

SEPTEMBER 2023

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# Lake Panorama TIMES

## LOCAL BEEKEEPERS CREATE A BUZZ

PAGE 6

### LAKE PANORAMA RESIDENTS GET A 'LIFT'

PAGE 14

### PANORA MERCANTILE VENDORS OFFER WIDE VARIETY

PAGE 16

### PANORAMA DAYS RESULTS

PAGES 30-38



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# CONTENTS

ON THE LAKE PUBLISHER'S COLUMN .....	5
<b>COVER STORY: LOCAL BEEKEEPERS CREATE A BUZZ .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Q&A: BATTLE AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES IS REAL .....	10
LOCAL FILM REVIEWS .....	12
LAKE PANORAMA RESIDENTS GET A "LIFT" UP THEIR HILL .....	14
<b>BUSINESS FEATURE: PANORA MERCANTILE .....</b>	<b>16</b>
TOUGH, SUN-LOVING PERENNIALS FOR LAKE HOUSE LANDSCAPES .....	22
ASK LAKE PANORAMA TIMES .....	23
RECIPE: POWER WEEKNIGHT FAMILY MEALS WITH PECANS .....	23
IMAGES FROM THE GUTHRIE COUNTY FAIR .....	26
HELP TORI'S ANGELS ASSIST IOWA FAMILIES .....	28
PANORAMA WEST WOMEN'S LEAGUE WRAPS UP 2023 SEASON .....	29
PANORAMA DAYS WERE BIGGER AND BETTER .....	30
CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT RESULTS .....	32
FISHING DERBY DRAWS RECORD PARTICIPANTS .....	34
5K RUN HAS LARGEST TURNOUT TO DATE .....	35
CUTEST BABY .....	36
KLINGE NAMED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR .....	38
PANORA FIBER EXPANDS BROADBAND .....	39
TRISH HART'S NATURE PHOTOS .....	40
AREA CHURCH GUIDE .....	41
LAKE DOG .....	42
COVE CAT .....	43
NEW MEMORIAL BENCH INSTALLED AT PANORAMA WEST .....	44
LPA BOARD MINUTES .....	46
READER PHOTO: MAKING WAVES .....	48
WHERE IS IT? .....	49
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING .....	51



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ON THE LAKE

# MAYONNAISE ON A BURGER STILL BURNS. THE 3-STEP PUBLISHING PLAN. WHERE IS IT?

Many of you like to bake in the sun. I get it, but my milky white skin doesn't. In fact, I have found that I feel better when I don't spend a lot of time in the direct sun. My wife scoffs at this, saying I just need to wear more sunscreen. I am not denying that sunscreen would help, but a burger on the grill still burns, even with mayonnaise on it.

As such, I have found that the cooler fall weather is more agreeable with me. I enjoy being at Lake Panorama all the time, but there truly is something about a crisp fall day, a cozy warm sweatshirt, and — for a while longer — an enjoyable boat ride to see the fall colors. We are fortunate to experience all the seasons at Lake Panorama.

## WHERE IS IT?

We added a new feature to Lake Panorama Times last month called "Where Is It?" It is a photo of a recognizable object at Lake Panorama, and I am asking you to guess what and where it is. Look for this month's photo inside and send me your

guess at shane@dmcityview.com. Have a photo you would like to submit for the contest? Send that to me as well.

## STEP 3 OF 3

I envisioned a three-step plan to build our publishing company here in Guthrie County when I first bought the Lake Panorama Times newspaper three years ago. Envisioning it was one thing. Making it happen was quite another. I had to find the right people who could help make this happen, and, slowly but surely, that has happened.

The first step was to redesign and reformat the Lake Panorama Times, which we did in May of this year. The publication continues to be mailed to every Lake Panorama property owner's permanent home address, making it the most effective way to reach lake residents. In addition, we dis-



Shane  
Goodman

tribute copies for free at more than 30 locations in the county, and we mail a copy to all Panora Chamber members. In addition, readers can view the publication and its archives for free at [www.lakepanoramentimes.com](http://www.lakepanorametimes.com).

The second step was to launch Panora Times, a monthly publication that looks much like Lake Panorama Times but with content that is relevant to residents of Panora, Linden, Yale, Jamaica and Bagley. We started this in July of this year and have mailed it to all residential and business addresses in the five communities. We also provide free copies at more than 30 locations in the area, and readers can view the publication and its archives for free at [www.panoratimes.com](http://www.panoratimes.com).

And we are now finalizing step three, which is to launch Guthrie Center Times, another free monthly publication with a similar look but content geared to the communities of Guthrie Center, Adair and Casey. This will launch in a few weeks and will be mailed to all residential and busi-

ness addresses in those three communities. We will also have free copies available at a variety of locations in the area, and readers can view the publication and its archives for free at [www.guthriecentertimes.com](http://www.guthriecentertimes.com).

Couple these publications with our weekly Times Vedette paid subscription newspaper, and our readership and distribution is unmatched. I can't tell you how much I appreciate our readers, our advertisers and our staff for entrusting all of us to make this happen. We truly appreciate your support.

What's next? Stay tuned.

Have a great September, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman  
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# LOCAL BEEKEEPERS CREATE A BUZZ

**Rutledges and Donovans share a family passion for these honey-producing insects.**

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

September is National Honey Month. It was established in 1989 by The National Honey Board as a way to promote both the American beekeeping industry and the use of honey as a natural and beneficial sweetener.

September is significant for honey producers because it marks the end of the honey collection season for many beekeepers in the United States, where it's estimated 163 million pounds of honey are produced annually.

At Lake Panorama, 307.4 pounds of the 2023 U.S. total came from four hives owned by Emily Donovan. She and her husband, Billy, and their children, Natalie and Dylan, got their start because of Natalie's desire to find a new 4-H project.

"We are a 4-H family, and the kids like showing their dog and static projects at the fair," Emily says. "Natalie really wanted to have ducks, chickens and goats, but LPA rules prohibit all livestock with the exception of honeybees. In 2020, Natalie received the Iowa Honey Producers Association youth scholarship. That led to her receiving one year of mentoring from Curt and Connie Bronnenberg of Spring Valley Honey in Perry, jacket and veil, gloves, smoker, a package of bees, hive and beekeeping classes."

The annual scholarship timeline makes it possible for recipients to attend winter classes then keep bees the following spring and summer. In February 2020, Emily purchased supplies for a second hive and took beekeeping classes with Natalie through a continuing education program in Johnston.

The Donovans learned about the Iowa



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Kael Rutledge, wearing a suit and gloves to protect him from bee stings, shows a tray from one of his bee hives. The Rutledge family currently has five bee hives on a large tract of Conservation Reserve Program land east of Panora.

Honey Producers youth scholarship opportunity from John and Tricia Rutledge. Their son, Kael, received the same scholarship in 2019. That led to Kael using his beekeeping experience as a 4-H project and getting his parents involved.

## KJR APIARIES

"When your kids want to do something good for nature, it's hard to say no; so now we're beekeepers," says John Rutledge. "The first year Kael kept three hives. The bees produced only enough honey to share with family and friends, because an established hive produces more honey than a new hive. Branding and sales of KJR Apiaries honey progressed over the next couple of years. It is a labor of love, with any revenues reinvested in equipment or replacement of beehives that don't survive the winter."

Emily Donovan says January is the best time to get started in beekeeping.

"Beginning beekeeping classes are held

in late winter around the Des Moines metro, and some are offered through video conferencing," she says. "We purchase our bees and supplies through Spring Valley Honey in Perry because it is close, and we have a relationship with the Bronnenbergs, who are multigenerational commercial beekeepers. Installation of bees generally occurs in late April or May."

## HOW IT STARTED

The Donovans started with two hives in 2020 and now have four in their backyard.

"Four hives is about all I want to manage," Emily says. "Natalie was a little too brave one day and went out to do a hive check without her veil and got stung several times in the face. Since then, she's been apprehensive to help."

During the summer months, Donovan checks the hives once a week to make sure the bees have enough room.

"I add more boxes to the hives when they need more space," she says. "I'm also

looking to see different brood stages — eggs, larvae, capped brood — to make sure the queen is healthy and doing her job."

Each hive is comprised of two types of boxes — brood boxes and honey supers. Brood boxes stay with the hive throughout the year and are where the queen lays eggs, which become new bees. Honey is never harvested from brood boxes. Supers are added in the spring or early summer once the bees begin to grow their population and expand their efforts to include honey storage.

"August is a good time of year to pull the honey supers as the moisture content of honey reaches 18% and is appropriate for harvest," Rutledge says. "Honey is similar to other agricultural products in that harvesting with a high moisture content invites fermentation of the harvest. Harvesting in August also gives the bees time to complete final preparations for the upcoming winter."

Donovan says she likes to harvest the



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Emily Donovan sells honey in several jar sizes through her Lighthouse Honey and Gifts Facebook page and at the Panora Mercantile. She also sells products she makes with beeswax, such as lip balm and lotion bars.

first week or two of August.

"That gives the bees time to build up the colony and store their own honey for winter. It also allows me to treat for mites a couple of times before winter," she says.

#### THE HARVESTING PROCESS

"To harvest honey, I use a fume board. I take a white towel and spray it with 'Bee Gone.' It is a sweet almond smelling chemical that encourages the bees to move down into the hive and off of the honey supers. After the bees move out of the box, I take it into my shed and continue the process until all the honey supers have been removed."

A honey super can weigh 40 to 50 pounds when it is full of honey.

"This year, I had three honey supers on each of my four hives. Once all the honey is off the hive, we begin the process of scraping the wax capping off the honey," Donovan says. "I have an electric extractor that holds up to four frames at a time and uses centrifugal force to spin the honey out of the frames. The honey comes out of a gate on the extractor into a fine mesh sieve that filters out any wax."

The raw honey is stored in food-safe five-gallon buckets until the Donovans are ready to bottle. All of this is done in a shed Billy Donovan built specifically for the honey operation and which Emily calls the "Honey House."

#### LIGHTHOUSE HONEY

The Donovans chose the name Lighthouse Honey and use a picture of the lighthouse at the Lake Panorama marina on bottle labels.

"There are rules about what needs to be included on the label including the weight. It has to have the word 'honey' and the location and either a phone number or physical address," Donovan says. "I'm a member of several Iowa beekeeping



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Emily Donovan has friends who like to bring children to her home in the summer to learn about bees and honey production. Here one of her kid helpers fills a honey bear with honey to take home.

Facebook pages, so that helps with determining the average pricing per pound of honey."

The Rutledge beehives are a mile east of Panora on a large tract of Conservation Reserve Program land.

"At our peak, we were keeping eight hives of our own plus three hives for our neighbor," Rutledge says. "We are currently keeping five hives, which is a much more manageable number."

Their management plan is the same as Donovan's.

"The bees require a weekly check during the spring, summer and fall. Due to the cold temps, they only get a periodic check in the winter, if the temp rises above 50 degrees," Rutledge says. "The bees require a treatment for Varroa mites before and after the honey-producing season. During the honey-producing season, the bees

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Kael Rutledge's honey is advertised on his Facebook page, KJR Apiaries – Pure Raw Honey.

get a weekly inspection to make sure they have a queen who is on track with production of brood."

"Extracting honey includes spinning it out of the frames and filtering it as it drains from the extractor into food-grade buckets. We then sterilize bottles, fill, label and sell," he says. "The key is keeping a clean environment and checking the moisture content in the honey to make sure it is ready for bottling. We remove the honey supers in August and extract and bottle the honey during the fall."

