

Panora **TIMES**

NOVEMBER 2025

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UNIQUE PETS

**LOCAL RESIDENTS
EXPLAIN WHY THEY OPT
FOR PETS OTHER THAN
DOGS, CATS OR FISH.**

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**MAKING SMILES AT
LAKE SHORE FAMILY
DENTISTRY**

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**FOR SHIRLEY KONZ,
ART AND NATURE
MERGE**

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**A FRIEND'S APPLES
CREATE A PERFECT
FALL TREAT**

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FROM THE COVER: Kaylynn Walker holds a leopard gecko. Photo by Rich Wicks



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EDITOR & PUBLISHER:

Shane Goodman

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR:

Jolene Goodman

ADVERTISING SALES:

Kerry Jacobsen

CUSTOMER SERVICE:

Cheryl Castile

EDITORIAL DESIGN:

Beckham Miller

ADVERTISING DESIGN:

Jayde Vogeler, Nick Ruiz

BUSINESS OFFICE:

Brent Antisdell

DISTRIBUTION:

Jim Jacobsen

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS:

Rich Wicks

Jolene Goodman

Michael C. Woody

Susan Thompson

Betty Cooper

Mark Reno

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COULD JIM STAFFORD HAVE BEEN RIGHT?

A dog for 14 years. A parakeet for a year. A hamster for several months. A stray cat for a couple weeks. And two goldfish for a few days. That is the extent of the pets I had as a child. Nothing too crazy.

Jim Stafford sang in 1974, “I don’t like spiders and snakes.” Mom must have agreed with him.

While in college, my buddies and I took it a few steps too far. We purchased bettas, or what we preferred to call “Siamese fighting fish.” We inappropriately placed bets on how long a goldfish would last in a fishbowl with one of these. In a way I can’t explain, we learned that if we mi-

crowaved the goldfish for a few seconds, the bettas would avoid them. The good news is that they all survived — at least until one of the guys plopped Alka Seltzer tablets in the bowls.

Clearly, some people just shouldn’t have pets.

Our kids were a lot more responsible — and a bit more adventurous — in their pet choices. One kept a crayfish from a school project as a pet, until we let it



Shane Goodman
.....

loose in a creek. Another had a hermit crab from yet another school project. My wife thought it was dead and tossed it in the garbage. It was apparently molting, we learned. And then there was the hamster that our dog, unfortunately, could not resist.

Aside from a household cat that carried a garter snake around the house that we couldn’t ever find, that was as crazy as pet life got in the Goodman home.

Spiders and snakes may not be the pets of choice for your home, but you can’t help but be fascinated with those who opt to have more exotic species as their

animal or reptile friends. We feature a few of them this month in our cover story.

Have a great month, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
Editor and Publisher
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UNIQUE PETS

Local residents explain why they opt for pets other than dogs, cats or fish.

BY RICH WICKS

Panora Times

Pet ownership is a big thing in America, and it is growing. A recent study found that 66% of households own a pet, up from 56% in 1988. The numbers are even higher in rural parts of the country, such as Guthrie County.

Furthermore, pet owners spend large amounts of money on their pets. One estimate is that in 2025, pet owners in the U.S. are spending around \$150 billion on pets, including food, bedding, toys, veterinary care, medications, supplements and other costs. The reason we are so bonded with pets is that most pet owners consider their pet or pets to be part of the family.

The vast majority of American pets are dogs and cats. A 2025 survey about pets found that, in the U.S., 65.1 million households have a dog, while 46.5 million households have a cat. The next most common pet is freshwater fish with 11.1 million households.

After those “big three,” the numbers drop off sharply. This article shares the stories of some local pet owners with non-traditional pets that fall into that “other” category.

MARK DORHOUT'S CLASSROOM PETS

Mark Dorhout, teacher at Panorama Schools, believes learning can happen in more ways than just traditional classroom instruction. He not only takes his students out into nature, he also brings nature into his classroom. One of the ways he accomplishes that is with his dog, Jax, as well as three classroom reptiles.

“We have two leopard geckos and a box turtle named Rose. They’ve been in the classroom for the last eight years for sure,” Dorhout said. “I came here five years ago and inherited them from Mrs. Weinthal. We also had a bearded dragon, but he died of what we think was old age.”

Dorhout says the box turtle and the leopard geckos are still going strong.

“My favorite is Rose, the box turtle. She’s got some personality,” Dorhout said. “We have had her on a little skateboard. It was just unbelievable. She made it around this classroom three times in one class period once she realized she could reach the ground. The kids got a big kick out of it.”



