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# Lake PanoramaTIMES

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SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE TIMES

A Funky Zebras women's clothing store will open in Panora on October 28. The owners are, left to right, Lorrie Motsick, Dee Eckley and Karla Bristle. They are shown with the store mascot.

## Three friends opening women's boutique in Panora

By SUSAN THOMPSON  
Lake Times staff

What is described as a “trendy women's boutique” will open October 28 at 130 West Main in Panora. The Funky Zebras will offer a wide selection of women's clothing and accessories, sell items online, and offer private parties for groups of six or more.

Three women who have been friends for many years — Karla Bristle, Dee Eckley, and Lorrie Motsick — formed a partnership for the new business venture.

Bristle and Eckley grew up in the Boone area, and both became nurses. “We were in 4-H together,” says Bristle. “As nurses, we reconnected several times since childhood, job-shared a position, and most recently worked together at Lakeside Village.”

Bristle and Motsick's husbands knew each other in high school, and later the two couples became friends. Both couples purchased property at Lake Panorama about seven years ago. The Eckley's purchased a home at the lake three years ago, and Eckley and Motsick got to know each other as golf partners in the LPN women's league. Now all three live at Lake Panorama fulltime.

BOUTIQUE, PAGE 3A

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## TWO LAKE PANORAMA RIZ PROJECTS NEAR COMPLETION



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE TIMES

The Lake Panorama RIZ dredge operated for a few days in Boulder Cove in late September. The cutter head on the front moves back and forth, collecting sediment from the lake bottom.

By SUSAN THOMPSON | Lake Times staff

In late September, sediment was pumped for the first time into the new Cory sediment storage basin located one-third of a mile north of the LPA maintenance facility on the east side of Lake Panorama.

The dredge was operating in Boulder Cove. With the help of the booster pump, the sediment was pumped from there through 3,000 feet of pipe installed last fall between Helen's Cove and the Cory basin. The pipe crosses the LPN golf course, goes under Sage Trail, and is buried four-to-five feet deep in an easement across crop ground before entering the basin.

Once Boulder Cove was dredged, some limited work was done in Helen's Cove before the dredge returned to the upper basin for the rest of this season. Dredging of Hughes Cove will be accommodated by the Cory Basin when the time comes.

The \$2 million basin provides 1.3 million cubic yards of storage, and was designed specifically to handle dredged materials from Boulder, Helen's and Hughes coves. It also provides the capacity if the main channel from Burchfield Cove to Hughes Cove ever needs to be dredged.

Construction of the basin began

in August 2015. But planning for the basin began two years earlier. Since the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ) was formed in 1997, RIZ trustees have undertaken many projects to protect the Lake Panorama water quality.

There are 440 square miles of land that drain into Lake Panorama. While 94 percent of the water comes from the Middle Raccoon River, the remaining six percent comes from local drainages into smaller coves such as Helen's and Hughes coves.

While there is sediment storage capacity in the County Basin and Scott Basin, there are no active basins on the downstream end of the lake. One of the 2012-2013 goals set by the RIZ board was to study areas of the lake not served by existing basins.

In late 2012, RIZ identified several areas of high priority for silt basin development. Among those were Helen's and Hughes coves. These two coves are highly developed and



Sediment dredged from Boulder Cove enters the Cory Basin, after traveling through nearly 9,000 feet of pipe.

lack locations for sediment storage. In addition, neither has much in the way of a preventative structure. So RIZ and the LPA worked with engineers at Shive-Hattery to develop a master plan.

In 2013, the Lake Panorama RIZ purchased roughly 115 acres of farm ground north of 200th Street and west of Sage Trail. This portion of the Cory farm was recognized as a good site for a silt storage basin, as well as good trading stock for adjacent properties with potential

for preventative structures.

The Cory storage basin is the first of its kind for Lake Panorama. The first two silt basins were simply low-elevation earthen dams close to the lake. A second type of structure became necessary after nearby space for the first type was used up. The next type involved building a dam at the base of a valley to form a storage structure. The County Basin, where sediment currently is pumped

RIZ, PAGE 2A

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**BOUTIQUE**  
FROM PAGE 1A

So while the three have enjoyed friendship and shared Lake Panorama experiences, the idea of going into business together is brand new. It first surfaced in early August while they were attending the annual PEO style show at Lake Panorama National.

Cheryl Hayes owns Funky Zebras stores in Ankeny and Altoona, and helped start another store in Valley Junction. She supplied the clothing for the style show, and offered clothing for sale in an adjacent room. She told those in attendance she was interested in helping others start their own Funky Zebras boutiques.

After the show, Bristle approached Hayes to discuss the possibility of a shop in Panorama, and soon convinced Eckley and Motsick this was a venture they all would enjoy. “We all felt great about the opportunity to open a store like this to serve Panora and surrounding communities,” Bristle says.

Each woman brings different experiences and skills to the table. Bristle owned the Carroll Street Cottage gift shop in Boone for 10 years, and later the Gables and Gardens Tea Room for three years. Motsick was a hairdresser for 20 years, and involved in the finances of her farming operation. Eckley has worked in management in the medical field.

“Karla is our designer, Dee is our ‘tech’ person, and I’ll be opening boxes and steam ironing the clothing,” Motsick says, which causes the others to laugh. “We all have strong skills in different areas,” Eckley says.

The Panora store is not a franchise operation. Instead, a consulting agreement with Hayes allows use of the Funky Zebras name and offers some joint advertising and promotion. But the trio will be doing all their own purchasing, and make all decisions about what items and lines of products they offer.

The business partners purchased the building at 130 West



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE TIMES

**The Funky Zebras store is at 130 West Main in Panora. Shown with their store windows decorated for Panorama’s Homecoming are owners Lorrie Motsick, Dee Eckley and Karla Bristle.**

Main from Nikki Snyder, who closed her chiropractic business to move to Florida. “We thought it was a perfect location, perfect size and in good shape,” Bristle says. Interior walls have been painted, and new flooring installed.

The three women visited several shops across Iowa to gather ideas on products and product lines they want to carry. They’ve already attended markets in Omaha and Des Moines, and plan to attend one in February in Las Vegas.

“We’re looking for items you won’t find in a department store,” Eckley says. “These are boutique lines specially made for women, with some of the standouts being Mud Pie, Dear John, Chris & Carol, ZSupply, M. Rena, Slimsations and Lipsense.”

Another line is Zella Mae, where for every shirt sold, the company donates a shirt to a charity of the shop owners’ choice.

Several styles of jeans to appeal to all ages are planned, plus tops, slacks, dresses, camisoles, leggings and some outerwear. Iowa and Iowa State apparel will be offered, as well as Lake Panorama clothing. When spring rolls around, some women’s golf attire will be added. Accessories such as purses, a couple shoe styles, some jewelry and scarves also are planned. A line of candles is being considered, and small “giftables” will be available, along with gift certificates.

Private parties for groups of six or more will be offered, and the shop owners are exploring the idea of some pop-up

boutiques as an extension of the Main Street store. Eventually, online sales will be available from a link on the shop’s Facebook page. The Facebook page also will list special events, new offerings and store hours.

The Funky Zebras owners are anxious to network with existing Panora businesses, including the two new shops adjacent to them – Reborn and The Art Exchange. “We’re looking forward to participating in joint promotions and the Panora Chamber,” Eckley says. “We feel it’s important to support local businesses, and have done that as we laid the groundwork for our shop and got the building ready.”

The store will open at 10 a.m. on Friday, October 28. After that, regular store hours will be Thursday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.,

Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Holiday hours will vary, and summer hours may expand. The

store also will be open by appointment for groups of six or more outside of regular business hours.

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# Q&A: Lyn Coulter, Coulter's Panorama Marine

## COULTER'S PANORAMA MARINE HAS LONG HISTORY

By SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Times staff*

The Lake Panorama Association began operating a small marina in 1970. Over the next few years, it was leased to four different operators, but none ever lasted. That changed in 1982. In this month's Q&A, we hear from Lyn Coulter, owner of Coulter's Panorama Marine, about those early days, plus recent developments.