### THE BUZZ

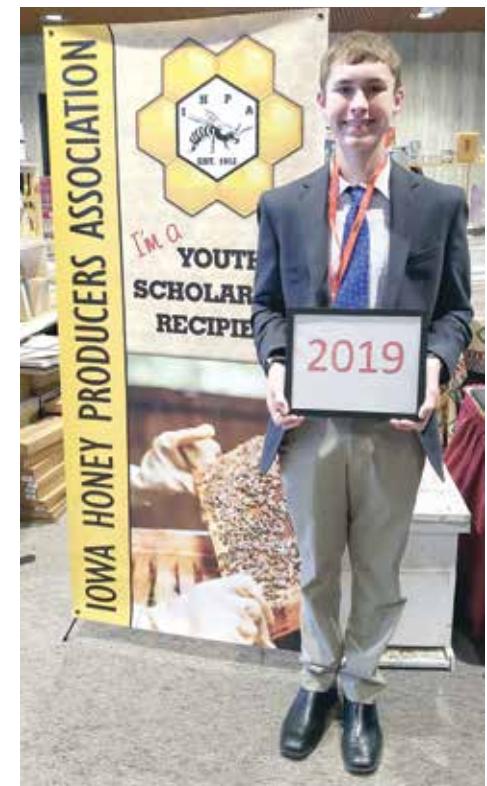
What do the Rutledges like about their beekeeping hobby?

"One of our favorite things is supporting pollinators, which are, sadly, in decline. Bees have such a tremendous impact on our food supply, and they benefit from the helping hand we can provide," Rutledge says. "Pollinators are in such short supply that large beekeepers transport and rent their hives to almond producers, primarily in California. The bees then are transported back to the Midwest to pollinate other crops here."

Rutledge says honey produced by local beekeepers has a number of natural qualities that won't be found in mass-produced honey.

"Local honey is a favorite of allergy sufferers, who claim to find relief from consuming local honey on a daily basis," he says. "Honey also is a great natural sweetener for coffee or tea and can effectively soothe a sore throat."

Kael Rutledge's honey is advertised on his Facebook page, KJR Apiaries – Pure Raw Honey. People also can reach out via email at [kjrhoney@gmail.com](mailto:kjrhoney@gmail.com).



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

A chance discussion with someone involved in the Iowa Honey Producers Association led to Kael Rutledge applying for and receiving a youth scholarship from the association in 2019. Natalie Donovan received the same scholarship the following year. Now both families are involved in the production of local raw honey.

"Kael continues to have a passion for beekeeping and is involved at key points throughout the year," John Rutledge says. "Tricia and I continue to help with the routine week-to-week work as Kael has



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

John and Kael Rutledge use a smoker to move bees further into the hive as they begin an inspection. During the honey producing season, the bees get a weekly inspection to make sure they have a queen who is on-track with production of brood.

transitioned from high school to college, and now to a full-time job. We will continue to be engaged in beekeeping for the foreseeable future."

Besides raw honey, Donovan has other items available through her Lighthouse Honey and Gifts Facebook page and at the Panora Mercantile.

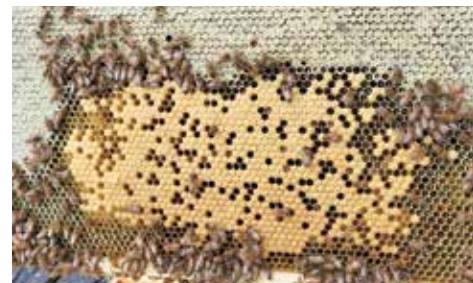
"I enjoy making other products with the wax cappings like lip balm and lotion bars," she says. "I have several colleagues who have given great reviews of the lotion bars. One of my coworkers stocked up because she said it was the only thing that cleared up her son's eczema."

#### FAMILY TIES

While Donovan admits she never dreamed of being a beekeeper, she's now happy to be one.

"My grandpa was a beekeeper, so I love that I can honor his memory this way. He was a custodian at a school for many years, and when he retired, they gave him the chair he always sat in to eat his lunch. His chair is in my Honey House, and I sit in it to bottle the honey," she says.

"I also love that there is so much to



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

This frame pulled from one of the Rutledge bee hives is typical of what is found in spring and summer. The yellow area in the middle is where eggs are laid and become larvae. The outer, white layer is capped honey. The nurse bees use this honey to feed the larvae, then add a yellow cap where the larvae turn into bees.

learn, and bees are incredibly fascinating. I love to experiment with different beekeeping practices," Donovan says. "The thing I like the most about this hobby is that I have to practice mindfulness. I cannot worry about what I haven't done or what I need to do when I have my hands inside a hive of 50,000 bees." ■



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# BATTLE AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES IS REAL

**Lane Rumelhart, project manager for the Lake Panorama Association, talks about the threats these pose for Lake Panorama.**

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

Lane Rumelhart is project manager for the Lake Panorama Association. His duties include managing the LPA building codes, projects financed by the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ), LPA communications, hunting programs, campgrounds and beaches, and “other duties as assigned.” In this month’s Q&A, Rumelhart talks about invasive species and the threats these pose for Lake Panorama, the Lake Panorama Association and its members.

**Q. We hear the words “invasive species” a lot regarding Lake Panorama. What invasive species are of concern, and what threats do they pose?**

A. The Lake Panorama Association (LPA) has strict rules regarding invasive species when it comes to boating and other water recreation. These rules come with good reason, as aquatic “hitchhikers” could have detrimental effects on Lake Panorama, the LPA and LPA members, if these ever become established in our water. One of the most talked about is the zebra mussel. But there are other types of aquatic invasive species, too, such as bighead carp and watermilfoil. Each of these has their own unique niche and could cause major problems. There also are invasives that grow on land around Lake Panorama, such as autumn olive and emerald ash borer. Most of these species were thought to be beneficial when they were initially introduced but later found to be problematic.

**Q. Since the most commonly talked about invasive species that threatens Lake Panorama is zebra mussels, let's start with those. What's the danger?**

A. This pest was first introduced in the Great Lakes by the emptying of water ballast from sea-going ships that arrived from the Black and Caspian seas, located between Europe and Asia. The mussels since have spread into much of the upper Midwest including the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and several streams and lakes in Iowa.

Zebra mussels are small shellfish, named

for the striping often appearing on the shells. The organisms can produce up to 1,000 microscopic eggs every day. Mussels could wreak havoc on LPA’s marina, dredging operation, golf irrigation system, dam and various other parts of our infrastructure. The mussels reproduce rapidly by attaching to underwater surfaces such as hoists, pipes and docks. The mussels also compete with native species for food and outcompete native mussels.

Each year, LPA tests for veligers, which are zebra mussel larvae. Veligers are microscopic and can be transported in water if a vessel is not clean, drained, and dried properly. This year the testing was done Aug. 9. A tow net made specifically for capturing microscopic organisms out of water was used in two locations — the marina and the dredge dock above the debris trap in the upper basin. The samples were sent to a lab in Minnesota for examination. The good news is this year’s testing again showed there were no zebra mussel veligers present in either sample. But we need to keep educating members and enforce the LPA rules on invasive species related to water. If veligers are ever found in Lake Panorama, we could expect mussels to start establishing themselves within one to five years.

**Q. What are other invasive species that threaten Lake Panorama?**

A. Bighead carp are another aquatic invasive species that have high reproduction rates and grow to over 50 pounds. These fish are a huge threat to native fish species as they directly compete for food and eat 40% of their bodyweight every day. They also are extremely dangerous, as the sound of a boat motor startles them, and they jump out of the water up to 10 feet in the air. These fish would be a huge safety concern for water recreation at Lake Panorama. This species already has been found in the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, sections of the Des Moines River and the Big Sioux River.

Watermilfoil is an aquatic plant that spreads quickly in lakes and streams. It recently was discovered at West Lake Okoboji, and the DNR will be using a herbicide soon to try to eradicate it. It’s believed it came

into the lake on boats that had been in other waters. So far, Lake Panorama has not had much of an issue with this species, likely due to flow and high sediment concentration. If this plant did get established, it could form dense mats and greatly reduce boatable water. This species has been known to decrease property values in other bodies of water around Iowa.



**Lane Rumelhart**

ago removed more than 300 ash trees from Lake Panorama National and Panorama West golf courses. Ash trees can be treated every other year with a chemical in an effort to keep EAB away. LPA currently has about 90 trees around the community being treated. This process is usually about 80 percent successful, and trees will need to be treated until no evidence of the beetle is found in the region.

**Q. To wrap up, share a summary of the invasive species prevention rules that were first implemented by the LPA in 2014 to protect Lake Panorama.**

A. Boats owned by LPA members that are used exclusively on Lake Panorama are considered “resident” boats. These must display a “resident” sticker and do not require annual inspections. Any boat that is not used exclusively at Lake Panorama must display a “non-resident” sticker. These boats must pass an inspection by LPA-designated personnel after returning from another body of water.

Inspections look for the following: plant parts, mud, animal specimens on boat or trailer or fishing equipment, and water in live wells, bilge tanks, ballast tanks or engine cooling systems. For members who do boat at other lakes, thoroughly cleaning, draining and drying the boat, trailer and equipment for at least five days in warm weather should allow the boat to pass inspection and be allowed back on Lake Panorama.

It’s not just boats that can transport aquatic invasive species. Any water-related equipment such as lifts and docks previously installed in another lake cannot be installed at Lake Panorama in the same season. Equipment that has been thoroughly drained, cleaned, dried and treated may be considered for installation, but only in the boating season following removal from a previous water body, and only after inspection.

Each member at Lake Panorama has some level of responsibility, whether that be cleaning, draining, and drying your boat or managing vegetation on your lot. LPA works hard to prevent aquatic invasives through the inspection process and eliminates overgrown areas when possible. My hope is more members will be mindful when traveling with their watercraft, become more educated on the species right outside their backdoor, and be motivated to do their part in helping keep these organisms at bay. ■



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MICAH MOYER

# TURTLES, SHARKS, A BEETLE, DOGS AND MORE

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY

*Lake Panorama Times*

Another slow month in the theaters as the summer wanes and the actors'/writers' strike continues. Many of the big movies of the fall have moved a few months or more...including "Dune 2." Aaarrgggh! But "Barbie" and "Oppenheimer" are still plugging away.

Here's what I've got for you this month...

## "TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM" (in theaters)

My two boys were raised in the sweet spot of TMNT craziness. Did I think we would still be seeing these guys? I did not, but this one manages to put together a fresh version of these creatures. The animation is edgy and fun, and the voice work is better than expected. The box office for this one has been strong, so we've probably not seen the last of these green guys. **Grade: B+**



"TMNT: Mutant Mayhem"



"Meg 2: The Trench"



"Gran Turismo"

## "MEG 2: THE TRENCH" (in theaters, but not for long)

Why was I seeing a movie called "Meg 2"? Let's just say it's been a rough patch for new movies. I will assume that Jason Statham was paid well to come back for this joke of a movie. I'm now completely convinced that there are prehistoric sharks in the ocean, and they have other prehistoric friends who, from time to time, terrorize anyone and everyone in their path. I've consulted with the Lake Panorama Association and have been assured that there are none of these pre-

historic critters in our wonderful lake.

