

The Panorama West clubhouse was built in 1997. Besides the pro shop, it houses a full kitchen and community room.

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Lake Panorama TIMES

APRIL 2016 VOLUME 48 NUMBER 4

PANORAMA WEST GOLF COURSE & CLUBHOUSE UPDATES

By **SUSAN THOMPSON**
Lake Times staff

A lot has changed at the Panorama West Golf Course since it first opened in 1971. What began as a nine-hole par-3 course now offers the option of playing five of the holes as a par-4. The present clubhouse was completed in 1997 in the middle of the nine-hole layout, which led to the course being rearranged.

The Lake Panorama Association owns the facility, and managed it until 2013, when the operation was placed under the Lake Panorama National umbrella. Again this season, several updates and improvements are underway.

GOLF COURSE

Nine Kentucky Coffee trees were transplanted from the LPN tree nursery in mid-

March. In 2009, Charles and Judith Schnack financed and helped establish the tree nursery. The idea was to purchase young trees at a lower cost and grow them for a few years before transplanting elsewhere on the LPN course.

Since then, about 150 trees have been moved from the nursery, with most being transplanted to the LPN course. Some also have been moved to Boulder

Beach and the LPA office.

Transporting trees from the LPN to Panorama West is a longer process, but Schnack and Brandon Waddle, the Panorama West grounds superintendent, were able to transplant the nine trees in one long day. Denny Mleynek of Panora donated the use of his tree spade for the work, and the LPA provided a truck to pull the spade. Six of the trees were planted

on the second hole, with one near the green. The other five are on the right side of the fairway, in an area where several ash trees are located. It's expected those will someday succumb to the emerald ash borer, and need to be removed. The other three trees were planted on the north side of the third green.

Waddle has four new pieces of equipment to help maintain the course for the 2016 season.

Three are replacements for a sprayer and older fairway and tee mowers. A bunker rake is a new addition.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

The windows in the community room are being replaced, and new valances hung. The deck that surrounds the community room will be stained.

WEST, PAGE 6A

2016 LPA Annual Meeting May 14

By **SUSAN THOMPSON**
Lake Times staff

The 47th annual meeting of the Lake Panorama Association will be Saturday, May 14, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Lake Panorama National conference center. Each year, the LPA annual meeting provides a formal statement of the association's financial position, plus reports on activities during the past year and plans for the coming year.

Reports will be given by John Coghlan, LPA board president; Bob Batschelet, LPA board treasurer; John Dinnebier, LPN director of operations; and John Rutledge, LPA general manager. A brief update on the new LPN Board of Managers also will be provided.

The results of the annual election for the LPA board of directors will be announced at the end of the meeting, and there will be time for audience questions and comments.

An official announcement of the meeting will be sent to all LPA members in mid-April. Included in this mailing will be a ballot, plus a numbered envelope in which to return the ballot. Ballots must be returned in the numbered envelopes to ensure ballot authenticity. If an envelope is lost, contact the LPA office for a replacement.

There are no issues this year that require a special vote. The 2016 ballot is simply for electing three members to the LPA board of directors.



Larry Babcock



Gary Evans



James Spradling

MEETING, PAGE 6A

GOLF

‘FRENCH-KISSED’ BY LUCK



Will, Jody and Trevor Babcock at Amen Corner during their first trip to Augusta National for the 2016 Masters Golf Tournament.

SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES

Panora family attends Masters

By **ASHLEY SCHABLE**
Lake Times staff

PANORA

It's called "a tradition unlike any other."

One of the most popular sporting events next to the Super Bowl is the Masters Golf Tournament in Augusta, Georgia. A Lake Panorama family would like it to be a tradition for them, but they also understand it may never happen

again.

Gary and Jody Babcock and sons Trevor and Will made a trip to Augusta National for the Masters last week. They were picked for Tuesday practice round tickets out of the lottery system last May. They flew down Monday, spent the entire day at Augusta National Tuesday and then flew home Wednesday.

Gary Babcock, head professional at Lake Panorama National Golf

Course in Panora, said the excitement for the trip started last May. It was Gary's second trip to Augusta National; his first was in 2013.

"I knew someday I would love for my family to experience it, and the only way that could happen would be to get selected for lottery tickets," he said, knowing the odds were very slim. The Babcocks were not selected in 2014 or 2015, so when Gary was notified in 2016, he said it was like "luck French-kissed" him.

MASTERS, PAGE 5A

Limited tickets still available for The Beach Ball May 6

Lake Times staff

Ticket sales and table sponsorships have been strong for the 1st annual Friends of Lake Panorama "Fun-raiser" planned for Friday, May 6. The Beach Ball will be held at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center, with proceeds used to build a new playground at Sunset Beach.

The Friends of Lake Panorama board has set a goal of raising \$20,000 with this event, which will make it possible for the playground to be built this summer. Only checks and cash can be accepted that evening for the many fundraising activities.

The Beach Ball will include dinner, live music, a wine pull, raffle, silent and live auctions, and other activities. In keeping with The Beach Ball theme, casual attire is encouraged. All tables will be decorated with a different theme, and those in attendance will vote for their favorites by putting cash into corresponding jars.

This event is limited to 30 tables and 240 patrons. Just one table sponsorship and about 40 individual tickets still are available. Table sponsorships are \$100, and tickets are \$40 each. Half of each ticket goes to Friends.

BALL, PAGE 5A

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LPN Inn gets extensive makeover

By SUSAN THOMPSON | Lake Times staff

The Lake Panorama National Inn, located on Karen Drive south of the LPN conference center, recently received \$125,000 in upgrades. There are 27 rooms in the two-story motel, which was built in the mid-1980s by Irv Gerlich.

To raise money for other portions of the LPN operation, Gerlich later sold the individual motel rooms to private owners. There currently are 13 owners who sign individual annual contracts with the LPN, which in turn manages the motel room rentals. Owners receive payments twice a year for their portion of the rental proceeds.

Jason and Shari Clark, who own several of the motel rooms, spearheaded the renovation project. The Clarks, Dave and Patsy Goss, and Frank and Sandi Teale serve as a coordinating committee for the owners.

All new furniture has been installed in the 27 rooms, including new beds, frames and headboards. Five rooms now offer king beds, which had been limited to queen beds. The other 22 rooms each have two double beds. Some new linens have been added, including bedspreads for the king beds.

Also new in each room are a dresser, nightstand and desk that match the headboards. Every room now has a desk chair, refrigerator, microwave and 44-inch flat screen television. Previously, not all rooms had these additional amenities.

A painted feature wall, plus new lighting and artwork, have been added to each room. Bathrooms have been upgraded with new fans, lighting and shower curtains on curved rods. A larger water softener has been installed to improve water quality in the building. All rooms also include a coffeemaker, hairdryer, iron and ironing board.

A conference room on the lower level has been updated. A new vending area across the

hall from the conference room was created, so guests have more food and drink choices in addition to an ice machine. Most rooms have exterior doors that open onto a deck.

Panora Telco has installed a new surveillance system, with 15 cameras located in common areas both inside and outside the building. The cameras are monitored online, and footage can be reviewed. The wireless Internet service in the building has been upgraded.

Lance Leonard of Leonard Construction has done most of the work, with construction supplies coming from Lake Lumber. Miller Plumbing, Heating & Electric of Menlo handled mechanical updates. Most of the furniture, televisions and appliances were purchased from Archer Home Furnishings in Adel.

Besides the 27 motel rooms, the LPN also has rental contracts with owners of eight townhomes along Karen Drive. The townhomes offer two bedrooms and two baths, full kitchens, laundry, fireplace and outdoor patios. It's a short walk to the LPN Conference Center from the Inn and eight townhomes.

All guests at Lake Panorama National Inn and Suites have access to the resort's pool, tennis courts, fitness room and Lake Panorama beaches.

Guests staying at the Lake Panorama National Inn and Suites and purchase temporary boating passes. More details, including nightly rates, are available online under the lodging tab at lakepanoramanational.com.

INN, PAGE 4A



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE TIMES

Two truckloads of furniture and appliances were delivered to the LPN Inn in mid-March as part of the updates made to the 27-room motel.



All 27 rooms in the LPN Inn now include a new desk, desk chair, dresser, 44-inch flat screen television, refrigerator and microwave. Other room amenities are coffeemakers, hairdryers, irons and ironing boards.



Five rooms in the LPN Inn now feature new king beds. Before the recent updates, there weren't any king beds in the motel. The other 22 rooms each feature two new double beds.

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Q&A: Scott Stanley, Fin and Feather chair

CATCHING FISH? THANK FIN AND FEATHER

By **SUSAN THOMPSON**
Lake Times staff

The Fin and Feather organization has been helping improve fishing opportunities at Lake Panorama for more than 30 years. This month's Q&A is with Scott Stanley, the current chair of the Fin and Feather committee.

Q: Share a little about the history of the Fin and Feather group. When and why was it started?

A: Fin and Feather was formed in 1984 by a group of LPA members who wanted to improve fishing at Lake Panorama. The dam was completed in 1970, and the lake filled from the flow of the Middle Raccoon River. At that time, the naturally occurring species of fish in the Middle Raccoon were largemouth bass, crappie, catfish and carp. Members wanted to expand fishing options to include walleye, which are widely considered the best fish to eat.

The group has continued ever since, and experimented with various fish stocking strategies. Walleye do not naturally reproduce in Lake Panorama, which is why annual stocking is undertaken. Fin and Feather continues to look at ways to increase the

fishery, such as the addition of smallmouth bass to the lake.

The formation of this independent group has provided a significant boost to fishing conditions at Lake Panorama. Members should note that Fin and Feather's efforts extend not only to Lake Panorama, but also to the section of the Middle Raccoon River that lies below the LPA dam. This area represents some of the best river fishing that can be found in central Iowa.

Q: How is the fish stocking done?

A: The long-time supplier for the fish-stocking program is North Star Hatchery, a third-generation, family-owned business in Montour, Iowa. North Star Fish Hatchery brings the fish to Lake Panorama each fall, and Fin and Feather committee members help move them from the truck to the lake by bucket.

In the fall of 2015, nearly \$12,000 worth of fish were stocked by Fin and Feather. That included 2,400 walleye 8-11 inches in length, 1,500 largemouth bass 5-6 inches in length, and 1,400 smallmouth bass 4-5 inches in length.

Q. You conduct one major fundraiser each year. Tell

us about the upcoming banquet, and how people can get involved.

A: This year's banquet will be held on Saturday, May 14. The fun begins at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour, followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m., then silent and live auctions and games. All ages are welcome. Children have a lot of fun playing the fundraising games.

We always are looking for new people to join the Fin and Feather committee. We meet about six times a year with most of the meetings held a month or two before the banquet and a couple following the banquet. We are open to any new ideas about what people would like to see done.

The Big Skipper Club has become the mainstay of our program. The cost is \$100, which includes two banquet tickets, Big Skipper Raffle tickets, name listed in the program, and an annual family membership.

