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March 12 deadline to file for LPA Board of Directors election

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times staff

The deadline to file nomination papers for the 2019 election for a seat on the Lake Panorama Association board of directors is March 12.

The board consists of seven members. Board terms are three years, and members are allowed to serve two consecutive terms. Terms are staggered so the number of seats on the annual ballot varies each year.

For 2019, there will be three seats on the

ballot. Larry Babcock, Gary Evans and Jim Spradling are completing their first three-year terms on the board. Both Evans and Spradling have said they plan to run for a second term. Babcock has decided not to run for another term.

Some others have expressed interest, or taken out nomination papers. Nomination papers are available at the LPA office, or will be emailed on request. Candidates must collect a minimum of 18 signatures, representing 18 separate active memberships.

Along with the nomination form, candi-

dates are asked to submit a signed statement of willingness to serve, and a 100-word statement of qualifications. Also needed is a signed conflict-of-interest form listing any businesses or financial interests the candidate has with the LPA. These items will be included in the ballot mailing.

A mailing that includes the ballot, numbered envelope and the official announcement of the May 11 annual meeting will be sent in April. LPA members must return their completed ballot in the numbered envelope. Members are urged to return their ballots

in advance of the annual meeting to speed up the tabulation process, although ballots also can be brought to the annual meeting. This year will mark the LPA's 50th annual meeting.

Board meetings are generally held the fourth Tuesday of each month, beginning with open forum at 5 p.m. The board does not usually meet in January or February.

Anyone with questions about the board election process, or details of serving on the LPA board, can contact the LPA office at 641-755-2301 or lpa@lakepanorama.org.

Waddle named 9-hole superintendent of the year

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

Brandon Waddle, Panorama West Golf Course superintendent, received the 9-hole Superintendent of the Year award January 16 from the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association. The award was presented at the 85th annual Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show held at the Prairie Meadows Event Center.

Waddle has spent more than 20 years working on Lake Panorama golf courses. He graduated from Iowa State University in 1996 with a bachelor's degree in horticulture. In 1998, he was hired as the assistant grounds superintendent at Lake Panorama National.

In 2013, the Lake Panorama Association moved management of the Panorama West golf course under the LPN umbrella, and Waddle was named grounds superintendent.

Waddle was nominated for the award by John Rutledge, LPA general manager and LPN director of operations. "Under Brandon's care, the Panorama West course conditions have flourished," he said. "In particular, Brandon did an outstanding job managing the Panorama West Golf Course in 2018."

Rutledge said in addition to the weather challenges of the past season, Waddle managed both an irrigation installation project and the installation of concrete cart paths. This and other work on the course was made possible by the 2017 estate gift of more than \$473,000 from Jim and Joyce McLuen.



Brandon Waddle is shown holding the plaque he received as the 9-Hole Superintendent of the Year from the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association. Also shown, left to right, are John Rutledge, LPA general manager and LPN director of operations; Maureen Lubeck, Panorama West clubhouse manager; and Dan Wollner, Lake Panorama National course superintendent.

"Brandon was a key liaison with contractors for the irrigation and cart path projects," Rutledge said. "He worked hard to keep the course open during construction. At the same time, he kept the course in great shape despite all of the projects, and he continues to play an integral role in all restoration. Brandon has a genuine passion for the care of our Panorama West Golf Course and we're

proud to have him as our superintendent."

Celebrating with Waddle at the awards presentation were his wife, Jaime, and their three daughters. Also in attendance were his mother Boni Waddle; Maureen Lubeck, Panorama West clubhouse manager; Dan Wollner, Lake Panorama National grounds superintendent; and Rutledge.

New LPN executive chef on the job



By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times staff

A native Iowan who has worked extensively since the mid-1990s in kitchens in Minnesota and Arizona now is in the Lake Panorama National kitchen. Brent Gaffney, who was born in Independence, Iowa, started February 5 as LPN's executive chef.

When he was five years old, Gaffney's family moved from Iowa to Tucson, Arizona. They later moved to Brainerd, Minnesota, where he graduated from high school.

CHEF, PAGE 3

2019 Golf League plans are underway

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times staff

There are several options to participate in golf leagues in 2019 at the two courses owned by the Lake Panorama Association. Both courses are operated by the LPN, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the LPA.

At Panorama West, there is a Tuesday

morning women's league, a Tuesday evening men's league, and a Thursday morning men's league. League members must either purchase an annual Panorama West membership, or pay the \$16 daily green fee.

The women's league is individual play, with weekly prizes and special events. Dues for the year are \$30. The kickoff luncheon is Tuesday, April 30, at the LPN conference

center. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. with lunch at noon. The cost is \$15. Make reservations with Paula Hansen at hansen@iowatelecom.net or 712-249-0780.

League play begins May 7 with a two-gal best shot at 9 a.m., immediately preceded by a golf clinic presented by Gary Babcock, LPN Head Golf Professional. The first day of regular play will be May 14, with August 27

the last day of regular play. A four-gal best-shot and awards luncheon will be September 3. For more information, contact Emily Spradling, 515-669-9326 or espradling@msn.com.

The Tuesday evening men's league will begin April 23 and run through August 27.

GOLF, PAGE 2

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Looking ahead into 2019

Q&A: John Rutledge, LPA general manager, LPN, LLC director of operations

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times



Having dealt with January's polar vortex, followed by plenty of ice and snow in early February, it's hard to imagine spring will someday arrive at Lake Panorama. Yet the groundhog said an early spring is on its way. So in this month's Q&A, John Rutledge, LPA general manager and LPN director of operations, reviews several topics of interest.

Q. Spring is just around the corner at LPA, we hope! What reminders do you have for LPA members?

A. If I could give one tip to LPA members, it would be to ensure they are subscribed to LPA's weekly email bulletin. The

Panorama Prompt is sent every Wednesday and includes a brief update on a number of relevant topics. Members can subscribe by going to lakepanorama.org and clicking on "Request Login" on the left-hand side menu. Fill out your information and click "submit."

Signing up will put members on the LPA ebulletin list for these important weekly newsletters, plus special email alerts as needed. This also means you will receive the electronic version of the quarterly Panorama Post newsletter. Signing up also gives members the option to receive beach water quality results and details on upcoming LPA board meetings electronically.

If members have subscribed but are not receiving LPA electronic news, I suggest they check their junk mail or spam folder. Also add Lake Panorama as a trusted sender so these LPA emails aren't mistaken for spam.

Q. In 2018, LPA registered a total of 2,629 boats. So one annual rite of spring at Lake Panorama is getting annual boat stickers from the LPA office. Anything new for 2019?

A. One thing that isn't new is the price for boat stickers, which remain the same as 2018. Vessels over 10 horsepower cost \$150. Motorized vessels under 10 horsepower are \$30. Non-motorized vessels, such as kayaks, canoes, paddle boards and paddle boats, are \$10.

2019 does mark the year in which Iowa boat owners must update their State of Iowa DNR registration. Boat owners are required

to obtain their DNR registrations from the county recorder in their county of residence. The current registrations don't expire until April 30, but LPA requires the new 2019-2021 registrations be submitted before boat stickers are issued.

There are two other requirements before LPA members can purchase their boat stickers. They must complete a new invasive species form and pay their 2019 LPA dues. If members have questions about the invasive species form or their 2019 dues statement, they can call the office at 641.755.2301 or email lpa@lakepanorama.org.

Q. How do members obtain or renew their dock permits?

A. Boat docks are governed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Information for new permits and the renewal of existing permits can be found online at iowadnr.gov/boatdocks.

LPA's only role in boat docks is with regard to signage. LPA rules mandate members purchase their boat dock signs from the association to ensure uniformity. Members who need a sign can contact the LPA office to place their sign order. The cost per sign is \$20.

Q. What events should LPA members put on their calendars for this spring?

A. LPA's annual business meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. on May 11, 2019, and will be held in the LPN banquet room. This will be the 50th annual meeting of the Lake Panora-

ma Association. We always encourage members to join us for this session, at which we review the year prior and the year to come.