**Q: Tell us how you became the operator of Lake Panorama's Marina?**

A: In the summer of 1982, my brother John and I were right out of college and looking for a summer job. Prior summers were spent working at our father's Sinclair service station in Linden. We knew the LPA had trouble with prior leases with the marina, and the membership was not happy. The LPA leased us the gas dock for \$1, if we promised to stock the dock with some basic marine accessories and keep consistent business hours. That summer we kept the gas dock open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week, pretty much like we do now.

**Q. What was it like running the marina those first few years?**

A: It was very difficult as we were building a business from scratch. The first couple of years we lived with our parents and didn't pay ourselves anything so we could invest everything into the business. Basically we started the business with the \$7,000 profit we made from the first year just running the gas dock. No bank at that time would lend us any money to purchase

some boat inventory, so the Century Boat Company and Harris Flote Bote pontoons guaranteed our bank they would take back any boats if our business failed. Without those guarantees, our business never would have gotten off the ground.

The first year, the LPA forgave our first lease payment of about \$9,000, as we could not make it. We have not missed, or even been late with a lease payment since. Business really took off in 1986 when we acquired the Four Winns boat franchise. Also, by then the U.S. economy was building up steam as interest rates were falling from their highs of 18 percent, and home and lot sales around the lake were booming.

Those early years were a lot of trial and error. We attended every marine trade and service school available. We listened to a lot of advice from lake members, especially Jon Fitch, the LPA board member assigned to our fledgling operation, who was president of Younkers in Des Moines. Other board members — Phil Boesel, Chuck Iler, Al Nuzum, A.J. Truttler — also helped us a lot. LPA general managers Jim Smith and Red Lowe gave us a lot of good advice on dealing with the LPA membership and board.

**Q. Is there anything you miss from those early years?**

A: The cost of doing business was so much less. Making a mistake back then didn't cost as much as it does now. Here are some comparisons.

In 1985, the marina lease totaled \$19,700. In 2015, it totaled \$232,056. New pontoons in 1983 retailed from a low of \$7,000 for a 20-foot unit up

to \$19,700 for a 24-foot unit. Now pontoons range from \$25,000 to \$89,000. New boats in 1983 retailed from a low of \$7,995 for a 16-foot unit up to \$19,000 for a 24-foot unit. Now they range from \$34,000 up to \$132,000. And that \$132,000 24-foot Mastercraft is in our showroom now!

We miss the simplicity of marine propulsion from the 1980s. Today's boats are sometimes just as complex and difficult to repair as a car. We must always be attending service schools and purchasing the latest diagnostic equipment to keep up with the latest advances. Whereas a new car dealer has only one operating system to keep up with, we have to keep up with all the advances and diagnostic equipment from six different operating systems — Mercury and Honda for our Godfrey pontoons; Volvo Penta for Four Winns; Kawasaki for jet skis; Ilmor for Mastercraft; and Indmar for Moomba.

**Q. How has Lake Panorama changed?**

A. Initially the slips at the marina sold for \$250 for the season and mainly were rented to fisherman from the small towns in Guthrie, Greene, Polk, Adair and Dallas counties. Today the slips rent mainly to B and C lot homeowners who don't fish.

The original gas dock was a very small building, barely large enough for one cooler and the cash register. There were just two gas pumps out front. One pump was for premium gas and one was for premix gas for the outboard boats. Back then, there were just as many outboard powered boats as there were stern drive boats. The LPA built the present gas dock in 2008. To-



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE TIMES

**Lyn Coulter has been managing the Lake Panorama marina for the LPA since 1982. He is shown in the Coulter's Panorama Marine showroom in front of a 2017 Mastercraft boat, which is available for \$132,000.**

day our four gas pumps deliver only straight gas as everything is fuel-injected, and premix for the outboards is not required.

A tour of the lake when we started in the early 1980s looked very different than it does today, as there were a lot of empty waterfront lots then. The water quality was much better than today. You never worried about algae blooms or contaminated beaches. No one knew what an invasive species was either. Silt was just beginning to be a problem in the very upper basin and in coves.

**Q. Fall is a hectic time of year for the marina ... what's your advice to new members?**

A. We winterize around 800 boats each fall and inside store around 250 boats. The LPA is strongly considering adding another building in 2017 to try to better keep up with the demand. It is much more difficult to winterize and service a boat now, because of all the complex systems and new technology. It has to be done right or there are serious consequences. Our advice to new members is to not wait until the last minute to winterize your boat. Because there are lots of others doing the very same

thing, waiting until the last minute.

**Q. What changes in the water sports industry have you seen during your career?**

A. More has changed in boating in just the past five years than in the 25 years before. The fiberglass boat market nationwide has switched from stern drive powered boats like a Four Winns to an inboard powered direct drive boat like a Mastercraft or Moomba. Instead of water skiing behind a stern drive boat, people want to surf or wakeboard behind an inboard. We used to sell 50 pairs of skis a year. This year we got eight pairs in stock, and only sold one. Inboard boats are safer for water sports because the prop is directly under the boat rather than aft. Inboard boats have water ballast tanks that can weigh the boat down to create a larger wake for wakeboarding and surfing. Inboard boats also have a cruise control system that can hold a low and constant speed.

Pontoon boats also have changed in the past five years. Pontoon boats are no longer seen as boats to just slowly cruise around the lake. Many of today's pontoons have a third tube built into

them. With a larger 150 or 200 horsepower engine, they can reach speeds in the low to mid-40s. The third tube gives the pontoon an unbelievable ride. Larger triple tubes have passenger capacities of up to 16 people. We see people today trading in their boat and old double tube pontoon boat for just one boat, a triple tube large engine pontoon.

**Q. Tell us about your staff - how many employees, how long have they worked here?**

A. We have seven fulltime employees, with two in sales and five in service. We hire seven part-time employees each summer for the gas dock. I work in sales and my brother John works in service. Scott Kemble, who works in sales, joined us in 1984. Our other fulltime employees all work in service, with Brian Dorsett starting in 1985, Mike Webb in 1990, Mike Mobley in 1993 and Cory Davis in 1999. As you can see, we all have lots of experience. We all learned everything the hard way, by messing something up. We still make mistakes sometimes, but experience helps.

We do not lay anyone off during the winter months. We

Q&A, PAGE 8A

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# MEET THE CANDIDATES

## Guthrie County residents vie for positions on hospital board of trustees

By **CAITLIN WARE**  
*Lake Times staff*

With the summer come and gone, the election to determine who will be the next members of the Guthrie County Hospital Board of Trustees looms on the horizon.

Three of the seven board positions are up for election, each carrying a six year term. This year's ballot boasts 10 candidates, an unusually high number, said hospital CEO Patrick Peters.

Peters attributed the amount of candidates to a decision the hospital made in the spring about electronic health records. The question of whether to stay with the hospital's current electronic health record or move to a new one was well-known by the community, and got a lot of attention.

"Because there was interest outside of the hospital in the outcome of the electronic health record, I think that influenced the higher than usual number of candidates on the ballot," Peters said.

### CHRIS SCHAFER

**Current town:** Adair  
For the past 15 years, Schafer has been a trustee. He decided that maintaining the progress the hospital has made was worth running for another six.

"Our hospital is emerging from a period of internal turmoil and financial difficulty," Schafer said. "I would like to stay on the board in order to help assure that we do not reverse, or in any significant way, alter the course that the hospital is now on."

During his time on the board, Schafer has acted as chairman. In that role, he conducts the monthly meetings, appoints committee members when necessary and helps review information on the hospital's performance. Schafer is a firm believer that the board is designed to provide helpful oversight and governance, not dabble in the day-to-day functioning of the hospital. That responsibility falls on the management staff.

"I am a proponent for maintaining separation between what the board does, and what the hospital's administrative people do," Schafer said. "I believe that overstepping this boundary damages the chain of command, and will nearly always result in a more stressful work environment and increased employee turmoil."

If reelected, Schafer plans to push the hospital to embrace technology. Right now, companies that provide virtual health care over the internet or phone, or even perform surgery remotely are gaining traction. He worries they will soon compete with services offered at the hospital. While he is not comfortable caving to the pressure of finding ways to do things faster and cheaper, he does want the hospital to increase the tools it offers.

"In order to survive and remain relevant and under local control, (Guthrie County Hospital) will have to embrace technology," Schafer said. "If we fail to embrace the tools that make us more efficient, we will be forfeiting the future of our hospital."

