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MARCH 2024

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BUSINESSES PASS ON TO
THE NEXT GENERATION**

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**1953 CHEVY
HOLDS MEMORIES
FOR FLANERY**

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**CYCLONE PEST
MANAGEMENT PROTECTS
HOMES, BUSINESSES**

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**CHICKEN AND
VEGETABLE
KABOBS**

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FROM THE COVER:

Thad and Rod Stanley are well known at Panorama High School. Photo by Rich Wicks



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BIG SHOES TO FILL

My father and my uncle owned a gravel and excavation company in a small town in north central Iowa. As such, my brothers and my cousin worked for them at various times through the years. My oldest brother and my cousin now own the company together, following in their parents' footsteps — and that's a good thing.

Dad wanted each of his three boys to learn about the business, and he did his best to teach us not only about digging basements and hauling gravel and clearing out tree groves, but also about job efficiencies and customer service and the joy in being tired after a hard day's work.

I wasn't the best student of his on the technical side, but I did learn much from him about running a business.

Let me be clear. Operating heavy equipment was not my strength as a teenager, and it still isn't today. Tasks as simple as backing the trucks into the shop made me uncomfortable. Part of it had to do with the 2-inch clearance, but more of it had to do with disappointing Dad if I clipped the mirrors off.

I did talk with Dad a lot about running a small business, though, and much of his advice sticks with me today.

He said, when a new customer would ask him for a bid and accept it, he would always charge less than what he quoted. After that, the customer would never ask



Shane Goodman

for a bid again.

I asked him how he would handle customers who owed him money. He said he trusted everyone at first, and if a customer cheated him once, shame on that customer. If a customer cheated him twice, shame on him.

He told me that it was good to feel tired at the end of the work day, as it showed you gave it your all. And he said, if you worked hard, you deserved a beer at the end of the day — but only one beer.

Following in a parent's footsteps with a career choice isn't an easy task for those who accept the challenge, as there will clearly be differences of opinion on how to do things "the right way." There will also be many examples of continuing procedures or having policies in the

same way mom or dad did. We share a handful of local examples of these in this month's cover story.

Meanwhile, in one way or another, most all of us are continuing the traditions and lessons our parents shared with us by taking those same steps. And, as we are discovering, those can be big shoes to fill.

Thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
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COVER STORY

IN THE FAMILY'S FOOTSTEPS

Family professions, businesses pass on to the next generation

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

Family roots run deep in Panora. Because of this, many local families have seen younger generations follow in the family business or line of work. Here are a few of their stories.

ROD AND THAD STANLEY

In Panora, students have been interacting with Mr. Stanley for a long time, because there have been two Mr. Stanleys, and they happen to be a father and son pair.

Rod is the elder Stanley, and he told of the various stops in his career as an educator.

"I graduated high school in 1968," he said. "Then I went to Tarkio College in northwest Missouri from 1968 until December of 1971. I played football there for four seasons. Then, my first teaching job was at Dexfield. I spent a year and a half there, and then I went to eastern Iowa at a school district called HLV (Hartwick-Ladora-Victor) and I was there 1973 to 1979. And I did coaching at both schools. Then I moved to Bondurant, 1979 to 1989."

During these years, Rod and his wife were raising a family that included six children.

"In 1989, we moved to Panorama," Rod said. "I coached and taught mostly mid-

dle school history, sixth grade. Overall, I spent 35 years teaching and retired in 2006."

Looking back over his teaching career, Rod said he followed a simple philosophy.

"To get respect, you've got to give it," he said.

Rod talked about the traditional foundation of education being the "Three R's" of Reading, (W)Riting, and (A)Rithmetic, but he and his son agree that there should be a fourth R — Respect. That's the mindset the Stanleys have used in their years as educators.

Rod added that he often speaks with former students, and he finds that rewarding.

"I don't regret my career choice. I taught at a great time," Rod said. "And when Thad went into education, I was happy that he did."

Thad described his own education and the various stops in his teaching career.

"I graduated from high school here in 1996, then went to Central College, graduating in 2000," Thad said. "Then I taught at Oskaloosa from 2000-2006, working with the at-risk group."

Thad's career path has included mostly small schools, with one notable exception.

"I got engaged and moved to Kansas City, where there were 26,000 students in the district. Then we moved to Grand Island, Nebraska," said Thad. "That's where I taught general education for the first time. Then I decided to get a master's degree. And I got really lucky when Panorama was looking for an assistant principal. That was in 2014/2015."



Rod and Thad Stanley with the family's tractor at Panorama High School.

Thad now serves as the principal for grades 6-12 at Panorama and believes in finding "teachable moments" throughout his dealings with students.

"To me, you hope that you make a difference. And you hope they remember you for being respectful," said Thad. "If you ask any kid out here what they want, it's always 'respect,' every time. That hasn't ever changed."

Thad keeps a realistic attitude and enjoys the humor and variety his job entails.

"We're dealing with 400 teenagers in

one building," Thad said. "What else can happen?"

TOM AND TROY REINHART

Troy Reinhart grew up with three family members working in the grocery industry. Troy's father, Tom, along with Troy's uncles, Don and Dave, worked in management of local grocery stores.

"They opened the store in Guthrie Center about 1975, and then they built the store at the current location approximately 1989," said Troy. "Then they purchased the stores in Panora and Stuart in

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Troy Reinhart is a familiar sight in the aisles at Hometown Foods in Panora.

1994 and 1995.”

All three stores are known today as Hometown Foods. Tom, Don and Dave made the grocery business their career, until they were ready to consider retirement. Then it was time to look for someone to take over the businesses. Luckily, Troy was ready to step in as the next generation of store owner/manager.

“It’s been nearly 30 years. They did the grocery store thing for a long time,” Troy said. “January of 2023 was when I purchased the three stores. My dad is mostly retired, but he still helps out a little bit. Don just recently passed, and Dave is ful-

ly retired.”

Troy explained that, although he worked in the stores as a teenager, he had considered other career paths.

“In high school, I wasn’t sure if I wanted to do it or not,” Troy said. “I was in Des Moines for a while. Then I worked for Hy-Vee for four years. Now I’ve been back here in Panora since 2004.”

Owning and overseeing three stores keeps Troy busy.

“The majority of my time is here in the Panora store, but I’m in the other two stores, usually once or twice a week,” Troy said.



Tom, Don and Dave Reinhart in 1994 at the Panora store, which was Jubilee Foods at the time.

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Ron, Josh and Jack Eike have continued the family business.

Troy and his wife, Steph, have six children, and he says that, so far, none have decided to make a career in the grocery store field, although all have worked for him.

Troy pointed out that, over the years, much has changed in the grocery business.

"Obviously, technology has changed a lot in retail. It changed from everything being marked with a sticker and keyed in at the register to now everything digital and scanned," Troy said. "And, obviously, competition has changed. It used to be that every little town had a grocery store. Now it's a whole different world with the Wal-Marts and Costcos."