Later that evening is the annual Fin and Feather fundraiser banquet. If you haven't kicked off your year at Lake Panorama by this date, then May 11 marks a great opportunity to do so. This organization, which raises funds for fish stocking and other projects, now provides the option to buy tickets online here: panoramafinandfeather.com/banquet/

One other thing to note related to the LPA's 50th anniversary. A book detailing the history of Lake Panorama is available for pre-order. Lake Panorama – The First 50 Years, is a full-color, hardcover 96-page book. It's sponsored by the Lake Panorama Association, and written by Susan Thompson.

Books ordered through May 13, which is two days after the 50th annual LPA meeting, will be sold at a reduced price of \$30. On May 14, the price will increase to \$35.

The book should be available in June 2019. It is being sold online with all major credit cards accepted. Books pre-ordered may be picked up at either the LPA or LPN front desks at no additional charge. Those who prefer to have their books shipped can choose this option on the order form.

Anyone not comfortable ordering online, or who has questions, can contact the LPA for assistance. Place online orders here: <https://lakepanorama.formstack.com/forms/order>

GOLF

FROM PAGE 1

Dues are \$20 to cover weekly prizes, plus individual scores are turned in for prizes at the end of the year. Play begins at 5:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jay Merryman at 641-751-5957 or jaymerryman1@gmail.com; or Bill Eby at 515-240-7652 or weby@stineseed.com.

The Thursday morning men's league will begin April 25 and wrap up August 29 with a tournament and awards banquet. Members can tee off beginning at 7 a.m. with play continuing until noon. Dues of \$20 covers regular play with weekly cash prizes and individual awards at the end of the season. For more information, contact Virgil Hoehne at 641-757-0962 or 2grandkids@live.com.

While it's not an official league, there is one more opportunity for competitive golf at Panorama West in 2019. Couples are invited to participate in six "Fore Fun Friday Couples" competitions.

This two-couple scramble with fun twists and strategies will be held June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, August 16 and August 30. Play will begin at 5 p.m. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m., with couples asked to arrive early to learn about that week's event, get hole assignments, and pay the \$1 per couple entry fee. Those who aren't Panorama West annual golf members also will need to pay green fees.

No preregistration is necessary, but those who need a cart should call the Panorama West pro shop at 641-755-2250 to reserve. Entry fees are returned as prize money as players gather on the deck after the round. For more information, contact Bill and Karen Eby at 515-480-4633.

At the 18-hole Lake Panorama National, all league players must have an LPN annual membership and an established USGA handicap. The cost of the handicap is \$30 plus tax per person per year. With questions about LPN memberships or the USGA handicap, call the LPN pro shop at 641-755-2024.

Men's leagues are on Wednesdays. For the

18-hole noon league, members can play from the white, yellow or red tees. This is individual play, using the Stableford scoring system. Nine-hole, match play leagues begin at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Players in the 3 p.m. league can play from either red or white tees. Everyone plays from the white tees in the 6 p.m. league. Cost of all men's leagues is \$75.

The Men's Stag on May 1 will kickoff the league season. Members or potential members are invited to attend compliments of the LPN. Cocktails and munchies begin at 5:30 p.m. with a brief program and raffle drawing at 7 p.m. League play begins May 8.

For women, Lake Panorama National offers both a 9-hole and an 18-hole league each Thursday. The 9-hole league uses a two-person, match-play format. It begins with registration at 5 p.m., announcements at 5:15 p.m., and a shotgun start at 5:30 p.m.

The 18-hole league begins at 2:30 p.m., with assigned tee times and individual play using the Stableford point system. The 18-hole league is limited to 24 players, and

has a waiting list. To get on the list, contact Kathy DeLucca, 641-757-2844, larryba@netins.net; or Linda Reis, 515-490-1454, linda.reis@gmail.com.

Both women's leagues gather in The Links after play for weekly food and drink specials, and to recognize special event winners. Annual league dues are \$60, which covers the kickoff dinner, post-season party and league prizes. The kickoff dinner May 2 begins at 5:30 p.m. League competition gets underway May 9.

There is a junior golf league for LPN members at 5 p.m. every Monday beginning June 3 and running through August 5. There is no cost for this league, and all skill levels are welcome. For more information, contact Gary Babcock at 641-755-2024 or gbabcock@lakepanorama.org.

Annual membership forms for both LPN and Panorama West, plus LPN golf league forms, are available at lakepanoramana-national.com.

LPN Board of Managers enters fourth year

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

The board of managers that oversees the Lake Panorama National operation is entering its fourth year. While the Lake Panorama Association has owned the golf course since 1977, it has owned the LPN conference center since

just 2005.

When the conference center was purchased, LPA established the legal corporate entity known as "LPN, LLC" to manage this wholly owned subsidiary. Since the LPA is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization, keeping the LPA and LPN, LLC operations separate protects the LPA's nonprofit

status.

In 2015, the LPA Board of Directors created and appointed the LPN Board of Managers to help oversee LPN policy and direction. That board held its first meeting October 6, 2015.

At its December 2018 meeting, the LPA board appointed Greg Steffen as a new member to the LPN board. He replaced Mark Juhl, who had completed his term.

Another addition to the board of managers will be made in March. That person will replace Julie Wykoff, who has served on the LPN board

since it was formed, and as board president in 2018.

Wykoff, who has a background in marketing and sales, has accepted a new, part-time role at the LPN. While board president, she helped the LPN staff develop a new marketing strategy for the golf and conference center departments.

John Rutledge, LPN, LLC director of operations, says several key benchmarks have been set to accomplish 2019 revenue goals.

"The marketing approach we're striving to implement is proactive and will be sus-

tained throughout the entire year. A key element to developing this program has been Julie's willingness to volunteer her time and talents," he says. "She's done an excellent job complementing our existing LPN team and serving as a resource to them."

Rutledge says he and Royce Shaffer, LPN operations manager, decided to ask Wykoff to consider a paid role as LPN marketing consultant for 2019, and she accepted. She resigned from the LPN board at the end of January, and began as LPN marketing consultant February 1.

Dave Greiner, LPN board of managers vice president, agreed to serve as president until the board of managers meets in March. At that meeting, the board will finalize officer positions for the remainder of 2019.

To fill Wykoff's spot, the LPA board at its March meeting will review potential candidates and appoint a new member to the LPN board. Besides Greiner and Steffen, other current LPN board members are Katelyn Brelsford, Dave Butterwick, John Coghlan, and Sue Merryman.

DAILY SPECIALS

<p>MONDAY: TWO COMBINATIONS (1-16), SMALL CHEESE DIP OR SMALL GUACAMOLE & TWO SOFT DRINKS \$20</p> <p>TUESDAY: ALL YOU CAN EAT TACOS \$7.25</p> <p>WEDNESDAY: ANY FLAVOR MARGARITAS \$1.99</p>	<p>THURSDAY: ANY FLAVOR DAQUIRI \$1.99</p> <p>FRIDAY & SATURDAY: ANY FLAVOR 20oz MARGARITAS \$4.99</p> <p>SUNDAY: DOMESTIC BEER: \$1.75, IMPORTED BEER: \$2.15, ANY DESSERTS 1/2 PRICE</p>
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December LPA board meeting minutes

Following are the unapproved minutes of the December meeting of the LPA board. These minutes will receive final approval at the board's March meeting.

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met December 18, 2018, at 5 p.m., at the Lake Panorama Association Office. Board members present were Larry Babcock, Mary Jane Carothers, Emily Donovan, Gary Evans, Tom Jeschke, Rich Schumacher and Jim Spradling.

LPA Staff present: Brad Halterman, Danna Krambeer and John Rutledge.

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

Agenda Item 1 – Approval of the Agenda – Donovan moved to approve the agenda. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 2 – Open Forum – No one present

Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda

Jeschke 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 11.27.2018 LPA Board Meeting

c) Acceptance of 11.30.18 consolidated financial report – LPA & LPN, LLC

d) Set date for next board meeting as March 26, 2019

e) Accept minutes from November 2018 LPN, LLC Board of Managers Meeting

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

The term of Mark Juhl expires on 12/31/2018. Mark Juhl has respectfully declined to serve another term. The Board of Managers has recommended Greg Steffen to be appointed to the LPN, LLC Board of Managers.

Babcock moved to appoint Greg

Steffen to the LPN, LLC Board of Managers for a term expiring on 12/31/2021. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4b – Offer to purchase lot 2137

An offer has been received from Michelle Doran to purchase lot 2137 for purchase price of \$10,500. Lot will be combined with lots currently owned by Doran.