**Grade: C+**

## "GRAN TURISMO" (in theaters)

This movie claims to be based on a true story, which is difficult to believe. A video game company creates a competition for their auto racing game. The grand prize for the winner of that competition is actually allowed to race a car in a real race event. Seems like there would have been more attorneys involved than we see. Amazingly, the

movie is really good and is a fun time in the theater. It is currently playing in the Waukee IMAX. Wow. **Grade: B+**

## "BLUE BEETLE" (in theaters)

I'm not familiar with this comic-based character, but I found the movie kind of fun... for a while. A young man graduates from college and comes back to his small town to help his family, which is having severe money issues. He applies for a job at a company (run by Susan Sarandon) that developed military-style

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"Blue Beetle"



"Strays"



"Retribution"



"The Hill"

weapons. He is accidentally attacked and then attached to a blue scarab that grants him great powers. The movie has a fresh look and feel until it ultimately ends with the now requisite 30-minute special effects mess of an ending. Still, it was fun for a while. **Grade: B+**

#### "STRAYS"

*(in theaters, but not for long)*

This is a movie about talking dogs. Very profane talking dogs. Really profane, and also inane, talking dogs. This felt like something two sophomores in high school would have written as a joke. A really bad joke. Somehow, Will Ferrell and Jamie Foxx got involved in this hor-

rible mistake of a movie, and the rest of us just have to suffer through it. **Grade: D**

#### "RETRIBUTION"

*(in theaters)*

Liam Neeson, an accomplished actor, makes one (sometimes two) of these type of movies a year. A man is put in a horrible situation, but he has "a particular set of skills" that no one knows about, and he always manages to save the day. This is the latest (and far from the greatest) where a man driving his children to school finds there's a bomb in the car and if he stops, or the kids get out, the whole car will be blown to smithereens.

Yawn. There's not a believable moment in this movie. Or any reason to see it, for that matter. **Grade: D**

#### "THE HILL"

*(in theaters)*

Based on a true story (aren't they all?) about a young man who loves baseball but was born with some serious health issues. He refuses to give up and perseveres to get his shot at professional baseball. It's a worthy effort and has some wonderful moments, but Dennis Quaid as his father was a mistake in the casting office. It's not a great movie, but there was a smattering of applause at the screening I attended. **Grade: C+**

That's all I've got this month. It's not the best month of the year for movies, but there are a few movies worth watching. Here's to a better group next month. Until then, pass the popcorn. ■

*Michael C. Woody has been reviewing movies on radio and television since 1986 and can be heard talking movies every Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. on KXnO 106.3 with Keith Murphy and Andy Fales. You can also follow him on Twitter @MrMovieDSM. He and his wife, Susan, are residents of Lake Panorama.*



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# LAKE PANORAMA RESIDENTS GET A 'LIFT' UP THEIR HILL

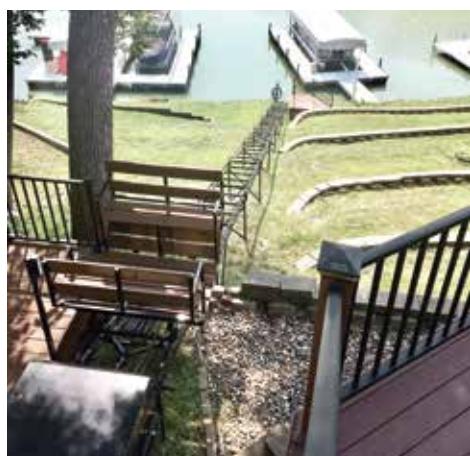
## Electric tram provides easy access for Northrups to the lakeshore.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

For Rod and Amy Northrup, their treks back and forth to their two boats and docks on Lake Panorama are much easier this year. That's because, in late June, they had an electric tram installed that now takes them to their lakeshore area.

The couple purchased their Lake Panora-



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

A view from the upper deck of the Northrup home, showing the tram that takes them to their docks and boats.

ma home in 2008. Their primary home is near Griswold, where Rod farms and Amy owns A Plus Designs, Inc. But many summer days are spent at the lake.

"We are about halfway into Jones Cove, on a semi-steep hill with the house sitting at the top," Amy says. "We have an unfriendly path that we have walked up and down since we moved in. We had talked and somewhat joked about putting in a tram the past couple of years. Our retaining walls are not in the greatest shape, and we are not getting any younger."

Rod had back surgery last fall, and needed both knees replaced this summer.

"So, it wasn't a joke anymore, and we started talking more seriously," Amy says. "Otherwise, enjoying the lake house this summer wasn't going to happen. Thanks to the tram, we haven't missed a weekend."

A friend from Griswold, Darrell Stamp, has owned a house on Helen's Cove for more than a decade. Much like the Northrup home, his house sits on a steep hill with a walking path created to get to and from the water.

Several years ago, Stamp also was facing double knee replacements and decided to have a tram installed.

"The grandkids love it, and the sidewalk doesn't get used much anymore," Stamp says. "It works great and doesn't take much maintenance."

Because they had ridden in Stamp's tram several times and knew he was happy with it, the Northrups turned to the same com-



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Rod and Amy Northrup on their two-seater tram that has room for four people, coolers and more.

pany for theirs. Rick Summers of Belmond owns Access Lift, which was founded in Belmond in 1959. He purchased the company in August 2002.

"We provide a customized range of lifts, trams and repair services," Summers says. "We manufacture, install and carry warranty on transport lifts that are used all over the United States and Canada. Most often, our lifts are used in hillside areas to get people from their homes to their docks,

boat launches and beach areas."

Summers says his company installs about 20 new lifts each year and provides annual maintenance on more than 300.

"Most are on lakes and rivers in the Midwest," he says. "We do a lot of work in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Arkansas, and recently had jobs in New York and Maryland."

The company introduced a three-phase soft-start, soft-stop system in 2003. The

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The view from one of the Northrups' boat docks of the tram installed in June that makes accessing their shoreline easier.

standard car includes two benches facing each other; Access Lifts also offers custom-built cars, canopies, wheelchair accessibility and other custom products.

Metal mounting brackets are driven about six feet into the ground. Sections of track are laid on top of the brackets, and cables are installed to move the car on wheels up and down the track. An electric motor is activated by push buttons both at the top and bottom of the lift.

"No footings are dug or concrete needed, so we don't disturb the ground," Summers says. "This is just like an addition on your house, because it makes it worth more when you are ready to sell. If you live on a hill, and you only have steps or a path to get to your dock, some buyers won't be interested. When you get ready to sell, it's worth every dollar you spent. In the meantime, you have an easy way to get to your shoreline."

The Northrups' tram has two bench seats that face each other and can accommodate four people. "There is plenty of floor space for all the coolers," Amy says. "Our neighbors use it, too. They timed it for fun, and it takes 58 seconds to get to the lake."

The tram installation took two days.

"Our local carpenter then had to build the landings to match our deck, which took another couple of days," Amy says. "We use it all the time to go up and down to the boats along with friends, family and coolers. Now we don't have to take the boat to Sunset Beach to pick up anyone who couldn't walk the hill, such as my parents."



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

The 100-foot track installed at the Northrups' home includes metal mounting brackets driven into the ground, 10-foot sections of track on top of the brackets, and cables to move the car on wheels up and down the track.

Our six grandkids, who range in age from 14 to 2, think it is a cool ride. Sometimes we have to take the key out or they would be on it all day going up and down."

Besides the personal benefits, Rod Northrup likes not having the soil on their lot disturbed. "For others at Lake Panorama who have homes on steep hills, I think they should consider installing a tram. It would be a fraction of the cost of putting in a zig zag path or road, which then causes erosion because of land disturbance. I think this is a better alternative." ■



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# PANORA MERCANTILE VENDORS OFFER WIDE VARIETY

**New business is growing and developing. Owner is seeking “a few new unique vendors, and lots of shoppers.”**

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

Panora Mercantile opened April 15, 2023, at 134 West Main St. The brick building at the west end of Panora's main business district has been the site of many businesses through the years. Now its five rooms and a closet are filled with a variety of items offered by separate vendors.

Tricia Belousek is the owner and manager of Panora Mercantile. She grew up in Iowa, graduated from Johnston High School, and attended Des Moines Area Community College before transferring to Iowa State University.

“During college, two high school friends moved to Arizona,” Belousek says. “I went to visit them during spring break and was amazed how large the state is. I started my master’s degree at Drake University before I decided to move to Arizona in 2001.”

She finished her master’s in Arizona and

later earned a degree in accounting. Her career path took her into operations, order management, documenting policies and procedures and, most recently, working for a nonprofit supporting more than 100 members.

Belousek and her husband live in Cave Creek, Arizona. Her mother, two sisters and two nephews live in central Iowa.

“I’ve always wanted to own a retail business. My sister is a Realtor and helped us find the building in Panora when it was for sale in 2020,” she says. “The building was perfect for what I had in mind, with a quirky charm and lots of character.”

“I love to shop,” Belousek says. “I grew up going to see my grandmother in a small town in Missouri and stopping to shop with my mom in Centerville and Albia on the way. The small towns had different shoes, clothing and items I didn’t find at the mall. Fast forward to the present day, I still like to shop and find bargains.”



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Robert Klassen is a distributor for Stanley Home Products and Fuller Brush Company, plus a well-known brand of baking products and spices. This is his Panora Mercantile display.

A year after buying the Panora Mercantile building, the couple purchased a nearby 1920s home, which they updated and rented. Belousek says the house renovations introduced them to many great people and businesses in Panora.

## NANCY CLAWSON AND CAROL REDSHAW

In September 2022, Belousek posted on social media looking for vendors interested in sharing retail space. Lake Panorama residents Nancy Clawson and Carol Redshaw responded and now are two of the vendors at Panora Mercantile.

“I’ve enjoyed making crafts since I was a little girl,” Redshaw says. “Since I’ve already given a lot of my creations as gifts to family and friends, I wanted a place to display my creations so others can buy one-of-a-kind gifts. I’ve considered having a booth at a craft mall in Branson, but it’s not feasible because of the distance. When this opportunity came up, I was excited because it’s a craft mall right here in our nice town of Panora.”

Redshaw’s vendor display fills two shelving units.

“I used to do jewelry shows in wom-

en’s homes where I’d bring thousands of beads, they would design their own jewelry piece, and I would offer advice and start and finish the piece. So, in the store I have jewelry and beaded serving spoons and forks, as well as beaded appetizer utensils. I enjoy embellishing onesies, T-shirts, hats, headbands and hand towels with fun words and designs.”

Redshaw also has air plants and home decor.

“Next on my ‘to create’ list is special sympathy gifts, beaded crosses, shell and pebble art, and fall and Christmas décor and gifts. It’s fun to see what sells, and I especially like it when people buy gifts,” she says.

Nancy Clawson says she was interested in being a part of the Panora Mercantile from the beginning.

“The idea of having a local place where various goods, both handmade and commercial, could be purchased year round was intriguing,” she says. “Crafters are always looking for a place or ways to help the items they make find a new home.”

Clawson is a Panora Mercantile vendor under the name SortaSisters4.



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

The back room of the Panora Mercantile includes this display of general kitchen and serving pieces, plus gift items.



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

The items SortaSisters4 offers at the Mercantile include gender neutral onesies, lighted bottles, wine bags, tooth fairy pillows, freeze pop holders, decorative pillows, and microwave bowl cozies for hot soups and oatmeal. Fall and winter decorations, Christmas ornaments and other gift items will be added throughout the fall holiday season.

"SortaSisters4 was created after a good friend and I both retired from teaching. I had taught school and coached various things for 36 years, so I was used to being busy," she says. "After retiring we moved to Lake Panorama from Washington, Iowa, but my teaching friend, Jane, was still in southeast Iowa. We started making crafts together as a way to stay connected and our 'little' sisters joined in when they could."

The items SortaSisters4 offers at the Mercantile vary from season to season.

"We have gender-neutral onesies, pillows, lighted bottles, wine bags, tooth fairy pillows, and our surprise summer hit — freeze pop holders," Clawson says. "Now we are adding fall and winter decorations, Christmas ornaments, and the popular microwave bowl cozies for hot soups and oatmeal. We like to make team items. Jane is a Hawkeye grad, and I'm an Iowa State grad, so both teams get represented, along with UNI and other schools."

Clawson says being a vendor at Panora Mercantile is a great way to meet new people, including other vendors and customers.

