids and grandkids do all the planning now,” he says. “I just show up and enjoy.” ■



Paul Brackelsberg displays two of the many wreaths he created for the holiday season this year. He cuts branches from the pine trees on his B lot for wreaths and other holiday decorations.

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NEWS BRIEFS

‘For the Good Ole Birds’

Stuart man shares passion for birds at Lakeside Village.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

Austin Reed of Stuart has a passion for birds — and helping others enjoy them. Last spring, he partnered with businesses and other volunteers to install bird houses at a nursing home and apartment complex in his hometown. Then he brought his passion to Lakeside Village — a senior living facility with independent living apartments, assisted living and memory wing — on the east side of Lake Panorama. He and his business partners and volunteers have shepherd’s hooks made for bird feeders and gather donations of feeders, suet cake holders, bird feed, and more. Since the feeders have been installed, he returns weekly to refill them. “It’s a cool little project,” says Amada Green, director of Lakeside Village. “He builds, collects and donates bird feeders to long-term care communities. He has partnered with many businesses. He fills the bird feeders every week. Austin Reed is a genuinely nice guy.” Those wishing to help cover expenses can



visit his gofundme page. See his Facebook page as well. He uses a theme “For the Good Ole Birds” for his project. ■

Donations move land purchase forward for Panora’s PRIDE group

Funding is key to the group’s goal of redeveloping 1.1 acres of commercial property.

The Panora and Lake Panorama Economic Development group, locally known as PRIDE, announced important donations from two Panora area banks. The Iowa Trust & Savings Bank and the Guthrie County State Bank each made \$25,000 donations to the development group to assist them with a land purchase. Curt Thornberry, president of the group, hailed the donations as key to the group’s goal of redeveloping 1.1 acres of commercial property along State Highway 4 in Panora. “The City of Panora is a vital economic center within Guthrie County,” remarked Thornberry. “The community is a leader among cities in our county, particularly in annual retail sales. Based on the State’s scoring of our community, Panora is considered a regional draw. With more businesses operating in town there is limited land and few buildings available for businesses to locate here. With a few exceptions, most of the downtown storefronts are occupied,” Thornberry said. “We get quite a few inquiries for businesses looking to locate in Panora that are unable to find a suitable location,” he noted. “With the purchase of the property along the highway, PRIDE plans to combine the parcels and make them available for commercial development.” It is worth noting that the construction of the Panora Plaza in 1986 by area developer, Irv Gerlich, was the last commercial multi-

tenant retail project in Panora outside of the downtown business district. According to Thornberry, the project would have taken much longer and been more difficult had we not been able to have community partners like Iowa Trust & Savings Bank and Guthrie County State Bank. “We wanted to remove a land bottleneck that has been hampering commercial development locally. They saw a need, as well, in the community and wanted to play a part in our efforts,” he added. “Iowa Trust & Savings Bank is committed to the success of our community and is honored to be part of the team working for its future,” said Julie Dent-Zajicek, president of the bank’s Panora branch. “This land acquisition will position our community for future growth and we are pleased to contribute to the project.” “PRIDE acts as a connector to help our business community create a vision and see the opportunity that exists in Panora,” said Mark Cates, vice president and branch manager, Guthrie County State Bank. “When it’s time to make a strategic move, PRIDE helps facilitate that activity quickly and efficiently. Guthrie County State Bank is proud to support these collaborative efforts.” In 2016, Panora Telco also assisted PRIDE in this development project. The local communications cooperative provided a \$10,000 donation to the group to help purchase the north parcel. ■

LPN BOARD OF MANAGERS ENTERS SIXTH YEAR

Coghlan elected president, with Brelsford as vice president and Koch as secretary-treasurer.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

A board of managers that oversees the Lake Panorama National operation is entering its sixth year. While the Lake Panorama Association has owned the LPN golf course since 1977, it has only owned the LPN conference center since 2005. At the time the conference center was purchased, the LPA board established the legal corporate entity known as “LPN, LLC” to manage this wholly owned subsidiary. The Panorama West golf course and clubhouse was placed under LPN, LLC management in 2013. As a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization, LPA is required to pay taxes only on gains from land sales. Revenues from dues and assessments are not taxable. Keeping the LPA and LPN, LLC operations separate protects the nonprofit status of the LPA.

To keep this separation, the LPA Board of Directors created and appointed the LPN Board of Managers, which held its first meeting Oct. 6, 2015. The LPA board provides oversight of the LPN, LLC board. The LPN, LLC board works with Royce Shaffer, operations manager, and John Rutledge, director of operations, to oversee LPN policies and direction. At the LPA board’s November meeting, they reappointed Sue Merryman to a second three-year term on the LPN board. Also appointed to a new three-year term was Kathy DeLuca. She replaces Dave Greiner, who served on the board since 2017. Other current board members are John Coghlan, Katelyn Brelsford, Greg Steffen, Jim Koch and Shanell Wagler. Officers for 2021 were elected at the LPN, LLC’s December board meeting. Coghlan was elected president, with Brelsford as vice president and Koch as secretary-treasurer. ■

RECIPE

Spiced apple crumble

BY JOLENE GOODMAN

(Culinary.net) This scrumptious spiced apple crumble is not only a family favorite but a holiday must-have. It’s the perfect dish to top off that next special meal. Kids and adults love the deliciously sweet apple chunks filling the bottom of the pan along with the crumble topping. Top this killer sweet treat with vanilla ice cream for a sensational, melty, oozing-with-goodness dessert no one can forget. Nearly everyone loves a satisfying apple, especially when it is baked to perfection, covered with a crumble and topped with creamy, cool vanilla ice cream. Not to mention the splash of lemon added to this mixture brings out a unique tart twist. Make your next family gathering just a little sweeter for all. Spice things up then cool things down. This dessert does it all in just one bite. Find this great recipe and more favorites at Culinary.net. ■



Jolene Goodman

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

SPICED APPLE CRUMBLE

Servings: 6-8

Filling

- 6 medium honeycrisp apples, peeled and cubed
- 1 tablespoon white flour
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 2 lemons, juice only

Topping

- 1 cup quick oats
- 1 cup white flour
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon powder
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- vanilla ice cream (optional)

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

- To make filling: In medium bowl, add apples, flour, sugar, cinnamon, cloves and lemon juice. Toss to evenly coat. Spread evenly in 8-by-8-inch baking dish.
- To make topping: In medium bowl, add oats, flour, brown sugars, baking powder, cinnamon, melted butter and salt. Fork mixture to create crumbles. Pour crumble topping over apple mixture. Bake 30-40 minutes or until golden brown. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream.