Troy pointed out that he strives to carry local products in his stores, when possible. Another focus is the customer.

"The most important thing is customer service," said Troy. "We want to be fast, friendly and close to home."

Being part of a family business has

meant a lot to Troy.

"I have good memories of my dad, uncles and cousins and me all working together," he said.

RON, JOSH AND JACK EIKE

In 2002, Ron Eike purchased 11 acres of land near Yale. His plan was to grow and sell trees as something to do in retirement. That modest tree farm has spawned two family-owned businesses and a new partnership. Ron and his wife, Shirley, purchased a home at Lake Panorama in 1999.

"We were looking for a vacation property where we could enjoy family vacations and also looking ahead to retirement," Eike says. "When we looked at Lake Panorama, we realized we had found Iowa's best-kept secret."

Soon after settling in their vacation home, the couple's oldest son, Josh, suggested Ron purchase some property and plant trees.



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"I've always done my own landscaping, and Josh knew I love trees," Eike says. "And I was starting to think about what I'd do once I retired."

"We planted 2,000 trees that year," he says. "Each year, we cleared more land and added trees until we had planted 12,000 trees."

It took four years for the property to be fully planted with trees and for the first trees to be harvested and marketed. Customers throughout Iowa were buying from the Wood Duck Tree Farm. Soon there was customer demand for more than just trees, and, in 2015, Wood Duck Landscapes was formed. Now Josh Eike, who first suggested the idea of growing and selling trees, is the principal partner and functions as the CEO of Wood Duck Landscapes. When asked if Ron still is involved in the business, Josh laughs.

"Oh, yes, he's still around. He likes to keep tabs on what we're doing almost every day," he says.

The third generation in the Eike family business is Josh's son, Jack. As a teenager, he worked for his father and grandfather each summer. Now 23 years of age, he has his own business that works in tandem with Wood Duck Landscapes. In early 2021, Jack Eike's BluGrade Earthworks, Inc. was formed. The primary focus of BluGrade is grading, shorelines, large

structural retaining walls, dirt work, trucking and hauling.

"He grew up in the business," Josh says. "He's been in a skid loader by himself since he was 6 years old."

Jack now lives in the house at the original tree farm and runs his business from there. He also is president of Wood Duck Landscapes. Late last year, the Eikes formed a partnership with Tyler and Aubrey Rupp, owners of Deluxe Docks and Lifts. This legal partnership now owns Deluxe Docks and Lifts Barge Service.

"Josh did some work at our home a few years ago, getting our shoreline in shape so we could install the dock and lift we wanted," Tyler Rupp says. "We've talked about a possible partnership the last couple of years and spent time researching how we could coordinate all the pieces customers want for their outdoor spaces."

Eike said he's proud that the companies have completed many successful projects throughout the area, and that the companies give back to support the needs of the community. But what is Eike's favorite part of his business?

"Taking someone's dream of a beautiful outdoor area from concept to finished product is really satisfying," he says. "Plus, I've made a lot of friends at the lake over the years. I've built a lot of patios where I've later been invited for beers." ■

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PHOTOS SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Kellie Flanery and her classic car.

1953 CHEVY HOLDS MEMORIES FOR FLANERY

**Car has become the
icon of her business.**

BY RICH WICKS

Panora Times

Some things naturally seem to go together, such as hot dogs and baseball or summer and the beach. But what about a hair salon and a classic car? Although this might not seem like a natural match, Kellie Flanery of Panora explained why this pairing works well for her.

"I grew up out at the lake, and my husband is from in town," she said. "He and his brothers had a garage, and they were always hot-rodders. I never really liked cars all that well, but I started a hair salon and named it Retro LUX. Then I kind of started getting into doing pinup stuff, and it brought me a reason to like that old car stuff."

So she talked with her husband, Tom, about incorporating a classic car image into her salon's motif. After some asking around, Kellie and Tom found someone who owned a 1953 Chevy and who was

willing to sell it.

Flanery recalled that the car was in fairly good shape.

"The body was all done, except it needed a paint job," she said. "It drove. It had the original motor, and it was a 'three on the tree.' So, we drove it home, and I picked out a nail color from my salon that I really liked and got it painted that color."

She recalled that the car didn't have power steering, and the engine smoked. But when Tom had extra time during the pandemic, he started fixing the various issues the car had. Kellie's brother-in-law, Dan Flanery, also did some work on it, and Kellie is appreciative of the help in getting her car all fixed up.

"It's running perfect now," she said.

The car has become the icon of her business, and its personalized license plate says "RETROLX." Flanery rattled off some of the other details about the car.

"It's a 1953 Chevy 210 two-door. It has a 355-cubic-inch small-block Chevy automatic transmission and posi-trac rear end," she said.

But, she added, the specific technical details are not her focus.



Kellie Flanery and her dog take a moment to relax while the car was under repair.

Flanery enjoys driving her car in the Panorama Days parade so that others can enjoy it, but the car is especially meaningful to her since it's been worked on by family, and she likes driving it locally just for fun.

"I just like the look of it and the sound of it," she said. "I wanted something I could drive around town and look cool in. I love to go out to the lake in the summertime, roll the windows down, and just remember good old times." ■

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TEACHERS' SUBTITLES. ANOTHER FRANKENSTEIN. MORE SPIDER-VERSE.

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY
Panora Times

If you have not been to the movies lately, you've missed some good films. Some of these will still be in theaters, but others might be close to streaming. Keep this article handy to remind you to look for them.

“THE TEACHERS’ LOUNGE”

I knew nothing about this movie going in and have praised it ever since that day. It is nominated for Best International Film (formerly known as Best Foreign Film). It is in German with subtitles. By the way, contrary to public opinion, no one has ever been injured by a subtitle. The movie is about a teacher in a German school who discovers a co-worker is responsible for thefts in the teachers’ lounge. When she confronts her, you know what hits



“The Teachers’ Lounge”

the fan. And, of course, the person denies the accusation, and it becomes a “she said/she said” battle with the accuser being the one who is persecuted. It is a powerful film and a powerful statement on the world we live in. One of the best films I saw last year. **Grade: A**



“Lisa Frankenstein”

“LISA FRANKENSTEIN”

I drove across Des Moines from the south-side Fleur Cinema to Waukee and The Palms Theatres to see the second movie of the day, a modern twist on the Frankenstein story. My expectations were low, but the film managed to surprise me. It was entertaining and,



“The Zone of Interest”

at times, charming. A high school girl hanging out with a guy who literally pulled himself from his grave during a lightning storm is a unique story, but Diablo Cody, who wrote the great movie “Juno” back in 2007, shows that she still has the chops to write a funny and clever film. **Grade: C+**

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PANORA TIMES

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"Madame Web"



"Bob Marley: One Love"



"Drive-Away Dolls"



"Dune: Part 2"

"THE ZONE OF INTEREST"

"The Teachers' Lounge" was intense and powerful, but this look at the people living in an opulent home next to the notorious Auschwitz prison camp ranks close. It's an oddly made film, giving us scene after scene of their everyday life with little formal storytelling. It is a story that is difficult to believe. The screams and gunshots were completely ignored as if they didn't happen. Tough to sit through, but a fascinating tale.