"I appreciate having a place to display and sell items I enjoy making. Vendors can opt for different sizes of space to rent and the contract is month to month. Shoppers who come into the Mercantile will be surprised at the wide variety of offerings," she says.

#### LIGHTHOUSE HONEY

Belousek says Lighthouse Honey,



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Look for this sign on the sidewalk outside the Panora Mercantile to know if the store is open. Regular hours are Fridays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., but additional hours will be added for special events. For instance, a Fall Showcase will be Wednesday, Sept. 20, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

owned by Emily Donovan, continues to grow each month. Donovan had the opportunity to do an activity for a bridal shower because she was a vendor in the store.

"I thought it would be a convenient place for people to purchase honey and

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SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Crafty Fox and Company is the name for this vendor that includes, left to right, Cindy Tripp of Lake Panorama, and her granddaughters, Izzy and Chloe. The girls offer a variety of handmade items, while Cindy has seasonal items for fall and winter.

my other products instead of driving to my house," Donovan says. "I also liked the idea that it was all local vendors and crafters."

At Panora Mercantile, Donovan sells raw honey from her own bees, handmade soap, lip balm, lotion bars and candles.

"The lip balm and lotion bars are made with my beeswax," she says. "I make the candles and soaps as well, but these do not contain any honeybee byproducts. I also sell bee-themed coffee mugs. I plan to put together some pre-packaged gift boxes to make it easier for customers who need a quick hostess or birthday gift."

### CRAFTY FOX AND COMPANY

One of Belousek's favorite vendors is Chloe Powers, a teen entrepreneur.

"I remember trying lemonade stands and making friendship bracelets to sell when I was little," Belousek says. "When I opened my vendor offering to children, I heard from Cindy Tripp, Chloe's grandmother. Chloe does a great job switching up her product offerings. I think it's a great opportunity to learn budgeting and build a business."

Tripp and her husband moved to Lake Panorama's west side three years ago and retired last year. Their granddaughters Chloe, age 13, and her sister Izzy, age 10, have had items in the store since it opened. They started under the vendor name Chloe's Crafts, but beginning in Sep-

tember, Tripp will add to their shelves.

"I will be offering seasonal items for fall and winter, including dried flower arrangements, wood art and more," Tripp says.

Now the vendor name for Cindy, Chloe and Izzy is Crafty Fox and Company. Chloe says she chose the name because she likes foxes and they are crafty. Chloe and Izzy live south of Norwalk, and both learned how to sew from their grandmother.

Chloe's first offering, and her most popular items to date, are Travel Hygiene Carriers. She folds a washcloth, then sews slots for things like a toothbrush, toothpaste and comb. The size and quality of the washcloths determine the prices, which range from three to five dollars.

Izzy's biggest seller is cat toys. She sews pieces of fabric into small rectangles and squares, then tucks a bit of catnip inside before making the final stitches. She also creates keychains and jewelry with colorful plastic beads arranged in designs on plastic pegboards, then fused together with an iron.

The girls also offer painted driftwood art, painted garden art, dog bandanas and felting wool art.

"The girls have done well every month," Tripp says. "They love being in a small local business and having a place to display their creations. They are learning about how to run a business, investing

in their business, the importance of saving 10% each month, and giving to their church. This is a tremendous learning opportunity for them, plus they are improving their sewing skills."

#### CNC WOOD CREATIONS

Lynnette and Craig Little have lived north of Panora for 40 years. They own CNC Wood Creations. CNC stands for computer numerical control, and is a manufacturing method that automates the control, movement and precision of machine tools through the use of preprogrammed computer software. Using CNC, they produce wooden signs, plaques and ornaments that are available at Panora Mercantile.

"We've been doing this for three years," Lynnette says. "He does the computer work and gets the wooden design completed. I do any painting needed, and he finishes up with a clear coat to seal the piece. We have a lot of family background in law enforcement, emergency medical service and firefighting, so we offer items that appeal to those professions. We also do custom projects, patriotic items and holiday ornaments."

Other vendors offer handmade doll clothes, birdhouses, Stanley and Fuller Brush products, a well-known brand of baking products and spices, children's toys, kitchen supplies and gift items, and more. Belousek also is a vendor, offering a range of flavored olive oils and vinegars from Cave Creek, dip mixes and gluten-free foods.

Belousek is looking for additional vendors to join Panora Mercantile.

"I think 25 vendors would be ideal. Some vendors require more space, others need a small amount of space, and we can accommodate both," she says.

Others interested in discussing becoming a vendor can contact Belousek at belousektricia@gmail.com.

#### KNIT KNACKS

One new vendor joining the Panora Mercantile in September is Emily Spradling, who lives at Lake Panorama. She has a variety of knitted items, including toys and decorative pieces, and is operating under the name Knit Knacks.

"My husband and I own the building, but it's the vendors that make Panora Mercantile," Belousek says. "The business wouldn't succeed on just my items or only handmade items. It's the variety that keeps people stopping in to see what's there. The inventory has to change often to keep people coming back. Sometimes they find something they didn't know they needed. I am selective with vendors and need their items to be unique from other vendors in



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Craig and Lynnette Little own CNC Wood Creations. This display at Panora Mercantile shows a sampling of the types of wood signs, plaques and ornaments they create.

the store."

#### HOW IT WORKS

Vendors pay monthly rent based on the amount of space they need, plus Panora Mercantile receives 10 percent of sales to help cover expenses incurred running the store. Vendors sign a contract and set their own prices. A cashier rings up the purchase and notes what was sold and the amount paid. Panora Mercantile submits sales tax monthly to the State of Iowa.

Working remotely from Arizona, Belousek reconciles each vendor's sales for the month, deducts their rent, then sends remaining sales proceeds to vendors via Venmo, Zelle or a check.

"Recently I asked vendors to work in exchange for space rent, and so far this is working well," Belousek says. "I know not everyone can work, and they aren't expected to, but it is beneficial for us both. The vendor doesn't have to worry about selling a set amount to cover the rent, and it helps me keep cash in the bank."

Redshaw is one of the vendors who now works in the store.

"It's fun," she says. "It's a great way to meet people and greet people from out of town. I encourage people to visit The Merc to get one-of-a-kind gifts, encourage local entrepreneurs and support a local business."

Clawson also works a shift each month to pay for her space at the Mercantile.

"It's a good way to reduce my costs, and it also is fun. You never know who is going to walk in the door or what they will buy,"



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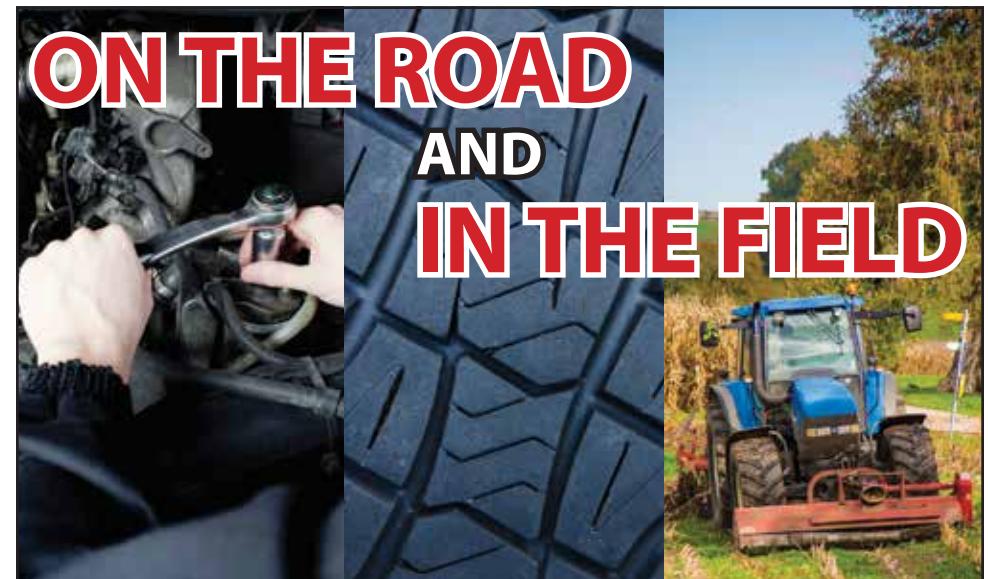
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she says.

Lynnette Little works a few days each month in the store.

I enjoy it," she says. "We try to have food samples out every day, and there is always something new in the store to show customers. I think Panora Mercantile is a great place for people to shop for gifts that are both practical and unique. For Craig and me, this is much better than dragging our display to craft shows."

Panora Mercantile recently was approved to be a vendor on shopiowa.com, which is an initiative of the Iowa Economic Development Authority with support from the Iowa Small Business Development Center.

"This will give The Merc an opportunity to have a website presence and get our products noticed," Belousek says. "This is something I am just getting started, but it will be a great opportunity for vendors who want to grow and build their business beyond the store."

Since its opening, the hours for Panora Mercantile have varied. Moving into the holiday season, Belousek said the vendors voted and decided hours September through December will be Fridays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Belousek will be in Panora the week of



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Carol Redshaw is a vendor who offers jewelry and beaded serving spoons and forks, beaded appetizer utensils, onesies, T-shirts, hats, headbands and hand towels with fun words and designs, air plants and home decor. She plans to add fall and Christmas décor and gifts to her offerings.

Sept. 18 and plans to have the store open additional hours while she is in town. On that Wednesday, Sept. 20, vendors will host a Panora Mercantile Fall Showcase 5-7 p.m. The business has a Facebook page, where regular updates and special events are posted.

"I am a member of the Panora Cham-



MAIN STREET LOOKING EAST—PANORA, IOWA—CARPENTER

SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

The building on the west end of Panora's main business district that now houses Panora Mercantile has been the home for many businesses, including a doctor's office, and, at the time of this photo, a millinery, which was a hat shop.

ber, and we will be open in tandem with their events, such as Small Business Saturday, the Holiday Showcase and Christmas Tree Lighting," she says. "I do plan to have special events to be open additional days or hours. If business increases, we can look at being open more."

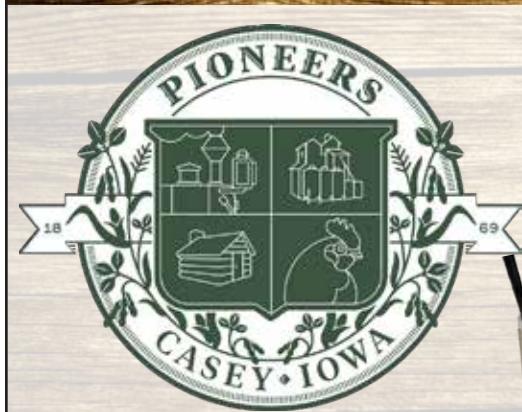
"Panora Mercantile is a new business that is still growing and developing," Belousek says. "Its success and future rely on vendors wanting to sell their items here and the community shopping here. I continue to look for a few new unique vendors and lots of shoppers." ■



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## RETIREMENT PLANNING

# This Medicare step could save you money

Whether this is your first year on Medicare or you've been on it for several years, you should look at your plan each year.

Revisiting your coverage and supplements could save you money and prevent surprises when you visit the doctor or pick up a prescription.

The Medicare Annual Enrollment Period runs from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7. That's when you can join, drop or switch to another supplement plan or add or drop drug coverage.

I know what you might think: "I like my current coverage; no change needed." That may be true. But each insurance carrier frequently renegotiates provider



AnnaMarie Morrow

contracts, which can ultimately change the terms of your supplement plans — impacting premiums, copays, deductibles and covered services plus the ancillary benefits like x-rays, prosthetic devices and physical therapy. Carriers can add and drop benefits like gym memberships, chiropractic visits, and meal deliveries to and from plans. That's why it's a good idea to review your providers, your prescriptions and your pharmacy each year to ensure your preferences are still covered.