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DONATIONS FOR LAKE PANORAMA DOG PARK SURGE IN DECEMBER

Interim goal surpassed four months early, \$20,000 still needed.



Toby and Lola have been making regular trips to the Perry dog park with their owners Jeff and Amanda Creen. To encourage donations to a Lake Panorama dog park, the Creens offered to match up to \$2,500 in donations during the month of December.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

At the beginning of December, \$19,000 had been donated to Friends of Lake Panorama for a proposed Lake Panorama dog park. By the end of December, donations had reached \$30,000.

The ultimate goal for the dog park is \$50,000 to construct the park and provide all desired amenities. The Friends board had set an interim goal of \$25,000 raised by May 1, 2021, to ensure this is a financially viable project. With \$11,000 donated in December, that goal was surpassed four months early.

One reason for the strong level of donations was a challenge made early in December by Amanda and Jeff Creen, who said they would match up to \$2,500 in donations made within the month.

The couple has been taking their two rescue pups to the Perry dog park for the past year. They were excited when plans for a Lake Panorama dog park were revealed and are looking forward to it being built. Amanda says they decided to offer the December matching funds to help speed the process.

Amanda is the Lakeside Village director, and she and Jeff live on the third floor of the senior living facility. Lakeside Village is pet friendly, and there are several dogs living with their owners there, in addition to Lola and Toby, the dogs she and Jeff own.

The couple adopted Toby three years ago and Lola two years ago. Both came through United Yorkie Rescue and were 7 years old at the time of adoption.

“We love the idea of a dog park at Lake Panorama,” Amanda says. “I know we’ll be loading up the Lakeside bus with dogs and their owners and



Amanda Creen and Lola, who was adopted by Amanda and her husband Jeff two years ago.

making trips to the dog park on a regular basis.”

Plans for the park 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 — with chain link fence dividing the two areas. 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 small gravel parking lot will be adjacent to the park.

Amenities inside the park fence included in the \$50,000 cost estimate are four benches, four stations where bags for dog waste would be available, and two domed waste receptacles. A dual station pet fountain placed in the fence line between the two sections would make it possible for dogs to access drinking water from either side.

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.

Fundraising for the dog park



Jeff Creen and Lola at the dog park in Perry.

will continue as Friends of Lake Panorama’s priority project over the next several months, with hopes construction can begin in the fall of 2021.

Checks made payable to Friends of Lake Panorama can be mailed to P.O. Box 488, Panora, Iowa, 50216. Other donation options and more information are available at www.friendsoflakepanorama.org.

The Friends of Lake Panorama board recently voted to host its fourth Beach Ball fundraiser on Friday, July 30. A final decision will be made at the board’s spring meeting,

but it is anticipated a percentage of funds from this event will go to the dog park.

The board also hopes to use some of the Beach Ball funds for smaller projects, such as walking trails near Panorama West and the south shore, a disc golf course on the west side of the lake, and more benches and other amenities at all

three beaches.

For the past year, the charity has focused on raising \$70,000 for new playground equipment at both Shady and Boulder Beaches. New equipment was installed at Shady Beach in October, and the \$70,000 goal also was reached that month.

The Boulder play equipment

has been ordered and will be delivered and installed in the spring. Some additional money was donated in December for the playgrounds, which made it possible to add a second individual spring rider at Boulder Beach. Signs recognizing donors of \$500 or more will be installed near both playgrounds next summer. ■

“We love the idea of a dog park at Lake Panorama. I know we’ll be loading up the Lakeside bus with dogs and their owners and making trips to the dog park on a regular basis.”

– Amanda Creen

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Lake Panorama
TIMES

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OBITUARIES

Submit FREE obituaries at www.lakepanoramatimes.com.

EILEEN GOODRICH

Eileen Goodrich, 93, daughter of Morton and Angeline (Carris) Smithson, was born Dec. 8, 1926, near Perry. She passed away Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020, at the Guthrie County Hospital, Guthrie Center.

Eileen graduated from Linden High School. On Dec. 15, 1948, she married Leonard L. Goodrich in Perry. To this union, two children were born: Christine Eileen and Marty Leonard. They made their home on a farm near Linden. Eileen was known as the "Cake Lady" because she made cakes for every occasion for residents of the area. She did this from 1965 until 2005 when she

and Leonard retired and moved to Lake Panorama in November of 2005. Following Leonard's death in 2007, she continued to live at the Lake and would make an occasional cake for those who requested one. She and Leonard enjoyed square dancing together up until around 2000 when they stopped.

Eileen was a member of the Panora United Methodist Church and the Red Hats.

Eileen is survived by her daughter, Christine Thomson of Garland, Texas, and son, Marty Goodrich of Cedar Rapids. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents,



husband Leonard, brothers Dale and Ted Smithson, and sisters Marjorie Parlee and Helene Crowl.

Funeral services were Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020, at the Twigg Funeral Home, Panora. Burial was in West Linn Cemetery, near Linden. ■

ALVIN 'AL' CHARLES STORESUND

Alvin "Al" Charles Storesund, 78, of Panora, went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020. His last days were spent in EveryStep Kavanagh House in Des Moines after a courageous battle with cancer. His Confirmation book states, "My name is of no importance to the rest of the world...but my name is written in the Book of Life." Alvin's faith in God held strong until the end.

