

Lake Panorama TIMES

APRIL 2024

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MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

MATT LUKACS ALMOST
DIED SKIING AND LIVED
TO TELL ABOUT IT

PAGE 6

THE PORT REOPENS IN
TIME FOR BUSY SEASON

PAGE 16

B&B MARKETPLACE
BRINGS MODERN
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8-4-2-1 BREAKFAST
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PAGE 40

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ON THE COVER: Matt Lukacs' first car was a 1967 Mustang, which cost him \$400. He fixed it up and a year later sold it for \$1,800. That was the beginning of a lifelong career to buy, restore and sell sports cars. He and his wife, Anette, currently own two Corvettes and have part ownership of an airplane. Photo by Susan Thompson



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IT'S TIME FOR A LITTLE TRASH TALK

Walt Longmire, the lead character in the television series "Longmire," which is available on Netflix, rarely met a piece of garbage he didn't want to pick up. The no-nonsense sheriff of fictional Absaroka County in Wyoming uses his skills to solve murders in this incredibly entertaining modern-day Western. He also uses his hands to keep his county clean. We could all learn from Walt.

With the snow melted at Lake Panorama, the ugly pollution of the prior months is now uncovered. Plastic is the main culprit. Plastic bags. Plastic cups. Plastic bottles. There is no doubt that plastic has made our world better in

some ways, but it is a serious problem in others. Unfortunately, we too often overlook it. Take a glance at our roadsides, ditches and shorelines, and the problem is obvious.

Earth Day is Monday, April 22. I have written past columns urging readers to pick up one piece of garbage on Earth Day and explained how powerful that single effort could be if we all did it. But that's just one day. We can do better at Lake Panorama.



Shane Goodman

So, here is my challenge. Starting today, and for the next 12 days, I ask that each of the 4,000 or so readers of this publication pick up two pieces of garbage off the ground each day. That would add up to 96,000 pieces between now and Earth Day. What a great effort that would be. And if you know anything about forming habits, you realize that, if you do this for 12 days, you will likely continue to do it.

To make this effort even stronger, I ask that you recycle as many of those materials as you can to avoid simply moving the trash from one part of our planet to another.

Together, we can make quite an impact and help make Lake Panorama an even more beautiful place to be. Most all of us would certainly be proud of this. Walt Longmire would, too.

Have a great April, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
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MATT LUKACS IS MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

He's not just a skier who loves to ski; he's a skier who almost died doing it and lived to tell about it.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

The original idea was to write a story for this publication's semi-regular feature titled "What's in Your Garage?" Yet, start asking questions of Matt Lukacs, and you soon learn he's got more to share than what's in his garage.

"I was born in east Liverpool, grew up in Brazil, went to school in Poland and lived 15 years in Mexico," he says.

Wow, this guy has lived all over the world!

"However, that's Mexico, Missouri. Brazil is in Indiana, and the name of the county was Poland, so I went to Poland County elementary school. East Liverpool isn't in England, but rather in Ohio. I graduated high school in Mexico, Missouri," Lukacs says. "Then I moved to Iowa for college."

OK, I'm hooked. Let's keep going.

"I received a two-year degree for auto mechanics, then immediately went on to earn my engineering degree. I met Anette, and we got married as I was finishing college. I received engineering job offers at carmakers in other states, but Anette wanted to stay in Iowa to be close to her family, so we stayed in Iowa, which turned out well. People are great here," he says.

Anette grew up on a farm near New Virginia and graduated from Interstate 35 High School. She was a health insurance underwriter for 12 years before the couple married.

"We met at a large church in Des Moines. The college and singles class had about 250 people in it. There was a singles retreat at Hidden Acres I signed up for. The church took a bus there, and Anette was sitting by herself on the bus,"



Anette and Matt Lukacs are shown at the Guthrie County airport with their airplane, motorcycle and two Corvettes.

Lukacs says. "We had never met, but she had a Tupperware container full of homemade chocolate chip cookies. I love sweets, so I sat next to her and ate all the cookies before we got to our destination. So, I asked her out on a date."

The couple doesn't have children of their own but worked with a large high school youth group for 25 years.

"I always told their parents the reason I did that was to remind me why I don't have kids," Lukacs jokes.

What brought them to Lake Panorama?

"It's a long story," he says. "I was happy boating and skiing at Saylorville Lake and Lake of the Ozarks. In 1999, I was hit by a drunk boater. The brief times I was conscious in the water and in the ambulance, there was blood all around me and blood coming out of my mouth. The three trauma doctors who worked on me told my family there was less than a 10% chance I would live."

Lukacs had multiple broken bones, internal bleeding, a collapsed and infected lung, and a broken spine.

"The worst was my kidney and liver. They couldn't even find my liver on the first CAT scan and had to do a second one," Lukacs says. "All the broken ribs had ground it to a pulp. I was on life sup-



Matt Lukacs joined the Lake Panorama ski team in 2021. It wasn't long before he became a featured act in the annual ski team show with his barefoot skiing. He has attended barefoot ski school many times in Winter Haven, Florida, and in South Carolina.

port. I found out later that hundreds of people came to the hospital and prayed for me. For some reason, God healed me without any surgeries."

As he healed, Lukacs had to learn to walk again. Not surprisingly, he was afraid to go into water.

"I had to force myself to get over that fear. I did not want that to control my life," he says. "We ended up at Lake Panorama the next year due to its family-oriented nature and it not having the drunken boater problems of other lakes."

After one year at Lake Panorama, Lu-

kacs joined the ski team, another step toward conquering his fear of being in the water. It wasn't long before he became a featured act in the annual ski team show with his barefoot skiing plus other tricks.

"We went to a ski show in Florida, and I thought the barefooters were amazing," he says. "I've now been to barefoot ski school many times over the years in Winter Haven, Florida, and in South Carolina. When you barefoot ski, your feet get hot from the friction on the water, so you learn tricks like butt sliding, tumble turns, one foots and more to give your feet a break."

The couple built a house at Lake Panorama in 2004 and plan on retiring here soon. Most weekends, including the winter months, they leave their Urbandale home to spend time at the lake. They also own 160 acres of farmland near New Virginia.

Time to get to the point. What's in your garage?

"Over the years, we've owned more than 100 sports cars," Lukacs says. "That includes about 79 Mustangs, nine Corvettes and 20 Camaros, Firebirds, Trans Ams and others. You can throw in seven motorcycles the last 15 years, plus 12 boats and 10 jet skis in the last 26 years."

Lukacs' first car was a 1967 Mustang. "I paid \$400 for it from my parents.

At the time, that was all it was worth. I fixed it up, which didn't take much. The value went up the next year, and a guy asked if he could buy it for his daughter for \$1,800. That's when I realized a great part-time job would be fixing up classic cars."

So, about 44 years ago, Lukacs started buying and restoring mainly 1965-1968 Mustangs.

"I did all the body work, welding, painting, upholstery and mechanical work on them," he says. "I averaged six to eight restorations annually for many years. I stopped when I got to the point that working on cars all day, then coming home to work on a car, wasn't a hobby anymore."

He started his current business in 1982, while he was still in college.

"At Automotive Engineering, we specialize in diagnostic and repairs of electrical, computer systems and performance problems in cars. We also do other things like brakes, suspension and general maintenance," Lukacs says.

The business is located in Clive. Two years after Lukacs started the business, Anette joined it.

"She has been a very big part of the shop," he says. "She does customer relations and book work. Before parts stores delivered parts fast, she was our parts



This year's early spring allowed Matt Lukacs to ride his 2023 Indian motorcycle around Lake Panorama in late February. Indian Motorcycle was America's first motorcycle company, founded in 1901 in Massachusetts. Since 2011, the company's manufacturing plant has been in Spirit Lake.

runner."

What's in Lukacs' garage now?

The couple has two Corvettes. Anette drives the red 2023, and Matt drives the blue 2024. They recently sold a 2022 Mustang GT convertible and added the 2024

Corvette.

"The sport and muscle cars get driven until there's snow on the ground," Lukacs says. "We ordered both Corvettes with the Z51 packages, so the tires are summer use only. When the temperature hits

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SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Matt Lukacs shares ownership of a plane with Dr. David Dwyer, who also lives at Lake Panorama. The plane is kept in a hangar at the Guthrie County airport. Lukacs often flies over Lake Panorama and takes photos. This photo taken last summer shows the Narrows, upper basin and the Middle Raccoon River flowing into the lake. In the upper left corner, what looks like a large pond is the current sediment basin where spoils from the dredging operation are pumped.

40 degrees, the tires become like hard plastic and dangerous to drive. During warm weather, they have a sticky feel to grip the road better. These cars usually are stored three to four months. This year, February was nice, so they came out early."

Lukacs says when the Corvettes are in storage, the couple drives "two boring SUVs. A newer Ford Explorer and a Chevy Blazer. We also need those to pull the Malibu ski boat. Our home is on B lots, so we keep the boat in the lake garage and tow it to the boat ramp every week."

So, besides two SUVs and a ski boat, anything else in your garage?

"One motorcycle. We bought the 2023 Indian Rogue motorcycle this past fall. It's my seventh bike," Lukacs says. "I got into bikes when a youth group student wanted to take the motorcycle class in Ankeny, but he didn't have his driver's license yet, so I took the class with him. I enjoyed the class a lot, so I bought a motorcycle. The Indian bike is made here in Iowa and has been around longer than Harley-Davidson."

Surely there's no more room in the garage, but anything else with an engine?

"One airplane. Dr. David Dwyer and I are partners, and we keep it at the Guthrie County airport. I always wanted to fly. It wasn't until I was older that I got my license," Lukacs says. "I really en-

joy taking people up with me. I fly in the area and like taking photos of Lake Panorama. I also fly to Missouri and Wisconsin to air shows and to southern Iowa to look at our New Virginia farm from the sky."

Dwyer also has a home at Lake Panorama and is on the ski team. Lukacs says Dwyer uses the plane to fly to Illinois to see family.

"David is an awesome guy to be partners with. He has a great attitude. We got our pilot licenses about the same time," he says. "This is David's second airplane and the first one I've owned. Before that, I belonged to two flying clubs in the Des Moines area, which was a great experience. My favorite plane is like the one I was certified in. It was a Mooney, which are built like a Corvette — fast and aerodynamic."

Now when people see Matt Lukacs barefoot skiing on Lake Panorama, they'll know the rest of his story. He's not just a skier who loves to ski; he's a skier who almost died doing it and lived to tell about it. He's owned a car repair business for 42 years. He loves sports cars. He loves to ride his motorcycle made in Iowa. He is part-owner of an airplane he loves to fly.

Anything else he wants to share?

"I couldn't have accomplished any of this without Anette," he says.

He's also a smart husband. ■

EVENT

LAKE PANORAMA FIN AND FEATHER BANQUET MAY 11

Funds raised at the banquet are used to stock fish in Lake Panorama, improve fish habitat and sponsor an annual fishing derby for children.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

The 2024 Lake Panorama Fin and Feather fundraising banquet will be Saturday, May 11, the same day as the LPA annual meeting. The event will be held at the Lake Panorama National Resort with social hour beginning at 5 p.m. A dinner and silent/live auctions will follow at 6 p.m. All ages are welcome.

Funds raised at the banquet, plus annual memberships and direct donations, are used to stock fish in Lake Panorama. The group also helps improve fish habitat and sponsors an annual fishing derby for children during Panorama Days.

The cost for fish stocking for 2023 was more than \$18,000. Species stocked included a total of 1,050 walleye, with 300 of those 12 inches or more, and 750 in the 6- to 9-inch range. There also were 1,400 smallmouth bass, 1,500 large-mouth bass and 2,500 perch released last year.

