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Lake PanoramaTIMES

MAY 2017 | VOLUME 49 | NUMBER 5

Swimming pool at LPN will open Memorial Day weekend

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Times staff

The swimming pool and spa on the south side of the Lake Panorama National conference center is scheduled to open for the season Memorial Day weekend, and expected to remain open until the middle of September.

During the summer season, pool hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, weather permitting. Private pool parties can be scheduled, based on availability, in two-hour increments at a cost of \$150.

The pool is a cooperative effort between the Clover Ridge Interval Owners Association and the Lake Panorama Association, with operations handled by Lake Panorama National.

POOL, PAGE 5A

Rain Garden installation June 10

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Times staff

A rain garden is a perennial flower garden strategically located to capture runoff from rain that falls on parking lots, roofs, driveways and yards. On Saturday, June 10, beginning at 9 a.m., a rain garden will be installed along the east side of the Panorama West clubhouse parking lot.

This project is sponsored by Friends of Lake Panorama, a nonprofit charity that is separate from the Lake Panorama Association. Funds raised by the charity are used for improvements at Lake Panorama's two golf courses and three beaches.

The idea of installing a demonstration rain garden was discussed at a Friends of Lake Panorama board of directors meeting a year ago. Derek Namanny, an urban conservationist with

GARDEN, PAGE 8A

LPA annual meeting includes 2016 reports, 2017 outlook

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Times staff

The 48th annual meeting of the Lake Panorama Association was May 13, with about 100 people in attendance. The meeting provided an update on activities during the past year, plus a look ahead at the remainder of 2017.

Mary Jane Carothers was elected to fill an empty seat on the LPA board, replacing Bob Batschelt who had completed a three-year term. Tom Jeschke was reelected to another board term. Jason Grossman and Les Marks also were on the board ballot.

Jim Spradling, LPA board treasurer, provided the 2016 financial and audit report for the LPA and its subsidiary, LPN, LLC. For 2016, Spradling said the LPN operation showed an operating loss of \$116,574. Overall revenue was up \$10,048 from 2015, with golf activities and lodging higher, and conference center revenue lower.

MEETING, PAGE 8A

COMMUNITY

BEACH BALL EVENT RAISES BIG FUNDS



The 2nd annual Beach Ball, sponsored by Friends of Lake Panorama, was held Saturday, May 6, at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center. All proceeds will go to the charity's current priority project — new sports courts at Boulder Beach. The first Beach Ball in May 2016 raised nearly \$24,000, which helped Friends reach its \$80,000 goal for a new playground at Sunset Beach.

Proceeds to build new sports courts at Boulder Beach

By ASHLEY SCHABLE
Lake Times staff

The second annual Friends of Lake Panorama Beach Ball, held May 6 at Lake Panorama National Conference Center in Panora, featured themed tables, delicious desserts, and generous support.

The success of the Friends of Lake Panorama fundraiser means the group has reached its goal of raising at least \$50,000 for new sports courts at Boulder Beach.

The Friends board had set a \$20,000 goal for the Beach Ball, and came within \$600 of making that happen. Direct donations to-date stand at \$32,150, so Beach Ball proceeds pushed fundraising past its initial \$50,000 goal. The LPA has committed \$50,000, and an anonymous donor has pledged another \$25,000 for a dedicated basketball court.

"Thank you so much for coming out and showing your support," said Dave Furbush, Friends board vice president, who greeted more than 200 guests. "We just really want to

thank you."

A total of 220 people purchased \$40 tickets, with \$20 from each ticket going to Friends. People or businesses paid \$100 to sponsor each of 27 tables. Many sponsors decorated their own tables with themes, inviting guests to sit at colorful tables, including one decorated by Jill Brown and Emily Donovan that featured live gold fish swimming in a bowl with fishing theme decor.

"It's fun to see all the tables," said Maureen Lubeck, who decorated a couple of the round tables for the event.

Kylee Boettcher was already thinking of a table theme for next year's event.

"I'm thinking a Panorama Panthers table would be cool," said the Panorama high school teacher.

Beach Ball fundraising took many forms. A dozen items were donated for a live auction and another 43 for a silent auction. The two auctions netted \$6,565. Buyers spent \$1,830 on raffle tickets, for chances to win one of 16 donated items. Bakers donated 24 delicious des-



Each table of eight was individually decorated with a different theme, including this fishing themed table, with live goldfish entertaining the guests.

serts, which raised \$740.

Another option for donors was a "Build-A-Court" board where various items needed for the sports courts were posted, along with the price. Donors could choose a card from the board and pay for the items that evening. The items included such things as nets, anchor posts, basketball hoops, benches and fencing. This activity generated more than \$2,600 in donations.

Those who donated via the "Build-A-Court" opportunity didn't actually buy the item they chose. The money was simply additional financial support for the sports courts, and was a good way to show the various components needed to complete this project.

BALL, PAGE 2A



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BALL
FROM PAGE 1A

Terry Laughery of Laughery Auctions volunteered his time to cry the live auction. “They just bought those to throw in the lake,” Laughery, an Iowa Hawkeye fan, joked when Bags Boards featuring the Iowa State Cyclones were sold. He invited guests to test out the Live Edge Wooden Bench donated by Kurt and Joyce Johnson. “Come on up and try it out, a bunch of you can fit on this thing,” Laughery said as he encouraged bids on the six-foot long handmade beauty. Lonnie Carrick of Menefee Rentals loaned and delivered 10 round tables to supplement the 20 owned by the LPN. This way, all decorators had the same type and size of table. “It was a great evening, with lots of socializing and good conversation,” said Susan Thompson, Friends executive director. “People were generous with their time, their talents and their donations. It was a fun way to help Friends of Lake Panorama support the new sports courts project at Boulder Beach.”

SPORTS COURTS
PROJECT

In 2014, Friends proposed renovating the courts at Lake Panorama National, and add-

ing a separate basketball court. While some donors contributed to that project, it didn't generate enough interest to be viable. The \$8,000 from those early donors provided seed money for additional fundraising for the new sports courts project. The cost estimate for the courts is \$150,000. With \$125,000 of that now committed, the Friends board of directors took formal action at its May 15 meeting, asking the LPA board to build the two tennis/pickleball courts and one basketball court this summer. LPA board members will discuss the issue at their May 23 meeting. The main sports court structure will be a concrete slab featuring two regulation-sized tennis courts with both tennis and pickleball lines. A Power-Game two-tiered surface will be placed over the concrete base. This modular flooring features a locking system. The five-eighths inch high, self-draining surface stays clean by allowing water, dirt and debris to drain through. The cushioned design provides shock absorption to help reduce joint stress and fatigue. These courts will be surrounded by a 10' tall chain link, black vinyl fence. There will be one gate, two nets and support poles. This project is estimated at \$125,000. The basketball court will be slightly smaller than regulation size. The concrete



ASHLEY SCHABLE | LAKE TIMES

The 2nd annual Beach Ball, sponsored by Friends of Lake Panorama, was held Saturday, May 6, at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center. All proceeds will go to the charity's current priority project — new sports courts at Boulder Beach. The first Beach Ball in May 2016 raised nearly \$24,000, which helped Friends reach its \$80,000 goal for a new playground at Sunset Beach.

will be marked for two half courts, with two basketball hoop systems installed. The \$25,000 price tag does not include fencing or the Power-Game surface. The Friends nonprofit is separate from the Lake Panorama Association, and has a goal of improving recreational amenities at Lake Panorama. All contributions are tax deductible. Since an estimated \$25,000 still is needed to complete the project, Friends of Lake Panorama will continue to solicit donations for the sports courts. While donations of all sizes are welcome, only donors of \$500 or more are recognized on the Friends website. A sign listing these larger donors will be erected near the courts. Donations can be made in someone's memory or in honor of someone. Checks can be mailed to PO Box 488, Panora, Iowa, 50216. A donation form is available on the Friends website, which can be completed and sent with the check. Donations also can be accepted electronically on the website. Donations of securities (stocks, mutual funds, etc.) are welcome, and will be sold once transferred, with the proceeds deposited into the Friends bank account. A securities account has been established with GCSB Investment Center in Panora. Questions regarding the Friends of Lake Panorama, or this current priority project of sports courts at Boulder Beach, can be emailed to staff@friendsoflakepanorama.org. The website is www.friendsoflakepanorama.org.



Friends of Lake Panorama has a goal of raising at least \$50,000 for the sports courts. So far, \$27,000 has been donated for this project. Once Friends raises \$50,000, the LPA has committed \$50,000. An anonymous donor has pledged another \$25,000 for a dedicated basketball court.



Terry Laughery calls the Live Auction during the 2nd annual Beach Ball, sponsored by Friends of Lake Panorama, on Saturday, May 6, at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center. All proceeds will go to the charity's current priority project -- new sports courts at Boulder Beach.



Patrons at the 2nd annual Beach Ball had the chance to place silent bids on 30 tempting desserts, each at least eight servings, to share with their tablemates.



Susan Thompson draws a winner from the raffle drawing during the Beach Ball on Saturday, May 6. Helping was Karla Bristle.

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COMMUNITY

Local woman publishes “inspirational” book

By CAITLIN WARE | Lake Times staff

By day, Dawn Hafner works as the senior vice president and chief operations officer for Kidder Benefits Consultants, a retirement plan and investment firm in West Des Moines.

But now, thanks to a hobby done in her spare time, the Lake Panorama resident can add a new title to her job description: published author.

Writing, and more specifically journaling, has long been a passion for Hafner. Jotting down her thoughts and feelings provides an outlet to help relieve stress and work through problems. Her combined love for writing and interest in helping people came together in her new book, “The Mapmaker, Your 33 Day Journey Towards Daily Presence,” which was released at the beginning of April.

The book is 33 chapters long, and is filled with “inspirational life lessons.” It covers topics like terminal illnesses, friendship and marriage, and has interactive writing assignments for the reader after each section.

“It has 33 different chapters, so you’re supposed to do a 33 day journey,” Hafner said. “Each is either a story or an essay that has a life lesson. And following each story is a journal prompt, for the reader to follow along with. I have practiced journaling for a couple years, and felt like it is a great tool for self exploration and stress management, emotional management. I thought that would be helpful to introduce part of that in the (book), to make it more personal for the reader.”

Hafner started working on her book in 2014, and spent the last three years writing, editing and designing it. Her purpose in writ-

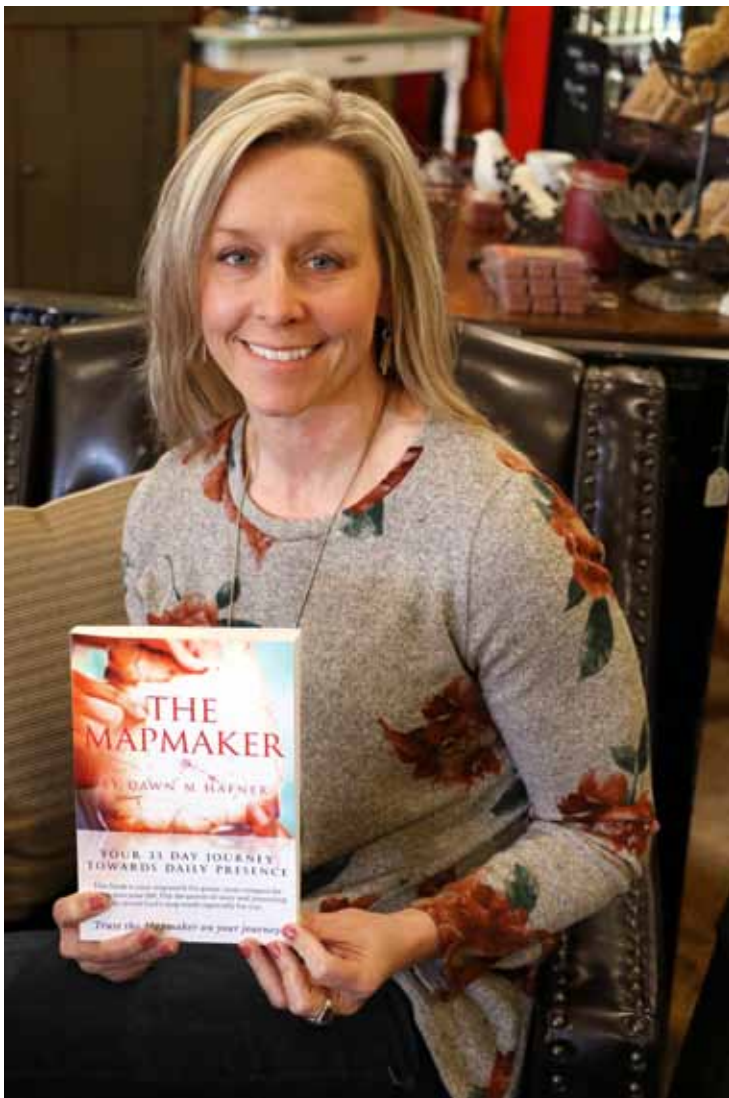
ing it was to help inspire people to know their worth, realize they are stronger than they think and teach them to be more connected in their daily lives. Every story in the book is based on something that happened to Hafner, or someone close to her.