Alvin was born on March 11, 1942, in Ottesen. He was the second born of three sons to Gerner and Edna Storesund. He was baptized in the Trinity Lutheran Church on May 3, 1942. He was confirmed at the Peace Lutheran Church in Glidden on March 25, 1956, and graduated from Glidden High School in 1960. After high school, Alvin enlisted into the United States Air Force. After basic training, he was stationed in Lincoln, Nebraska, with the SAC 97th air refueling squadron. He was an assistant crew chief on a KC 97 air refueling plane that refueled B-47 Bombers. From Lincoln he was regularly sent on Alert Duty in Fort Churchill, Canada, for two-week stints. The KC 97's squadron did a three-month tour in the Azores Islands during the Cuban Crisis. Alvin finished his days in the service stationed in Bangor, Maine, receiving his honorable discharge effective July 14, 1966, after two years in the Air Force Reserve. Alvin made many lifelong friends during his time in the service and also met his wife, Rowena, while stationed in Lincoln.

Alvin and Rowena were joined in marriage at Trinity Lutheran Church on

Aug. 25, 1962, in Lincoln, Nebraska. After living in states ranging from Maine, Nebraska, Florida and finally Iowa again, they settled down in Coon Rapids to raise their family of five: Lonnie, Jodi, Trudi, Wes and Quinten. Alvin found work with a local Chevrolet dealer, Niles Chevrolet, as a mechanic until moving across the street to Garst and Thomas print and mail department until retiring in 2007. He was a member of the American Legion Gurney Parker Post No. 357 in Coon Rapids for 48 consecutive years. He was also a former member of Ascension Lutheran Church in Coon Rapids and a current member of St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Panora.

Alvin was a true family man with an infectious sense of humor. They would take their young children on annual vacations across the United States. They visited many locations from the Grand Canyon, Washington, D.C., Cave of the Winds in Colorado, to Cape Canaveral in Florida. Alvin would watch with pride the activities of his children's, which followed with traveling to see the grandchildren's activities. As an outdoorsman, he enjoyed taking the kids and grandchildren walking



through wooded trails, boating, water skiing, golfing/golf cart rides and fishing. The fishing trips of "the boys" ranged from Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Colorado and Canada, with their most recent trip October 2020 to Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rowena's parents, and son Lonnie. He is survived by his wife, Rowena; children, Jodi (Randy), Trudi (Patrick), Wesley and Quinten (Tonya); grandchildren, Siri, Jakob, Shelby, Jamie, Kobe, Sydney, Brett, Vallerie, Cory, Shey and Kain; brothers, Larry and James; along with many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Dec. 31, 2020, at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Panora. Burial was in the West Cemetery, Panora. Twigg Funeral Home, Panora, was entrusted with his services. ■

ASK

Lake Panorama TIMES

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

Q: Do I need a fishing license to fish on Lake Panorama? And if so, where can I buy one?

A: An Iowa fishing license is required to fish at Lake Panorama, and this includes ice fishing. The LPA office sells licenses during regular office hours. They ask that you call ahead at 641-755-2301 to make an appointment. Iowa residents can also purchase licenses online at <https://www.iowadnr.gov/fishing/buy-your-license>.

Q: I heard that Lake Panorama is the largest private lake in Iowa? Is that true, and how big is the lake?

A: Yes, Lake Panorama is the largest private lake in Iowa with 1,160 acres of lake surface and more than 30 miles of shoreline. If you are curious, the largest lake of any sort is Lake Red Rock with more than 15,000 acres of water.

Q: If I choose to rent out my lake home over the winter, are there restrictions?

A: Yes, there are several, and they are detailed in 2.30 section of the LPA Rules and Regulations titled "RENTING BY MEMBERS." First and foremost, a member may not rent his or her home or condo more than one time in any four consecutive week period. Those who violate this shall be fined \$500 per day. Also, members must register any renters, and renters must sign agreements stating that they will abide by LPA rules. Failure to register renters shall result in fines of \$50 for a first violation, \$100 for a second violation, and \$250 for a third or subsequent violations. See the LPA Rules and Regulations for full details. ■

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

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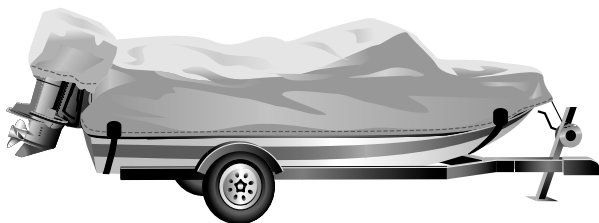
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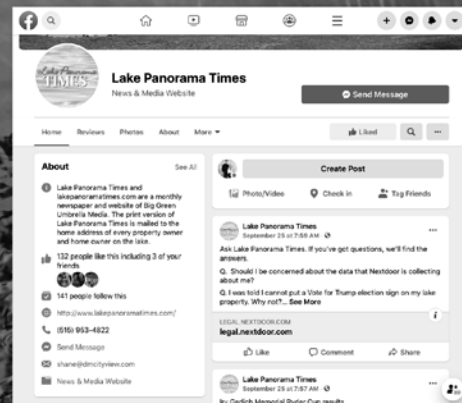
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Submit items for events calendar at www.lakepanoramatimes.com. Event dates and times are subject to change. Contact hosts for updated details.

