OCTOBER 2023

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LOCAL PARENTS WEIGH THE LIMITED **OPTIONS OF CHILDCARE IN THE AREA** PAGE 6

THE PROUD **HISTORY OF YJB FOOTBALL** PAGE 14

PANORA MERCANTILE VENDORS OFFER **WIDE VARIETY PAGE 22**

SHROYER'S CAREER BECAME A HOBBY **PAGE 28**

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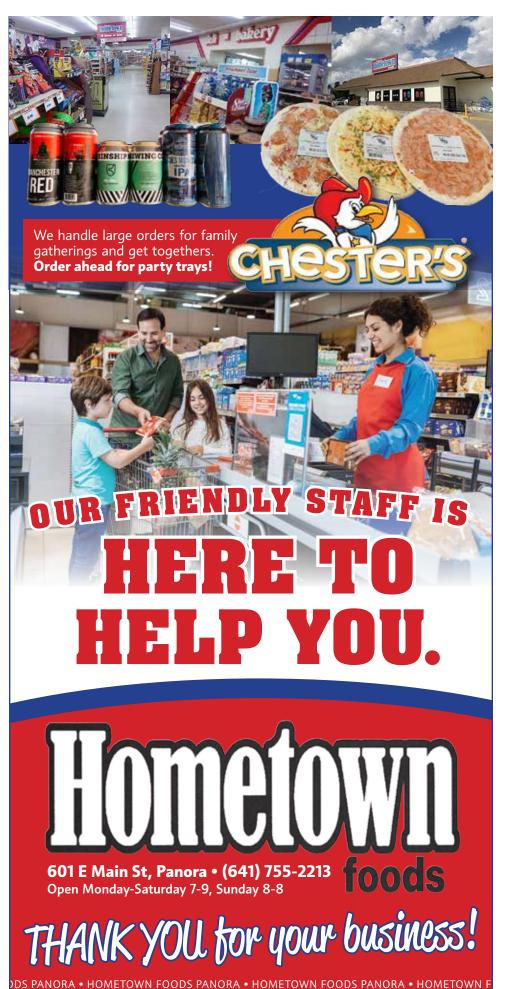




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FROM THE COVER: Children at Little Panther Daycare and Preschool. Photo by Rick Wicks.



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WHAT'S THAT THING FOR?

A younger person was in our office the other day and pointed at a telephone jack, asking me, "What's that thing for?" I explained to her how telephones need to plug into those jacks to

She replied, "Why? My phone doesn't need one of those."

"Exactly," I said while awkwardly changing the subject.

Her comments made me start noticing all of the unused telephone jacks that are in homes and businesses. Yes, we have an office phone system that requires hard wires, and, yes, it works just fine — at least I think so. To be honest, we don't get many in-bound phone calls on it anymore, and most of our staff use their cell phones to make out-bound calls.

I was also talking with a few employees the other day about faxing. The response was, "We have a fax machine?"

"Well, kind of," I replied. "It is part of the copier."

I was then asked. "What's our fax number?" I had to think about it, but I did recall the number eventually. I am just not sure when it was last used.

Like many of you, Jolene and I no longer have a home phone number. As such, we no longer have standard

phones. I was looking for one the other day to test lines at our office and realized I didn't have one. I asked the staff if any of them had one at home I could borrow, and none did.

If I would have told you 25 years ago that you would not have a standard telephone and that most offices would not have fax machines, you would have never believed me. How could things that were so instrumental in our daily activities no longer be needed? Then I thought of the cassette player, VCR,



Shane Goodman

overhead projector, typewriter and film camera — and some would add traditional paid subscription newspapers to that list.

The bottom line is that most of those items didn't go away but morphed into more advanced technology. Newspapers are included in that list, too, and that's why you see this type of publication today. Publishers who are willing to change will prosper. Those who don't will be left behind, waiting for a younger person to say, "What's that thing for?"

Have a great month, and thanks for reading.

Shane Goodman Editor and Publisher Panora Times 515-953-4822, ext. 305 shane@dmcityview.com



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THE DAYCARE DILEMMA

Local parents weigh the limited options of childcare in the area.

BY RICH WICKS

For Panora Times

Daycare for children younger than the age of 12 is a challenge for working parents, and that challenge is increasing, especially in small-town rural America. In particular, Iowa leads the nation in the percentage of parents working outside the home, with three-fourths of households with children younger than age 6 having all parents at home in the labor force. But, in many Iowa communities, daycare is unaffordable or nonexistent. This results in parents missing work and, in some cases, having to leave the workforce altogether.

The statistics are sobering. According to studies, over a six-month period, almost half of parents are absent at least once due to childcare issues, missing an average of 4.3 days. Also, 65% of parents are late to work or leave early because of childcare issues, averaging 7.5 times over a six-month span.

Childcare for working parents often becomes a financial balancing act, as parents consider whether a paycheck outweighs the cost of daycare. The average cost of full-time center-based infant or toddler care in Iowa is nearly \$10,000 a year for



SPECIAL TO PANORA TIM

There's nothing like a good book for young learners.

one child, which is higher than the cost of in-state public college tuition.

Another challenge arriving on the scene is that states are expected to face a steep decline in federal childcare investment following the Sept. 30, 2023, expiration date of pandemic-era funding that has helped to stabilize the situation for the past two years. This is likely to lead to higher daycare prices and could result in the loss of up to 3 million available childcare spots nationwide.

A BLEAK PICTURE

Data shared by Sheri Penney of the Iowa Women's Foundation, during an Oct. 10 Daycare Roundtable in Stuart, showed additional facets of a bleak picture. In Iowa, 28% of childcare businesses closed over the past five years, and 56% closed over the past 10 years. Regarding the cost to parents paying for childcare, Iowa parents pay an average of 14% of their income to registered childcare centers, twice as much as is considered affordable. Childcare workers in Iowa earn an average starting wage of \$10.76, one of the lowest professions listed. Thirty percent of Iowa childcare workers qualify for and utilize Medicaid benefits.