The land sales committee has reviewed the offer and recommends acceptance of the offer.

Evans moved to accept the offer to purchase lot 2137 from Michelle Doran for \$10,500. Lot to be combined with existing adjoining lots owned by Doran. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 – Old Business – No old business was discussed during open session.

Agenda Item 6a – LPA and LPN Organizational Charts

Rutledge reviewed the LPA and LPN organizational charts and outlined the managers and their responsibilities.

Agenda Item 6b – General Manager Employment Contract

Moved to closed session.

Agenda Item 7 – The board entered closed session at 5:30 p.m. to discuss legal matters and general manager's employment contract. The board exited closed session at 6:16 p.m.

Other Business

Rutledge reviewed an easement, which has been in-place for a number of years but for which the documentation is insufficient. Rutledge recommended LPA confirm this by providing the members with necessary documentation. Evans moved to approve an easement for a driveway on LPA property for use by combined lots 417 & 418. LPA attorney Joel Williams to prepare

the easement. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Jeschke moved to approve annual employment contract for John Rutledge, adding the duties as director of operations for LPN, LLC, the details of which were discussed in closed session. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Rutledge advised the board he had received a late email clarifying the need to set a public hearing for the environmental review portion of LPA's planned water infrastructure project. Jeschke moved to set a public hearing date of 5 p.m., March 26, 2019 for official proceedings regarding the LPA water infrastructure project, and to authorize Rutledge to publish notice of the same. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Meetings at five locations will look at economic opportunities of three Iowa cow systems

By DENISE SCHWAB, SHERRY HOYER

Iowa State University Extension

Iowa is home to 4.2 percent of the United States' beef cattle inventory, the seventh-largest number of any state in the country. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach beef specialist Denise Schwab said a project conducted through the Iowa Beef Center worked with 28 producers to characterize three production management systems. "The traditional or conventional system consists of pasture grazing during the growing season and winter feeding of harvested or purchased feed in either a lot or open area," Schwab said. "The second is

an extensive grazing system, which aims to have cows grazing most of the year with little supplemental feeds. The third system is a limited grazing system where most of the feed is harvested and cows are confined in a building or drylot for much of the time."

Findings from this project form the basis of a new Iowa cow systems manual, "Sustainably Growing Iowa's Beef Herds: Evaluating Systems That Provide Economic Opportunities While Protecting Soil and Water Resources." The manual includes data collected on production cost records, feed usage and management, forage quality, soil samples and soil loss based on land use and conservation practices. Case

studies were developed to demonstrate successful practices in each production system, and example budgets and decision tools helped evaluate which system best fit their individual resources.

"Cow-calf enterprises can have a positive impact on the environment when well-managed," Schwab said. "For example, incorporating rotational or permanent pastures into crop rotations can increase organic matter and reduce soil erosion."

This message and the economic opportunities of each cow system will be delivered by Schwab and fellow extension beef specialists at meetings to be held in late February. In addition to the results of the project, three locations will offer

tours of cooperator operations. Attendance is free, thanks to sponsorship of Iowa Farm Bureau, Farm Credit Services of America and the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture.

Meeting dates, times and locations

Feb. 20, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Guthrie Activity Center, 209 State St., Guthrie Center. Tour Curtis, Molly and Mike Clark's farm, Linden.

Feb. 21, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Carpenter's Hall, 1215 Court Ave., Chariton. Tour Duane and Jodi Steenhoek's farm.

Feb. 26, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Jones County Extension & Expo Hall, 800 N. Maple St., Monticello. Tour Lubben's White Oak Farms, Monticello.

Feb. 27, 1-3 p.m. – Hancock

County Extension, 327 W 8th St., Garner. No tour.

Feb. 28, 6-9 p.m. – Meyers Seed, 5204 Highway 63, Montezuma. No tour.

This project was originally funded by the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture and transitioned to the Iowa Nutrient Research Center. Staff time and expenses also were committed by the Iowa Beef Center and ISU Extension and Outreach.

Preregistrations for all locations are due Feb. 15. To preregister, call the Iowa Beef Center at 515-294-BEEF (2333) and leave your name, phone number and email address, along with the location you plan to attend. You also can email beefcenter@iastate.edu.

CHEF

FROM PAGE 1

At the age of 17, Gaffney started his kitchen career as a dishwasher in the Grand View Lodge in Nisswa, Minnesota. Two years later, he was the sous chef. At the age of 20, he was promoted to executive sous chef.

With that experience under his belt, Gaffney decided to get some formal training. He earned a degree in culinary arts at Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Minneapolis in 2002. Over the next 10 years, he worked in several restaurants in Minnesota, including two fine dining steakhouses.

In 2013, he, along with his wife and daughter, moved back to Tucson when he was hired as the sous chef at Bodega Kitchen + Wine. Within two months, he was promoted to executive chef.

Most recently, Gaffney was working at the Stone Canyon Golf Club, a private club owned by golfer Phil Mickelson and his investment group. There he managed all banquets and line operations, helped develop a new menu, and implemented a kitchen call ticket system. He resigned from Stone Canyon in January to become LPN's executive chef.

Gaffney and his wife Dorothy were high school sweethearts, and married in 2000. She was raised in the Brainerd area, and has family there. Gaffney also has family in Brainerd, as well as Independence, so this move brings them both closer to family.

Dorothy has a career in retail, most re-

cently with Macy's. The couple's 11-year-old daughter Ella is active in Girl Scouts, Odyssey of the Mind, and theatrical productions.

Gaffney says he had been looking for an opportunity to return to the Midwest. "It's been a long time since I lived in Iowa, but it's familiar and comfortable," he says. "Since Dorothy and I got married, we've always lived in bigger cities. We're excited about the opportunity to live in a smaller community again."

Dorothy and Ella will be in Iowa for a few days in March to attend a family wedding in Independence, and explore the Lake Panorama area. Gaffney says they will look at rental housing, in hopes of having a place for the three of them to settle into once Ella's school year ends. In the meantime, Gaffney is staying in a Clover Ridge unit near the conference center.

The chance to be part of another golf club, rather than a restaurant, appealed to Gaffney. "There is a lot more going on in a place like the LPN," he says. "Things aren't so standardized and you're not doing the same thing every day."

Lake Panorama also was a draw. "Having so many outdoor recreation opportunities here with the lake, golf courses, fishing—I'm looking forward to doing lots of exploring in the coming weeks," Gaffney says.

Because of the distance between Arizona and Iowa, John Rutledge, LPN director of operations, and Royce Shaffer, LPN operations manager, interviewed Gaffney by phone.

"Brent's qualifications got me excited when we started looking at applicants. He has an

impressive resume, outstanding references and wanted to return to the Midwest," Shaffer says. "Brent was easy to talk to in our interviews and it was clear he would be a great addition to our team. I'm excited to have him on our staff."

Rutledge says he also was impressed with Gaffney both during the phone interview, and after he accepted LPN's job offer.

"I'm pleased with the teamwork that already has developed between Brent, Royce, and Matt Mikkelsen, LPN's restaurant and special events manager," Rutledge says. "We started regular conference calls with Brent while he was still in Arizona. He not only knows his way around the kitchen, but also is experienced with the numbers. Both are essential to LPN's success, and make Brent a good fit for our organization."

Gaffney's first few days on the job were spent pulling together a special Valentine's Day menu, that was offered February 14 and 15. "I'm trying several different things, from appetizers to entrees to desserts. This way I can gauge what guests like, and what should work well in the future," he says. The Links menu will change slowly as Gaffney gets feedback over the coming weeks.

"I like to cook all sorts of things," he says. "I'm a 'meat and potatoes' person, while using fresh, whole foods. I like to roast and smoke meats. I also like to do pickling and canning. I love to bake bread, and hope to eventually bake all breads served in the evenings. But at the same time, I can do a mean stir fry or sushi. There isn't much I haven't dabbled in."

Gaffney is in the process of making connections so more food products can be purchased fresh, rather than frozen or canned. For instance, the pork and beef for Valentine's Day entrees were sourced locally.

"When spring comes, I want to find a space close to the kitchen for a small herb garden," Gaffney says. "I'd also like to get a vegetable garden going, and be able to offer specials based on what's available. My emphasis is always going to be on more fresh foods, less processed foods."