Thursday, Jan. 7
4:15 p.m.
Wrestling: JH Meet vs. Multiple Schools
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 8
No school
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 8
4:30 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. West Central Valley
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 8
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. West Central Valley
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 8
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. West Central Valley
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 8
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. West Central Valley
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Saturday, Jan. 9
9 a.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Tournament vs. Coon Rapids Bayard
Coon Rapids Bayard High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 11
6:30 p.m.
School board meeting
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 11
6:30 p.m.
Panora City Council meeting
www.cityofpanora.com

Monday, Jan. 11
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Greene County
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 11
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Greene County
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 11
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Greene County
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 11
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Greene County
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 12
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Woodward Granger
Woodward-Granger High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 12
4:15 p.m.
Wrestling: JH Meet vs. Multiple Schools
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 12
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Woodward Granger
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 12
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Woodward Granger
Woodward-Granger High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 12
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Woodward Granger
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Jan. 14
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Ogden
Ogden High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Jan. 14
4 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Ogden
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Jan. 14
6 p.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Duals vs. Multiple Schools
Southwest Valley
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 15
TBD
Wrestling: JH Meet vs. North Polk
North Polk Middle School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 15
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Des Moines Christian Schools
Des Moines Christian School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 15
4 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV-R Game vs. Des Moines Christian Middle School
Des Moines Christian High Schools
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 15
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Des Moines Christian Schools
Des Moines Christian School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 15
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Des Moines Christian Schools
Des Moines Christian School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 15
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Des Moines Christian Schools
Des Moines Christian School
www.panoramaschools.org

Saturday, Jan. 16
9:30 a.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Invitational vs. Multiple Schools
Perry Community Schools
www.panoramaschools.org

Saturday, Jan. 16
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Nodaway Valley
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Saturday, Jan. 16
5:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Nodaway Valley
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 18
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Madrid
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 18
4 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Madrid
Madrid Elementary School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 18
4 p.m.
Wrestling: JH Meet vs. Ogden
Ogden High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 19
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Madrid
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 19
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV-R Game vs. Madrid
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 19
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Madrid
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 19
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Madrid
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Jan. 21
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Earlham
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Jan. 21
4 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Earlham
Earlham
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Jan. 21
4 p.m.
Wrestling: JH Meet vs. West Central Valley
Redfield, IA
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Jan. 21
5 p.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Duals vs. Multiple Schools
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 22
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. AC-GC
Guthrie Center High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 22
4 p.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Tournament vs. Multiple Schools
Southwest Valley High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 22
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. AC-GC
Guthrie Center High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 22
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. AC-GC
Guthrie Center High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 22
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. AC-GC
Guthrie Center High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Saturday, Jan. 23
10 a.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Tournament vs. Multiple Schools
Southwest Valley High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Jan. 25
6:30 p.m.
Panora City Council meeting
www.cityofpanora.com

Monday, Jan. 25
4:15 p.m.
Wrestling: JH Meet vs. Martensdale-St Marys
Martensdale-St Mary's Jr-Sr High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 26
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Martensdale-St Marys
Martensdale-St. Marys Jr Sr High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 26
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Martensdale-St Marys
Martensdale-St. Marys Jr Sr High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Jan. 26
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Martensdale-St Marys
Martensdale-St. Marys Jr Sr High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Jan. 28
5:30 p.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Meet vs. Multiple Schools
Pleasantville High School
Pleasantville HS Gymnasium
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 29
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Earlham
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 29
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Earlham
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 29
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Earlham
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Jan. 29
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Earlham
Panorama High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Saturday, Jan. 30
LPN Chili Cook Off
Lake Panorama National Links Restaurant
Do you have a killer chili? Put it up against some of the best on the lake. Entry fee is \$20 which will be contributed toward the grand prize. There is no cost to sample so come out and vote for your favorite. More details available soon.
<https://www.lakepanoramanational.com>

Saturday, Jan. 30
11 a.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Invitational vs. AC-GC
AC/GC High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Feb. 2
4 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Ogden
Ogden High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Feb. 2
5 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV-R Game vs. Ogden
Ogden High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Feb. 2
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Ogden
Ogden High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Feb. 2
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Ogden
Ogden High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Thursday, Feb. 4
4 p.m.
Wrestling: JH Meet vs. Woodward Granger
Woodward-Granger High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Feb. 5
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Interstate 35
Interstate 35 High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Feb. 5
6 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Interstate 35
Interstate 35 High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Feb. 5
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Interstate 35
Interstate 35 High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Friday, Feb. 5
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Interstate 35
Interstate 35 High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Saturday, Feb. 6
12 p.m.
Wrestling: Varsity Sectional TBA vs. TBA
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Feb. 8
6:30 p.m.
School board meeting
www.panoramaschools.org

Monday, Feb. 8
6:30 p.m.
Panora City Council meeting
www.cityofpanora.com

Tuesday, Feb. 9
4:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. West Central Valley
West Central Valley High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Feb. 9
6 p.m.
Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. West Central Valley
West Central Valley High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Tuesday, Feb. 9
7:30 p.m.
Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. West Central Valley
West Central Valley High School
www.panoramaschools.org

Saturday, Feb. 27
Member Mixer
Lake Panorama National Links Restaurant
Lake Panorama National Resort is hosting a special event for those who have joined as 2021 golf members at either Lake Panorama National or Panorama West golf course. Gift cards for those who joined by Jan. 31 will be distributed, and information about the upcoming golf season at both courses will be available. This mixer will be a great chance to shake off those winter blues, catch up with fellow golf members you haven't seen since your last round, and meet some new ones. Cash bar will be open, and make plans to stay for dinner in the Links.
www.lakepanoramanational.com

Tuesday, March 23
5 p.m.
LPA board meeting
www.lakepanorama.org





Friends of Lake Panorama

A public nonprofit charity supporting recreational amenities at Lake Panorama

Thanks to everyone who helped Friends of Lake Panorama make great progress in 2020 towards its goal of improving recreational amenities at Lake Panorama!

The year 2020 was a good one for Friends of Lake Panorama. On August 1, a Beach Ball raised \$30,000 for new playground equipment at Shady and Boulder Beaches. By October, donors helped finish off that \$70,000 fundraising campaign. The playground at Shady Beach now is complete. The Boulder Beach play equipment will be installed in the spring.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! 2021 Beach Ball — Friday, July 30



In September, Friends launched a \$50,000 fundraiser for a Lake Panorama dog park. At the beginning of December, \$19,000 had been donated for a proposed Lake Panorama dog park. By the beginning of January, donations reached \$30,000.