GUTHRIE COUNTY, A "DAYCARE DESERT"

Laura Robson, president of the board of directors for Little Charger Early Learning Center, 207 Park Ave. in Guthrie Center, said, "Guthrie County is considered a daycare desert, and that means there are three times as many children as there are licensed or registered childcare slots available. That might be a little misleading because we do know that there's some great in-home providers, there's grandparents and neighbors helping care for those kids. But when you look at it from a high-level statistical standpoint, we are classified as a childcare desert, according to the State."

Robson said a local survey nearly two years ago found the situation mirrors the statewide data.

"At that time, there were nearly 30 families who were looking for childcare, and over half the respondents said that the lack of childcare in the community has impacted their ability to work." She added that, with some area schools seeing declining enrollment, availability of quality childcare can help keep families in the



Children at Little Panther Daycare and Preschool

county.

"As we transition into more of a two parents working outside of the home society, we have to look at what can our community do to support that, so that, as new generations come in, the towns and community hopefully can continue to grow and thrive," she said. "The big scare is, if we're not investing in these types of opportunities, younger families are not going to move to our communities, and they're not going to add to our tax base."

Robson encourages the community to keep the "big picture" in mind about the impact on everyone when these younger families cannot feasibly get their needs met in the local community.

LITTLE PANTHER DAYCARE AND PRESCHOOL

Page Arganbright, director at Little Panther Daycare and Preschool at 601 Panther Drive in Panora, said, "The Little Panther Daycare was established in 2002," noting that the original building was moved in.

"It was a daycare up in Jamaica, and then they added to it," she said. "And then, just last year, we completed a second addition."

That addition brought the center's capacity from 75 to 90 children.

"We're running at about 70 kids right now," Arganbright said. "We'd like to get to about 75 to 80."

Arganbright oversees and schedules the center's 20 employees. She said the biggest challenge she faces is staffing, and she noted that she's continually striving to increase wages but needs to keep daycare rates affordable for families as well. Arganbright also encourages more males to consider working in daycare, since the field has traditionally been almost entirely female-staffed.

OPTIONS INCREASING SOON

Daycare availability in Panora is expected to increase soon, as a new center is scheduled to open. Business partners Christine Litwiller and Amanda Creen plan to open Panorama Daycare Center on the eastern edge of Panora at 1301 E. Church St. in early 2024, with a capacity of about 95 kids. Litwiller said there is already a waiting list for the center, and it's more than 70% full.



Kids learn and have fun with local firefighters.

Litwiller expects to hire about 25 employees to work at the new center, both full- and part-time.

"We want to do like a high school internship so that they can get high school credit while working part-time," Litwiller said. She plans to discuss this with the Panorama school district officials soon.

Litwiller said expanded hours could also happen.

"If we have enough families that would like us to be open longer hours or on weekends, then eventually we are open to that," she said. "But probably for the first year, we'll just do Monday through Friday, and our hours are going to be 5:30 a.m. through 6:30 p.m."

Litwiller said they have approval from the school to be a bus stop, so they will be offering before- and after-school care for elementary students.

A TRAGIC STORY

Local parent Megan Wilson shared her tragic story involving daycare.

"I live outside of Panora, and I work at a bank in Jefferson," she said. "I lost my first son to SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) at daycare. Nothing caused it; it's just that he stopped breathing and didn't wake up from a nap."

Regarding her reaction to the tragedy, she said she doesn't blame the private daycare her son attended.

"I have no ill thoughts to the in-home that I was going to, but I knew, if I had more kids, I wasn't comfortable going to an in-home, period," she said. "For my peace of mind, I really needed a center where I knew, legally, nobody could leave the room."

Wilson now has children, ages 1 and 3, and they attend Little Panther Daycare





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Craft time for toddlers at Little Panther Daycare and Preschool in Panora.

and Preschool in Panora. She purchased an Owlet baby monitoring device, which she described as "a pulse oximeter that they wear on their foot while they're sleeping, and it measures their heart rate and oxygen level."

The device notifies the parent and caregiver when it detects abnormal readings. Wilson said she's appreciative that the daycare center has readily adapted to using the Owlet device. Wilson added that she's donated three Owlet devices to Little Panther Daycare and Preschool, and she said grants are available to help families obtain such technology.

Regarding the main differences between in-home and center-based daycare, Wilson pointed out that in-home can be more affordable, but centers have more ability to schedule substitute staff when one staffer is ill or on vacation.

Wilson's overall advice for parents considering daycare is, "Don't rush into the decision. Make sure that it's somebody that you are comfortable with. Take as many times as you need to meet with them."

A LOCAL FAMILY'S CHALLENGE

One local family's challenges in find-

ing daycare to meet their needs is illustrative of the issues that often arise. Bill and Sarah Messinger and their son, Calhoun (now 4 years old), moved to the area when Calhoun was 2. They have used both private daycare providers and licensed daycare centers. Calhoun now attends Little Panther Daycare and Preschool. A major challenge for the Messingers was finding daycare that reliably fit their early-morning timelines.

"When we came here, our biggest struggle was finding daycare, because everyone was full," she said. "I mean, over-full."

Because of that experience, Messinger said, "If someone tells me they're pregnant, I always say 'Congratulations... and find daycare."

Messinger said she understands the difficulties in operating a daycare, be it a center or a private home, so she strives to help support local daycare options whenever possible.

A RESOURCE

Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral provides childcare information, resources and available providers at www.iowaccrr. org.



Q: WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED **COMPLETION DATE OF THE JACKSON STREET PROJECT IN PANORA?**

A: The concrete pouring for the Jackson Street project was expected to be finished by Oct. 20. The official contract end date is Oct. 27, according to Mayor Curt Thornberry.