Some of the most heartbreak stories I've heard are when someone goes to the pharmacy to pick up medication and finds out it's no longer covered or has changed. That's when out-of-pocket costs can skyrocket, and the medicine can cost hundreds more than the last time they went to the pharmacy.

During the annual enrollment period last year, I ran the numbers for one of the individuals we work with

and found that Meloxicam, an arthritis medicine, costs \$12 for a 90-day refill at their in-network pharmacy and \$1,117.80 at one that was not in-network. That is not the kind of surprise you want to get when you go to pick up your medicine and the reason I run the numbers for them before making any changes.

You can switch to an Advantage Plan from a traditional Medigap supplement (like Plan F or Plan G) during annual enrollment. You can also move from one Advantage Plan to another or from one prescription drug plan to another.

There is a lot of information out there about Medicare, and the choices can feel overwhelming. A professional can help people make sense of it all, while helping them coordinate their Medicare decisions with the other aspects of their retirement plan, so every decision is made with their retirement vision in mind.

Information provided by AnnaMarie Morrow, Director of Medicare, Merkle Retirement Planning, 1860 S.E. Princeton Drive, Grimes, 515-278-1006



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## LAWN AND GARDEN

# TOUGH, SUN-LOVING PERENNIALS FOR LAKE HOUSE LANDSCAPES

BY LYNN KUHN

Special to Lake Panorama Times

Over the past 30 years, I've had many successes and failures with plants. The right plant for the right place is something I preach and practice; however, it's easier said than done, even for a seasoned designer like me. I've become a sceptic. I have less trust in catalogues and plant labels and more trust in my own observations, as well as the observations of other designers, growers and clients. The more we share our experiences — good and bad — the more functional and beautiful our outdoor environments will be.

Let's dig in. How do we create low-maintenance landscapes that have awesome lakeside appeal? First, we must define "low maintenance." It means something different to everybody. For this list, I've picked perennials that satisfy my definition of low maintenance and are attractive as well. The plants must check all boxes to make the list.

- little or no watering once established
- not picky about soil

- deer and rabbit resistant (most of the time)
- optional dead-heading
- not invasive
- long blooming
- good looking foliage

Are there many perennial families that meet this criteria? Yes, of course, but these are my favorites. They are tough, tried and true. I think you'll love them.

### ALLIUM (ORNAMENTAL ONION)

**Big Beauty** (18-24"x18-24") larger and longer bloom time

**Summer Beauty** (18"x18-24") fail proof  
**Millennium** (12-18"x18-24") nicer bloom color that it's cousins

**Peek-A-Boo** (8-12"x18-24") perfect front of garden or border perennial

This plant continues to impress. It emerges early, looks great with and without blooms, embraces hot, dry weather, and plays nicely with so many other plants. It resembles chives because they are related, however, the cultivars I've listed are sterile and well behaved, yet still edible. Don't confuse these alli-

ums with the popular, showy, tall allium bulbs. They are in the same family but a different species.

*Designer Tip: Create a mixed allium area by combining all cultivars listed plus tall allium bulbs extending the season of interest from early June through Early September.*

### NEPETA (CATMINT)

**Walker's Low** (18-24"x18-24")

**Junior Walker** (18"x24-36")

**Early Bird** (12-18"x12-18")

**Cat's Meow** (12-18"x12-18")

**Cat's Pajamas** (12-18"x18-24")

**Kit Cat** (8-12"x8-12")

For those cat lovers out there... CatNIP and CatMINT are in the same family but are very different species. A few cats might be drawn to Catmint, but not as much as they'll love Catnip. Our focus here is Catmint. There are many cultivars to choose from.

*Designer Tip: Use shorter cultivars to fill in and creep around other larger perennials, ornamental grasses and shrubs to discourage weeds and replace the need for mulch.*

### SALVIA (SAGE)

**Caradonna** (18-24"x18-24") very upright, won't flop, red stems

**Pink Dawn** (18-24"x18-24") pink spikes  
**Wesuwe** (12-18"x18-24") no need to dead head

**Marcus** (8-12"x8-12") long blooming dwarf variety

Each of the cultivars of Salvia listed above have their own worthy characteristics. May Night is a common cultivar, but it flops and spreads, so avoid that one.

*Designer Tip: For a showy display of pink, purple and white, combine the cultivars listed above with additional cultivars.*

There you have it — perennials that check all the boxes. Give them a try at the lake house. ■

Written by Lynn Kuhn,  
author of "Conversation  
Gardens: Where Conversations Flow and Relationships Grow." You can reach  
Lynn at [lynn@conversationgardens.com](mailto:lynn@conversationgardens.com) or [www.conversationgardens.com](http://www.conversationgardens.com).



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# Lake Panorama ASK TIMES

## Q: WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO AERATE MY LAWN?

A: Experts say it is best to aerate during, or right before, the time your grasses reach their peak time for natural growth. Aeration is good for lawns, but it can stress grass if timed improperly. Never aerate dormant lawns. Here in Iowa early fall or early spring are the best times for aerating. When aeration coincides with active growth, grasses recover quickly and fill in areas where aerator equipment exposes soil. Aerating is easiest on you (or your equipment operator) and your lawn when your soil is moist from irrigation or rainfall the day before. Overly dry soil can be tough to aerate, so moisture eases the process. On the flip side, never aerate overly wet lawns either; wait a few days instead.

## Q: WHAT TYPE OF FISH ARE STOCKED IN LAKE PANORAMA?

A: According to the Fin and Feather organization, which raises money to stock Lake Panorama with fish each year, \$17,525 worth of fish were stocked in the fall of 2022. Species stocked were walleye (1,500), smallmouth bass (1,500), perch (1,000) and largemouth bass (3,000). Fish stocked were between 3" and 14", depending on species.

## Q: WHAT IS RIZ?

A: The Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ) is a local government body formed in 1998 under Iowa Code Chapter 357H. The Lake Panorama RIZ serves to improve Lake Panorama and its watershed through funding of erosion control, sediment removal and water quality improvements. The Lake Panorama RIZ is managed by a five-member Board of Trustees, who are elected to three-year terms by residents of the Rural Improvement Zone. ■

Submit your questions at [www.lakepanorametimes.com](http://www.lakepanorametimes.com) or email [shane@dmcityview.com](mailto:shane@dmcityview.com).

## Bring-A-Friend MONTH



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## RECIPE

# POWER WEEKNIGHT FAMILY MEALS WITH PECANS

BY JOLENE GOODMAN

Lake Panorama Times

(Family Features) Back-to-school season means many families are busier than ever, leaving less time to plan weeknight meals. While a new school year brings plenty of exciting moments, it also adds up to early mornings, long days and late evenings, making it tough to keep nutrition top-of-mind.

With new routines and jam-packed calendars, quick and easy recipes can be the solutions you need. Swapping out complicated dishes for simple dinners and make-ahead snacks allows you to make your loved ones' health a priority while also managing hectic schedules.

To help make those simple yet tasty menu additions a reality, look to a flavor favorite and nutrition powerhouse like pecans. They're the ideal nut to keep on hand to incorporate into favorite meals and after-school snacks.

Taste is just the beginning when it comes to pecans. Their nutritious punch provides a unique mix of health-promoting nutrients. Plus, they're a versatile ingredient that can shine in a wide range of flavor profiles from sweet or spicy to salty, smoky and savory.

For more back-to-school recipe inspiration, visit EatPecans.com. ■

Jolene Goodman is the advertising director for Lake Panorama Times and vice president of Big Green Umbrella Media.



Jolene  
Goodman

## MAC AND CHEESE WITH PECAN BREADCRUMBS

Cook time: 50 minutes

Servings: 6

### INGREDIENTS:

- 8 ounces cavatappi pasta
- 1 teaspoon salt, plus additional for salting pasta water, to taste
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 block (8 ounces) cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup raw pecan pieces
- 15 ounces part-skim ricotta cheese
- 4 tablespoons sour cream
- 1/4 teaspoon ground pepper
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten

### DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 375 F.

Cook cavatappi in salted boiling water. Drain, reserving 1/2 cup pasta cooking water. Return pasta to pot and stir in butter.

Using box grater, shred cheddar cheese.

Using food processor, combine 1/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese with pecans. Process to coarse breadcrumb consistency.



Add remaining cheddar cheese, ricotta, sour cream, 1 teaspoon salt and pepper to warm pasta. Stir until thoroughly combined. Add egg; stir. Add 2-4 tablespoons reserved pasta water to loosen mixture; stir until smooth.

Pour into buttered 9-inch square or round casserole dish and top evenly with pecan topping. Bake 30 minutes.

### SUBSTITUTIONS:

Use pre-shredded cheese in place of cheddar cheese block. Use pasta of choice in place of cavatappi. ■

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# HELP TORI'S ANGELS ASSIST IOWA FAMILIES

**Next major fundraiser is “Angels in Denim” on Saturday, Oct. 14.**

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

Since 2010, Tori's Angels Foundation, which is a 501C3 non-profit entity and headquartered in Panora, has been raising funds to help Iowa families who have children with life-threatening medical conditions. The organization has grown significantly in recent years, as more families learn about the services the foundation offers. To date, 130 children have been accepted. Of those, eight are from Guthrie County.

Tori's Angels pays medical expenses not covered by insurance from the date of sponsorship until the child turns 19 years old. This includes travel expenses to treatment (airfare, mileage, hotel, meals), as well as prescriptions, medical co-pays and deductibles.

Three years ago, the Petersen family's life was flipped upside down when they learned their young son, Reed, would need a heart transplant. Reed's mom and dad, JJ and Dani, switched between being with him at the hospital and being at home in Shelby with his sister, Marcy. Now Reed is on the heart transplant list but continues to show improvement. Tori's Angels helped ease the burden on Reed's family by paying for meals and mileage during his hospital stays.

The next major fundraiser is “Angels in Denim” on Saturday, Oct. 14, when the Tori's Angels Foundation will host its fourth annual Gala. The fundraiser will be held in

Vets Auditorium in Panora.

Lidderdale Country Store will cater a prime rib dinner, and the Sweet Shoppe of Ames will provide cupcakes. Attendees will be entertained by local auctioneer Joe Bair, as he calls a host of high-end, privately donated items including several hotel packages with tickets to sporting events, a catered dinner, sports memorabilia, a necklace and much more. New this year is a silent auction, which will take place throughout the evening.

A table sponsorship is \$1,000 and includes dinner for eight, bottles of wine and special recognition during the program and on Tori's Angels' Facebook page and website. Individuals also can buy seats for the event at a cost of \$75 per person. To purchase a table for the event, contact JoAnn Alumbaugh at 641-431-0257 or M.J. Brown at 515-240-3692.

Proceeds from Gala ticket sales, as well as the live and silent auctions, go toward Tori's Angels' mission.

“Each of our families has a heart-wrenching story,” says Julie Dent-Zajicek, president of Tori's Angels Foundation. “If we can help ease their burden even a little bit by assisting with medical expenses, it's one less thing they need to worry about.”

It is only because of generous donors that the organization exists, notes Dent-Zajicek.

“Every dollar our supporters give goes directly to help our Tori's Angels families, unless otherwise designated,” she adds.

Cooper Schmidt, another of the Tori's Angels kids, spent the first 15 months of his life in the hospital because he was born with a kidney disease and other medical issues. He finally made his first trip home to Ankeny earlier this year after a successful kidney transplant.

Although there will be challenges ahead,



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Mady, Cooper and Andrew Schmidt thank the golfers and other supporters who participated in the second annual Cooper's Classic golf tournament, held earlier this summer at the Woodland Hills golf course in Des Moines. Proceeds were donated to Tori's Angels Foundation.

Cooper's parents, Andrew and Mady, are thankful for Tori's Angels.

