

**NOVEMBER 2023**

Mailed to all property  
owners at Lake Panorama

# Lake Panorama **TIMES**

## **DISC GOLF COURSE NEARS COMPLETION**

**JOHN WORTH DESIGNED 9-HOLE  
COURSE AND IS HELPING TO  
GUIDE CONSTRUCTION**

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**RECORD-SETTING  
NIGHT FOR  
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**PANORA  
SPA OWNER  
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**ON THE COVER:** John Worth throws a disc on the first hole of the new Lake Panorama course. Photo by Susan Thompson



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# DISC GOLF. MOVIES. VACCINES. SKIN CARE. AND 5 MORE JOKES.

If you are a regular reader of my columns, you know I am not much of a golfer. In fact, I have often stated that I would rather go to the dentist than golf. To be fair, I do enjoy my dental cleanings. Cavities? Not so much.

I will find a lot of excuses not to golf, starting with having a full-time job. Having said that, I have enjoyed an occasional game of disc golf on the weekends through the years, and I was looking forward to our feature on the new course that is being installed at Lake Panorama. Be sure to check out the story and the related pieces in this month's cover story.

## MOVIES

With the ease of streaming, Jolene and I don't make our way to the movies on the big screen very often. But when a movie really captures our interest, we

do make the time. Our youngest daughter and I used to catch a movie most Tuesday evenings in the summers on daddy/daughter dates, and I miss those times. I am looking forward to seeing a movie or two or three over the holidays, and Michael Woody shares several to consider in this month's film reviews.



Shane Goodman

## VACCINATIONS

Have you had a flu shot this year? Or another round of COVID vaccinations? Or both? Or neither? We share some thoughts from Guthrie County Public Health in a story this month, and you might be surprised to know that fall is

considered to be the best time for vaccinations.

## BUSINESS

You will certainly be impressed after reading the latest installment of our business stories, this time on Lexi Blakeley and her Sapphire Skin Co. & Spa in Panora and Guthrie Center. This 24-year-old entrepreneur continues to amaze. See this story and all past business features at [www.lakepanoramatimes.com](http://www.lakepanoramatimes.com).

## MORE LAKE HUMOR

I have five for you this month. These should keep you from talking politics around the Thanksgiving table.

One of my lake friends was cooking in a wok on the back of his boat. He was making a stern fry.

What do you call a boat full of mean potatoes? A dictatorship.

Where did Bugs Bunny decide to park his boat? At the "What's-up dock!"

When the bottom of a boat had a hole, it was one hull of a problem.

And finally, I'm not one for buoyancy, but you know, whatever floats your boat.

Have a great November, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman  
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# DISC GOLF COURSE NEARS COMPLETION

**LPA member John Worth volunteered to design a nine-hole course for Lake Panorama and help guide its construction.**

**BY SUSAN THOMPSON**

*Lake Panorama Times*

A nine-hole disc golf course on Lake Panorama's south shore soon will be a reality. The course is one part of a package of low-impact recreational amenities developed by Friends of Lake Panorama and approved by the LPA board of directors at its July 25 meeting.

Building a disc golf course at Lake Panorama has been discussed for more than five years. In April 2019, the Friends board of directors conducted a survey to gather input from Lake Panorama Association members and help prioritize future projects. Ten possible projects were proposed for consideration.

As a result of that survey, the Friends board, in cooperation with the LPA, has completed several projects that ranked high on the survey. These include new playground equipment at Shady and Boulder beaches, Panorama West Nature Trail, a dog park and a sports court at Sunset Beach.

The survey results also showed interest in a trail system on the south shore and a disc golf course somewhere within the Lake Panorama community.

In the comments section of the survey, LPA member John Worth volunteered to design a nine-hole course for Lake Panorama and help guide its construction. After meeting with the Friends board and LPA staff, he scouted several locations and found the south shore to be ideal.

"My interest in disc golf goes back to my high school days in Atlantic in the late 1970s when Frisbees were common amongst the young crowd," Worth says. "We used to practice our fancy throwing and catching skills in parking lots along the main drag for all to see. We heard people

were using Frisbees to play a golf game, so we gave it a try in the local park. We laid out a few holes, using trees as targets, and I haven't quit playing since."

In 2007, one of Worth's good friends became the Atlantic Park and Recreation director.

"We were quick to start scheming how to get an official disc course in Atlantic," Worth says. "Thanks to some very dedicated and persistent individuals, a new course was installed within the next two years. I was able to provide some input on the course layout and volunteered many hours to help install and groom the course."

Worth and his wife, Angie, lived in Atlantic most of their lives, pursued their careers and raised three children.

"As we became empty nesters and started thinking about retirement, we moved fulltime to Lake Panorama in 2016," Worth says. "The lake is a very special place to us. We love the relaxing environment and have made many dear friends here. We also enjoy making memories with our three children and five grandchildren."

Worth retired in January 2022 from a career in manufacturing, where he worked initially as an engineer and then in management. With their move to Lake Panorama, Angie Worth started a new career in real estate and is part owner of Sunset Realty.

Construction on the Lake Panorama disc golf course began Oct. 4. "The course is literally cut out through the wooded area on the east side of the south shore," Worth says. "Each hole is a Par 3, bringing the total par for a round of nine holes to 27. The holes range in distance from 155 feet to 320 feet long."

Though John Worth did much of the course design, he got some help from his son, Jesse Worth.



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Jesse Worth and his father, John Worth, are shown with their disc golf equipment near the first tee of the new course at Lake Panorama. John did most of the design of the course, with input from Jesse.

"Jesse cut his disc golf teeth on the makeshift course we had in the Atlantic park," Worth says. "When he headed to Iowa State in 2006, he discovered two 18-hole disc golf courses in Ames. That's when Jesse and I switched our disc gear to the smaller diameter, official golfing discs. Jesse was very helpful in thinking through how a new course would best fit into the south shore area."

Jesse now lives in Ames with his wife, Leah, and their daughter and works for Hawkeye Molding in Roland. On a visit to Lake Panorama in mid-October, he and his dad spent a sunny afternoon testing out the course.

"It was fairly surreal to experience the course for the first time," Jesse says. "The mix of shots through nine holes play well and feel balanced. It's exciting to think of the course really establishing itself in the

coming years. I know it's going to be well received by the community."

Another experienced disc golfer played a practice round at the Lake Panorama disc golf course in October before the tee boxes and baskets were installed. Josh Tuggle and his wife, Mariah, live in Bloomington, Minnesota. Mariah's parents, Paul and Marcia Cates, have a house on Lake Panorama.

Tuggle grew up in Norwalk, attended Iowa State University, and graduated with a construction engineering degree. He works as a design manager for a company that builds utility scale solar plants across the country.

"My brother, Ryan, got me hooked on disc golf a few years ago, and I got Mariah into it as well," Tuggle says. "I have played 120 courses in 21 states but mainly in Minnesota and Iowa. I'm a member of the





SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Josh Tuggle, who lives in Bloomington, Minnesota, played a practice round at the Lake Panorama disc golf course in October, before the tee boxes and baskets were installed. He has played 120 courses in 21 states. His wife's parents have a Lake Panorama home, and he is one of nine tee box sponsors for the new course.

Professional Disc Golf Association and now play at the highest level. The past few years, I've played in about 10 tournaments each year."

Tuggle has followed the development of the Lake Panorama disc golf course. When tee box sponsors were being sought for each of the nine holes, he decided to sponsor the sixth hole. The sponsor sign on that hole will be "Tuggle & Cates Family."

What did Tuggle like about the course in his exploratory round?

"The course has a variety of shots and fun lines," he says. "It may be on the shorter side but still is a great challenge with the wooded holes."

Tuggle offered this advice to those who might be trying the sport for the first time because of the Lake Panorama course.

"It can be overwhelming to pick some discs as a beginner. I recommend going to a store and picking a nice putter and midrange that feel good in your hands," he says. "Most people go after the drivers when picking some first discs, but it's better to start slow."

The other eight tee box sponsors for the Lake Panorama disc golf course are: No. 1 - Sunset Realty; No. 2 - State Farm Insurance, Robert Carr; No. 3 - Panora Fiber; No. 4 - OvaEasy; No. 5 - Hawkeye Molding;

No. 7 - Aaron & Mindy Poldberg Family; No. 8 - Martin-Flanery Ace Run; and No. 9 - Lake Panorama Realty.

John Worth has played more than 30 disc golf courses in Iowa and a few out of state.

"It's such a great way to enjoy the outdoors and get some exercise," he says. "There is a concrete tee pad on each hole, which is used to throw your first shot from. From there, you simply throw your next shot from where your 'drive' or last shot landed. Keep going until you land your disc in the target, which is a metal wire basket that uses hanging chains to deflect the disc into the basket."

Worth encourages the interested and the curious to walk the course.

"I think many will return with a disc in hand to give it a try," Worth says. "You can use any flying disc you have at home. Once you are hooked, you will want to purchase official disc golfing discs. These come in three categories — drivers, mid-ranges, putters — each intended for different throwing distances. Having one of each type is a great starting point and are readily available at sporting goods stores."

#### THE TIMELINE

The course will be playable once tee pads are poured and baskets have been



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As disc golf players reach the first tee pad, they have a beautiful view of Lake Panorama's main basin.

installed. Information on the opening date will be provided in the LPA Prompt and on the Friends of Lake Panorama Facebook page.

Signage won't be in place until next spring. There will be a tee sign adjacent to each tee box showing the hole distance and layout, a hole sponsorship sign on each hole, and a large sign near the first tee box. The large sign will include a map of the disc golf course and general information about the course. There also will

be separate signs for disc golf course rules and the UDisc app.

Disc golfers use the UDisc app on their smart phones to keep score and navigate interactive maps of disc golf courses. UDisc, LLC, was co-founded in 2012 by Matt Krueger and Josh Lichti, two computer engineers who bonded over coursework and disc golf at Iowa State University. UDisc has grown from a hobby project to a tool that covers more than 14,000 courses worldwide. ■

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SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

This aerial view of the south shore shows the location of the new disc golf course and the nine tee boxes and baskets.



# SOUTH SHORE RECREATION OPTIONS

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

Beyond the disc golf course, other portions of the Friends of Lake Panorama plans for the south shore also are progressing. A fenced driveway at the south end of Chimra Road and a parking lot that provides walk-through access to the recreation area is complete. A small shelter near the parking lot is in place, and a picnic table will be added in the spring.

The Lake Panorama trail system with a variety of distances is complete. Those who start at the trailhead and do the full loop down to the shoreline and back up through the meadow area to return to the parking lot will have walked two miles. In addition, four places where the riprap contractor widened existing trails to get to the shoreline are offered as trail options.