Dinner tickets to the May 11 banquet are \$50 each, with children 12 and younger \$25. Another option is to join the Big Skipper Club at a cost of \$150.

This covers two dinner tickets, Big Skipper raffle ticket and an annual family membership. The cost of just an annual family membership is \$50.

Supporters can either mail a check or register online with a credit card or PayPal account at the group's website: <http://panoramafinandfeather.com/banquet/>

If payment is made by check, make it payable to Fin and Feather and mail to Doug Hemphill, Farmers State Bank, P.O. Box 110, Yale, Iowa, 50277, along with a completed membership application, which is available on the website.

Those unable to attend who want to become members or make a donation can do so on the Fin and Feather website or by mail.

Members who pay in advance for the banquet will have their tickets waiting for them upon arrival. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door for walk-in attendees. ■



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EVENT

PLANNING UNDERWAY FOR 2024 BEACH BALL JUNE 21

Registration is
expected to be
available in mid-April.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

Friends of Lake Panorama will host its seventh Beach Ball fundraiser Friday, June 21 at Lake Panorama National. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the founding of Friends of Lake Panorama, a nonprofit charity dedicated to improving recreational amenities at Lake Panorama.

Plans are being finalized for the event, and registration is expected to be available in mid-April. The Friends board is discussing how profits from the event will be used. Projects chosen will receive a percentage of pooled funds raised, plus all direct donations designated to a specific project.

Funds will be raised with both live and silent auctions plus other activities throughout the evening. Several auction items already are committed including some that have been the most popular in past live auctions.

One is a Cyclone football package for the Nov. 2 ISU vs. Texas Tech game, which

includes four tickets in the ISU Athletic Director Suite with Jamie Pollard, food and soft drinks during the game, and a VIP parking pass; a piece of jewelry custom-made by Gary Youngberg, owner of Ames Silversmithing; and a six-course gourmet meal for six with wine pairings, prepared, served and donated by Bill and Karen Fitzgerald.

Anyone interested in donating auction items for the 2024 Beach Ball is asked to email staff@friendsoflakepanorama.org.

The 2023 Beach Ball had a profit of \$25,000. That money has been used over the last year, in conjunction with private donations, to create low-impact recreational amenities on Lake Panorama's south shore.

Funds raised at past Beach Balls helped improve playgrounds at all three beaches, install sports courts at both Boulder and Sunset beaches, create a dog park, enhance the Panorama West Nature Trail, add more than 20 new benches at beaches and golf courses, and several smaller projects.

Details on all past and current projects are available on the Friends website at friendsoflakepanorama.org. Friends of Lake Panorama also has a Facebook page. Details will be posted on Facebook when registration begins for the 2024 Beach Ball. ■

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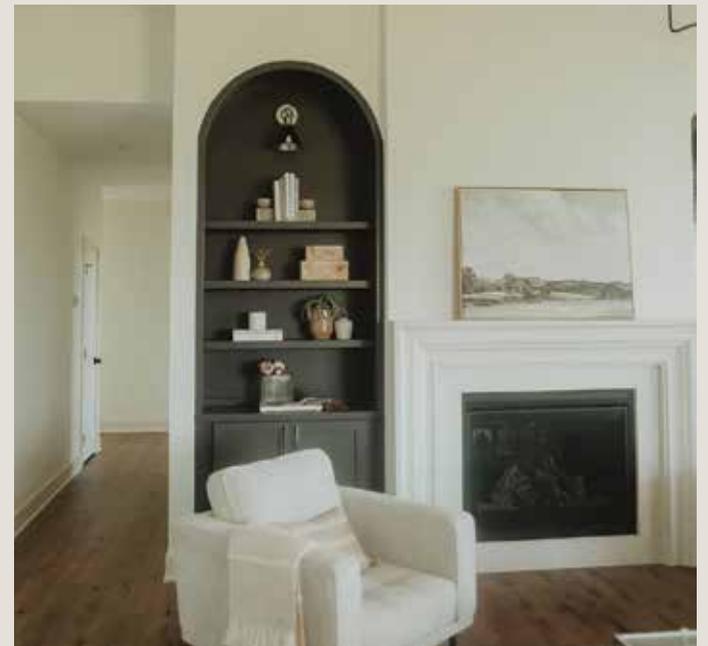
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LOCAL FILM REVIEWS

SWANK, WAHLBERG, GYLLENHAAL, MORE GHOSTBUSTERS AND A CLONE OF CHRIST

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY

Lake Panorama Times

“ORDINARY ANGELS”

Two-time Academy Award winner Hilary Swank stars in this movie based on the true story of a flawed woman who is inspired to help a young family after seeing a report on the local news. A movie that could have been a syrupy mess turns into an engaging and, at times, touching film. A seriously ill child, a family struggling to pay their medical bills and an angel trying to help. It's better than it should be and is a true crowd-pleaser. Bring Kleenex. Lots of them. **Grade: A-**



“Ordinary Angels”

“ARTHUR THE KING”

With Marc Wahlberg in one of those movies he seems to specialize in from time to time, “Arthur the King” tells the true story of a man struggling with life issues. On a competitive race with friends, he finds an injured dog he cannot refuse

to help. This will seriously damage the team's chances of winning and the loss of thousands of dollars. Since it is a true story, I will go along with it. This is another movie that gets dangerously close to sappy, but the strength of Wahlberg's performance and a damn cute dog save this from the scrap heap. **Grade: B**



“Arthur The King”

“CABRINI”

This engaging bio-pic is about an Italian woman who goes to the Pope with her request to start a hospital in her hometown and then a series of hospitals in America. It is a true story of a feisty and determined woman who never took no for an answer.



“Cabrini”

She was canonized as a saint by Pope Pius XII in 1946. It's a wonderful movie about an amazing woman. **Grade: B+**

“GHOSTBUSTERS 2: THE FROZEN EMPIRE”

The last Ghostbusters film, which featured a group of young kids related to an

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"Ghostbusters 2: The Frozen Empire"



"Immaculate"



"Road House"

original Ghostbuster, was clever and a lot of fun. This sequel to a sequel is a bad misstep. Back in New York City, ghosts reappear to wreak havoc, and these kids and a handful of the original Ghostbusters take to the streets to save the city once again. I did not laugh once. The film is boring, not funny and a waste of time. Bill Murray arrives too late to save this "nail in the coffin" of the franchise. **Grade: D-**

"IMMACULATE"

This film is a "not true" story of a young woman who wants to be a nun. She travels to Italy to join a convent. It is clear from her first day that something is hor-

ribly amiss here. She stays anyway, and it gets even more creepy as we find she is mysteriously pregnant with what we discover is a clone of Christ. That's a phrase I never thought I would use. The movie goes off the rails quickly and poorly and ends in a mess of special effects that really aren't special and a story that is equally horribly and mind-numbing. I'm guessing you can see where this is headed. **Grade: D-**

"ROAD HOUSE"

The original "Road House" with the late, great Patrick Swayze is a cheesy, but fun, classic action film. There was humor,

charm and romance and absolutely no reason to remake it. Director Doug Liman has given us great action films including "The Bourne Identity," "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" and "Edge of Tomorrow." Actor Jake Gyllenhaal has made some really good movies as well, including "Nightcrawler," "Donnie Darko" and "Brokeback Mountain." How this new version of "Road House" went off the rails this fast and far is a mystery. A stranger (Gyllenhaal) ends up in the Florida Keys where he finds a bar struggling to keep violence at bay. And then the whole damned thing goes so over the top, it is amazing (in a bad way). Uber violent, poorly acted and a

complete waste of time. Catch it on Amazon Prime, if you dare. **Grade: F**

May has to be better, right? Until next month, please pass the Milk Duds. ■

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 KXn0 106.3 with Keith Murphy and Andy Fales. He and his wife, Susan, are residents of Lake Panorama.



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NEW IOWA LAW PROTECTS LPA ABILITY TO GOVERN BOATING ON LAKE PANORAMA

Three practices that are not compliant with Iowa law will need to be adjusted in the coming boating season.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

On Feb. 28, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds signed the first piece of legislation passed by both the Iowa House and Senate during the 2024 Iowa legislative session. That bill was narrowly crafted to impact only the Lake Panorama Association and allows the LPA to continue to enforce rules and regulations regarding boating on Lake Panorama.

The need for this legislation was the result of two court rulings, one in January 2020, the other in October 2023. What follows is a summary of those court rulings and why LPA officials worked to find a legislative solution.

On Jan. 31, 2020, the Supreme Court of Iowa issued a ruling that confirmed the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has the authority to enforce Iowa boating laws on Lake Panorama.

On July 7, 2018, DNR officers patrolled Lake Panorama and made a number of stops, one of which was the focus of the case that reached the Iowa Supreme Court. It involved an LPA member whose boat displayed blue lights. Iowa Law states only emergency vessels may display blue lights on public water. DNR pulled over this member and subsequently cited him for boating while intoxicated.

The member's attorney argued DNR had no probable cause to stop the member for blue lights, because Lake Panorama waters are not subject to the jurisdiction of the State of Iowa. The attorney argued all charges should be dismissed.

The court ruled Lake Panorama waters are technically under the jurisdiction of the State of Iowa, as Lake Panorama is accessible from the upstream portion of the Middle Raccoon River by kayaks and canoes. Thus, DNR had the authority to stop the member for displaying a blue light, and all charges stemming from

that stop were upheld.

"Historically, Lake Panorama was marketed as a private lake based on the fact non-members cannot legally access the lake with vessels of substantial size," says John Rutledge, LPA general manager. "Since the Supreme Court ruling, Lake Panorama has occupied a unique status in which we are technically public water, yet nearly all of our lake users are LPA members. The key result of the court ruling was confirmation DNR can cite boaters for Iowa boating law infractions."

Rutledge says, for decades, LPA has cooperated with DNR for the enforcement of common sense, safety-based boating rules.

"This status quo has worked well with DNR handling enforcement of the most serious boating violations. LPA then supplements DNR's efforts by implementing additional safety-based rules and restrictions," he says.

That status quo of cooperative enforcement was disrupted by the Iowa District Court for Ringgold County ruling this past October in the case of "Sun Valley Iowa Lake Association vs Joe Romare." The Sun Valley Lake Association had asked the court for a temporary injunction against Romare pending final resolution of their claims for breach of contract and trespass. The association claims Romare is a member of the association because he owns property in the Sun Valley Lake development. And that, as a member, he must pay dues and be subject to association rules and regulations.

Although the court affirmed Sun Valley's authority to impose rules and assess fees upon their membership, they did not award the injunction based upon a question of authority over the lake itself. The court ruled that authority to govern a body of water was not a joint effort between DNR and the property owner association but rather a mutually exclusive authority; either the Sun Valley Iowa Lake Association could have authority on the lake or DNR, but not both. Because Sun Valley did not sufficiently prove Sun Valley Lake was a private body of water, the injunction was denied.

"We disagreed with this district court ruling that authority is mutually exclusive, but don't have standing in this



On Feb. 28, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds signed the first piece of legislation passed by both the Iowa House and Senate during the 2024 Iowa legislative session. The new law allows the LPA to continue to enforce rules and regulations regarding boating on Lake Panorama. Shown at the signing, left to right, are John Rutledge, LPA general manager, Rep. Carter Nordman, and Sen. Tim Kraayenbrink.

case to appeal. We determined our best course of action was to pursue legislative repair," Rutledge says. "We contacted Rep. Carter Nordman, who is a lake resident and understands the situation well."

Work on a legislative solution began in late October. Getting House File 2485 approved by both the Iowa House and Senate and to the Governor's desk for her signature wasn't easy.