Q: WHAT IS THE CITY OF **PANORA'S POLICY ON RESIDENTIAL LEAF BURNING?**

A: Section 105.05 of Panora's City Code addresses open burning restrictions. It states that no person shall allow, cause or permit open burning of combustible materials where the products of combustion are emitted into the open air without passing through a chimney or stack, except that open burning is permitted in eight limited circumstances, which include landscape waste and backyard burning. Section 105.06 states that all yard waste shall be separated by the owner or occupant from all other solid waste accumulated on the premises and shall be composted or burned on the premises. As used in this section, "yard waste" means any debris such as grass clippings, leaves, garden waste, brush and trees. Yard waste does not include tree stumps.

Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE QUINNEBAGO OUTDOORS **BUSINESS AND THE BUILDING** IT IS CURRENTLY IN?

A: The owners of the Quinnebago Outdoors business located at 106 E. Main St. in Panora have decided to auction off the building and the remaining inventory and stated they will post auction dates when available. The store officially closed for in-store shopping on Oct. 21. ■



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LOCAL FILM REVIEWS

DAVINCI, DANO, DOLPH, DENZEL'S SON AND MORE

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY

For Panora Times

If you dig deep enough, there were some interesting movies this month and more coming in October, November and December. It's another mixed bag, but here's what I've got for you this month.

"MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 3"

(in theaters still, maybe)

I remember the original movie, but I am not sure if I caught the first sequel. It doesn't matter, as both films are recapped before this one gets underway, which provides very helpful information. This movie is a fun little jaunt that gives us a glimpse into the big Greek family traveling to Greece for a wedding. Fun and mayhem follow. It is a better film than I expected and is, at times, charming and funny.

Grade: B+

"A HAUNTING IN VENICE"

(in theaters)



"My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3"

I am not a fan of these Agatha Christie movies. I always feel manipulated, and I honestly think that any one of these people could be the culprit. That being said, this one held my interest, though I really didn't care who committed the crime. Kenneth Branagh again plays the retired Hercule Poirot pulled back into the game. Tina Fey is also a nice addition to the cast.

Grade: B

HUNTING | RANCH | FARM | TIMBER



"A Haunting in Venice"

"THE INVENTOR"

(probably headed for streaming)

This is an animated movie targeting kids about Leonardo DaVinci. I am not sure if the kids are going to choose this over the "Paw Patrol" movie (actually, I am sure that the pups would easily win that race), but it was well done, and maybe the older kids will appreciate it more.

Grade B-



"The Inventor"

"DUMB MONEY"

(in theaters)

This look at the GameStop stock trading fiasco is your find of the month. It is well written, very clever and the cast is fabulous. Paul Dano leads a cast that also includes Pete Davidson, Vincent D'Onofrio and Nick Offerman. It is a fascinating true story and an equally engaging movie.

Grade: A-

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"Dumb Money"

"EXPEND4BLES"

(in theaters)

Few people go to a movie with a "4" in the title with high expectations, and this one lives up to that reputation. Jason Statham, 50 Cent, Dolph Lundgren, Sylvester Stallone and Andy Garcia tarnish their careers with this unnecessary fourth chapter. No Oscar nominations are expected.

Grade: D

"THE CREATOR"

(in theaters)

This visually stunning sci-fi film stars



"Expend4bles"

John David Washington (Denzel's son), who is in love with a woman in a future world only to have her taken from him. He spends the film looking for her while protecting a robotic young boy who might know more than he leads on. If the story was as great as the visuals, this might've been truly special. Unfortunately, the story falls way short.

Grade: B

"FLORA AND SON"

(Apple TV)

An interesting movie about a woman caring for her teenage son, who is pretty



'The Creator"

much a delinquent. When he refuses to care about a guitar she buys him, she takes it up thanks to online lessons with a stranger, played by the always fun Joseph Gordon-Levitt. She is played by Eve Hewson, the daughter of U2 lead singer Bono. Charming at times, and raunchy at other times, "Flora and Son" is a mixed bag with some fun moments.

Grade: B

As the actor's strike lingers on, we will have to wait longer for some of this fall's big movies, but there are still some interesting films in the pipeline including



"Flora and Son"

another sequel to "The Exorcist," this one with the original star, Ellen Burstyn.
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

ternoon 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 Guthrie County.



OBITUARY

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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, Panora.

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. Following 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 sonsin-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 Waukee, Abby (Brett Smith) Snyder of Waukee, and Kelly (Nolan) Grimm of Waukee; 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; inlaws, 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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YESTER YEARS

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50 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrian, Oct. 10, 1973

YOUNG ARTISTS AT WORK: Cheryl Taylor, left, and Mary Wright, students at Panora-Linden high school, chose to sketch this home in Panora for a recent art class project last week.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Oct. 20, 1983

VARSITY HAWKS: These five runners have been mainstays on the P-L cross country varsity this fall. The team will compete in district competition at Atlantic Thursday. From left, Jeff Burchfield, Kenny Smith, Kip Janvrin, John Holbrook and Jeff Hafner.

30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Oct. 28, 1993

GOLDEN HARVEST: Kevin Kipp of Yale watches golden nuggets of corn tumble into an auger that carries them to an on-farm storage bin. Kipp said moisture content of corn has varied greatly, even in the same fields. He said yields are down and have ranged from 110 to 150 bushels.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Oct. 30, 2003

LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD: Lions club member Dave Lantz shows Jeramiah Randol the camera he will use to photograph the youngster's eyes.

10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Oct. 10, 2013

PINK PUMPKINS: Thanks to the green thumb of Bill Ridgley, about 580 pink pumpkins have been marketed for two local charities. Tori's Angels and Guthrie County Relay for Life combined their efforts to market the unusual pumpkins. RFL held sales in Panora and Guthrie Center in September with a goal to sell 200 of the unique member of the squash family. Staffing the Panora site were, from left, Ridgley, Gigi Nelson, Julie Gilge, Barb and Bob Vandeventer.