Brown fiberglass trail markers have been installed at each junction of the trail system and are marked on each side with colored arrows.

There are five trail options, each designated with a different color. The original two-mile loop is the "green" trail. People who start at the trailhead and choose the first option they reach, the "red" trail, will walk sixth-tenths of a mile. The other three options offer distances of 1.1 miles (blue), 1.6 miles (yellow), and 2 miles (orange). This final loop results in walking the same distance as the original loop, but the terrain and views provide a different experience.

Next spring, benches and bluebird houses will be installed along the trails throughout the recreational area. Three large metal signs also will be in place by



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

A fenced driveway at the south end of Chimra Road and a parking lot that provides walk-through access to the recreation area is complete. This gate now remains open all hours. There is a second gate at the end of the road that is locked, which allows LPA access.

spring. One will be near the shelter and include a Lake Panorama map, general information about the south shore project, and a list of donors who give \$500 or more to the project by Dec. 31, 2023. Other signs will be posted near the first hole of the disc golf course and the Lake Panorama trailhead.

The estimated cost of these recreational amenities is \$35,000. Over the past two years, Friends has received \$11,000 in private donations for projects on the south shore. Some funds also are available from the 2023 Beach Ball and disc golf course tee box sponsors.

Tax-deductible donations for south shore projects can be made by check payable to Friends of Lake Panorama, and mailed to Friends of Lake Panorama, P.O. Box 488, Panora, Iowa, 50216. Donations also can be made through Venmo @Panorama-Friends, or by credit card on the Friends website at [friendsoflakepanorama.org](http://friendsoflakepanorama.org). ■



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

A small shelter near the parking lot is in place. A picnic table will be added to the shelter next spring.



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

The Lake Panorama trail system is complete, with trail markers recently added. More than a mile of the system is along the lakefront, while other portions are through timber and this meadow area.

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## INTRODUCING THE LAKE PANORAMA DISC GOLF COURSE

Many other types of shots are used in disc golf; it's up to each player to find what works best.

BY JOHN WORTH  
*Special to Lake Panorama Times*

This introduction to the Lake Panorama disc golf course is for those who've never played the sport and those who are expert players. There are nine holes on the course, and all are par 3s. Much like tennis, there are two main shot types when throwing a disc. The most common is the backhand shot, which probably is how everyone learned to throw a frisbee. The other is the forehand shot, again, think tennis and the arm motion used. Also, how the hand grips the disc is different for each of these two shot types.

When a right-handed person throws a backhand shot, it will typically fade to the left near the end of its flight. When a right-handed person throws a forehand shot, it will typically fade to the right near the end of its flight. For a left-handed person, the direction of fade would be the opposite. The Lake Panorama course was designed to use both right and left fading shots. There are many other types of shots used in disc golf; it's up to each player to find what works best. Here's a hole-by-hole look at the Lake Panorama disc golf course.

**HOLE NO. 1** — 290 feet. As you reach the first tee pad, there is a beautiful view of Lake Panorama's main basin. This hole was designed with a wide fairway and a tree in the middle of the fairway. This allows the player to choose either a backhand or forehand shot to fade around the tree and into the basket from either direction. Wind off the lake may be a factor as you throw off the tee pad.

**HOLE NO. 2** — 165 feet. This hole is a dogleg right, so a right fading shot is required. Most right-handers will use a forehand shot and left-handers will use a backhand shot. The hole is blind, meaning you can't see the basket from the tee pad, so walk down the fairway a few feet to get a view of the basket. The hole includes a large tree that hangs over

the fairway, which creates a "tunnel" to throw your shot through. Some players may choose to throw a very high, strong right fading shot over the tree. Called a Hyzer, this shot is thrown at a sharp angle to get a strong fade.

**HOLE NO. 3** — 190 feet. A right fading tee shot is required on this hole. The basket is barely visible from the tee pad on the right side of the fairway. The tee pad is positioned so players will throw over a small waterway and between trees on either side. The tree gap is somewhat intimidating but a fun challenge.

**HOLE NO. 4** — 180 feet. This hole is a very enticing, slight downhill shot that is straight on. The fairway is just wide enough to use a mild right or left fade to get to the basket. This hole begs to be aced (hole-in-one), so most players will throw a mid-range disc straight at it. Beware of the wind coming off the lake. The lake view from the No. 4 basket is fantastic.

**HOLE NO. 5** — 155 feet. There is an uphill hike to get to the tee pad. Once you arrive, the view of the basket from the tee pad is both humbling and exciting. The shot is straight and narrow, through a mild ravine to the basket on the other side. The hole is characterized by many trees and a tight fairway choke point of about 10 feet wide. Most players will throw a mid-range disc straight at the basket and hope to clear the narrow fairway gap.

**HOLE NO. 6** — 230 feet. A short, uphill hike will get you to the tee pad. The basket is visible from the tee pad on the left side of the fairway, and a left fading shot is required. Right handers who love the backhand shot will feel right at home on this hole. There are a couple of trees in the middle of the fairway that players



John  
Worth



will need to navigate as they approach the basket.

**HOLE NO. 7** — 245 feet. While this hole is similar to the last one, in that it is a left fading shot, the hole is blind. Players will want to walk a few feet down the fairway to get their bearings on the exact shot required to reach the basket. The fairway is narrower than No. 6, but there are no trees in the fairway to avoid. So, as they say in disc golf, grip it and rip it.

**HOLE NO. 8** — 155 feet. This hole is a short and sharp dogleg left. The fairway is straight with the basket in a carved-out pocket on the left side. While most players will choose to play a sharp left fading shot, there are other shot type op-

portunities here for those who want to be creative.

**HOLE NO. 9** — 320 feet. The longest hole on the course requires a long, right fading shot as the fairway curves to the right. The hole is blind so it will pay off to walk up the fairway the first few times to get your bearings on the basket location. The basket is framed by large, overhanging trees at the far end of the fairway.

As you finish your round, you'll find the course layout has looped you around, and you are on one of the main walking trails that will take you a short distance back to the parking lot. Your only decision now is whether to play another nine now, or later? ■

## HISTORY OF DISC GOLF

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

The addition of a disc golf course on Lake Panorama's south shore comes at a time when the sport continues to grow in the United States and around the globe. There currently are 14,048 disc golf courses worldwide with 9,465 in the United States.

Iowa is considered the seventh best disc golf state in the country, with 377 disc golf courses. Iowa is No. 1 as far as disc golf courses per capita in the U.S. The COVID pandemic of 2020 and 2021 brought many new players to the game. Players who started in those two years reported in an October 2022 survey they are just as enthusiastic about disc golf as players who found the sport before the pandemic.

Ed Headrick was an American toy inventor who worked for Wham-O. He is most well-known as the father of both the Frisbee and of the sport and game of disc golf.

Headrick redesigned Wham-O's flying saucer to create the Frisbee design, which received a U.S. patent. He marketed the Frisbee by promoting trick throws and games that could be played with this new disc. Target shooting with Frisbees became Headrick's focus, and he saw potential in Frisbee Golf as a legitimate game and sport with courses where people could play and compete in tournaments.

Wham-O wasn't interested and

wouldn't allow a license of the Frisbee trademark to be used for Frisbee Golf. In 1975, Headrick left Wham-O and trademarked the words "Disc Golf" to use for the game and sport he envisioned.

In 1976, Headrick and his son, Ken, started the first disc golf company, DGA, which is an acronym for Disc Golf Association. The purpose of DGA was to manufacture discs and targets and formalize the disc golf game. In 1977, the father-son team developed and patented the modern catching basket for disc golf.

To develop the rules and standards for the sport and game, plus create a dues-paying membership base, Headrick began the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) in 1976. Through the PDGA, Headrick and fellow disc golfers developed the first disc golf rules and standards.

Headrick headed the PDGA until 1982, when daily operations were turned over to an elected board of disc golf players. PDGA continues to be the overseeing body for the sport of disc golf. In 2022, the PDGA gained more than 40,000 new members and sanctioned more than 8,900 events worldwide. There currently are more than 103,000 PDGA active members.

Headrick passed away Aug. 12, 2002. As he requested, his ashes were incorporated into a limited number of discs, which were given to friends and family. ■



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# SWIFTY AND SCORSESE. BEGEEBERS. BURR, BENING AND BURIAL.

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY  
Lake Panorama Times

As the big holiday movies lay in wait, there were more surprises than I expected in October.

## “EXORCIST: BELIEVER” (still in theaters)

Most of us of a certain age will tell you that the original movie “The Exorcist” is the scariest movie we’ve ever seen. Ellen Burstyn, Linda Blair, etc. scared the bejeebers out of us in the early 1970s. Sue and I watched the original a few months ago and, for the most part, it still holds up. I am happy to report, so does this sequel. **Grade: B**

## “TAYLOR SWIFT: THE ERAS TOUR” (in theaters)

I think it won’t surprise you that I’m not a big Swifty, but a guy’s gotta do what a guy’s gotta do. So off Sue and I trudged to



“Exorcist: Believer”

The Palm Theatres in Waukee to see this concert film. As we walked into a packed IMAX theater, I saw a mass of prepubescent girls and their parents on their feet dancing in anticipation of the start of the film. One girl brought a flashing light-saber type device. So you want to guess who was right in front of me when I sat down? Aarghh. The only thing worse was her dad who sang every song along with Taylor. So, did I like



“Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour”

it? Not really, but it was great to see a concert in IMAX, and I do appreciate the talent Taylor Swift has and the work she obviously put it. In my book, she gets an A for effort but an A- for the overall movie grade. **Grade: A-**

## “KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON” (in theaters but headed for streaming)

When you get to Martin Scorsese’s age



“Killers of the Flower Moon”

and with his resume, you can make a 3.5-hour movie and get it released in theaters. The guy has directed some of the greatest films in the history of cinema. This, by the way, is not one of them. It is dreadfully long and very, very sad. DeNiro and DiCaprio are excellent, but the young woman (Lily Gladstone) who plays the lead in the film steals the show. Ultimately, it depicts not one of our proudest chapters

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"Old Dads"



"The Burial"



"The Continental"



"Five Nights at Freddy's"

as Americans. Still, it is a good film and worth seeing in the theater if you've got half a day. **Grade: B+**

### "OLD DADS" (on Netflix)

Comedian Bill Burr writes, directs and stars in "Old Dads," a very funny and very raunchy comedy on Netflix about three men who are fired from their careers by a snot-nosed, new-age boss. The humor is sure to offend many, but you will find yourself laughing and cringing at the same time. **Grade: B+**

### "THE BURIAL" (on Apple TV)

If you have Apple TV, you should check

out this new movie starring Jamie Foxx and Tommy Lee Jones. It is based on a true story about a huge conglomerate trying to take over a locally owned funeral home. Jones is the owner of the home, and Foxx plays the attorney he hires to help save his family business. Jones and Foxx are still at the top of their games, and the story is fun to watch unfold. **Grade: B+**

### "THE CONTINENTAL" (on Peacock Network)

Of course, I had to get the Peacock Network for Iowa football and women's basketball. The commercials for "The Continental" looked interesting, and then I hear the phrase "from the world of John Wick." I watched the first episode but have not

made it back for the last two, as I keep forgetting to watch. It stars Mel Gibson as a bad guy, so that was kind of fun. **Grade (for episode 1): B**

### "FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S" (in theaters and also on Peacock)

This is a horror comedy of sorts about a young man raising his little sister and dealing with the trauma of a lost little brother. When he gets an overnight job at the closed local kid's playhouse (read, Chucky Cheese), the truth about his little brother's disappearance starts to become much clearer. My expectations for this movie were low, and I was pleasantly surprised. A touch of humor always helps a scary movie, and this one worked for me.