Mark Dorhout with Rose the box turtle.

Dorhout said most students have reacted positively to the classroom pets.

“These pets are a sell to the kids. They get out of their cages at least once a day. For a lot of kids, it’s their first chance to touch animals like this,” Dorhout said.

Dorhout explained that he teaches his students a special adaptation of geckos. A gecko’s tail is used for fat storage and is detachable. So, if a gecko is pursued by a predator, the gecko can detach the tail, which the predator general stops to investigate and/or eat, allowing the gecko to escape. The gecko then grows a new tail.

The pet reptiles also provide an opportunity for students to see firsthand some of the growth and changes the animals experience.

“We watch the process of the geckos shedding their skin,” Dorhout said. “They like warm bodies, so when they get held, they like that. They get fed once a day by my homeroom students. They eat mealworms, which are fortified with everything a gecko needs.”

Dorhout’s turtle eats some of the same food as Panorama students.

“Rose gets vegetables about three times a week. We get things from the salad bar, maybe a few pieces of lettuce, maybe a piece of cucumber or pepper,” he said.

Because the reptiles are not nearly as active as mammals, they do not need care every day, but Dorhout comes to check on them every other day or so during school breaks. However, that makes it difficult for



Rose hunkers down under a branch.

Dorhout to go on longer trips, so another family has stepped up to help. Ninth-grade student Kaylynn Walker and her family have helped take care of the reptiles during



A gecko warms up on Kaylynn Walker's hand.

the summers to give Dorhout a break.

Asked about the biggest challenge in caring for the reptiles, Walker said feeding Rose can be tricky.

"Sometimes when she tries to eat, she'll miss the food, and it falls on the ground. Then she'll try to bite your hand," Walker said.

But, for Walker, the fun outweighs any challenges.

"They like to be held, and sometimes I take Rose for a walk," she said.

WILLOW THE SKUNK

Kati Scheuermann has an exotic pet — a young skunk named Willow. She says she enjoys sharing the fun with others at Pandora Specialty Care.

"I had wanted a skunk for many years, but it's not a pet you can just get right away. I researched for a couple years and looked for a breeder in Iowa. I found one in Guttenberg. I got her in May of this year, so she's only about 7 months old. She weighs 11 pounds, and her color is called champagne and white," Scheuermann said. She noted that any non-standard skunk colors are due to selective breeding and do not occur in the wild.

"I got Willow when she was 6 weeks old," Scheuermann said. "She was de-scented around 4 weeks old, so she does not spray."

Scheuermann said, in talking with a veterinarian about the process of de-scenting a skunk, the vet commented, "You learn really quick how to do it right."

Scheuermann has learned a lot about skunks, so she was aware of the challenges. One thing she learned is that having a skunk can be expensive, but Scheuermann



The geckos have separate homes.

said it has been worth the cost.

"She cost \$300 from the breeder, and then veterinary care for exotic animals costs more, too," Scheuermann said. "Some breeders will charge more for more rare colors."

According to Scheuermann, state laws create additional steps for skunk owners.



Willow sniffs the air.

GCSB Expands Ag Team



GCSB Ag Lending Team, From L to R: Tawnia Ganzer, Tate Stetzel, Dale Behrends, Genevieve McCreary

Guthrie County State Bank is proud to announce the expansion of its Ag Lending Team, welcoming Genevieve McCreary and Tate Stetzel as Ag Relationship Managers. They join Tawnia Ganzer and Dale Behrends in serving the financial needs of area farmers with local insight and decades of combined experience.

Genevieve McCreary, a Guthrie Center native and graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in Agriculture and Life Sciences, brings valuable lending experience from her work with the Farm Service Agency. Having grown up in Guthrie County, Genevieve has seen firsthand the importance of agriculture to the community and is excited to continue supporting local producers in her new role.

"GCSB has always played a large role in our community, and I'm proud to be part of that," Genevieve shared. She and her husband, Jake, live in Guthrie Center with their two dogs, Rose and Remi. Outside of work, she enjoys reading, spending time with family, and visiting the farm.

Tate Stetzel, also a lifelong Guthrie Center resident and Iowa State University graduate with a degree in Agricultural Business, joins the team with a strong background in agronomy and operations from his years working for local ag supply companies. His experience in agronomy sales and business planning gives him a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities producers face today.

"I've always admired GCSB's reputation for integrity and customer service," Tate said. "I look forward to helping customers navigate the ever-changing agricultural landscape."