“I just think it might be helpful to other people,” Hafner said. “I feel like part of my purpose in writing is to inspire people to realize that their life matters, maybe more than they think. And all the people they touch every day really makes a difference in the world. Some of the big themes of the book are just non-judgment of others, overcoming fears, ‘you’re more important than you think in this world’ and really being present in your everyday moments.”

The book is designed to be nondenominational. For Hafner, the title The Mapmaker, and the driving force throughout the book refers to God, who she said speaks to people through life events and lessons. But for readers of other walks of life, the word “God” can be replaced by words from any other belief system, such as “the universe.”

Hafner opted to self-publish the book through Amazon.com, as opposed to finding a publishing house, because she did not want to delay its release with waiting to find an agent and a publisher who would represent it.

“It was pretty easy,” Hafner said about putting the book together. “To me, sometimes when I have moments in my life, writing is a



CAITLIN WARE | LAKE TIMES

Lake Panorama resident Dawn Hafner poses with a copy of her new book, “The Mapmaker, Your 33 Day Journey Towards Daily Presence.” The book was released at the beginning of April.

natural way for me to process it, so that was easy. Things like formatting the document, getting somebody to do a cover I like, those things were new to me.”

Half of the profits from book sales will be donated to Dress For Success Des Moines, a non-profit organization that provides women in need with free professional clothing, and interview/

job preparation help. Hafner has worked as a volunteer with the group for about a year.

Although The Mapmaker has only been circulating for around a month, Hafner said it has already been met with success. She has sold more than 100 copies, and it reached several best

BOOK, PAGE 8A

COON RAPIDS

Raccoon River Days and concert

Special to Lake Times

Water is the great equalizer that crosses all imposed boundaries. Rivers connect communities and also protect many of the remaining wildlife corridors throughout the state of Iowa.

Connect with your river this Memorial Day Weekend at the Raccoon River Days at Whiterock Conservancy sponsored by Des Moines Water Works.

In addition to a concert with Bob Dorr and the Blue Band on the river’s edge Saturday, May 27, the weekend is full of opportunities to learn and explore.

Join Whiterock staff and regional naturalist to learn more about your community and watershed:

May 26 from 5-8 p.m.: Educational river walk, Water Quality for Life Quality at the River Campground

May 27 at 9 a.m.: River Cleanup on the Middle Raccoon River meeting at the River Campground

May 27 at 2:30 pm: Soaring the Valley, Clean Water and Birds of Prey - a demonstration program with birds of prey with Saving Our Avian Resources (SOAR) at the River Campground

At the end of Saturday relax at the Blues on the River Concert at the Historic River Dance Barn or put on your dancing shoes as Bob Dorr and the Blue

Band plays from 7-10 p.m. on the banks of the Middle Raccoon River.

General parking for Saturday’s concert will be at the Carroll County Fairgrounds with bus service provided. Plan to bring a lawn chair or blanket and your own food and beverages.

If you want to see more of Whiterock bring your own UTV or ATV for the Slow Sunday Drive from 2-5 p.m. on May 28 that starts at the Garst Farm District at 2 pm. The tour will take about three hours and Dr. Bill Clark will talk about the landscape at scenic stops.

The weekend ends with an old fashioned fishing derby for all ages from 3-5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 29. Join Whiterock at the Garst Farm District ponds located off Highway 141. In addition to catching fish that are good to eat, prizes will be awarded.

Friday and Saturday events are based out of the Whiterock Conservancy River Campground, 1314 Fig Ave, Coon Rapids 50058. Parking for the concert is at the Carroll County Fairgrounds, 214 8th Ave., Coon Rapids. Shuttle service to the dance barn will begin at 5:30. Handicap parking and guest drop off will be at the River Campground, 1314 Fig Ave. Sunday and Monday activities will begin at the Garst Farm-

CONCERT, PAGE 8A

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AGRICULTURE

SECOND STRIDE

Nationally recognized farm retrains injured racehorses for alternative careers



Second Stride board member Paul Rutherford works with Wicked Cool, a retired racehorse, on Sunday afternoon.

By DOUGLAS BURNS | Lake Times staff

LOUISVILLE, KY.

Even a wicked cool horse needs a friend. The pageantry of the Kentucky Derby, the draining of mint juleps and showcasing of stylish hats, the strutting of man-as-peacock suits, is at its 144-year-old core built on the heavy-hoofed work of horses — celebrated animals in the sport of kings.

But life is not all finish-line roses and stud-farm duty for Kentucky racehorses. The business is rough and tumble and racing is at times cruel. So what happens to the horse with a bum leg, spent career or a missing eye? Some outcomes aren't so storybook. But many injured and older racehorses end up at the nonprofit Second Stride, a horse farm east of Louisville, in the rolling Kentucky countryside where thoroughbreds are as common as corn along Highway 30 in western Iowa. At Second Stride, these horses, whether rich in pedigree or long on odds, are retrained and rehabilitated for a life off the track. "They are either injured or slow or just too old to compete," said Paul

Rutherford, secretary of the Second Stride Board of Directors, and a frequent volunteer at the farm. Last Sunday, Second Stride housed 11 horses in recovery. (The farm can keep a couple of dozen.) Once they are ready, the horses are sent to adoptive farms across the United States, including in Iowa. "Iowa would be perfect because it is so cool up there," Rutherford said of the preferred climate for thoroughbreds. Which brings us to Wicked Cool, a 4-year-old thoroughbred gelding bred in Kentucky. "He's super cool," Rutherford said. The horse endured a fractured hip, meaning this once promising super horse (which never raced) is now on the hunt for lighter work, say as a trail horse for equine lovers who'd love nothing more than to

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ride him on a farm. Second Stride placed 150 horses around the nation in 2016. Costs to adopt the horses now available on the recovery farm can range from \$350 to \$1,600. One fan favorite at the Kentucky Derby on Saturday was Patch, a one-eyed horse who finished out of the money, but inspired millions of race fans. "We have a one-eyed horse, just like Patch," Rutherford said. "One-eyed horses have big hearts." As Rutherford showed off 7-year-old Beat the Storm, he observed that, like people, the horse has a preferred angle for a profile photo. "That's the good side," Rutherford said of Storm's appeal from the right. "The other side, he looks like a pirate."

Most of the horses at Second Stride were bred for the track, and habits and biology are challenging to break. Beat the Storm won \$53,000 for his owners before succumbing to injury. "At the racetrack they go fast and they turn left and that's all they know," Rutherford said. But, Rutherford said, these animals are smart, adaptive and tough. An Iowa winter may be just the ticket for Wicked Cool or Beat the Storm. *Editor's Note: Paul Rutherford is a 1991 graduate of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and an assistant county attorney in Louisville, Kentucky. He attended college with Douglas Burns, the author of this article. Burns and Rutherford regularly attend the Kentucky Derby.*

Two "Coffee with the GM" events planned

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Times staff

An effort to find new ways to keep lines of communication open between the Lake Panorama Association and LPA members will continue in 2017. The first "Coffee with the GM" was held in April 2015. These events provide LPA members the opportunity to discuss topics of interest in a candid, conversational format. The next two coffees are scheduled for Friday, July 7, and Thursday, September 7, both at the Lake Panorama National conference center. John Rutledge, LPA general manager, invites LPA members to join him for coffee and other refreshments at these informal gatherings. Each will begin at 10:30 a.m. and last about an hour. At each, Rutledge will provide an update on current happenings, and take questions from members in attendance. If members have questions or items they would like covered about LPA policies or developments, they can email lpa@lakepanorama.org to give Rutledge an opportunity to prepare in advance. LPA members with questions specific to their own membership or property should call the LPA office during regular business hours at 641-755-2301.

Entries sought for June 22 LPN Women's Golf Tournament

The Lake Panorama National women's golf league will host a four-woman best-shot tournament Thursday, June 22. For many years, the women's league sponsored a tournament each June with two-women teams. This year, the league committee decided to transition this event into a four-woman tournament. The committee's goal is to bring more women into the tournament, and promote participation from a wider range of players. For those reasons, each four-person team is limited to a maximum of two members of the LPN women's league. Teams also can consist of all non-league women, or just one league member.

Interested players also can sign up as a twosome and be paired with another twosome by the tournament committee. This is being done to make sure everyone who wants to play can do, so as this transition is made. Check-in will begin at 8 a.m., with breakfast available. There will be a shotgun start at 9 a.m., with prizes awarded in several flights. Golf will be followed by a luncheon in the LPN banquet room, where awards will be presented and drawings held for raffle gifts. Entry fees are \$40 for LPN members and \$60 for non-members, and cover green fees, cart, breakfast, lunch and prizes. Entries are due by June 15 to Julie Wykoff, 5044 Karen Drive, Panorama, IA 50216. Questions can be emailed to julie@jaallen9@aol.com. Entry forms are available online at lakepanoramanational.com.

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COMMUNITY



Sheila Woolridge, a member of the WSO, pours tea for Lora Koch, attending the Senior Tea with her daughter Christin. The WSO had put on the tea for Panorama senior girls and their guests, including mothers and grandmothers, for the past 18 years.

‘BE HAPPY, BE AN OPTIMIST’

Panorama grad Laura Jontz featured speaker at Senior Tea

By ASHLEY SCHABER
Lake Times staff

As a graduating senior, Laura Jontz didn't know what she wanted to do after high school. She went to the University of Northern Iowa and studied business and journalism. She later got a law degree from Drake University.

Fast-forward to today, 17 years later, and Jontz, the featured speaker at the annual Panorama High School Girls Senior Tea, encourages soon-to-be graduates to be happy, be an optimist, and develop their own bridge of success.

"The whole idea is, whatever job you pick, love it," said Jontz, who now works as a lawyer for Iowa Legal Aide in Des Moines.

Pick something that come Monday morning you enjoy doing, Jontz said.

"Sure, I'd rather sleep another hour, but I like my job, the people I work with, what I do and I feel like I make a difference," she said.

The Senior Girls Tea, an annual event for more than 18 years, has been organized by the Women's Service Organization (WSO) since 1999, although the club is celebrating 45 years of service to the Panora community this year.

"We were organized when women worked together to pass a school bond to build the Panora-Linden high school, middle school," said Mary Beidelman, president of the Women's Service Organization. "Your core school is close to 45 years old and this group continues to work on behalf of the community."

The club is known for three annual fund raising events -- Bridge Marathon, the Christ-



Laura Jontz, a 2000 Panorama graduate, was the featured speaker at the girls senior tea held Wednesday, April 19 at the Brethern Church in Panora. Jontz, who graduated from the University of Northern Iowa and Drake Law School, shared her experiences working for Iowa Legal Aide in Des Moines. She told the senior girls whatever job they pick in life, to love it.

mas Luncheon and the Spring Tour of Homes. This June will be their 43rd Home Tour.