### Grade: B

In December, we will see the big holiday releases and, probably, a good share of Oscar contenders. Until then, pass the popcorn. ■

Michael C. Woody has been reviewing movies on radio and television since 1986 and can be heard talking movies every Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. on KXn0 106.3 with Keith Murphy and Andy Fales. You can also follow him on Twitter @MrMovieDSM. He and his wife, Susan, are residents of Lake Panorama.



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Foundation members Jackie Wicks (left) and MJ Brown (right) assist at the welcome table with Brooke and Sam Grett.

## RECORD-SETTING NIGHT FOR TORI'S ANGELS FOUNDATION

*Special to Lake Panorama Times*

Overwhelming generosity was the resounding highlight of the fourth annual Tori's Angels Gala, held on Saturday, Oct. 14 at Vets Auditorium and the Community Center in Panora. Foundation spokespeople say the organization raised more than \$150,000, enough money to fund the necessary expenses for all the Tori's Angels families it presently supports for the next six months — a figure that is nearly three times what was raised at previous galas.

The 235 people attending the "Angels in Denim" gala started the night by enthusiastically reviewing and bidding on donated silent auction items. They snacked on appetizers before enjoying a prime rib dinner catered by Lidderdale Country Store. The program was emceed by Foundation Executive Director Julie Dent-Zajicek. She recognized the Tori's Angels sponsored families in attendance and made a special presentation to Bill and Connie Ridgley, who were honored for their work as founding members of Tori's Angels Foundation and for the strong legacy they've provided. In his remarks, Bill noted the importance of funding the organization as it continues

to grow. Currently, Tori's Angels actively supports more than 100 families across the state.

The room lit up with excitement when auctioneer Dan Wilson kicked off the live auction. Twenty-three big-ticket items were offered, including a custom shed from Sunrise Sheds, two NFL signed jerseys, multiple sports packages including tickets and hotel stays, an exclusive bourbon basket, multiple vacation rentals and a stunning diamond necklace donated and created specifically for the Tori's Angels Gala by Ames Silversmith and the Youngberg family.

Attendees heard inspiring stories from Angel families during the event and had an opportunity to "Fund a Child," which was met with incredible support. Shawna and Matt Gunn (parents of Savannah), and Mike Maurer (father of Alex), shared their appreciation for Tori's Angels. In addition, Panora natives and recipients of Tori's Angels funding, Emma Reinhart, daughter of Steph and Troy Reinhart, and Liberty Ashworth, daughter of Jen Jensen and Tim Ashworth, provided heartfelt messages that resonated with the audience.

Proceeds from the gala ticket sales, live and silent auction items and generous





Tori Heckman — namesake of the Tori's Angels Foundation — watches as Tori's Angels Executive Director Julie Dent-Zajicek honors the foundation's founding members, Connie and Bill Ridgley of Panora, during the live program.

matching fund gifts go toward Tori's Angels mission of supporting families with children suffering from life-threatening medical conditions. Since 2010, Tori's Angels has been raising funds to pay medical expenses not covered by insurance from the date of sponsorship until the child's 19th birthday. This includes travel expenses to treatment (airfare, mileage, hotel, meals), as well as prescriptions, medical co-pays and deductibles. The foundation depends on the generosity of

community "Angels" to help relieve the financial burden for these families. Anyone wishing to help the Tori's Angels children is invited to send donations to Tori's Angels at P.O. Box 186, Panora IA 50216. Online donation options are located on the foundation's website, [www.torisangels.org](http://www.torisangels.org), and on the Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/torisangels](http://www.facebook.com/torisangels). The organization also welcomes anyone interested in becoming a volunteer to leave a message at [admin@torisangels.org](mailto:admin@torisangels.org). ■



Panora residents Emma Reinhart and Liberty Ashworth spoke during the event about their personal experiences receiving funding and support from Tori's Angels Foundation.



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EVENTS

# HOLIDAY TOUR OF HOMES DEC. 3

Tickets purchased in advance cost \$10;  
tickets purchased the day of the tour will be \$15.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

The annual holiday tour of homes sponsored by Women for Panora’s Future (WFPF) will be Sunday, Dec. 3. One home is in Panora, three of the homes are at Lake Panorama, and one is the Twin Vines vineyard west of Panora on Highway 44. Ticket holders will choose their own route to each of the five locations from 1-4:30 p.m.

The home tour usually raises enough money to award \$500 scholarships each spring to two graduating Panorama Com-

munity School students. The tour is the group’s largest annual fundraiser; other key fundraisers are an annual raffle for a monthly plate of cookies or a pie and a can collection drive in May and June.

Tickets purchased in advance cost \$10; tickets purchased the day of the tour will be \$15. Advance ticket can be purchased from WFPF club members, Crafty’s Coffee, Panora Library or by calling 712-249-2142.

Tickets the day of the tour will be available at the Panora Community Center from 1-4:30 p.m. Holiday refreshments will be available, and club members will be selling raffle tickets for \$1. There also will

be a door prize drawing.

Tickets must be presented at the door of each home the day of the event. Homes on the tour are owned by Paula Wachholtz, Troy and Stephanie Reinhart, James and Julie Tibbles, Kenny and Sonya Pierce, and twins Brad and Ben Hayes, owners of Twin Vines. Addresses will be printed on the tickets.

The WFPF club is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The first Christmas home tour was in 1978 with 70 people attending at a ticket price of \$3.

WFPF members help decorate the Panora town square for Christmas and run the candy cane walk and cake walk during community events. They donate cookies for Memorial Day activities and the Haunted Village; clean the roadside ditches on Highway 4 north of Panora twice a year; hold two annual blood drives; donate money to several local organizations; and purchase Christmas presents for Panora Specialty Care residents. The group meets the second Tuesday of each month and welcomes new members. ■



Twin Vines Vineyard, 2824 Highway 44



Troy and Stephanie Reinhart, 317 Main



Paula Wachholtz, 6884 Panorama Drive



Kenny and Sonya Pierce, 6603 Young Circle



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# PANORA SPA OWNER EXPANDS TO SECOND LOCATION IN GUTHRIE CENTER

**Lexi Blakeley says, as a licensed professional, she has access to the best of the best of skincare.**

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

It was Nov. 16, 2022, when Lexi Blakeley had a ribbon cutting and open house for Sapphire Skin Co. & Spa in Panora's business district. A year later, this 24-year-old business owner opened a second location for Sapphire Skin in Guthrie Center, with a ribbon cutting and open house planned for this Nov. 15.

Blakeley grew up in northwest Iowa and moved to Des Moines to pursue her educational goals of becoming a licensed esthetician. During the pandemic, she and her fiancé, Alex McGregor, decided they wanted a home in a smaller town and bought a "fixer-upper" in Guthrie Center.

"I attended La James International

College where I received my degree in esthetics, reflexology massage and microdermabrasion. I opened my business right out of school, and I'm so glad I did," Blakeley says. "This field truly is my calling."

"My initial passion for skincare and beauty started when I was a teenager. My interest and passion solidified as an adult after dealing with severe cystic acne and rosacea caused by an endocrine disorder," she says. "I decided to learn more about the science, disorders and diseases of the skin. I became a skincare junkie and started helping friends create effective skincare routines. That's when I decided it was time to follow my passion."

Blakeley rents the Panora location at 107 N. First St. She and McGregor started updates to the building in May 2022.

"We were attracted to this building because of its downtown location and its historic charm. We did all of the updates such as painting the exterior and interior and installing new flooring," she says. "The storefront needed a little love after sitting empty for a while. I prioritized creating a serene, calming space that was aesthetically pleasing, with lots of natural greenery and soft whites."

Blakeley says, as a licensed professional, she has access to the best of the best of skincare.

"At Sapphire Skin Co., my success relies on results-driven treatments and products. I only sell products I use every day in the treatment room and I've seen work for me," she says. "It's important to source your skincare products from licensed individuals who have education in skincare. I also offer customized skincare routines and beauty consultations every day."

"Business has been steady since opening, and I have so much gratitude for the community's support," Blakeley says. "I have met so many amazing people, as clients and through the Panora Chamber of Commerce. I am incredibly fortunate to have such immense support from both Panora and Guthrie Center and sur-



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Lexi Blakeley is shown at the treatment table in the renovated space she recently opened in Guthrie Center. The room is in the back of the Cut Loose Salon, which will continue to operate there.

rounding communities."

This past July, Blakeley and McGregor started the process to purchase the building at 322 State St. in Guthrie Center.

"This opportunity came about through a local salon owner who wanted to step back from day-to-day operations. The Cut Loose Salon has been there for many years and will continue to operate there," Blakeley says. "The room we renovated into a spa oasis used to be a vault. We painted every square inch and added a hand-poured gold flake epoxy floor. The safe within the vault and most of the original shelving were left to keep the original charm."

Jeanna Van Unen, the 27-year-old owner of JV Massage and Bodywork, has been a licensed massage therapist since January 2021. She offers massage therapy — Swedish technique, deep tissue, Himalayan salt stone — plus aroma therapy and CBD pain relief. She also has experience in palliative and geriatric massage techniques.

Van Unen offers appointments in the

Sapphire Skin Co. Guthrie Center location Monday through Friday with both day and evening times available. She will take Sunday appointments at the Panora location. Appointments with Van Unen can be booked online at <https://jv-massage-and-bodywork-llc.square.site> or by calling or texting 641-745-7131.

Blakeley specializes in corrective chemical peels, facials, microdermabrasion, relaxation and massage-centered spa services, lash extensions, lash lifts and tints, full body waxing, and acne treatments and extractions.