Grade: A-

"MADAME WEB"

Dakota Johnson from the "Shades of Grey" films joins the Marvel Universe as a fringe character in the Spider-Verse in an effort from the Sony company to continue to milk the Spider-Man deal they

signed years ago with Marvel Comics. The film has been universally trashed, and Johnson has been excoriated. My grown son and I went to this with low expectations, and we both enjoyed it. Not sure what people were expecting.

Grade: C+

"BOB MARLEY: ONE LOVE"

My knowledge of Bob Marley is limited. I know a couple of his songs, but the depth of his political activism and his dogged artistic drive were surprising to me. The movie is well made, but I really could have used subtitles as the accents, though accurate, were difficult to understand. It is a good movie that I will rewatch at home with subtitles and will probably appreciate it even more.

Grade: B+

"DRIVE-AWAY DOLLS"

Director/writer Joel Coen (of the Coen brothers) gives us a raunchy and profane story of two women on a road-trip in a car with a unique present in the trunk. The movie and the language never hold back, which produces a mixture of shock and "laugh-out-loud" moments. One of the craziest movies I've seen in a while, and it is sure to offend many.

Grade: C

"DUNE: PART 2"

One of the movies I was most looking forward to this year. Director Denis Villeneuve and a tremendous returning cast deliver a super-long (2:45) sequel that, in my opinion, brings up more questions than answers. I loved the first film, but this sequel was long and confusing. Word to the wise — if you are going to see

this film, do yourself a favor and drive to Waukee and see it in the IMAX theatre. Visually stunning! **Grade: B-**

The recent weather tells me spring is coming soon, but a true Iowan is a little skeptical. Enjoy! ■

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 Guthrie County.



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OBITUARIES

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PAUL H. MILLER
1949-2024

Paul Homer Miller, 74, son of Homer and Cecelia (Dietrich) Miller, was born June 14, 1949, in Sigourney. He passed away Saturday, March 2, 2024, after a short battle with esophageal cancer.

Paul attended schools in rural Kansas and What Cheer. In 1966, Paul began working as a union traveling iron worker for the next 20 years. In 1988, he married Kathryn Brandt in Adel. They made their home in De Soto

for a short time before achieving one of his life's dreams by buying land worthy of hunting and fishing south of Panorama, where they have been ever since. Paul then worked for Ironworkers Local 67, Des Moines on many notable projects, including 801 Grand in Des Moines and Jordan Creek Town Center in West Des Moines, commuting daily from Panorama until his retirement in 2009.

Paul enjoyed outdoor recreation immensely including both bow and shotgun hunting for deer, turkey hunting, fishing in any form whether river, lake, pond, or ocean, camping and, in later years, gardening. Paul was always willing to share his knowledge of the outdoors with any family kids.

A primary philosophy of Paul's was to work smarter, not harder, and while he saw evidence of the opposite everywhere, he was always willing to teach and let people learn in their own way. A quiet giant to his family, he was well-versed in colorful language, had a vibrant personality and was set in

his ways. He would always help Kathy in her projects in any way he could.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Kathryn Miller of Panorama; step-daughter, Ann (Paul) Stough of West Des Moines; step-son, James Riceman; grandchildren, Andy (Sara) Thomas and Ali (Alex) Ernst; great-grandchildren, Gabriel Paul Goodson and Lenyx Ernst; sisters, Clare Miller of West Des Moines and Barbara (Raymond) Oleson of Waukee; brothers, Jim (Cheri) Miller of West Des Moines; Randy Miller of West Des Moines; Pat (Betty) Miller of Winterset; and Mark Miller of West Des Moines; along with many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Elaine Gillaspie and Kathy Day; and his wonderful dog, Sam.

Cremation has taken place and memorial services were, Saturday, March 9, 2024, at the Twigg Funeral Home, Panorama. Visitation was one hour prior to the services.

Memorials may be left to the discretion of the family. ■



PATRICK A. FLANERY
1958-2024

Patrick A. Flanery, 65, son of Anthony D. Flanery and Lila L. Flanery (Hester), was born May 26, 1958, in Des Moines. Patrick was called home on Feb. 15, 2024, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Des Moines.

Patrick was born and lived his early years in Des Moines. His family moved to Panorama, and he attended Panorama/Linden Community Schools. On May 9, 1975, he married Rhonda Adams in Guthrie Center. To this union, two daughters were born.

Patrick worked various jobs from the meat packing house, Ideal in Jefferson, and caring for his brother, Michael, for 26 years. Most recently, he attended truck driving school at DMACC and got his CDL and drove trucks for different companies. During this time, Patrick entered into a committed relationship with Janet Flanery, a love that has lasted 26 years. To this union, two sons were born. He recently retired in 2020.

From a young age, Patrick had a passion for drag racing. This love continued throughout his lifetime, and, more recently, he handed over the wheel to his sons. He was known for his after-hour parties and could be found in his shop late at night entertaining in the wee hours of the morning. He loved playing music and rocking out from his 8-track player and vinyl records and unabashedly singing and shredding on air guitar. Through the years, he enjoyed going to the local drinking establishments, entertaining other patrons and playing pool.

Once he was convinced to get a smartphone, he enjoyed playing Trivia Crack, reading historical stories and watching his favorite old westerns. Patrick also enjoyed traveling, particularly to the mountains and the oceans. In recent years, his vacations consisted of driving thousands of miles on vacation trips. Patrick had a love of his furry friends and almost

always had a pet dog nearby.

Above all, he had a love for family and friends and would do anything to help anyone in need and has been a father figure to many. Patrick was proud and greatly enjoyed his role as "Papa," from attending his grandchildren's activities, babysitting and spending time with them.

It is with deep sorrow that we bid farewell to our husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, brother-in-law and friend. Eternal rest grant unto Patrick, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Patrick is survived by his wife, Janet; children, Erica (Scott) Harlan of Urbandale, Monica Flanery of West Des Moines, Sean Flanery, and Rafe Flanery, all of Adel; grandchildren, Dalton, Lexi, Ainsley, Makaia, Izzy and Hayden; brothers, Dan (Sheila) Flanery and Tom (Kelli) Flanery; and sisters, Deb (Dan) Van Winkle and Kathy Jo (Craig) Morris. He was preceded in death by his parents, Anthony and Lila; and brother, Mike "Spike" Flanery.