Mikkelsen and Gaffney will work together on all special events, especially weddings. "I've baked dozens of wedding cakes, serving from 25 up to 500 people," Gaffney says. "I hope to have a chance to provide more wedding cakes here. I also like to do ice sculptures using a chain saw and other tools, and look forward to offering those at special events."

The LPN staff will exhibit at a wedding show in Des Moines in March, which Gaffney hopes will introduce more people to the LPN. "Weddings aren't just for those getting married that day," he says. "Weddings also are opportunities to impress people in attendance, which can lead to future business."

Gaffney knows the LPN's busiest season is just a few weeks away, and he's looking forward to diving in. "There are easier ways to make a living than working in a kitchen, but this is my passion," he says. "I've only had two other jobs – one was selling cars, one was selling produce, and I hated both. I'm just comfortable in a kitchen."

Cold, snow pile on extra days for schools

By GORDON CASTILE

Times Vedette staff

Both the AC-GC and Panorama schools will have their school year extended four days thanks to winter weather which chose to fully arrive in late January.

Snow caused cancellation of classes on January 22, 23 and 24 with extreme cold the reason school was not held January 30. These were the first missed days of the

school year.

Panorama now stands to end the school year on Friday, May 31, according to Supt. Shawn Holloway. Supt. Steve Smith at AC-GC said classes there should dismiss by June as the school has a couple of options to avoid going into June.

Prior to the missed days, AC-GC had only a couple of late starts, Smith said, while Panorama had four late beginnings to the school day.

Panorama students must attend school minimum of the state-required 1,080 hours, so technically days would not have to be made up. Holloway said Panorama has some 50 hours to the good. However, the school board has deemed money spent be maximized and students attend the extra days.

At AC-GC 180 class days make up the school year, Smith said.



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DNR to recap hunting seasons, discuss possible rule changes at public meetings

By THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is hosting a series of town hall-style meetings where local staff will provide updates on recently completed hunting seasons, discuss possible changes to hunting rules and regulations, and address other topics as requested.

“We want people to come out to these meetings, listen to the hunting seasons reviews, ask questions and hear directly from our staff,” said Todd Bishop, chief of the Iowa DNR’s Wildlife Bureau. “Part of the meeting will be devoted to discussing potential rule changes and collecting feedback as we work through

the rules process.”

The meetings are open to the public. Comments collected from these public meetings will be considered along with other related comments received by the Iowa DNR prior to proposing changes to hunting rules and regulations. Proposed rules will be presented to the Natural Resource Commission during a regular public meeting for consideration and additional public comment.

These meetings replace the one night listening session held in late winter over the past 15 years.

Meeting date, time and location

- Burlington, Feb. 20, 7 p.m., Starr’s Cave Nature Center, 11627 Starr’s Cave Road
- Dubuque, Feb. 20, 7 p.m.,

- Swiss Valley Nature Center
- Ventura, Feb. 20, 7 p.m., Clear Lake Wildlife Unit headquarters, 15326 Balsam Ave.
- Bloomfield, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., Pioneer Ridge Nature Center, 1339 Hwy. 63
- Chariton, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., Pin Oak Lodge, 45996 Hwy. 14
- Creston, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room adjacent to the YMCA, Southwestern Community College
- Algona, Feb. 25, 7 p.m., Waters Edge Nature Center, 1010 250th Street
- Waverly, Feb. 25, 7 p.m., Waverly Public Library, 1500 W Bremer Avenue
- Sac City, Feb. 26, 7 p.m., Sac County Conservation Center

- at Hagge Park, 2970 280th Street
- Council Bluffs, Feb. 26, 7 p.m., Fish and Game Club, 531 Commanche Street
- Okoboji, Feb. 26, 6:30 p.m., Dickinson County Nature Center, 22785 Nature Center Road
- Des Moines, Feb. 26, 7 p.m., Des Moines Izaak Walton League, 4343 George Flagg Pkwy
- Jefferson, Feb. 27, 7 p.m., The Jefferson Depot, 509 East Lincoln Way
- Iowa City, Feb. 27, 7 p.m., ISU Extension Office, 3109 Old Hwy. 218 South
- DeWitt, Feb. 28, 7 p.m., DeWitt Community Center, 512

- 10th Street
- Salix, Feb. 28, 7 p.m., Lakeport Gun Club, 3089 Calhoun Avenue
- Toledo, March 7, 7 p.m., Tama County Nature Center, Otter Creek Lake Park, 2283 Park Road
- Decorah, March 7, 7 p.m., Decorah City Hall, 400 Clairborne Drive

Any person attending the public meeting and has special requirements, such as those related to mobility or hearing impairments, should contact the Iowa DNR or ADA Coordinator at 515-725-8200, Relay Iowa TTY Service 800-735-7942, or Webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov, and advise of specific needs.



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MIDWEST PARTNERSHIP

Guthrie's Dennis Flanery wins Guy Powell Award

The 2019 Midwest Partnership dinner was held Jan. 24 at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center

By PAIGE GODDEN
editor@gctimesnews.com

Guthrie Center's Dennis Flanery earned one of the few awards given out at the annual Midwest Partnership dinner Thursday night.

Flanery was recognized with the Guy Powell Award for his leadership as the president of the Guthrie Center Economic Development Corporation, and for his work as the president of the Guthrie Activity Center.

Mike Underwood, president and CEO of Guthrie County State Bank, nominated Flanery for the award.

"Dennis has been the president of Guthrie Center's economic development board for a number of years and is very active in pursuing potential leads as well as discussing business retention opportunities with existing businesses," Underwood said in his nomination letter, which was read at the annual dinner by 2019 Midwest Partnership President Scott Tonderum. "His work as provided a nearly full downtown business area."

According to Underwood, Flanery aided in the retention of businesses that have had the opportunity to leave the area, and he played a big role in restoring the exterior of the Guthrie Activity Center.

While accepting his award, Flanery said: "There are a lot of people who are probably more deserving of this award, so I'm grateful for this."

"I did have the privilege to work with Guy Powell," Flanery said. "He was my vice president when I was president of this organization, so this does mean a lot to me."

The Guy Powell award is named after past president of the Midwest Partnership Development Corporation, Guy Powell. The award is given to partnership members who "stand out as outstanding leaders in this area of west central Iowa, and who work to make it a more economically vital place to live, work and play."

Others who were recognized for their work during the dinner included Norm Fandel, who is the outgoing president of the Midwest Partnership. He was given a plaque and a gavel to recognize his work.

Warren Varley and John Rutledge were also recognized as outgoing board members.

Sarah Gomez, executive director of the Midwest Partnership, updated those in attendance on the Partnership's work.

The Partnership's top priority this year was in business and workforce development.

Gomez said the Partnership is working with schools and local businesses to build a pipeline to retain workers in the central Iowa region.

"We all know workforce continues to be our main challenge for businesses," Gomez said.

Last year the Partnership played a huge part in hosting a four-day workforce conference that connected groups such as DMACC Business Resources, Iowa Workforce Development and the Iowa STEM program with K-12 educators, counselors and administrators. The conference allowed the teachers to partake in industry tours, presentations and hands-on learning experiences to show them what skills are needed in today's workforce.

The group's second priority is small business development.

Over the last couple of years, Gomez said, the Partnership has developed a program called "Business Blitz." The University of Northern Iowa helped create a small survey for the program that's tailored to find the needs of small business owners.

"This really gives us the tools to visit with small business owners, ask questions and understand what their needs and challenges are," Gomez said. "We started the program in 2017 and we have given out information to 450 businesses throughout the region and have met with more than 250 in person."

Another focus, Gomez said, has been on marketing. The Partnership is working with Western Iowa Advantage, which is an 8-county collaborative region that covers Adair, Audubon, Greene, Guthrie, Carroll, Crawford, Sac and Ida counties.

The partnership has also launched a new website and plans to work with a public relations firm to as-



PAIGE GODDEN/TIMES VEDETTE

Midwest Partnership Board President Scott Tonderum, left, presents the Guy Powell award to Dennis Flanery, right, during the annual Midwest Partnership Dinner on Jan. 24. The Guy Powell award is named after past president Guy Powell and recognizes partnership members who show outstanding leadership.

sist with marketing efforts in 2019.

Finally, the Partnership will take a specific interest in community development in 2018.