Other options are to purchase tickets to the annual fundraiser dinner at \$30 each for adults, and \$15 each for kids 12 and under. Annual family memberships, which run with the calendar year, are \$30. We also accept cash donations. Fin and Feather is a 501(c)3 nonprofit so donations are tax deductible. Anyone with questions can contact me at



641-747-1337.

Q: How will the money raised this year be used?

A: Money raised in 2016 will be used to fund the costs of the Panorama Days Kids Fishing Derby, stocking fish in Lake Panorama and also putting in habitat/cover in certain areas of Lake Panorama to provide better fishing opportunities for LPA members. We will be discussing two other items during our meetings this year. One is the possibility of installing a new dock at the Panorama West pond. The other is mapping Lake Panorama so it will be easier to locate areas where fish stay based on the contour of the lake. By mapping Lake Panorama, those fishing would be more efficient finding points, depressions and humps where fish stay, depending on the time of the year.

We also are in the process of looking at specific areas to put natural rock piles throughout the lake that are first and foremost safe for all boaters and swimmers, and areas that won't impact dredging. These have to be near areas where fish stay throughout most of the year – main lake points, secondary points, river channel swings, spawning flats and more.

Q: Tell us more about the Panorama Days Kids

Fishing Derby.

A: The fishing derby started in 2013 as a way to encourage kids to be involved in fishing and to enjoy the outdoors. We feel there are fewer and fewer kids each year getting involved in outdoor activities such as fishing and hunting. Our goal is for every child to walk away with a prize or trophy. While the fishing derby is an event specifically for children ages 3 to 13, family members of all ages can come out and enjoy the event, too.

We take the most pride in knowing the fishing derby really gives kids, maybe some who have never fished before, a chance to have fun and make memories not only for themselves but their parents and families. The look on a child's face after he or she caught a fish or won a trophy is truly priceless. This derby is open to the public, not just LPA members, so it is a nice way to showcase Lake Panorama. We had a great turnout in 2015 with around 45 to 50 kids. It never gets old to see a child smile from ear to ear after catching a fish.

Q: It seems most of the work of your group is related to fish stocking and habitat. What about the "feather" aspect?

A: Fin and Feather currently focuses on fishing, but there remains an active organization devoted to wing shooting and sporting clays. Fin and Feather Shooters has been in existence for many years and is formally designated as a non-profit entity. Fin and Feather Shooters is open every Sunday for sporting clays. New members are welcome and can contact Lynn Jorgensen at 641-755-2603 for further information. Fin and Feather Shooters is open to the public.

GOVERNMENT

Young hits sweep of issues at Lake Panorama

By **DOUGLAS BURNS**
Lake Times staff

PANORA

Congressman David Young predicts a wide-ranging debate in Washington, D.C. about lowering business taxes in connection with the elimination of certain tax credits.

Too many companies are fleeing taxes in the United States for safe havens around the globe, Iowa's 3rd District Republican legislator says.

"I hate it," he said. "I hope you hate it."

The two leading Republican presidential candidates, businessman Donald Trump and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, have proposed dramatic reductions to the 35 percent corporate tax rate. Young has not endorsed a presidential candidate to this point, but he did seize on the tax issue recently in Guthrie County.

Young, a first-term congressman seeking re-election in November, spoke April 6 to the Panora Regional Industrial Development Enterprise (PRIDE) at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center. He delivered a speech and then answered questions covering a sweep of issues.

Young said oil-state leaders in Congress are leading what amounts to an "assault" on renewable energy sources like ethanol.

"Don't we want to be energy independent?" he said.

Locally, advocates pressed Young on a proposal that would



U.S. Rep. David Young

YOUNG, PAGE 4A



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New fines set by LPA for not getting permits

Lake Times staff

At its March meeting, the Lake Panorama Association board approved updates to the LPA Building Codes that puts new fines in place for members who do not obtain building or land disturbing permits before beginning a project.

The regulations authorize fines up to \$6,000 for failure to obtain a permit for a new home prior to beginning work. The fines have minimums, with increasing amounts added for negligence that might result in damage to someone else's property, erosion issues, lack of inspection and destruction of the member's own

septic lateral capacity.

Fines begin at \$500 and can increase, depending on the project. The "negligence" fines can add up to \$1,000 for each issue violated.

Randy Holl, LPA staff in charge of building issues, said the LPA wants the importance of obtaining permits emphasized by the size of the fine potential. "We hope we never have to collect one of these fines. But these issues have happened more than once, and the \$200 fine previously in place was ineffective," he said.

Other code changes include requiring members or their designated authorized agents to sign

for building and land disturbing permits.

Holl said the new fines and reimbursement costs only result when work requiring permits is started without permits, and the work violates designated issues. "The process of getting a permit shows the member what is required, which should prevent the need for these penalties to be issued. The important thing is we want members to always check with the LPA office for permit requirements when they are considering building or land disturbing projects."

The new LPA fines related to building and land disturbing permit violations are:

Failure to obtain building permit for home or addition—\$2,000

No permit and violation of property boundary, additional \$1,000

No permit and no silt fence installed, additional \$1,000

No permit and no building inspector engaged, additional \$1,000

No permit and failure to fence septic lateral field area, additional \$1,000

Failure to abide by "stop work" order—\$1,000/day for home, \$500/day for detached garage, \$100/day for other structures, plus reimbursement for legal fees and costs incurred to enforce the issue

Failure to obtain building permit for detached garage, shoreline sunshelters, gazebos,

swimming pools or permanent docks—\$1,000

No permit for the items in #7 plus additional \$1,000 fines as in #2—#5 for each violation

Failure to obtain building permit for fence or storage shed—\$500

No permit for fence or storage shed and failure to do any of the #2-5 items that would have been required—\$1,000 each item

Any non-permitted structure or work may be required to be removed or modified to meet permit regulations

If encroachment by an owner or agent of owner on neighboring property occurs, a deadline will be set for removal of encroachment with fines of \$100 to \$200 per day for violation of deadline

If LPA property is damaged during non-permitted or permitted projects, owner may be required to return property to pre-existing conditions, or reimburse LPA to return property to proper condition

If work begins prior to a permit being issued for projects requiring a land disturbing permit, a fine of \$500 will be issued

Additional fines of \$1,000 may be issued for each violation similar to items #2, 3 and 5

If a stop order is issued due to lack of a permit on a job that has already started, violations of that stop order will be \$500 per day plus reimbursement for any legal fees and costs incurred due to the violation.



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE TIMES

Two truckloads of furniture and appliances were delivered to the LPN Inn in mid-March as part of the updates made to the 27-room motel.

INN

FROM PAGE 2A

Reservations for the LPN Inn and Suites can be made through the LPN front desk 9

a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. This also is where guests check-in. Special arrangements can be made for guests arriving after 5 p.m. Call 641-755-2080 or 800-879-1917 for more information, or to make a reservation.

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MASTERS

FROM PAGE 1A

"You've been handed a one-day ticket to the Masters, and you know it will probably never happen again," he said.

For Gary Babcock, one of the best parts of attending the Masters came when first entering the grounds.

"Before you is a cathedral of spring, but also something more," he said. "An annual rite, an emergence from the gray of winter into a blaze of color from the green grass to the pink azaleas to the white dogwoods. It's just breathtaking."

He described it as passing through the gates into another world.

"It is the perfection of the course, the secrecy of the club, the traditions, the history, the members circulating in their green jackets, and it all adds up to create something unlike anything else," Babcock said.

The Babcocks did get to see some of their favorite players, including Jordan Spieth, Bubba Watson, Rory McIlroy, Jason Day and Tom Watson, to name a few.

It was a special few days.

"I will never forget this trip, mostly because I was able to be there as a family," Babcock said.



SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES

ABOVE: Gary Babcock (center), Head Professional at Lake Panorama National Resort, stands at the Masters Scoreboard with sons Will (left) and Trevor (right) last week. It was a family trip for the Babcocks, which included wife and mother Jody, who were picked for Tuesday practice round tickets out of the lottery system last May. They spent the entire day at Augusta National on Tuesday.

LEFT: The Babcock family (from left) Jody, Will, Trevor and Gary, pose for a photo with the "Godfather of Soul" James Brown statue which looks large in Augusta in the middle of Broad Street.



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BALL

FROM PAGE 1A

Many items have been donated for the auctions and raffle, but more are needed. Some items so far include four tickets to the June 19 NASCAR XFINITY Series American Ethanol 250, located in the Newton Club, plus fan walk passes and parking; basketball signed by Bill Fennelly, Iowa State University women's basketball coach; and a tree of choice, planted, from the Wood Duck Tree Farm.

Also, two framed limited edition Terry Redlin prints; two framed limited edition Iowa Ducks Unlimited prints; Iowa and Iowa State University bags games; Iowa Hawkeye cast iron skillet; Coca Cola collector's items; telescope; several planters filled with summer flowers; gift baskets; two collector's coin sets; wooden golf ball rack; gum ball machine and more.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the final table, purchasing tickets, or donating an item for the auctions or raffle can email staff@friendsoflakepanorama.org. Or call Susan Thompson at 641-755-4382 or 515-240-6536.

Friends of Lake Panorama is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity, so the \$100 table sponsorships and \$20 per ticket are tax-deductible contributions. The value of items donated for the auctions and raffle also could be tax deductible.

The Beach Ball will begin at 5 p.m. with a social hour that features special drink prices and time to view and vote on the decorated tables. The buffet dinner will be served beginning at 6 p.m.

Donated bottles of wine are being solicited for the wine pull, and will be wrapped so labels aren't visible. Patrons will buy a numbered cork for \$20, giving them the chance to pull a mystery bottle of wine to take home. Those with wine to donate can contact Julie Wykoff at jaallen9@aol.com or 515-778-0053.

The evening will end with live music presented by the RBJ Trio, which specializes in music from the 1950s to the '70s. With Rick McReynolds on vocals and guitar, Beth McReynolds on vocals, and Jack O'Leary on vocals and keyboard, the group plays along with digitally recorded drums and bass to present a full band sound.

Friends of Lake Panorama made a \$30,000 down payment on the playground equipment in January. The main playground structure includes multiple slides, bridges and climbing opportunities. Several smaller structures surround the main area, including hop rocks, bongo stumps, a merry-go-round and teeter-totter.

More information about Friends, the playground, current donors and ways to donate is available online at www.friendsoflakepanorama.org.

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WEST
FROM PAGE 1

The old television that took up a lot of floor space has been replaced by a wall-mounted 70-inch flat screen. PanoraTelco provides cable service to this television and one in the pro shop. Laptops can be connected to the television so slide shows or movies can be shown. There also is a video player and sound system.

The community room and kitchen are available at no cost for meetings and events sponsored by LPA groups. The facility also can be rented on a daily basis, with fees for LPA members at \$53.50, and for non-LPA members at \$80.25, plus a cleaning deposit.

The community room offers eight long tables, 15 square tables and 100 chairs. Outside on the deck are six large tables, two small tables and 34 chairs. The kitchen includes a full-size stove, refrigerator and microwave. There are two 24-cup coffee pots and one small coffee pot, plus a variety of basic cooking utensils.