Visitation was Friday, Feb. 23, 2024, at Caldwell Parrish Funeral Home, Adel Chapel. Funeral service was Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024, at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be directed to the family for a future designation. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.caldwellparrish.com. ■

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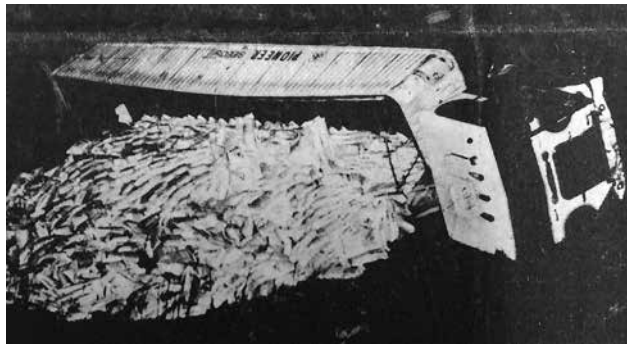


Guthrie County
TIMES
PUBLICATIONS

YESTER YEARS

COMPILED BY CHERYL CASTILE

50 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrieian, March 6, 1974

HUMPTY-DUMPTY: Tons of seed corn spew from this overturned semi-truck that rolled five miles south of Guthrie Center on Highway 25 Monday night. The driver, John Sheer of Panora, escaped injury, but damage was estimated at more than \$11,000.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, March 29, 1984

TOPS AT STATE: These three performers earned six I ratings at the state speech contest at Norwalk Saturday: Andy Arganbright, Linda Hummel and Jeff Burchfield. Hummel was named outstanding performer in extemporaneous speaking and qualified for all-state competition at Cedar Falls next week.

30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, March 24 1994

OM-BELIEVABLE MUSIC: This "OM-Believable Music" team coached by Gloria Baker received a wild card invitation to participate at the state meet. Team members are Kelli Baker, Chaille Reynolds, Sarah Deardorff, Annie Millhollin, Laura Engle and Tina Smith.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, March 18, 2004

PANORAMA BRAIN TRUST? These 10 juniors and seniors represented Panora at the West Central Conference Academic Bowl in Panora last week. Seated are Panorama A, Molly Turner, Teri Deardorff, Brian Heemstra, Sebastian Waters, Ken Johnson. Standing is Panorama B, Erin McCleary, Brittany Kirk, Michael Dent, Joe Keeran and Ben Wollner.

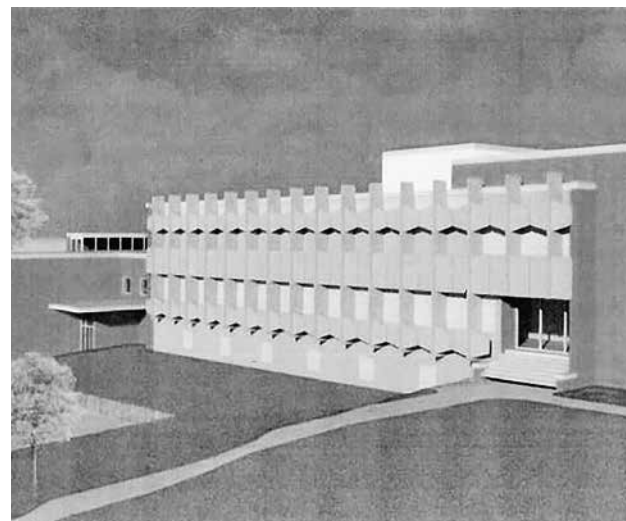
10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, March 13, 2014

WRESTLING CHEERLEADERS: Front, Cheyenne Hester, Kayla Thorpe and Kashley Sneller. Back, Skye Demonbraun, Claire Schlitter, Shelby Welch and Laurel Clark.

5 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Times Vedette, March 28, 2019

COUNTY UNVEILS DESIGN CONCEPTS FOR NEW JAIL: Architecture firm Shive Hattery showed the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors what the courthouse will look like after a jail has been added on to the building. ■





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ASK TIMES

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Q: TWO YEARS AGO, AN ICE CREAM VENDING TRUCK WAS AT BOULDER BEACH. IT WAS A HOT DAY, AND IT WENT OVER SO WELL. WHY HAVEN'T THERE BEEN ANY FOOD TRUCKS SINCE?

A: Food trucks can be complicated. Although consumers enjoy them, local brick and mortar business owners who pay taxes don't typically appreciate them. Even so, the short answer is that there have not been requests to return. Operating a food truck is not as simple as it sounds, as it often requires a food license and food sales insurance, which can be barriers. Meanwhile, we hope you support our local businesses first.

Q: WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE PANORAMA DAYS BANNER THAT WENT ACROSS MAIN STREET? AND WHY ISN'T IT USED ANYMORE?

A: The banner was owned by the Panora Chamber of Commerce. It cannot go

on the light poles, as the new ones that were installed in 2007 are not rated for the weight to hold the sign.

Q: I HEARD THAT THE COMMUNITY RECYCLING BINS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF TOWN IN PANORA ARE GOING AWAY? IS THAT TRUE?

A: The recycling bins are managed by the Guthrie County Transfer Station. As of March 31, the recycling bins will only take cardboard and paper. Apparently, there have been problems with misuse and items being placed in the wrong bins.

Q: IS THERE AN EASTER EGG HUNT IN PANORA? IF SO, WHEN AND WHERE?

A: The Panora Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30 starting at 10 a.m. at the Guthrie County Historical Village, 206 W. South St. in Panora. ■



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PHOTOS BY BETTY COOPER

Front: Zoey Hambleton. **Sitting on Floor:** Avery Bahrenfuss, Lindy Nelson, Mia Waddle, Kaitlin Kent, Jaidyn Sellers and Tyme Boettcher. **Coaches:** Maggie Armstrong, Aly Dahlhauser, Kylee Boettcher and Robyn Ploeger. **Third Row:** Morgan Lutz, Lydia Lleshi, Nerea Gimeno-Perez, Faith Recker, Hailey Hellman, Morgan Crees, Arilyan Steenblock and Ella Gaffney. **Back Row:** Karleen Ploeger, Almiranda Burnett, Kelsey Laabs, Jessy Randol, Gracie Recker and Bjoerg Skovgaard.