She offers appointments at the Panora location Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Mondays, she takes appointments at the Guthrie Center location 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments with Blakeley can be booked online at <https://sapphireskinco.square.site> or by calling or texting 712-450-0455.

Sapphire Skin Co. & Spa also has a Facebook page, where updates on appointment openings and special events are posted.

"Self-care, mental health and well-



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Lexi Blakeley stands in front of the building at 107 N. First St. in Panora where her Sapphire Skin Co. & Spa is located.





SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

A former vault in the building at 322 State St. in Guthrie Center was renovated into a spa oasis for Sapphire Skin Co. All walls and shelving were painted white, and the floor was treated with a hand poured gold flake epoxy. White curtains, greenery and lighting finished off the new treatment room.

ness are very important to me,” Blakeley says. “I love that I am doing what I’m passionate about every day. I have the opportunity to build close relationships with my clients by giving them a calm, relaxing spa experience. Whether it’s educating people on professional-grade skincare, doing acne treatments, or customized lash extensions, I love seeing people leave relaxed, revived and feeling their best.”

Blakeley says her fiancé, Alex McGregor, is the backbone of the “behind the scenes” part of her business. McGregor is a full-time registered nurse and administrator at an assisted living facility in Johnston.

“He did all the work on the Panorama building and the treatment room at the Guthrie Center location and supported me through school. In our free time, we work on our house on do-it-yourself projects,” she says. “And I have custody of my 5-year-old sister. I am an ambitious 24-year-old who came from absolutely nothing, just trying to make a life I love, doing what I love.” ■



SUSAN THOMPSON | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

This safe, which has the words Monteith Savings Bank printed along the top, is a part of the Sapphire Skin Co. & Spa treatment room in Guthrie Center. The safe is larger than the metal double-door entry into the room, so taking it out wasn’t an option. Owner Lexi Blakeley says it adds charm to the space.



# Required Minimum Distribution Reminder

As the end of the year and the holiday season is quickly approaching, we get busier and busier and it is easy for important things to fall through the cracks. One thing that we want to make sure we never miss out on is taking our annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if you are 73 or older. Failure to take your RMD in a timely manner results in Uncle Sam receiving 50% of what your allotted RMD would be. One way to ensure this doesn’t happen is to take your RMD periodically throughout the year, whether that be monthly, quarterly, or biannually.

## HOW IS A REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION CALCULATED?

Generally, your RMD is calculated for each account individually by dividing the prior year balance on December 31st by your life expectancy that the IRS publishes each year. Some people may have more than one IRA, and no, you are not required to take an RMD from each IRA.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR RMD’S OR MAKING END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS IN AN IRA, please reach out to schedule a time and I would be more than happy to discuss.



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# HISTORIC MOORE BUILDING REVAMP TO BEGIN SOON

**CDBG grant of \$400,000 will be used to construct upper-level housing with three apartments.**

BY RICH WICKS

Lake Panorama Times

Residents and visitors alike have been wondering what is planned for the former Moore's Dry Goods building at 113 E. Main St. in Panora and what is causing the delay. Several years ago, apartments were in the upstairs, but the building has been sitting empty since. However, a plan is underway, and the momentum appears to be picking up.

Timothy Schutte, broker/owner at Timothy Schutte Real Estate Team in Urbandale, explained where the project stands and the next steps planned.

"I bought the building in 2017, and I was going to look at doing historical rehab," he said. "There were seven apartments in here — three upstairs, three on the main floor, and then one in the basement."

After the last renter departed, the building sat empty.

"I almost literally forgot about it for a little while, because I had other stuff that I'm doing all the time," Schutte said.

"So we bought this, thinking I would do historic rehab; it didn't work," Schutte said. "Then I got sick of it and tried to sell it last year or the year before that, but I wasn't getting any bites or nibbles. So I started making some phone calls and got con-

nected with Region XII Council of Governors. Carla Jannings is my grant writer who has done this type of project before. It's called the CDBG — Community Development Block Grant — for upper-story housing. These old buildings are expensive, and you can't make the numbers work, so that's why these grants exist."

Schutte was awarded a CDBG grant of \$400,000 for the project.

"We are hoping to be able to start really going after it, probably January-ish," he said. "The exterior windows are all going to go back to their original height. I can't touch anything on the main level or below the upper story with the grant money. I can't even touch it until after the upstairs is all done."

Schutte said there will be three apartments.

"There's going to be two two-beds, and there's going to be a two-bed with an office. That might turn into a third bedroom, depending on what we're allowed to do," he said.

Schutte said they are in the stage of a Section 106.

"That is the historic inventory, to know what I have to keep and what I don't have to keep, from a historic standpoint," he said.

Because of the building's age and histo-



RICH WICKS | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Timothy Schutte is using a Community Development Block Grant of \$400,000 to help restore upper level housing in the building at 113 E. Main St. in Panora.

ry, this step is required as part of the grant process.

"I think it's going to be something the community likes," he said. "It will be nice apartments. They'll have granite countertops. I'm really going to try to have washer and dryer in each unit."

Schutte said they will be cleaning up behind the building as well.

"We've been waiting for a bunch of stuff," he said. "We got awarded the grant

in March or April, and from the time we applied for the grant in November until we got it, I couldn't touch it. It's complicated stuff."

According to Schutte, the architect is at the point where he needs approval from the historian, and that is supposed to happen by the end of this month. Then the historical aspect has to be approved by the State before the funds are released to the City, and then the City will reimburse him.

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RICH WICKS | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

The main floor commercial space will have 3,000 square feet.

The upstairs apartments may be ready in about a year, and Schutte hopes to have a business rent the main floor.

“In a year and a half, the main level, I would hope, will have a tenant in it,” he said. “It’s 3,000 square feet.”

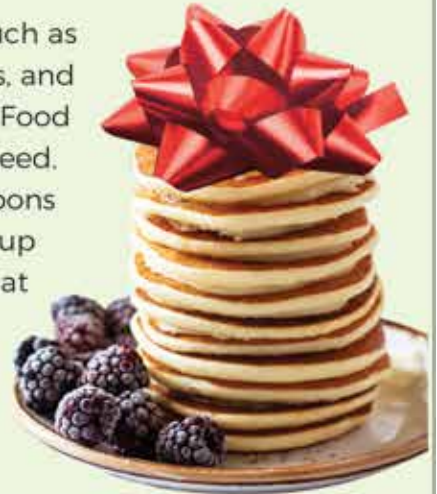
As for now, much needs to be done on the upper floor. Schutte plans to remove the dropped ceilings so the spaces will

have the high ceilings that were common a century ago.

“We’re also going to try to make it so they have more modern living, like islands and granite countertops or hard surface countertops of some sort,” he said, adding that he plans to use local contractors whenever possible so the grant funds stay here. ■

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Donate nonperishable items – such as cereal, pancake mix, granola bars, and peanut butter – to our Breakfast Food Drive and help local families in need. We’ll match donations with coupons for a gallon of milk to be picked up from Hometown Foods. Those that drop off breakfast items for the food drive will be entered to win a 15” Nix Play photo frame.



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## EVENTS

# 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WSO HOLIDAY LUNCHEON DEC. 1

**This year's luncheon will be at a new location, moving from St. Cecelia Catholic Church to Faith Bible Church.**

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

The Panora Women's Service Organization (WSO) will celebrate a significant milestone in December with its annual holiday luncheon. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> year for this fundraising event, which will be Friday, Dec. 1.

"We're planning a special celebration for our golden anniversary," says Toni Wright, current WSO president. "Photos and memorabilia will be on display, and early members and longtime members will be honored."

This year's luncheon also will be at a new location, moving from St. Cecelia Catholic Church to Faith Bible Church, which is north of Panora on Highway 4.

"We're excited about the new location, which is larger and better designed for this event," Wright says. "In the past, we've been limited to a maximum of 125 guests, but this year we can comfortably seat more."

The WSO luncheon begins serving at noon. As guests arrive, they can purchase raffle tickets and sign up for door prizes. The meal includes ham balls, dinner rolls and a large variety of

salads made by WSO members. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased from any WSO member, at the Panora Library, or by contacting Wright at 641-757-0886 or btwright44@gmail.com.

Proceeds from the WSO holiday luncheon help fund local projects and make it possible to provide a \$500 scholarship to one Panora High School graduating senior each year, which can be renewed annually for up to three years. In most years, WSO is providing \$2,000 in scholarship money to four Panora graduates.

Another major fundraising event for WSO is an annual home tour each June, which this year will be Friday, June 7. This will be the 48<sup>th</sup> WSO home tour. Tickets for this event will be limited, so those interested will want to contact their usual ticket seller in early May.

The holiday luncheon and home tour will secure this year's scholarships plus make it possible to donate to other local causes. Some of those include Tori's Angels, Panora Library, Heritage Park, Guthrie County Historical Village, Guthrie County Food Pantry, and the Panora Garden Club Main Street petunia trees and flower pots. ■

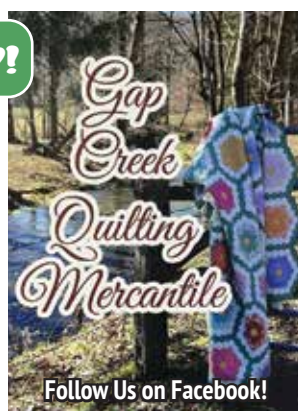
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# Friends of Lake Panorama

A public nonprofit charity supporting recreational amenities at Lake Panorama

## CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!

For the next 12 months, Friends of Lake Panorama will be celebrating its 10th anniversary! Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Iowa Secretary of State's office November 1, 2013. The first meeting of the Friends of Lake Panorama board of directors was December 3, 2013.

On January 17, 2013, an application for 501(c)(3) nonprofit designation was submitted to the IRS. A letter from the IRS dated July 2, 2014 stated the Friends of Lake Panorama is exempt from federal income tax, and contributions to the public charity are deductible under federal law.

With the help of many donors and the LPA, Friends has had a busy 10 years. Sunset Beach playground opened in July 2016. Boulder Beach sports courts opened in June 2018. Many other successful projects followed.

- Shady and Boulder beaches playground improvements
- Panorama West rain garden
- Lake Panorama dog park
- Sunset Beach sports court
- Panorama West Nature Trail
- LPN Shade sails
- 20 new benches at beaches and golf courses

In August 2017, Friends received a \$473,700 estate gift from Jim and Joyce McLuen to be used at the Panorama West Golf Club. That estate gift turned an already good golf course into something truly special.

The current priority project is a package of low-impact recreational amenities on Lake Panorama's south shore. The Lake Panorama trails system is in place, with the Panorama Schools cross country trail incorporated.