GOLFING OPTIONS

Maureen Lubeck is in her fourth season as manager of the Panorama West pro shop and community room. The pro shop has food, beverages and golf accessories for sale during the season. Lubeck also works with golf leagues to provide food and beverage options.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the pro shop is open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Hours are adjusted spring and fall depending on the weather and course traffic. Green fees can be paid at the outdoor kiosk if the pro shop is closed. Tee times are accepted on weekends

and holidays. The rest of the time, play is first-come, first-served.

When the golf course first opened in 1971, green fees were \$1. Play-all-day adult green fees now are \$16, and \$8 for youth under 16. Rental carts are \$9 for nine holes, and another \$5 for a second round.

The golf course has been open for public memberships and play since 2008. Before that, non-LPA members could only play the course as a guest of a member. Now both LPA members and non-members can purchase annual Panorama West memberships.

LPA members who join receive a discount over non-members. For instance, a single membership for an LPA member is \$216.39, compared to \$260.95 for a non-member. These prices include tax.

Anyone joining in 2016 who was not a member in 2015 can do so at a discount that is available to both LPA members and non-members. These promotional rates are offered to encourage more people to purchase an annual membership at Panorama West. For 2016, singles new to an annual membership can join for \$173.59, couples for \$266.16, families for \$318.23 and students under 16 for \$46.29.

There is an annual trail fee of \$40.50 to use a private cart on the course. There is limited availability for storing carts at the course, with storage fees at \$185.15 for gas carts and \$214.09 for electric carts.

There are three other options for enjoying golf at Panorama West. A six-play card, valued at \$96, is sold for \$80. Parents and grandparents can play nine holes of golf with related youth under 16 for \$26.75. This special rate is limited to four players.

Or the entire course can be

rented for \$100, plus green fees for anyone who isn't a member of the course. The group must have at least 28 players before the course can be closed to others.

There are three organized golf leagues at Panorama West — a Tuesday morning women's league, a Tuesday evening men's league, and a Thursday morning men's league. (See league details in a story elsewhere in this publication.)

Some informal couples golf was tested last year, and will be held six times this season. Organized by Bill and Karen Eby, couples' competition will be the first and third Friday of June, July and August. Volunteers will plan a different game or event each of the six weeks.

Play will begin 5 p.m. Couples are asked to arrive early to learn about that week's event, get hole assignments, and pay the \$1 per couple entry fee. Entry fees are returned as prize money as players gather on the deck after the round.

On the second and fourth Sunday of each month through the summer and fall, couples and individuals are invited to play golf, followed by a potluck, cards and games in the community room.

Weather permitting, golf begins at 4 p.m. and is a 4-person best-shot. If there is inclement weather, the potluck begins at 5 p.m. Participants each put in \$1 for the winning foursome to split. After golf and the potluck, games such as cribbage, bridge and dominoes are played.

Annual Panorama West membership forms are available online at www.lakepanoramanational.com. For more information about Panorama West golf or the community room, call the pro shop at 641-755-2250.

MEETING
FROM PAGE 1A

If possible, members are asked to deliver or mail their completed ballot in the numbered envelope to the LPA office before Friday, May 13. This allows the majority of the ballots to be counted in advance of the annual meeting. Ballots also can be brought to the annual meeting.

Three people are running for three seats on the LPA seven-member board. They are Larry Babcock, Gary Evans and James Spradling. The board terms of Bill Douglass, John Coghlan and Neil Wright will end at the annual meeting.

LPA by-laws require each board candidate to provide a 100-word statement. This year's candidate statements are printed here in alphabetical order.

LARRY BABCOCK

My wife Susan Thompson and I have been fulltime Lake Panorama residents since 1998. For 10 years, I taught high school and coached varsity sports. My 22-year business career included being a division director where I supervised 20 regional managers, company programs and benefits. Since retirement, I have been active in golfing, boating, fishing and volunteerism. During the past several years, our association has made considerable progress, yet I believe we can become even better. I feel my professional experience,

and desire to help our community grow, will make me a valuable member of the LPA Board.

GARY EVANS

My wife, Kathy, and I discovered Lake Panorama in 2005 and became homeowners in 2008. I have attended a number of the LPA Board meetings and have served on the LPA Building Codes Committee for the last five years. I am a retired financial planner and I also have extensive experience on boards working with various government entities, national organizations and nonprofits. That work involved planning and problem-solving activities with fiscal responsibilities always a priority. I would like to use my experience to represent your interests on

the LPA Board. I'd appreciate your support.

JAMES SPRADLING

As a member of the LPA board, my objectives are to provide progressive leadership, maintain and enhance Lake Panorama's unique amenities, sustain property values, and enrich quality of life. I spent 37 years in municipal administration, most recently as Ankeny's city manager. I received a bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of Iowa. My wife Emily and I purchased lake lots in 2001, and built our home in 2007, where we have lived full-time since August 2013. I have served on the Friends of Lake Panorama board, and am a member of the Panorama Lions Club.

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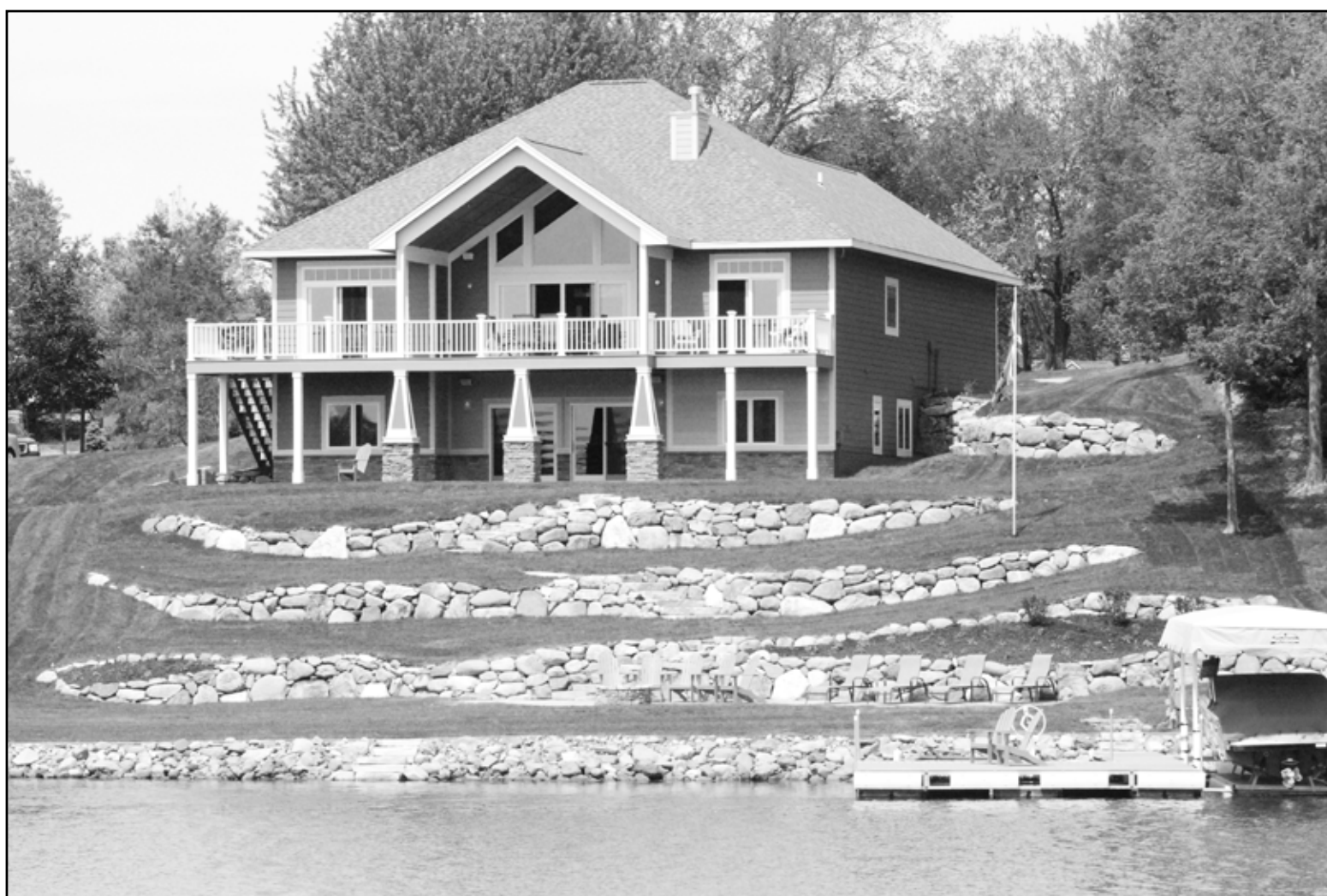
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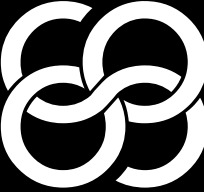
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Chapter 3 (start of retired life). The "honeymoon phase" — you have the time and perhaps the money to pursue all kinds of dreams. The key is not to spend

wildly; free time often means more chances to spend money.

Chapter 4 (your mid-60s to late 70s). An all-leisure lifestyle may be tiring and you may want to return to part-time work or volunteer. You may want to adjust your retirement income strategy based on your existing balance or see if new streams of income can be arranged.

Chapter 5 (your 80s and beyond). Think about your financial legacy for your loved ones, and review or update your estate plan so that when you leave this world, things are in good order and your wishes are carried out.


View this article in its entirety at investgcsb.com. Contact our office today to discuss your concerns about finances during and in retirement.



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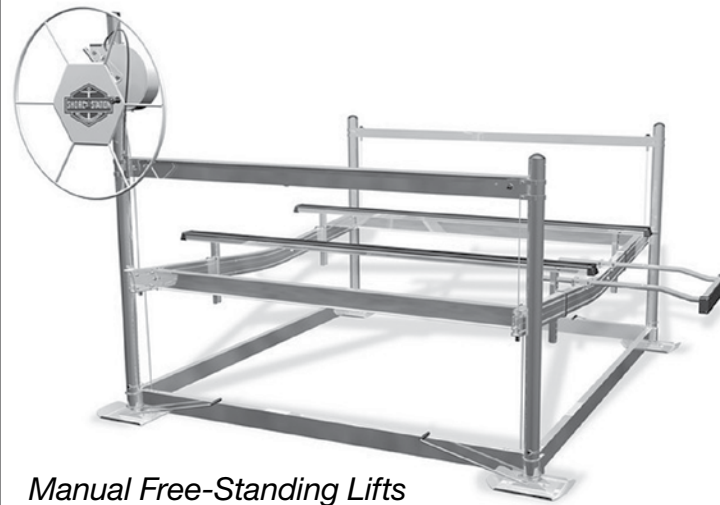
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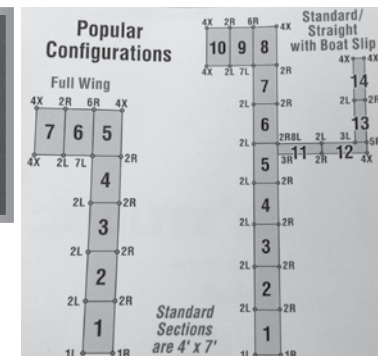


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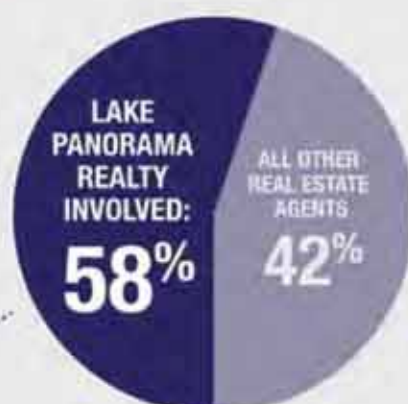
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Four-year-old Cian McAlister works on his speech with Cindy McCarty, a speech and language pathologist, while riding Belle, the horse, at Timber Creek Therapies. Speech and language therapy services at Timber Creek Therapies includes many tools found in the treatment room, hippotherapy on horseback and a cognitive treatment area designed to address functional skills needed for independence.