5 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Panora Times, Oct. 25, 2018

FIRE SHUTS DOWN THE PORT RESTAURANT: Firefighters work to put out a blaze that started in the restaurant at The Port. No one was hurt, but the restaurant has been temporarily closed. ■



YJB FOOTBALL HAS PROUD HISTORY DATING BACK TO 1962

The first year of YJB football was celebrated in style.

BY RICH WICKS

For Panora Times

The Panora Times article in the September 2023 issue inadvertently overlooked the history of YJB (Yale-Jamaica-Bagley) football in the years prior to the consolidation with Panora-Linden, which ultimately resulted in the Panorama School District. Prior to the consolidation, YJB Schools had a strong football program, as the information and photos here attest. Coach Kal Goodchild, who in 2022 was enshrined into the Iowa Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame, spent portions of his career



The swarming Raider defense







The 1965 Raiders team

coaching football at YJB and later at Panora-Linden.

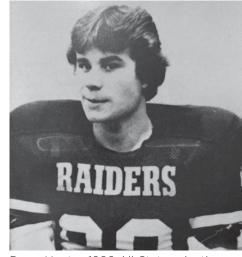
The first year of YJB football, 1962, was celebrated in style. According to the YJB High School yearbook, "Homecoming activities began on Thursday, Oct. 18, in Yale. Here the first YJB homecoming bonfire was held. The football boys rode on the Yale firetruck throughout Yale as the student body followed behind and began a snake dance led by the cheerleaders. Following the snake dance, a pep rally was held near the bonfire on the baseball diamond. The cheers, skits by the freshman and sophomore classes, and pep talks by Coach Galliano and Mr. Allen climaxed the 1962 homecoming bonfire and started the homecoming attitude throughout YJBland. A new touch to homecoming festivities was the parade of floats. The parade took place during the halftime of the football game with the high school band at the lead."

The Raiders rode that enthusiasm on the way to a 38-0 drubbing of Menlo in the game.

Through the nearly three decades of YJB



Dave Deardorff in 1965



Doug Hoyt, a 1980 All-State selection

football, the program experienced ups and downs, as most teams do. For example, the 1962 season saw YJB finish with a 2-6 record, while the very next year, the team was 7-2. The 1965 football season saw the Raiders again field a strong team that finished at 6-3.

In 1968, the YJB squad rebounded from a



Ed Kenney in 1965





VOTE NOVEMBER 7 HEIDI CLARK

for Panorama School Board
District 1

EDUCATIONAL APPROACH

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- Providing and accelerating work-place readiness skills.
- A decade + teaching in higher education.

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- · Promote a sense of community where all students and staff can feel safe and connected.
- Listen, collaborate, and work cohesively as a team throughout the district.
- · Advocate for all students and staff.

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ROGER ZIRKLE

Roger is retired and lives in rural Panora. He is self-taught and claims it is due to his childhood. As a young boy, his family was poor and didn't buy lots of toys. He learned to entertain himself making his own toys, carvings and drawings. At the age of 60, he started crafting as a hobby. He is known for his ducks, bears and owls.

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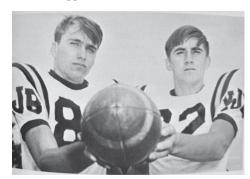
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YJB's John Correy makes a tackle.

disappointing 1967 season and finished second in the West Central Conference with an overall record of 7-1, best in school history, including a 6-1 mark in conference play. The only loss was a 13-12 defeat by conference champion Ogden, which was a perennial powerhouse team in those days. Guthrie Center and Earlham also were tough opponents most years. The Raiders were coached by Steve Pattison and Jim Schreffler. All-Conference Raiders players included Gary Snyder (second team halfback), Gerald Carstens (first team lineman), Jack Kelly (first team lineman), Gary Culbertson (first team end), and Bill Keeble (first team quarterback).

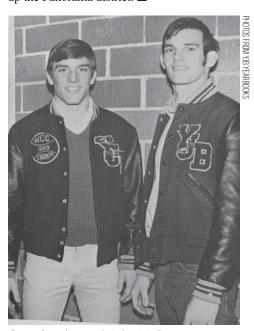
The 1977 season was another particularly successful campaign for the Raiders, who finished second in the Central Valley Athletic Conference, coached by Eric Berthelsen and assistant coach George Bradley. The squad held four opponents scoreless and allowed



The 1967 co-captains Rod Lumley and Duane Allen

only 59 points all season long on the way to a 6-2 overall record. The Raiders led the conference in yards gained (2,198) and first downs (112).

Beginning with the 1988-1989 school year, YJB joined forces with Panora-Linden, as the newly consolidated school district became known as Panorama. Since then, the Panthers have benefitted from strong traditions of athletes from all of the communities that make up the Panorama district.



Gary Snyder and John McDermott excelled in 1969.

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CITY GOVERNMENT

PANORA CITY COUNCIL APPROVES PURCHASE OF GWORKS SOFTWARE FOR \$15,450

Also approves purchase of 2024 Ford F350 Quick Attack "grass rig" pickup for \$107,000.

BY RICH WICKS

For Panora Times

The Panora city council met in regular session on Sept. 25. It was the initial council meeting for newly appointed members Blake Michelsen and Roger Dorr. The council reviewed the option of signing a new contract with gWorks financial software. The gWorks materials state, "Our product streamlines government operations and makes community management more efficient." gWorks currently works with nearly 2,500 clients in 48 states. The software is aimed at helping in five areas: finance and budgeting; human resources and payroll; online payments; utility billing; and citizen engagement.

"We've been with gWorks since 2013," said City Administrator Lisa Grossman, noting that the upgrade will be "on the cloud," which will allow remote access and allow employees to access their information easily. Grossman said the city currently spends about \$6,000 per year for gWorks service. She said if Panora contracts now with gWorks, the cost will be \$15,450 per year, but if the City were to wait until next year, the price would be \$22,000. The council consensus was in support of the plan, so Grossman will work up a contract to bring to the City.