### SHANNON BARBER

**Current town:** Panorama  
As the wife of a firefighter and paramedic, Barber feels a personal connection with the importance of ensuring the hospital is successful. That, coupled with her experience as a member of the Panorama City Council, motivated her to get involved with the election. During her time on the council, she has worked with budgeting, and setting policies and procedures for ambulance and paramedic coverage. She attributes her leadership skills and ability to ask tough questions to her position on the council. "Many times, people elected to boards simply 'rubber stamp' their approval to any recommendations put in front of them," Barber said. "In my opinion, this is a disservice to taxpayers." Barber's main focus for the hospital would be ensuring it

is financially stable, that way it can remain locally controlled. Also, she hopes to point her attention toward strengthening employee relations.

"In recent months, it has come to light that there is a division between the administration and staff," Barber said. "This can become cancerous in any organization. We have many long time employees at the hospital, and they bring a lot in the way of knowledge and experience. I want to ensure that they continue on as employees and know that they are appreciated."

Barber currently works in Guthrie Center at the USDA Farm Services Agency. In her spare time, she goes fishing and boating with her husband and two children.

### JOHN TEWS

**Current town:** Bayard  
For the past 32 years, Tews has worked in insurance, and owns his own agency in Guthrie Center. Because of his experience selling health insurance, and how the industry works, he believes he is well-equipped to work with the hospital.

In addition to sitting on the Guthrie County Compensation Board, Tews is also a member of the American Legion and is active on the board at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

"I've been involved in other boards through my years, and kind of enjoyed doing that work," Tews said of his decision to run in the election. "I'm just looking to add a new challenge, and use my past experience to keep our local hospital open and going in a profitable fashion. (It is a) vital part of the community."

His biggest goal for the hospital, if he is elected, is to bring about unity in the organization.

In his free time, Tews enjoys woodworking, and repurposing old materials into new creations, like chairs, tables and benches.

### MARY SHEEDER

**Current town:** Guthrie Center  
Sheeder has already served one term on the board, and although the position is volunteer, she chooses to view it as seriously as a full time job. Outside of the hospital, Sheeder works as an office manager, and is also a licensed insurance agent. Previously, she spent 12 years working in healthcare. Sheeder believes that the combination of practice, through healthcare, and policy, through insurance, has given her well-rounded experience for the board.

"Now working on the insurance side has given me the understanding of recognizing the struggle our community has with keeping health coverage, and being able to afford the care," Sheeder said. "There are so many changes in the health insurance field and government affecting our rural hospitals. We need to stay informed and keep our vision for the future firm."

Should she be reelected, Sheeder intends to continue the trend of improvement at the hospital. With renovation wrapping up, and a new chemotherapy suite about to open, the hospital will continue adding new services and listening to what the public would like to see. She would also like to have dialysis one day.

"I know it's a dream, but sometimes those dreams come true," Sheeder said.

Sheeder's favorite thing to do is spend time with her family, whether it be her husband, one of her three daughters, or one of her five grandchildren. She also likes catching up on a good book, sewing and taking motorcycle trips.

### MIKE CAREY

**Current town:** Panorama  
Carey — a banker at Charter West Bank in Nebraska — has been involved in Guthrie County organizations for many years. From helping with the Panorama Lions Club and working with Midwest Partnership Development Corporation, to acting as a Guthrie County 4-H Trustee, he enjoys news challenges.

For 10 years Carey worked on the Yale Fire Department, and served as an ambulance coordi-

nator. He also spent time as an EMT. He believes that his combination of financial knowledge and medical experience would be a big strength if he is elected to the Guthrie County Hospital Board of Trustees. If Carey joins the board, he hopes to reinforce that good board members must be open minded, level headed and not carry personal agendas.

"I wanted to get involved with the board to see if I could help be a good board member," Carey said of his decision to run. "To help do what's best for the community and guiding the hospital so we could keep good critical care within Guthrie County."

In his down time, Carey loves spending time in rural areas of Iowa, and golfing and visiting Lake Panorama whenever he gets the chance.

### ETHEL KUNKLE

**Current town:** Stuart  
For Kunkle, the choice to throw her hat in the ring for the election was an easy one. She has spent more than 30 years working in different hospitals and doctor offices, and has always loved being involved in the medical field. For five years she worked at Redfield Hospital as a charge nurse, handling everything from assisting in surgeries to patient charting. She also worked with Dr. Donald Taylor, from Stuart, for 32 years. In that role, she often worked hand-in-hand with the Guthrie County Hospital, where Taylor performed surgeries and procedures.

Kunkle believes that holding a position on the board would give her the opportunity to stay involved in the medical field, and increase her knowledge of the entire medical industry.

"I think the Guthrie hospital is a hometown hospital, with loyal employees, with great care and food," Kunkle said of her desire to be involved with the organization. "They really care for their patients, and it shows."

When Kunkle is not volunteering at the Stuart Library, or helping out at the Hospice of Central Iowa, she spends much of her time quilting and sewing.

### EDWARD WRIGHT

**Current town:** Guthrie Center  
After years of working as a financial consultant at an investment firm, Wright has taken a step back in his duties, and hopes to turn his attention to the Guthrie County Hospital. Wright believes there will be some substantial challenges in the hospital's future, and wants to be a part of solving them. The greatest concern he sees on the horizon is changes in health care regulations.

"I think there's some real important issues ahead with the changes of health care regulations," Wright said. "The industry has become more regulated, and dealing with that, finances of a hospital here, with a general aging demographic in the county, and with a shrinking population. Those are real challenges for every institution in Guthrie County, and none more pointedly than our hospital."

Because he has background in municipal finance, as well as electrical engineering, Wright believes that he has a well-rounded skill set to bring to the board.

"My careers have focused on problem solving of various kinds, and also policy making," Wright said. "I think I have the skill set to ask the right questions, and to recognize appropriate answers, and to keep my mind open until the pertinent facts have been gathered."

Wright has a passion for old cars, and owns a red mustang convertible he drives in the Guthrie County Fair parade. He has a lot of hobbies — including sing-



**Shannon Barber**



**Chris Schafer**



**John Tews**

ing and playing guitar. But his most recent endeavor is raising a 10-week-old Irish wolfhound named Mickey.

### JAN MUELLER

**Current town:** Adair  
Mueller has spent 30 years of her life working in the medical field, and half of them have been at the Guthrie County Hospital. Although she retired from Lakeview Surgery Center in West Des Moines in 2014, Mueller still helps out when she is needed. Her belief that the hospital is a necessary part of the community, and that she could help the Adair area as well, drove her to run for election.

"(The hospital) not only employs many people, but provides a vital service," Mueller said. "My husband and I talked it over and decided it would be a way for me to help my Adair community."

For now, Mueller does not have any plans if she is elected. Instead, she would focus on finding out how everything works at the hospital first.

"I feel that as a new member to the board, I would need to get a good grasp of things before suggesting changes," Mueller said.

Mueller's hobbies include gardening, knitting and quilting

### MIKE UNDERWOOD

**Current town:** Guthrie Center  
Underwood, the President and CEO of Guthrie County State Bank, has previously served on other boards in the area, including at Midwest Partnership Development Corporation and The New Homestead. While his time at The New Homestead dealt with the nursing home industry, not the hospital industry, there are commonalities, he said. Plus, his time at Midwest Partnership Development Corporation taught him the importance



**Mike Carey**



**Mary Sheeder**



**Mike Underwood**

of being transparent with expenditures when both private and public money are involved. "I will bring my analytical mind and financial background to the board so this organization can continue to succeed," Underwood said. "I hope I can combine with like-minded individuals that bring their own strengths to the board, and we can leverage that for organizational success."

If he is elected, Underwood hopes to assist in the development of roles and responsibilities throughout the organization. In his opinion, the board is designed to provide structure and organization, and that managerial duties for the hospital are not something it should interfere with.

"It appears to me there is a highly trained management team and quality staff that is more than capable of handling those duties," Underwood said. "The board needs to establish policy, and provide what is necessary for the rest of the organization to provide quality care and services to the residents of Guthrie County."

Outside of his work, Underwood enjoys golfing, and spends much of his time with his wife Cara, and their children Collin, Audrey and Megan.