"We worked through various versions of the bill and met some substantial resistance along the way," Rutledge says. "The Legislature did not want to interfere with ongoing litigation between Sun Valley and Joe Romare."

Rutledge says, once the new law went into effect, the status quo for Lake Panorama was preserved.

"Thankfully, the Sun Valley vs Romare

ruling was issued in October rather than in the spring or summer. This gave us time to work on a solution. Had the district court ruling been the governing authority for our 2024 boating season, LPA would not have been able to implement any boating rules, regulations or buoys," he says.

"LPA rules represent decades of research and hard work by countless committee members, staff members and board members. Included in the rules are the number of vessels per membership, the length of vessels, the horsepower of vessels, operator requirements of vessels, such as age of operator, invasive species requirements and over 80 governing buoys," Rutledge says.

"LPA's ability to maintain the right-hand rule for travel along the main chan-

nel is one critical element that would have disappeared had we not been granted authority to govern. Also in this category would be LPA's ability to establish reduced speed areas, such as at the back of coves and in the marina," he says. "LPA patrol would not have been possible, meaning the lake's only governance would have been DNR patrols."

Rutledge gave this example of how dangerous not being able to enforce LPA boating rules might have been. Under LPA's rules, the youngest unsupervised operator of a vessel over 10 hp could be a 16-year-old who has passed Iowa's boating certification course. That operator could be driving a 24' wake boat and would be required to adhere to the right-hand rule in the main channel and reduced speed regulations in the coves and in the marina.

"Had this law not passed, a 12-year-old who had passed Iowa's boating certification course could drive a 38' boat with no requirement to adhere to the right-hand rule in the main channel, nor be required to observe reduced speed in the coves or the marina," Rutledge says. "LPA believed this represented an imminent safety threat, and we appreciate the Legislature and Gov. Reynolds recognizing the urgency of this situation."

Rutledge says there are many people to thank for getting this proposed legislation passed into law.

"Rep. Carter Nordman took the lead, helping get a draft started and working through proposed amendments throughout the process. He also managed the bill on the House floor. Carter was our champion throughout this process, and we couldn't have accomplished this without his leadership. Other support came from Sen. Jesse Green, who is our senator, and Sen. Tim Kraayenbrink of Fort Dodge, who also owns a home at Lake Panorama," he says. "And thanks to Gov. Reynolds for her visit to Lake Panorama last summer, which pro-

vided her with context for this bill."

As part of this legislative effort, LPA and DNR reviewed Lake Panorama's practices to ensure the legislation didn't miss any key elements along the way. Rutledge says this review brought to light three practices that are not compliant with Iowa law that will need to be adjusted in the coming boating season.

"First is LPA's use of blue lights for LPA water patrol. This is in conflict with Iowa Law, and we will be correcting this by changing from blue lights to red and white lights," he says. "Second are slalom courses on Lake Panorama. These courses represent an obstruction on public water that is inconsistent with what is allowed on other lakes in Iowa. These courses will be removed this spring."

Rutledge says the third item is members deploying a private marker buoy, or marker ball, by their dock.

"Although LPA has allowed one of these per membership, DNR officials have determined these are in violation of Iowa law. LPA rules regarding marker buoys will be updated this spring to ensure these are not in conflict with Iowa law, and members are advised to no longer deploy them," he says.

Rutledge offered two key "take aways" for the LPA. "One is that legislators placed a lot of trust in us not to over-reach," he says. "Safety-based, common-sense regulation is supported."

"Two, this has been a lesson in working cooperatively with the LPA membership and not letting our disagreements lead to legal action. I am grateful our membership is respectful and reasonable, and our board believes LPA security's primary role is to educate and correct dangerous behavior," Rutledge says. "Our role is to communicate and enforce rules developed by the water safety committee, staff and board that are in the best interest of lake safety and property values." ■



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THE PORT RESTAURANT REOPENS IN TIME FOR BUSY SEASON

Key staff positions were filled with people who have worked at The Port and now have expanded roles.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

The Port restaurant on the eastern edge of Lake Panorama's main basin has a long history. In 1972, some lake property owners began discussions about a restaurant and lounge. A company was formed, and construction began in 1975. The restaurant opened in 1976 but closed at the end of the season because of steep losses.

David Garst took over the operation. Paul and Linda Wendl purchased The Port from Garst in 1982 and operated it for 12 years before selling it in 1994. The restaurant moved through several hands over the next 10 years before being purchased in 2004 by Dr. Mark Menadue.

In late 2023, it was announced The Port would be closing following a New Year's Eve party Dec. 31. That led to rumors The Port had been sold.

"The Port has not been sold," says Hannah Menadue Johnson, president of Menadue Development. "This is the 20th year of ownership by our family. During the winter, it's difficult to anticipate how many guests will come out, which makes

staffing and food orders difficult. Closing for a few weeks helps us manage costs, clean, make menu updates, and look at event scheduling, staffing and training before the busy season."

Menadue Johnson says all staff were laid off during the closure but are eligible to apply for re-hire.

"Some chose to pursue different opportunities during that time," she says. "We wish them nothing but the best."

The Port restaurant doors reopened March 14 in time for St. Patrick's Day. Menadue Johnson says key staff positions were filled with people who have worked at The Port and now have expanded roles.

Kayla Valentine is The Port's new general manager.

"I started working at The Port in early 2015 as a front desk clerk. From there, I learned everything I could at both the hotel and restaurant. I began working as the event coordinator and soon took on the hotel manager position, too," Valentine says. "As the general manager, I oversee the hotel and restaurant and will continue to run events. I'm very excited to begin this role. I have always loved The Port and the people we get to serve."

Tory Thompson has worked in The Port's kitchen for several years and returns in 2024 as the head chef.

"Tory is an excellent chef with extensive experience," says Valentine.

Amanda Hemann is the front-of-house manager, and Amanda Rambo is the bar manager.



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Four people who have worked at The Port in previous years now have expanded management roles. Near The Port bar, left to right, are Kayla Valentine, general manager; Amanda Rambo, bar manager; Amanda Hemann, front-of-house manager; and Tory Thompson, head chef.

"Amanda Hemann worked with us as the lead bartender about 10 years ago and came back last year to help in the

kitchen," Valentine says. "She is a jack of all trades and loves the community. Amanda Rambo has worked with us for

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The tiki bar at The Port is quiet now, but plans are to have it open by Memorial Day weekend.

a few years and is an experienced bartender. She is very creative, and our patrons have really grown fond of her.”
 A new menu for the 2024 season includes many of the dishes customers enjoyed last season, although Valentine says it will continue to be tweaked as the staff receives customer input this spring. The new menu offers six appetizers, nine entrees, six sandwiches, three salads and eight side dishes.

“We brought back some old favorites like Broccoli Alfredo, The Port Asian Stir Fry and the Atlantic Salmon,” she says. “We are excited about some new additions like our classic Caesar Salad, Tory’s Creamy Cheddar Penne and the pulled pork sandwich. All indoor seating, including the bar, will be served the full dinner menu. In addition, Amanda Rambo will be working on some fun drink specials and possibly a happy hour, but that is still in the works this spring.”

The popular tiki bar is set to open Memorial Day weekend. As was the case last year, a simple grill menu will be available during busy hours to take pressure off the kitchen. Entertainment will include one band each weekend. Bands that were booked prior to the winter closing are being considered for the upcoming season and will be announced on The Port’s Facebook page as dates approach.

A fire in October 2018 had the restaurant closed until the following summer. Reconstruction of the building resulted in a new layout, equipment and furniture. Menadue Johnson says this year will bring new paint for the tiki bar, and updates are in the works for the boat docks and parking lot.

On a side note, The Port hotel has had some recent upgrades.
 “We got new paint in all rooms and hallways, new tile in the lobby and beautiful stone work on our fireplaces and hot tubs,” Valentine says.

Current restaurant hours are Thursday, 5-8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 5-9 p.m.; and Sunday, 8 a.m. to noon. Hours will expand in May.

“We look forward to serving old and new customers with great food, drinks and the best view this year,” Menadue Johnson says. “We hope locals and visitors to the lake feel welcome to join us for live music, drinks at the tiki bar, and casual, upscale dining inside.”

Valentine says The Port staff members are happy to be serving patrons again.

“Our goal is to be more family oriented and locally involved in the community, while still maintaining our fun and vacation-like atmosphere,” she says. “We are looking into more ways to connect and support our community. We hope to bring new activities to The Port, including during our off season. Stay tuned to our Facebook page to keep updated on our hours, plans and upcoming events.”

The Facebook page is “The Port on Lake Panorama.” The business website is experiencetheport.com and offers contact information, hours of operation, menus and online ordering. Event, wedding and other inquiries can be emailed to Kayla Valentine at kaylav@experiencetheport.com. The hotel and restaurant phone number is 844-888-7678. ■



This is the view from The Port deck that runs along the west side of the restaurant and connects to the hotel. Live bands will perform from the concrete medallion between the two palm trees each weekend through the summer months.

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B&B MARKETPLACE BRINGS MODERN FLAIR TO PANORA

Owner Kandi Meinecke opened her business March 11.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

For 26 years, Kandi Meinecke operated Britches 'N' Bows Country Store at her farm home on Willow Avenue north-east of Panora. In early March, that business morphed into B&B Marketplace, now housed at 106 E. Main in Panora. The building had been home to Quinnebago Outdoors and, before that, Ben's Five and Dime.

"I never dreamed of moving my business to town; it didn't appeal to me," Meinecke says. "I was happy in my own space and doing what I wanted in the country. But when the Quinnebago auction sign appeared in the window, it hit me like a ton of bricks. I figured, now or never, go for it and expand your business."

Meinecke grew up on a farm near Yale and attended YJB High School, followed by retail management at DMACC in Ankeny. She married Tom Meinecke 33 years ago, and they moved to their farm on Willow Avenue 32 years ago. The couple has two daughters and one son, plus two grandchildren.

Britches 'N' Bows began as a partnership with her mother.

"We started with a small business loan of only \$5,000. We started by crafting most of our inventory but accented with florals, candles and other home items," Meinecke says. "As years went by, we started ordering more goods from vendors, including things like rugs, clocks and picture frames. Next, we added jewelry and, finally, boutique clothing, which was a huge hit."

Meinecke says they even were involved in the Beanie Baby craze, which lasted almost four years. The store was located in an old granary, which was attached to their house. A garage was used for storage. Now B&B Marketplace is located in a building that offers 10,000 square feet over two floors.



B&B Marketplace is a family affair with two daughters and a daughter-in-law working alongside owner Kandi Meinecke. Shown left to right are daughter-in-law Miranda Meinecke, owner Kandi Meinecke, and daughters Jentry Meinecke and Kaylinn Smith.

The business opened March 11.

"My goal is to provide the community with a trendy marketplace shopping experience that includes a coffee, espresso and dessert bar; a fresh floral counter; boutique clothing; and home décor," Meinecke says. "This also gives me space to display and promote my event décor and rental

services."

The business logo lists floral, coffee, décor.

"I have dreamed of having a flower shop forever, but my country location wasn't big enough," Meinecke says. "I had been offering fresh flowers for weddings the past several years and managed to do that from my

garage. Now I can have a full flower shop and offer flowers for every occasion."

Cash-and-carry fresh floral premade arrangements are in a cooler. In person, online and phone orders can be picked up or delivered.

"We have Brew & Bloom baskets that include a two-cup coffee carrier with a



Kandi Meinecke is shown with the wide array of women's clothing and accessories available in her new store.

mixed vase of flowers and choice of brew, wrapped in a cellophane gift bag and a greeting card that can be picked up or delivered. We did a Valentine special with these, and I think it will become a staple item for us."