Also complete are a fenced driveway to a parking lot that provides walk-through access to the recreation area, and a small shelter near the parking lot. The disc golf course is nearing completion, with signage coming in the spring. Other additions in 2024 will be a picnic table in the shelter, and benches and bluebird houses throughout the recreational area.



### In recognition of Friends of Lake Panorama's 10th anniversary, please consider a 2023 tax-deductible donation!

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My gift is in Memory of or Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_ For Friends updates, please provide email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Direct donations can be sent via Venmo @Panorama-Friends. Donations also can be made by credit card online at [friendsoflakepanorama.org](https://friendsoflakepanorama.org).

Questions or suggestions? Contact Susan Thompson, 515-240-6536, or [staff@friendsoflakepanorama.org](mailto:staff@friendsoflakepanorama.org).

More information about past, present and future projects is available at [www.friendsoflakepanorama.org](https://www.friendsoflakepanorama.org).



# WFPF CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY PROGRESS

**New members are welcomed, and the time commitment is minimal.**

**BY RICH WICKS**  
*Lake Panorama Times*

On Oct. 10, the Women For Panora's Future (WFPF) group met to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the club's existence. In addition to cake and refreshments, the group enjoyed looking through the various scrapbooks that chronicle the history of WFPF and the many community projects that WFPF has held or helped with over five decades.

The WFPF is exactly what its name implies: a group of local women who meet and participate in events to benefit Panora. Projects that WFPF holds or gives toward annually include: Adopt-A-Highway cleanup (April and September), blood drives, community Christmas lighting, Fire Department and EMS, Haunted Village at the Historical Village, Guthrie Youth Foundation, Heritage Park, Pan-orama Days Cake Walk, Pie and Cookie Raffle, Panorama Graduate Scholarship Fund, Relay for Life, Memorial Day ceremony, Panora Nursing & Rehab Center, fifth grade class, New Opportunities, and can recycling.

"Panora Women's Club was the older group, and they met at 10 a.m.," current

WFPF President Carla Fitzgerald said, explaining how the group formed. Fitzgerald said this didn't fit well with the schedules of most younger women, due to work and/or childcare commitments.

"Their members were declining, so they invited us, trying to recruit us, and we really weren't that interested," Carolyn England recalled. "But we wanted to be polite, so they helped us form our club. They called us the Junior Women's Club, which is really funny now."

At first, the club was federated, meaning they paid dues to the larger state and national organizations. Eventually, the local women decided they would get more local bang for the buck by becoming independent, and that is how the group became the WFPF.

Fitzgerald said that, decades ago, the WFPF had "Secret Sisters" in which each member would secretly buy small gifts for another member throughout the year. Guesses were later made as to who the secret givers were before the truth was revealed.

"We got to the point where we realized we could be using that money to help people at the care center," Fitzgerald said. "So, at Christmas time, we get names from the care center, and we give them little Christmas presents."

Currently, the WFPF has 27 members, but that number has fluctuated over the years, sometimes well into the 40s. Fitzgerald said new members would definitely be welcomed, and the time com-



RICH WICKS | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

WFPF members celebrating the 50th anniversary include: front row: Ellen Campbell, Carolyn England, Karen Hawley, Shirley Dungan, Judy Contner, Kim Heiland and Carla Fitzgerald. Second row: Patsy Goss, Barb Moore, Carol Wendl, Mary Beidelman, Sue Nagel and Mary Dusenberry. Third row: Marilyn Behr, Julie Clausen, Kathy Klinge, Marcia Roenfeld and Cindy Shook. Back row: Robyn Plaeger, Kylee Boettcher, Kathy DeLucca and Ruth Rowedder.

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RICH WICKS | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Carolyn England and Ellen Campbell have been Women For Panora's Future members since the beginning. They proudly show the WFPF quilt that was made in the 1970s.

mitment is fairly minimal.

"We try to keep meetings short, and we do have fun," Fitzgerald said. There is no minimum requirement for participation by members.

"A lot of members just put in the time that they can," England said. "If they can't, they don't. We meet once a month, on the second Tuesday, except for summer and January and February." ■



### Women For Panora's Future

Members of Women For Panora's Future held their charter night and installed officers August 21 at the Panorama Lodge.

Front row, from the left: Nyla Wolfe, historian; Noni Barks, treasurer; Mary Ellen Hafner, secretary; Mary Lou Downing, vice-president; and Adrian Gentry, president.

Second row: Judy Meacham, Beverly Steensen, Carolyn Burchfield, Carolyn England, Karen Hawley, Shirley Annan and Peggy Gordon.

Back Row: Linda Pittman, Pat Meacham, Dorothy Antrim, Karen Burchfield, Ellen Campbell and Karen Janvrin.

(Photo by Kim Jackson)

Photo of WFPF's first meeting in 1973

# Welcome to the team, Lila Lutz!

Meet Guthrie County State Bank's newest hire.



**Lila Lutz joined the Guthrie County State Bank team on September 1, 2023, as a Personal Banker in the Guthrie Center location.**

She brings expertise to GCSB with customer service and accounting experience as a previous senior accountant at UHY Advisors. Lila's long work history includes bookkeeping and preparing financial statements, 1099's and W2's, financial analysis and relationship building. Her education includes a Bachelor's in Accounting, Business Administration and Finance through Grand View University.

Lila has been a long time resident of Panora and still resides there! In her spare time, she enjoys reading and often you can find her curled up with a good book and a cup of hot tea. In those warmer months, she spends most of her time gardening her herb garden. Lila has three children: Levi, Maddy and Laicey.

When asked what drew her to Guthrie County State Bank, Lila said "I have banked at GCSB for many years as well as served on a board or been in organizations with team members of Guthrie County State Bank. Over the years I have appreciated the friendly service and dedication that GCSB has not only given to me personally but also the communities they serve! GCSB is truly "connecting communities" and I am proud to be a part of this team. I look forward to the face-to-face connections as well as serving the communities of Panora and Guthrie Center."

**Stop by the Guthrie Center branch and give a warm welcome to Lila!**

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# PANORA MAIN STREET TRICK OR TREAT

PHOTOS BY KERRY JACOBSEN | LAKE PANORAMA TIMES



Chelsea Schwartz and Sarah Carstens at Tribe Boutique



Andy Randol, Shane Murphy and Jaime Waddle at Panora Fiber



Panorama Girls Basketball trunk or treat with Arilyan Steenblock and Mia Waddle passing out candy.



Quinten Pote at the Fire Department



Dale Hochre



Panorama G





ater - Cyclone Pest Management



Emily Donovan at Donovan Construction



Girls Basketball trunk or treat



Dorothy Woodvine and Stacy Benton at Bella Sorella Boutique



Joel Cooper in a banana suit





# OBITUARY

▶ OBITUARIES PUBLISH FOR A FEE OF \$40. SUBMIT COPY AND PHOTOS TO SHANE@DMCITYVIEW.COM



## BONNY M. SNYDER

1949-2023

Bonny Mae (Tiefenthaler) Snyder, 74, of Lake

Panorama, died Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at St Mary's Catholic Church in Guthrie Center, with Father Michael Peters and Deacon Dennis Patrick presiding. A burial followed at Resurrection Cemetery, Guthrie Center. A visitation was held Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023, from 5-7 p.m. at the Twigg Funeral Home, Panama.

Bonny was born on June 9, 1949, in Carroll, the daughter of the late Arthur and Lorna (Smid) Tiefenthaler. She enjoyed her childhood in Breda and graduated from St. Bernard High School in 1967. Fol-

lowing high school, Bonny received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Iowa State University in 1971 and taught for two years following.

On June 2, 1973, she was married to her high school sweetheart, Len Snyder, also of Breda. The couple resided in Bayard; Ames; York, Nebraska; and Little Rock, Iowa, before moving to Guthrie Center in 1987 and, finally, Lake Panorama in 2003. The couple had four daughters, Amy, Katy, Abby and Kelly.

Bonny was a wonderful mother and a homemaker. She devoted her life to her husband and four girls and later in life her sons-in-law and grandchildren.

Of course, next in line to her love for her family was her love for the Iowa State Cyclones. This was all well reflected in her Iowa State GIRLS license plates.

She was an avid bridge player (winning many bridge marathons) and loved to bowl, swim, read, cross-stitch and play games and cards. She had a heart for theater, music and singing. Bonny led the choir at St. Mary's for several years and was also in PEO and Friends of the Library in Guthrie Center. She loved to travel with her fondest memories being time spent with family at Black Hawk Lake in Lake View, the annual week (41 years strong) at Fillenwarth

Beach Resort in Okoboji and meeting new friends with winter stays in Arizona and Florida. (She didn't love the baseball spring training as much as Len.)

Bonny was the life of the party, the smile who lit up every room, and a friend to everyone. As a result of her generous spirit and fun personality, she was loved by many.

Survivors include her husband of 50 years: Len Snyder of Lake Panorama; four daughters: Amy (Jerry) Hoover of Guthrie Center, Katy (Quinn) Hildman of Wauke, Abby (Brett Smith) Snyder of Wauke, and Kelly (Nolan) Grimm of Wauke; 11 grandchildren: Genevieve, Jorja and

Jayla Hoover; Kyla and Kobe Hildman; Brady, Bo and Andi Snyder-Smith; Rossi, Sage and Gianna Grimm; brother Alan (Marlene) Tiefenthaler of Breda; sister Jean Huegerich of Lake View; and nieces and nephews.

Bonny was preceded in death by her parents; in-laws, Leonard and Janet Snyder; grandson, Paul Hildman; nephew, Keith Huegerich; and niece, Gina Tiefenthaler.

We would like to extend our appreciation and gratitude to Bonny's extended family, friends and the Guthrie Center community for their many kind condolences and heartfelt sympathies. ■

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## ELECTION

# LAKE PANORAMA RIZ ELECTION DEC. 5

BY SUSAN THOMPSON  
*Lake Panorama Times*

Voting for two positions on the Lake Panorama Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ) board will take place Tuesday, Dec. 5. The polls will be open from noon until 8 p.m. in the lower level of the LPA office, 5006 Panorama Drive.

Voters can request absentee ballots from the Guthrie County Auditor for the "Special Election" and fill in Lake Panorama RIZ. Absentee ballot requests must be received by the auditor's office by Nov. 20. Voters also can vote absentee at the auditor's office in the Guthrie County courthouse prior to the election.

Trustees Doug Hemphill and JoAnn Johnson are running for re-election to three-year terms. Other trustees on the RIZ board are Bill Dahl, Larry Petersen and Corey Welberg.