**Jan Mueller**



**Pat Sleister**



**Edward Wright**

### PAT SLEISTER

**Current town:** Guthrie Center  
Sleister has been the director of the Mary Barnett Memorial Library in Guthrie Center for 26 years. When she is not working at the library, Sleister is heavily involved in community organizations. She served as the secretary for the Guthrie County Arts Council, is a member of the Guthrie Center Chamber of Commerce and is the chair of the Methodist Memorial Committee.

"It is my belief that we should give back to the community where ever we can," Sleister said.

When Sleister was in high school, she worked as a nurse's aide in Iowa City. She also spent three months as a hospital patient a few years back, which gave her an up close and personal view on how hospitals work.

"My family and I have had a lot of dealings with this hospital, and I feel deeply that it is a valuable resource to our county," Sleister said on why she wants to be involved with Guthrie County Hospital.

Sleister loves being able to put her creativity to work. She can often be found sewing, quilting, making crafts, reading and playing the piano. But her favorite thing to do is spend time with her seven grandchildren.

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# Growth continues for Lake Panorama Social Network

By SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

Membership in a private social network open to residents of Panora and Lake Panorama continues to grow. Nextdoor Lake Panorama was launched in May by Marc and Julie Clausen. By mid-July, there were 150 members. That number is now close to 400.

The Clausens have owned property at Lake Panorama since 1991 and have lived at the lake full-time since 2011. They also have a winter home in Sun Lakes, Ariz. After using Nextdoor there, they decided to establish a Lake Panorama site.

Nextdoor is the first private social network designed specifically for neighborhoods. It was launched as a free online platform in October 2011. Since then, it has grown into one of the largest social networks in the country, with more than 10 million registered users across more than 100,000 neighborhoods.

Using the platform, private websites are created for specific neighborhoods. All members first must verify they live within the boundaries established by the local site coordinator. The current boundaries for the Nextdoor Lake Panorama community include all



of Lake Panorama and the City of Panora.

Clausen says a few new members join each week. Recently, more people living in Panora have joined in response to flyers and personal invitations. “I’d love to promote this more to Panora residents,” Clausen says. “We should do everything we can to foster a great community. Lake residents need the businesses in Panora to thrive, and the businesses need the economic impact of both Panora and Lake Panorama residents to grow.”

Membership growth and usage has been a pleasant surprise for Clausen. “Candidly it has exceeded my hopes in terms of adoption and use in the first few months,” he says. “Rarely a week goes by that I don’t receive positive feedback. ‘I feel like I’m part of a community now,’ or ‘I’ve made some new friends,’ or ‘I sold my boat lift in two days.’ Baby sitters found, loaner water skis for visiting grandkids borrowed, and a desire to connect with other motorcycle riders facilitated — all

great community-building communication.”

The Nextdoor community is not officially affiliated with or endorsed by the Lake Panorama Association. But John Rutledge, LPA general manager, says Nextdoor fills an important role in the community.

“LPA can be effective in communicating official business of the association, but the networking needs of our community are uniquely benefitted by social media and online forums that are fueled by the membership,” he says. “LPA members who have specific questions or concerns are encouraged to contact us directly at 641-755-2301 or lpa@lakepanorama.org.”

One of the most used portions of the network has been members asking for and receiving advice and recommendations on service providers. “Members can’t advertise their business, but if someone asks for a referral for something, and you provide that service, you are more than welcome to respond,” Clausen says.

Another popular use is members selling items through the classified section, or giving items away under a “free items” category. There also is a lost and found category, and a place to post upcoming events of interest to the community.

A new recommendations section allows members to list details about local businesses and provide comments on their experience. “If everyone would post just one or two referrals in this section, it would really add value to the community,” says Clausen.

Members can create a new group on any topic. Posts to the groups are visible to all neighbors, but only those who join the groups can post.

Clausen encourages more members to create and use groups. “It’s a good way to find folks to play bridge, poker or cribbage, find a new fishing or hunting buddy, maybe a new friend to quilt, knit or sew with,” he says. “NextDoor is just a great way to reach out to people you don’t know, and create new friends and activities in our community.”

Anyone interested in joining can do so by going to [www.nextdoor.com/join](http://www.nextdoor.com/join) and entering code CUD-WYW. Once it is verified potential members live within the defined geographic area established for Nextdoor Lake Panorama, they receive a welcome email and details on how to set up their personal account.

As new members join, they are asked to invite others. Clausen says he’d like to see each member invite at least one new member. “There is an ‘Invite your Neighbor’ area at the top of the home screen. Click there, insert their email address, and hit send,” he says. “This is all about people helping people. As we get more folks on, it adds more value.”

Use of the site is free, and there is no advertising. Members can make selections in the settings preferences on if or how often they want to get notification emails when new postings are made.

## Everyone benefits when you make charitable gifts

Now that we are in the heart of the holiday season, you may be thinking about ways you can put your money where your heart is. Specifically, you might be pondering which groups you should support with charitable gifts. And as long as you choose groups that meet the right criteria, your generosity can also be rewarding to you, in the form of tax benefits.

To begin with, you’ll want to make sure you are giving to a reputable charity. That means you’ll need to ask some questions. How does a group measure its effectiveness? Is it devoting as much of its contributions as possible to the actual work of the organization, or is it spending too much money on administrative costs? Generally, a worthwhile charity should spend at least 75% of its income on programs. You may be able to find this type of information on a charitable group’s annual report and its website. You can also go to the website of one of the agencies that evaluates charitable groups. On these sites, you can get a lot of information dealing with a charity’s effectiveness, income, spending and other topics.

After you’ve identified a charity, or charities, you can decide how much you want to give and how you want to give it. If the charity has 501(c)(3) status (named after the section of the Internal Revenue Code that governs such groups), your gift can offer you a tax deduction. So, for example, if you are in the 25% tax bracket, and you give \$1,000 to a qualified charity, you can subtract the \$1,000 from your adjusted gross income, which will result in tax savings of \$250. Upon making your gift, make sure you get a receipt that lists the

name of the organization and the date and amount of your contribution. (Your maximum deduction will be limited to a percentage of your adjusted gross income.)

You can do more than simply write a check, however. If you have stocks that have grown significantly in value, you may want to donate them to a charitable group. You will be allowed a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the gift on the date of the transfer, even if your original cost was only a fraction of today’s value. Furthermore, you will avoid the capital gains taxes you’d have to pay if you sold the stock, provided you’ve held the stock for at least a year.

If you do contribute appreciated stocks, you will want to be cognizant of the effect of your donation on your portfolio. If you were to give a sizable amount of growth-oriented stocks, would it affect your overall growth potential? Conversely, if you are primarily giving away relatively conservative, income-producing stocks, would it end up moving your portfolio in a riskier direction? When donating stocks, if at all possible try to do so in a way that does not harm your portfolio’s balance.

In any case, whether you give cash or appreciated assets, you’ll need to make your gift by Dec. 31 if you’re going to deduct it on your 2016 taxes. So be as generous as you can afford, think about the effect of your gift on your own financial situation — and be prepared to act soon.



Dave Grove



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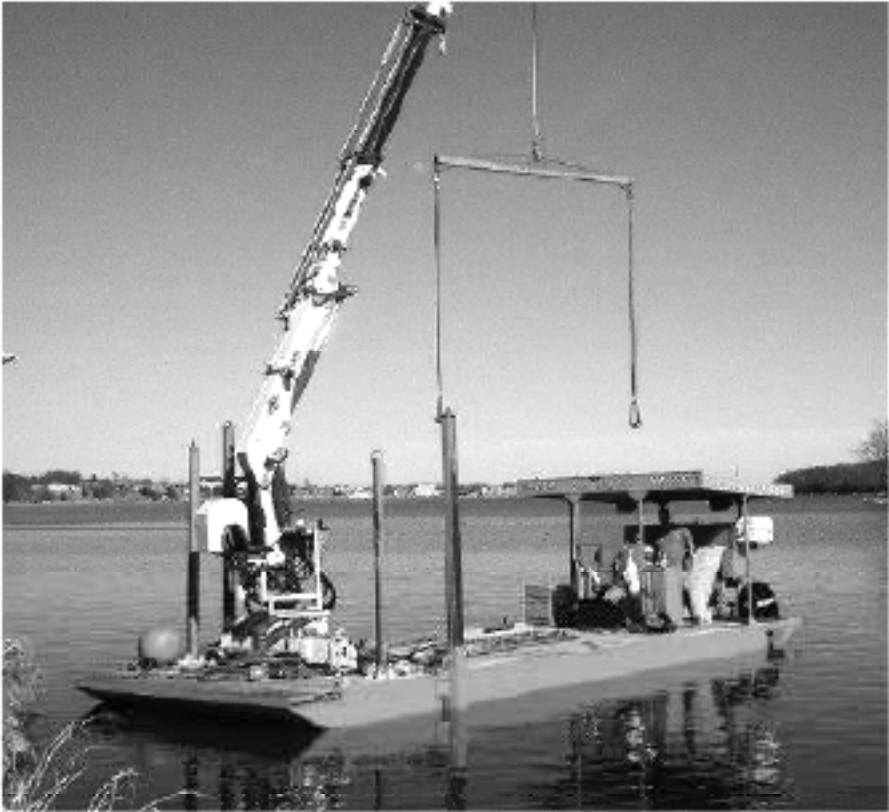
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BUSINESS