ASHLEY SCHABLE | LAKE TIMES

TIMBER CREEK TREATS PATIENTS ATOP A HORSE

Upcoming concert, golf tournament to help patients who can't pay

By ASHLEY SCHABLE | Lake Times staff

GUTHRIE CENTER

As Cian McAlister completes a lap inside the spacious riding arena at Timber Creek Therapies, his eyes remain glued to Belle, the golden Haflinger pony he rides.

His eyes sparkle and his smile widens as Belle brings her rider back around the arena at the end of his session.

Like many 4-year-old little boys, Cian likes all things about animals. But his time on horseback is also proving to be an essential part of the boy's speech therapy. Cian has speech intelligibility difficulty, which affects the "understandability" of speech — lining up the speaker's intention and what the listener perceives.

His mom Jackie McAlister said enrolling Cian in the speech therapy program at Timber Creek has had a profound effect on her son. He rides Belle around the arena and puts a puzzle together while stopping to say the words of each piece before moving on.

"Honestly, I've been beyond impressed with his results," she said after a session last week. "It's hard to understand him, but there's been so much im-

provement, not just other people being able to understand him, but him recognizing that he's not speaking clearly and trying to say the words."

Even with the family's move from Coon Rapids to near Ames, which makes their drive about 40 minutes longer, Jackie said Timber Creek will remain part of her son's weekly activities.

"He's done great. He always looks forward to it, and that's what we will keep doing," Jackie said. "I've been so impressed here, and he deserves it."

McAlister is one of many patients who have benefited from Timber Creek, which has been in existence since 2000. A concert to benefit Timber Creek Charities will be held Saturday, April 30, 7 p.m., at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center. The concert will feature Americana duo The Pale Moons, which includes Coon Rapids natives Chad Elliott and Anna Kopaska. The 2016 Timber Creek Char-

ities Golf Tournament is July 16 at Lake Panorama National.

TIMBER CREEK

Tucked away between the rolling timber in Guthrie County, Timber Creek Therapies is an outpatient facility where patients of all ages and with all types of disabilities receive therapy services using innovative tools not found in most therapy centers.

Located on the 220-acre Timber Creek Ranch south of Highway 44, midway between Guthrie Center and Panora, the therapy facility is the inspiration of Director Cindy McCarty.

McCarty, who is in her 40th year as a speech and language pathologist, used to ride horses around the property.

"I had worked with stroke patients predominantly, and there was not much the men seemed to especially enjoy," McCarty recalled. "I would be riding out in the timber and I would think, 'If I could get them out here, I bet they would like this.' It just seemed like a natural connection to open them up."

McCarty, who has worked with Area Education Agency schools, area hospitals as a private practitioner, nursing homes and public health agencies, got a nudge from a cousin.

He had wrestled at Iowa State University and was very ath-

letic and healthy before being diagnosed with lung cancer. He suffered a stroke related to his chemotherapy.

"I went to visit him, and he said, 'Aren't you going to use the horses?'" McCarty recalled.

She returned home, but her friend remained on her mind. "They couldn't find services for him, and I thought, 'We could help him,'" she said.

McCarty traveled to 11 different states to train with therapists, including those who had gone to Germany to research hippotherapy — equine-assisted physical, occupational, and speech and language therapies.

"There was a lady after World War II who had polio over in Europe, and she started riding a horse," McCarty explained. "She was non-ambulatory, and she became an independent walker."

In the early '70s, therapists in the United States started researching the therapy, McCarty said. The Germans had taken the woman's journal and developed what they called "classic hippotherapy." Those in the United States saw the success and wanted to learn.

"I started going and taking classes from those therapists," McCarty said.

McCarty and physical therapist Sue Behrens, the founding members of Timber Creek Therapies, started creating and



Timber Creek Therapies was created to provide a quality outpatient facility where patients of all ages and all types of disabilities could receive therapy services using innovative tools not found in most therapy centers. The facility is located on the 220-acre Timber Creek Ranch near Guthrie Center is popular for its use of horses in hippotherapy, a specially trained physical, occupational and speech/language therapy that uses the movement of a horse as a treatment tool. An indoor riding arena allows patients to be seen year-round.

building the facility in 2000. They brought the first patients in the doors in 2001.

This is Timber Creek's 15th year offering hippotherapy, and its 14th year offering hydrotherapy — physical and occupational therapy using warm, moving water. More traditional therapies are available as well.

A HORSE, OF COURSE

In hippotherapy, specially

trained physical, occupational and speech therapists use a horse's movement as a treatment tool. Treatment takes place in a controlled environment following a specific plan. An indoor riding arena allows patients to be seen year-round.

When she started, McCarty had three horses she used for therapy. Today, 14 horses call

HORSES, PAGE 2B

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HORSES

FROM PAGE 1B

Timber Creek home, with 10 used regularly for therapy. Two of the horses have been born at the Timber Creek stables. Meg Schmidt, who has been helping at Timber Creek Therapies since she was 12 years old, trains the horses.

“Some of the clients will have feet flopping, and (the horses) have to learn that that’s OK,” McCarty said. “(Physical therapists) have clients sitting backwards and laying across the horse, so they are used in a variety of positions.”

McCarty said people often ask her about donating horses, but they do have to be healthy, strong and in shape, she said. There are safety logs used with the horses and training sessions with everyone who works with them.

Each breed has a different pelvic movement, and certain breeds are better for certain diagnoses, McCarty said.

“I learned that when I went to the (American Hippotherapy) class, I think I was in Tennes-



ASHLEY SCHABLE | LAKE TIMES

Lennie Burchfield of Panora rides a horse at Timber Creek Therapies in Guthrie Center during a therapy session. Timber Creek staff say most clients respond very enthusiastically to the hippotherapy treatment and thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to engage with the horse in an environment that is much different than a typical therapy clinic.

see at the time, and a group of physical therapists were talking about using the horse’s gaits with neuromuscular diseases like Parkinson’s and (multiple

sclerosis), and how it was so much better because of the lateral movement,” she said.

McCarty uses ponies, rather than horses, when she likes to

have her clients eye to eye with her. But they do have shorter legs, she said, and are more choppy in movement.

Lennie Burchfield of Panora has been visiting Timber Creek for three years after a stroke caused him to become completely apraxic — a condition affecting his movement.

“He couldn’t say anything, he couldn’t read anything, he couldn’t write anything, and he’s doing so well,” McCarty says as Burchfield is led around the arena on horseback. “He’s got a lot of words, he can answer a lot of questions and he’s writing sentences. He never gives up.”

The horses are used in therapy for all ages. Clients from 44 counties benefit from their services.

“We had a lady from California who had MS, and one of her family members lived in the Des Moines area, so she came and stayed for six weeks,” McCarty said. “Most are within driving distance of an hour or two.”

There is not another medically based facility like Timber Creek in Iowa that operates on a year round basis as far as McCarty knows. When



Andrea Redfern, a physical therapist at Timber Creek Therapies, works with Pam Willenborg on her balance. Willenborg had a shunt placed in her head due to hydrocephalus, the buildup of too much cerebrospinal fluid in the brain, when she was nine months old. She began having problems after an infection in her shunt two years ago which has affected her balance, along with her short-term memory.

she started, there were similar programs in Waterloo and at a Dubuque hospital. Jester Park in Granger has offered therapeutic riding in the past, and a place in Winterset, she thought, but there aren’t any that use horses for medically based therapy.

“Part of it is because there is no funding,” McCarty said. “There’s no reimbursement for using the horses — we just have to absorb that.”

‘SOME DAYS’

Pam Willenborg works with physical therapist Andrea Redfern on her balance. She jokes with her therapist to get her through her session.

“Some days I don’t want to

come, but I come,” Willenborg said.

Alongtime teacher at Guthrie Center, Willenborg had a shunt placed in her head at the age of 2 because of hydrocephalus — an accumulation of fluid in the brain. Two years ago, the shunt had disintegrated, and fluid returned to her brain. Doctors replaced the shunt, but she got an infection, so they took it out. It has affected her short-term memory and balance.

“She was walking with a cane but now is pretty much on her own,” Redfern said. “Her balance is a little off, so we’re working on that.”

HORSES, PAGE 3B



Cindy McCarty said the horses at Timber Creek Therapies are like family. She greets them each in the stable, stopping several times to open the doors and give some love to each of them. The horses are used in Hippotherapy, a physical, occupational, and speech-language therapy treatment strategy that utilizes the movement of the horse as part of an integrated intervention program.



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‘There’s something kind of magical that happens’

Timber Creek Therapies uses horses to teach empathy, problem-solving

By **REBECCA MCKINSEY**
Lake Times staff

GUTHRIE CENTER

It is much more difficult to lead a horse through an angry obstacle course than a happy one.

That’s a lesson 10-year-old Sonnet Santella, who has Asperger syndrome and often avoids talking to people, learned during her second horse-assisted learning session at Timber Creek Therapies in Guthrie Center.

Using an arena, obstacle courses, metaphors and one large catalyst — horses — the Timber Creek therapists teach social skills and problem-solving through one of the center’s newest offerings.

‘METAPHORS FOR LIFE’

Despite the fact that they stand on four legs, horses’ gaits are similar to those of humans, making them an ideal therapy tool. For more than 10 years, Cindy McCarty, owner of Timber Creek Therapies, and her employees have offered physical, occupational, speech and language, aquatic, and cognitive therapy for children with mental and physical disabilities or social maladies, often with horses in the mix.

Most recently, the center has begun regularly offering sessions based on the EAG-ALA model — it stands for Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association — which refers to horse-assisted therapy and learning.

Lynnea Andersen, a licensed master social worker from Panora who works for Hospice of the Midwest, has been certified in the EAG-ALA model since 2007 and leads the sessions. She has known McCarty for years and thought Timber Creek was the perfect place to combine her social-work experience and her lifelong love of horses. Although she has offered equine-assisted therapy and learning here and there for some time, it was just this past summer she started seeing more clients for those sessions.