Voting is limited to individuals whose voter registration address is located within the Lake Panorama subdivision. LPA members who do not consider Lake Panorama their primary residence for voting purposes are not eligible to cast a ballot.

This is a government election, not an LPA election. Every eligible voter can cast a ballot. This differs from LPA elections, where each membership is allowed just one vote.

The trustees are responsible for administering the RIZ, which includes the plat- ted portions of the Lake Panorama development. The Lake Panorama RIZ is a local government entity designed to manage erosion control and water quality at Lake Panorama and within its watershed.

RIZ was formed in 1997 by the initia-

tive of the LPA through legislation in Des Moines. The tax increment financing district allows tax growth dollars to stay within the Lake Panorama development for water quality purposes.

The board of trustees oversees the annual budget and associated expenditures. Estimated revenue for the 2023-2024 fiscal year is nearly \$3 million. These funds are used exclusively to fund improvements allowed under IA Code 357.H, which includes dredging operations, erosion control practices and water quality improvements.

A key focus of RIZ is the dredging of sediment from Lake Panorama. This ensures lake depth remains suitable for safe enjoyment by LPA members and their guests.

One current multi-year project is the expansion of the 180<sup>th</sup> Trail Basin. This project represents an investment of about \$4 million of RIZ funds. This basin is where dredging spoils will go once the current basin is full.

Preventative efforts are an expanding priority for RIZ, with two additional wetlands in the planning stages, which would bring the total number of wetlands protecting Lake Panorama to five. RIZ also has implemented a voluntary cover crop incentive for upstream property, within a targeted area of the Panorama watershed.

Last year, RIZ completed rip rap along the south shore, which totaled \$820,000. LPA signed an agreement with RIZ that in return for this investment, the south shore will not be used for anything beyond recreational purposes for the next 15 years.

For more information on Lake Panorama RIZ, visit [www.lakepanoramariz.org](http://www.lakepanoramariz.org).

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# GUTHRIE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

**The best time to get vaccinated is in the fall, according to Jotham Arber, executive director of health services.**

**BY SUSAN THOMPSON**

*Lake Panorama Times*

It's the time of year when Guthrie County residents are starting to spend more time indoors, which means they are at greater risk of illness due to a virus. Jotham Arber, an epidemiologist, is executive director of health services for the Guthrie County Public Health department. He says there are vaccination options that can reduce the risk.

"We strongly recommend individuals receive the 2023 flu vaccination," Arber says. "The flu vaccine helps protect against seasonal influenza, which can cause serious illness and hospitalization. The flu vaccine is one of the best tools we have for fighting influenza."

There are multiple types of flu vaccines, including standard-dose, high-dose, and nasal spray vaccines. There also are two types of influenza vaccine: the trivalent, which is formulated to protect against three flu strains, and quadrivalent, formulated to protect against four strains.

"The best time to get vaccinated is in the fall, ideally before Thanksgiving, since the flu season typically begins in earnest in Decem-

ber," Arber says.

Flu vaccines are available at various locations, including the Guthrie County Public Health office, pharmacies and an individual's primary health care provider.

A new COVID vaccine also is available this fall, designed to address the emerging variants and provide added protection against the virus.

"We recommend individuals, especially those who are older and have immunocompromising conditions, get the updated vaccination for COVID-19," Arber says. "As always, we recommend county residents follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and their healthcare providers regarding the need for this new vaccine."

The availability of these vaccines varies, but Arber says the supply in Guthrie County is meeting demand.

"We have the vaccine available through our pharmacies and here at the health department," he says. "The health department also is the bridge provider for the vaccine, which means we can vaccinate any person regardless of their ability to pay. We are working with our pharmacies and providers to make sure anyone who wants a COVID-19 vaccine can get it."

RSV stands for Respiratory Syncytial Virus, which can cause respiratory illness, especially in young children and older adults. A new RSV vaccine has been developed to provide protection against that virus.

"RSV vaccinations are recommended for those 60 and older. Women who are pregnant can receive an RSV vaccine during week 32 and week 36 of pregnancy, and the vaccine will protect infants through the first six months of their life," Arber says.

Babies up to eight months old can get an RSV immunization as they enter their first RSV season. This is not a vaccine, but rather a dose of RSV protective antibodies. A second dose may be recommended for toddlers before they enter their second RSV season if they have lung, heart or immune problems. Eligible individuals can get the RSV vaccine at their primary health care providers, pediatric



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

A new automated external defibrillator (AED) recently was installed near the auditor's office in the Guthrie County courthouse. Shown with the AED installation, left to right, are Jotham Arber, Guthrie County Public Health executive director, and the five members of the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors — JD Kuster, Mike Dickson, Steve Smith, Maggie Armstrong and Brian Johnson.

clinics and pharmacies that offer it.

## AEDS AND CPR TRAINING

Besides fall vaccinations, Arber's office is busy with a new initiative that focuses on increasing access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and promoting CPR training. Key components include acquiring 30 AED units to place at new sites and replace expired units, providing CPR training to community members, paying for training for volunteer first responders and creating awareness about the importance of immediate response to cardiac emergencies.

"The primary goal of the AED/CPR Initiative is to increase survival rates in cardiac emergencies by providing easy access to AEDs and equipping community members with life-saving CPR skills," Arber says. "We want to increase the number of first responders in each of our communities and, ultimately, we aim to create a safer and more prepared community."

So far, 15 AEDs and necessary equipment have been purchased, three new units placed, and three CPR trainings held where 32 community members learned CPR techniques.

Funding for this project started after the formation of the Our Community Health Foundation in 2021.

"The foundation is a way to support health initiatives in Guthrie County," Arber says. "It

serves as a vital source of funding for projects that enhance the wellbeing of our community yet don't have sustainable funding sources. We needed this nonprofit 501c3 designation to apply for funding."

Last May, the foundation received a \$19,400 gift from Ten Squared Men of Guthrie County for the Guthrie County AED and CPR Initiative. The project also was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Guthrie County Community Foundation.

"These contributions have paid for the equipment but won't cover the full project cost," Arber says. "We estimate the entire project will cost around \$50,000. We are actively seeking additional donations and grants and exploring potential county or state funding to ensure the success of this life-saving initiative."

Arber says he and his staff are dedicated to the health and wellbeing of Guthrie County residents.

"Our public health team is committed to providing essential vaccinations, responding to emerging health threats, and promoting initiatives like the AED/CPR project to enhance community safety," he says. "We encourage everyone to take advantage of fall vaccinations, stay informed about health issues, and support our health initiatives, as these play a vital role in keeping our community safe and healthy." ■



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Jo Rasmussen, financial coordinator, and Jotham Arber, executive director of health services for the Guthrie County Public Health department, show their gratitude for the \$10,000 check from the Guthrie County Community Foundation Rasmussen is holding. The funds are being used for a new initiative that focuses on increasing access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and promoting CPR training.





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# FRIENDS OF LAKE PANORAMA CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Lake Panorama Times

Friends of Lake Panorama is a 501(c)3 nonprofit charity dedicated to supporting recreational amenities at Lake Panorama. The first meeting of the Friends of Lake Panorama board was Dec. 3, 2013. An application for nonprofit status was filed with the IRS in January 2014 and approved in July of that year.

The charity is governed by a volunteer, seven-member board of directors. In this month's Q&A, Jan Reinicke, Friends board president, talks about the charity's successes over the past 10 years and its current priority project.

**Q. You're the only member of the current Friends board who has been on since the first meeting in 2013. Why were you interested 10 years ago in helping with this effort, and why have you been willing to continue since then?**

A. Having been a part of the Lake Panorama community since the mid-1980s, it was easy to see the evolutionary changes occurring in the development. Over the years, it had become much more than just a place for retirement or weekend enjoyment. It had attracted more permanent residents. Many were families with children finding a home at the lake. While the lake has always been the major attraction, there was a need for more recreational opportunities. Friends of Lake Panorama was the perfect vehicle for bringing people together to develop the

partnerships and raise the resources necessary to improve our playgrounds, build the sports courts, establish the dog park and all the other improvements we've seen in the last 10 years.

**Q. What are some of the things accomplished in the last 10 years that stand out for you?**

A. All of our projects have added to the quality of life here at Lake Panorama, but certainly some stand out because they were the product of priorities identified by the members of the lake community. I've been very proud of the fact we've reached out to the membership many times over the last 10 years to seek input. I believe some of the success we've had in fundraising is the result of being responsive to the membership.

At our first board meeting 10 years ago, we agreed that once the IRS granted Friends nonprofit status, fundraising efforts would focus on two projects — one on each side of the lake. We settled on a destination playground at Sunset Beach and sports courts on the east side.

The Sunset Beach playground opened in July 2016. The Boulder Beach sports courts opened in June 2018. Many other successful projects followed. Playground improvements at both Shady and Boulder beaches. Rain garden at Panorama West. Dog park. Sports court and three swings at Sunset Beach. Panorama West Nature Trail. Shade sails at Lake Panorama National. Direct donations of more than 20 benches added at the three beaches and

two golf courses.

In August 2017, Friends received a \$473,700 estate gift from Jim and Joyce McLuen to be used at the Panorama West Golf Club. This led to new irrigation, cart paths, tee signs and markers, trash receptacles, and ball washers, plus turf improvement, clubhouse landscaping and sand trap renovations. This estate gift turned an already good golf course into something truly special, and is a shining example of the impact estate gifts to Friends can have at Lake Panorama.

**Q. Friends works closely with the Lake Panorama Association. How important is that relationship?**

A. While Friends strives to develop many working partnerships to carry out projects and fundraise, our most important relationship is with the Lake Panorama Association board and staff. None of the projects could have been completed without the approval, guidance and assistance of the LPA.

Because all of the projects that Friends of Lake Panorama propose have to be maintained by the LPA, it is important to work with the LPA from conception to completion. Friends has been fortunate to have a very supportive board and car-



Jan Reinicke

ing staff to work with during the last 10 years. We appreciate the very productive relationship.

**Q. It probably goes without saying that none of the Friends' projects would have been possible without its many donors. What sort of support have you seen from donors in this first 10 years of existence?**

A. Friends has been the catalyst for many improvements around the lake, but we just facilitate meeting the needs the Lake Panorama community has prioritized. It is the donors who deserve the credit for being able to accomplish the many projects over the last 10 years.

Many people have been particularly generous in their support each time we've identified a project, while others have given to the projects that interest them. The dog park was a huge success because a group of committed people came together and did some very creative fundraising.

Our annual fundraising event, the Beach Ball, has been supported by many businesses, couples and individuals who donated auction items and sponsored tables, plus the many people who attend and participate in the auctions and other fundraising activities throughout the evening.