# Wild Rose looks to build casino in Cedar Rapids

By DOUGLAS BURNS  
*Lake Times staff*

Iowa is home to 19 state-regulated casinos.

But Cedar Rapids, the Hawkeye State's second-largest city, a convention-and-entertainment hub on the rebound from devastating flooding, has so far been denied the presence of a gaming facility to mix in with its other attractions.

Wild Rose Casino & Resort is looking to change that with plans for a \$40 million "boutique" casino — a stand-alone, downtown Cedar Rapids facility designed to complement existing entertainment and hotels, not compete with them, Tom Timmons, president and chief operating officer of Wild Rose, said in an interview with The Lake Times.

"This will be an enhancement to what's already there," Timmons said.

Timmons said the "urban ca-

sino" will be the first of its kind in Iowa, and is designed with Cedar Rapids in mind. Wild Rose officials say driving urban renewal and growth in downtown Cedar Rapids is a top priority.

Wild Rose Cedar Rapids would:

- Include a 25,000-square-foot gaming floor with 600 to 700 slot machines and 15 to 20 table games.
- Result in a \$40 million capital investment.
- Create 200 to 225 jobs in the community.
- Inject \$6 million to \$7 million in employee payroll and benefits into the community.

Wild Rose is working with local developers in Cedar Rapids, and plans to lease the space for the casino. Parking would be on the ground level, with the casino on the second level, and office space on the third and fourth floors.

"There's nothing like it in Iowa," Timmons said.

Wild Rose has commissioned a feasibility study. Once that is in hand, the casino company will develop a proposal to take to the five-member Iowa Racing and Commission, which has the authority to approve the gaming license.

A public referendum to allow casino gambling cleared Linn County voters in 2013. It remains in effect.

Gaming officials rejected a license for a \$174 million casino in Cedar Rapids in 2014. The Jefferson and Cedar Rapids plans moved through the commission process simultaneously. Wild Rose Jefferson officially opened Aug. 1, 2015, although gamers were allowed in days before that for a "soft

opening."

At one point, an attempt to move the Cedar Rapids casino along involved a proposal to make it the state's first smoke-free gaming business.

Timmons said Wild Rose plans to operate the Cedar Rapids casino with smoking and non-smoking sections as allowed by law, as does every other casino in Iowa.

"I really don't want to be the lone wolf out there," he said.

Wild Rose owns casinos in Clinton, Jefferson and Emmetsburg. Adding a casino in Cedar Rapids will create more economies of scale and a larger network of employees that will boost Wild Rose Jefferson, Timmons said.

## Lake Panorama National Golf Course Update

Pro shop hours at the LPN now are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., with adjustments made during inclement weather. Spikes is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday, if good weather has a significant number of players on the course. Even when Spikes is closed, the pro shop staff will have the bathrooms there unlocked during regular pro shop hours. Green

fees now are \$38 from course opening until 3 p.m. and \$28 from 3 p.m. until dusk. These rates, which include shared cart, will remain in place until March 31, 2017. With some great fall weather ahead, these reduced rates make this a good time to invite friends and family for a round of golf. Book tee times by calling 641-755-2024.

### Happy Fall Y'all Pro Shop Sale Continues

All men's and women's clothing is discounted 30 percent, with all shoes discounted 20 percent. Some sale racks of clothing have deeper discounts,

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Q&A

FROM PAGE 4A

are closed December and half of January. People start looking for boats in late January so our season starts then. The shop guys keep busy with major boat repair projects that we don't have time for in the summer. Once the season hits in late March, it's just plain crazy around here until the final boat is winterized and put away in late November.

Q. How did the recession of 2008 impact Coulter Marine, and the boating industry in general?

A. If you had asked me in 2009 if we would still be in business in 2016, I would have said no way. The Great Recession of 2008 led to the Great Depression of 2009 for the boating industry. Sales of fiberglass boats nationwide plummeted 80 percent. Pontoon sales fell 65 percent. Forty-five percent of all boat dealerships nationwide closed in 2009. Only those dealerships that had marina operations, and thus other sources of income other than boats sales, survived. Most boat manufacturers suspended production during 2009. Most manufacturers that reopened in 2010 had consolidated operations with other companies, but many others closed permanently. There really is no such thing as a 2009 model year boat.

During 2009, we all sat on pins and needles, waiting for the next shoe to drop. All marine finance lenders for manufacturers and dealers closed their doors except GE Capital. Unless your dealership's fiscal house was in perfect order, GE Capital immediately shut off your line of credit and that essentially closed your business. Once General Motors — the maker of all stern drive and inboard boat engines — went bankrupt, there was talk of no more marine engines and that created a lot of uncertainty.

Today the industry has somewhat bounced back to pre-recession levels. The new General Motors makes most marine engines. GE Capital was purchased by Wells Fargo. Sales of fiberglass boats are still half of what they once were, but pontoon sales are at full steam.

Q. Anything else you'd like to add?

A. We are very grateful to all our Lake Panorama customers who stuck by us during the recession. There isn't a day that goes by now that I don't think of those times. We are so thankful to have our business on Lake Panorama. If we had been on some other private lakes in Iowa — Diamond Head, Sun Valley, Holiday, Ponderosa — we, like the marinas on those lakes, would not have survived.

We are very grateful to all the LPA members who trust us for their boating needs. We really appreciate the business you give us, and we will always try to meet your expectations.

TRAIL

FROM PAGE 2A

getting more popular," Towers said. "When they completed the loop trail in Dallas and Guthrie County, that increased traffic considerably. We're seeing a percentage of those riders come up here."

Guthrie County, which many bikers need to travel through to get to Greene County, is working on a similar project but a finish date hasn't been announced. Berry said he thinks Guthrie finishing its project will help Greene County even more.

He added that other bikers have been complimentary of the new crossings as well.

"They think it's great," Berry said. "Everyone I've spoken with thinks it's a wonderful addition to the trail."

Bikers wishing to use the trail can pay \$2 at the trailhead for a day pass, or \$10 for an annual pass. Towers said people can purchase passes and get any questions answered in the conservation office at the Greene County courthouse.

Towers said the trail is not just for day-trippers. He said campers are welcome to use tents at the campsite next to the trailhead near the renovated Milwaukee Road Depot and the campground has around 20 hookups for people who want a bit more comfort.

Anyone wishing for more information about Greene County Parks or the RRVt can visit: [www.mycountyparks.com/County/Greene/Park/Raccoon-River-Valley-Trail](http://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Greene/Park/Raccoon-River-Valley-Trail).

Closing on RRVt in October

Beginning Monday, October 24, the Raccoon River Valley Trail will be closed between Viceroy Trail and 230th Street southeast of Panora. Approximately 450 feet of new trail will be constructed by Howrey Construction. The trail closure could last two to three weeks depending on weather, so Raccoon River Valley Trail users should plan accordingly.

For more information, please contact the Guthrie County Conservation Board at 641-755-3061.