Beidelman said the money raised goes back into the com-

munity. WSO sponsors a four-year renewable scholarship of \$500 each year to a graduating senior.

"We hope some of you have applied," Beidelman said as she welcomed the girls and their guests.

After introducing themselves, their mothers and grandmothers, the girls, who also shared their future plans, posed for photos and gathered for a light luncheon.

"This is really neat, I'm glad they asked me to come back for this," said Jontz, who recalls her tea in 2000.

TEA, PAGE 7A

WSO Home Tour in its 43rd year

Lake Times staff

Five Lake Panorama homes will be featured June 1 for the 43rd annual Women's Service Organization (WSO) home tour. Tickets are \$20, and include both the home tour and lunch at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center.

WSO was established in the fall of 1972 when women who had worked together to help pass a school bond issue decided they enjoyed working together, and could further benefit the community as a formal organization.

This is the WSO's major fundraiser. The group awards scholarships for Panorama Commu-

nity Schools graduates. It also supports several local causes, including After Prom, 3C's, Relay for Life, Feed the Kids Backpack program, Christmas decorations on the Panora square, local food pantries and other worthy projects.

The first tour group will leave the Lake Panorama National conference 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.

WSO members work for several weeks to organize and sell tickets for this annual home

tour. Visits to the homes are made a week in advance to gather details for an information sheet that is given to each ticket holder.

To purchase tickets, contact Sue Merryman at 641-755-3949.

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The 1,500 square foot heated pool and 8-person spa at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center are available to all resort guests at no cost. Others can purchase an annual membership or pay a \$3 daily fee, with children under 3 years of age free. Both the pool and spa are handicap accessible. During the summer season, pool hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m, weather permitting. Snacks and drinks can be purchased from the check-in window located near the pool. Private pool parties, based on availability, can be scheduled in two-hour increments at a cost of \$150.



POOL

FROM PAGE 1A

Guests of Clover Ridge and Lake Panorama Inn and Suites have access to the 1,500 square-foot pool and 8-person spa at no charge. All others must have an annual membership or pay the daily fee of \$3. Both the pool and hot tub are heated, with covers in place overnight.

Anyone using the pool must check-in at the window in the southeast corner of the pro shop. Those purchasing an annual membership will receive permanent wristbands. Those paying the daily fee will receive a paper wristband for that day.

Annual memberships for LPA members are \$85 for a

single and \$140 for a family. Non-LPA members can get an annual membership for \$95 for a single and \$155 for a family.

Snacks and drinks can be purchased from the check-in window located near the pool. No glass is permitted at the pool, but beverages in plastic glasses can be purchased in The Links.

Membership applications can be picked up at the LPN front desk, or found online by clicking on the announcement bar at the top of the LPN home page at lakepanoramanational.com. Those who join early will have their permanent wristbands waiting for them at the check-in window the first time they visit the pool. For more information, call the LPN at 641-755-2080.

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EXPLORE NATURE AT LAKE PANORAMA



COOP RICKERT | SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES

Nature is all around at Lake Panorama. Denise “Coop” Rickert snapped this photo of a barred owl in late April near the Lake Panorama West campground. Barred owls have rounded heads and no ear tufts, and get their name from the brown streaks on their white bellies. Barred owls live in large, mature forests made up of both deciduous trees and evergreens, often near water. These owls roost quietly in trees during the day. At night, they hunt small animals, especially rodents.

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Panora Lions Club Golf Tournament May 27

Lake Times staff

The Panora Lions Club is holding a golf tournament at the Panorama West golf course on Saturday, May 27. All proceeds from this event will go to the Guthrie County Veterans Memorial Fund. This 18-hole, four-person best-shot event begins with a shotgun start at 1 p.m., and is limited to the first 15 teams entered. Cost is \$160 per team of four, with a \$10 discount for those who provide their own cart. Mulligans, which cost \$10, can be purchased when a team registers. These are team mulligans, and can be used once per nine holes. A meal will be available at the clubhouse after golf. For more details, or to register, email Gary Freeland at garygfree@netins.net. Registration forms also are available at the Panorama West pro shop.

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POLITICS Democrat Norris spies 1974-like opening

Potential gubernatorial candidate focuses on rural issues

By DOUGLAS BURNS
Lake Times staff

Red Oak native John Norris, a former top staffer at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and key figure in Iowa campaigns for a generation, brings a lengthy resume of advocacy for farm life to his potential — and seemingly odds-on — campaign for governor in a growing Democratic field. As part of a “testing the waters” swing through Iowa, Norris, who worked for longtime U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin and Gov. Tom Vilsack, spoke to a dozen Democratic faithful Friday night at the Carroll County Courthouse meeting room.

Norris, whose family farm in Montgomery County dates back to 1881, said Democrats must regain solid footing in rural Iowa to achieve statewide viability. (Norris noted that like another politician from the Red Oak area, U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, he also castrated hogs, but did not wear bread bags over his feet in the winter, a thrifty tactic Ernst famously spotlighted in her 2014 campaign ads.) Big picture, rural Iowa’s economy defines how the state’s future goes, Norris said. “We can’t just have success in the Des Moines-Ames corridor and the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City corridor,” Norris said.

Norris, who now lives in Des Moines, said he will make a decision about his candidacy over the Memorial Day weekend. He’s leaning toward making the bid for Terrace Hill. “I’m out making sure this feels right,” Norris said. His top issues: middle-class and small-business tax relief, bringing Medicaid out of what he sees as a privatization debacle, water-quality improvement through a nutrient-management strategy, and the expansion of opportunities for renewable energy like wind and solar.

Norris said the GOP overreached in Iowa in gutting collective bargaining for public employees, which he says will disadvantage rural schools. He is predicting a big year for Democrats in 2018 across the board. “I think people are starting to think this could be another 1974,” Norris said, referencing the post-Watergate Democratic wave for federal and state offices, the political current Norris mentor Harkin captured to launch his congressional career.

Too many voters, Norris said, are susceptible to the populism of anger and hate and blame, not the collective uplift past Democrats like Harkin and Vilsack brought to the countryside.

Norris said he’s planning an issue-based campaign, not one of “pounding the podium” on social issues. Republicans will be open to that message, too, Norris said. “I see a real lack of enthusiasm from Republicans driven by the Trump administration,” Norris said.

Norris said his expertise is on farm and energy issues. In addition to the USDA post, where he helped oversee a \$100 billion budget for programs in rural America, and worked for Vilsack in Iowa and Harkin in many roles, Norris served as chairman of the Iowa Utilities Board, a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and state director of the Iowa Farm Unity Coalition.

Norris is currently a partner in the West Des Moines-based State Public Policy Group.



John Norris

THE JOHN NORRIS FILE

Chief of Staff at U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Top staff member for former Gov. Tom Vilsack, Sen. Tom Harkin and U.S. Rep. Leonard Boswell.

Chairman of Iowa Utilities Board.

Appointed by President Obama to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Raised on Red Oak-area farm settled by his great-great-grandfather in 1881.

Earned bachelor’s degree at Simpson College, law degree at University of Iowa.

State director of Iowa Farm Unity Coalition.

Managed Iowa presidential campaigns of Jesse Jackson and John Kerry.

Married to Jackie Norris, former chief of staff to First Lady Michelle Obama, and now the CEO of Goodwill of Central Iowa. John and Jackie Norris have three sons.

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SHERIFFS

Charges in breakins

By **GORDON CASTILE**
Lake Times staff

Panora police executed two search warrants at the Midway Motel in Guthrie Center last Tuesday shortly after 6:00 p.m. that led to three persons being arrested and charges filed in connection with a series of burglaries in Panora and at Lake Panorama.

“We’re excited we were able to stop these people,” said police chief Matt Reising.

The trio was living temporarily at the motel after previously residing in a Panora apartment, according to Reising.

Logan Gilliam, 18, was charged with eight counts of 3rd degree burglary, possession of stolen property, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jesse Gilliam, 33, Logan’s uncle, was charged with eight counts of 3rd degree burglary and possession of stolen property. His girlfriend, Krystin Martle, 32, was charged with possession of stolen property.

As of Tuesday, the three were still being held in the Guthrie County Jail with bond set at \$30,000 for the two men and \$5,000 for the woman.

Reising said a van and motel room were searched. The arrests came after a long investigation of the thefts that started in March.

“It involved a tremendous amount of work,” said chief Reising. “(Panora policemen) Rock Armstrong and Taylor Wheatley volunteered hours and hours of unpaid work because they cared about the community.” He also cited deputy Todd Thorn of Panora for his time on the case.

Reising said items were stolen from storage lockers, cars and open garages. Asked what was stolen, he said, “Anything of value -- purses, wallets, jewelry, tools, electronics -- you name it.”

He said there were up to 15 thefts. Investigation continues as what was recovered didn’t represent all that’s been stolen. Reising said some people are not aware they had something taken or didn’t report a theft. A late April news release from Panora police warned residents thefts were taking place.

Panora police and Guthrie County deputies worked 12 hours through the night after issuing the warrants. This involved searching, charging the three and inventoring and the laborious process of documenting the recovered items. Deputies included Todd Thorn, Jeremy Bennett, Jesse Swensen and Blake Michelsen.

“It took a long time with so much stolen property,” said Reising. “We worked very well together.

TEA

FROM PAGE 5A

Jontz was raised in Bagley, the daughter of Jack and Dee, and jokes anytime she comes across a person who knows where the smalltown is, she instantly gives them better legal services.

Her job at Iowa LegalAide is to help low-income Iowans with civil legal issues, largely defending evictions and family matters, which includes civil protective orders for victims of domestic violence, and custody and divorce cases for victims of domestic violence.

“A lot of my clients come to me in pretty bad situations and I love my job because a lot of time when they leave me, they are not in as bad of situations as they were,” Jontz said.

Hanging in her office Jontz has framed an Optimist Creed, she memorized in her fourth grade class with teacher Dee Lenz. It starts, “Today is going to be a great day.”

She said it helps not only her, but her clients.

“It gives inspiration to a lot of my clients, who are maybe being evicted,” she said. “It helps them know they can handle this -- these people who are doing incredibly difficult things, breaking away from domestic violence.”

Jontz said whatever profession you go into, look at the optimist creed and know, ‘there is always something to be happy about’, and ‘things aren’t as bad as they seem’.

“I have split my pants in the courtroom, not once, but twice,” Jontz said. “So, I’m stuck in a position of asking my client, ‘Did I just rip my pants?’”

Jontz said she’s also been adjourned from the courtroom by a judge and walked straight into the coat closet.

“And you have to leave because you can’t stay in the coat closet all day,” she grins. “The judge in Polk County still remembers that one.”

Jontz said there have been days she’s wondered if she should be in any profession.

“You should, if you can look back and laugh,” she said.

She told the senior girls, who soon face a future after high school, success is what they want it to be.

“It’s not what other people think it should be,” she said. “If you are happy getting up, doing what you are doing, making the world a better place, that’s success.”

And that’s enough.



Panorama senior girls during a Senior Tea Wednesday at the Brethern Church in Panora are (front row, from left) Mallorie Pittman, Nadia Sharairi, Jenna Bauch, Allison Bice, Cassie Labath, (second row) Dalee Rogers, MaKayla Reynolds, Tori Troutman, Rachel Gibson, Maggie Smith, Sky Larson, (third row) Kylie South, Christin Koch, Kate Wingert, Savanna Mobley, Paige Johnston.



Panorama senior girls and their guests, including their mothers and grandmothers, gather for a bite to eat after a short program hosted by the Women’s Service Organization at the Brethern Church in Panora on Wednesday, April 19. This is the 18th year for the annual tea, which celebrates the young girls and encourages them as they face a future after high school.



Panorama senior Paige Johnston poses for a photo with her mom, Danielle (in back) and her grandmothers Joan McKinney (left) and Nancy Johnston during the annual Senior Tea held at the Brethern Church and hosted by the Women’s Service Organization in Panora. WSO is celebrating 45 years of service to the Panora community this year. This is their 18th anniversary year for the Senior Tea.