Some people donate on a regular basis with matching funds from their employers. We've helped facilitate some gifts for very special projects, such as memorial benches at our beaches and golf courses.

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All of these projects are important, and indicative of the very generous and caring people at the lake. It's our donors who've truly made the difference.

**Q. The current priority project for Friends is a suite of low-impact recreational amenities on Lake Panorama's south shore. How are things progressing?**

A. In August 2022, the LPA board approved a Friends proposal to enhance existing trails on the south shore of the main basin. At the same time, the board approved Friends and LPA staff working with Panorama Community Schools personnel to move the cross country team trail from Panorama West to the south shore.

This project allowed us to work with a wider community and have the kind of impact that is consistent with our mission as a nonprofit entity. Developing a cross country track in partnership with the school on the south shore is a great example of community cooperation and support.

The new cross country trail begins on school property, continues onto the south shore for much of the course, and loops back to end at the school. Two large meets were held on the course this fall, and all reports have been extremely positive.

While much of the cross country trail is on the Lake Panorama trail system, there are additional sections that are separate from the cross country trail. While we help support the students and school, the lake community gains a great walking trail system and support in maintaining it. It was truly a project that came together at the right time, and Friends is pleased to have the opportunity to partner with the school.

The cross country course and Lake Panorama trail system is just one part of a package of low-impact recreational amenities for the south shore developed

by Friends of Lake Panorama, in cooperation with the LPA.

Other parts of the package that are complete are a fenced driveway to a parking lot that provides walk-through access to the recreation area, and a small shelter near the parking lot. The disc golf course is nearing completion, with signage to be added in the spring. Also in 2024, a picnic table will be added to the shelter, and benches and bluebird houses will be placed near trails throughout the recreational area.

**Q. How can people donate to Friends of Lake Panorama?**

A. Statistics show a high percentage of charitable contributions are made in the last few weeks of the year. We're looking forward to donations in these last two months of 2023 to support the south shore recreational project.

There are several donation options. One easy way is to clip the coupon from the Friends ad in this issue of the Lake Panorama Times, fill it out and mail it with a check to Friends of Lake Panorama, P.O. Box 488, Panora, IA 50216. Or simply include a note with your check so we know how you want your donation used.

Direct donations can be sent via Venmo @Panorama-Friends. Donations also can be made by credit card online at [www.friendsoflakepanorama.org](http://www.friendsoflakepanorama.org). Details about all past, present and future Friends projects also are on the Friends website.

Donations of securities (stocks, mutual funds, etc.) are welcome, as are direct IRA qualified charitable distributions — for donors over age 70 ½ who are required to take forced IRA distributions.

All donations are tax-deductible, and donors receive a confirmation letter for tax purposes. We hope Friends supporters will consider a 2023 donation in recognition of our 10th anniversary, and the beginning of our next 10 years. ■



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Photos by David Borell



GARDENING

WINTER IS COMING

5 things you should do in the garden before snow falls

BY LYNN KUHN  
*Special to Lake Panorama Times*

Many gardeners panic just a bit this time of year. The days are shorter and colder, and there’s so much to do. My advice? Relax. The garden is more resilient than we give it credit for, and you can always pick up where you left off in the spring. That said, there are certain things I recommend you do before the ground freezes and the snow falls.

**1. PLANT BULBS.** You can plant spring blooming bulbs fairly late, even if there is 1-2” of frost in the top layer of soil. A good rule of thumb for determining the proper depth is to plant them three times the

height of the bulb. Come spring, you’ll be patting yourself on the back for taking the time to get them in the ground.  
Designer’s Tip: Don’t space them out to cover an entire area creating a sparse display. Instead, create clusters or swaths that wind through the garden.

**2. WATER DEEPLY.** If you have added plants to the garden this year, water them thoroughly. This is very important for shrubs and trees, especially conifers. The goal is to saturate surrounding soil right before the ground freezes, locking in moisture and making it accessible very early spring when the roots become active.

Designer’s Tip: If temperatures dip below freezing, and you are tempted to put the hose away, unhook the hose from the spigot and keep it in place for one last deep watering, which is typically around Thanksgiving.

**3. DETER DEER.** Despite what you may



LYNN KUHN | SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

I wait until spring to cut back the Circle Garden so I can enjoy the fall color, winter texture, and for wildlife habitat.

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LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

www.lakepanoramatimes.com





PHOTOS BY LYNN KUHN | SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Letting plants stand all winter provides beautiful winter texture.

have been told or read, there's no such thing as a guaranteed deer-proof plant, especially in the fall when deer are mating and bucks love to scrape their antlers against tree trunks. Therefore, we do what we can and hope for the best. This includes selecting plants deer "typically" don't bother and protecting newly planted trees until they grow and become less palatable to the deer. My advice is don't waste your time and money on odor deterrents such as human hair, blood meal, garlic and fabric softener. They may work for a while, but, eventually, the deer will figure it out. Instead, experiment with physical deterrents such as thorny branches, netting and fencing at least 8' tall.

Fun Fact: Deer experience the hormone oxytocin more intensely than humans do when they spot the opposite sex. This leads to them getting to their mate by any means necessary, including jumping fences. (Source: [www.worlddeer.org](http://www.worlddeer.org))



I plant deer-resistant daffodils amongst daylilies and other plants deer like to eat.

Another Fun Fact: Human eyes are closer together than the eyes of a deer, therefore we have better depth perception. (Source: [www.grandviewoutdoors.com](http://www.grandviewoutdoors.com))

Designer's Tip: Planting beds along deer fencing that are 6-8' wide will be perceived as obstacles and may deter deer from taking a leap.

**4. WRAP TREE TRUNKS.** I advise clients to wrap tree trunks less than 4" diameter from November to April. Leaving it in place past April will invite disease and pest problems, so be sure to remove it during the growing season. Tree wrap can help prevent sunscald and rodent damage. If not secured properly, tree wrap will slide down the trunk. To prevent this, secure



Allium hollandicum "Purple Sensation" (Ornamental Onion) is the highlight of the Circle Garden late spring. This bulb is easy to find in many garden centers and easy to grow, too.

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## SHIRLEY KONZ

I have always had an interest in art and began drawing early. With the encouragement of friends and other artists, I have tried various mediums including pen and ink, colored pencils, watercolor, oils and acrylics. The majority of my work has been landscapes done with oils, but I am always interested in “new” ideas. I learn by experimenting and reading what others are accomplishing using a particular medium.

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PHOTOS BY LYNN KUHN | SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

Allium hollandicum “Purple Sensation,” taken at Plant Life Designs, Van Meter.

it with duct tape, but don't let the tape touch the bark.

Designer's Tip: “Thin-skinned’ trees (such as red maple and hybrid maples like Autumn Blaze) are more susceptible to sunscald, especially on the south facing side of the trunk. Protect your investment and wrap these types of trees.

**5. CUT BACK PERENNIALS.** This is truly optional, and I could dedicate an entire column on this ongoing debate. My opinion is...if you don't like the way a perennial looks through the winter, or if you want to reduce your spring to-do list, cut them back in the fall. If you want to attract wildlife, let the plants stand through winter. It depends on your garden goals. When in doubt, let it be until spring. That said, here are some plants you could cut back in the fall: Hosta, Lungwort, Day-lily, Peony, Catmint, Astilbe, Salvia, Phlox and Beebalm. Some plants benefit from dead foliage and stems that provide insulation through the winter. If their stems are cut, it is an open invitation for moisture and that can damage the crown. Here are the plants that can be cut back early spring rather than fall: Coralbells (Heuchera), Mums.

Designer's Tip: Let beautiful ornamental grasses stand all winter. Cutting them back in fall can damage them or delay when they sprout in the spring. ■

Written by Lynn Kuhn, author of “Conversation Gardens: Where Conversations Flow and Relationships Grow.” She is a landscape architect, speaker and owner of Conversation Gardens (formerly Outdoor Transformations). You can reach Lynn at [lynn@conversationgardens.com](mailto:lynn@conversationgardens.com) or [www.conversationgardens.com](http://www.conversationgardens.com).





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The Circle Garden in mid-summer.



# ASK *Lake Panorama* TIMES

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[www.lakepanoramatimes.com](http://www.lakepanoramatimes.com)  
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[shane@dmcityview.com](mailto:shane@dmcityview.com).

## Q: HOW MANY PEOPLE RESPONDED TO THE LPN RESTAURANT DINING SURVEY THAT WAS SENT OUT, AND WHAT WAS LEARNED?

**A:** According to Royce Shaffer, director of operations at Lake Panorama National Resort, a total of 490 responses were received to the Links Lounge survey. Eighty-eight percent of respondents said that it is extremely important or very important that LPN have a restaurant, with 83% wanting a casual, full-service dining experience. When asked to choose between personal service and fast service, 82% chose personal service with 18% choosing fast service. Seventy-five percent of respondents stated they would like a server to take their order, with 60% of respondents feeling it was important for a server to close out their order. Shaffer says this information has been helpful in crafting a strategy for 2024. He also notes that LPN has reached a tentative agreement with the tenants that would address this feedback and modestly expand hours during the busy season. He says they look forward to announcing a final agreement in 2024 in the coming weeks.

## Q: WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITH THE CURRENT MARINA BUILDING USED FOR SALES AND SERVICE ONCE THE MARINA OWNERSHIP CHANGES AND THE NEW FACILITY IS USED?

**A:** The long-term facilities plan for the LPA marina is in a period of transition, with several items not yet being finalized, according to LPA General Manager John Rutledge. This includes the future of the existing sales and service building.

The LPA board has approved a lease with Phil Watson, Jr. for a term beginning Jan. 1, 2024. This lease pairs with Watson's purchase of Coulter's Panorama Marine from Lyn Coulter, who is LPA's current tenant. Watson is in the process of building himself a sales and service facility on property he owns off Highway 44, which is adjacent to the LPA marina. Once Watson's facility is complete, the existing LPA sales and service building will be unnecessary for marina operations.

In the coming months, LPA will evaluate the future of the association's existing sales and service facility. The timing of this review is excellent for the association, as

substantial investment in the sales and service building will be needed if LPA repurposes it for another use. While this decision has not been finalized, one potential scenario being considered is to raze the northernmost three-quarters of the facility and provide members more space when using the boat ramp. LPA would also like to improve bathroom facilities at that location, and this space would provide an ideal location for an upgraded restroom. Under this scenario, the southernmost one-quarter of the existing facility will be evaluated for repurposing by LPA for other use by the association.