Meinecke says the coffee and espresso bar is something new for her.

"I wanted to bring this to my customers for a more pleasurable shopping experience," she says. "We offer daily baked goods, like brownies, cookies and mini bundt cakes. Our seating is limited to eight window seats. Our goal is for people to come in and order, then browse

while enjoying their drink, or order take-out. Customers also can order online."

Meinecke says she's been asked if tables and chairs will be added near the coffee bar.

"I like the open concept we have there, so we won't add more seating. I think the stools along the window provide what shoppers need," she says. "However, if groups want to meet in the building after business hours, I will have some tables and chairs that can be set up."

Those who shopped at Meinecke's Britches 'N' Bows location can expect to find the same types of merchandise at



One section of the B&B Marketplace is devoted to items for children and includes clothing, shoes, toys, books and more.



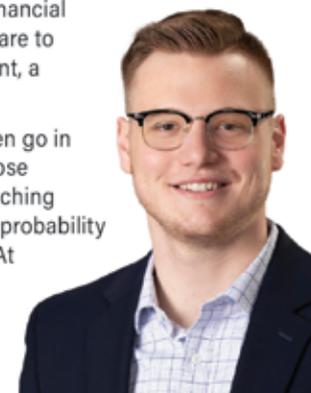
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PHOTOS BY SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Kandi Meinecke dreamed of having a flower shop, but her former location on the family farm wasn't big enough. Now she has a full flower shop and offers flowers for every occasion. Cash-and-carry fresh flowers are in a cooler. In person, online and phone orders can be picked up or delivered.

B&B Marketplace, just more of it with a modern twist.

Near the coffee bar is a special section for infants and children that offers clothing, shoes, books, stuffed animals and more.

Next is a display of accessories.

"Jewelry has always been a great item for us," Meinecke says. "We also have hats, hair clips, sunglasses and many other fun accessories."

Women's clothing and shoes fill the southwest corner of the store.

"We've always tended toward casual clothing, with lots of jeans, T-shirts, sweat-shirts," she says. "We have a wide range of

sizes, from teeny tiny through extended. At my other shop, I didn't have room to offer extended sizes, but now I can. The same is true for shoes. I used to have shoes occasionally, but now I have space to offer more shoes and more sizes."

Another section of the store is dedicated to home décor.

"We have added more décor, because we now have the space to display more," she says. "In addition to our fresh flowers, we have green houseplants and artificial flowers. Seasonal decor is our favorite, so customers can plan on seeing plenty of that."

For seven years, Meinecke has been



B&B Marketplace owner Kandi Meinecke is shown at the store's coffee and espresso bar, which is open during store hours. Available are several types of coffee, tea, hot chocolate, cold drinks and daily baked goods.

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One section of the store is dedicated to home décor with additional items scattered throughout the shop. Owner Kandi Meinecke is a fan of seasonal décor and says customers can plan on seeing a nice variety of items for holidays and changing seasons.

decorating for weddings and other special events.

“All of our retail operation is on the first floor. Later in the spring, we’ll move our special event rental décor into the basement to display. Customers will be welcome to browse that area, but if someone wants to discuss plans for an event, it will be best if they make an appointment,” she says.

The basement also will be used for special events. For instance, Meinecke plans to hold a “maker’s market” three or four times



While Kandi Meinecke offered shoes occasionally at her Britches ‘N’ Bows store, she now has space to offer a wider variety of styles and sizes.

each year.

“We’ll invite local artisans to rent a table for the day to share and sell their creations,” she says.

During regular business hours, only the north entrance on Main Street will be open. The south door that leads into the basement will be locked, except for special events.

Meinecke says she didn’t make many changes to the building before moving in.

“The ceilings, walls and floors all were here. We did change all the light fixtures and had the coffee bar and window seating built,” she says. “Right now, the back part of the main floor is curtained off and used for storage. But as we grow, I hope to turn at least part of that into retail space and part of it into a work area.”

B&B Marketplace is open six days a week, with Tuesday as the one day it’s closed. Hours are Monday and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Meinecke plans to be at the business most of the time when the doors are open. She’ll be assisted by three women who worked at her former location — daughters Kaylinn Smith and Jentry Meinecke, and daughter-in-law Miranda Meinecke — plus several part-time employees.

B&B Marketplace has a Facebook page. The business phone number is 641-755-4188, and email is shopbbmarketplace@gmail.com. Online shopping is available for clothing, shoes, jewelry, home décor, fresh flowers and coffee bar items. The website for online shopping and in-store updates is Shopbbmarketplace.com. ■

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SPRING BRINGS ADDITIONAL HOURS TO THE LINKS LOUNGE

Starting in May, customers will have options of ordering with a staff member or by using the QR code.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

April marks the beginning of the second year for Nick and Lynn Kuhn to operate The Links Lounge + Events at Lake Panorama National. The couple's lease with the LPN was renewed for another year over the winter.

The 2024 lease agreement calls for increased days and hours of operation for The Links Lounge with Sundays and Mondays added to the schedule and

lunch offered Friday through Sunday.

Beginning May 1 and running through September, The Links will be open each Monday from 3-10 p.m.; Wednesday, 3-10 p.m.; Thursday, 3-9 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. The kitchen closes at 9 p.m., except on Wednesdays.

Starting May 5, The Links also will be open Sundays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., offering a limited menu.

Between now and April 30, hours are 3-10 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday with the kitchen open until 9 p.m.

Another change for 2024 is customers will have two options to order.

"Customers will have the option of placing their order with a staff member or by using the QR code. We plan to start offering this in May," says Lynn Kuhn.

Kuhn says customers also can expect some changes to The Links menu and specials in the coming months.

"In addition to the great pub fare, we're adding regular entrées to the menu," she says. "Look for the new menu in mid-to-late April as the season ramps up."

Another new offering for 2024 is custom dinners for groups of 8-16 people. No reservation fee will be charged, and Kuhn will work with group organizers to plan the menu and seating.

Kuhn coordinates all special events scheduled at Lake Panorama National. "We have several options available for room spaces," she says. "We invite more dinners, receptions and corporate events. We can accommodate groups of any size and offer some great food and beverage choices to make the occasion memorable."

To discuss a custom dinner for a group of 8-16, or something much larger, email lkuhn@lakepanorama.org.

Spikes and the beverage carts are included in the LPN lease agreement with the Kuhns. Deb Douglass again will manage the snack shop and beverage cart operation for 2024.

During April, Spikes is open daily 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with adjustments made for weather and tee times. Beginning May 1, Spikes will be open daily 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. with extended evening hours Wednesdays and Thursdays to accommodate league play. Beverage cart service will be expanded to both men's and women's golf leagues and all scheduled golf events of at least 24 players.

The Links Lounge + Events Facebook page and the LPN Resort Weekly newsletter provide updates on hours, new offerings and special events. ■



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LPA EMPHASIS ON WATER SAFETY CONTINUES FOR 2024 SEASON

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

It won't be long before Lake Panorama is filled with boats, jet skis and other watercraft. Again this year, the LPA security team is emphasizing the importance of water safety. Corey Larsen has been the LPA Security Chief since March 2021. In this month's Q&A, Larsen talks about boating on Lake Panorama.

Q. WHAT ARE SOME THINGS BOAT OWNERS SHOULD KNOW OR DO BEFORE THEY TAKE TO THE WATER THIS SEASON?

A. A good place to start is to watch the LPA water safety video that outlines specific rules related to Lake Panorama. Go to the LPA website at lakepanorama.org and click on the Helpful Links tab to access this video. Also, information about Iowa boating laws is on the DNR's boating website at iowadnr.gov/Things-to-Do/Boating.

Water safety needs to begin before a boat is launched for the first time each year. Members must have their Iowa DNR registration up to date and their current LPA stickers on the vessel before it goes in the water.

Since both fire extinguishers and floatation devices are key safety items, these are priorities for the Iowa DNR and LPA. Boats with greater than 10 horsepower are required by Iowa law to have at least one Type B-I fire extinguisher onboard the vessel. Some larger boats are required to

have one B-II fire extinguisher, or two B-I fire extinguishers. Boat owners also need to check their extinguishers periodically to make sure these are ready if needed.

All vessels are required to have at least one United States Coast Guard approved life jacket for each person on board. In addition, vessels more than 16 feet in length must have a throwable floatation device, excluding kayaks and canoes. Also, Iowa law requires children younger than 13 years of age to wear their life jacket while the vessel is underway.

Boat operators often misunderstand boat capacity rules. Most boats are rated for a maximum number of persons and a maximum total weight. Boaters must remember they are not allowed to exceed either of these numbers. This is especially relevant with young people who weigh less than adults. Regardless of how small the passenger is, everyone counts as one passenger in the boat capacity limit.

Q. ONCE LPA MEMBERS HAVE THEIR BOATS ON THE LAKE, WHAT ARE SOME THINGS THEY NEED TO KNOW?

A. When a watercraft is anchored, at least one person must be on board the water vessel at all times. This goes for personal watercraft as well as boats. This is important when boaters decide to anchor and take a swim or tie together with another boat.

Also, it's critical for boaters to understand the various types of buoys deployed

by the LPA staff each spring and obey rules related to these buoys. Centerline buoys mark the channel of the lake, with boaters travelling on the right-hand side of the buoys. These buoys are marked with a flashing or steady white light to be visible at night.

Hazard buoys are placed in areas that are known to be shallow or hazardous. These buoys are not a guarantee of exact hazard location but are a warning to steer clear of that general area. Hazard buoys are marked with a flashing or steady amber lights to ensure boaters steer clear of these areas. Remember, when boating at night, avoid amber lights and stay immediately to the right of white lights.

In 2018, a map showing the type and location of all buoys was proposed by the water safety committee and approved by the LPA board. The buoy map is available on the LPA website. Go to the Documents tab, then the Boating Items tab to access the buoy map.

It is important for LPA members to make sure their guests are familiar with the different types of buoys, plus Iowa DNR and LPA rules and requirements, before they are allowed to operate the member's vessels.

Boaters who don't obey the rules related to buoys risk being stopped by a security officer and being given either a warning



Corey Larsen

or a ticket. Also in place is a rule adopted by the LPA board concerning the moving of buoys by members. Intentional vandalism or relocation of buoys will result in an automatic third offense, which, under LPA rules, is a \$500 fine and loss of boating privileges for the season.

Q. REVIEW FOR US RULES RELATED TO PREVENTION OF INVASIVE SPECIES IN LAKE PANORAMA.

A. Any vessel leaving any other lake must be cleaned, all compartments drained, and the vessel should dry at least five days before re-entering Lake Panorama. The vessel owner must contact LPA Security to schedule an inspection. They must be able to show they have not been on an infested lake, have no water in compartments, no plant debris or mud, or any other sign of potential contamination. This is an Iowa law and is enforceable with a \$500 fine. The LPA also has set fines for violators and for falsified information on questionnaires.

Another LPA rule related to invasive species prevention requires members who want to bring in used pieces of equipment like docks or lifts to have the equipment inspected by LPA security. From the date of inspection and pending the equipment has been cleaned, members must find an offshore location to store the equipment for a minimum of 30 days. This allows any potential invasives to perish before the equipment enters the lake. Members

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should always call the LPA office ahead of time if they are considering purchasing a used dock or lift.

Q. WHAT IS THE RULE REGARDING TOWING IN THE NARROWS, AND WHY WAS THIS IMPLEMENTED?

A. The Narrows is limited to no towing (tubes, skiers or any other towed devices) and wake surfing from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. If boat traffic is especially heavy at other times, security officers have the authority to put flags on the markers to show no towing is allowed.