Although many of those who go to Timber Creek undergo speech, occupational or other types of therapy from atop a horse, those who work with Andersen work from the ground, alongside the horse, rather than riding it.

“This is a program in which you use groundwork with the horse and incorporate different activities that are metaphors for life,” Andersen said. “All of the activities

(involve) the horse.”

Clients interact closely with the horses — grooming and walking them, and often, building obstacle courses in the center’s arena and leading the horses through them.

Andersen works with both children and adults, and not everyone who benefits from equine-assisted learning has a mental-health diagnosis, she said. Some have autism or Asperger syndrome, while others have problems with aggressive behavior or depression. However, equine-assisted learning has also been found effective when working with veterans and groups of people participating in leadership or teamwork activities.

“There’s really nothing that could come to us that someone is dealing with that wouldn’t benefit from it,” Andersen said. “The activities are really looking at what’s going on, relative to what is going on with their life. If they can overcome this, there’s other things they can overcome.”

For clients with a history of abuse, working with the horse can create an important bond.

“A lot of adult clients will say, ‘Just being around the horse just makes me feel this unconditional love,’” she said. “If someone’s been sexually abused, physically abused, verbally abused, the horse doesn’t try to fix them and say, ‘You’ll be OK.’ They’re just there, just this unconditional love a horse can give that we can’t give.”

Sessions vary widely and are closely tailored to what a particular client needs, Andersen said. Some clients will spend an entire 45-minute session doing nothing but grooming a horse.

Although clients don’t always work with the same horse from session to session, they do develop relationships with the animals they see. Andersen tries to consider a client’s needs when choosing a horse — for instance, one of the horses at the center that was abused earlier in its life is often paired with adults who have been abused.

“There’s something kind of magical that happens with that,” she said.

‘SHE JUST TOOK TO IT’

Sonnet Juliet Brienne Santella — so named because of her mother’s love of Shakespeare — is one of Andersen’s newest clients.

MAGICAL, PAGE 4B

HORSES

FROM PAGE 2B

Physical therapists at Timber Creek work with patients of all ages to help them improve their motor skills, boost their independence and ability to care for themselves.

The facility uses various physical therapy treatment techniques, including aquatic therapy in warm, moving water, therapy on horseback, functional electrical stimulation with patients suffering from paralysis from spinal cord injuries, head trauma and strokes, and personalized treatment.

The warm-water pool can move 5,500 gallons of water with an electrical current system, up to 6.5 miles per hour. The pool, whose water depth ranges from 2 to 5 feet, features a motorized chairlift and treats patients with mobility and gait problems, trunk control, extremity strength problems and pain, according to Timber Creek’s website.

‘IT’S LIKE A FAMILY’

Occupational therapist Allison Stanley said she enjoys helping individuals become as independent as possible in all areas of their lives. She’s been with Timber Creek for five years and also spends a few days a week at Blank Children’s Hospital in Des Moines.

“I like all the alternatives there are for therapy,” Stanley said of Timber Creek. “It’s a small-town atmosphere — it’s like a family.”

Stanley, a 1999 Panorama High School graduate, works mostly with kids and says it’s easy to work with the staff at Timber Creek.

“It’s easy to see who would help,” she said. “Everyone works together.”

Redfern, who is a 2007 graduate of Guthrie Center High School, enjoys the variety she sees at Timber Creek.

“I’ve worked with an 88-year-old all the way down to a 2- and 3-year-old,” she

said. “The horses are a great tool.”

McCarty said she is proud of her staff.

“They care so much,” she said.

Diane Owen began working at Timber Creek Therapies when the front door to the clinic opened in 2002. She has made the one-hour drive from her home in Carroll ever since. She runs the office, is in charge of billing and reimbursement practices, helps with the policies and procedures and keeps track of staff data.

“It’s an amazing group of people I work with, and it’s wonderful to see so many results, so I’m still here,” Owen said during a tour of the facility last week.

Lori Hofmeyer, a speech/language pathologist from Des Moines, has helped McCarty one day a week since 2009. Meg Schmidt, Merv Krakau, Lynnea Andersen, Beth Johnston, Jeanne Wallace and Anna Wilson also help with staff duties on a part-time basis.

VOLUNTEERS

Timber Creek has been successful because of its large volunteer base.

In addition to the therapist present at hippotherapy sessions, many volunteers are needed for the riding sessions. In addition to having someone lead the horse from the front, riders need side walkers and others in close proximity for safety.

“I can’t stress how important volunteers are,” McCarty said. “We have a lot of volunteers who come. They are crucial.”

Most of the volunteers are people who like horses and enjoy being around them, but McCarty said there are several volunteers who have learned to be around the animals and have done very well.

TIMBER CREEK CHARITIES

When Timber Creek Therapies was started, Timber Creek Charities also was developed and is governed by a talented



ASHLEY SCHABLE | LAKE TIMES

Julie Mortensen works with therapist Sue Behrens on standing during an Aquatic Therapy session at Timber Creek Therapies in Guthrie Center. Behrens set up the physical therapy department at Timber Creek and has provided much of the equipment and a tremendous amount of knowledge to the program and its patients.

Board of Directors. Timber Creek Charities is a 501(c)(3) publicly supported nonprofit entity that seeks to make therapy available to anyone, even when funding is scarce.

“I was in private practice before, and I knew what happened,” McCarty said. “You’d run out of insurance, and that’s it. Every year, the funding is less and less, and we really couldn’t stay open right now if it wasn’t for the help of the charity.”

McCarty doesn’t take a salary. She never has.

“I donate my time, and I take the most patients, so the income that is generated from those patients helps pay the overhead and the staff,” she said. “And that’s fine with me; that’s just my goal — I hope to

cover expenses, and if we can do that, I feel like it’s a good month. We don’t always do that. The best reward of all is the wonderful progress that we see from our patients.”

Timber Creek Charities receives funding from foundation and private donations and proceeds from an annual golf tournament and auction.

In 2015, with the help of Timber Creek Charities, the facility was able to provide services to an additional 110 children and adults who would not have had the insurance coverage or resources to acquire these services on their own.

This year’s golf tournament and concert will help Timber Creek reach for a similar goal in 2016.

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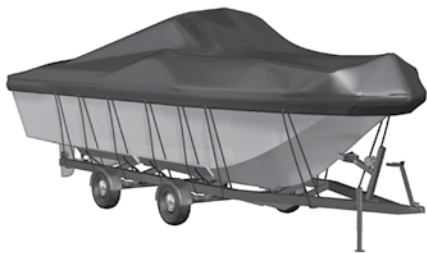
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MAGICAL
FROM PAGE 3B

The Bagley third-grader, who was recently diagnosed with Asperger syndrome, has undergone speech therapy at Timber Creek for some time, but she has only had several sessions with Andersen.

Her first was focused on grooming and becoming familiar with the Haflinger horse, Belle, with whom she is working. She was immediately comfortable with leading the horse around the arena, said Beth Johnston, a therapy aide who has worked at Timber Creek for three-and-a-half years after volunteering there while in high school.

Establishing comfort with the horse, who stands at least as tall as the 8-year-old, was important, said Sonnet's mother, Megan Widen, of Bagley.

"Before we came here, Sonnet was scared of animals, especially big ones," Widen said. "I didn't think this would work at all, but she just took to it."

For her second session, Sonnet was first directed to make a "sad or angry" obstacle course. Using bright orange cones and colored balls, blocks, rings and rods, the girl crafted a short, straight, tightly-spaced-together line that was carefully color coordinated.

The tricky part: she had to lead Belle through the course. Girl and horse, both small, were barely able to squeeze through two cones at the course's end.

Make a happy course, Andersen suggested next — as big as you want.

Sonnet's second creation was curved and spaced farther apart, although equally as intricate as the first. After one run-through with Belle, she spaced it out even more, making the trek with the horse much easier.

The third-grader is already exhibiting changes that her mother and grandmother, Pat Santella, trace back to Timber Creek.

"People at church say, 'What happened?'" Widen said. "'She's talking all of a sudden.'"

'IT'S CUTTING-EDGE THERAPY'

Timber Creek is a family affair for 11-year-old Mei — nicknamed Mei Mei.

She and her brother, Tai, both



Sonnet Santella, 10, leads Belle, a Haflinger horse, through an obstacle course she created during a session at Timber Creek Therapies. She was directed to make the obstacle course "happy," as opposed to the close-together "angry" obstacle course she created before. (Rebecca McKinsey | Daily Times Herald)

adopted from China, both attend sessions at Timber Creek. Tai rides a horse during speech therapy — his favorite is Buffy, Belle's half-sister — and Mei Mei has been working with Andersen for several months.

Therapy techniques geared toward grief and loss are also able to address some of the adoption-related challenges children face, said Anne Riordan, the children's mother, an educator at Springbrook Conservation Education Center.

Working with the horse helps Mei Mei, who started working with Andersen several months ago, better understand visual and spoken cues. The skills she learns from interacting with the horse come into play with family and friends, her mother said.

"They're teaching her respect and responsibility," Riordan said. "They're teaching her to have empathy."

As she has worked more with Andersen, the obstacle courses Mei Mei builds have become more open and spread out. Instead of asking for help or company, she builds them by herself.

"I see patience I wouldn't normally see," Riordan said. "I see her try things she'd never have tried before. ... I think there's something

magical about this place."

As Mei Mei tried to place a halter on Belle during a session earlier in December, Andersen called out several of her actions — reminding her not to ignore the horse and to be careful not to get too close. She reiterated that those lessons apply to people, too.

"She probably doesn't like me now," Mei Mei said after the horse shied away from a swift movement.

"Do you think she holds grudges?" Andersen asked. "Just because you were in her face, she doesn't like you?"

After several tries, Mei Mei successfully placed a halter on the horse and led her through the obstacle course she had created with colored balls and rings — a path crafted around the entire arena. Along the way, Andersen and Johnston stood in her way, forcing her to come up with solutions on the spot — saying "excuse me" or turning and going in the opposite direction. It's all about problem-solving, Andersen said.

The center is a quick drive from Menlo for Riordan and her kids.

"That's the real beauty of it," she said. "It's cutting-edge therapy. People would drive forever for this, and it's right down the road for us."

Beyond the normal therapy sessions, Timber Creek employees find small ways to teach and work with clients. They offer to let Mei Mei take a horse for a quick loop around the arena after her brother's weekly sessions are finished. Riordan said she hopes her children will grow up to become volunteers at Timber Creek, so that they can assist with other children's therapy.

'SUCH BEAUTIFUL THINGS'

Timber Creek Therapies seeks to address a wide variety of needs. In addition to Andersen's sessions and the various therapies, the center offers a camp called Hearts and Hooves for children who have lost someone close to them. It also works with New Hope Village to offer a therapeutic riding program.

The center has more than a dozen horses of various types, and visitors can also find an alpaca, and a pile of cats, spread throughout the center's acres.