The ultimate goal for the dog park is \$50,000 to construct the park and provide all desired amenities. The Friends board had set an interim goal of \$25,000 raised by May 1, 2021, to ensure this is a financially viable project. With \$11,000 donated in December, that goal was surpassed four months early.

The Lake Panorama Dog Park is Friends’ priority project for the coming months, with plans to begin construction in fall of 2021 and open in spring 2022. The park will be located at the corner of Sage Trail and RV Road, near the east campground.

Plans include a 6’ high chain link fence 650’ long and 155’ wide. There will be two sections, one for small dogs and one for large dogs, with chain link fence dividing the two areas. 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’ wide walking path along and under the fencing to provide a weed barrier and keep dogs from digging. A small gravel parking lot will be adjacent to the park.

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



All donations are tax-deductible. Donors of \$500 or more will be recognized on a sign at the dog park and on the Friends website. Checks made payable to Friends of Lake Panorama can be mailed to PO Box 488, Panora, Iowa, 50216.

Please consider making a 2021 tax-deductible donation to support the Lake Panorama dog park.

____ YES, I'd like to support a dog park at Lake Panorama. Direct my gift to this project.

Donor Name/Names: _____

Mailing Address: _____

My gift is in Memory of or Honor of: _____

For Friends updates, please provide email: _____

Prefer to donate to another effort? Check one or more of the remaining funds below. If choosing more than one, tell us how to divide your donation.

☐ Friends General Fund ☐ Boulder Beach ☐ Shady Beach ☐ Sunset Beach Golf Course Beautification: ☐ Lake Panorama National or ☐ Panorama West

To donate by check, make it payable to Friends of Lake Panorama. Complete this coupon and mail it, along with your check, to Friends of Lake Panorama, PO Box 488, Panora, IA 50216.

Donations of securities (stocks, mutual funds, etc.) are welcome. For information, contact Kristen Crouthamel at 641-755-2799 or Kristen@investgcsb.com. Donations can be made by credit card on the Friends website: friendsoflakepanorama.org. Questions or suggestions? Contact Susan Thompson, 515-240-6536, or staff@friendsoflakepanorama.org.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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FOR SALE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors Meeting

Nov. 24, 2020

Lake Panorama Association – Via Web Conference

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met Nov. 24, 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 Krambeer, Lane Rumelhart and John Rutledge.

Visitors in attendance: None
President Carothers called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Approval of the Agenda –

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

Agenda Item 2 – Open Forum – No one present for open forum

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 10.27.2020 LPA Board Meeting

c) Acceptance of 10.31.2020 consolidated financial report – LPA & LPN, LLC

d) Set date for next board meeting - 12.15.2020

e) Accept minutes from 10.26.2020 LPN LLC Board of Managers meeting

Agenda Item 4a – Offer to Purchase Lot 3520

LPA received an offer, direct from Luke Wanninger, to purchase lot 3520 in the amount of \$12,500. Land sales committee (LSC) reviewed the offer. This is a C lot, located at 4100 Cedar Lane, north end of the lake. The LSC agreed on a counteroffer of \$16,000. The buyer has declined the counter and after conversation did not wish to counter

with any number higher than the original offer. LPA staff has no objections to the sale of this property but defers to LSC on value. LSC is recommending declining the offer of \$12,500.

Schumacher moved to decline the offer of \$12,500 for Lot 3520. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4b – Appointments to LPN, LLC Board of Managers

The terms of Dave Greiner and Sue Merryman expire on 12/31/2020. Greiner has respectfully declined another term on the board of managers. He remains supportive but has decided it is time for him to conclude his service.

Merryman is concluding her first three-year term and has expressed a willingness to serve again, if appointed.

The LPN board of managers has discussed several names and recommended a pool of candidates for the position, which runs 1/1/2021 through 12/31/2023.

The Board expressed their thanks to Dave Greiner for his service and leadership at LPN. The Board discussed the candidates recommended by the Board of Managers.

Evans moved to appoint Kathy DeLucca and Sue Merryman to the Board of Managers for term Jan. 1, 2021 through Dec. 31, 2023. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4c – 2021 LPN, LLC Budget

Rutledge reviewed the proposed 2021 LPN Operational and Capital Budget. 2019 revenue numbers were used as a basis to create the 2021 budget. An increase in memberships for both LPN and Panorama West course are included. Capital items for golf course equipment for 18-hole course have been included in LPN Capital budget. LPA will contribute the funds for the purchase of the capital items, as investment in LPN.

Donovan moved to approve the 2021 LPN, LLC operational and capital budgets as proposed.

Motion seconded and carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 – Old Business

Agenda Item 6 – Closed Session – The board entered closed session at 5:30 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Board existed closed session at 6 p.m.

Schumacher moved to approve the increase in employer matching funds from 3 percent to 5 percent to the LPA and LPN, LLC 401k retirement plan and to adjust the eligibility age from 21 to 19. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 7a – LPA General Manager Contract

Carothers noted for the minutes that the general manager's multi-year contract was reviewed in closed session and mutually continued by both LPA and General Manager John Rutledge. Rutledge thanked the board for their continued support.

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

LAKE DOGS & COVE CAT

By **CHERYL TEMPLE**
Lake Panorama Times

Lake Dogs: Stella and Piper, 5 years old
Cove Cat: Sassy, 8 weeks old
Owners: Chad and Michelle Welch
Siberian Huskies Stella and Piper sisters. They enjoy the lake and going on boat rides, but they are not swimmers. The kitty is Sassy, and she has been with her owners for only a few weeks. Stella and Piper get along great with the kitty. They like to play with her, and they even all snuggle up together.