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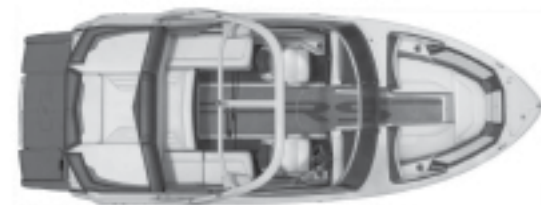


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ASHLEY SCHABLE | LAKE TIMES

# FIRE DEPARTMENT HOLDS CONTROLLED BURN AT FORMER CARMEN’S MEXICAN RESTAURANT

PRIDE will market the site for sale

By ASHLEY SCHABLE | Lake Times staff

PANORA

Ismael Galvan Jr. sat in the driver’s seat of his minivan with his family and watched as flames rolled from the former Carmen’s Mexican Restaurant building in Panora on Saturday afternoon. The fire was a training for the Panora Fire Department.

“I didn’t know this was happening today,” Galvan said. “It’s sad because there is a lot of work and memories in there.” Galvan’s parents, Ismael “Smiley” and Carmen Galvan, opened Carmen’s Mexican Restaurant at 316 SW 3rd Street in Panora on June 9, 1995. For 20 years, the spirited owners welcomed customers inside their bright orange building with green trim for breakfasts and dinners. “They had three breakfasts and two lunches the first day,

but it was non-stop from there as they would grow to 30 breakfasts a day by the end of that month,” said the junior Galvan, who along with wife, Becky, and their children reside in Panora. Smiley Galvan, who was known for his bubbly personality, and Carmen, closed the business and relocated to Texas in retirement a couple years ago. “I don’t have strong enough words for how much I miss that place,” said Jim Kerr, a Panora resident, who sat

on the hood of his car like many others on Saturday and watched the building burn down. Kerr said he loved the restaurant’s five Taco plate with beans. “It was so good,” Kerr said. “My wife and I came here a lot.” The restaurant served both American and Mexican food and for Smiley’s Sunday mornings breakfasts, it was tough to find a seat. “I am happy that we were able to give this community a family place where they could come and enjoy their time,” said Ismael Galvan, Jr., who worked many hours alongside his family, including sisters Cindy, Marisela and Noemi. “Hopefully people can remember Carmen’s and hopefully a special moment that they can keep with them forever.” PRIDE, a Panora Area Development Group, and Panora Telco partnered to acquire the site and revitalize it for future development. John Rutledge, president of PRIDE, said

the site is zoned as arterial commercial, which provides a wide range of development opportunities. “PRIDE will market the site for sale, with preference being given to development plans that create jobs,” Rutledge said. The Panora Fire Department conducted a fire training in a controlled burn of the former Galvan property on Saturday. Around 20 members of the department assisted. “We started around 3:00 and it should be down in another hour,” said fireman Tony Monthei, as he kept an eye on the south side of the building Saturday. It was about 6:30 when the fire was finished, said fireman Curtis Twigg. “It was good training,” he said. The training produced large amounts of smoke and drew a crowd of visitors to take in the sight. “We owe a great deal of thanks to our Panora Fire Department,” Rutledge said. “They are a great group of volunteers who help make revitalization projects possible in our community.”



Ismael “Smiley” Galvan and wife Carmen ran Carmen’s Mexican Restaurant for 20 years in Panora. The couple welcomed guests for breakfast and lunch daily.

SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES



The Panora fire department conducted a live fire training in a controlled burn 316 NE 3rd Street, the former Carmen’s Mexican Restaurant on Sunday afternoon. The burn took place around 3:00 p.m. and was to the ground by around 5:30. The property has been purchased by P.R.I.D.E. and will be cleaned up and available for purchase.



Members of the Panora fire department look on as flames engulf the former Galvan property where Carmen’s Mexican Restaurant sat for around 20 years in Panora. P.R.I.D.E. has purchased the property and it will be for sale to a potential buyer.



The final structure of Carmen’s Mexican Restaurant fell down around 5 p.m. Sunday afternoon at 316 NE 3rd Street in Panora as the Panora fire department conducted a fire training in a controlled burn of the property. Firemen started the fire around 3 p.m. It was still smoldering Monday afternoon.

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Lot 3687 - Large corner lot.....	\$25,000
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## BUSINESS

# Lake Panorama man produces impurity free alcohol

By CAITLIN WARE | Lake Times staff

By its most basic definition, ozone is a colorless gas found in the earth's atmosphere. But for Johannes van Leeuwen, it is the key to his business.

For the past two years, van Leeuwen, a professor at Iowa State University, who resides at Lake Panorama, has committed his energy to creating, bottling and selling his brand of vodka, IngeniOz. However, unlike other vodkas, IngeniOz — a combination of the words “ingenious” and “ozone” — is made with one quality in mind: purity. Van Leeuwen's alcohol is made from Iowa corn, and with the help of ozone, the finished product is completely impurity free.

“Nobody's got anything like this,” van Leeuwen said. “There are absolutely no impurities. The next best product on the market has eight impurities.”

Traditionally, most alcoholic beverages contain elements besides ethanol. Chemicals resulting from fermenting grains or fruits, also known as impurities, can lead to a harsh taste, and increase the severity of hangover symptoms after drinking. So many vodka aficionados look for the purest product they can find. To combat the chemicals, and reduce hangover symptoms, every batch of IngeniOz vodka, produced at Dehner Distillery

in Clive, is run through a rigorous purifying process. First the liquid is pumped into a 200 gallon tank, and ozone-containing air is bubbled through it. Next, the liquid enters a second tank, where it encounters activated carbon.

“The idea is to remove as many flavors as possible,” van Leeuwen said. “Ideally, vodka should be colorless, tasteless (and) odorless to some extent. There is a demand for that.”

There are several other steps in the filtration system, but when it comes down to how the exact purifying process works, van Leeuwen never shares the details. In fact, he has never patented his methods, and does not plan to. Because if he did, he would have to disclose what makes his technique tick, which runs the risk of someone copying it.

“It's basically an industrial secret, I never tell exactly how it's done,” van Leeuwen said.

Van Leeuwen has expanded his market considerably since first releasing his line of vodka in 2014. Now, bottles of IngeniOz can be found statewide at Casey's General Store, Whole Foods, Sam's Club, HyVee, Fairway, and private liquor

stores. Locally, it is stocked at Panora's Hometown Foods and The Port. What started out as a company that sold 9,000 bottles of vodka its first year in operation has grown to producing 20,000 bottles of vodka a year, and sales are increasing by 10 percent every month.

“It took off like wildfire, we need to just keep growing slowly,” van Leeuwen said. “I'd gladly do this every day if we can sell it. We're still pretty tiny, (but) no one can actually match us on quality.”

The company also sells in Nebraska now, and van Leeuwen plans to set his sights on selling his vodka in Texas, California and Florida next.

“It's like the presidential race,” van Leeuwen said. “If you can win big in those states, they're a whole country on their own.”

Although he is not sure he will get involved, van Leeuwen is considering the idea of starting a line of gin. It is a smaller market to cater to, but if done right, gin can be all-natural, he said. Plus, he could use the same system he currently uses for vodka. Making flavored vodkas has also crossed his mind. But he quickly shied away from the thought, because any substance that is not alcohol, like flavorings, cannot be impurity free.

“I'm always worried to damage the image of high purity,” van Leeuwen said. “Principally, I have a problem with flavors. The idea of purity goes away.”

Lake Panorama resident Johannes van Leeuwen is the creator of IngeniOz vodka. The alcohol is made from Iowa corn, and with the help of ozone, the finished product is completely impurity free. “Nobody's got anything like this,” he says.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

**Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors Meeting August 23, 2016**

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met August 23, 2016, at 5 p.m. at the Lake Panorama Association office. Board members present were Larry Babcock, Bob Batschelet, Gary Evans, Tom Jeschke, Mindy Larsen Poldberg, Charles Schnack, and Jim Spradling.

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

Visitors present: Randy Creese, Galen and Pam Johnson, members. Lyn Coulter, Coulter Marina.

President Jeschke 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. Randy Creese spoke on concerns of mowing of undeveloped lots and complimented the office on the information in the weekly Panorama Prompt.

Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda. Evans 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 07.26.2016 LPA Board Meeting
- c) Accept 08.08.16 minutes from Building Code Committee
- d) Confirm date and time of next LPA Board Meeting
- e) Acceptance of 07.31.16 consolidated financial report – LPA & LPN, LLC

Agenda Item 4a – Sewer Agreement with City of Panora

Rutledge gave a brief outline of the current sewer agreement from 2002. The City and LPA are willing to update the agreement at this time, with some minor clean-up and clarification.