Financial assistance is available to those who need it through Timber Creek Charities. Those interested in learning more about the center's services can visit timbercreektherapies.tripod.com or call (641) 747-3225.

"I've just seen such beautiful things happen out there," Andersen said.



Sonnet Santella, 10, who was recently diagnosed with Asperger syndrome, hugs Belle, a Haflinger horse, during a session at Timber Creek Therapies.

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The annual LPN Mother's Day brunch will be Sunday, May 8. The brunch will be served 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., with seatings scheduled every half hour. The cost is \$19.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children 5-12 and free for children 4 and under. Since the kitchen staff will be busy preparing for the brunch, the regular breakfast menu won't be available that morning. This is a popular event, so get your reservations made soon by calling 641-755-2080 or 800-879-1917.

Buy Your Pool Membership

The pool is scheduled to open May 15, and be open until the end of September. Anyone using the pool must check-in at the window in the southeast corner of the pro shop.

Those purchasing an annual membership will receive permanent wristbands. Those paying the daily fee will receive a paper wristband for that day.

Guests of Clover Ridge and Lake Panorama Inn and Suites have access to the pool at no charge. All others must have an annual membership or pay the daily fee.

Annual memberships for LPA members are \$75 for a single and \$130 for a family. Non-LPA members can get an annual membership for \$85 for a single and \$145 for a family. The daily fee is \$3.

A membership form was included with the LPA quarterly water bill. It can be completed and either mailed or dropped off, with payment, at the LPN front desk.

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Brokers International Iowa Open August 18-21

By **SUSAN THOMPSON**
Lake Times staff

Planning is underway for the 2016 Brokers International Iowa Open to be held at Lake Panorama National Golf Resort Aug. 18-21.

This is the seventh year Brokers International has been the lead sponsor for this tournament at the LPN. During this time, the tournament has hosted the top professionals and amateurs from Iowa, plus expanded to include top golfers from outside of Iowa. Again this year, there will be a \$25,000 purse for the top professional. The tournament is adminis-

tered by the Iowa PGA Section, and entries are being accepted on the organization's website at www.iowapga.com.

The tournament is open to a limited number of out-of-state players. The first 104 slots are reserved for Iowa professionals and amateurs or those with Iowa ties. Another 40 slots are available to out-of-state professionals. Once those 40 slots are taken, a waiting list will be created. If the slots reserved for Iowans aren't filled by Aug. 9, players on the wait list will be allowed to register.

Troy Christensen, Iowa PGA Section executive director, says the Brokers International Iowa

Open has become Iowa's premier golf event for both professional and amateur golfers. "Due to the dedication and support of Brokers International, tournament organizers and volunteers from the Panora community, this event has received praise from across the entire country," he says. "We hear it over and over again from our out-of-state professionals who compete each August — 'This is the best state Open we have ever played in, and we can't believe how well the community and sponsors support it.'"

John Dinnebier, LPN director of operations, says he and the

rest of the LPN staff are looking forward to another great tournament. "We're pleased to have another opportunity to host the Iowa Open. We appreciate the ongoing support from Brokers International and the many other sponsors who continue to help make this annual event possible," he says.

A Pro-Am will be Thursday, Aug. 18, with the three-day Iowa Open beginning on Friday, Aug. 19. The Pro-Am will be open to the first 36 four-person teams. Each team will be paired with a PGA professional at a draw party Aug. 17. The entry fee of \$800 per team includes four pro-am gift packs,

eight tickets to the draw party, and a chance to win the top prize of \$1,000.

Gary Soreide is returning in 2016 for a second year as tournament director. As in previous years, organizers are asking for volunteers to help in a variety of ways both in advance and during the tournament. Sponsorships also are being sought. Tee box sponsorships are \$200. Sponsorships of the driving range and putting green are available at \$500 each. For more information on volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, contact Soreide at gsoreide@netins.net or cell (515) 240-4272.

Golf League Options Plentiful at Lake Panorama

By **SUSAN THOMPSON**
Lake Times staff

Both golf courses owned by the Lake Panorama Association opened for the season in early March. For 2016, there are eight league options available at the two courses.

At the 18-hole Lake Panorama National, men's leagues are on Wednesdays. An 18-hole noon league offers participants the opportunity to play from either the white or red tees. At 3 p.m., there is a nine-hole league available from both the red and white tees.

A 6 p.m. nine-hole league has everyone playing from the white tees. Cost of all men's leagues is \$55, and players can compete in both the 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. league for \$110. League players must have purchased an LPN annual membership. Entry forms and full payment must be submitted by April 24.

The Men's Stag on May 4 will kickoff the men's 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 11.

The LPN women's league plays on Thursdays. Players compete in two-person teams beginning

at 5:30 p.m. A kickoff dinner will be May 5, beginning at 5:30 p.m. League competition gets underway the following Thursday. Entry forms and full payment must be submitted by April 24. Women interested in league play who do not yet have a partner will be matched with another player, or can play as a sub.

The LPN women's league fee is \$55, which covers league dues, the kickoff dinner and a post-season party. Players must have purchased an LPN annual membership. Entry forms and full payment must be submitted by April 24.

There is a junior golf league for LPN members at 5 p.m. every Monday beginning June 6 through Aug. 15. There is no cost for this league, and all skill levels are welcome. For more information about the junior golf program, contact Gary Babcock, LPN head pro, at 641-755-2024 or gbabcock@lakepanorama.org.

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 \$25. There will be a kickoff luncheon Tuesday, April 26 at the LPN conference center. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. with lunch at 12:30. The cost is \$15. Make reservations by April 22 with Judy Schnack at 641-755-2531 or clsdvmm@netins.net.

League play begins May 3 with a two-gal best shot at 9:30 a.m., preceded by a 9 a.m. golf clinic presented by John Dinnebier, LPN director of operations. The first day of regular play will be May 10, with August 30 the last day of regular play. A four-gal best-shot and awards luncheon will be September 6. For more information, contact Mary Kay O'Grady, 641-755-4168 or mkograde@netins.net.

The Tuesday evening men's league will begin April 26 and run through August 23. Dues are \$20 to cover weekly prizes, plus individual scores are turned in for prizes at the end of the year. An optional scramble follows the first round each week. For more information, contact Jeff Houston at 515-240-8409 or howie.1983@hotmail.com; or Kurt Johnson at 515-979-0180 or kjohnson@augusthome.com.

The Thursday morning men's league will begin April 28 and wrap up September 8. Members tee off between 7 and 8:30 a.m. Dues of

\$20 covers regular play with weekly cash prizes and individual awards at the end of the season. An optional scramble begins at 9:45 a.m. each week for an additional \$1. For more information, contact Virgil Hoehne at 641-757-0962 or 2grandkids@live.com, or Dick

Ellis at 641-757-2130.

Annual membership forms for both LPN and Panorama West, plus LPN golf league forms, are available at lakepanoramanational.com. Questions? Call the LPN pro shop at 641-755-2024 or the Panorama West pro shop at 641-755-2250.


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FUNDRAISER

Panora Chamber plans 1st Annual Golf Tournament



SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES

Panora Chamber members Kristen Crouthamel, GCSB Investments, and Dave Grove, Edward Jones, help promote the 1st Annual Panora Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament Sunday, May 15 at Lake Panorama National Golf Course. The four-person best shot with shotgun start at 12:30 p.m., costs \$60 or \$240 per team and includes 18 holes of golf, cart, range balls, dinner and prizes. Mulligans and hole sponsorships available to purchase. The proceeds from the event will help the Chamber achieve funding goals for the 2016 Panorama Days event held in August.

Lake Times staff

The Panora Chamber of Commerce will hold it's first annual golf tournament on Sunday, May 15 at Lake Panorama National Golf Course. Proceeds from the event will help the Chamber achieve their funding goals for the 2016 Panorama days celebration held each August.

"Panorama Days is such a fun event and is so positively received by the community," said chamber member Kristen Crouthamel, a Financial Advisor at GCSB Investment Center and a tournament organizer. "The Panora Chamber plays the very important role in funding and putting together the event, but we can't do it without the support of our community, it's leaders and Chamber members."

Crouthamel said the chamber is hopeful the participation in and local business sponsorship of the golf tournament will be a success, and that the tournament can be held year after year to continue to help support a successful Panorama Days cel-

ebration.

The cost for a team is \$60 per player, or \$240 per team. This includes green fees, cart, range balls, dinner and prizes. The tournament will be a four-person best shot with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Dinner and prizes will follow. Mulligans will also be available for purchase the day of the event.

The cost to sponsor a hole is \$75. Hole sponsorship offers a way to advertise a business or service as the participants pass by each tee box. Businesses will have sole ownership of that tee box to post signage and hand out promotional material if they like. Business and/or names will be listed as a sponsor for the event as it is promoted, recognizing you for your support. The chamber is happy to help assist in creating signage for the tee boxes. Hole sponsorships are being taken on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Contact chamber organizers Dave Grove at 641-757-9956, Kristen Crouthamel at 641-757-2737 or Nichole Snyder at 641-755-2000 with any questions, to sign up a team or hole sponsorship.

BUSINESS

RECOVERING FROM DISASTER
Rose Acre Farms invests in future



SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES

U.S. Rep. David Young, R-Van Meter, (right) speaks with Andrew Kaldenberg, complex manager for Rose Acre's Stuart egg farm, and Donna Barry, regional director for U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley, at the Western Iowa Advantage dinner in Stuart on April 4.

By TAMMY PEARSON | Lake Times staff

When Avian Influenza decimated egg production at the Rose Acre Farms Winterset and Stuart locations, officials decided to take all their "broken eggs and make one great big omelet," said Andrew Kaldenberg, manager at Rose Acre Farms in Stuart.

Kaldenberg was the keynote speaker April 5 at the Western Iowa Advantage annual dinner held at the Saints Center for Culture and the Arts in Stuart.

The family-owned Rose Acre Farms, based in Indiana, is the second-largest egg producer in the United States and has facilities in Adair, Guthrie and Madison counties in Iowa.

Kaldenberg, who grew up raising chickens and who has worked for Rose Acres for, as he says, "62 percent" of his life, said, "I thought I had seen it all in the industry, until last year."

Admittedly, he said he gets emotional when he talks about Avian Influenza and its impact. It is believed that wild birds brought the highly pathogenic H5N1 avian flu strain to Iowa.

May 4 "was a dark day for Rose Acres in Winterset," said Kaldenberg. It was the day that Avian Influenza was discovered among the farm's birds. De-population began immediately.

The Stuart facility, where Kaldenberg is manager, "tightened down the doors," increasing biosecurity measures and "sanitizing anything and everything," he said.

"May 24, 8:35 I got a call at home. As soon as I saw that phone number, I knew right away," said Kaldenberg. Dead birds had been discovered. The avian flu had reached the Stuart farm, possibly carried by air currents from the Winterset farm or by wild birds in the area, Kaldenberg speculates.

Crews spent 12- to 14-hour days destroying the million birds on the farm and burying them on-site.