Lora and Christin Koch attend the Senior Tea hosted by the Women’s Service Organization in Panora on Wednesday, April 19.



Panorama senior Kate Wingert and her mom, Lisa, attend the girls Senior Tea in Panora on Wednesday, April 19.

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MEETING
FROM PAGE 1A

“Maintaining a profitable subsidiary that specializes in the golf and restaurant industry continues to be a challenge,” Spradling said. “However, I can report the LPN board of managers is working with LPN staff to ensure our subsidiary is pursuing improved strategies to maximize performance in future years.”

Turning to the LPA, Spradling noted the LPA concluded 2016 with very positive financial numbers. However, budgeted operating income for 2017 is significantly less than in the actual results shown for 2016 and 2015. The 2017 budget calls for an operating loss of about \$61,000. He said the projected operating loss was intentionally budgeted because of two unique items in this year’s budget.

One project is the reverse osmosis pilot plant, which is budgeted at \$60,000. “Although the potential plant would be a capital expense, this study is being treated as an operational expense in our 2017 budget,” Spradling said. “The board did not feel it was appropriate to raise dues or water rates for this single study, and therefore determined it was acceptable to budget for a loss.”

In addition, Spradling said \$50,000 has been set aside for potential consulting to assist the LPN, LLC board of managers and LPN staff with improving the financial performance of the subsidiary. He said this

money has not yet been allocated to a specific study, and will be reviewed further by the LPA board before any final commitment is made.

Spradling said the LPA board decided a 3.5 percent dues increase should be applied for 2017, rather than the maximum increase of 5 percent. “In the end, the \$61,863 loss will likely be a profit of \$125,000 after audit adjustments for land expense allocation,” he said. “The board’s budgeting process also focuses extensively on cash flow. Cash balances are targeted for 20 percent, with the possibility these will be in the 17-18 percent range if non-budgeted expenditures are approved by the board as a mid-year budget amendment.”

Jeschke, who has served the past year as LPA board president, chaired the meeting. In his president’s report, he paid special recognition to fellow board member Charles Schnack for his longstanding efforts in the tree nursery.

Jeschke said the LPA board and staff undertake an extensive budget process during the months of September, October and November. “This ensures a thorough understanding of operational and capital expenditures for the coming year, with special attention to where we can and cannot afford to increase spending. We believe we have a sound budget for 2017,” he said.

With regard to improved amenities, Jeschke said the LPA continues to balance its investment across many categories. “LPA roads, the dam, the water

plant, LPA equipment, the marina, Panorama West and Lake Panorama National are all areas of focus,” he said. Jeschke highlighted the board’s attention to the dam and complimented past boards on maintaining a proactive approach to this core asset.

John Dinnebie, LPN director of operations, introduced key staff. In particular, he mentioned Andrew Labath, who took over as executive chef a year ago and who Dinnebie said is doing a great job in the LPN kitchen.

Dinnebie reviewed the number of golf rounds played last year by both members and guests. “It’s important to have strong numbers in both those categories. We work to balance the times we have tournaments and outings with the times members can have the course available for leagues and open play,” he said.

Dinnebie said the 2017 calendar of events is strong. He expressed appreciation to LPA members, as well as members of the LPN and Panorama West golf course, for their continued support over the past year.

Dinnebie spoke about his work with the LPN, LLC board of managers and shared his gratitude for their commitment and support throughout the year. He highlighted improvements to the conference center, including the 2016 upgrade of the kitchen and the Links Lounge. Dinnebie also recognized the member-led effort to repaint the banquet room to kickoff the 2017 season.

John Rutledge has begun his 10th year as LPA general manager. He introduced key staff and thanked them for their work. Rutledge said 2016 was a good year and 2017 is off to a good start. He highlighted several projects.

• The Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone was officially renewed on April 11 for the 20-year period beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2029. As part of the renewal process, RIZ completed an extensive study of Lake Panorama’s water quality and siltation, which will be the basis for planning over the next 22 years.

• 2017 marks the final phase of projects related to the Cory Farm purchase, which began in mid-2013. The Cory Sediment basin is complete and served as a depository of dredging spoils for minor work in Boulder Cove and Helen’s Cove. This basin will serve the area from Helen’s Cove to Hughes Cove for decades.

• The Helen’s Cove CREP wetland is complete, although the vegetation will take a while to become established. Brad Halterman, LPA project manager, will coordinate member education events when the wetland has developed further.

• The Hughes Cove CREP wetland is currently under construction. It will be roughly a year behind the Helen’s Cove wetland in its development, based

upon timing of the earthwork.

• LPA and RIZ partner on dredging the lake. This year, the dredge will be in the upper basin until late-June, then relocated above the debris trap until around Labor Day.

• Dredging in Burchfield Cove is scheduled for fall of 2017, and will begin sometime after Labor Day. LPA will meet with the barge companies after their spring rush and coordinate timing. Once finalized, the effected members will be notified of timing and expectations.

• RIZ is investigating the possibility of additional wetlands. These projects are in development and more information will be shared as possible.

• LPA is scheduled to seal-coat roughly the same amount of roads this year as last year, which is roughly nine miles. Cost per mile is about \$20,000, not including the cost of the prep work done by the LPA staff. LPA will spend roughly \$265,000 on road surfacing and road aggregate in 2017, which is the same as 2016.

• The LPA beach groomer has gotten strong reviews. This investment not only removes goose droppings from the beach, but also sticks, rocks, walnuts, and more. LPA continues to run this twice a week during the busy season.

• Security continues to have a successful whitetail deer management program. There are some concentrated pockets of deer, but the overall LPA population seems to be balanced.

Rutledge said LPA will complete two thorough inspections at the dam this year. One will be the five-year required inspection, which was last done in 2012. The other will be to review the separation berm between the concrete primary spillway and the earthen emergency spillway. “Both of these inspections are proactive and I’m pleased to report we know of no outstanding concerns at the LPA dam,” he said.

The preliminary results of the reverse osmosis pilot plant are “looking good, but we won’t know the final outcome until late-summer or early-fall,” Rutledge said. “The goal of this test is to understand what the next step would be for LPA water plant improvements. I am pleased this possibility would build on the investments we made several years ago.”

Rutledge thanked the three new board candidates - Carothers, Grossman and Marks - for meeting with him to learn about the LPA budget and for attending board meetings in preparation for their potential election. “All candidates put forth a strong effort to be prepared,” he said.

He closed by thanking all LPA members for their continued support and passion for the betterment of the Lake Panorama community, then answered questions from the audience before the meeting adjourned.

GARDEN
FROM PAGE 1A

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, began working with the group last fall. He visited Lake Panorama to look for possible rain garden locations, and found a good spot at Panorama West.

“A rain garden is a shallow bowl made in the landscape that is level from side to side and end to end,” Namanny says. “Rain gardens help reduce surface runoff and protect water quality. Runoff that travels to a rain garden is temporarily ponded, but it doesn’t stay ponded for long. Plants in the garden use the water, pollutants are filtered out, and the water percolates down through the soil, rather than running into streets and storm drains.”

There is an existing water drain on the east side of the Panorama West parking lot that receives rainfall runoff. Namanny designed a garden that will cover 500 square feet surrounding this drain. Some excavation will be done before layers of rock, sand and soil are covered with a hardwood mulch and erosion blanket. About 170 native plants, featuring a dozen different varieties of flowering plants and grasses, will be planted.

Members of the Panora Garden Club are helping plant, and other volunteers also are welcome. Garden club members

will hold a plant sale, plus a white elephant sale of garden and outdoor items, in the Panorama West community room from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Coffee and cinnamon rolls, plus hot dogs and hot fudge sundaes, will be available for freewill donations.

Lake Panorama and other area residents are invited to the planting and demonstration event to learn more about rain gardens, and how these could be installed in other locations to help protect the lake and nearby streams and rivers. Namanny will be on hand to assist with the planting, and answer questions.

The cost of this rain garden project is estimated at \$2,500. Last December, the Guthrie County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners approved an application from Friends for cost-share funding for the rain garden. The Lake Panorama Association will provide excavation and other site preparation assistance.

Friends of Lake Panorama has collected some funds for this project, but additional donations are welcome. Donations, with a note the funds are to be used for the rain garden, can be mailed to Friends at Box 488, Panora, Iowa, 50216.

To volunteer to help with the rain garden planting, or for more information, send an email to staff@friendsoflakepanorama.org. Or call Susan Thompson at 515-240-6536.

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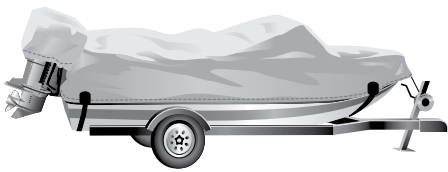


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BOOK
FROM PAGE 3A

seller lists on Amazon.com. In addition to online, the book is currently being sold at Crafty's Coffee and Gifts — located at 102 W. Main St. in Panora — Beaverdale Books in Des Moines and Plot Twist Bookstore in Ankeny.

With one book already under her belt, Hafner's journey into the literary world is not over. She is already working on a second book, this time a fictional piece. Inspired by a true story, it will tell the tale of a boy growing up without parents. He will encounter a life of crime and eventually find something bigger reaching for him, and find the strength to transcend his circumstances, Hafner said. At its core, it will be a book about the human spirit, and overcoming adver-

sity. Like The Mapmaker, she hopes to find another non-profit to donate proceeds from the second book to.

It is the first time Hafner has worked in fiction, and she expects to publish the still untitled book in 2018.

“The fiction is a lot harder for me, it feels so messy to me right now, like I don't exactly know where all the pieces are going to come together,” Hafner said. “It's going to take more effort and critique and those kind of things.”

Hafner also has an idea for a third book in the works. Based on how much she has enjoyed writing and publishing, and all of the ideas she has, Hafner said she could see herself turning writing into a part-time job, or even a segue into retirement.

“It's not so much about a job and an income,” Hafner said. “It's a job and a passion, and I want to do it to help others.”

CONCERT
FROM PAGE 3A

house Ponds, 1390 Highway 141, Coon Rapids. Donations will be accepted at all events. The Slow Sunday Drive costs \$25 per ATV.

Located just over an hour northwest of Des Moines in Coon Rapids, Whiterock Conservancy is a 5,500 acre land

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Q&A: Jerry Armstrong, LPA Security chief

SUMMER IS BUSY TIME FOR LPA SECURITY

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Times staff

Jerry Armstrong has the distinction of being Lake Panorama's first security officer in 1969 for one year, before taking other jobs over the years. He then spent 10 years working the LPA security night shift full-time, before stepping into the LPA security chief role last October. In this month's Q&A, Armstrong talks about boating, and other summer-related security challenges.

Q: What's new this year for boaters at Lake Panorama?

A: In recent history, boat sticker prices have been adjusted every three years. 2017 is an adjustment year for us, which resulted in some pricing and classification changes. Stickers for vessels over 10 hp were increased from \$125 to \$150, while stickers for under 10 hp were increased from \$25 to \$30.

It is important to note, however, that not all sticker prices went up. Non-motorized vessels, such as canoes, kayaks, paddle boards and paddle boats, decreased from \$25 to \$10. Although the Iowa Department of Natural Resources does not require any registration for kayaks or canoes under 13 feet in length, LPA members still are required to purchase the \$10 sticker.

Q: Can you remind members about the navigational buoys?

A: Members are reminded to observe the navigational buoys. Centerline buoys are intended to mark the channel

of the lake, with boaters traveling on the right-hand side of the buoys. This is easy to remember because it is the same as driving on the highway. Centerline buoys are marked with a flashing white light so they are visible at night.

Hazard buoys are placed in areas that are known to be shallow or hazardous. Please be aware these buoys are not a guarantee of exact hazard location, but rather a warning to steer clear of that general area. Some hazard buoys are marked with a flashing amber light to ensure boaters steer clear of these areas.

When boating at night, it's important to avoid amber lights, and stay immediately to the right of white lights.

Q: What are some common mistakes made by boaters?