Two new buoys will be installed soon with one on each end of the Narrows. These are 19 inches in diameter and 33 inches tall with a collar that is 38 inches in diameter and 13 inches in height. These buoys state the 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. towing restrictions for weekends and holidays and when flags are displayed. As with other buoys on the lake, these new buoys are white and orange yet significantly larger. This change should make it easier for boaters to know and understand the towing restrictions.

Safety is the reason towing is not allowed in the Narrows at certain times. This is the narrowest part of the lake. Dur-

ing times of high boat traffic, we need to keep people safe. If security officers see you towing in the Narrows during the regular hours, or other times when it is deemed unsafe, they can issue a warning or a citation.

Q. WHAT FINES ARE IN PLACE TO HELP ENFORCE THE LPA RULES THAT PROMOTE WATER SAFETY?

A. First and foremost, it is important to emphasize LPA Security's primary goal is to educate members, promote safety and ensure unsafe behavior is corrected. LPA will issue fines, if needed, to accomplish our goals for safe boating, but our hope is that members conduct themselves appropriately and our need to issue fines is minimal.

The LPA schedule of fines includes \$100 for the first offense, \$250 for the second offense and \$500 plus loss of lake privileges for third offense. LPA has a special section in our rules that provides for increased fines and penalties for any member who threatens or harasses an LPA officer. It is a violation of LPA rules to threaten or try to intimidate a security officer or to verbally abuse an officer in a profane manner. Members have the right to appeal any LPA fines to the LPA appeals committee,

which is comprised of five LPA members appointed for this specific purpose.

LPA Security has the right to stop a boat at any time if a rule violation is suspected or to make sure all required equipment is aboard. The Security Department uses body cameras to help us monitor interactions between officers and people they come in contact with. It is our goal to ensure every officer interaction is professional and respectful for all parties involved.

While it may seem like the LPA has a lot of rules related to boating, much of it is just common sense and safety. All boaters should practice safe boating. Stay far

enough away from other boats and people being towed or wake surfing. Have a plan for the boating party, which includes having a sober person operate the vessel.

I will make it a priority to get security boats out on the water again this year. We will do our best to make sure the water patrol security officers are keeping people safe by enforcing the rules.

LPA Security's phone number is 641-757-9035. I encourage members to get this number in their cell phones and contact LPA Security with questions or concerns. In the case of a fire, medical or police emergency, call 911. ■

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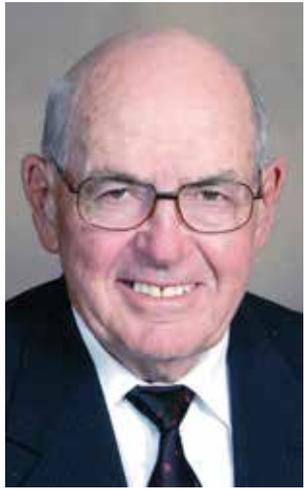
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ORVILLE 'ORV' LEINEN

1934-2024

Orville Joseph Lawrence Leinen, son of Zeno and Viola (Schwery) Leinen, was born on Aug. 13, 1934, on a farm near Panama, Iowa. He died on March 21, 2024, surrounded by family in his home in Panama at the age of 89 years.

Orville was baptized in Panama on Aug. 19, 1934, and attended St. Mary's Catholic School in Portsmouth, Iowa, for 12 years. He received First Communion and Confirmation at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church. Orville grew to adulthood on his family's farm (Peter M. Leinen Homestead).

In 1957, Orville was drafted into the Army and stationed with Btry A, 485th AAA Msl Bn (NIKE) Montrose Beach Park, Chicago 13, I11. Orv was advised from the beginning to never volunteer. Almost immediately, the drill sergeant asked for soldiers who knew how to drive. Trying to follow

the advice, he decided to not raise his hand while the other recruits around him did. Anyone who could drive was assigned to drive wheelbarrows. Then the sergeant asked for volunteers who were able to change the oil. The recruits were now hesitant to raise their hands because they did not know what the assignment would be. With a deep breath and a prayer, Orv raised his hand. The sergeant tossed the keys to Orv and from then on, his job was to drive and "keep it filled." During his military career, he attained expert marksman with the M1 Carbine and 2nd class anti-aircraft artillery.

On Oct 3, 1959, Orville was united in marriage to Kathleen Schmitz at St. Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama. The wedding was a double ring ceremony with Jerome Nabity and Marleen Schmitz (twin to Kathleen). The Leinen family began farming on land near Portsmouth. The following spring, they moved and eventually purchased the Msgr. Peter Schmitz farm. To this union, four children were born: Karla Ann in 1960, Cheryl Rose in 1961, Peter Joseph in 1963, and Jeffrey Dean in 1964.

Orville was a hard worker. He grew crops and raised hogs and cattle. Along with farming, he worked on the Milwaukee Railroad and started custom disc sharpening, grinding and combining. He continually supported his wife in nursing and her custom-fitted bra company. Through this venture, they earned trips that allowed them to travel extensively and gain

many friends. Additionally, Orville, Kathleen and sons developed the Harlan Country Club Estates.

Orville was a member of St. Cecilia's Catholic Church and was a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus. He was a lifetime member of the National Farmers Union. Orv enjoyed golfing, hunting and fishing (even caught a marlin!). He also enjoyed playing cards, especially pinochle and pitch. Arguably, his favorite past time was making jokes and teasing loved ones. When younger, he loved to play baseball and was a lifelong New York Yankees fan. Orville enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren play sports.

Orville was preceded in death by his mother, Viola, and father, Zeno; his brother, Harvey Leinen; sisters, Ursula Bruck, Eunice Blum, Verlee Leinen and Linda Daoust; and brothers-in-law Michael Bruck, Ralph Blum and Gilbert Loeffler.

He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Kathleen Leinen; his children, Karla (Thomas) Dougherty of Barboursville, West Virginia; Cheryl (Tim) Schwery of Underwood; Pete (Pam) Leinen of Harlan; Jeff (Janell) Leinen of Panama.

His 18 grandchildren: Joshua (Jessica) Dougherty, Rachel (Aaron) Thomas, Sarah Mitchell, Zachary Dougherty, Abigail (Matt) Cornelison, Elizabeth (Ryan) Richardson, Annabelle (Chase) Wells, Benjamin Schwery, Alicia (Josh) Yoder, Courtney (Perry) Krager, Brittany Leinen, Brandon Leinen, Jenna Miller, Camden Leinen, Joshua Cheek,

Jonathan Cheek, Jocelyn Cheek and Jonas Reynolds.

His 17 great grandchildren, plus a few on the way: Caitlin Dougherty, Bryson Dougherty, Eve Thomas, Callie Thomas, Elijah Thomas, Joel Mitchell, Emma Mitchell, Bailey Cornelison, Jemi Cornelison, Jaxton Cornelison, Gentry Cornelison, Quinn Cornelison, Elias Richardson, Audrey Richardson, Leo Richardson, Tate

Richardson and Ryder Yoder.

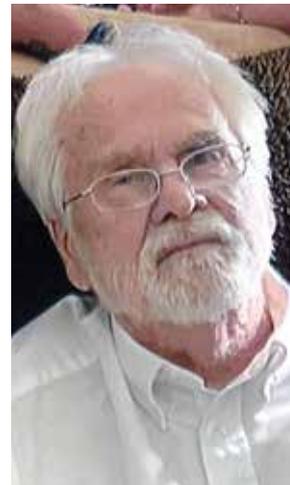
His brother and sisters: James (Dorothy) Leinen of Denison; Mildred (Jerry) Brus and Zita (Gaylen) Smith of Portsmouth; sister-in-law, Charlotte Leinen of Harlan; brother-in-law, Mark Doust of Dunbar, Nebraska; nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

He will be dearly missed but we celebrate knowing he is with our Heavenly Savior.

As Orv would say, "Now it is time to get to work."

Funeral services were March 27, 2024, at St. Cecilia Catholic Church, Panama. Burial was March 27, at St. Mary's Cemetery, Panama, with military honors. Visitation was March 26, with a Rosary Service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to: Panama Volunteer Fire Department (P.O. Box 42 Panama, Iowa 50216) or Mary's Meals (marysmeals.org). ■



THEODORE ERICKSON

1937-2024

Theodore Eric Erickson, 86, son of Eric and Dorothy (Morlan) Erickson, was born April 21, 1937, in Des Moines. He passed away Saturday, March 16, 2024, at Lakeside Village, Panama.

Ted graduated from Des Moines Lincoln High School in 1955, where he played baseball, basketball and football. He married

his high school sweetheart, Elaine, and three children were born to this union. They later divorced. Ted worked as a barber for more than 30 years on the south side of Des Moines. He also was a high school basketball and football official for more than 20 years. On Aug. 15, 1970, he married Janet Lee Dorsett (Monroe) in Des Moines. They made their home in Des Moines before moving to Lake Panorama in 1973.

Ted served six years on the Lake Panorama Association Board where he was a vice president, served on the Guthrie County Hospital Board, Lake Panorama Water Board, was a Lake Panorama Chairman, and volunteered at Timber Creek Charities in rural Guthrie Center. In July of 1999, Ted started working for Brokers International as a corporate driver for many years.

Ted enjoyed traveling, golfing and was an avid Hawkeye fan.

Ted is survived by his

children, Ted (Cindy) Erickson, Kim (Lynn) Clayton, and Kathy (Mike) Woods, all of Des Moines; step-sons, Bill (Denise) Dorsett and Brian (Beth) Dorsett, both of Panama; along with many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, step-grandchildren, and step-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Janet; and sister, Jean Porner.

Per his wishes, cremation will take place and no services will be held. Burial of his remains will be in the Brethren Cemetery, Panama.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to Timber Creek Charities, Panama EMS, or the Panama Fire Department.

The family would like to thank the staff at Lakeside Village and the nurses with UnityPoint Hospice for the wonderful care they provided to Ted.

Twigg Funeral Home, Panama, is entrusted with his services. ■

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BLUEBIRD HOUSES ADDED TO SOUTH SHORE RECREATION AREA

Effort ties into a learning project science teacher Mark Dorhout has conducted with his students for three years.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

A cooperative effort involving Panorama Schools, an LPA member and Friends of Lake Panorama led to the recent installation of 16 bluebird houses on Lake Panorama's south shore.

Plans for low-impact recreational amenities on the south shore were developed over a two-year period by Friends of Lake Panorama and approved by the LPA board last summer. By the end of 2023, a disc golf course and trail system were ready for visitors. A small shelter and picnic table with a view of the main basin now are in place.

The plan also called for birdhouses



Steve Brannan built and donated 16 bluebird houses for the south shore recreation area. Here he installs one with the help of three eighth-grade students. Left to right are Braden Bahrenfuss, Cruz Stanley and Brody Steenblock. Brannan says the boys were fun to work with, and the group had a good day.

throughout the recreation area. Steve Brannan, who has a home at Lake Panorama with his wife, Rita, volunteered to build and donate bluebird houses for the south shore. Josh Arganbright gave Brannan the material.

"The birdhouses all are made of a composite material, so they are low maintenance. It makes for cheap, affordable housing, and I hope the birds like them," Brannan says.

Mark Dorhout, Panorama middle school science teacher, offered to choose suitable birdhouse locations. Last fall, he enlisted the help of all 146 of his sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students.

"We looked at prominent places on the trail, if there was some short grass nearby, the amount of tree cover, and proximity to an additional perch. The males like to have a spot near the nest so they can keep an eye on things," Dorhout says.

Funds donated to Friends of Lake Panorama for the south shore were used to purchase 7-foot metal posts. On a sunny Sunday afternoon in mid-March, Dorhout enlisted the help of Brannan and three eighth-grade students to install 16 posts and attach 16 birdhouses.