Regarding the Jackson Street project, Grossman said, "The plan is to be done by the 27th of October." She said they are doing a final push to get the rest of the water meters changed out and to get everything "buttoned up before winter."

During the regular Panora city

council meeting on Oct. 9, the city council heard a request to approve the purchase of a 2024 Ford F350 Quick Attack "grass rig" pickup. The total cost is expected to be around \$107,000, but the department budgets \$45,000 annually for vehicle payments and expects that full \$45,000 could be allocated to this purchase for the next two years. Grossman said the city budget has funds that could help with the remainder, and the fire department plans to also do fundraisers to help. The council approved the purchase. Delivery of the truck is expected in roughly six months.

Sawyer Breslow of gWorks gave a presentation via remote technology to explain the basics of the gWorks cloud-based software program that Grossman had described at the Sept. 25 meeting. Mayor Thornberry asked if multiple city users would be able to use the system simultaneously and if that would incur additional cost. Breslow said there's no limit to the number of users and no additional cost. Thornberry also asked if the general public would see a different interface. Breslow replied, saying in part, "Short answer, yes, it will be different. It should be easier to access and utilize." The council approved Resolution 23-27, to move forward with the software program with gWorks.

Grossman said the Jackson Street project is moving along well, but could be slowed slightly if rainy weather intervenes.

As part of the meeting's consent agenda, the council approved a fiveday Special Class C Retail Alcohol License for Tori's Angels Foundation. ■

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

GUTHRIE COUNTY SUPERVISORS SPAR OVER BUDGET COMMENTS TO DEPARTMENT HEADS

Health Services Director updates the board on dog bites, bats in homes, and vaccines available for COVID and flu season.

BY RICH WICKS

For Panora Times

The Guthrie County Board of Supervisors regularly meet every Tuesday. The supervisors dealt with various issues over the past month. Below is a summary of those meetings.

On Sept. 19, the supervisors heard that the Bays Branch shooting range was closed due to State issues. On Sept. 26, board member Mike Dickson and chair Brian Johnson sparred over comments made to department heads by Johnson, warning of possible budgetary belt-tightening. Dickson objected to these statements being made without board agreement, and Johnson said he was simply stating his personal opinion to department heads but apologized for any misunderstandings that resulted.

On Oct. 3, the board heard of challenges involved in any efforts to standardize or consolidate the keycard entry system for all entrances to the courthouse. Expected

costs and options will be investigated. The board also heard a request from Guthrie County Deputy Sheriff Jesse Swensen to increase pay for jailers, as they are dealing with increased workload due to housing inmates from other counties. After discussion, a \$1.20 hourly increase was approved, by a 3-2 vote with Johnson, Maggie Armstrong and Steve Smith voting in favor and Dickson and JD Kuster voting against.

On Oct. 10, Guthrie County Health Services Director Jotham Arber updated the board on health department issues, including a suggestion to adopt a vicious dog ordinance to deal with dog bite incidents. Arber also shared information on bats in homes, and he summarized vaccine availability for COVID and flu season.

On Oct. 17, the supervisors heard from County Engineer Josh Sebern regarding the proposed sale of the county's grader shed, located at 105 Prairie St. in Bayard. The supervisors unanimously approved selling the shed to the City of Bayard for \$1,000. ■

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THE MONTH IN PANORAMA SPORTS



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

PANTHER CHEERLEADERS CAN'T HIDE THEIR PRIDE: Panorama's football cheer squad work together to hold Senior Hania Boblett up for a stunt at a home game against Earlham on Sept. 29.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

PANORAMA WIN STREAK ENDS AT 3: Receiver Klayton Bremer adds some extra yards with a run after a reception during the game vs. South Central Calhoun on Oct. 6.



POLDBERG BRINGS HOME A MEDAL AT ACGC: Junior Noah Poldberg placed sixth at the ACGC Charger invitational on Sept. 21.



PANTHERS SHOW IMPROVEMENT: Jessica Randol attempts to score against West Central Valley on Oct. 16.



PANTHER GIRLS GETTING STRONGER AS SEASON PROGRESSES: Freshman Kylie Rochholz (148) took runner-up at the ACGC invite on Sept. 21. Laicey Lutz (145) took 14th. Panorama finished third with 92 points.



PANTHER BAND STIRS UP THE CROWD: Senior Maddux Nunn (above) and members of the Panorama

Band (below) play before the Panthers Senior Night game against South Central Calhoun on Oct 6.





MARK RENO | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

PANORAMA DRUBS WAYNE OF CORYDON, 35-6: Panorama Panthers No. 35 RB/LB Ryan Cogil (senior) makes it look easy as he picks up 15 yards against Corydon on Sept. 15.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

VANMEER PASSES PANORAMA THROUGH SOUTHWEST VALLEY: Offensive lineman Cristian Monrroy-Nunez (No. 53) prepares to block for senior quarterback Cayden Vanmeer (No. 6) as he looks to make a pass. Vanmeer passed a total of 237 yards in the Sept. 22 game against Southwest Valley.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

PANORAMA NETTERS TASTE VICTORY: Team members Jessi Randol, Zoey Hambleton, Maddy Mincy, Cayden Iredale, Hallie Arganbright and Faith Recker celebrate scoring during their games vs. Madrid on Oct. 5.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

3 IN A ROW: Senior Klayton Bremer jumps to make a catch thrown from Quarterback Cayden Vanmeer in Panorama's win against Earlham on Sept. 29.

BUSINESS FEATURE

PANORA MERCANTILE VENDORS OFFER WIDE VARIETY

Tricia Belousek bought building with "quirky charm and lots of character" in 2020, and her vision is now coming to fruition.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Special to Panora Times

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

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

"During college, two high school friends moved to Arizona, and I went to visit them during spring break," Belousek says. "I started my master's degree at Drake University before I decided to move to Arizona



NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

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

in 2001."