A: One common mistake is the misunderstanding about boat capacity. 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 kids and grandkids, who simply don't weigh a substantial amount. Regardless of how small the passenger is, everyone counts as one passenger in the boat capacity limit.

Q: How about any land-based security issues?

A: Iowa law just changed this May to allow for expanded use of fireworks. Members are encouraged to watch for educational information in upcoming LPA email bulletins.



Although fireworks use is expanded under state law, LPA members are reminded they remain liable for any damage caused by them or their guests. Boats, fuel and fireworks can be a dangerous combination, especially when alcohol is involved. Please use common sense and respect the safety of your neighbors and their property.

Q: Final thoughts for the summer?

A: LPA Security has updated our phone number to 641-757-9035. The old number will continue to remain active throughout the summer, but will be phased out in late 2017. Please update your mobile phone contacts to reflect the new number, and contact LPA security with any questions or concerns related to LPA's rules and regulations. Members are reminded to call 911 in the event of a fire, medical or police emergency. Be safe and enjoy your 2017 season at Lake Panorama!




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Recently, we hosted a Retirement Explorer Workshop which discussed how to navigate the possibilities for retirement. We also heard an economic

update specific to retirement from one of the nation's top money managers. If you missed it, please contact us to schedule a no obligation consultation and we can review the presentations and your retirement goals.

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Kristen Crouthamel, AIF®, Financial Advisor

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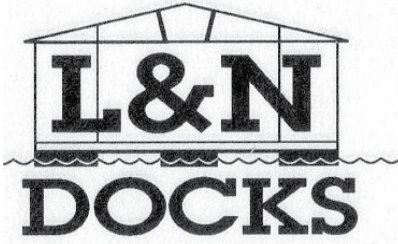
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HOMEOWNER FINDS WAY TO SLOW BEACH EROSION

SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE TIMES



Jim Schlick is shown on the renovated beach he installed at the family's home in Horseshoe Cove.

By SUSAN THOMPSON | Lake Times staff

It's not often someone calls me with a story idea. But such was the case with Jim Schlick, who has owned a waterfront home in Horseshoe Cove for eight years. He called recently because he wanted to share with other Lake Panorama property owners how he keeps sand on his beach, rather than letting it wash away. So I went to investigate.

Schlick, his wife Trisha, and their children Keira and Luke live in Ames full-time. They looked at Clear Lake properties for a couple of years, but didn't like how close the waterfront homes are to each other. Friends told them about Lake Panorama, and they soon found a home with lots of room to spread out.

"We love Lake Panorama. We get here three weekends a month in the summer, plus spend two full weeks each summer. There's nice activity on the weekends, and we have the lake to ourselves on weekdays," Schlick says. "The kids love to water ski and tube. We play golf at the Panorama West course, and enjoy the hiking trail there. We also enjoy visits during the winter months."

But in the early years of their Lake Panorama homeownership, flooding took away the family's sandy beach twice.

"After seeing my beach wash away into the lake each spring, and having to spend hundreds of dollars to replace it every couple of years, I decided there had to be a better way," Schlick says.

While running around a lake at the Ada Hayden Heritage Park in Ames, Schlick says he had an "epiphany"

when he saw park workers replacing gravel at a boat ramp.

"But this time they weren't just replacing it to have it erode again during big rains," Schlick says. "They were first laying down a rubber-like structure that is called GEOWEB. It comes flat, then folds out like an accordion. It forms diamond shaped 'holders' for gravel to be poured into. Each 'holder' has holes cut into the walls to let the water pass through. The gravel stays in place, while the water goes on its merry way."

Schlick calls the GEOWEB technology "brilliant" and renovated his beach five years ago, using the technique he saw that day in Ames.

He had all the sand cleared from his beach area, down to the dirt. The GEOWEB was cut to fit the beach, then unfolded, stretched, and staked down with the rebar and plastic stakes provided. The material comes in various sizes. Schlick chose one that is three inches tall when unfolded.

Schlick filled the GEOWEB with pea gravel. "Regular gravel will work, but it might hurt the kids' feet if they

EROSION, PAGE 4B



Jim Schlick liked the results on his Lake Panorama beach so much, he recently used the GEOWEB material and larger rocks for a landscaping project at his Ames home.



After building a "false floor" for the beach, construction socks filled with recycled tire chips were installed between the water and the beach.



Schlick says lining the wall around the beach with river rock helps slow rainwater runoff.



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE TIMES

A new member of the LPN Granite Club for 2017 is Jensen Sanitation. The company's sign is posted on the tee marker on the 13th hole at Lake Panorama National.

Two new Granite Club members, more sought

By SUSAN THOMPSON
Lake Times staff

In 2008, 12 businesses made monetary or in-kind contributions to Lake Panorama National to support the construction of Spikes, the snack and restroom facility located between the first and 10th tees. In exchange, the businesses received a sponsorship sign on an LPN tee box. Several of these businesses have maintained their sponsorship ever since, while some have left.

Now the LPN is seeking sponsors for open holes. Donor signs are made of granite, and words such as unwavering and steadfast define granite. Thus, members of the Granite Club are recognized as unwavering, steadfast LPN supporters.

Annual sponsorships are \$500. New sponsors also are asked to pay the cost of the sign, which is \$250. All money raised is used for improvements at Lake Panorama National.

Two new members joining the Granite Club in 2017 are Martin Brothers on hole 12, and Jensen Sanitation on hole 13.

Original Granite Club members who renewed for 2017 are Brokers International on the first hole; Panora Telco on the third hole; Guthrie County State Bank/Lake Panorama Realty/GCSB Investment Center on hole five; Exterior Sheet Metal on the eighth hole; Bryton Insurance on the ninth hole; Total Financial Solutions on the 10th hole; Brokers International Financial Services on the 16th hole; and Clover Ridge Interval Owners on the 18th hole.

Granite Club members receive a free round of golf for a foursome, including carts, when they purchase or renew their annual membership. Club members also are recognized on the LPN website, in the LPN Weekly e-newsletter, and in an email to all LPN members, encouraging them to support these local businesses that support the LPN.

Granite Club membership isn't restricted to businesses. Individuals, couples or groups are welcome to become club members, showing their support and appreciation for Lake Panorama National. Eight holes remain open for 2017 sponsorship – two, four, six, seven, 11, 14, 15 and 17.

Details of the Granite Club, along with a request form for more information, can be found on the LPN website at lakepanoramainational.com. Or call John Dinnebie, LPN director of operations, at 641-755-2080.

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BUSINESS

Key leaders bullish on business, growth in Guthrie Center

By DOUGLAS BURNS
Lake Times staff

GUTHRIE CENTER

Guthrie Center is a hive of business and entrepreneurial activity and there is no sign of a slowing pace, community leaders said recently during a Guthrie Center celebration.

“I’ve been really amazed at all of the active groups you have here,” said Dana Buster, executive director of Main Street Guthrie Center.

Added Dennis Flanery, president of the Guthrie Center Economic Development Corp., “There are a lot of talented people in our county.”

And most of those Guthrie Center-minded organizations are peopled with volunteers, noted Shannon Neff-Muell, a Chamber of Commerce and Main Street member who emceed the celebration dinner at the Activities Center before a crowd of several dozen people.

For her part, Buster, a Burlington, Iowa native who recently moved to Lake Panorama from the Denver area, said Guthrie Center Main Street hit the \$5 million mark for private investment.

“That’s a big deal,” she said.

Final renderings for art along Highway 44 in Guthrie Center soon will be available for review.

What’s more, the Beautification Committee — or the “pot ladies” — are making sure all 26 pots in the downtown are filled to celebrate holidays and make the city attractive, Buster said.

Kari Carroll, chamber president, said the year will be full of activities to promote business in Guthrie Center from the “Heart of Guthrie County” garage sale to Christmas with Santa to the annual Sidewalk



Kari Carroll



Dennis Flanery



Steve Smith



Dana Buster

Days in July.

“We do our best to try and promote our local businesses and members and even those that aren’t,” Carroll said.

Flanery said Guthrie Center’s business relationship with DICA, an outrigger-pad manufacturer with an international reach, remains highly productive.

DICA, a Koberg family enterprise, employs 18 people and continues to grow, Flanery said.

“The company is worldwide as far as their sales go,” he said.

He said DICA will be looking to expand locally this summer.

Country View Estates, an assisted-living operation, is an essential part of the Guthrie Center economy, employing 40 people with a payroll of \$1 million, Flannery said.

The organization has six homes for residents, and is looking for another one to two homes with three or four bedrooms, he said.

Looking to improve your business?

The Guthrie Center Development Corporation operates a revolving-loan fund that can provide up to \$5,000 in zero-interest loans for businesses looking to make improvements or get off the ground. The fund has 12 active loans involving \$33,000 with \$25,000 available to be loaned.

No collateral is required. Seven loans have gone through the

fund in the last year, Flanery said.

The Guthrie County Hospital recently opened a new entryway and plans to benefit greatly from the donation of 1,000 acres of farmland from Odel and Arlene Moore, a Menlo couple, Flanery said.

The Activities Center in Guthrie Center will hold a membership meeting on May 15 at 6 p.m.

“We are not just a senior center,” Flanery said.

City Administrator Laura Wolfe urged people to check historical photos related to Guthrie County in the new City Hall.

She also said watermain work will start soon on Third Street and Fourth Street from Grand to Park.

ACGC Superintendent Steve Smith said the first year of whole-grade sharing between the school systems of Guthrie Center and Adair-Casey has gone well.

“There isn’t anything I feel I would go back and do an overhaul on,” Smith said.

He credited teachers for “grabbing a hold” of whole-grade sharing and making it work.

ACGC provides a strong selection for students interested in earning college credits in fields such as ag business and welding and liberal arts. Smith said he would challenge anyone to find a school system the size of ACGC that offers as many college credits.

Students excelled in track and cross country and in the fine arts. The latter produced four All-State musicians, Smith said.

“It’s tough to get four people into All-State,” Smith said.

More than 40 kids were out for speech.

“These are the kinds of things we wanted,” Smith said.

FIN & FEATHER HOLD BANQUET



SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES

Scott Stanley, chair of the local Fin and Feather, shares about the organization which was formed in 1984 by a group of Lake Panorama Association members who wanted to improve fishing at Lake Panorama, during Saturday’s annual banquet.

Lake Times staff

The annual Fin & Feather banquet and fundraiser was held Saturday, May 13 at Lake Panorama National Conference Center and Resort.

Fin & Feather Chair Scott Stanley said over 160 meals were served and 110 “Big Skippers” present for the banquet this year. The “Big Skipper Club” has become a mainstay of the program. In the fall of 2016, over \$11,000 of walleyes, largemouth and smallmouth bass were stocked in Lake Panorama. In addition, a new dock was installed at the Lake Panorama West Par 3 pond.

Guests participated in fundraising games of PLINKO, Min-

now Race, Minnow Bucket Raffle, Heads or Tails and a Fantastic Four. A silent and live auction were held.

“It’s a great community to live in and be a part of and we can’t thank everyone enough,” Stanley said. “I believe a good time was had by all.”

Fin and Feather was formed in 1984 by a group of LPA members who wanted to improve fishing at Lake Panorama. The dam was completed in 1970, and the lake filled from the flow of

the Middle Raccoon River. At that time, the naturally occurring species of fish in the Middle Raccoon were largemouth bass, crappie, catfish and carp. Members wanted to expand fishing options to include walleye, which are widely considered the best fish to eat.

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

BANQUET, PAGE 5B

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Damon Crandall, a member of the Fin and Feather committee, works the Minnow Race at Saturday’s banquet. Participants raced minnows from one end of a 5-foot piece of gutter to the other using only a straw. They were timed. The overall fastest time was the winner.

Along with several fundraising games, a silent and live auction were held during Saturday’s Fin and Feather Banquet at Lake Panorama National Conference Center.

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EDUCATION

UNI president: ‘I’m just a kid from Iowa’

By **DOUGLAS BURNS**
Lake Times staff

CARROLL

The new University of Northern Iowa president blends a rural Iowa sensibility with an academic powerhouse of a resume.