## Q: I AM CONFUSED ON THE USE OF BUBBLERS IN THE LAKE. ARE THEY LEGAL TO USE IN THE WINTER, OR NOT?

**A:** LPA has reviewed and modified the rules on bubblers and deicers in recent years. The goal of LPA's rule is to avoid safety issues that could be encountered by snowmobilers, ice fishermen and winter sports enthusiasts who could unknowingly venture onto open water or thin ice caused by these devices, according to LPA General Manager John Rutledge. However, LPA has no objection to members who are interested in operating bubblers or aeration devices during the summer months as a means of keeping water fresh in front of their property. The LPA rules on this topic are as follows: LPA Rule 5.6 (c.) The use of bubblers or deicers around docks and lifts is prohibited during the months of December, January, February, and March. This rule shall not apply to LPA or Rural Improvement Zone operations. Bubblers and deicers shall not extend further than the end of a member's dock/lift. ■

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# LAKE DOG

BY CHERYL TEMPLE | *Lake Panorama Times*

**Name:** Henry Irvin Kurtz

**Breed:** Golden Retriever

**Owners:** Scott and Mindy Kurtz

Henry was adopted from a rescue in Minnesota. He is 6 months old and has been part of the Kurtz family for a month. He adapted quickly to his forever home at Lake Panorama. He loves his toys and playing fetch with his ball. Henry enjoys exploring the outdoors but also likes snuggling indoors and looking out the window. He is very food forward, so Scott and Mindy have been training him with treats. He likes to play with other dogs and especially likes it when his human sister's dog, Penelope, comes for a visit. Henry loves to learn and, in the short time, has mastered sit, shake, high-5 and down. Scott and Mindy hope to get him out on the boat next year. ■



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**BY CHERYL TEMPLE** | *Lake Panorama Times*

During the hottest dog days of summer, this stray guy was found wandering around a local farm looking for some shade and water. He is now all cooled off and feeling much better. Bixby quickly settled in at the shelter and has made some new friends already. He seems to have lived a bit of a rough life referenced by the tatters to his ears and his slightly weepy eye that makes him appear as if he is doing a half wink at you. Bixby is very friendly and sweet and pretty non-phased by all the changes in his life. And, like is said about retired tomcats, they make some of the best furry companions with their chill purrsonalities and sweet dispositions — not to mention their adorable big round tomcat heads. Bixby is neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. He is available for adoption at Panora Pets. ■



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## HEALTH

# GCH SCORES HIGH IN PATIENT SATISFACTION

**Of 710 completed surveys,  
654 gave a satisfaction  
score of 9 or 10.**

BY RICH WICKS

Lake Panorama Times

During the regular meeting of the Guthrie County Hospital's board of trustees on Oct. 26, the board heard about the latest patient satisfaction survey results through the Net Promoter Score (NPS). Danielle Lauzon, clinical safety and quality coordinator, explained that the satisfaction survey scores operate on a 0-10 scale, with 10 indicating extremely high satisfaction, and 0 being the worst score.

Lauzon said the results group the scores into three groups. Scores of 9 or 10 are classified as "Promoters." Scores of 7 or 8 are classed as "Passive," and those less than 7 are considered "Detractors."

"Keep in mind that this is not inpatient related," said Lauzon. "Inpatient would be an HCAHPS survey."

Regarding the NPS surveys, "We had 710 surveys so far completed in this fiscal year... our Net Promoter Score is 88.5."

Lauzon explained that of the 710 surveys completed, 654 gave a satisfaction score of 9 or 10.

"So, we're doing really well," she said, adding that the hospital gets to see results "in real time," which allows staff to respond to any issues promptly.

"I've been around a few hospitals. These are the best scores I've ever seen," said

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# LPA BOARD MINUTES

## LAKE PANORAMA ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SEPT. 26, 2023

The Lake Panorama Association Board of Directors met Sept. 26, 2023, at 5 p.m. at the Lake Panorama Association Office. Board members in attendance were Emily Donovan, David Finneseth, Dennis Flanery, Mark Jorgensen, Rich Schumacher, Sue Thompson and Dirk Westercamp.

LPA Staff in attendance: Danna Krambeer, Lane Rumelhart and John Rutledge.

Visitors in attendance: Bob Goldsmith, John Phillips and Larry Scott; LPA Members

Phil and Cindy Watson - Marina

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

### Agenda Item 1 - Approval of the Agenda

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

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

### Agenda Item 2 - Open Forum

Phil and Cindy Watson provided a brief background on their experience regarding boat sales and service.

Larry Scott requested the board allow the un-combination of previously combined lots 623 and 624. The board will discuss in closed session.

Bob Goldsmith is present to listen to Marina discussions.

John Phillips addressed the board regarding the speed limits in the coves and the enforcement of the limits and wake boat concerns. Phillips asked if LPA has the ability

to limit the size of wake created by the wake boats and possibly establish specific times wake boats are allowed.

### Agenda Item 3 - Consent Agenda

Finneseth 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 08.29.2023 LPA Board Meeting

c) Acceptance of the 08.31.2023 LPA LPN Consolidated Financial Statement

d) Set date for next board meeting 10.24.2023

e) Accept minutes from 08.28.2023 LPN LLC Board of Managers Meeting

### Agenda Item 4a - Report from

### Treasurer

Flanery reported he met with Krambeer and reviewed financial items. There are no concerns to report.

### Agenda Item 4b -2024-2028 LPA Marina Lease

Rutledge recapped the proposed lease renewal, noting he had met with both Watson and Coulter regarding the future of the marina. Rutledge advised the board that Coulter and Watson had voluntarily entered into an agreement in which Watson will purchase Coulter Panorama Marine on Jan. 1, 2024. Rutledge explained the Coulter lease expires on Dec. 31, 2023, which makes modification of the current lease unnecessary. Instead, a new lease between LPA and Watson is being proposed. Rutledge explained there are no significant changes

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proposed to the lease.

Watson confirmed to the board he would be carrying the same boat lines as Coulter currently carries and will potentially add Mercury to his lineup. Watson shared with the board that all Coulter employees had been offered an opportunity to continue their careers with Watson and he was optimistic this would work out for all involved. Watson explained to the board the site layout for his property on Highway 4, including Sales and Service building with showroom and an area for boat storage buildings.

Jorgensen moved to enter into a Marina Lease with Panorama Marine, LLC, Phil and Cindy Watson, Jr, as prepared and finalized by LPA attorney, board president and general manager. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item 4c – Proposed easement between LPA and owner of lots 2382 & 2383**

Barry Shull/Lorraine Fortin, owners of lots 2382/2383 combined

lots, have requested a reciprocal driveway and roadway easement regarding lots 2382/2383 and the adjacent LPA property.

Schumacher moved to approve reciprocal driveway and roadway easement between Barry Shull/Lorraine Fortin and LPA regarding lots 2382 and 2383 and the adjacent LPA property, as finalized by the LPA attorney. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item 4d – Water Safety**

- i) Accept minutes from the 09.19.2023 Water Safety Committee Meeting
- Rutledge recapped the items discussed at the water safety committee meeting, including wake boats, cove speeds and buoy placement.
- ii) Approval of the 2024 Buoy Map
- The water safety committee recommended the 2024 Buoy Map remain the same as 2023.
- Finneseth moved to accept the water safety committee minutes from 09.19.2023 and approve the 2024 Buoy map with no

- changes. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.
- iii) Review of concerns related to boats producing high wakes.
- The board discussed the concerns but noted some legal and practical limitations regarding the governance of this topic. The difference between speed and wake was reviewed, noting that boats can be traveling at low speeds and still generate a wake. Ongoing research and analysis will be done by LPA.
- Agenda Item 4e – LPA five-year capital budget, including 2024 capital budget.**
- Rutledge reviewed the five-year projected capital budget and the proposed 2024 capital budget.
- The board discussed the 2024 planned purchases. The capital budget will be reviewed again at the October meeting along with the Operational Budget.
- Agenda Item 5 – Old Business – None**
- Agenda Item 6 – Strategic Planning – Ongoing development**

- and review of LPA’s strategic plan**
- Board members presented a recap on the topics and the meetings held during the last month on the various planning topics.
- Agenda Item 7 – Closed Session**
- The board entered closed session at 6:54 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Board exited closed session at 7:40 p.m.
- Finneseth moved to approve legal motion as discussed in closed session; termination of combination agreement regarding Scott’s request to uncombine lots 623 and 624, with payment of back dues and document fees. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.
- Jorgensen moved to approve the sale of an LPA parcel of land, approximately one-tenth of an acre in size, next to lot 1590 to Bob Nevitt and Lorrie Motsick, contingent on parcel being combined with lot 1590 at closing, for \$40,000. Motion seconded, carried unanimously.
- Adjourn –** With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. ■



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# FALL COLORS AT LAKE PANORAMA

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

*Lake Panorama Times*

Fall 2023 brought beautiful colors to leaves on the many varieties of hardwood trees at Lake Panorama. Yellow, red and orange leaves are the result of chemical processes that take place in trees as the seasons change from summer to winter.

Trish Hart was busy in October, snapping closeup photos of trees in her own yard, wider views of Lake Panorama in the Narrows area, and the view she and her husband, Scott, have from their home on Andrews Cove.

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# WHERE IS IT?



LAST MONTH'S PHOTO



The image from last month's "Where Is It?" is the Sinclair dinosaur art on the marina building. Believe it or not, there were no correct submissions this month. Have a guess on where this month's image is located? Have a photo to submit for future issues? Send to [shane@dmcityview.com](mailto:shane@dmcityview.com). ■

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Are you a pet owner? Do you want to get up to 100% back on vet bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help! Call 1-844-774-0206 to get a free quote or visit [insurebarkmeow.com/ads](http://insurebarkmeow.com/ads) (ACP)

Diagnosed with lung cancer & 65+? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7 1-877-707-5707 (ACP)

Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health & 1st responders.) 1-833-370-1234 (ACP)

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. Limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 Call 1-844-501-3208 (ACP) ■



LEAVES ARE CHANGING AND SO ARE THINGS HERE AT

# Sunset Realty!

We would like to welcome **Leslie Anderson** to our team as our new transaction coordinator/office administrator!

**Angie Worth** now has ownership in the brokerage & is now a full-time agent. Angie also recently passed her broker exam and is completing steps to be a broker associate.

**Laura Kemble** will continue as owner and broker in charge and we decided to keep **Dave Wagler** around!



**Laura Kemble**  
Broker/Owner

**Leslie Anderson**  
Transaction Coord/Office Admin

**Angie Worth**  
Realtor/Owner

**Dave Wagler**  
Broker Associate



## Sunset Realty



218 W. Main Street, Panora, IA 50216

Office: 641.755.2377 | [sunsetrealtyia.com](http://sunsetrealtyia.com)



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