She finished her master's in Arizona and later earned a degree in accounting. Her career path took her into order management, documenting policies and procedures, and now working for a nonprofit supporting more than 100 members. Belousek and her husband live in Cave Creek, Arizona. Her mother, two sisters and two nephews live in central Iowa.

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

"I love to shop," Belousek says. "I grew up going to see my grandmother in Missouri and shopping with my mom in Centerville and Albia on the way. The small towns had different shoes, clothing and items I didn't find at the mall. I still like to shop and find bargains."

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

BEADS-N-BEYOND OWNER SAYS SHE WAS INTERESTED IN PANORA MERCANTILE FROM THE START

"I've enjoyed making crafts since I was a little girl," Redshaw says. "I wanted a place to display my creations so others can buy one-of-a-kind gifts. I'd considered having a booth at a craft mall in Branson, but it's not feasible because of the distance. When this opportunity came up, I was excited because it's a craft mall right here in Panora."

Redshaw's vendor name is Beads-n-Bevond.

"I have jewelry and beaded serving spoons and forks, as well as beaded appetizer utensils. I enjoy embellishing onesies, T-shirts, hats, headbands and hand



SUSAN THOMPSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIM

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

towels with fun words and designs. I also have air plants and home décor," Redshaw says. "Next on my 'to create' list are sympathy gifts, beaded crosses, shell and pebble art, and fall and Christmas décor and gifts."

Clawson says she was interested in the Panora Mercantile from the start.

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

SORTASISTERS4 OFFERS ITEMS THAT VARY FROM SEASON TO SEASON

Clawson is a Panora Mercantile vendor under the name SortaSisters4.

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

The items SortaSisters4 offers vary from season to season.

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

LIGHTHOUSE HONEY SELLS RAW HONEY FROM HER OWN BEES, HANDMADE SOAP, LIP BALM, LOTION BARS AND CANDLES.

Another vendor is Emily Donovan with her Lighthouse Honey.

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



Tricia Belousek, Panora Mercantile owner, also is a vendor. She offers a variety of food products, including flavored olive oils and vinegars from Cave Creek, Arizona, plus dips, mixes, spices and gluten-free foods.

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

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

"Many of the items I have on my shelves would make great stocking stuffers. The



NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Emily Donovan sells raw honey from her own bees, handmade soap, lip balm, lotion bars, bee-themed mugs and candles. The lip balm and lotion bars are made with beeswax. For the holiday season, Donovan has pre-packaged gift boxes.

lip balm and lotion bars are made with my beeswax," she says. "I make the candles and soaps as well, but these do not contain any honeybee byproducts. I also have pre-packaged gift boxes for customers looking for a holiday or hostess gift."

TEEN ENTREPRENEUR

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

"When I opened my vendor offering to children, I heard from Cindy Tripp, Chloe's grandmother," Belousek says. "Chloe does a good job switching up her product offerings. I think it's a great opportunity to learn budgeting and build a

Tripp and her husband moved to Lake Panorama three years ago. Their granddaughters Chloe, age 13, and her sister Izzy, age 10, have had items in the store since it opened. They started under the vendor name Chloe's Crafts, but in September, Tripp added to their shelves.

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

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

Chloe's first offering, and her most popular items to date, are Travel Hygiene Carriers. She folds a washcloth, then sews slots for things like a toothbrush, toothpaste and combs. Izzy's biggest seller is cat toys. She sews pieces of fabric into small



Meet Brandt Gebel, **Financial Advisor**

Brandt Gebel is our Financial Advisor with 6 years of experience in the financial sector. Brandt grew up in Charles City, Iowa, graduated from Loras College located in Dubuque, Iowa and is currently a licensed Series 7, and 66 professional. Brandt is responsible for advising, planning, and investing for Guthrie County State Bank Investment Center clients.

Brandt is passionate about what he does which includes helping people meet their goals financially, so they have more time to meet their personal and professional goals. In his free time Brandt enjoys playing golf, boating at the family cabin in the summer, riding his bike, and cheering for the Iowa State Cyclones, Green Bay Packers, and New York Yankees.



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NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

A new vendor that joined in October is Grandpa's Woodshop. Handcrafted wood items include stars, games, cutting boards, serving trays, golf ball holders and more.

rectangles and squares, then tucks a bit of catnip inside before making the final stitches. Also offered are painted driftwood and garden art, keychains and jewelry, dog bandanas and felting wool art.

"The girls have done well every month," Tripp says. "They love being in a small local business and having a place to dis-



NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Emily Spradling has a variety of knitted items, including toys and seasonal decorative pieces, and is operating under the name Knit Knacks.



NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

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

play their creations. They are learning about how to run a business, investing in their business, the importance of saving 10% each month and giving to their church. This is a tremendous learning opportunity for them."

CNC WOOD CREATIONS PRODUCES WOODEN SIGNS, PLAQUES AND ORNAMENTS.

Lynnette and Craig Little of Panora own CNC Wood Creations. CNC is a manufacturing method that automates the control, movement and precision of machine tools, using preprogrammed computer software. They produce wooden signs, plaques and ornaments.

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

OTHER VENDORS

One new vendor joined the Panora Mercantile in September. Emily Spradling has a variety of knitted items, including toys and decorative pieces, and is operating

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Panora Mercantile put together a display of Halloween offerings in October.

under the name Knit Knacks.

"I didn't know what to expect, but I'm delighted to see what I've sold each week," Spradling says. "In addition to toys, my decorative knit acorns and pumpkins have been selling well. Now I'm working on Christmas items. I will have some cute Christmas mouse fairy ornaments and other gift items. I also want to knit some dog sweaters, pet Christmas stockings and maybe some hats and winter headbands



NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Carol Redshaw's Beads-n-Beyond offers jewelry and beaded serving spoons and forks, beaded appetizer utensils, onesies, T-shirts, hats, headbands and hand towels with fun words and designs, air plants and home decor. She is adding fall and Christmas décor and gifts.

for humans."