Dorhout says bluebird pairs usually produce three to six pale blue colored eggs.

"They start nesting around the first week of April, and it can continue until late June and into July," he says. "The female is involved in the nest building and 18 days of incubation. They both are involved in feeding the young. They usually have more than one brood each year. Two is normal, but pairs can have three."

This bluebird house effort ties into a learning project Dorhout has conducted with his students for three years. The first year, all middle school students were involved in building 20 birdhouses, which were installed on school grounds.

In the last two years, Dorhout's seventh-grade students built a total of 105 birdhouses. These were sent home with students for installation along with a guide to help them choose good locations and how to do follow-up monitoring.

"It's a citizen science project," Dorhout says. "Using these birdhouses, the students learn about invasive species, such as house sparrows and European starlings,



Sixteen bluebird houses have been installed on posts along the trails in the Lake Panorama south shore recreation area. Mark Dorhout, left, Panorama middle school science teacher, worked with his students to choose locations for the birdhouses. Steve Brannan, who is a property owner at Lake Panorama, built and donated the birdhouses.

that will try to take over bluebird houses. They also learn about the biology of cavity nesters, do quality research and enjoy being outdoors."

In March, Dorhout built three birdhouses himself and installed those on posts in front of three elementary classrooms. These are located on the nearby prairie he and his students helped establish over the past few years.

Students who take home birdhouses are given a check sheet to complete every two weeks through the spring and early summer. The students make notes about whether the house is occupied, number of eggs, chicks hatched and evidence of predators or unwanted birds and pests.

Dorhout and a couple of students will

do those same regular checks for the 16 new birdhouses on the south shore and the three recently added to the school prairie. He and his students also will clean out the houses annually.

Prior to the birdhouse project, Dorhout introduced his middle school students to Lake Panorama's south shore as part of his outdoor education efforts.

"We have done some longer walks there, looked at lake species, birdwatched and gathered water samples to do some rudimentary water analysis," he says. "It's been awesome to be able to incorporate outdoor education into our regular curriculum. Kids of this generation sometimes find it difficult to connect to the outdoors. With this program, they gain the



This shelter was built last fall near the south shore recreation parking lot with the picnic table added early this spring. Brown sign posts near the shelter point the way to the beginnings of the disc golf course to the right and the trail system to the left.

benefits of, and appreciation for, the outdoors.”

Another part of the south shore recreation area plan is adding benches. Five benches are ready to be installed when conditions allow with two along the shoreline portion of the trail and two along the meadow portion. Another bench, donated by Lana Leander and Ryan Gruhn, will be located near the fifth tee box on the disc golf course.

To get into the recreation area, there

is a fenced driveway that begins at 5501 Chimra Road and leads to a parking lot with walk-through access. Beyond the shelter are two brown markers. One points right to the first hole of the disc golf course, and the other points left to the beginning of the trail system.

The recreation area is open during daylight hours. Wheeled vehicles are prohibited. There are no trash receptacles, restrooms or running water; visitors should plan accordingly. ■



This bluebird house is located near the main trailhead to the Lake Panorama trail system and tucked into a shady spot. A total of 16 birdhouses were installed on posts in various locations along the trail system with some along the shoreline and some, like this one, in the meadow area.

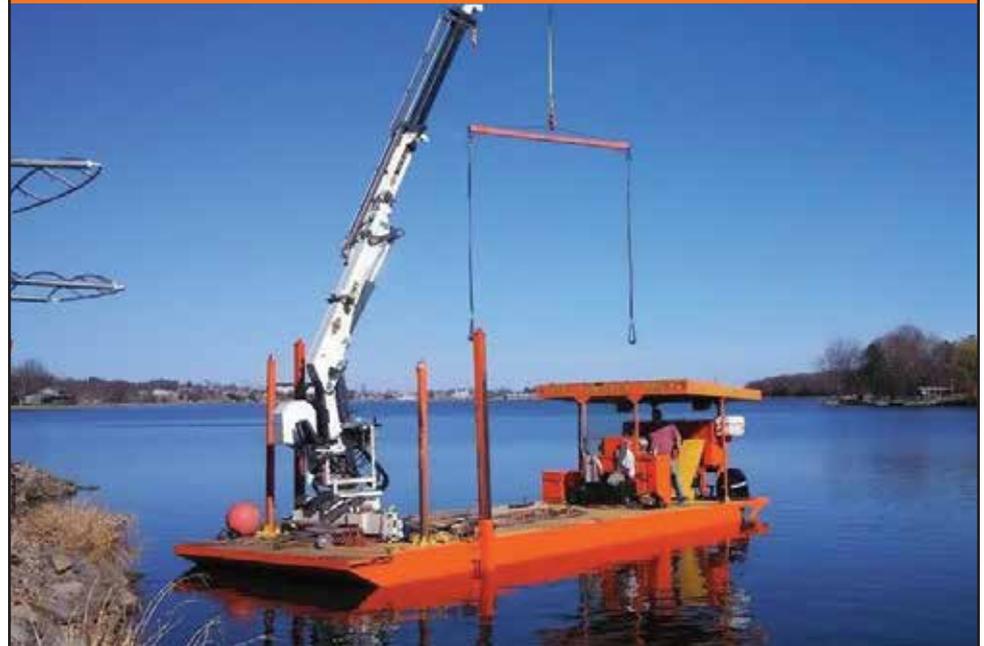


One of the new birdhouses is along the trail near the lake shoreline. The disc golf basket for the fourth hole on the golf course can be seen east of the birdhouse.

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BY LYNN KUHN

Lake Panorama Times

As a recovering plantaholic, I've spent way too much on plants every spring, which is often followed by regret for not buying the right plant for the right spot, especially when I know rabbits and deer will frolic and feast on my garden additions. I should have known better, and now I do. I keep a list of deer resistant plants that survive in my own garden, my clients' gardens, and other pros in the horticulture industry, and compare it to other lists from trusted sources. (My favorite list can be found at the recently renamed Yard and Gar-

den page of Iowa State University Extension. <https://yardandgarden.extension.iastate.edu/how-to/susceptibility-plants-deer-damage>.) Some lists are almost too extensive, making it seem like there is a plethora of deer-resistant plants. While the listed plants may rarely get eaten by deer, that doesn't necessarily mean they are good performers and look great.

Here are a few plants that check all the boxes, and you can feel good about spending your money on them without regret.

ANNUALS

Marigold - Did you know marigolds are the hottest trend in annuals? The color marigold is trending for interiors, too, according to Better Homes and Gardens (bhg.com).

Dusty Miller - I recall my grandmother

and mother using this plant alongside geraniums and marigolds. It's been around forever, and for good reason; deer hate fuzzy scented plants. Plus, the silvery foliage goes with everything.

Also try lantana, verbena and salvia.

GROUNDCOVERS

Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*) - This Iowa native will tolerate full shade and looks like a carpet of green hearts.

Bugleweed (*Ajuga reptans*) - I recommend a cultivar named "Black Scallop." The foliage looks like chocolate lettuce, and, when planted in a mass, it functions as weed prevention around other plants due to its tight growth habit.

Spotted Deadnettle (*Lamium* spp.) - This plant is so versatile due to the many color-



Bevan's Bigroot Geranium

ful cultivars, such as "Golden Anniversary" and "Beacon Silver."

Barrenwort (*Epimedium* spp.) - This is my go-to groundcover for dry shade. Plant it 12 inches on center for best coverage, since its growth rate is medium to slow.

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Barren Strawberry (*Waldsteinia fragarioides*) – A fabulous early perennial with sweet gold blooms that easily transitions from sun to shade and discourages weeds at the same time.

Bevan's Bigroot Geranium (*Geranium macrorrhizum* 'Bevan's Variety') – Not all hardy geraniums are deer resistant, however, I attest this one is. I love the way it pops up early spring, providing effective weed control around other plants. You'll love the pink blooms, handsome fuzzy scented foliage, fall interest, drought tolerance, disease resistance, and tolerates sun to shade. What's not to love about this plant?

BULBS

Daffodils - Tired of the deer eating your daylilies? Try planting late-blooming yellow daffodils all around and throughout the daylilies.

Ornamental Onion (*Allium* spp.) - Try mixing white and purple cultivars such as "Mount Everest," "White Giant," "Gigantum," "Purple Sensation" and "Ambassador." Plant 1-3 bulbs/square foot for best results.

ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

Good news... almost every ornamental grass will be unpalatable to the deer. However, certain grasses will reseed freely and become a nuisance. Avoid Fountain Grass and others with this tendency.

PERENNIALS

This list can get quite long, so I've lim-



PHOTO COURTESY JANET MESIC-MACKIE

Deutzia 'Chardonnay Pearls'



PHOTO COURTESY GREATGARDENPLANTS.COM

Japanese False Cypress "Golden Mop"

ited to these hard-working unpalatable beauties:

Ornamental Onion (*Allium* spp.) – *Allium* "Millennium" was the 2018 Perennial Plant of the Year. Other great cultivars are "Big Beauty" and "Peek-a-Boo."

Lamb's Ear (*Stachys* spp.) – Due to velvety leaves, deer will leave this drought tolerant plant alone. My favorite cultivar is "Big Ears" a.k.a. "Helen Von Stein." This plant is happy in hot, dry weather and just wants to be left alone.

Sage (*Salvia* spp.) - Another example of an unpalatable fuzzy scented plant. Look for cultivars like "Caradonna," "Wesuwe" and "Marcus."

Russian Sage (*Perovskia* spp.)

Catmint (*Nepeta* spp.) – So many fantastic cultivars to choose from! If you want big and billowy, look for "Junior Walker." If you prefer a ground hugger, look for "Cat's Meow," "Early Bird" or "Blue Wonder."

Calamint (*Calamintha nepeta*) – As the 2021 Perennial Plant of the Year, *calamintha* does not disappoint. Look for the straight species or a cultivar called "Montrose White."

Fern - Almost every fern is deer resistant. Look for these cultivars: "Lady in Red," "Ghost," "Pictum," Brilliance Autumn, Cinnamon and Christmas.

Lungwort (*Pulmonaria* spp.) – The perfect substitute to hosta is lungwort. Look for these two cultivars and play with combining them for more colorful shade garden display: "Raspberry Splash" and "Trevi Fountain."

DECIDUOUS SHRUBS

Slender Deutzia (*Deutzia gracilis*) – This small arching shade lover is perfect for dry shade, and the deer don't seem to like it one bit. "Nikko" is a long-standing cultivar that is especially graceful and has the best form. "Chardonnay Pearls" will add perky brightness to the shade garden with its chartreuse foliage, while Yuki Cherry Blossom and Yuki Snowflake have shown to be prolific bloomers and tolerant of a little more sun. Here's the best part... there is no need to prune this compact plant, unless you want to tidy it up a bit.

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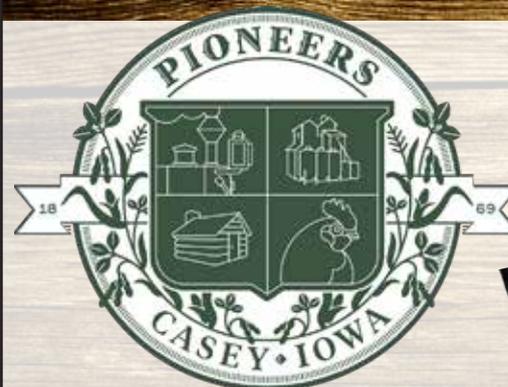
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NewGen Liberty Belle™

Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*) – This Iowa native is a true workhorse. If you need a good-looking shrub that attracts birds, this is it. My favorite cultivar is “Blue Muffin” because it is more compact at 5-7’ tall by 4-6’ spread. Other great cultivars are “Autumn Jazz” and “Northern Burgundy.”

Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis*) – There are so many wonderful witch hazels to choose from that the Chicago Botanic Garden decided to embark on a six-year trial studying 36 cultivars. The trial won’t conclude for another four years, but don’t wait that long to experience this beautiful shrub. Look for these tried-and-true cultivars: “Diane,” “Jelena” and “Arnold’s Promise.”

EVERGREENS

Boxwood (*Buxus*) – When deer started to find yew shrubs tasty, the whole world switched to boxwood, making it the go-to foundation evergreen. However, boxwood blight, which made its way to the United States in 2011, has been spreading rapidly ever since. This fungal disease is exacerbated by moisture and lack of air flow. For this reason, keep an eye on this dutiful landscape workhorse and don’t prune it into tight green meatballs. That said, I still recommend this plant. Look for blight resistant cultivars such as “Green Velvet,” “Green Mountain” and shrubs from the new NewGen series of blight resistant boxwoods, although availability may be limited in 2024.

Threadleaf False Cypress (*Chamaecyparis pisifera*) – Gold-colored cultivars that will add a bright deer resistant focal point to the landscape include “Golden Mop,” “Aurea Nana,” “Sungold” and “King’s Gold.” This conifer will tolerate partial shade and will be slightly greener in the shade.

Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) – This reliable conifer tree was featured in the January issue and is worth mentioning as one of the most deer resistant conifer trees I’ve observed. As a bonus, it’s also shade-tolerant.

DECIDUOUS TREES

Baldcypress (*Taxodium distichum*)



PHOTO COURTESY THE SPRUCE / EVGENIYA VLASOVA

Japanese False Cypress “Golden Mop”

– This amazingly adaptable deciduous conifer tolerates flooding, dryness and a variety of soils. The soft texture might be the reason deer leave it alone. The light green needles turn to a rusty cinnamon color in the fall before dropping. A lovely narrow cultivar is “Shawnee rave.”

Black Gum a.k.a. Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*) – This underused and under-appreciated native tree is a slow grower but is absolutely stunning with dark green glossy leaves in summer turning to brilliant shades of red, orange, yellow and a bit of purple, at times. Look for mature specimens at Brenton Arboretum south of Dallas Center and ask your local nursery if they can get you one of these beautiful cultivars: “Firestarter,” “Wildfire” and “Tupelo Tower.”

Tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) – This stately tree is worth planting if you’ve got the space. It’s known as the tallest hardwood species in eastern North American forests. The current champion lives in North Carolina and boasts 191 feet, 10 inches. Here in Iowa, plan on a mature size of 60 to 90 feet tall.

Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) – This tough yet gorgeous tree tolerates drought, heat, salt, pollution and deer. The unique fan-shaped foliage turns a pure gold color in the fall. What more could you ask for? (Reminder to only plant males as the female fruit has a horrific odor that develops upon maturity at about 20 years.)

Fun Fact: Ginkgo is considered a “living fossil” as one of the oldest plants on our planet and has remained basically the same for the past 180 million years. In China, Japan and Korea, there are trees that exceed 100 feet and are more than 1,000 years old. (Source: clemson.edu)

This list is by no means exhaustive, but it starts to show you that a beautiful deer-resistant garden is possible. As you plan your next landscaping project, avoid paying “dearly” for plants that will be devoured by these creatures that have such a presence in our community. Perhaps we can learn to live alongside and enjoy these magnificent creatures. ■

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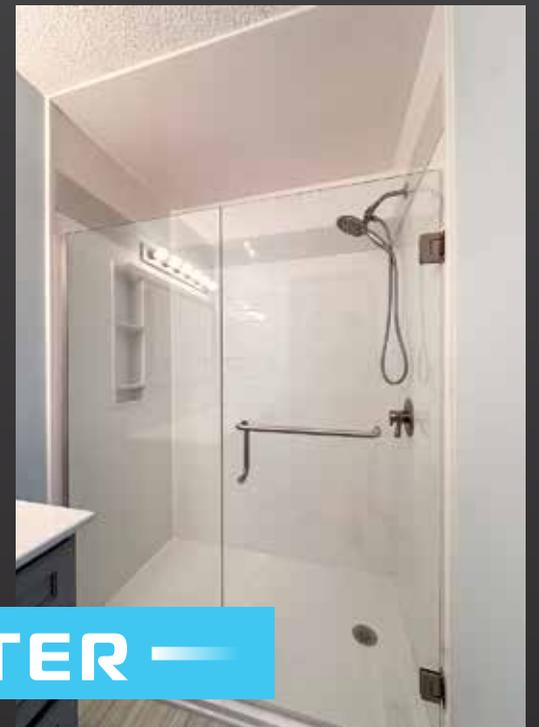
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LAKE PANORAMA ASSOCIATION

2024 LPA ANNUAL MEETING MAY 11

Two candidates running for two seats on the LPA board of directors.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Panorama Times

The 55th annual meeting of the Lake Panorama Association is Saturday, May 11 beginning at 10 a.m. at the Lake Panorama National Resort event center. Each year, the LPA annual meeting provides a formal statement of the association's financial position plus reports on activities during the past year and plans for the coming year.

Reports will be given by Emily Donovan, LPA board president; Dennis Flanery, LPA board treasurer; and John Rutledge, LPA general manager.

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

On the ballot this year are two candidates running for two seats on the LPA board of directors. Emily Donovan and Rich Schumacher are completing their second three-year terms on the board and are ineligible to run this year. Rachel Waldo and Jackson Whiton are running for

their first terms on the LPA board of directors.

Members are asked to deliver or mail their completed ballot in the numbered envelope to the LPA office before Friday, May 10. This allows the majority of the ballots to be counted in advance of the annual meeting. Ballots also can be brought to the annual meeting.

LPA bylaws require each board candidate to provide a 100-word statement. This year's candidate statements are printed here in alphabetical order. In mid-April, additional information provided by each candidate will be distributed via email to those who are signed up to receive official LPA emails.

RACHEL WALDO

"I chose to make Lake Panorama my home and raise my family here over 15 years ago. I graduated with a master's in business administration from Drake University in 2008 and have worked in finance and leadership at Principal Financial Group for the past 20 years. I am mom of two amazing and talented girls who keep me busy. I want to give back to our community to grow it and to ensure it remains a great place to raise a family or retire for generations to come. I look forward to applying my skills and experience to this important role."



Rachel Waldo

JACKSON WHITON

"My name is Jackson Whiton. I have lived on Lake Panorama my entire life, except for a short few years after college. I live on the lake with my wife, Jessica, and our two kids — Sadie and Luke. I am a litigation claims adjuster and have been in the insurance industry for the past 10 years. I believe my lifelong experience of the lake and my professional experience will serve well on the LPA Board. I intend to help navigate the complex financial and social aspects of serving and maintaining Lake Panorama." ■



Jackson Whiton

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Lake Panorama
TIMES

Q: MY NEIGHBORS HAVE AN ENCLOSED UTILITY TRAILER THAT IS KEPT ON THEIR A-LOT NEARLY ALL THE TIME. I KNOW THIS IS NOT ALLOWABLE ON AN UNDEVELOPED LOT, BUT IS IT OK ON AN A-LOT WITH A HOME ON IT? IF SO, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

A: Lane Rumelhart, projects manager for LPA, tells us LPA members may keep an enclosed trailer on a lot with a home whether it is an A, B or C lot. Undeveloped lots are only allowed boats, boat trailers, or non-enclosed utility trailers that are empty and less than 14' in length. LPA restricts enclosed trailers on members' undeveloped lots to comply with the covenants. The covenants ensure no camping/tiny home development takes place before a home is erected. The exact language reads as follows: "No motor homes, tents, or other similar structures shall be erected, moved onto, or placed upon said premises, except in specific areas designated for such use, prior to a home being erected on the lot."

Q: WHY DON'T YOU CHARGE A SUBSCRIPTION FEE FOR LAKE PANORAMA TIMES? JUST CURIOUS. I THINK PEOPLE WOULD PAY FOR IT.

A: Lake Panorama residents can get their news for free in many places today including radio, TV and on the internet, and we think you should be able to get your news for free in print, too. There was a day when it may have made sense to charge for subscriptions, but it no longer does — at least not to us.

Q: FOR THE SAKE OF THE LOVE OF THE LAKE, COULD SOMEONE PLEASE REPAINT THE EXTERIOR OF THE LPA OFFICE? I'D SPONSOR THE PAINT!

A: The LPA may take you up on that. What color do you think it should be? Maybe a nice shade of lavender or peach? Or maybe parfait pink?

Q: CAN AN AIRPLANE TAKE OFF OR LAND ON THE LAKE?

A: Section 9.2(d) of the LPA Rules and Regulations addresses this topic, stating that aircraft is prohibited. "No aircraft will be allowed to take off or descend upon the Lake in any manner except in an emergency."

Q: HOW MUCH STACKED FIREWOOD IS TOO MUCH STACKED FIREWOOD?

A: "Firewood beauty" may be in the eye of the beholder — and may depend on where it is stacked.

Section 8.02 of the LPA Rules and Regulations 8.02 states, "Upon designation by the General Manager, property owners will be required to remediate problems with plants on their lot including tree death, tree disease, poison ivy, thorned and hazardous plants or natural fire hazards where this situation can be shown to endanger person or property in the immediate area or otherwise be declared a nuisance."

It also states, "Natural materials such as firewood may be stored on properties with homes if stacked and located outside of the front lot setbacks." ■



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LAKE DOG

BY CHERYL TEMPLE | *Lake Panorama Times*

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BY CHERYL TEMPLE | *Lake Panorama Times*

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RECIPE

8-4-2-1 BREAKFAST CASSEROLE

BY JOLENE GOODMAN

Lake Panorama Times

Nothing beats treating your family or guests to the aroma of breakfast cooking in the kitchen on weekend mornings. You'll be enjoying this aroma, too, while you sip on your coffee waiting for the timer to go off, because you made this dish ahead of time.



Jolene Goodman

This breakfast casserole recipe is a stand-by favorite that my niece, Jessica Boyd, uses. She frequently has a large family in attendance on the weekends, and each member is a big fan of leftovers. The great thing about this recipe is how adaptable it is. It's delicious with other types of cheese like pepperjack or Swiss, or you can try adding (1 cup of) veggies, like peppers, mushrooms or zucchini. ■

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

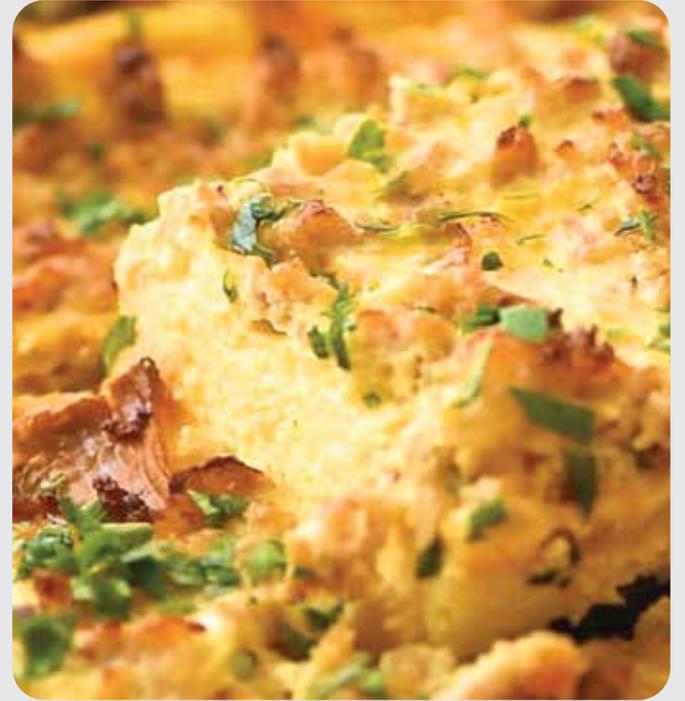
8-4-2-1 BREAKFAST CASSEROLE

Ingredients

- 8 eggs
- 4 cups of milk
- 2 cups of shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 tsp. of Natures Seasoning (or ¾ tsp. salt and ½ tsp. pepper)
- 1 5 oz. bag of croutons (any variety works!)
- 1 lb. breakfast sausage (I use Jimmy Dean regular)
- Sprinkle with parsley or chives before serving

Directions

Brown sausage in a pan on the stove. Drain grease and blot as much grease as possible with paper towels. In a bowl, beat eggs. Add milk, cheese and seasoning to eggs, then beat again. Pour sausage into 9"x13" pan. Dump croutons on top. Pour egg mixture on top. Bake 60 minutes at 350 degrees. To freeze breakfast casserole, prepare the recipe and add to your pan. Cover well with plastic wrap and then tinfoil and freeze for 2-3 months. Allow it to thaw overnight in the refrigerator, and then let it come to room temperature before baking according to recipe instructions. ■



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EVENT

5 LAKE PANORAMA HOMES FEATURED ON 2024 HOME TOUR

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

The Women's Service Organization (WSO) annual fundraising home tour for 2024 is Friday, June 7. Five Lake Panorama homes will be featured with four on the east side of the lake and one on the west side.