"It's not a surprise that every community is talking about housing and putting together housing plans and housing incentives," Gomez said. "I do believe that's a big piece of the puzzle in growing your community."

She said she's heard the phrase "we chase businesses, businesses chase people and people chase communities," which means destination marketing, creative placemaking and tourism all need to be taken serious here.

Creative placemaking is usually defined as a partnership between public, private and non-profit sectors to strategically shape the character of a neighborhood.

The dinner concluded with a speech from Hernan Etcheto, the president of Nutriom. Nutriom bought the old Cargill factory in



PAIGE GODDEN/TIMES VEDETTE

Midwest Partnership Board President, Scott Tonderum, right, presents 2018 board president Norm Fandel, left, with a plaque and a gavel as tokens of appreciation for his service.

log of 200 basic foods that are required to be on every ship in the Navy, and Nutriom's egg product is one of those required foods.

Nutriom eventually grew and now supplies food to the Marine Corps and Army as well. Before using Nutriom's dehydrated egg product, Etcheto said they were using frozen rations.

While Etcheto calls the greater Seattle area home, he said there are logistical benefits to having the Nutriom factory in Panorama.

First, he said, Nutriom saves between \$5,000 and \$9,000 per tank of egg, or about \$50,000 per month on shipping.

He said it also saves him from some anxiety when the weather gets bad in the Pacific Northwest.

Etcheto said South Dakota, Nebraska and Indiana were also in the running when he was looking to build a factory back in 2001, but he decided on Panorama when the plant became available because "everyone was really helpful."



PAIGE GODDEN/TIMES VEDETTE

John Rutledge, left, and Warren Varley, center, receive plaques for serving on the Midwest Partnership Board. Rutledge served on the board from 2008-2018 and Varley from 2006-2018. Norm Fandel, right, who is president of the Midwest Partnership Board and VP of marketing and business development for Midland Power Cooperative, handed out the plaques.



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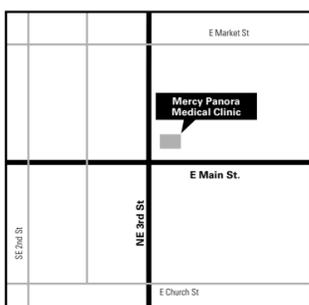
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CLIMATE CHANGE

It's real, and a Panorama High School graduate is working to stop it

By PAIGE GODDEN
editor@gctimesnews.com

When Breanna Parker graduated from Panorama High School in 2014 she didn't believe humans were causing climate change.

"I think it was because it is such a politicized topic," Parker said. "I wasn't aware it was something that is actually happening."

Now, five years later, Parker says anthropomorphic climate change is indisputably real and she holds a bachelor's degree in environmental science and policy and recently received high honors on her thesis that explores the monetary cost of carbon emissions.

Parker moved halfway across the country after her high school graduation to study astronomy at Smith College in central Massachusetts.

She was intrigued by the mystery of space and of the cosmos. And she grew up looking at the stars in the clear Iowa skies.

It was at Smith where Parker's mind came racing back to earth.

"While I was there I became much more aware of my place and privilege in the world, and also of the complex and urgent problem of climate change," Parker said. "Which is why I ended up pursuing my degree."

Parker explained she was taking a lot of science and policy courses while at Smith, when she began to realize there is mounting evidence climate change exists and poses a threat to society.

"This is a very real and present issue of our time, and it really shifted my perspective on the topic from this politicized idea to something that is scientifically proven," Parker said. "There is no question about whether or not it exists."

During her studies, she started asking herself: "How do we respond to this and prevent the most catastrophic climate change events from happening?"

That question inspired her thesis.



Breanna Parker, a 2014 Panorama graduate, accepts the Campus Sustainability Research Award from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. Her thesis was titled "Designing a Proxy Carbon Price Strategy for Smith College."

Her thesis explores carbon pricing, which she said is a potential solution to combat climate change.

What carbon pricing does, she said, is explore the true cost of carbon emission.

By putting a price on carbon emissions, Parker hopes people and corporations will pick more sustainable practices rather than paying a tax on the emissions.

The trick, Parker said, is trying to figure out the actual cost of carbon emissions per metric ton.

Using the laboratory at Smith, Parker conducted two pilot projects. In one project she used the carbon price of \$70 per metric ton.

The value of carbon emissions, Parker said, is up for debate.

"There's a wide variety of different values for carbon pricing," Parker said. "There's no clear one correct answer, but the current value of zero is not correct."

She arrived at \$70 by looking at documentation produced by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, by studying a carbon tax recently implemented in Canada and by considering the social costs of carbon and the impacts a tax would have on the economy.

Parker also proposed the price would increase annually at an escalation rate of 2 percent to keep up with inflation.

She tested out the \$70 number by plugging it into a renovation project of an on-campus house.

When the campus was considering adding items like thicker windows, warmer insulation and things that would lower emissions overall, Parker calculated the cost of buying the thicker windows versus the amount of energy and money the college would save on heating and cooling the house over time.

"It did alter some decisions," Parker said. "The college will be going through and insulating the walls, which may not have been done previously."

The second pilot project Parker performed for her thesis was in purchasing renewable energy.

She studied the impact of renewable energy credits and whether companies should keep or sell them.

Parker learned investing in energy credits could help the college reduce its carbon emissions.

She hopes the lessons she learned in her thesis can help inform policy decisions when it comes time to write legislation.

"It's a broader lesson that can help inform a small campus, too," Parker said.

Her new full-time job is also giving her a platform to influence policy decisions.

She's currently working at Competitive Energy Services, an energy consulting firm based in Portland, Maine.

"I will use the energy industry as my next experimental playing field, so to speak," Parker said. "I'm giving a presentation in February on carbon pricing. It will help inform decision making in New England." While Parker combats climate change on the east coast, she encourages everyone in her hometown to think about energy efficiency in their own homes as businesses.

There's always something that can be done, she said, from insulating buildings to installing LED lights.

"Anything you can do in your home or business is going to be a huge benefit," she said. "Reducing your carbon emissions is a win-win for everyone."

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND RELAY FOR LIFE

Making healthy choices, reducing your cancer risk

A new year often brings with it resolutions to make healthier choices. Learn the benefits of good nutrition, regular physical activity, and staying at a healthy weight. Research shows that poor diet and physical inactivity are 2 key factors that can increase your cancer risk. New year, new you! Incorporate these tips into your daily routine to be more active.

Fitting in Fitness-Simple steps add up

Did you know you benefit from even small amounts of moderate activity throughout the day? Regular physical activity is easier to fit in than you may realize and can significantly lower your lifetime risk for cancer and heart disease and diabetes, too. You'll find the American Cancer Society's

physical activity guidelines for adults and children below. These recommendations are based on the latest scientific information to help reduce the risk of developing cancer. ACS Physical Activity Guidelines for Cancer Prevention. Adults: Get at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity or 75 minutes of vigorous intensity activity each week (or a combination of these), preferably spread throughout the week. Children and teens: Get at least 60 minutes of moderate or vigorous intensity activity each day, with vigorous activity on at least 3 days each week. Moderate activity is anything that makes you breathe as hard as you do during a brisk walk. During moderate activities, you'll notice a slight increase in heart rate

and breathing, but you may not break a sweat. Vigorous activities are performed at a higher intensity and generally use large muscle groups. They cause a noticeable increase in heart rate, faster breathing, and sweating. Active substitutions-Don't think you have time to add physical activity to your day? Consider simple substitutions. Think about how much time you spend sitting, versus being active. Are there ways to replace sitting with moving? For instance:

- Use stairs rather than an elevator.
- Walk or bike to your destination.
- Exercise at lunch with your workmates, family, or friends.
- Take a 20-minute exercise break at work to stretch or take a quick walk.
- Walk to visit co-work-

ers instead of sending an email.

- Go dancing with your spouse or friends.
- Plan active vacations, rather than driving trips.
- Wear a pedometer every day to increase your daily number of steps.
- Join a sports or recreation team.
- Use a stationary bicycle or treadmill while watching TV.

No matter what kind of activity you choose, the important thing is to get moving. Try to look for opportunities to be active throughout your day.