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TYNE
BOETTCHER



#24 SENIOR
ZOEY
HAMBLETON



#5 SENIOR
KAITLIN
KENT



#11 SENIOR
LINDY
NELSON



#42 SENIOR
JAIDYN
SELLERS



#10 SENIOR
MIA
WADDLE



#30 JUNIOR
KELSEY
LAABS



#13 JUNIOR
FAITH
RECKER



#43 JUNIOR
ARILYAN
STEENBLOCK



#34 SOPHOMORE
ALMIRANDA
BURNETT



#12 SOPHOMORE
MORGAN
CREES



#3 SOPHOMORE
LYDIA
LLESHI



#22 FRESHMAN
HAILEY
HELLMAN



#44 FRESHMAN
MORGAN
LUTZ



#14 FRESHMAN
NEREA
GIMENO PEREZ



#20 FRESHMAN
JESSICA
RANDOL



#32 FRESHMAN
GRACIE
RECKER



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ALY DAHLHAUSER, KYLEE BOETTCHER,
MORGAN JOHNK

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ELLA
GAFFNEY JUNIOR
THREE YEARS AS MANAGER
BJOERG
SKOVGAARD FOREIGN EXCHANGE
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THE MONTH IN PANORAMA SPORTS



MALLORY QUICK | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES
Trey Boettcher drives and gets the foul against Des Moines Christian on Feb. 13.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES
Cayden Van Meer at the state wrestling tournament on Feb. 14.



MALLORY QUICK | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES
Maddox Hammerstrom takes it to the lane against Des Moines Christian on Feb. 13.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES
Joel Cooper at the state wrestling tournament on Feb. 14.

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BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Gracie Recker and Jessica Randol at the state basketball tournament on March 2.



MALLORY QUICK | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Tyme Boettcher drives against Denver in the regional final on Feb. 21.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Cayden Van Meer at the state wrestling tournament on Feb. 14.



MALLORY QUICK | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES

Mia Waddle drives against Denver in the regional final on Feb. 21.

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CYCLONE PEST MANAGEMENT PROTECTS HOMES, BUSINESSES

Local branch owner Dale Hochreiter says warmer weather brings more customers.

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

With spring arriving, Dale Hochreiter knows his phone will start ringing more often. That's because, at his business, Cyclone Pest Management, warmer weather means more business. Hochreiter owns the local branch of Cyclone Pest Management and says he is busy year-round, but the most active times are April through July.

Hochreiter is now in his seventh year with Cyclone Pest Management, and he said he's happy to tell customers that the products he uses are "odorless, non-staining and safe for humans and pets."

"Our insecticide products take care of anywhere from 300 to 400 insects," he said.

Hochreiter shared the most common issues he is called to deal with are spiders, mosquitos, centipedes, wasps, rodents and ants. Over the years, he

has experienced a wide variety of situations, but he says that's an unavoidable factor in his line of work. He keeps the focus on solving whatever problem situation the customer called about.

Hochreiter said he's not expecting any significant changes in his business in the next few years, but the company's products are continually being improved.

Cyclone Pest Management is an employee-owned and veteran-owned company with more than 50 years of experience that provides residential, commercial and agricultural pest control management service with a local branch in Panora. Hochreiter says their solutions are tailored to meet each customer's specific needs, using state-of-the-art techniques and federally registered products. He says Cyclone Pest Management prices are affordable and do not require contracts like many pest companies, noting that estimates are free.

Hochreiter points out that he strives to respond quickly when called, especially if the need is urgent.

"Almost all of our business comes from referrals, so we always feel we're doing a good job. If people are referring us, we must be doing something right," Hochreiter said. ■



Dale Hochreiter of Cyclone Pest Management



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The Panora FFA Alumni Booster Club was able to add \$3,300 to the scholarship funds from businesses that donated items for the auction at the 18th Annual Panorama FFA Chapter Awards Reception held Sunday, March 17 at Panorama High School. ■

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INVEST: Once you have a solid foundation set for your emergency fund, a great way to continue building financial security is through investing. Having six months of expenses saved up puts you in a great place but investing can take you to a whole new level. The first step is to identify an investment strategy. Especially given today's higher interest rate environment, you'll want to consider options like CDs, bonds, retirement accounts, college savings plans, life insurance, and more.

THRIVE: It's important to personalize your investment plan in order to thrive financially. Whether you're thinking about retirement or saving for your kids' education, there is always an investment strategy out there that's just right for you. Luckily, at GCSB Investment Center, we specialize in finding the perfect investments for you to meet your financial goals. Get in touch with us today to get started. Let's build a thriving financial future together!



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EVENT

PAUL'S FISH FRY BRINGS LARGE CROWD AT THE PORT



PHOTOS BY SHANE GOODMAN | TIMES VEDETTE

More than 200 area residents attended Paul's Fish Fry on Sunday, March 10 from 4-7 p.m. at The Port to enjoy fish, potatoes, salad and cookies while raising money to help support local veterans. This was a free will donation event hosted by American Legion Post 372 and VFW Post 5510. Pictured are Pat Moylan, Dave Carstens, Marylou Walker and Charlie Walker.



Ron Reynolds, Paul Wendl and Lynn Weisz



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Rick Langel, Paul Wendl and Joe Weisz

FISH FRY HELD AT ST. CECILIA'S

BY SHANE GOODMAN
Panora Times

The Panora St. Cecilia Knights of Columbus Council No. 11242 held a fish dinner on March 1 from 5-7

p.m. in the basement of St. Cecilia Catholic Church at 220 N. First St. in Panora. Attendees enjoyed hand-breaded fish, baked potato or tater tots, coleslaw, lemonade, tea, water and dessert. ■