In short, Mark Nook, 58, an astrophysicist and native of Holstein, is equally at home in a feed mill or small-town high school — or a symposium dealing with high-minded research on how the stars and moons and other celestial bodies align and what that means for man. Nook did, after all, run both a planetarium and an observatory.

Nook said his Iowa background gives him an instinctive understanding of UNI’s students because he comes from a place like many of their hometowns.

“I’m just a kid from Iowa, and small-town Iowa in particular,” Nook said. “And I think that’s what people are starting to realize. I’m extremely approachable.”

It’s important to get to know students and staff on a real level, not in simply an artificial way, because their views and on-the-ground consultation provide college presidents with the knowledge — and humility — to make calls that will profoundly shape a school, Nook said.

“I take the same approach to the university that I had growing up in Holstein,” Nook said. “If you run into somebody on the street, you spend a little time talking to them. If you run into a student on campus, you spend a little time talking to them.”

Nook, who assumed duties at UNI Feb. 1 recently visited Carroll where he went to lunch with Des Moines Area Community College Provost Joel Lundstrom and then talked with this newspaper for more than an hour about his background and goals for UNI, a state university in Cedar Falls with 11,900 students and 1,800 employees.

“It’s like a small town,” Nook said. “When you talk to the people at UNI, whether they’re students or faculty, they talk about community the way people in Holstein talk about their neighbors and their friends and why they live there.”

Ninety percent of UNI’s students come from Iowa. UNI has students and alums and teachers with ties to all 99 counties, Nook said.

“Sure, Des Moines is different than Holstein and Carroll, but there’s still this basic Iowa approach,” Nook said. “Some of it’s work ethic. Some of it

is sensibility about being kind to each other. Nobody honks their horn at anybody in this state.”

Nook is UNI’s 11th president.

“The transition has gone extremely well, and it’s because of the people at UNI and up and down the Cedar Valley,” Nook said. “I think I know how freshmen feel on our campus and why so many of them come back for their second year. It really is a helpful environment with people wanting me to be successful.”

Nook sits on Gov. Terry Branstad’s STEM Council (science, technology, engineering and math), and is encouraged by Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds’ focus on it.

Nook spent most of his career as a professor involved in astronomy and physics. He ran that planetarium and an observatory in that capacity.

“It really is important to get students to understand what science is,” Nook said. “It’s something you do and not something you know.”

Why do many students find science and math boring?

The disciplines historically have been taught with too much emphasis on memorization, Nook said.

“But really, it’s a way of thinking, a way of processing the world around you,” Nook said. “When you open it up and let students play with it, instead of having to memorize it, then it changes the game.”

The university maintains strong undergraduate research programs to promote just that.

“Because we’re primarily an undergraduate institution we can get them in those programs right away,” Nook said.

Nook said he inherits many strong programs at UNI. Among them: accounting.

In talking with business leaders around Iowa, Nook said he’s found a preference for UNI graduates in that field as well as finance.

“We certainly want to keep those growing and doing well,” Nook said.

The arts, music and performing arts, are strong on the Cedar Falls campus, too, Nook said.

“Iowa’s largest college marching band is at UNI — 300 plus,” Nook said,

He cited the jazz band and men’s chorus as well.

Over the last two decades, the University of Northern Iowa



Mark Nook

BUSINESS

AUDUBON’S \$18 MILLION BUZZ



Pictured (from left) are Brian and Pat Handlos, Beth Handlos and Lawrence and Doris Handlos.

Waspy’s building truck stop, restaurant and 33-room hotel

By **DOUGLAS BURNS**
Lake Times staff

AUDUBON

The Lawrence and Doris Handlos family, joined by dozens of Audubon leaders and economic-development advocates from surrounding counties, broke ground Wednesday on an \$18 million truck stop/hotel/restaurant complex on the south side of Audubon.

Waspy’s, located on the west side of U.S. Highway 71 across from the Audubon Municipal Airport, will feature a 200-person restaurant, known as The Feed Mill. The menu will include steak and pastas and other items. Plans call for breakfast 24 hours a day.

Then there’s the two-story 33-room hotel, tentatively named Blue Grass Inn & Suites (Blue Grass Creek is in close proximity).

A truck stop on the prem-

ises will include a wash-out for trucks, 16 pumps for cars, four islands for diesel trucks, a convenience store and other amenities.

The family expects the project to be complete in 18 months in Audubon. Dirt work is underway. Waspy’s will employ 70 people.

“Just looking at all the traffic studies there’s a need for it,” said Brian Handlos, CEO of Waspy’s, and Lawrence and Doris’s son. “You see all the trucks parked along the side of the road, they need someplace to go.”

Local businesses and a growing Audubon economy are setting the stage for the hotel development, Brian Handlos said.

His sister, Beth Handlos, chief operating officer of Waspy’s, says the Templeton Waspy’s truck stop will open sometime in May.

The focus Wednesday was on Audubon, though.

WHAT’S BEHIND THE WASPY’S NAME?

So how did the Lawrence Handlos, 80, “going on 81,” get the nickname “Waspy.”

His father, John, a German immigrant who settled in the Carroll area, gave it to Lawrence as a child and it’s stuck as the younger Handlos developed a significant grain and hog operation in Audubon.

“It means something in German,” Lawrence Handlos said. “He thought it was a

joke.”

What does it mean?

It’s tied to another German name that stood out with his father.

“It’s Sebastian is what I think it really is,” Waspy said.

“He thought Sebastian was a funny name.”

It also happens to make for a memorable and folksy brand name for two rural truck stops.

“We’re really looking forward to your success as you go down the road,” said Audubon Mayor Barb Jacobsen. “Thank you very much for supporting our community and believing enough to have this vision.”

Sarah Gomez, executive director of the Midwest Partnership, an economic-development organization representing Audubon, Adair, Greene and Guthrie counties, recalled the

dreams and ideas that emerged two years ago for Waspy’s.

What stood out the most, Gomez said, is the dedication of the Handlos family to the community.

“This project, they wanted to do for the community and for the people of Audubon,” Gomez said. “That, to me, will always stick out in my mind.”

WASPY’S, PAGE 4B

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**Lake Panorama Association
Board of Directors Meeting
March 28, 2017
Lake Panorama Association
Office**

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met March 28, 2017, at 5 p.m., at the Lake Panorama Association office. Board members present were Larry Babcock, Bob Batschelet, Gary Evans, Tom Jeschke, Mindy Larsen Poldberg, Charles Schnack, and Jim Spradling.

LPA staff present: Brad Halterman, Danna Krambeer and John Rutledge
LPN staff present: John Dinnebieer

Visitors present: Brice Oakley, LPN Board of Managers; Mary Jane Carothers, Jason Grossman, Les Marks, 2017 LPA board candidates; Marsha Bannister, Don Beal, John Coons, Brian Johnson, Rich Schumacher, Mark Buster, LPA members.

President Jeschke called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Approval of the Agenda. Rutledge asked that item 4d be added, Riggens deed. Spradling moved to approve the revised agenda. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 2 – Open Forum. Mark Buster spoke regarding noise and general nuisance from neighbor. They moved to the lake last May. Over the past year, they have observed consistent

issues with vehicles parked in their yard, trash, loud noise and over-stepping of the property boundaries. Jeschke thanked Buster for his comments and advised him to contact security when these issues arise. Rutledge will be in contact with Buster to continue to monitor the situation.

Brice Oakley thanked the LPA Board of Directors for its support of the LPN Board of Managers. He did not seek re-election as president of the LPN board, but is looking forward to continued service on the board.

Jeschke moved to Agenda Item 5a, as John Coons was present.

Agenda Item 5a – Inquiry on parcel between lots 120 and 121. Inquiry from John Coons about purchasing adjacent property from LPA. Coons explained he would like to purchase the strip of LPA-owned property that outlines his current property. In 2013 the BOD had discussed and offered to sell for the price of \$20,000. Coons declined that price. Coons offered to pay \$10,000 to purchase this piece of property. Jeschke thanked Coons for coming and indicated this will be discussed in closed session.

Jeschke moved to Agenda Item 4b, as Marsha Bannister and Don Beal were present.

Agenda Item 4b – Request to uncombine lots previously combined via agreement with LPA – Beal/Bannister.

Marsha Bannister and Don Beal have requested to un-combine the six lots they own. The lots were originally combined into one lot in 1995 by the previous owner; lots 2297, 2298, 4201, 4202, 4228 and 4229. Bannister and Beal asked to make the one lot of six combined lots into two sets of three combined lots.

LPA attorney Joel Williams stated there exists a contract between the homeowner and the LPA that the lots are combined and cannot be uncombined and this contract runs with the land. This is an ongoing contract that does not expire. If the BOD would allow the un-combining of these lots, this would set a precedent. Previous boards have been asked to un-combine lots and have always upheld the original intent of the combination agreements; once combined the lots remain combined forever.

Jeschke thanked Bannister and Beal for coming and stated the board will discuss further in closed session and notify them of any decision made.

Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda. Poldberg moved to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Consent agenda to include:
a) LPA General Manager's Report
b) Approval of minutes from 12.20.2016 LPA Board Meeting
c) Acceptance of 02.28.2017 consolidated financial report – LPA & LPN, LLC.
d) Acceptance of 12.31.2016 audited financial report
e) Confirm date and time of next LPA Board meeting
f) Approval of Ballot and Official Notice for 2017 LPA Annual Meeting
g) Agreement regarding driving range net between LPA, LPN, Clover Ridge and Clover Ridge Interval Owners
h) Confirm format of 2017 annual meeting booklet

Agenda Item 4a – Offer on lot 1160
Offer has been received for purchase of lot 1160. LPA has lot 1160 listed for \$15,000. An offer was received for the

minimum set selling price of \$10,000. LPA counter-offered at \$12,500. The offer was declined and respectfully asked the board to reconsider the decision of the counter offer price.

Land sales committee recommends the board of directors respectfully decline the offer of \$10,000 on lot 1160.

Spradling moved to accept the land sales committee recommendation to decline the offer of \$10,000. Motion seconded. Discussion was held on the value and location of this lot and the previous sales prices in the area.

Spradling amended his motion to send the question of the sale back to the land sales committee for further review and reconsideration. Motion seconded, motion carried.

Agenda Item 4c – LPN, LLC Board of Managers (BOM) John Dinnebieer spoke to the following items:

i.) Accept minutes from 12.20.2016 LPN BOM Meeting. The LPA board accepted the minutes.

ii) Recommendation to fill the vacancy created by Ann Appleseth's resignation from the LPN BOM. The LPN BOM recommends Dave Greiner be appointed to fill the vacancy.

Evans moved to accept the recommendation of Dave Greiner to fill the existing term of Ann Appleseth, ending December 31, 2017. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

iii) Recommendation to compensate LPN BOM president \$200 per month.

Batschelet moved to accept the recommendation of the LPN BOM to compensate the president \$200 per month in addition to the monthly meeting compensation of \$100, beginning April 2017. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

iv.) Request for additional investment in subsidiary, LPN, LLC.

Dinnebieer explained the rework of the 2017 budget and the slow business experienced in March, due to wet, colder temperatures. LPN is requesting a cash investment of \$40,000 to cover the shortfall and timing of revenues to cover operating expenses. Dinnebieer explained the 2017 LPN revised budget will be voted on at the April 2017 LPN BOM meeting. After the LPN BOM approves the revised budget, it will be brought to the LPA BOD for approval.

The LPA BOD thanked Dinnebieer for his update and asked a substantial number of questions regarding the need for additional funds. After a lengthy discussion, the BOD advised Dinnebieer to work with the LPN BOM to complete a thorough financial analysis of both the 2017 budget and the 2017 cash flow projection. The LPA board emphasized the need for improved understanding of cash flow to ensure additional investments in the LPN, LLC subsidiary were anticipated in advance.

Batschelet moved to provide an additional investment in the LPN, LLC subsidiary of \$40,000. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4d – Riggens Quit Claim Deed for lots 2173 & 2174.