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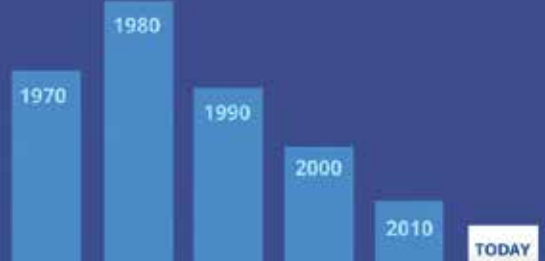
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Lake Panorama TIMES

Q&A: LAKE PANORAMA RIZ

Looking back, looking ahead

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

This month's Q&A with John Rutledge, LPA general manager, is a review of Lake Panorama RIZ activities and how important this local government entity is to the Lake Panorama community.

Q. How would you explain Lake Panorama RIZ to someone who isn't familiar with it?

A. The Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ) has been an integral component of how Lake Panorama functions for more than 20 years. The RIZ board will manage an annual budget of \$2.45 million in the 2020-21 fiscal year. These funds are used exclusively for the purposes of dredging, installation of erosion control measures, water quality activities, land acquisition, and related improvements, including soil conservation practices, within or outside of the boundaries of the zone. RIZ partners with LPA on a number of common goals, but RIZ is an independent local government entity, formed under Chapter 357H of the IA Code. That law went into effect July 1, 1997. It allowed the designation of unincorporated areas of a county as rural improvement zones, providing for improvement projects in the zone, authorizing the

issuance of certificates of indebtedness and an annual standby tax. Any taxes from new construction or appreciation in value of current structures would be retained by the RIZ district and used to retire debt related to water quality. At the time of the bill's passage, it was estimated this could mean \$65,000 to \$75,000 a year coming back to Lake Panorama. That is a far cry from the \$2.45 million the RIZ district will receive this year in the form of a percentage of property taxes paid by Lake Panorama property owners coming back to the community.

Q. How was RIZ funding used in 2020?

A. The highlight of RIZ's 2020 effort was the completion of the Dredge America dredging contract. In 2019, RIZ requested bids for dredging in the Middle Raccoon River channel. This project was designed to supplement ongoing work by LPA's crew and help "catch-up" in the remote areas immediately downstream of the Fansler Bridge. Dredge America concluded their work this fall, totaling 731,653 cubic yards of sediment dredged. Much of this sediment was pumped into the far reaches of County Basin, which helped to ensure full usage of this sediment storage structure before

the easements expire. The total cost of this project was \$4,313,165.35. When combined together, RIZ and LPA removed a total of 1.14 million cubic yards of sediment from Lake Panorama during the period of 2019 through 2020. New in 2020 was the purchase of an updated debris collection vessel. This vessel and associated shore conveyor cost just under \$400,000. This vessel will replace the 20-year-old "skimmer" LPA has operated to remove debris for over two decades. The new vessel has a larger capacity and benefits from a more modern and efficient design. The old skimmer will be retained as back-up, and can be used if LPA experiences a large debris event that would warrant running both vessels at the same time.

Q. How is the Lake Panorama RIZ governed?

A. The Lake Panorama RIZ board is comprised of five trustees, who serve staggered, three-year terms. Over 70 voters cast ballots in the Dec. 8, 2020, election. Re-elected were JoAnn Johnson and Doug Hemphill. Other members of the board include Bill Dahl, Larry Petersen and Corey Welberg. Officers are Hemphill as president, Welberg as clerk, and Johnson as treasurer. LPA and RIZ benefit from a cooperative, mutually beneficial working

relationship. I believe both the LPA board and the RIZ board deserve a great deal of credit for respecting and supporting the unique roles each play for the long-term viability of Lake Panorama.

Q. What projects are on the horizon for RIZ?

A. Lake Panorama RIZ is always looking ahead to ensure we are planning for the future. Currently under development are a fourth and fifth wetland, both serving Burchfield Cove. Both are in the planning stages and look promising for development. These projects benefit the lake by reducing nitrogen, phosphorous, sediment and flood surge into the lake. These wetlands are exciting because these are proactive efforts that benefit not only Lake Panorama but also create wildlife habitat in the lake's upstream watershed. A top priority for RIZ is the continued development of sediment storage basins, which are completely separate from the wetlands. Although wetlands can help buffer the lake, there will always be some level of sediment issues to address at Lake Panorama. Having sediment storage facilities available to house dredging spoils remains the lynchpin to Lake Panorama's success. Continued planning and development in this area is an ongoing priority for



the coming year. RIZ also is exploring exciting possibilities involving streambank mitigation, which deals with improving streambanks that are prone to collapse and erosion. RIZ definitely is taking a multifaceted approach to its scope of work, which we believe is essential to continued success.

Q. Any closing thoughts?

A. It is impossible to overstate the importance of the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone. RIZ saved Lake Panorama from an imminent de-

cline in the late-1990s and served as a foothold for 20-plus years of economic growth and success. This program remains as critical today as it was when it began. One irony of RIZ is that it's easy to forget how much work goes on behind the scenes to keep our lake in good condition. Unlike some of the natural lakes of Minnesota, we are a man-made lake in the heart of Iowa's farmland. Keeping our lake intact requires a tremendous amount of stewardship and financial resources. RIZ deserves credit for a job well done. ■

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LPA WATER PLANT UPGRADES ALMOST COMPLETE

Goal with the new system is to produce water that is 7 grains per gallon.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

Major upgrades to the Lake Panorama Association water system are nearing completion. The project required three main components — drilling a second Jordan well, upgrading to a reverse osmosis treatment system, and installing a discharge line to accompany the reverse osmosis process.

The old system used a Jordan well that was drilled in 2011 and two Dakota wells constructed in the 1990s. The Dakota wells, which are in a shallower aquifer, had become less reliable. These wells were the source of iron and manganese that resulted in some customers having black and brown water flowing from their taps at times. Eliminating dependence on these temperamental wells was a key reason for this project.

A line to carry discharge water away from the new reverse osmosis (RO) system to the Middle Raccoon River by Highway 44 was installed last summer. A one-half-mile-deep Jordan well was drilled in late May. An addition was built on the north side of the

water plant building to house the RO system, which arrived in June.

Half of the reverse osmosis system went online in late October. The LPA expedited the rollout of the new plant because of a problem with one of the old Dakota wells.