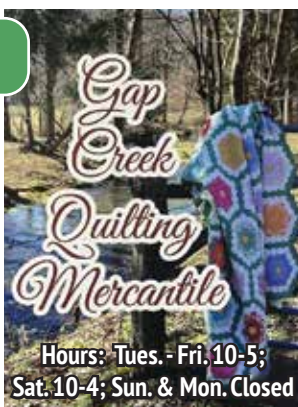
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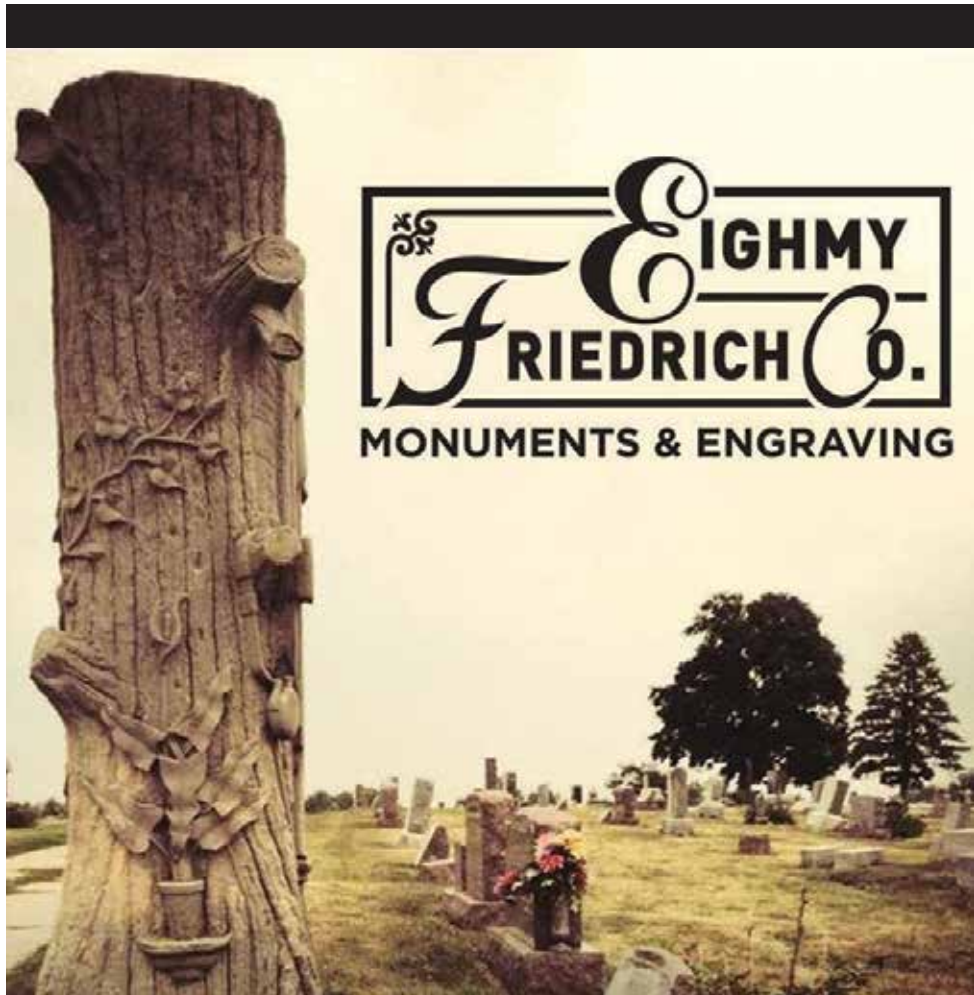
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EVENT

FARMERS STATE BANK HOLDS WAFFLE BREAKFAST IN YALE



Farmers State Bank held "an open house for everyone," serving Dad's Belgian Waffles at the Yale Community Club on March 2. Pictured are Dave Deardorff, Scott Stanley, Jordan Carstens and Cole Carstens



Staff, directors and family members of Farmers State Bank ■



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ELECTIONS

PANORA CHAMBER EASTER EGG HUNT IS SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Special to Panora Times

The Panora Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 20 at the Guthrie County Historical Village, 206 W. South St. in Panora. More details to come. The Chamber is asking for Easter can-

dy donations to be delivered no later than March 18 to Iowa Trust, Guthrie County State Bank or Panora Fiber. The candy is to be bite-sized and individually wrapped. Volunteers are also being sought. Email panorachamber@gmail.com and you will be connected with a committee member. ■

GUTHRIE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE
SHERIFF’S OFFICE REPORTS FEBRUARY INCOME OF \$31,500 FOR PROCESSING OF OUT-OF-COUNTY INMATES

Special to Panora Times

The Guthrie County Sheriff’s Office reported incoming revenue of \$31,500 from processing of out-of-county inmates at the jail during of February. A total of 67 inmates were processed through the fa-

cility during the month including 36 from out of the county. Greene County had five inmates for 74 days with charges of \$4,440, Polk County had 28 inmates for 399 days with \$23,940, and Webster County had three inmates for 52 days with \$3,120. ■

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PANORA TIMES

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GUTHRIE COUNTY SUPERVISORS HEAR UPDATES FROM ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EMS SERVICES

Public hearing regarding the proposed tax levy set for Monday, April 1 at 7 p.m.

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

FEB. 15 MEETING, SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REVENUES QUESTIONED

On Feb. 15, the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors met for a budget work session. Supervisors discussed ways to control/ lower the tax levy rate to ease the burden on taxpayers throughout the county. The plan is to reduce it over the next four years. Supervisor Mike Dickson shared his opinion that the county needs to do this gradually.

"If we go by the plan where we're lowering it every year for the next four years,

then we should keep enough fund balance in there that we can cover everything," he said. "If we go too fast here, we could be hurting ourselves."

Regarding the upcoming fiscal year budget, Dickson questioned the projected revenues in the Sheriff's department. He said the revenue in that department through six months of the current year would not project to what is shown in the budget. The supervisors plan to visit again with department heads from which the supervisors need clarification about budgetary numbers.

FEB. 20 MEETING, OVERTIME COSTS PROBED

During the regular meeting of the Guthrie County Supervisors on Feb. 20, Supervisor Mike Dickson asked that the payroll reports approval be considered separately from the other items in the consent agenda.

"I just don't like all the overtime that's in the payroll," said Dickson. "I am going to

vote 'no' on the payroll reports because I don't agree with all the overtime in there."

"One of the things I think we can do, that I would like to see ... would be for each department to have an overtime policy," said Supervisor Maggie Armstrong. "I think it would be beneficial for us, since this is part of our process now, to have an understanding as to what warrants overtime."

"There can be good reasons for it, which is fine," Dickson said. "I'd just like to know what they are if you're asking me to approve it."

The supervisors voted to approve the payroll reports, on a 3-2 vote, with Armstrong, Brian Johnson and Steve Smith voting to approve and JD Kuster and Dickson opposed.

FEB. 22 MEETING, BENEFIT OF HOUSING OUT-OF-COUNTY JAIL INMATES EXAMINED

During the Feb. 22 meeting of the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors, Conservation Director Brad Halterman addressed

the supervisors about the proposed 28E agreement with the Iowa DNR regarding the Middle Raccoon River access. The supervisors approved the agreement, pending review by the county attorney.

The bulk of the meeting was a review of budgetary numbers for the upcoming fiscal year. Supervisor Mike Dickson again questioned the revenue numbers for the sheriff's department, saying the yearly number looks unrealistically large based on the current year-to-date actual revenue.

County Auditor Dani Fink agreed with the idea of budgeting revenues conservatively.

"If they bring in \$378,000, great. But it's going to hurt us if we overbudget that revenue and don't have it," Fink said.

Dickson questioned whether or not housing inmates from other counties is truly beneficial financially for the county.

"There's seven jailers, and the only reason we need seven jailers is because we're contracting with other counties to bring in inmates," Dickson said. "And if that's cost-

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was concerned about creating a situation in future years, in which the supervisors may need to receive a larger increase than other Guthrie County elected officials in order stay comparable. Smith said it's best to avoid that type of "catch up" situation.

"Over time, as we are trying to encourage and recruit new people to come on the board, I think it is important that we make it advantageous enough, because the work is heavy and the work is important," Supervisor Maggie Armstrong said.

For that reason, Armstrong advocated for continuing to make incremental salary increases for the supervisors.

The supervisors voted to increase salaries for the supervisors by 3.5%, with Johnson casting the sole vote against. The supervisors unanimously voted to increase the salary of other elected officials by 3.5%.