For most Americans who do not use tobacco, the most important cancer risk factors that can be changed are body weight, diet, and physical activity. The World Cancer Research Fund estimates that

about 20% of all cancers diagnosed in the US are related to body fatness, physical inactivity, excess alcohol consumption, and/or poor nutrition, and thus could be prevented.

Although our genes influence our risk of cancer, most of the difference in cancer risk between people is due to factors that are not inherited. Avoiding tobacco products, staying at a healthy weight, staying active throughout life, and eating a healthy diet may greatly reduce a person's lifetime risk of developing or dying from cancer. These same behaviors are also linked with a lower risk of developing heart disease and diabetes.

Although these healthy choices can be made by each of us, they may be helped or slowed by the social, physical, economic, and regula-

tory environment in which we live. Community efforts are needed to create an environment that makes it easier for us to make healthy choices when it comes to diet and physical activity.

Schedule your screening tests today. Not sure what screenings are right for you? Go to cancer.org to learn more and talk to your doctor! Take action in 2019 and help reduce your risk of cancer.

Please join us for the 2019 Relay For Life of Guthrie County on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at the Guthrie County Fairgrounds Event Center! Join our mission to attack cancer by going to www.relayforlife.org/guthriecountyia! If you have questions please contact Becky Peterson, Relay for Life of Guthrie County Event Lead at 515.339.4223.

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A Retirement Fact Sheet

Does your vision of retirement align with the facts? Here are some noteworthy financial and lifestyle facts about life after 50 that might surprise you. For starters, up to 85% of a retiree's Social Security income can be taxed.

Retirees have a larger standard deduction on federal taxes. Retired or not, the current standard deduction for an individual taxpayer age 65 or older is \$13,600, compared to \$12,000 for those 64 or younger.

Retirees can still contribute to IRAs. There is no age limit for contributing to a Roth IRA, just an income limit. Retirees can potentially contribute to a traditional IRA until the year they turn 70½.

Other surprising facts about retirement:

- A significant percentage of retirees are carrying education and mortgage debt.
- Around 64% of women say that they have no "Plan B" if forced to retire early.
- Few older Americans budget for travel expenses.

What financial facts should you consider as you retire?

The reality of retirement may surprise you. If you have not met with a financial professional about your retirement savings and income needs, now is the time.

View this article in its entirety at investgcsb.com and contact our office today for a free consultation.

Kristen Crouthamel, AIF®, Financial Advisor



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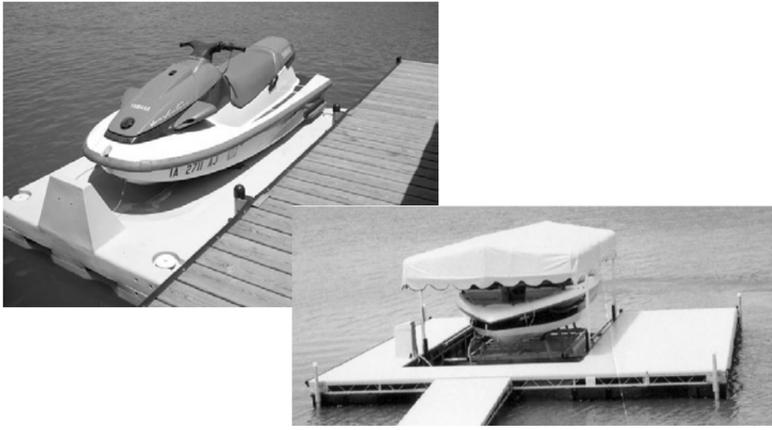
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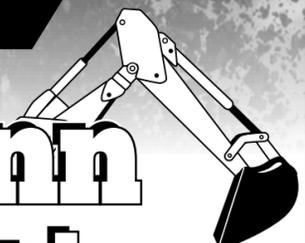
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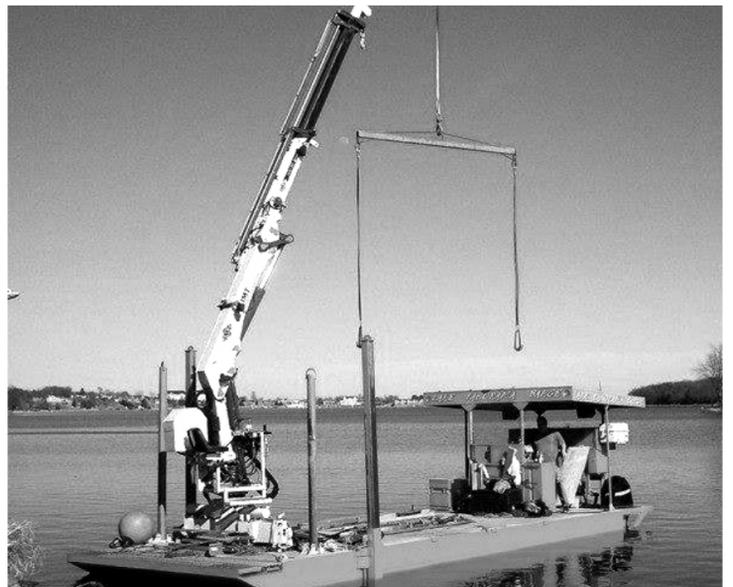
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How Iowa's wildlife deals with extreme cold

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
News Release

With wind chills dipping to nearly 60 below in parts of the state - enough to cause frostbite in 5 minutes - you might be wondering how Iowa's wildlife survives such brutal cold. Step back from the bread aisle and hoarding gallons of milk to learn how everything from mice to deer ride out the storm!

I've got a bad feeling about this

Wildlife don't have the benefit of radar and weather alerts on their smartphones. But they don't need it - animals are often very tuned-in to environmental changes around them and can sense coming weather events, especially changes in barometric pressure.

Netflix and chill

Just like Iowans descending in hordes upon grocery stores before curling up on the couch with the remote

and a thick blanket, Iowa's wildlife prepare, too. Beavers, squirrels and other critters who store food for the winter might raid their caches. Wildlife will feed as heavily as they can before the storm, and then hunker down to wait out the weather. Moving less burns less energy and allows the feast to hold them over longer.

Let the sun shine in

Larger animals like deer and turkeys will try and reduce exposure to the wind - often seeking out evergreen trees to use as a windbreak - and orient their body to capture sunshine from a southern exposure.

Going underground

Plenty of critters will hang out in underground dens to avoid the cold. Mice will tunnel under the snow to stay warm and avoid predators (although foxes and owls are pretty talented at spotting a mouse moving under the snow).

High-rated insulation

Mammals' fur is specially designed to keep animals warm in frigid conditions, especially those that grow thicker winter coats. Animals that nest spend time insulating their homes with grass and other materials to stay warm. And the waterfowl that overwinter here wear lovely down insulation to stay toasty. The most creative? That might be our native gray treefrog, which produces glycerol and other chemicals that act like antifreeze for their blood.

Sleep it off

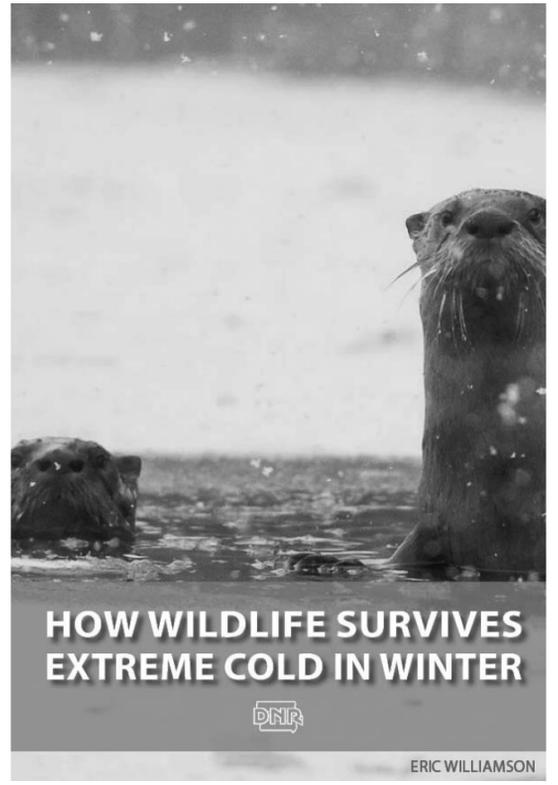
There are plenty of Iowa critters who will be oblivious to the storm, as they're either hibernating or brumating (a type of winter dormancy for reptiles and amphibians). To hibernate, Iowa mammals - like bats, woodchucks, ground squirrels, some mice and a few other rodents - curl into a ball and reduce their heart and breathing rates, body temperature and metabolism. Amphibians and reptiles, which are cold-blooded

and depend on the environment to stay warm, normally burrow below frost level or into the mud of a lake bottom and drastically slow their bodily functions until spring.