Tickets are \$30 and include both the home tour and lunch at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center. Tickets will be available beginning May 6 and can be reserved by contacting Mary Beidelman at 641-757-0425. There will be a maximum of 260 tickets available, and organizers say they expect to sell out quickly.

WSO was formed in 1972 when women who worked together to help pass a school bond issue decided they could benefit the local community as a formal organization.

The first WSO home tour was in 1974, so this could be considered its 50th anniversary. However, the tour was "rained out" in 1975 and was cancelled in both 2020 and 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The home tour is the WSO's major fundraiser. The first tour group leaves the LPN event center at 9 a.m. with

three additional groups leaving on the half-hour through 10:30 a.m. Each group tours three homes before returning to the LPN for lunch, followed by tours of the remaining two homes.

Participants are asked to arrive at the LPN conference center 20 minutes ahead of their tour time in order to join the vehicle lineup and receive instructions and description sheets. Several vendors will be at the event center so tour guests can browse and shop during their lunch break.

WSO committees work in advance to gather information for a one-page description sheet and to determine the best order and route. The route isn't always the most direct but is designed for safety and to accommodate the parking of many vehicles at each home.

Money raised by this home tour funds a renewable scholarship awarded to a graduating Panorama student each year, making four scholarships paid annually. Additional WSO donations go to the Panora Library, Food Pantry, Panora Garden Club, Guthrie County Historical Village, Heritage Park, Tori's Angels, Relay for Life, Panorama prom and yearbook. Other contributions are considered as projects become apparent. ■



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TRISH HART'S NATURE PHOTOS

CAUTION: RED FOX KITS AT PLAY



BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

This is the time of year when red fox babies, known as kits, start to venture out of their dens. Trish Hart is a local photographer who specializes in Lake Panorama wildlife. This month, she shares three photos she snapped last spring of red fox kits at the lake.

Mating season for foxes usually starts in January. Red foxes have a short gestation period with kits born at the end of February or early March. There usually are five to eight kits per litter. Baby foxes are blind when they are born.

They also cannot regulate their temperature by panting, so the mother

stays nearby.

The colors of red fox kits vary and can include black, silver, red, gold and tan. In about three weeks, their fur starts to transition to their primary colors. This also is when they start to be able to see.

By their second month, usually April, the kits venture to the den opening. They are extremely curious and begin to lay outside. They love to play and will growl, make noises and pile on top of each other. Both parents take care of their offspring until the next fall when the young foxes set out on their own.

Hart offers custom prints of her photos on canvas, paper, metal and glass. Learn more by visiting Nature's Canvas Photography on Facebook. ■



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LPA BOARD MINUTES

LAKE PANORAMA ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING DEC. 12, 2023

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met Dec. 12, 2023, at 5 p.m. at the Lake Panorama Association Office. Board members in attendance were Emily Donovan, David Finneseth, Rich Schumacher, Sue Thompson and Dirk Westercamp.

LPA Staff in attendance: Danna Krambeer, John Rutledge

Visitors in attendance: Jim Wendl

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

Agenda Item 1 - Approval of the Agenda

Finneseth 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

Jim Wendl requested the board allow the uncombination of previously combined lots 1, 2, 3, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987. The board will discuss in closed session.

Agenda Item 3 - Consent Agenda

Rutledge noted an error on the consent agenda item 3c. The 11.30.2023 consolidated financial reports are not available for acceptance. 3c should read Acceptance of the 10.31.2023 LPA LPN Consolidated Financial Statement.

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

Consent agenda to include:

- a) LPA General Manager's Report
- b) Approval of minutes from

10.24.2023 LPA Board Meeting

c) Acceptance of the 10.31.2023 LPA LPN Consolidated Financial Statement

d) Set date for next board meeting 03.26.2024

e) Accept minutes from 10.23.2023 LPN LLC Board of Managers Meeting

f) Accept minutes from 11.27.2023 LPN, LLC Board of Managers Meeting

g) Approve 2024 Amended Budget for LPN, LLC (minor adjustments to previously approved budget)

h) Authorization of 2024 cash investment in subsidiary LPN, LLC of up to \$300,000

Agenda Item 4a - Report from Treasurer

No report given

Agenda Item 4b - Appointments to LPN, LLC

Schumacher moved to appoint Kathy DeLucca and Paula Hansen to the LPN, LLC board of managers for three-year terms ending 12/31/2026 and Galen Redshaw for a one-year term ending 12/31/2024. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 5a - Old Business - None

Agenda Item 6a - Other Business - Discussed in closed session

Agenda Item 7 - Closed Session

The board entered closed session at 5:20 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Board exited closed session at 6:58 p.m.

Finneseth moved to approve legal motion as discussed in closed session: termination of combination agreement regarding Wendl's request to uncombine lots 1-3 and 1980-1987, with payment of back dues and documents fees and to recombine

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the lots into 3 sets of lots. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Finneseth moved to approve LPA General Manager five-year contract for John Rutledge. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Finneseth moved to approve LPN, LLC Director of Operations three-year contract for Royce Shaffer.

Adjourn - With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m. ■

**LAKE PANORAMA ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 6, 2024**

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met March 6, 2024, at 11 a.m. via Zoom. Board members in attendance were Emily Donovan, David Finneseth, Dennis Flanery, Sue Thompson and Dirk Westercamp.

LPA Staff in attendance: Lane Rumelhart, John Rutledge.

Visitors in attendance: None
President Donovan called the

special meeting to order at 11 a.m. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss land sale to Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ).

Rutledge explained the land sale, approximately three (3) acres m/l within 18-80-30 SW SW NW of Lake Panorama Property to Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone, with a Special Use Restriction attached to the land. The land is located outside of the Lake Panorama Subdivision. RIZ will then complete a trade for a portion of this land with Luke Wanninger (JRL Builders) to obtain land that will be used for future stream bank stabilization and erosion control projects.

Flanery moved to approve the sale of approximately three (3) acres m/l within 18-80-30 SW SW NW of land to Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone for price of \$36,000, per the purchase agreement presented, including the Declaration of Use Restriction and Right of First Refusal. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Adjourn - With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. ■



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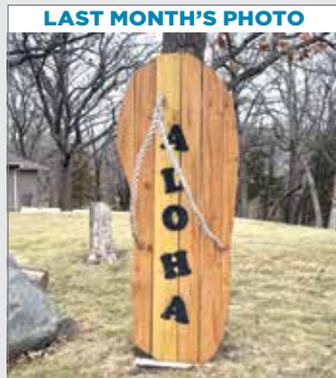
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WHERE IS IT?



The answer to last month's photo is the aloha sandal sign at 5275 Panorama Drive, owned by Nicholas and Jill Hittner. Have a guess on where the object in this month's photo is? Have one to submit for future issues? Send to shane@dmcityview.com. ■

LAST MONTH'S PHOTO



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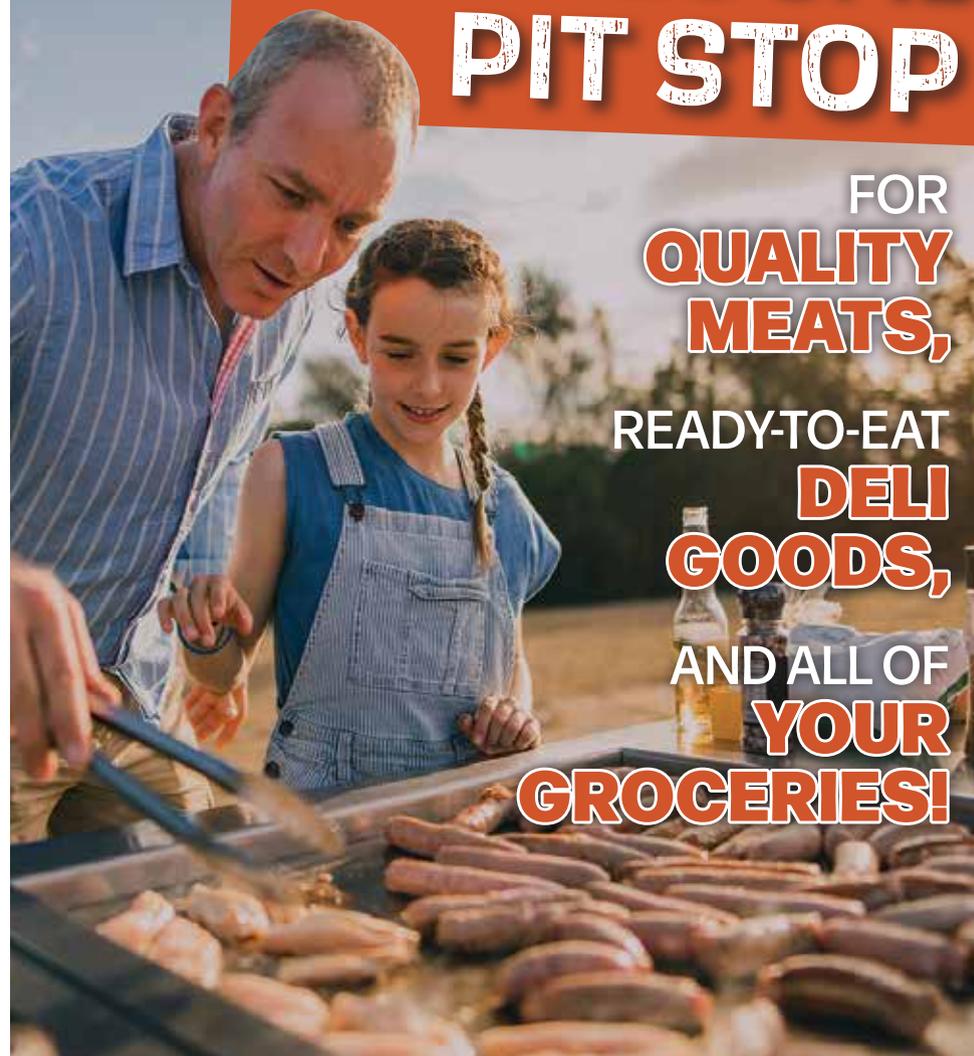
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