Kaldenberg still wonders if all million birds needed to be destroyed or if the disease could have been contained to one building. With the building next door to the infected one empty at the time, he wonders if the outbreak could have been contained to part of the farm. But the government was clear: All the birds had to go. From June 11 to Dec. 15, the

Stuart facility had no birds.

"So we did the things we could never have done with birds there," said Kaldenberg.

First, the buildings had to be cleaned, disinfected and treated with heat to kill the virus. Kaldenberg said 115 diesel engines were brought in to run heaters that "nuked the whole place," bringing the temperature in the buildings to over the 115 degree requirement.

But the company did more than just prepare to resume business as usual. It planned for increased production.

A new \$3 million grader facility was added, dramatically increasing the number of eggs that can be put into cases each hour. Consequently, when the Stuart facility was re-populated, 1.3 million birds were brought in, an increase of 300,000.

Now, 3,100 cases of eggs are produced each day.

Today, biosecurity measures are more stringent than ever at the egg production facilities. Movement of people and equipment is more restricted between farms. Employees can no longer drive to the buildings. They are bussed from parking areas. Greater care is taken to disinfect equipment, and employees wear protective clothing.

"No matter where I go, have disinfectant and booties in my car," said Kaldenberg.

In the end, lost revenue for Rose Acre Farms was \$29.9 million at the Stuart facility alone. The lost net income was over \$10 million, said Kaldenberg.

Notably, Rose Acre "absorbed that cost and kept all the employees" — even through the months when the farms had no birds, he said.

WIAD ANNUAL REPORT

An improved marketing strategy was among the 2015-16 accomplishments noted by Evan Blakely, president of Western Iowa Advantage, at the group's annual dinner April 5 at Saints Center for Culture and the Arts in Stuart.

Western Iowa Advantage is an economic development group covering Adair, Audubon, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Guthrie, Ida and Sac counties.

New marketing materials have been created to target specific industries, and a new website will soon be launched to promote western Iowa for economic development efforts.

Blakely said Western Iowa Advantage is targeting specific industries: advanced manufacturing, ag-tech advanced manufacturing, agriculture and bio services, data information technology and value added food processing.

The WIAD annual report noted projects related to new business in the region: Ida County Wind Project, \$490 million, 10 full time jobs and 200 temporary; Nutriom in Panora, 15 jobs; Wild Rose Casino in Jefferson, 275 jobs; Cobblestone Casino Hotel in Jefferson, 80 jobs; Greene County Medical Center in Jefferson, \$23 million, 40 jobs; North Ida Builders hotel project in Holstein, \$3 million, 12 jobs; North Ida Investment travel center in Holstein, \$5 million, 50 jobs; and truck stop and motel in Audubon.

Expansion projects included Quality Food Processors in Denison, \$21 million, 195 jobs; Scranton Manufacturing in Scranton, \$3 million, 75 jobs; Vaughn Bauer Manufacturing in Paton, 40 jobs; Cargill in Grand Junction, 30 jobs; Essentia in Lytton, \$6 million; West Central/Landus Cooperative in Ralston, \$14 million, 25 jobs; West Central/Landus Cooperative in Jefferson, 25 jobs; Highway 20/59 Business Park in Holstein, \$2 million infrastructure investment; VT Industries, 22,500 square foot expansion; AMVC in Audubon; John Deere Co. in Payton.

Local utilities also felt the impact of the lack of egg production. The city lost \$82,000 in revenue as the farm's water usage plunged, and the electric utility lost \$250,000.

Kaldenberg said Rose Acre Farms has yet to see any funds from the government.

Disaster can strike any industry, said Kaldenberg. "When you think you're ready, you're not."

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— Gov. Terry Branstad in Guthrie Center

Lake Panorama TIMES

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GOLF PREVIEW

Panorama girls have good numbers

Lake Times staff

The 2016 Panorama girls golf team has almost doubled in size from a year ago with a 15-player roster this spring. The Panthers posted a 35-11 record in 2015, including a second place finish in the confer-

ence. They finished fourth at the regional tournament. The Panthers will have to replace Anna Koch and Shayna Elliott, two of the Panther's top golfers last spring, however senior Emily Houston, juniors Adrienne Powell, Cassie Labath, Christin Koch and Savana Mob-

ley, along with sophomore Madi Fear all return with experience. "They will need to work daily on drills and rounds played so that we can be competitive in our conference meets," said head coach Debbie Rockwell, who carries a 74-46 record into her fourth season with the Panthers. Promising newcomers vying for a spot in the line-up are juniors Nadia Shargiri and Maggie Smith, sophomores Lauren McClatchey and Anna Davis and freshmen Kennedy Kuta, Taylor Raibikis, Bryn Steffen, and Jaelyn Waddle. Rockwell said her team of golfers continue to improve with each practice as some of them have never played or even owned golf clubs until a few weeks ago.

"I'm anxious to watch them improve as the season progresses and challenge the top six for spots to compete," the coach said. "We're excited to be playing in several tournaments throughout our schedule which should help prepare us for lower scores at regional play." The Panthers will also work toward another first place finish at the Panorama Invitational, contested at Lake Panorama National, on Monday, April 25. "If we can consistently come into the clubhouse with scores in the low 50's, we will be a contender at most meets this season," Rockwell said. "I'm looking forward to working with these ladies and I know that they will do their best to represent Panorama high school well both on and off the course."

GOLF PREVIEW

Panthers ready to defend title

Five of the six members from the 2015 Class 2A state championship team return for Panorama this spring.

By ASHLEY SCHABLE
Lake Times staff

PANORA To say things look good for the Panorama boys golf team entering the 2016 season would be a huge understatement.

Five of the six members from a team that won the Class 2A boys state golf tournament at Ames Golf & Country Club in 2015 are back, along with a group of junior varsity players ready to crack the varsity line-up. Head coach Hal Rossow, who enters his 37th season, said obviously, experience is a strength for his club. "Concern is keeping focus as everyone will be shooting for them," he said. Last year's state title was the first for Rossow, who coached the Panoramalinden boys golf team to a second place finish in 1983. The state title is only the second for the Panorama school. The first was a boys track championship in 1997. The Panorama golf team finished the 2015 season with a school record 80-1 mark - their only loss to Webster City at the Kuemper Invitational. Webster City won the Class 3A state title last spring. Leading the way for the Panthers this season will be junior Will Babcock. Babcock shot a weekend 142, the best score in Ames by eight strokes, and became the first-ever Panorama golfer to win an individual state championship last season. Babcock's 142 over 18 holes at the state tournament was a new school record. He also set new school standards for a Par 35 and Par 70.

The Panthers will have to replace departed Jordan Eng, who earned first team all-state as runner-up medalist for the Panthers last year. Returning from the state championship team are seniors Reid Cobb, Adam Hackfort and Max Monthei, along with junior George Appleseth. Three-year letterman Aaron Klinge, a senior, is expected to fill one void this season. Trey Cobb is noted by Rossow as a promising freshman. Rossow, who will be assisted by David Van Ahn, said he expects Des Moines Christian to contend with his team in the conference race this spring. The Lions, Kuemper Catholic and Panorama - all returning from the state tournament - will compete in the same district this spring. The Panthers opened the season on Monday, April 4 at Lake Panorama National with wins over Madrid and Ogden. The Panorama Invitational will be contested there on Saturday, April 23.

2016 Panther Roster
SENIORS
Trevor Babcock
Reid Cobb
Adam Hackfort
Aaron Klinge
Max Monthei
Tanner Wasson

JUNIORS
George Appleseth
Will Babcock
Austin Behrends
Jeramy Randol
Mitch Wagler
Grant Zajicek

SOPHOMORES
Chris Allison
Preston Breyfogle
Trevor Carey
Aaron Irving
Elijah Keith

FRESHMEN
Trey Cobb
Dylan Douglass
Jacob Iseminger
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Volunteer in the outdoors

Iowa DNR

With the changing of the seasons come different opportunities for volunteers to become involved with our natural resources. Let your interests guide

you to the different ways you can help. What is your favorite season? How can you turn your abilities or interests into a volunteer opportunity?

In the spring, volunteers for the toad and frog survey are needed across the state to provide consistent data on toads and frogs breeding habits on an annual basis. Since 1991 volunteers return year after year to survey these animal populations. Special events are planned by Iowa DNR and our partners calling on volunteers to come together for a purpose. A popular example of a special event is our Watershed Awareness River Expedition (AWARE) Project. Each year a river or watershed is designated for clean up. It's a hands on volunteer experience where you can volunteer for as little as a few hours or for the whole week. Iowa's volunteer water quality monitoring program (IOWATER), empowers citizens to take a proactive approach to water quality. By monitoring the water resources in our backyards, we

OUTDOORS, PAGE 4C

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JEFFERSON CASINO NON-PROFIT AWARDS \$18,200 TO GUTHRIE COUNTY



JEFF STORJOHANN | LAKE TIMES

Guthrie County plans to use the \$18,200 donation from the non-profit associated with Wild Rose Jefferson to benefit *Tori's Angels*, an organization that covers expenses such as travel, lodging, transportation and co-pays for children with life threatening illnesses; and for the *Prairie Woodland Conservation Foundation*, which works to develop environmental education and conservation projects in Guthrie County. Specifically, money is expected to go to three paved crossings on the Raccoon River Valley Trail north of Panora. Foundations in the six counties surrounding Greene County, home to Wild Rose's \$40 million casino, were awarded \$18,200 Monday night during the first charitable distribution connected to the new casino. Funds will be higher next year as the casino was only open for about half of 2015. Guthrie County Community Foundation president Laura Imerman and secretary Julie Kipp were at the casino Monday night to accept the check. A total of \$900,000 went out to non-profits in a wide region around Jefferson.



Timmons: State of Wild Rose Jefferson 'very good'

By DOUGLAS BURNS
Guthrie County Vedette staff

Tom Timmons, a familiar face in Jefferson and the veteran gaming industry professional who shepherded Wild Rose's casino here from a long-shot prairie daydream to functioning, slot-ringing reality, is helping the property during a general-manager transition. Wild Rose is searching for a new local chief of operations following the resignation last week of Mike Couch. No other employees at Wild Rose Jefferson left in connection with GM Couch's departure.

Timmons, the president and chief operating officer of West Des Moines-based Wild Rose, repeatedly stressed one theme: the state of Wild Rose Jefferson is "very good."

The most recent numbers from the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission show the casino posted admissions of 37,892 in February and gross gaming revenue of \$2.28 million that month.

Those filings track with Wild Rose's Emmetsburg facility, which had lower admissions than Jefferson with 33,176, but slightly higher revenue with \$2.3 million in February.

When a full year is on the books, Timmons expects Wild Rose's new Jefferson facility (having opened July 13) to be knocking on the door of profits at the mature Emmetsburg facility.

"Gary's very happy with Jefferson," Timmons said of CEO Gary Kirke. "Can we do things better? Yes."

That starts in food and beverage, said Timmons, acknowledging that the casino can up its game in that department.