Some other animals in Iowa don't take a season-long snore, but a series of long naps. Mammals like badgers, raccoons, chipmunks and skunks will take a deep sleep for a couple of days up to two weeks in order to reduce their need for food when it's scarce.

Strength in numbers

Squirrels may stay in den trees and keep close to conserve energy. Other animals without a den, like deer, may huddle up together to conserve body heat. Raccoons might find hollow logs to stay out of the wind. Bats hibernate close together in tight clumps to preserve heat. Turkeys will often roost in the trees through prolonged periods of bad weather un-



HOW WILDLIFE SURVIVES EXTREME COLD IN WINTER



ERIC WILLIAMSON

Panorama, WCV schools will share business manager

By GORDON CASTILE
Times Vedette staff

The Panorama and West Central Valley, Stuart, schools will share a business manager.

Last Monday the Panorama school board approved an agreement for Symantha Crawford, Stuart, to hold the dual role for both schools. She has been WCV's business manager.

Dominique Bryant resigned as of December 31 as Panorama business manager and board secretary. Panorama school secretary Vanessa Phillips will now also serve as board secretary.

The agreement runs through June 30, 2019 at which time it will be determined whether to continue. Crawford will divide her time equally between the two schools.

West Central Valley will arrange and pay her salary and compensation package with Panorama to provide 50 percent of this amount.

Athletic director Erin Kirtley recommended to the board coaching additions for soccer and track.

Track would go from one person heading both the girls and boys squads to one head coach and one assistant for each. For soccer, the one paid

boys coach would now have a paid assistant. Two men now split one contract for girls soccer. They will designate one as head coach and one as assistant and be paid as such, or split the total of two contracts.

Teachers Deb Smith and Julie Wiedenthaler explained the use of peer observation. All faculty members arrange to visit a classroom and then discuss their visit with that teacher. It was noted both teachers gain from the visit.

Principals Thad Stanley, 6-12, and Liz Ratcliff, elemen-

tary, went over changes in their respective student handbooks. Stanley noted there are now cameras placed throughout the school while Ratcliff mentioned

keeping staff and parents aware of the compulsory attendance law.

Fourth grade teacher Kyler Kudart told of a reading program for that grade in which students read three different stories instead of one repeatedly from one book. Students are seeing progress in literacy.

Supt. Shawn Holloway said he has been working on the master schedule for next year. Board Action - Five stu-

dents were okayed for open enrollment in and Brady Howard and Joanna Jensen were hired as special ed paraeducators.

The voluntary early retirement program was approved again without change. Staff can retire at age 55 and receive a one-time stipend of 40 percent of their salary if they worked in the district 10 years.

A list of present and proposed future expenditures from the Physical Plant & Equipment Levy (PPEL) and one-cent state sales tax (SAVE) were approved. For the summer of 2019 expenditures of

\$291,800 are listed bringing the fiscal year's total to \$1,361,350. Expenditures include building remodeling, equipment and maintenance items, athletic grounds, transportation and technology.

A .5 assistant boys basketball coaching contract was approved for Jim Lovell for the rest of the season.

The \$219,961 plan for dropout prevention was okayed along with a senior class trip to Chicago on May 4-5

Also - The next regular meeting is Monday, Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Guthrie County non-profits invited to enter grant applications

The Guthrie County Community Foundation wants to inform all Guthrie County non-profit organizations of the upcoming deadline for 2019 grant applications. Organizations must be a 501(c)3 or have the same tax-exempt qualifying status. They must be located within Guthrie County or provide services to residents of Guthrie County.

Applications must be submitted, via email as one (1) pdf file, no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, March 4th, 2019. Late applications, incomplete, or applications that do not follow directions will not be considered. Please take note of the list of items that the foundation is not able to fund and should not be asked for when submitting a grant application.

The Guthrie County Com-

munity Foundation has \$99,996.49 from the Des Moines Foundation and \$43,047.00 from Grow Greene County for a total \$143,043.49 of funds available for the current grant cycle. Applications and instructions are available on the city of Guthrie Center's website at www.guthriecenter.com. Click on the GCCF tab on the left side of the page to access the instructions and the application. They are also available on the city of Panorama's website at www.cityofpanora.com. Click on Iowa Community Foundations on the left-hand side of the home page. Or you may go to <http://www.iowa-communityfoundations.org/guthrie-county-community-foundation.aspx>. Click on Grant Information in the white box on the left-hand

side to access the instructions and application.

Applications must be emailed to GCCFoundation@gmail.com with all of the required documentation attached as (1) pdf file. You may also submit any questions your organization may have regarding the application process to the same email address.

On Wednesday, February 6th, 2019, the Guthrie County Community Foundation will be holding a grant writing seminar at 6:00 pm at Solutions Technology Center at 112 E Main St, Panorama, IA. This event is open to anyone interested in writing a grant to request funds for their non-profit organization. Please RSVP to Julie Kipp at (641) 757-1292 no later than Saturday, February 2nd, 2019.

Panora issued new building permits in 2018

By GORDON CASTILE
Times Vedette staff

From March 12, 2018 to December 12, 2018 the City of Panora issued 36 building permits to city residents including two for new homes, according to information supplied by city administra-

tor Lisa Grossman.

The most requested permit was for fences (9) with seven permits issued for three projects each -- garages, decks and remodeling.

Four permits were for demolition, three for driveways and two each for sidewalks and concrete work.

Other projects were plumb-

ing, retaining wall, sign, a shed and the lighthouse at the Assembly of God Church.

In 2017 there were 21 permits issued, but none for new homes. However, there were two large business projects; a major renovation at the Nutriom Plant and a new storage bin at Heartland Coop.

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Panorama schools provides flexible, alternative seating options

By PANORAMA SCHOOLS

Education is constantly changing. Teachers are continuously working to improve their instructional practices, materials, student engagement, and student learning. You may have noticed some changes in the physical design of many classrooms in the last few years. Flexible or alternative seating has become increasingly popular, as learning has become more interactive and collaborative. There are many reasons for these changes, and teachers are very deliberate and intentional when deciding the layout and organization that makes the most sense for his/her style, space, and most importantly the students in the classroom.

Just as standing desks, treadmill work stations, and yoga ball office chairs have become commonplace in the corporate world, similar aspects have made their way into the classroom setting. Students are given more flexibility and choice in where they do their work. Teachers find that students are more productive and more focused with this sort of environment. Oftentimes, tables are replacing individual desks in order to encourage more discussion, collaboration, and cooperative work. This, again, is because the workforce is calling for employees that work in this way. After all, we want our children to transition to contributing, valuable members of the workforce.

While to some this sort of classroom organization may seem chaotic and unstructured, closer inspection typically reveals increased on-task work and a well thought-out system in which students are well aware of

the expectations and responsibilities. Behind the scenes, teachers have a surprisingly structured system in place. They spend a significant amount of time teaching students exactly how to correctly use the different types of seats and the purpose behind having choice. Students are aware that flexible seating is a privilege, and that if it's abused can be removed. Oftentimes students do have designated work areas or "assigned seats" that are used in certain situations, and then situations that allow for individual choice.

Teachers have discovered many advantages to alternative seating. Probably most notable is that because students move fluidly throughout the classroom they have less "stuff" that pose distractions during teaching. No longer can students play with trinkets and treasures hidden in desks. Many supplies are collected and shared among the community, yet each student does have a designated place somewhere in the room to store his/her personal materials.

Fifth grade students who are using it summed up flexible seating this way:

"I like the different seats and getting to sit different places each week. I kind of miss a desk, but I like how it's easier to organize my stuff. When I had a desk it was always a mess." -Jemma

"I like it because it helps me feel relaxed and I get all my heebie-jeebies out." -Blake

"I feel like I have more space. It doesn't bother me not having a desk." -Brayden.