Riggens have recently purchased lots 2173 and 2174 from estate of Clyde Anderson and Bernice Anderson. The title opinion noted there was no recorded deed from Mid Iowa Lakes to the Andersons.

LPA has accepted that Andersons owned the property and they have paid dues for the entire time they have been recognized as owners of the property. Legal counsel has reviewed the title opinion and the LPA records and recommends executing a quit claim deed for Lots 2173 and 2174 to Jeremy and Ashley Riggens.

Schnack moved to execute the quit claim deed for lots 2173 and 2174 to Jeremy and Ashley Riggens. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 6 – Other Business - Rutledge gave a brief update on the Board of Supervisors progress on the passing of the RIZ resolution to extend the RIZ district for 20 years.

Agenda Item 7 – Closed Session – Board entered closed session at 6:45PM to discuss legal matters.

The Board exited closed session at 8:15 PM.

Motion to decline the request to uncombine lots, as confidentially discussed in closed session. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Motion to restate LPA's offer to John Coons regarding the piece of property adjacent to lots 120 and 121 for \$20,000, providing a letter from neighboring lot owner stating they are not interested in this piece of property, as confidentially discussed in closed session. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 8 - Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

EROSION

FROM PAGE 1B

dig down too far while playing in the sand,” he says.

The next step is to place heavy felt over the top of the GEOWEB and pea gravel. Stake construction socks filled with recycled tire chips between the GEOWEB and the water, making sure the socks are snug so no one trips or hurts themselves. Stakes should be hidden on the bottom edge of the sock against the Geo Web.

Next fill in the beach with play sand to the desired depth. “The rain goes through the sand into the ‘false floor’ before traveling through the GEOWEB into the lake. You can also line the top of your beach retaining wall with river rock, which helps put the brakes on heavy rains,” he says.

What’s the final step? Schlick says to “sit back and enjoy. This worked for us, so I wanted to share, because I know it would work for others.”

WASPY’S

FROM PAGE 3B

Waspy’s will create more jobs in Audubon through an economic spinoff, Gomez said, citing teachers and store clerks as examples.

Lawrence “Waspy” Handlos and his wife, Doris, longtime Audubon-area grain and hog farmers, are the sole owners of the new Waspy’s Truck Stop on the southern edge of Templeton and the developing Waspy’s in Audubon.

“It was a big turnout,” Lawrence Handlos said the Audubon groundbreaking. “I was surprised to see all the people.”

Handlos said he hatched the idea based on his own need for a truck wash and access to fuel.

“I think maybe it is a chance to bring some people back to Audubon,” Handlos, 80, said.

NOOK

FROM PAGE 3B

and Des Moines Area Community College have partnered for a 2+2 program that has helped populate Carroll-area schools with teachers. In the full DMACC system, the elementary education program includes 20 to 25 students at any one time, Lundstrom said.

The students complete two years of school with DMACC and then move on to UNI coursework to earn a bachelor’s degree.

“It’s all focused on the students,” Nook said.

The connections with the community colleges are important as university budgets are stretched, Nook said.

What’s more, in Carroll, many students are place-bound and not able to travel for school.

UNI also offers a 3+2 program for engineering with Iowa State University as the latter institution can’t accommodate all the students interested in engineering, Nook said.

Students start at UNI for three years before transferring to ISU for two years. After the five-year program, students leave with a physics degree from UNI and a bachelor’s in engineering from ISU.

“That has turned out to be a great degree combination,” Nook said.

Tuition at UNI is \$8,300 a year with room and board estimated at \$8,600 for a school year.

Nook said that when he considers budget issues his chief concern is student impact. That means, among other things, universities shouldn’t make across-the-board cuts.

“You look at things that are growing, and you invest in them,” Nook said. “You look at things that the state doesn’t need you to be doing or aren’t going well, or aren’t getting a return, and you move away from them.”



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SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES

Scott Stanley, Fin and Feather Chair, works the PLINKO fundraising game at Saturday's Fin and Feather Banquet held at the Lake Panorama National Conference Center.

BANQUET

FROM PAGE 2B

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

Members of the Fin & Feather Committee are: Scott Stanley, chair, Steve Brannan, co-chair, Doug Hemphill, treasurer,

John Rutlege, secretary, Craig Ditsworth, Damon Crandall, Brad Halterman, Tom Jeschke, Bill Eby, Merlin Muench, Karl Eby, Scott Rolfes, Rich Schumacher, Tom Guillaume.

Fin & Feather is always seeking new committee members. If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please speak with a committee member.

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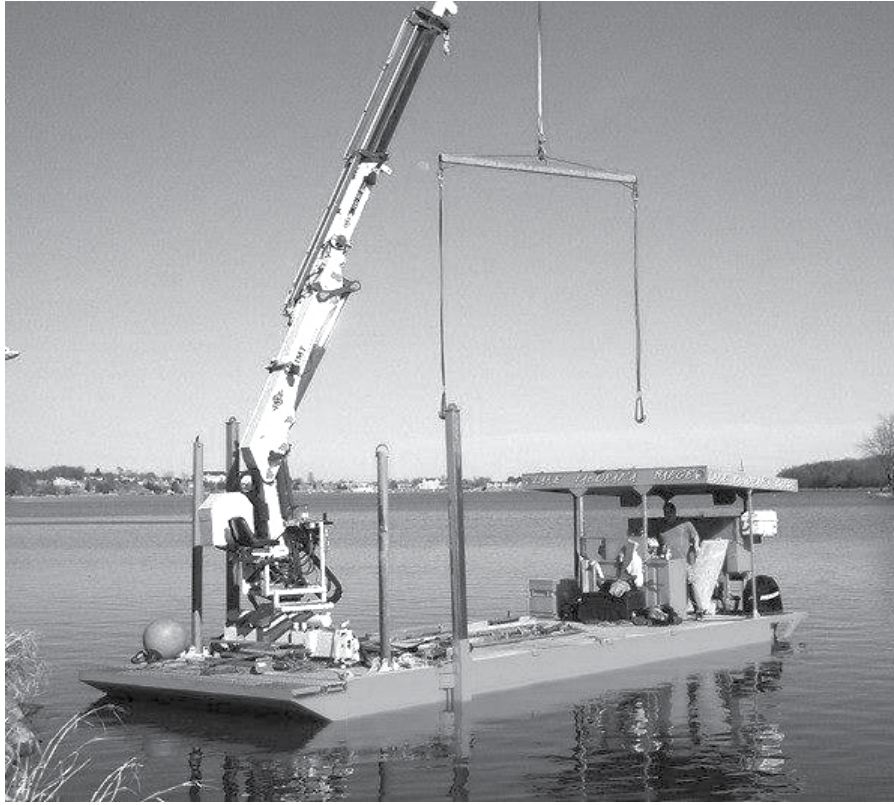
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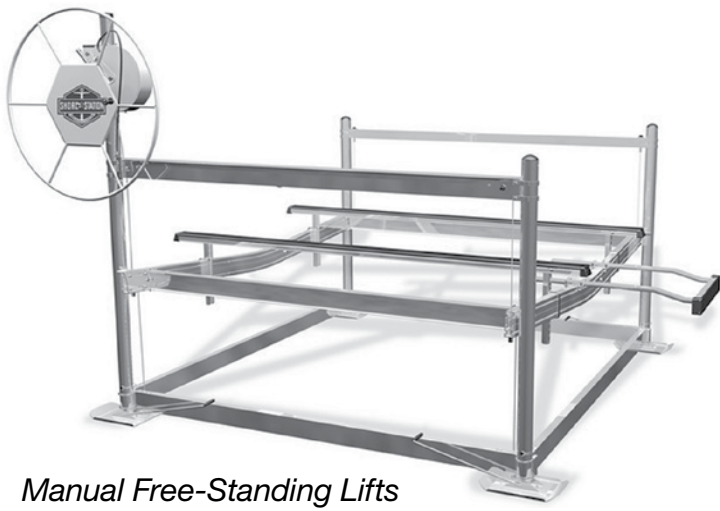
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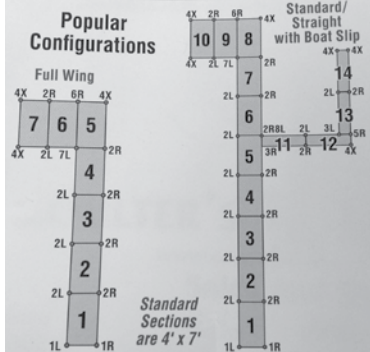


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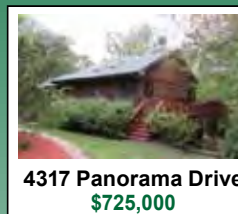
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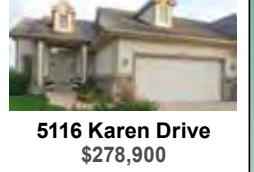
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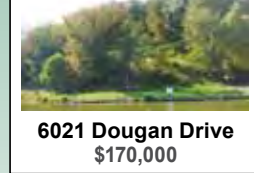
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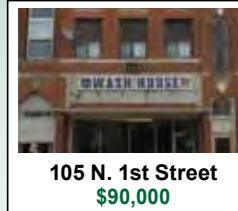
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POLITICS

Ernst to Trump: Put down the golf clubs, work in Washington



DOUGLAS BURNS | LAKE TIMES

U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, speaks at town hall in Panora April 21. She addressed a wide range of questions for more than an hour.

By **DOUGLAS BURNS** | *Lake Times staff*

PANORA

A Red Oak Republican who vaulted to political stardom with a down-home commercial portraying herself as an everywoman Iowa farm girl, U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, had a message for the nation's billionaire president: Quit playing so much golf, cut back on the entertaining in Florida and do the nation's work in the White House and Washington, D.C.

"I did express an outrage over Trump's trips," Ernst said during a town hall meeting in Panora attended by more than 50 people Friday morning at Veterans Auditorium.

She added, "He needs to spend more time in Washington, D.C. and not so much in Florida."

According to CNN, Trump's travel to his private club in Florida has cost over an estimated \$20 million in his first 80 days as president, putting the president on pace in his first year of office to

surpass former President Barack Obama's spending on travel for his entire eight years.

Ernst said she is concerned about the cost to the taxpayers of such outings.

"It's not fair that I would criticize President Obama and not criticize President Trump so I think it's fair game to do that, and I will be addressing that with the Administration when I return next week," Ernst said in an interview.

ERNST, PAGE 2C

COMMUNITY

'LET'S BEAT LEWY'

June 3rd event to raise funds in memory of Bill Deal



SPECIAL TO THE LAKE TIMES

Bill Deal rides along the Raccoon River Valley Trail. A ride in his memory on June 3 will take bicyclists from Panora to Yale and Jamaica before returning to Panora in a Let's Beat Lewy event to increase awareness of Lewy Body Dementia and raise funds for research of the disease which Deal developed. He participated in research studies at Mayo Clinic for 15 years with the disease.

W.K. (Bill) Deal was a local farmer who developed Lewy Body Dementia and for 15 years participated in LBD research studies at Mayo Clinic. In his memory, a Let's Beat Lewy event will be held on June 3, in conjunction with the Guthrie County Arts Council's "Art in the Village" at the Guthrie County Historical Village in Panora. The purpose of the Let's Beat Lewy event is to increase awareness about the disease and raise funds for research to learn more about Lewy Body Dementia.

The Let's Beat Lewy event is sponsored by the Panora Lions Club in memory of Deal, a 50-plus year member of the local Lions Club. Registration forms

are available for download from the Panora Lions Club website <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/panora/calendar.php> or online registration is available at www.bikeiowa.com.

[BikeIowa.com](http://www.bikeiowa.com).

The Let's Beat Lewy event kicks off with a community bicycle ride beginning at 9 a.m. from the Guthrie County Historical

Village. Bicyclists will follow the Raccoon River Valley Trail (RRVT) from Panora to Yale and Jamaica before returning to Panora. The music group Redeemed and Free will be performing in Yale where bicyclists can take a break to enjoy the music and get a snack before pedaling on to Jamaica or returning to Panora. In Jamai-

DEAL, PAGE 2C



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ERNST

FROM PAGE 1C

Ernst spent of the hour-long morning town hall session backing Trump policies and supporting his personnel decisions.