County Auditor Dani Fink discussed the Proposed Property Tax Notice Statements that will soon be sent out to taxpayers. She explained that the letters are required as part of a new process legislated by the state. Fink and the supervisors discussed that it's likely some taxpayers will have questions about the new process and the letter. The consensus was that an information form should be available so that consistent answers can be given.

The supervisors set a public hearing in relation to the proposed service level reduction on 233rd Lane Section 7 Cass Township. The hearing will be Tuesday, April 2 at 9:05 a.m.

The supervisors hold regular meetings every Tuesday at 9 a.m. The public is welcome. Attendees may participate in person or by calling 323-792-6123 and inputting conference ID 547029216#.

EDUCATION

PANORAMA SCHOOLS ADD 4 MAKE-UP DAYS

BY RICH WICKS

Panora Times

The Panorama School Board met on March 11 in regular session. Following a public hearing on the issue, the master calendar was approved for the 2024-2025 school year.

The board amended the current school calendar, adding four additional school days to the end of the year to make up for days canceled due to weather. The days added are May 23, 24, 28 and 29.

Teachers McKinsey Druivenga and Rachel Downing presented on the

School of the Wild project that will be coming up for their fifth-graders. The program is a collaboration with the University of Iowa, and the students will spend a week learning at Springbrook State Park.

The board set a public hearing for the proposed tax notice, per new state guidelines. The public hearing will be on April 8 at 6:30 p.m.

The hiring of Natalie Jones as a new special education teacher was approved.

The board's next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

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CITY GOVERNMENT NEWS

PANORA CITY COUNCIL HEARS ABOUT INSURANCE INCREASES, HOLDS FIRST READING ON WATER RATE HIKE

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

The Panora City Council met in regular session on Feb. 26. Chris Arganbright, representing Bryton Insurance, addressed the council about insurance changes regarding the various coverages the city maintains.

“Insurance is distressed climate in Iowa right now,” Arganbright said. “Since the derecho of 2020 kicked off all kinds of wind and hail events that we’ve had since then, we are now in the same category as Florida and California.”

She went on to explain that, because of this, wind/hail damage deductibles are rising. In general, deductibles on buildings are going to 1% of valuation, although there is the option, in some cases, of “buying down” coverage to essentially obtain a lower deductible.

The good news, according to Arganbright, is that, because the city had relatively few claims, the city is seeing a 4.5% overall increase in premiums rather than the 10% to 15% that had been expected.

The council approved Resolution 24-06, setting a public hearing on April 8 at 5:30 p.m. at Panora City Hall to hear comments regarding the proposed FY 2024-2025 property tax levy.

There was discussion about Resolution 24-07 regarding proposed pay changes for city employees. The resolution states that city employees (other than some exceptions noted) will receive a 5% pay increase effective July 1, 2024. The council approved the resolution.

The council held a first reading and discussion of proposed Ordinance 352, which would increase water service charges. The

proposed ordinance would result in a monthly bill increase of \$2.80 for a typical household using 3,000 gallons of water monthly. No action was taken at this time.

The council approved a Special (five-day) Class C Alcohol License for Lucky Wife Wine Slushies T9, effective April 24-28, for the planned craft show at the Community Center to be hosted by Julie Maddox. The council also approved an annual Class C Alcohol license for outdoor services for Pedal-In.

MARCH 11 MEETING

The Panora City Council meeting on March 11 began at the city’s water treatment plant. The city’s water plant supervisor, Brent Christofferson, led the council in a walk-through of the water plant as he explained plant operations and maintenance. He also shared data on the plant’s capacity and production numbers.

“We pumped 52 million gallons last year,” Christofferson said, although he added that the plant has the capability to pump much more if needed.

Following the water plant tour, the council reconvened at city hall for the remainder of the meeting. The council approved the second reading of the water ordinance and a resolution for grant support for the grant application to put electric lines underground.

The council’s next regular meeting will be Monday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m. The public is welcome. Interested persons may attend in person or electronically by visiting the website <https://meet.goto.com/cityofpanora> or by phone 1-312-757-3121 (Access Code 295-099-701, Audio PIN 220#). ■

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PANORA FIBER HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

Company rolls out Fiber TV+ streaming alternative

BY SHANE GOODMAN
Panora Times

Panora Fiber held its annual business meeting on March 11 at the Panora Community Center, starting at 6 p.m. This was the formal business meeting for the two corporations, Panora Communications Cooperative and Panora Cooperative Cablevision Association, Inc. Both companies are served by the same board of directors. Ron Reynolds serves as the board president of Panora Communications Cooperative and Dave Ryan serves as the board president of Panora Cooperative Cablevision Association, Inc.

Two board members, Lynnea Andersen and LeRoy Oxley, were recommended and re-elected by the membership at the meeting. Oxley has served on the board for 12 years and Andersen for nine years.

Andrew Randol, general manager/

CEO, provided financial updates on both companies, also giving recognition to the staff, which he said provides “269 collective years of employment, which translates to 19 years per person.”

Randol commented how the managed wi-fi continues to grow and that texting services will be added for those who prefer paperless billings and electronic appointment notices.

Randol also noted how the number of cable TV subscribers continues to decline, dropping from 572 in 2022 to 510 in 2023. He said the subscriber count was more than 1,500 at its peak. He also shared how programming costs continue to increase, now accounting for 80 cents of every dollar. Randol shared how the company will be replacing its traditional cable TV offerings with a new streaming program called Panora Fiber TV+.

Curtis Thornberry, technology development director, provided a demonstration on how the Panora Fiber TV+ application works and addressed questions from those in attendance. He explained



Panora Fiber staff, Shane Murphy, Mike Moore, Curtis Thornberry, Geri Thompson, Andrew Randol, Nathan Van Zee, Dave Garland, Andy Carson, Paul Brewster, Kevin Baldwin, Zach Davis, Pam Klinkefus and Bill Dorsett.