Two new vendors set up displays in October. Just Silks offers a wide variety of silk flower and foliage arrangements, Christmas tree ornaments and gift items. Grandpa's Woodshop includes many different handcrafted wood items, including stars, games, cutting boards, serving trays, golf ball holders and plant propagation stations.

Other vendors who have been at the



NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Handmade by Kathy offers a wide assortment of craft items made from cloth and yarn, including crocheted items, magnet or ornament gnomes, aprons and bookmarks.

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NANCA LI VONNI | SDECIVI LU DVNUBV LIMES

This display shows toys, games and puzzles offered by Panora Mercantile and owner Tricia Belousek.

Panora Mercantile for several months include MJ Clothesline, which offers handmade clothes and accessories for dolls, plus dish cloths, hot pads and adult headbands; Handmade by Kathy, with a wide assortment of craft items using cloth and yarn; and Stanley Home Products & Fuller Brush Co.

BUILDING OWNERIS A VENDOR, TOO

Belousek also is a vendor, offering a range of flavored olive oils and vinegars from Cave Creek, dip mixes and gluten-



Just Silks offers a variety of silk flower and foliage arrangements, Christmas tree ornaments and gifts.

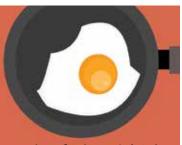
free foods. She also stocks the store with a variety of toys, games and puzzles, seasonal items, kitchen items and things she thinks customers will like.

"My husband and I own the building, but it's the vendors that make Panora Mercantile," Belousek says. "The business wouldn't succeed on just my items, or only handmade items. It's the variety that keeps people stopping in to see what's there. Sometimes they find something they didn't know they needed."

Vendors pay monthly rent based on the amount of space they need; some

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NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

MJ Clothesline specializes in handmade clothes and accessories for dolls, plus dish clothes, hot pads and adult headbands

vendors work in exchange for their rent. Panora Mercantile receives 10% of sales to help cover expenses incurred running the store. Vendors sign a contract and set their own prices. A cashier rings up the purchase and notes what was sold and the amount paid. Panora Mercantile submits sales tax monthly to the State of Iowa.

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



NANCY CLAWSON | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIN

A display showing seasonal items and regular sellers available from Crafty Fox and Company.

Through December, Panora Mercantile will be open Fridays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"I am a member of the Panora Chamber, and we will be open in tandem with their events, such as Small Business Saturday, the Holiday Showcase and Christmas Tree Lighting," Belousek says. Belousek is looking for additional vendors, plus feedback from the community on the types of items they'd like to find at Panora Mercantile. Those interested in becoming a vendor or sharing product ideas can email her at belousektricia@gmail.com.





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SHROYER'S CAREER BECAME A HOBBY

Now retired, the former owner of Panora Service Center fondly recalls the restoration of his 1961 Chevy and other vehicles.

BY RICH WICKS

For Panora Times

Dennis Shroyer owned Panora Service Center for many years. Following his recent retirement from working on cars, he found he now has time for his hobby, which is... working on cars. But, as he explains, the difference is that now he can do what he wants, when he wants.

"This is my old 1961 Chevy," Shroyer stated, "My dad had one when we were growing up, and we all loved that car. And back in the 1970s, I helped tow it out to the crusher because it was shot. We always loved that car, so I cloned my dad's car with this. I've done all the restorations on it over a period of years. It'll be the one I keep."

Explaining how he got the car, Shroyer said, "This sat over in a body shop in Guth-

rie Center for nine years."

At the time, according to Shroyer, the car was white, was in rough condition and had large areas rusted out. Shroyer had asked about it several times and finally bought the car in 2007. He painted the car black, and with the red interior it already had, he said it looks just like his dad's car from back in the day.

Shroyer said he occasionally brings the 1961 to car shows and also likes to drive it a little. But, he added, "I haven't even ran a whole tank of gas through it this year."

Shroyer likes to keep his cars in good condition but also enjoys driving them some. Since he lives on a gravel road, he said he just drives slowly to avoid chipping the paint.

Recalling the restoration of the 1961 Chevy, Shroyer said, "It's been my passion



Dennis Shroyer and his 1961 Chevrolet







Shroyer has also restored a dune buggy, just for fun.

for years, doing that car. The first winter out here in this garage, I cut all the old floor panels out and put new floor panels in it. Once that was all done, I took it in to my body shop, pulled the body off the frame, and pulled the front end off. I had a guy come down from Glidden and sandblast the whole frame, and I painted it. I've done that with dozens of cars over the years. I had to sell one to buy the next one, and it finally got to the point that I can afford to keep them. Finally, everything's paid for."

Now in retirement, Shroyer says, "Will I come out here and do it eight or nine hours a day? No, but a couple hours maybe, here and there, you know, for a hobby. You've got to be motivated; I see a lot of these cars they get started and never finished. For me now, would I want to do another frame-off restoration? No, I don't. I just want something like this, it runs and drives, it just needs all dolled up and gone through."

Shroyer showed another vehicle he's working on.