Schnack moved to authorize the board president to execute the wastewater agreement with the City of Panora, with any minor changes to the document being approved by the board president, general manager and the LPA attorney. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4b – Water Quality Update

Rutledge asked Halterman to recap information on the lake water quality and the extended areas of testing of lake water completed this summer. LPA is looking to determine if the water quality issues are point source or other reasons. To date, there is no indication of a specific point causing the high bacteria counts, on which to

focus testing. Staff will continue research on this issue.

Agenda Item 4c – 2017 Budget Calendar

Rutledge reviewed the schedule for the budget process and the dates involved with the timing of completion. The initial Capital Draft Budget will be prepared for the September meeting. The Operations Budget will follow in October. The goal is to present the final version of the Capital and Operations Budget for approval at the November meeting. No action is required at this time, other than notifying the GM of any capital projects to be considered in 2017.

Agenda Item 5a – Water Department – Analysis of Potential Capital Improvements

Rutledge explained the effort this year in regards to the water department has been to identify the best option under which LPA would be assured the following goals would be met:

- Eliminate the occurrence of “dirty” water (Iron and Manganese)
  - Ensure all other water quality issues are effectively addressed (Radium, Ammonia, etc.)
  - Explore the feasibility of softening water from a “very hard” status to a “moderately hard” status.
  - Ensure the cost of water would remain competitive and affordable
  - Accomplish goals 1 through 4 by building upon 2010 investments.
- Preliminary investigations have led LPA to explore the possibility of an upgrade to Reverse Osmosis (R/O). LPA has completed small scale testing and the results suggest moving forward with large-scale, pilot plant testing. The pilot plant would run three months. Cost of this effort is \$52,700 and will be requested as part of the 2017 budget.

This investment will provide the LPA board with a clear understanding of what it costs to achieve a water plant that accomplishes goals 1 through 5 above. The board would then be able to determine if the benefits would justify the costs of an R/O upgrade. No action necessary at this time.

Agenda Item 5b – Shop / Boat Storage / Marina Facility Review – progress report

Rutledge presented an update on facility strategies for LPA shop, Boat Storage and Marina.

Marina Facility - To accomplish an expansion of the boat slips, a relocation of the fuel dock would be required. There are several items to consider:

- Cost of moving the fuel dock, the slips, and electrical
- Available turn radius for the boats
- Location of the current boat ramp
- Parking

The Board requested to continue the research and bring back costs for expansion of the boat slips.

Boat Storage – Boat storage is a good investment for the association. The current lease with Coulter results in roughly half of the boats being stored by him and half in our buildings. LPA should continue to build all new structures at the Tieble Road and Endira End site, available area would accommodate one or two more buildings on this site, or add additional structures

from repurposing existing buildings.

Shop expansion – The LPA maintenance site consists of a heated shop and an unheated barn, along with areas for storing aggregate and materials. The shop is too small for our operations. Rutledge noted LPA cannot maintain and work on equipment during the winter, as there is simply not enough room. The heated shop has some roof leaking which is causing corrosion. Shive-Hattery has looked at the structure and advised the long-term safety of that building is in question. A proposal has been requested to study the building and estimate if it is worth rehabilitating or not; cost for the study will be \$3,000.

Agenda Item 5c – Marina Jetty Discussion

Lyn Coulter discussed the 20 docks on the jetty, which supports 40 lifts. Many are in disrepair and potentially unsafe. Options are to have the members purchase their own approved docks to be installed on the jetty or LPA purchase the docks. LPA would have the cost to install and remove every year and some liability insurance costs if they purchased the docks. Each section would be 4' wide x 7' long and would take 4 sections, 28' in total length for each dock.

The Board instructed staff to continue research and finalize the costs of purchasing the docks for the jetty, to be included in the capital budget for 2017.

Agenda Item 6 – Other Business – An advertisement for a retail business office on Karen Drive was reported in the local papers. The member was been contacted and the rules were reviewed and forwarded to the member.

Agenda Item 7 – The Board entered closed session at 6:15 p.m. to discuss legal matters and exited closed session at 6:50 p.m. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Danna Krambeer, Recording Secretary

Mindy Larsen Poldberg, Board Secretary

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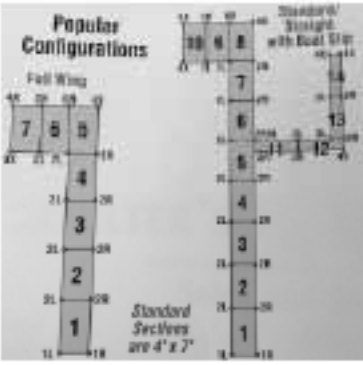

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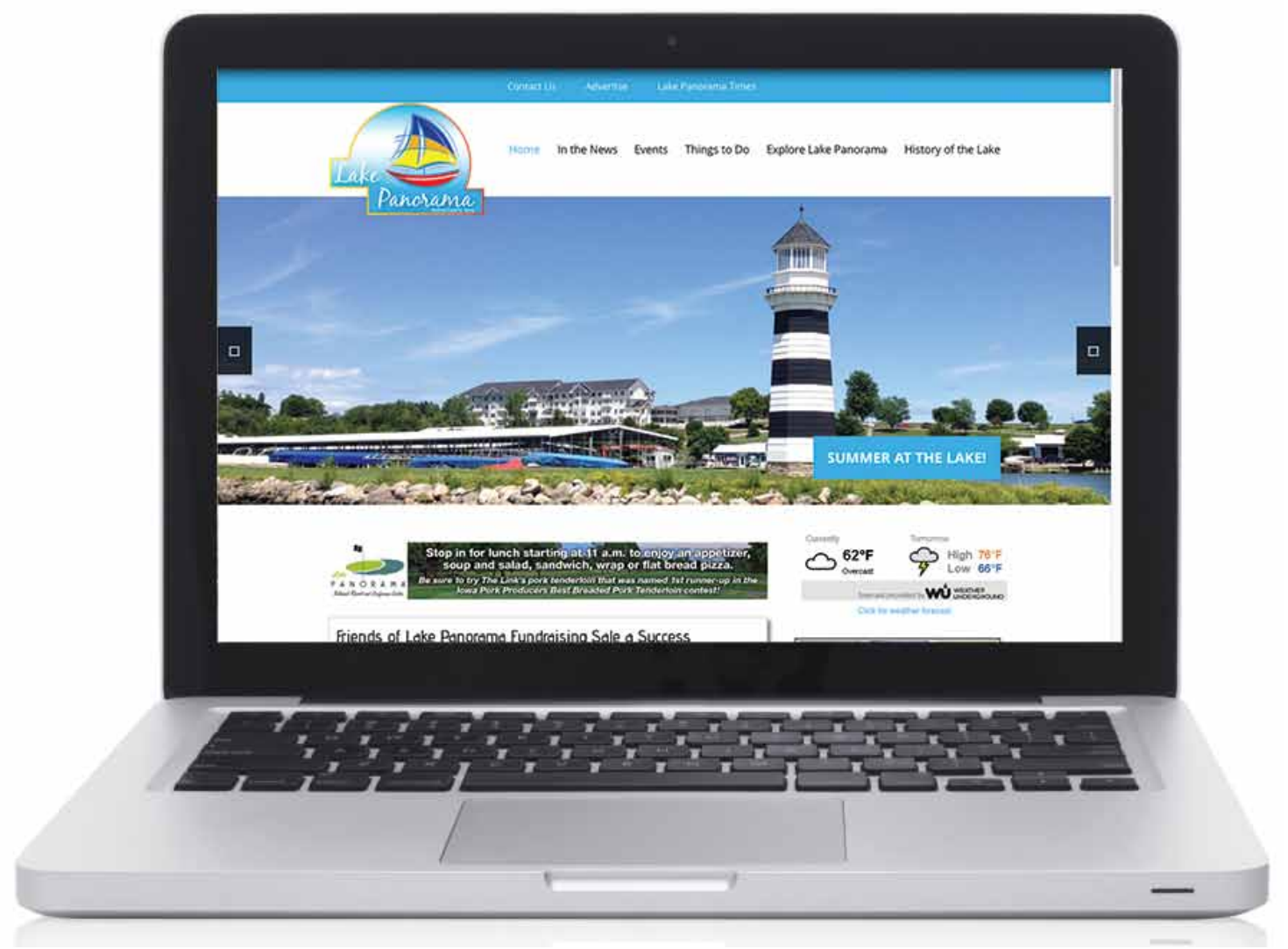
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COMMUNITY

# PANORA FIRE DEPARTMENT RAISES FUNDS FOR SCARES

ASHLEY SCHABLE | LAKE TIMES

The Panora Fire Department is turning their fire training building into a Haunted Tower during the month of October. The three-story building will turn into a darkly delightful and horror-filled scene with hanging ghosts and smoke as the firemen welcome those who are brave from 7-11 p.m. on Oct. 21, 22, 28, 29 and 31. Proceeds go to Panora Volunteer Fire Department.