"When you look at first-year businesses, a lot of times it takes a year to find out what works and what didn't," Timmons said.

Timmons said he called for the opening of the Jefferson casino before restaurant and bar employees could have the "dry run" training time they did at Wild Rose's other two properties in Clinton and Emmetsburg.

"Blame me, don't blame my people," Timmons said.

(Timmons said he'd make the same call again because gaming revenues in the early weeks were so solid.)

Finding employees and predicting customer surges at the Coaches Corner, a sports bar and grill, has been a challenge and a source of complaints, Timmons said.

About a month ago, on a Saturday, with a busy casino and events, hungry customers poured into Coaches Corner.

CASINO, PAGE 4C



Tom Timmons

April showers bring May flowers in the latest State Forest nursery packet

Iowa DNR

DES MOINES

The Iowa DNR State Forest Nursery's latest seedling packet, aptly called April Showers Bring May Flowers, is a mix of three water-loving tree species and two flowering species.

"This packet consists of three important tree species known for their ability to slow flooding and filter contaminants from the water," says State Forester Paul Tauke. "And the other two species have some of the showiest early spring flowers."

New this month, the State Forest Nursery will select four of the species in the April Showers packet and allow the purchaser to choose the fifth species from three flowering species. Cost for the 250 bare-root seedlings is \$110 plus tax, shipping and handling, the same price as a regular 200-seedling packet.

The April Showers packet in-

cludes 50 each of the following:

Sycamore This tree grows incredibly fast, straight and tall, and has attractive white bark in upper branches. The sycamore is native to much of southern Iowa and extends into northern Iowa along some river valleys. One sycamore will intercept 381,010 gallons of rainwater over its lifespan.

River birch Although most common in eastern Iowa, river birch will grow almost anywhere soils are moist, and often grows in clumps. This tree grows fast and has interesting bark that peels as it ages, exposing reddish brown inner bark. One river birch can intercept 248,000 gallons of water in the course of its lifetime.

Silver maple The silver maple is one of Iowa's most widespread and abundant trees, it grows well on all floodplains and can produce valuable lumber. By holding rain on leaves, branches and bark, one silver maple will intercept

440,376 gallons of rainwater over its lifespan. It is also one of the most underrated trees for wildlife, providing seeds for evening grosbeaks, finches, wild turkeys, wood ducks and other game birds along with small mammals such as squirrels and chipmunks.

Arrowwood Viburnum This shrub is sought after for its spring flowers, beautiful fall color, and berries which are valued by songbirds. It is also a nectar source and larval host for butterflies and other pollinators.

Purchasers may choose from one of the following for the fifth species in the packet:

Redbud This small tree produces showy lavender-pink spring flowers.

Serviceberry White flowers in the early spring and edible red and purple June berries.

Common Lilac Known for its fragrant purple May flowers.

The April Showers packet order form can be found online

at www.iowadnr.gov/nursery or orders can be placed by calling the State Forest Nursery at 1-800-865-2477 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and mention the "April Showers packet." Using the order form is the fastest and easiest method for ordering the packet, as phone lines can get very busy.

Each month, the State Forest Nursery creates a different specialty packet to offer a unique mix of tree and shrub species for that month only. This month's specialty packet is only available through April 30, 2016.

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2016 Dale Valley Winery Event List - Clip-n-Save!

We are open on weekends only from April 2 - May 1.
Starting May 4, We will be back to normal hours
Wednesday thru Saturday, 10:00am-6:00pm ; Sunday, 12:00pm-6:00pm

May 14, Saturday: Larry Berenguel (live music), 2:30-5:30pm.
Winery is open to public 10:00am-6:00pm

May 21, Saturday: Kruger/Sitzman Wedding, 4:00pm-10:00pm.
Winery is open to public 10:00am-3:00pm

May 28, Saturday: Larry Myer (live music), 2:30pm-5:30pm.
Winery is open to public 10:00am-6:00pm

June 4, Saturday: TBA, 2:30pm-5:30pm.
Winery is open to public 10:00am-6:00pm

June 11, Saturday: Larry Berenguel (live music), 2:30pm-5:30pm.
GC Class of 1976 reunion (pavilion)
Winery is open to public 10:00am-6:00pm

June 17, Friday: SM Class of 1976 reunion (pavilion), 6:00pm-9:00pm.
Winery is open to public 10:00am-6:00pm, closed 6:00pm-9:00pm

June 18, Saturday: Mason Jar (live music), 2:30pm-5:30pm.
SM Class of 1981 reunion (pavilion) 5:00pm-9:00pm
Winery is open to public 10:00am-6:00pm, closed 6:00pm-9:00pm

June 25, Saturday: Hanssen/Berumez wedding, 2:00pm-10:00pm.
Winery is open to public 10:00am-1:00pm, closed 1:00pm-10:00pm

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April is Financial Literacy Month

DES MOINES
This April, celebrate Financial Literacy Month by learning how a 529 plan can help families save for the higher education of a loved one. Between now and May 31, my office is sponsoring a financial education tool that explores the benefits of using a 529 plan to save for future college expenses. Anyone who completes this 10-minute online tutorial is automatically registered for a chance to win a \$1,000 College Savings Iowa account.
In 1998, my office worked to pass legislation establishing College Savings Iowa, Iowa's direct-sold 529 college savings plan. Named after section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, 529 plans offer a tax-advan-

tagged way to save for higher education. Participants can save for anyone – children, grandchildren, friends or even themselves – and contributions grow tax-deferred. Iowa taxpayers who invest in College Savings Iowa can deduct up to \$3,188 in contributions per beneficiary account from their 2016 adjusted gross income.* Withdrawals are exempt from federal income tax when used for qualified higher-education expenses, including tuition, room and board, books and computers.** The plan also offers flexibility, allowing funds to be used at any accredited college, university, community college or technical training school in the United States or abroad.

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CASINO
FROM PAGE 3C

The eatery simply wasn't ready, Timmons said.
"We were done from the start," Timmons said. "I'm just being honest. We didn't know that was going to happen."
After that, Timmons and food and beverage manager Kay Adams, a recent transplant from Des Moines to Jefferson, limited the seating area in Coaches Corner so the wait staff could pay appropriate attention to tables.
"The last three weekends have been good," Timmons said. "I've actually gotten some compliments."
Soon, with the protocol improved, the full eating area will be open for service.
Another change is coming Monday in Coaches Corner. The restaurant will not be open for lunch Monday to Thursday. Instead, the casino will provide a sandwich stand during that time, which has been low traffic for the full-service menu. Dinner and weekend service will

continue uninterrupted.
Adams said the food and beverage employees ranks are strong at about 60 people full- and part-time.
Casino-wide, Wild Rose Jefferson employs 244 people full- and part-time with an expected annual payroll between \$6 million and \$7 million.
Only about 5 percent of the complex's revenues come from food and beverage. The vast majority is collected from slot machines, the same as with the other 18 state-regulated casinos in Iowa.
Looking forward, the casino is planning a one-year anniversary celebration in early August.
In coming years, Timmons said, he expects off-track betting on dog- and horse-racing to be available at Wild Rose Jefferson. No actual tracks would be in Jefferson, but patrons could wager on races from around the world at Wild Rose, placing bets inside the gaming complex and watching the races simulcast on TVs there.
Along those lines, Timmons is closely watching the legal out-

2016 DNR Sale Set for May 21

The Iowa DNR will hold the 2016 spring auction on May 21, at Pioneer Livestock Pavilion on the Iowa State Fairgrounds, in Des Moines. Doors will open at 6:30 a.m., and the auction will begin at 8 a.m.
The public may view the items for sale and pre-register for the auction from 4 to 6 p.m., on May 20.
There will not be any buyer's premium fee added to the sale.
Items up for auction include about 520 firearms, bows, gun barrels, scopes, tree stands and other assorted equipment. The items are sold "as is" with no guarantee or warranty.
Any person interested in purchasing a firearm at the auction must have either a valid Iowa permit to acquire pistols or revolvers, a federal firearms license, or a professional or non-professional permit to carry concealed weapons. The Iowa permit to acquire can be obtained from a sheriff's office. Allow two to three weeks to receive the permit.
Payment must be made on auction day. All sales are final. All items must be removed from the site within one half hour after the sale completion.
The Iowa DNR reserves the right to reject any bids and withdraw any item from the sale at any time.
A sale bill is available online at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting> and will be updated if inventory is added. The DNR will not be mailing any sale bills.

OUTDOORS
FROM PAGE 2C

can ensure the protection, longevity and productivity of high quality water resources, as well as evaluate, assess, and improve those of lower quality.
AmeriCorps has been a successful part of DNR since 1999. Members work side-by-side with staff to serve Iowa's natural resources.
Become a Campground Host - Hosts Needed April - October
If you like to camp and meet new people, this is the volunteer experience for you!
The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is looking for campground hosts to live in our state parks for the months of April - October helping DNR staff with light maintenance duties, checking in campers, and being a resource for visitors enjoying

our state parks and forests.
Campground hosts are a crucial for the success of our state park systems in Iowa. The average host volunteers 20 - 40 hours per week while living on site in their own camper.
Campground hosts work with DNR staff to ensure that campers have the best experience possible in Iowa's state parks provide a friendly presence in our campgrounds act as models for other campers answer questions and tell visitors about points of interest and what the park has to offer keep campers informed of park rules and area accommodations perform light administrative and/or maintenance tasks.
The requirements to be a campground host are the ability to commit to at least four consecutive weekends and pass a criminal background check according to our policy.
Benefits include:
Designated free campsite in the park with a host sign while hosting
Nametag and safety vest
Recognition from the DNR and the state of Iowa for valuable service performed
Ready to know more?
Read the campground host volunteer description and consider filling out a campground host application.
The following sites are looking for hosts from April - October 2016 (unless otherwise specified).
Bellevue State Park, Bellevue, Iowa
Brushy Creek State Park (Equine campground) Gull Point State Park, Milford, Iowa (Emerson Bay campground and Elinor Bedell campground) Ledges State Park, Boone, Iowa
Springbrook State Park, Guthrie Center, Iowa
For more information please contact your local DNR park.

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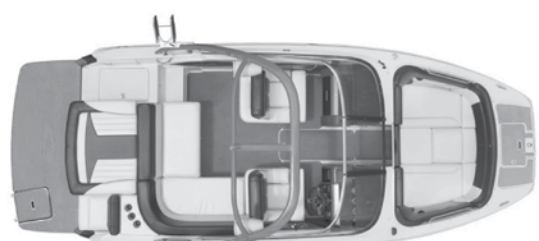
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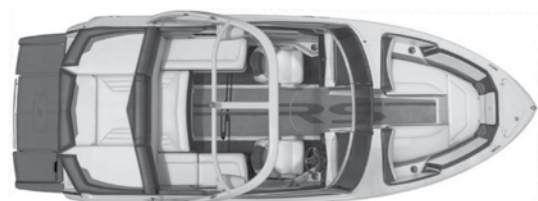


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