“The support from Tori's Angels really helped us stay focused on Cooper, and knowing that all of our expenses were covered was a huge weight off our shoulders,” says Andrew.

Mady notes that although the financial help was hugely important, their appreciation for the organization ran deeper. “It's truly the people and the community that have supported us all the way through,” she says.

Tori's Angels volunteers get a deep sense of fulfillment in working with these families, knowing they are selflessly helping them when they need it most. The organization creates a network for families going through stressful times. The Tori's Angels kids have prayer warriors who care deeply about them and support them in their daily struggles.

Tori's Angels is helping Blake Bonta's family, too. Blake is presently going through chemotherapy, and his dad, Justin, recently shared his thoughts on Tori's Angels' Facebook page.

“As college football begins, I think of how this year changes everything,” he writes. “I

used to wave to the children's hospital and not know what to think. I didn't know what any of those families felt or what they were going through.”

Now, as Justin sits in the University of Iowa's Stead Family Children's Hospital with Blake, he wonders how he will react when he and Blake are the ones waving from the hospital windows, instead of watching the game from their home in Urbandale.

“So many things cross my mind each day,” he writes. “These kids used to be kids we watched playing a game. Now they are helping him fight the biggest battle of his life. To that there can never be a big enough thank you.”

In addition to supporting the gala, anyone wishing to help Tori's Angels children can send monetary donations to Tori's Angels at P.O. Box 186, Panora, Iowa, 50216. Online donation options are located on the foundation's website ([www.torisangels.org](http://www.torisangels.org)) and on its Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/torisangels](https://www.facebook.com/torisangels). The organization also welcomes those interested in becoming a volunteer.

To request an application for support, contact the foundation through the website or call 641-755-2011. ■

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## GOLF LEAGUE RESULTS



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

The top five point winners in the 2023 Panorama West Tuesday morning women's league were, left to right, Emily Spradling, Kathy Feilmeyer, Sharon Wedemeyer and Paula Hansen. Not pictured, Shelli Larsen.

## PANORAMA WEST WOMEN'S LEAGUE WRAPS UP 2023 SEASON

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

The Panorama West women's golf league wrapped up its 2023 season Aug. 29 with a four-gal best-shot tournament. The league had 73 members this year. The Tuesday tournament was followed by an awards luncheon in the Panorama West Clubhouse community room. League members Paula Hansen and Rhoda Williams organized the meal and decorations.

Cash prizes for play throughout the season were distributed to league members based on pars, birdies and chip ins. Ai Dunlop, Diane Pieper, Sharon Wedemeyer and Rhoda Williams received "perfect attendance" gifts to recognize they played every week of league during the 2023 season.

The top-10 point winners in the league included 13 players because of some ties. Each was recognized and received cash awards. They were Emily Spradling

in first place; Kathy Feilmeyer, second; Sharon Wedemeyer, third; Paula Hansen, fourth; Shelli Larsen, fifth; Beth Muenzenberger and Linda Wendl, tied for sixth; Diane Pieper, seventh; Julie Clausen, eighth; Brenda Dinkla and Sue Thompson, tied for ninth; and Donna Brody and Phyllis Davis, tied for 10th.

Ann Chambers completed her second year as league chair in 2023. Also assisting with the Panorama West women's league committee this year were Peg Carr as vice-chair, Nini VonBon as treasurer, Rhoda Williams as secretary, Amy Johnson, who handled weekly statistics, and Debbie Rockwell, who managed player handicaps. ■

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## PANORAMA DAYS RESULTS



PHOTO BY SHANE GOODMAN

## PANORAMA DAYS WERE BIGGER AND BETTER

BY RICH WICKS

*For the Lake Panorama Times*

Dale Hochreiter, co-chairperson for Panorama Days, gave Lake Panorama Times his initial assessment on the 2023 version of Panorama Days.

"It's probably one of the better Panorama Days we've had in quite a while, even though the past ones have been awesome," he said. "The run in the morning had the most people they've ever had. They had 94. When I talked to the person that does the cribbage, they said it was the most they've ever had in the cribbage tournament. The bank that sponsors the bingo said it was the most people they've ever had at bingo. It was our largest parade, by far, in all the years that Panorama Days has been going on."

Hochreiter noted the importance of the

sponsorships.

"We're able to do everything for free because of the sponsors that we have, because of the businesses in our community and individuals that contribute money," he said. "It's not really a cheap event, but it's fun when people with large families don't have to come up with \$10 a child or something. It's all free to go on rides, to have your face painted, caricatures, balloon dude. It's just fun."

Hochreiter thanked all the sponsors and helpers, as well as the community for coming to participate.

"I feel very fortunate to be a part of it and watching its success," he said.

### PANORAMA DAYS AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

**Little Miss**  
Saylor Allspach



PHOTO BY KEVIN FISTER



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PHOTO BY BETTY COOPER



PHOTO BY JOLENE GOODMAN



PHOTO BY JOLENE GOODMAN

#### Little Mr.

Carter Deardorff

#### Bill Riley State Fair Attendees:

Brielle Coil (Sprouts)

Addisyn Leonard (Senior)

Nella Riva (Senior)

#### Cutest Baby Contest:

Alivia Hester: 1st Place

Alivia Grote: 2nd Place

Aubrey Deardorff: 3rd place and Best Per-



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PHOTO BY KEVIN FISTER

## Organizations

Garden Club, 1st place

Guthrie County Fair, 2nd place

Ski Show, 3rd place

## Novelties/Float/Other

Class of 1973, 1st place

Class of 1988, 2nd place

Lakeside Village King and Queen, 3rd place

## Antique/Classic Cars

Classic Cars and Coffee (only entry in this category)

## Tractor/Farm Equipment

(Not available at press time.)

## Fire Department/Emergency/Vehicles

Panora Fire, 1st place

Panora EMS, 2nd place

Guthrie Center Fire, 3rd place ■



PHOTO BY BETTY COOPER



PHOTO BY KEVIN FISTER



PHOTO BY JOLENE GOODMAN



PHOTO BY KEVIN FISTER

## PANORAMA DAYS CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT RESULTS

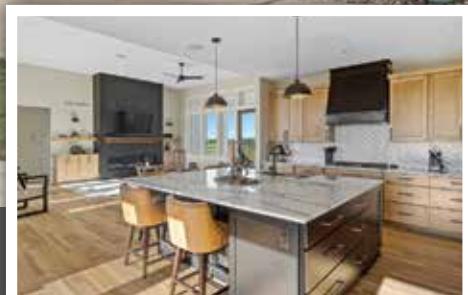
*Special to Lake Panorama Times*

Forty players participated in the 2023 Panorama Days Cribbage Tournament where the entry fee of \$5 each was donated to support the Panorama Days events. Bill Eby and Stine Seed Company provided the prize money, popcorn

and caps. Five participants won all four games. Placement was determined by the total of the opponents' scores. Jake Nickell took first place (\$40), second place went to Debbie Stanley (\$30), third to Casey Crees (\$20) and fourth to 12-year-old Eva Pelzer (\$10). Jim Carrico had the high hand of 24 and earned \$5. ■

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# HELP WANTED

## ELECTRIC SUPERINTENDENT

The City of Panora is accepting applications for this full-time position. The Superintendent oversees the overall operations of the City's electric system and is responsible for maintaining the electrical infrastructure, which includes, a substation that provides power to a 5KV distribution system that is 40% underground. The system load peaks at just over 4 MW. The City also has 3 stand-by generators with a generating capacity of 4.5 MW.

The Electric Superintendent is responsible for construction, maintenance, and design of the distribution system, including substation operations and maintenance. Electricity is purchased in bulk from the Guthrie REC through CIPCO. The Superintendent is responsible for managing all electric employees and reporting to the State.

The City is seeking applicants with the following qualifications:

- High School diploma or GED with a minimum of ten years of experience in electric power engineering, construction or maintenance, or an equivalent combination education and experience
- Possession of a valid class B CDL with air brake endorsement within 60 days of hire.
- Experience with budgeting and supervision
- Sound written and verbal communication skills
- Analytical with ability to interpret financial and/or engineering data
- Troubleshooting skills
- Residency requirement to be located within 5 miles of Panora within 6 months of start date.

Panora offers competitive wages with an excellent benefits package including IPERS, health, dental, drug, life, sick leave, clothing allowance and first year vacation. Position open until filled. Background check and post-offer physical & drug/alcohol screening required. EOE.

Send or email letter of interest and resume to: City Administrator: lisa@cityofpanora.com or PO Box 98, Panora IA 50216

## GENERAL LABORER

The City of Panora, IA is looking for general laborer to assist in the operations, maintenance, and repair of the electrical distribution system. Essential functions include operating a variety of contractor's equipment and trucks utilized in maintenance of electric distribution, no hot line work is required. This is a full-time position who will work in all aspects of the Electric Utility helping to upgrade the system through various projects for the city and customers. This position reports directly to the Electrical Superintendent. Applicant must have or be able to obtain a valid CDL. Opportunity to obtain additional certifications in the electric field is available.

Applications and job description may be picked up at City Hall or [www.cityofpanora.com](http://www.cityofpanora.com). Position open until filled. EOE. Questions may be directed to Doug Long at (641) 757-0200.

## PANORAMA DAYS RESULTS



## FISHING DERBY DRAWS RECORD PARTICIPANTS

*Special to Lake Panorama Times*

A total of 96 kids participated in the Panorama Days fishing derby, which is the most the event has ever drawn. More than \$1,500 of prizes, trophies and cash were given away. The results are as follows:

### AGES 3-5:

**Biggest fish** - Stetson McClanahan  
**Smallest fish** - Everett Peters

### AGES 6-8:

**Biggest fish** - Jaelyn Barrett

**Smallest fish** - Blake Stanley

### AGES 9-11:

**Biggest fish** - Jax Loney  
**Smallest fish** - Caleb Pelzer

### AGES 12-13:

**Biggest fish** - Jack Zimmerman  
**Smallest fish** - Cruz Stanley

### OVERALL BIGGEST FISH:

**First place** - Stetson McClanahan (\$60)  
**Second place** - Jax Loney (\$40)  
**Third place** - Raelyn Knudsen (\$20) ■

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## PANORAMA DAYS RESULTS



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

## 5K RUN HAS LARGEST TURNOUT TO DATE

Special to Lake Panorama Times

The Panorama Days 5K run had a total of 93 participants this year. The race was held at 8 a.m. on Saturday and was the largest participation number in the history of Reshape Fitness Studio holding this event.

"Volunteer help was amazing as well," said organizer Sue Bump. "I highly doubt this town has ever seen this big of a race. I ran this race the past five years with Reshape and Trudy and helped two years prior to that, and it's been growing each year by an average of 20 registrants."

Kal Hoppe, 18, of Clive won the race with a time of 16:52:00. ■



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

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It shouldn't take your roof disappearing in a matter of seconds to find out who you can count on.

An advertisement for Bryton Insurance Agency. It features a photograph of a house with its roof partially collapsed, followed by a photograph of a new roof being installed. The text reads: "BUT SOMETIMES IT DOES. And that's the Silver Lining®." Below the images, contact information is provided: "To find out more about the Silver Lining, contact BRYTON INSURANCE AGENCY 128 W. Main St. • Panora, IA 50216 641-755-2123". The West Bend logo and social media links are also present.

An advertisement for Flowers by Panorama Gardens. It features a graphic of a pentagon containing a candle with the date "9.11.01" and the word "REMEMBER". The background is a field of colorful flowers. The text reads: "Remember YOUR FALL PLANTS WITH US". Below the graphic, the text "Flowers by Panorama Gardens" is written in a script font, and the address "3055 Hwy 44, Panora | 641-755-2225" is provided.