“This Dakota well was inspected by camera in 2017 and appeared to be in good condition,” says John Rutledge, LPA general manager. “But the screen failed this fall. When all options were reviewed, the only one that made sense was to have the RO plant activated a little sooner than planned. We are lucky we didn’t delay further the decision to move ahead with the new plant.”

The first Jordan well was able to serve the Lake Panorama community for eight weeks until a pump was installed in the new Jordan well and all controls were finalized. The second half of the water system was brought online in mid-December. This involved connecting in the new Jordan well and corresponding RO system.

Water hardness can be described as grains per gallon.



One part of the existing water plant building was filled with these large blue gravity water filters. During December, contractors removed these along with other old pieces of equipment and pipe. This area now is being used for some components of the new system.

WATER PLANT, PAGE 14



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WATER PLANT
FROM PAGE 13



The reverse osmosis (RO) system involves two sets of 12 white tubes. These tubes are the heart of the reverse osmosis process. Water runs through the tubes twice, using eight the first time and four the second. Once that process is complete, 20 percent raw water is mixed in to come up with the finished product.

Mike Gliem, LPA's water and dam supervisor, says under the old system, LPA water had a hardness of 36 grains per gallon.

"Our goal with the new system is to produce water

that is 7 grains per gallon," he says. "That is typical of what the Des Moines Water Works and other municipalities offer their water customers."

All sampling data indicates the 7 grains per gallon

goal will be reached in early 2021, and should remain at that level.

"We've received a lot of compliments already on the quality of the water," says Rutledge.

Gliem says to reach this level of softness, the water runs through the RO tubes twice, using eight the first time and four the second time.

"Then we combine this water with 20 percent raw water

for the finished water provided to our customers," he says.

"It comes down to personal preference," Gliem says. "Some newer water softeners will automatically adjust to the water and reduce the num-

ber of cycles and salt usage. For older softeners, I recommend dialing back the hardness setting until customers like the water quality. Some homeowners may decide they

WATER PLANT, PAGE 15



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WATER PLANT

FROM PAGE 14

don't even need their water softeners anymore."

Gliem says LPA continues to receive positive feedback from members who already have reduced their water softeners and are extremely pleased with the water quality.

Neither of the two Dakota wells are being used now. If all continues to go as planned, those wells will be plugged, capped and covered with fill dirt by next spring.

During December, contractors were disassembling some components of the old plant. Large blue water gravity filters have been removed along with other old pieces of equipment and pipe. This area now is being used for some components of the new system. Work is expected to wrap up in early 2021.

Total cost for the entire project is \$4.7 million. Funding for the project is through the State Revolving Loan Fund for drinking water improvements, at a fixed rate of 2 percent interest for 20 years.

To pay off the loan, LPA water bills increased with the Oct. 1, 2020, bill by \$70 per quarter, going from \$90 to \$160 per quarter. Rutledge says the membership has been widely supportive of this project.

"No one likes to see an increase in their expenses," he says. "But we're pleased to report the increase in rates was accompanied by a substantial increase in water quality realized by the members. In addition, the increased reliability of this new system provides LPA the assurance our system can handle demand 365 days a year for decades to come."

Increased focus on LPA quarterly water bills has resulted in more awareness of how water utilities are billed in the state of Iowa. In 2018, the Iowa Legislature passed



A control panel for the RO system is along the back wall of the addition built to accommodate the new system. It provides constant information on the operating status and includes several taps so water can be drawn and tested as needed.

a new Water Service Excise Tax (WET).

Prior to this law, the sale of water was subject to state sales tax. Now WET exempts the sale of water service from state sales tax but imposes a 6 percent excise tax on the sale of water service. WET tax revenues are allocated by the State of Iowa to the water quality

infrastructure fund and the water quality assistance fund.

Rutledge says even with the recent rate increase, LPA water bills are very comparable with other municipalities.

"LPA members need to know the cost of this plant is very affordable and will position the association for decades to come," he says. ■

***“LPA members need to know
the cost of this plant is very affordable
and will position the association
for decades to come.”***

- Mike Gliem, LPA's water and dam supervisor

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Christian H.