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Panora Fiber board of directors, front row, Lynnea Andersen, Chris Arganbright and Trudy Hastings; back row, Dave Ryan, Ron Reynolds, LeRoy Oxley and Kelvin Hafner

how Panora Fiber TV+ is the streaming alternative to cable TV service, noting how subscribers can watch Fiber TV+ using the streaming devices already connected to their TVs, such as Amazon Fire TV, Roku or Apple TV. Thornberry noted how those without streaming devices can

purchase them in the Panora Fiber Tech Center and will receive help from staff on how to get started. Both Randol and Thornberry assured those in attendance that staff will assist subscribers through the transition. More details can be found at www.panorafiber.com. ■



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RECIPE

CHICKEN AND VEGETABLE KABOBS ARE AN EASY SUMMER MEAL

BY JOLENE GOODMAN
Panora Times

I like to cook, but it does take time. And as the weather starts warming up, I am drawn to the outdoors, working on yard projects, taking the dog for walks, hitting the golf course, practicing a new hobby of disc golf, hopefully jumping on my bike more and, soon, gliding across the water in a boat. As such, I spend less time in the kitchen. During April and May, I prepare meals for the upcoming summer months. Organizing my freezer full of marinated meats, chopped vegetables, baked muffins, mixed cookie dough and egg dishes makes summer meals a breeze. I make three to four batches each time and en-

joy these meals once a month, having plenty if others drop by. This month's recipe is a hit with my family and guests. Some even comment that kabobs are fancy. The fact is, when the prep work is done in advance, this summer meal is easy. Get planning now so you have more time to enjoy doing the things you love this summer. ■

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



Jolene Goodman

CHICKEN AND VEGETABLE KABOBS
12 servings

- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup white wine (or honey if you want sweet)
- 2/3 cup soy sauce
- ½ tsp pepper
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breast cut into 1 inch cubes
- 2 yellow or red onions cut in 2 inch pieces
- 2 green peppers cut in 2 inch pieces
- 1 carton of mushrooms, use whole
- Skewers (if using wooden, soak in water for 10 minutes prior to skewering ingredients)
- Ziploc freezer bags

Directions

In medium bowl, mix together first 5 ingredients. Place chicken in one bag and vegetables in another

bag. If cooking the same day, reserve ¼ mari-nade for basting. Oth-erwise, add half mari-nade to chicken and the other half to the veggies. Turn the bags several times to make sure all pieces are coated. If you are cooking this today, store bags in the fridge for 4-6 hours, turning the bags several times during that time. If you are not, label the bags with con-tents and date, then throw in the freezer for future use. When ready, preheat grill to medium heat. As the grill is heating up, assemble the kabobs. For a great, colorful presentation, thread skewers alter-nating chicken and vegetables. Lightly oil the grill. Place kabobs on and cook 6-8 minutes per side. Toward the end of cooking, use the ¼ cup of re-served marinade to baste the kabobs. Enjoy! ■



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PANORA TIMES 

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PANORA SPECIALTY CARE RECEIVES ACCESSIBLE VAN

Special to Panora Times

As part of Care Initiatives' commitment to improving the health and quality of life for Iowans, the state's largest nonprofit operator of skilled nursing facilities has invested more than \$200,000 to support the transportation needs of residents.

Panora Specialty Care, which is owned by the non-profit Care Initiatives, received a new wheelchair-accessible van that will provide greater access to care, improve community engagement, and provide peace of mind for resident families. Panora Specialty Care is one of three Care Initiatives locations that received a van.

"The vans will fill a gap for residents who have appointments with specialists and other health care providers outside of

our buildings and provide peace of mind for family or friends who otherwise would have made those travel arrangements," said Jessica McDyer, Care Initiatives Vice President of Skilled Nursing Operations. "Plus, we'll be able to arrange more engaging activities for our residents within their community and have a way to ensure they are safely transported."

The Chrysler Voyager vans are equipped with a ramp for access by individuals who use a wheelchair or other walking device and provide necessary safety restraints for all passengers.

The three Care Initiatives locations receiving a new transport van include Panora Specialty Care; Northern Mahaska Specialty Care (Oskaloosa) and NorthCrest Specialty Care (Waterloo). ■



The staff and residents at Panora Specialty Care pose with their new accessible van.

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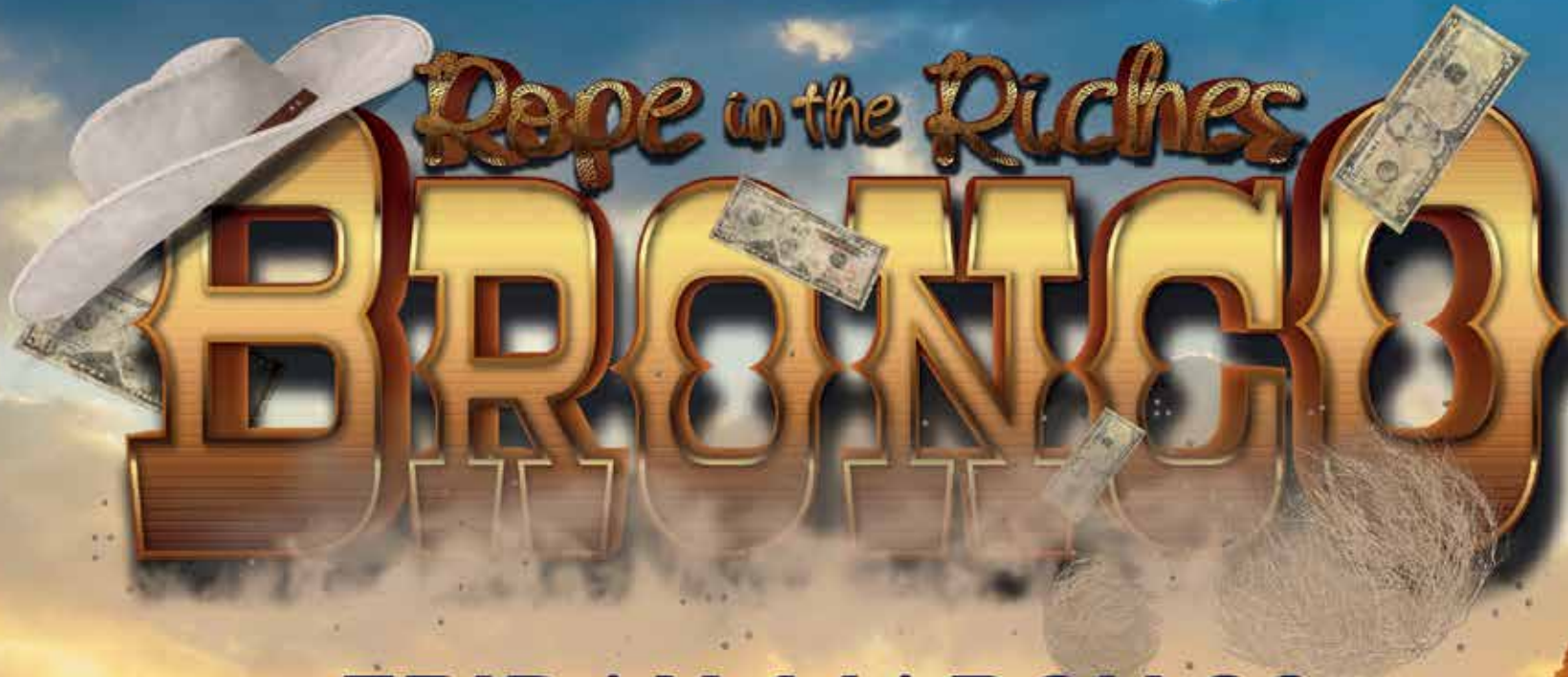
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