"When I'm relaxed I'm more focused." -Evelyn



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Beanbag chairs are one flexible seating options for 3rd grade students.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kindergarten students at Panorama schools have a variety of seating options to choose from.

Panorama's Middle School Dance Team celebrates its debut season

Panorama Middle School dancers made history this year with the first ever Panorama Middle School Dance Team.

Kristi Vance and Leigh Ashley Martin, who both coach the high school team were volunteer coaches for the middle school dancers.

This year the team had 13 girls sign up.

"I'm excited to be a part of the middle school dance program. High School Dance Team is such a wonderful experience for students and to get to offer that to students in middle school is such a great honor," Martin said. "I am grateful to Kristi Vance for asking me to help coach and to Erin Kirtley for supporting the school dance programs. It's going to be a lot of fun to see these kids grow their skills and team."

They had 6 weeks of practices with three performances for the season including performing in the annual clinic performance at a girls basketball halftime, at the Pink Out Boys Basketball halftime with their team's routine "Rise Up," and both routines at the Show of Shows Annual Dance Showcase. The team is very grateful to the Panorama Booster Club for sponsoring their uniforms.

High school team members helping with the team include Abbi Brown, Reagan Gibson, Payton Douglass, and Chloe Webster. The team includes Hallie Arganbright, Liberty Ashworth, Kaden Denclau, Natalie Donovan, Riley Gibson, Zoey Hambleton, Tori Heckman, Kaitlin Kent, Hadley Klein, Lindsey Meyer, Justice Sheeder, Patrica Underwood, and Sarah Westergaard.

"All other sports and activities have a middle school program. It is time for dance team to have one too," Vance said. "We need to build our numbers in the future for our high school team if we want to be able to compete successfully against the other schools in our division. Our goal is to provide a positive activity for our middle school students as well as strengthen our high school team."

"I am beyond proud of the girls with only a handful of practices they are already shining and growing as dancers and performers," Vance continued. "I can't wait to see them hit the floor and show the community their talents and hard work."



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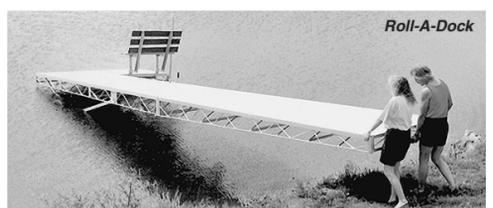
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Megan Beardmore of Carroll is a high-level researcher.

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"I'm a third-year graduate student at the University of Arizona. I am actively involved in research examining the relationship between sleep modification and diabetes management for children. I also provide applied behavioral analysis services to children with autism."

"My best memories were probably from my first year at Iowa in the dorms. I met such a wonderful group of girls, and we had a lot of fun together. We're all still very close. We attended several of the free campus activities, and always had a great time!"

"I received such a high-quality education at Iowa. I believe a major reason why I was accepted into many graduate programs was because of this."

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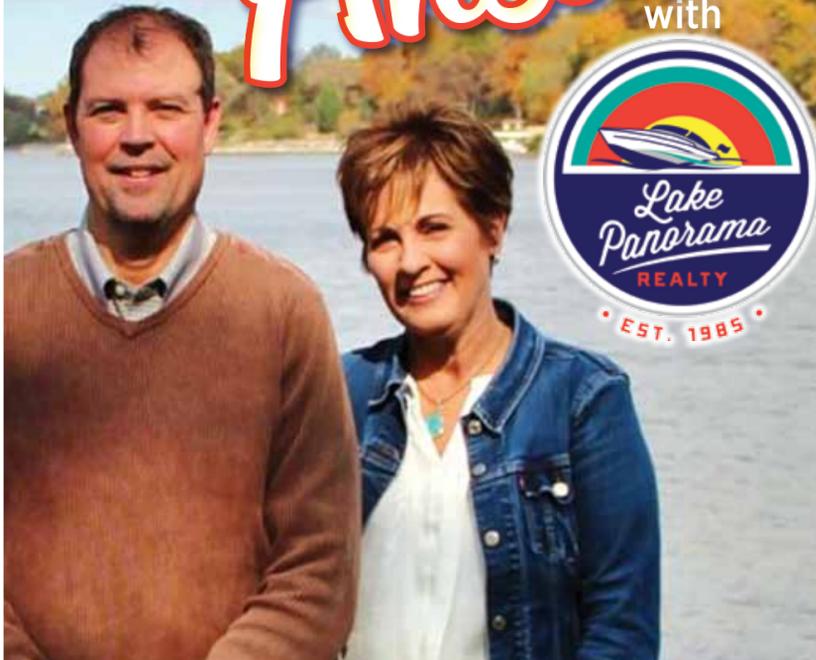
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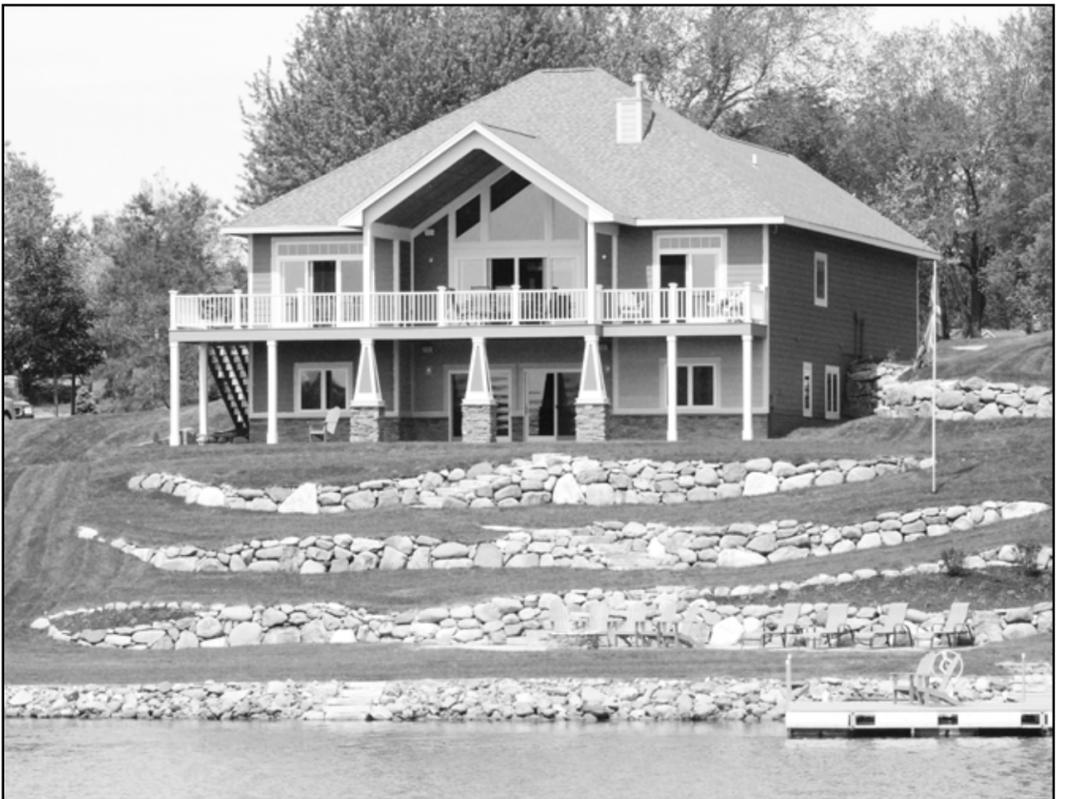
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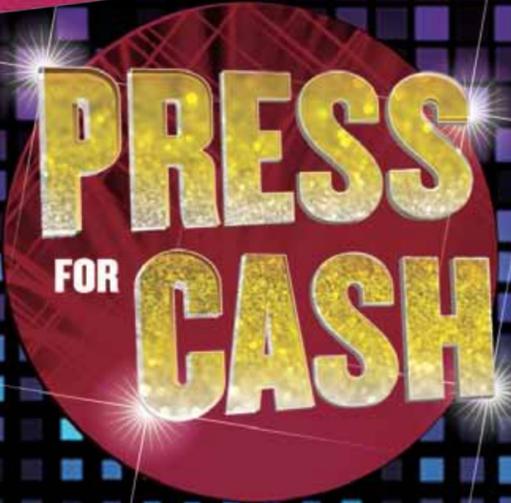


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