By ASHLEY SCHABLE  
*Lake Times staff*

The Panora Volunteer Fire Department presents two weekends of terror in October. The Tower of Terror Haunted House will scare guests out of their wits for a second year in a row as the fire training tower, located at 607 E. Market St. behind Hometown Foods in Panora, has again been transformed into a haunted house. It's open to the public on Oct. 21, 22, 28, 29 and 31 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. each night. Admission is just \$5 per person. Children 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult. All proceeds go to the Panora Volunteer Fire Department. The tower of terror is the brainchild of firefighters Steve Pote, Matt Harmann and Tony Monthei, who were greasing waterways on a ladder truck one night when the idea came about. "We never thought it would turn into this," said Pote, who along with many of the firemen, gets his whole family

involved in the event. "We all have our costumes ready." The firemen have been working at the Tower on Tuesday nights since August and are excited for the guests to arrive. The haunted tower has doubled in size this year and spans three levels; visitors enter and leave through large hay bales and weave up and down through various hallways. "This corner over here is going to be great," said fireman Nate Dorsett, without spoiling the scare. Dorsett said he's enjoyed working on the tower and hopes the community will come out to support it. "It keeps people in Panora and gives them something to do," he said. The tower's hallways are dark and smoky, using the smoke the fire department uses for training -- it's nontoxic and shouldn't pose a problem for anyone, the firemen say. Each night, the haunted house is changed up a bit. So there's no need to stop with just one scare.

Panora volunteer fireman Steve Pote (back) and Nate Dorsett (front) carry sheets of plywood from the bottom level of the their fire training tower last week.



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**New Listing**



**4936 Lynn Dr.,  
Panora, Iowa**

**\$409,900**

This magnificent condo has sliders that allow you to enjoy views of the lake with a wrap around deck. The master bedroom has a lake view with a walk in closet with a full bath/ laundry on the main level. Open floor plan so no one is left out.. The lower level has two bedrooms with a wet bar/game room and a 3/4 bath. Within walking distance to Main Beach, Conference Center and Lake Panorama Golf course. This truly has to be seen to encompass everything it has to offer. Could be the #1 condo on the lake!! If you are ready to leave the hassle of home ownership, you will find none better. Plenty of room for guests to park with this flat lot and enjoy boating (back door) and golf (front door). Definitely a must see with a price to sell.



**5148 Panorama Dr.,  
Panora, Iowa**

**\$245,000**

This completely renovated two bed, two bath house is ideal for that quick get away. It has beautiful views of the lake out the front and sits on the #5 fairway of the golf course in back. The back includes a beautiful patio with a pergola for shade encompassed by a retaining wall that adds the tranquility everyone so desires. The master has a beautiful closet with a full bath. The entire house has high ceilings that bring out the abundance of space this house has to offer with it's open floor plan. Great starter or a fine way to down size with minimal maintenance.



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# Unexpected health benefits of nature

As most Americans have heard, we need to get out more. Intuitively, it makes sense that time spent out in nature is good for us, and helps us ward off obvious health issues like obesity. But researchers have found much more than that. Whether you're 5, 25, 50 or 95, think about these quirky benefits of nature today—they just might motivate you to spend some more minutes in the great outdoors.

**A Breath of Fresh Air**  
As wonderful as sunlight can be for your health (when wearing appropriate sunscreen!), there are lots of other things outdoors that also tout health benefits. For example, consistent and early exposure to natural bacteria and allergens

has been shown to reduce the prevalence of conditions like asthma and allergies in children, with benefits extending into adulthood. Much of this research is based on the hygiene hypothesis, first proposed in 1989, which suggests that children build up immunity as they touch natural things, which harbor natural bacteria, and introduce those microorganisms to their developing immune systems through behaviors like thumb-sucking. These behaviors are also suggested to introduce symbiotic microflora, like gut bacteria, which studies are suggesting play a role in life-long metabolism and general health.

Even if you weren't an outdoorsy kid, studies suggest

looking at trees and breathing fresh, outdoor air can reduce feelings of anger, stress, confusion and anxiety, and even speed up hospital recovery times. This is thought to be due to the hormones our brains release in association with feelings of awe and chemicals plants release naturally, such as those used in aromatherapy.

**Better Burn**  
Exercising anywhere can help us shed unwanted weight, but a variety of studies from the United Kingdom, U.S. and Australia are suggesting that outdoor exercise can have more benefits than the same exercises done indoors. For instance, running or walking outdoors rather than on a treadmill requires your ankles to respond to minute imperfections in the ground, as well as occasionally going downhill (not easily simulated on a treadmill) or into the wind. Wind drag also adds significant resistance for cyclists. All these minute differences engage more muscle groups, put less repetitive stress on joints and lead to burning a few extra calories over the same distance. The visual stimulation from being outside also prevents boredom, which helped participants enjoy their workouts more, feel

more inclined to go out again and exercise for longer than they would indoors.

**Cues to Snooze**  
Parents often assume having their kids run around outside tuckers them out enough for a good night's sleep. Turns out, both kids' and adults' sleep routines improve with consistent outdoor activity, and it's not entirely because of the exercise. Variation in natural light levels helps cue our brains in on what time of day it is by triggering increased production of the neurotransmitter serotonin (more on that later) in bright sunlight, and later the conversion of that serotonin to melatonin when it's dark. Melatonin is a hormone that helps regulate sensations of sleepiness and circadian rhythms, or the time your body inherently wants to spend asleep and awake. Melatonin also helps induce the deep sleep, or REM cycles, that help your brain form new memories and make you feel rested when you wake up. Studies suggest the effects are particularly beneficial with exposure to sunlight in the early morning.

**Mood Booster**  
Remember that serotonin? Studies show this neurotransmitter, like dopamine, is related to levels of happiness. Data was so overwhelming that the development of popular SSRI (selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitor) anti-depressants like Lexapro, Prozac and Zoloft was based on keeping more serotonin molecules actively signaling in the synapses of patients' brains. Recent studies suggest that's not actually what SSRIs do, but they're effective for other reasons still being studied, and the best way to get more serotonin to your brain is to signal your body to make more of it. If you're exercising while outdoors, all the better—physical activity boosts serotonin production too, even if it's not overly strenuous.

# Watch Your Team at The Links Restaurant

Enjoy watching college football on Saturdays at The Links restaurant with appetizer and drink specials such as \$5 domestic pitchers and \$1 off appetizers. Bring your family and friends for game day and enjoy cold drinks and great food, while cheering your favorite team to victory.

# Happy Fall Y'all Pro Shop Sale Continues

All men's and women's clothing is discounted 30 percent, with all shoes discounted 20 percent. Some sale racks of clothing have deeper discounts, such as a 75% off rack. Come check out the savings, and pick up something for yourself, plus someone on your holiday gift list.

## COMMUNITY Panora Chamber & PRIDE host "After Five" Oct. 26

*Lake Times staff*  
Panora Chamber and PRIDE will hold their 2016 annual meeting as an "After Five" event on Wednesday, October 26 at Lake Panorama Conference Center. Social hour from 5:00-5:45 and Business meeting from 5:45-6:30 p.m. The brief evening of fellowship and annual business will include provided hors d'oeuvres with a cash bar available. RSVP by October 21 to JaimeWaddle@PanoraTelco.com or 641-755-2424.

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