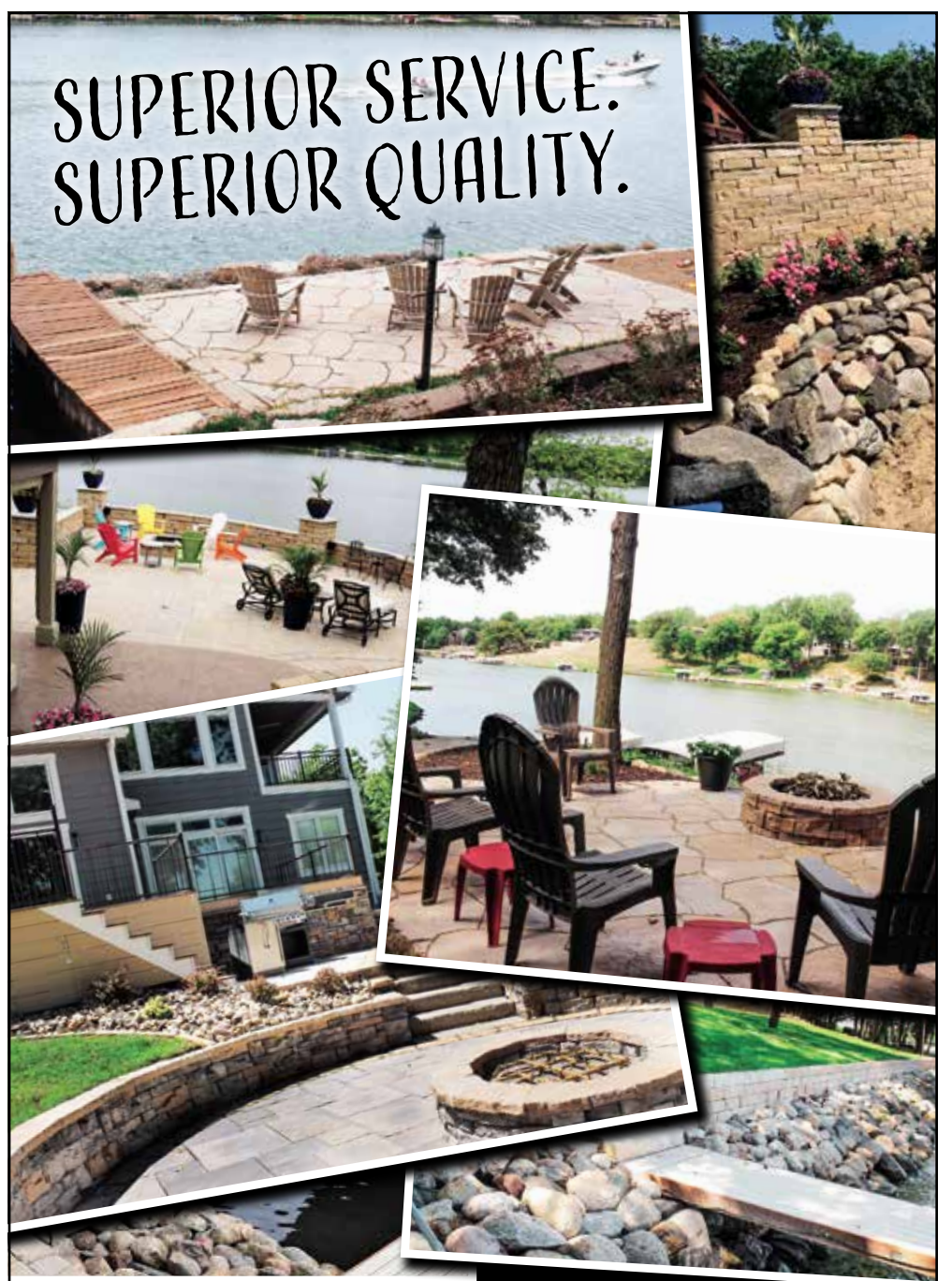
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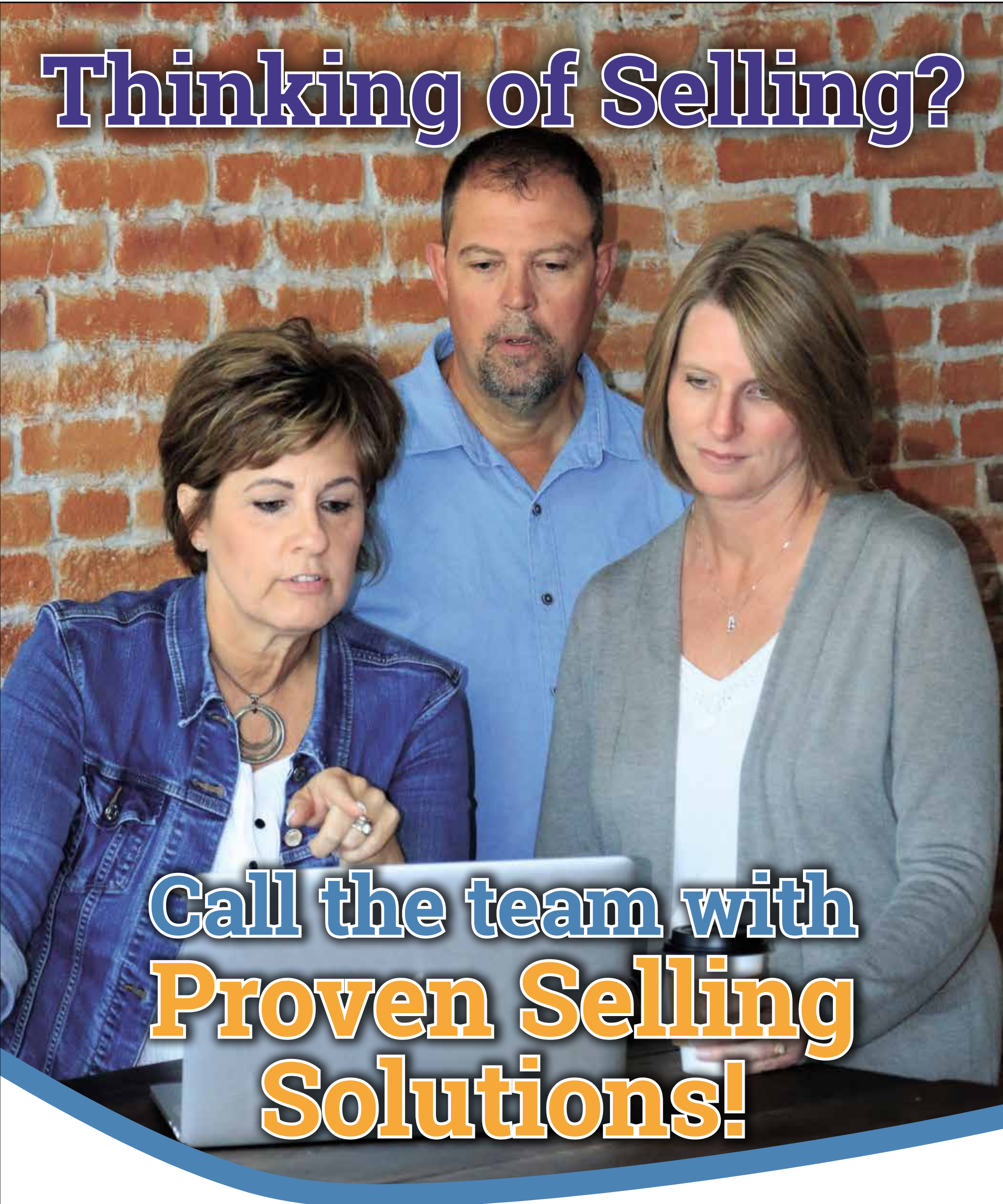
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