"This old 1950 Chevy sat in a barn southwest of Yale," he said, noting that he has replaced the rusted-out spots and given the



The nostalgic red interior of the 1961 Chevrolet

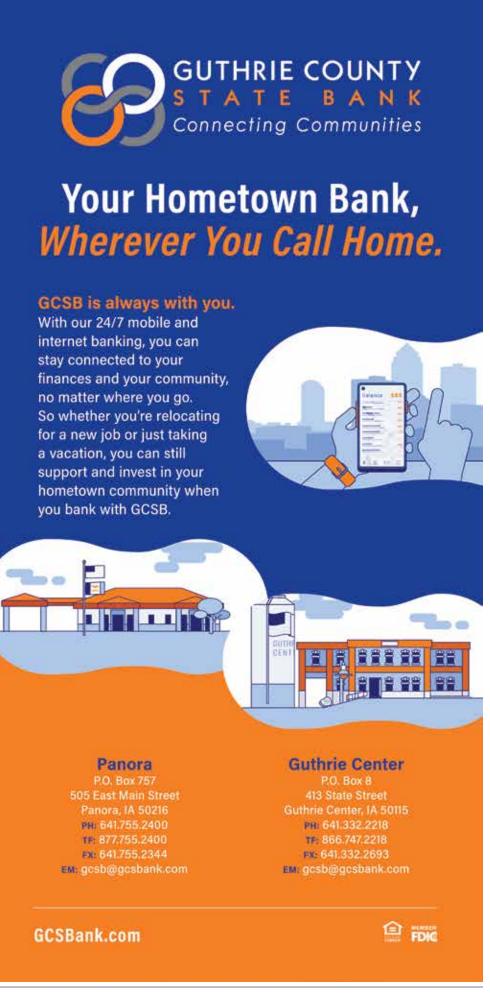
car a fresh coat of paint.

Shroyer also told of an old racing motorcycle that has boomeranged back to him.

"The Hodaka racing motorcycle that I bought back in 1974, it's back. It's the one I used to race up in Boone," he said. "I owned that motorcycle for several years then sold it to a kid in Guthrie Center."

Shroyer said the new owner was involved in a traffic accident while riding the motorcycle, "...and it got put into his dad's barn for years. Then, 10 or 20 years ago, my dad got it back. It means a lot to me."





ENTERTAIN IN STYLE WITH BEEF AND BLUE CHEESE-STUFFED MUSHROOMS

BY JOLENE GOODMAN

For Panora Times

With the holiday season quickly approaching, you may be searching for delicious hors d'oeuvres to make your guests feel right at home. I am sharing a wonderful recipe from Family Features that will help you beef up the menu with a tasty appetizer that's as easy to make as it is to enjoy. This recipe will pleasantly surprise even those who are not mushroom fans, as my husband will attest to.



Jolene Goodman

Loaded with savory flavor and perfect for feeding a crowd, these beef and blue cheese-stuffed mushrooms from Beef Loving Texans offer a simple yet mouthwatering way to entertain in style. Just prepare button mushrooms by removing the stems, then fill the caps with a ground beef-based mixture of minced mushroom stems, blue cheese, breadcrumbs, green onions and steak seasoning for a party-worthy platter.

Visit BeefLovingTexans.com to find more recipes. ■

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

BEEF AND BLUE CHEESE-STUFFED MUSHROOMS

Recipe courtesy of Beef Loving Texans

Total time: 50 minutes

Servings: 40

2 packages (8 ounces each) button mushrooms

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/2 pound ground beef

1/3 cup blue cheese

1/4 cup whole-wheat breadcrumbs

3 tablespoons green onions

1/2 teaspoon steak seasoning blend chives (optional)

DIRECTIONS:

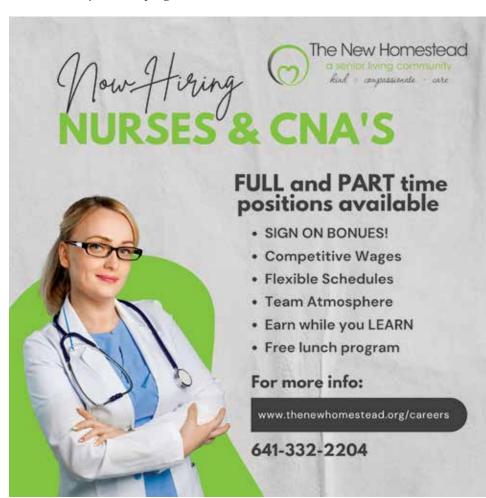
Preheat oven to 375 F. Remove stems from mushrooms; reserve. Season mushroom caps with salt; set aside. Mince stems to yield 1/2 cup; discard remaining stems.

Combine ground beef, minced stems, blue



cheese, breadcrumbs, green onions and steak seasoning. Spoon beef mixture evenly into mushrooms.

Place stuffed mushrooms on rack in broiler pan. Bake 15-20 minutes. Sprinkle with chives, if desired. ■







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- 24 Black Friday
- 25 Small Biz Saturday



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WHERE IS IT?

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The answer to last month's photo is playground equipment at the elementary school in Panora. Have a guess on where the object in this month's photo is? Have one to submit for future issues? Send to shane@dmcityview.com.





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WFPF CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY PROGRESS

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

BY RICH WICKS

For Panora 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, Panorama 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 re-



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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PHOTOS BY RICH WICKS | PANORA 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.

vealed.

"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 forties. Fitzgerald said new members would definitely be welcomed, and the time commitment 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."



Photo of WFPF's first meeting in 1973





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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

For Panora 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 phones 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 | PANORA TIMES

Timothy Schutte is using a Community Development Blocak 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 hap-

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RICH WICKS | PANORA TIMES

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

pen 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.

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.

EVENTS

TRICK OR TREAT DATES AND TIMES FOR AREA COMMUNITIES

Special to Panora Times

PANORA: MONDAY, OCT. 30

Main Street, 5-6 p.m.; residential 5-8 p.m.; Lakeside Village, Not Scary Halloween Spectacular (pick up your hot dog meal) 5-7 p.m.; Panora Specialty Care 5-6 p.m.

BAGLEY: SATURDAY, OCT. 28

Halloween Parade is at 5 p.m. Golf carts, ATVs, etc. meet at the library at 4:30 p.m. and then drive the streets of Bagley where children and parents are in their

yards and the parade people pass out the candy to them. The Bagley Fire Department will hold a soup supper following the parade.

JAMAICA: SUNDAY, OCT. 29

Trunk or Treat Style Event at the Community Building, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

LINDEN: SATURDAY, OCT. 28

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