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To sign up for Managed Wi-Fi, call 641.755.2424 in Panora or 641.332.2000 in Guthrie Center.

\*Professional installation at \$89.95 is required. Fee waived with a 2-year agreement.

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641.332.2000

Commerce Group © 2023

# CUTEST BABY



KEVIN FISTER | SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

The Panora Chamber of Commerce held the Cutest Baby Contest during Panorama Days on Aug. 5 and honored a number of local babies with various awards, including Alivia Hester, who was the first-place winner. She is pictured with her mother, Harley Hester. ■



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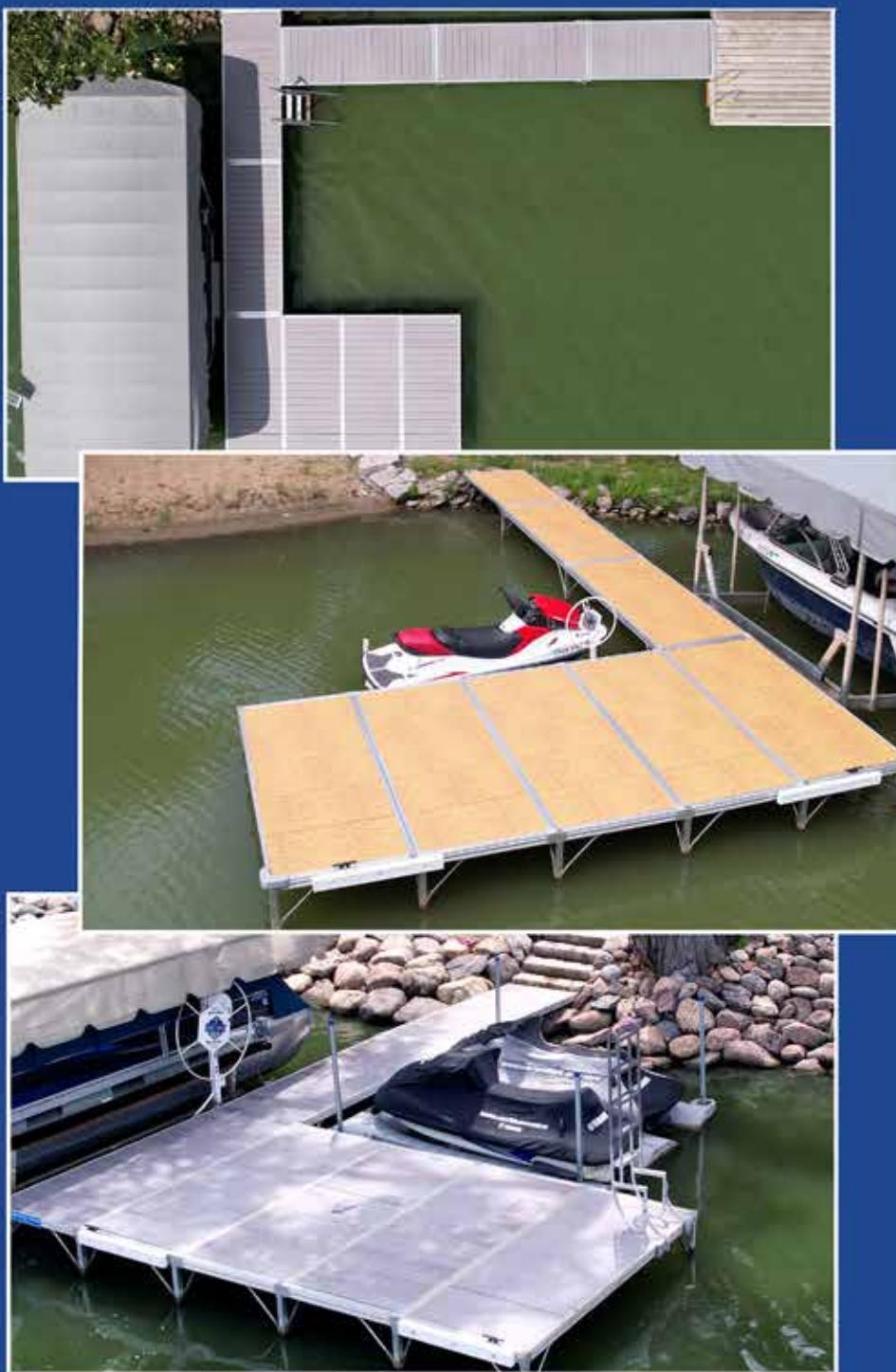
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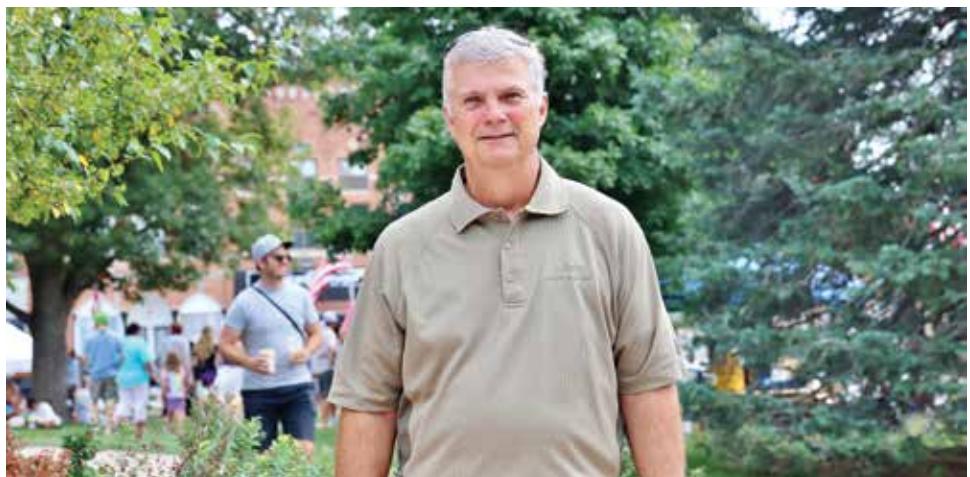
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# KLINGE NAMED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



KEVIN FISTER | SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Kirby Klinge was named the 2023 Citizen of the Year on Saturday during the Panorama Days festival. The announcement was made during the awards presentation after the parade. Klinge has been involved in numerous organizations and activities in the area including Tori's Angels Foundation Board of Directors, Guthrie County Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, Guthrie County Community Foundation Board of Directors, and Panorama youth baseball and football. He has also been a regular and long-term volunteer for Panorama Days, Yale's 4th of July Celebration, the youth athletic fields and concessions and as a bus driver for Lakeside Village, among many other contributions. ■

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## BUSINESS NEWS

# PANORA FIBER EXPANDS BROADBAND IN RURAL GUTHRIE, DALLAS COUNTIES

BY RICH WICKS

*For Lake Panorama Times*

Panora Fiber recently announced another step in a broadband expansion project that is geared toward providing rural customers with better access.

"It's a multimillion-dollar broadband expansion plan for rural Guthrie County and rural Dallas County," said Andy Randol, CEO of Panora Fiber. "It kicked off last week. Area Two is what we label the Bagley area, so between Jamaica and Bagley, we're filling in some broadband gaps that we're excited about."

Area Two will include roughly 125 homes, according to Randol.

"We hope to have that done before winter," he said. "For Project Two, we'll be hooking people up as we go along there to state-of-the-art fiber optic broadband communications."

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Randol said Project Three and Project Four of this multimillion-dollar expansion will start more than likely in early 2024.

"(Those projects) will take us from Linden to Redfield to south of Adel. All rural areas. And down toward Earlham. Those will touch roughly another 1,000 locations, so we're excited about that as well, giving rural customers broadband that they deserve."

For more information, contact Panora Fiber at 641-755-2424 or visit [www.panorafiber.com](http://www.panorafiber.com). ■

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## TRISH HART'S NATURE PHOTOS



## AUTUMN COLORS

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

Fall is fast approaching, which means the trees at Lake Panorama are starting to turn from green to a variety of other colors. Leaves can change color from as early as mid-September through early November. Typically, the second and third week of October are the peak times.

Because of changes in the length of daylight and changes in temperature, leaves stop their food-making process. Chlorophyll breaks down, the green color disappears, and the yellow, gold, red and orange colors come out. Clear days, cool nights and dry conditions promote high quality fall color.

Nature photographer Trish Hart lives full-time at Lake Panorama with her husband Scott. This month's pho-

tos feature some Lake Panorama fall color views captured with her camera a year ago. Hart offers custom prints of her photos on canvas, paper, metal and glass. Learn more by visiting Nature's Canvas Photography on Facebook. ■



# AREA CHURCH GUIDE

► SUBMIT CHANGES OR UPDATES AT [WWW.LAKEPANORAMATIMES.COM](http://WWW.LAKEPANORAMATIMES.COM) OR EMAIL [SHANE@DMCITYVIEW.COM](mailto:SHANE@DMCITYVIEW.COM)

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[www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org)  
641-439-2458

## BAYARD

**Bayard United Methodist Church**  
500 Third St., Bayard  
[www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org)  
712-651-2307

**St. Patrick Catholic Church**  
124 Prairie St., Bayard  
[st-mary-patrick-cecelia.com](http://st-mary-patrick-cecelia.com)  
641-747-3843

## GUTHRIE CENTER

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**First United Methodist Church**  
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[www.gcumcia.org](http://www.gcumcia.org)  
641-332-2408

**First Presbyterian Church**  
701 State St., Guthrie Center  
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**Guthrie Center First Baptist Church**  
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**Guthrie Center Seventh Day Adventist Church**  
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**Lighthouse Assembly of God Church**  
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[www.panoralighthouseassemblyofgod.com](http://www.panoralighthouseassemblyofgod.com)  
641-755-3060

**Lutheran Church of Hope**  
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**Saint Thomas Lutheran Church**  
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**St. Cecilia Catholic Church**  
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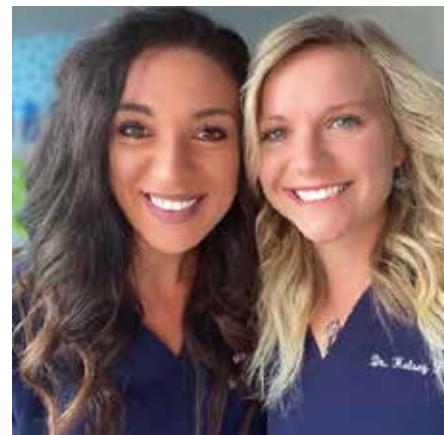
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# LAKE DOG

BY CHERYL TEMPLE | Lake Panorama Times



Name: Boomer

Age: 6 years old

Breed: Cavapoo

Owners: Mark, Jen, Zac and Sami McCormack

Boomer enjoys watching people walk by the house and boats going across the lake. He loves playing with the neighborhood dogs and is happy to play fetch or hang out at the tiki bar that has a sign just for him. ■

  
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# COVE CAT

BY CHERYL TEMPLE | Lake Panorama Times



**Name:** Dewey

**Owners:** Pam and Brit Shelton

Dewey was found at an elementary school on a blustery November day. He kept running inside the building at recess when the kids went out to play. Dewey would hide in boxes in the library. The

principal begged Pam to take him to their farm. Pam named him Dewey after the book, "Dewey," a true story of a kitten put in a book drop at Spencer Iowa Public Library. He lived his entire life in the library. Pam's Dewey lives at the lake enjoying the view — sometimes from a box. ■

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- Work during daylight hours
- Carry a First Aid kit