But she made it a point to distinguish between supporting the president on issues and defending Trump's character, which Ernst, the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from Iowa, described as "flawed."

When asked by this newspaper after the town hall to elaborate on what she meant by that term, Ernst said it goes back to the campaign.

"Specifically, what I think was being referenced at the last town hall was the audio that had come out and people keep revisiting that," Ernst said of a recording of Trump bragging about grabbing women's genitals. "Well, yes, that's a flaw in people's character when they're not treating other people with respect. So he has done a much better job at reaching out and including all types of people, being more respectful of those groups. So everyone has flaws."

During the town hall, Ernst said she supports more school choice to empower parents nationally interested in private or charter schools.

She insisted that position doesn't effect her backing of public schools as they are often the only option in rural Iowa.

Ernst, who supported the nomination of former Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, said she wants to see a lessening of regulations on American farmers, something she thinks will be accomplished under the Trump Administration.

Landon Foster, a high school senior who lives west of Guthrie Center, asked Ernst about trade and farm policy.

Ernst said the North American Free Trade Agreement is a net positive for Iowa.

"NAFTA has been very beneficial to the agricultural economy across the United States," Ernst said.

On health care, Ernst said her focus is on small businesses and individuals, as those are the purchase points for the majority of medical insurance in Iowa. She's opposed to a single-payer system, what would essentially be a Medicare-for-all program promoted largely from the political left. At the same time, she thinks the tax cred-

What's Joni Ernst thinking about President Trump these days?

Iowa senator talks corn, trade, foreign policy and the draft

By DOUGLAS BURNS

Guthrie County Vedette

In a 1981 movie partially set in Dubuque frustrated brewery workers had a message: "Take this job and shove it!"

The Johnny Paycheck song served as the title of that folksy film, and today, those words sum up what some Mexican leaders have to say about a real-life Iowa product, one more precious than beer: corn.

Reacting to policy pronouncements and political provocations from President Trump, legislators in Mexico are pressing for a boycott of U.S. corn.

"I am concerned," U.S. Sen Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, said in an interview with this newspaper. "It would be horrible. It would be horrible."

The majoyty of corn exported from Iowa goes to Mexico, Ernst said.

"I think that we need to work very hard to make sure that threat never comes to reality," Ernst said.

The challenge to the Hawkeye State's foundational crop never emerged during recent Administrations, both Democrat and Republican. Why is Mexico using it now?

"I think because President Trump has emphasized 'America First' and making sure that immigration is legal immigration," Ernst said. "So, of course, Mexico takes a little bit of offense to that."

Is Ernst concerned President Trump isn't finessing the issue of corn exports to

Mexico or being diplomatic enough with that nation, that Iowa could pay the price for the president's bellicosity?

"Of course we can't speak for President Trump, but I would say he's very up front with his thoughts," Ernst said. "But we also have a very good secretary of state who has dealt with a number of countries around the globe and has done quite well, and I think between Rex Tillerson, and when we get our new trade rep in place, I think they will be the ones kind of finessing those issues with other countries."

On balance, Ernst said the North American Free Trade Agreement, one of Trump's sticking points with Mexico, has boosted Iowa's economy.

"It has been very good for Iowa," Ernst said. "I hear that from a lot of folks who are engaged in commodity type organizations, whether it is the Iowa corn growers or so forth."

One in five jobs is tied to trade in Iowa, a net exporting state, Ernst said.

As tax overhaul discussions take center stage, Ernst said the president should release his tax returns, but she believes such a decision should remain voluntary, not an action forced by Congress.

"I'd like him to voluntarily do it," Ernst said.

She has not spoken to the president directly about the tax-return matter.

Does Ernst trust President Trump on handling North Korea's nuclear saber-rattling?

"I do. I do," Ernst said. "I think his stance has gotten the Chinese more engaged. I think that he's done the right thing. And I actually think

he's been playing it pretty smart by pushing back on China and getting them to engage with North Korea."

Ernst said she is not sure about the wisdom of using unpredictability as a foreign-affairs tactic or even central operating principle.

"I don't know about being unpredictable, but I think it's an interesting dynamic because what I think it does indicate to other countries is that you cannot underestimate President Trump," Ernst said. "And I think he does have a very steadying influence if you look at our secretary of defense, you have an amazing general who is now retired in that role in Jim Mattis. He is a very wise man."

On another military matter, Ernst, the first female combat veteran in the U.S. Senate, says the requirement to register for the draft should be extended to women.

"It's not something that I have been pushing for," Ernst said. "But I do think women should have some skin the game, too. We're all Americans. I think if we're requiring men to do it, I think at this point, since combat arms have been opened up to women, all fields are available for women, again, I think we're all Americans and we should all sign up."

Ernst stressed that the U.S. military is an all-volunteer service, and she hopes the draft is never used.

"We have men and women that step up every day to serve voluntarily," Ernst said.

With the type pf warfare the United States waging in the modern era, it's less likely the nation will impose the draft, Ernst said.

"How do we term limit the bureaucrats that are serving the agencies in Washington, D.C.?" she asked.

DEAL

FROM PAGE 1C

ca, To Jo's Bar & Grill will have a special for the Let's Beat Lewy event. Registering for the Let's Beat Lewy bike ride will include a Lewy Body Dementia wristband to take advantage of the special at To Jo's and the snack in Yale as well as a lunch ticket for the GCAC's booth at "Art in the Village," and also a donation to the WK Deal Fund for LBD Research at Mayo Clinic. Bicyclists and non-bicy-

clists are encouraged to enjoy the wonderful live music at "Art in the Village" as well as browse and shop the artist booths set up at the Guthrie County Historical Village. The Let's Beat Lewy event will include homemade ice cream available for purchase from 1-3 p.m. on the grounds of the Guthrie County Historical Village (206 W. South Street, Panora).

Lewy Body Dementia is a progressive neurological illness affecting an estimated 1.4 million people in the United States and has been described as the most common disease no one has ever heard of. Lewy Body Dementia is on the Parkinson's spectrum of illnesses resulting from abnormalities in how the brain processes the protein alpha-synuclein leading to abnormal buildups of proteins which are called Lewy bodies. Medical researchers are learning more about the disease and among other criteria have identified some increased risk for farmers.

GOVERNMENT



DOUGLAS BURNS | LAKE TIMES

Chad Wuebker, site manager for Syngenta in Jefferson, gives a tour to U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, last April 18.

Ernst pledges to protect farms, Social Security from budget ax

Senator tours Syngenta soy plant in Jefferson

By DOUGLAS BURNS

Lake Times staff

JEFFERSON

Rachel Minnehan, 27, of Churdan wants to know why President Trump's budget defunds programs she believes are important to rural America.

Monte Larson, 57, of Jefferson is concerned Social Security benefits won't be around for his retirement.

"Will we get Social Security," he asked directly.

These were among the questions that emerged from employees at Snygenta in Jefferson April 18 in a town hall session with U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa.

Ernst toured the soy seed processing plant before talking with about two dozen employees from top management to line workers.

Ernst, 46, and a U.S. senator since 2015, said she's long been concerned that Social Security wouldn't be part of her retirement porfolio as well.

"I've always thought it probably wouldn't be there for me," she said. "But we shouldn't be thinking like that."

Ernst assured Larson he will receive Social Security as he's invested in it.

Ernst, while not committing on the matters, said raising the retirement age or means-testing Social Security may be solutions.

"We know we're living longer so does that mean at a certain point people need to work longer before they can collect on Social Security? I don't know," Ernst said. "I've had some folks at the upper rungs of the income ladder that have said, 'Joni, I don't need Social Security.'

So maybe you hit a threshold and you don't collect Social Security."

As for the budget, Ernst said there is government waste, with federal employees duplicating services.

"We can streamline that a little bit," she said.

The president's budget, unveiled last month, calls for a 21 percent slashing of USDA discretionary spending.

But Ernst said she's going to look out for Iowa, and predicted Trump's budget won't go through Congress without changes.

"It will be on us to go back and make sure we're voicing those concerns for rural America," Ernst said.

Ernst said she wants to hear from agricultural communities about what programs are vital.

"We just need that feedback," she said.

Ernst said she is interested in promoting watershed projects to boost the environment and protect against flooding.

A lot of farmers, Ernst said, are working to stretch planting even more as a result of lower commodity prices, moving more land into production and out of consideration for environmental programs.

"We need better prices in the markets," Ernst said.

The smart use of conservation programs is essential as well, she said.

"There has to be the right balance," she said, adding that the Conservation Reserve Program should target vulnerable land, not serve as a choice for owners who want to take entire farms out of production so they can enroll in a USDA program.

The Jefferson Syngenta plant employs 20 full-time people with the company and contracts with up to another 20, said site manager Chad Wuebker of Jefferson.

TOUR, PAGE X

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Financial Gifts – and Tips – for New Graduates

It's Graduation Season again. If your child is graduating from high school or college, you have reason to celebrate. But what should you give to your newly minted diploma holder? You might want to consider offering a combination of financial gifts and tips, which, taken together, could set your graduate on a path toward a successful, independent life.

What sort of gifts and tips should you consider? Here are a few ideas:

Give a few shares of stock. Everyone should understand the financial markets and how they work. One great way to encourage this interest is to give your child a few shares of stock. Young people enjoy owning a piece of a company that makes the products and services they like – and the very act of ownership can inspire them to learn more about investing and to ask questions: What causes the stock price to go up or down? How long should I hold this stock? Should I own several stocks like this one, or is it better to branch out to find new opportunities? Over time, in learning the answers to these and other questions, your child can become familiar with investing and how to

make the best choices.

Encourage your graduate to open an IRA. Your child can open an IRA as long as he or she has some earned income. You might want to suggest that your child consider a Roth IRA, which, at the child's age and income level, may be a good choice. With a Roth IRA, children can access their contributions at any time, tax- and penalty-free. They can't touch the earnings without incurring both taxes and penalties, however, until they reach 59½. But you will want to encourage them to keep the money in their IRA intact, giving it the chance to grow.

Provide some financial education. Unfortunately, most young people don't really receive any kind of formal financial education. Of course, you can try to provide some of this knowledge to your own children, but, as you know, advice from Mom and Dad sometimes gets ignored. However, you might get better results if you arrange for your recent graduate to meet with a financial professional. As mentioned above, owning stocks, and following their progress, can teach your children a great deal about investing, but a financial pro-

fessional can paint the "big picture" and explain how all aspects of money management – such as borrowing, budgeting, saving and investing – fit together to help individuals stay in control of their finances and make progress toward their important financial goals, such as buying a house and retiring in comfort. Recent graduates, whether leaving high school or college, are at "turning points" in their lives and can benefit greatly from understanding the importance of developing good, lifelong financial habits.

Most of us can think of several money-related mistakes we've made over the course of many years. And your children will make some errors, too. But by providing them with some appropriate financial gifts and valuable advice upon their graduation, they may well be better prepared to keep those mistakes to a minimum – while maximizing their ability to make good decisions.



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TOUR

FROM PAGE 3C

The facility contracts with farmers to grow soy seed in a vast region of the Midwest. The seed is processed and cleaned in Jefferson before being shipped out to farmers.

Heath Billingsley, head of Snygenta's seed operation for North America, said the Jefferson plant is nicely positioned.

"We're right in the heart of a great soybean producing area," Billingsley said.

SHERIFF

Sheriff's office warns of door-to-door salesman

Lake Times staff

The Guthrie County Sheriff's office is warning the public about a door-to-door scam.

The Sheriff's office is receiving reports of individuals in the area going door to door selling life insurance.

A statement from the Sheriff's office says the business practices of the salesman are shady at best. The Sheriff's office warns the public not to write any checks or entertain their sales pitch and to contact their office with a vehicle description if you are approached.

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