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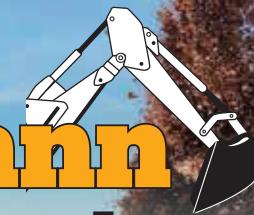
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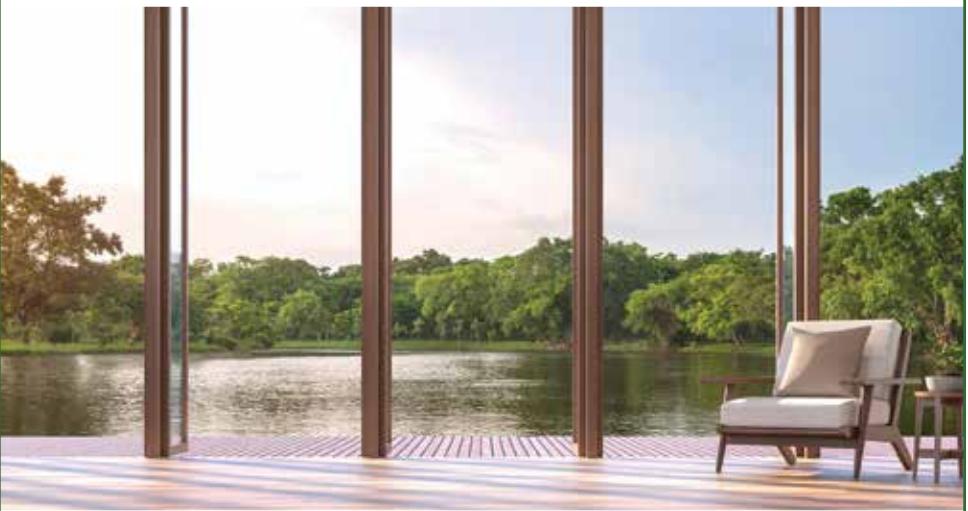
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## COMMUNITY NEWS



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

This granite memorial bench was installed behind the 296-yard, par-four teebox at Panorama West Aug. 25. It honors George Mirras, who enjoyed playing the course until he was well into his 90s. He died Feb. 14, 2023, at the age of 100.

## NEW MEMORIAL BENCH INSTALLED AT PANORAMA WEST

**George Mirras is honored with bench on the fourth hole behind the 296-yard par-four teebox.**

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

A new granite bench was installed at the Panorama West golf course Aug. 25. It's in memory of George Mirras of Urbandale, who passed away Feb. 14, 2023. The bench is on the fourth hole behind the 296-yard par-four teebox. It offers views of both the Panorama West pond and the fourth fairway.

Tom Gratias and his wife, LaDonna, have owned a secondary home at Lake Panorama since 1990. With help from Greater Des Moines Home Builders Association, Gratias led the effort to raise money for the memorial bench and worked with Friends of Lake Panorama to order and arrange installation of the bench.

He founded Gratias Construction in 1972. "I became friends with George Mirras when he worked as a salesman for Midwest Gas. He called on builders to promote installing gas furnaces and appliances until he was 70 years old," Gratias says. "When he retired in 1993, he took up golf."

Gratias says Mirras came to Lake Panorama most weekends to play with him at the Panorama West golf course. "Often, Joe Scheiring joined us. George wasn't a low handicap golfer, but he did his best," he says. "Especially as he got older, if he didn't hit a good shot, another ball would pop out of his pants pocket like a slot machine, and he would say 'That wasn't a golf shot...I better try another one.'"

That's the back story to the words engraved on the bench: "In Memory of George Mirras, with pants pockets full of golf balls, was always prepared for another swing."

Mirras was born in Fargo, North Dakota, on Oct. 18, 1922. He enlisted in the Army during World War II and saw combat in France, Holland and Germany. He was promoted to Artillery First Lieutenant in



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

A new bench at Panorama West, donated in memory of George Mirras, offers views of both the nearby pond and the fourth fairway.

the Korean War where he trained troops in Japan.

After completing his journalism studies at the University of Missouri, he worked in marketing for the Junction City Kansas Daily Union, Omaha World Herald, WOW Radio & TV in Omaha, Des Moines Register & Tribune, Business & Industry Magazine in Des Moines, Iowa Power & Light Company, and the Home Builders Association of Greater Des Moines.

"George simply was fun to be around,

with a competitive spirit to want to hit a better shot. He played golf with me at Panorama West for more than 20 years, all the way up into his 90s," Gratias says.

The Mirras bench is the eighth gray granite bench installed at the Panorama West golf course by Des Moines-Winterset Memorials. ■

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# LPA BOARD MINUTES

## LAKE PANORAMA ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING JULY 25, 2023

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met July 25, 2023, at 5 p.m. at the Lake Panorama Association Office. Board members in attendance were Emily Donovan, David Finneseth, Dennis Flanery, Mark Jorgensen, Rich Schumacher, Sue Thompson and Dirk Westercamp.

LPA Staff in attendance: Danna Krambeer, Corey Larson and John Rutledge.

Visitors in attendance: Deb and Jim Fisher, Tim Hopson, Wade Jensen, Nathan Rolfs, Scott Rolfs, Lisa and Alan Swett, LPA Members. Jan Reinecke and Susan Thompson, Friends of Lake Panorama.

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

### Agenda Item 1 – Approval of the

#### Agenda

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

No conflicts of interest were disclosed by the Board of Directors regarding agenda items.

#### Agenda Item 2 – Open Forum

Members Deb & Jim Fisher, Wade Jensen, Lisa and Alan Swett spoke on the rentals that appear to be ongoing at Lake Panorama in violation of the rental rules.

Rutledge spoke about what has been happening and how LPA Management is handling the issue and recommended any rule(s) violations be reported to security at the time of violation.

Tim Hopson spoke regarding the drainage onto his property from the neighbor's new construction.

Nathan Rolfs asked the Board to reconsider the denied request for septic easement on LPA owned property behind lot 1453. Rolfs presented additional information regarding the septic system and the total area it will require to install. The Board requested Rolfs stake the area and Board will review for August meeting.

#### Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda

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

Consent agenda to include:

a) LPA General Manager's Report

b) Approval of minutes from 06.27.2023 LPA Board Meeting

c) Acceptance of the 06.30.2023 LPA LPN Consolidated Financial Statement

d) Set date for next board meeting 08.29.2023

e) Accept minutes from 06.26.2023 LPN LLC Board of Managers Meeting

f) Accept minutes from 07.10.2023 Building Codes Committee Meeting

President Donovan moved to agenda item 5a.

#### Agenda Item 5a – Friends of Lake Panorama – South Shore Enhancements

Jan Reinecke and Susan Thompson, representing Friends of Lake Panorama, spoke to the board regarding additional new low-impact recreational amenities on South Shore, including nine-hole disc golf course, backless benches along the trail, welcome sign with information about the Lake Panorama trail system including plan for concrete slab nearby for a single picnic table and wooden structure with four corner posts and metal roof, and installation of birdhouses in various locations in the timber and open areas.

Jorgensen moved to approve the plans

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for disc golf course, benches, birdhouses and shelter on south shore as provided by Friends of Lake Panorama. Motion seconded and carried. Schumacher abstained.

#### **Agenda Item 4a - Report from Treasurer**

Flanery reported he did not meet with Krambeer prior to the meeting. He will review and notify the board of anything that comes up at the next meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 4b - Roof Pitch Variance, Lot 1192**

Roof pitch request from Bill Prebeck for 3/12 and 4/12 pitch roof on new home construction on lot 1192, 5217 Panorama Point. The Building Codes Committee reviewed the request and recommended it be accepted, per the plans provided.

Finneseth moved to approve variance for 3/12 and 4/12 roof pitch for new home construction on lot 1192, 5217 Panorama Point, per the plans submitted for construction. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

#### **Agenda Item 4c - 2023-24 LPA Deer Hunting Regulations**

No substantive changes are recommended for this season's Deer Hunting Program. There will be some adjustments to the South Shore hunting area to accommodate both hunters and trail users.

Schumacher moved to approve the hunting regulations for the 2023-2024 deer hunting season. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

#### **Agenda Item 4d - Proposed change to LPA Rule 10.5, Appeal Requirements**

LPA management and the Appeals Committee have reviewed the appeal process and recommended rule changes to 10.5 Appeal Requirements. The following rule changes represent the final version, as developed by LPA staff and the Appeals Committee, and finalized by the LPA attorney. Strikethrough language is deleted and underlined language is new:

#### **10.5 Appeal Requirements**

Request for a hearing must be in writing, not more than 10 days following notification of revocation or fine. Minors must be accompanied by one or both of their parents, or by a legal guardian, to the hearing.

(a) Members requesting an appeal are required to submit the following items to LPA not more than ten (10) days following receipt of the fine or notice of the revocation of the members' rights or privileges.

1. Payment of the fine, in full.
2. Payment of a Fifty Dollar (\$50.00) appeal hearing deposit.
3. A completed LPA appeal hearing request form.

(b) Guests who cause a member to receive a citation may accompany that member to the appeal hearing but may not appeal on behalf of a member as only a member can appeal. The member in receipt of such citation must be present for the appeal hearing or the appeal hearing deposit will be forfeited and the citation will automatically be ruled final.

(c) Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

(d) Members who are absent from their scheduled appeal hearing will automatically forfeit their deposit, and the revocation of privileges and/or fine shall be deemed final and no longer appealable. Members who attend their scheduled appeal hearing shall be issued a full refund of their deposit within ten (10) days of the appeal hearing, regardless of the Appeals Committee's determination of the appeal.

(e) In the event of extenuating circumstances including but not limited to bereavement, illness, family emergency, acute personal circumstances, court attendance, and/or other official proceedings, a member scheduled for an appeal hearing shall provide the Appeals Committee with twenty-four (24) hours' advance written notice of cancellation of the scheduled appeal hearing or with a request to have the appeal hearing rescheduled. Such member may email the designated representative of the LPA Appeals Committee with such request.

(f) Except as provided for extenuating circumstances, members shall notify the Appeals Committee at least 72 hours prior to their scheduled meeting to request deferral and to avoid forfeiture of deposit and finalization of fines/penalties. Members who are appealing loss of privileges shall not have the option to defer to a subsequent meeting date.

(g) All appeal hearings are scheduled to be held in person at the Lake Panorama Association office, 5006 Panorama Drive, Panora, Iowa; provided, however, that the member requesting such appeal hearing may request for the hearing to be held telephonically or by means of electronic communication at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled date. The Appeals Committee shall have authority to hold appeal hearings telephonically or by means of electronic communications if and when the Appeals Committee deems it necessary in its sole discretion. In the event the Appeals Committee elects to hold the appeal hearing via telephone or by means of electronic communication, the Appeals Committee shall provide the appealing member at least 72 hours' prior notice.

(h) Members who have a fine reduced or withdrawn by the Appeals Committee shall be issued a refund in an amount of such reduction or nullification as determined by the committee within ten (10) days of the appeal hearing.

Finneseth moved to adopt the recommended rule changes to LPA Rule 10.5 appeal requirements. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

#### **Agenda Item 5b - Lot 1453 - Request by Nathan Rolfs for septic easement on adjacent LPA-owned property**

Item moved to the next meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 6 - Strategic Planning - Ongoing development and review of LPA's strategic plan**

The board reviewed the report received from the strategic planning session and assigned committees, timelines and tasks that were defined from the session.

#### **Agenda Item 7 - Closed Session - The board entered closed session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Board exited closed session at 8:09 p.m.**

Flanery moved to approve a motion as discussed in closed session regarding LPA's purchase of a parcel of property within the LPA subdivision. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Flanery moved to approve a motion as discussed in closed session regarding a confidential legal matter. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

**Adjourn** - With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. ■

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## MAKING WAVES

Brady Lorenz hits an early-morning ski run on Labor Day. Have skiing or boating photos to share for a future issue of Lake Panorama Times? Send to [shane@dmcityview.com](mailto:shane@dmcityview.com). ■

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