Tate and his wife, Laura—also a GCSB employee—live in Guthrie Center with their two sons, Nash and Treynor. He enjoys golfing, camping, and spending time with family and friends.

Together, this experienced team is dedicated to supporting farmers and ag businesses with the personal service, local understanding, and trusted relationships that have defined GCSB for generations.



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Kati Scheuermann holds Willow.

"Iowa is one of the seven states where you do not need to have a permit to own a skunk, but I do have to carry DNR paperwork with her everywhere I go, in case she would bite somebody," Scheuermann said. "There are strict rules on having skunks."

Many pets can sense when people are tense, which can lead to accidents. Scheuermann often brings Willow to her job as Social Worker at Panama Specialty Care so residents and visitors can see and pet Willow. However, Scheuermann does not let others hold Willow to minimize chances for any problems. Scheuermann also takes Willow out in the community at times.

"I take her to PetSmart and Fleet Farm, and I'll put her in a cart and push her around. I'll let people pet her if they want," Scheuermann said.

Scheuermann's research has taught her much on how to ensure good nutrition for Willow.

"She loves ground turkey," Scheuermann said. "And, you do need to give them some supplements. She gets a taurine supplement for her heart and a calcium supplement for bones. She gets fruits and vegetables. She loves grapes, peppers, sweet corn and peas. It's kind of like a toddler; you have to learn what they like."

Scheuermann plans to have Willow around for many years to come.

"In the wild, they live two to four years. But, in captivity, they can live up to 15 years," she said.

Scheuermann noted that skunks have poor eyesight, but they make up for it with good hearing and a keen sense of smell.

"She's definitely bonded with me, so if



Willow takes a walk outside.

I'm not next to her, she's smelling for me," she said.

BELLA AND HAZEL: HOGS OR DOGS?

It's not unusual to see pigs while driving in Iowa. Generally, they are seen on a farm. Residents of Jamaica, however, have grown accustomed to seeing a pair of pet pigs.

Richard and Michelle McAllister of Jamaica have several pets. Along with their cat and dog, they also own two miniature pigs, although the term "miniature" is relative, according to Richard McAllister.

"They say it's still a miniature pig if it's not over 400 pounds," McAllister said. "Bella is like 225 pounds, and Hazel is probably pushing 180."

McAllister shared how he and his wife came to own these unusual pets.

"Bella is the oldest one; she's 10. Hazel is the newest one; she's 5," McAllister said. "My wife, Michelle, had talked about getting one, and a friend of ours found one



Bella and Hazel hog the spotlight.

in Stuart at an exotic animal sale, so we bought her."

Bella has been full of surprises since arriving in Jamaica.

"When we got her home, we found out that Bella was only 3 days old and wasn't really supposed to be sold yet," McAllister said. "So, we had to bottle feed her for about seven weeks."

That special treatment resulted in a close bond.

"Bella has become quite the protector, probably because we bottle fed her. Now she's really territorial and protective of me, mainly," McAllister said. "People don't come in the yard unless I'm there, because she's ornery. She's just like a dog, protective."

The couple's newest pig has a completely different personality.

"Hazel is the timid one. You could walk by her, and she'll run from you," McAllister said.

Overall, the two pigs behave and are treated much like most pet dogs.

"They have beds inside in the corner. Each of them has like 14 blankets. They like digging at them to make a nest," McAllister said. "They sleep in the house. They've been potty-trained since day one, so they go outside. They don't make any messes in the house, and they don't stink. The only



Richard McAllister proudly talks about his unique pets.

thing I have to keep up on is I grind their hooves, because they're not on concrete."

The pigs' feeding and care routines sound similar to what dog owners experience, with a few exceptions. Pigs are known for being intelligent and strong. The McAllisters have clear proof of both of those claims.

"We give them pellets in the morning

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Naptime at the McAllister home.

with some nutrients for pigs. They usually eat cereal, fruits and vegetables," McAllister said. "We've had to childproof everything, because they know how to get into everything. I've got a new food dish called the Vittle Vault, so they can't get into it."

McAllister says the pigs are also strong. "We gave them treats one time, and one of the treats rolled under the couch," McAllister said. "Bella stuck her snout underneath the couch and lifted it up, with me on it, to get that treat."

Another way in which the pigs are similar to dogs is in their affection with their humans.

"We used to have an old couch, and every time I'd lie on that couch, Bella would jump up there and squeeze behind me and push me clear to the edge," McAllister said. "After she got bigger, the couch kind of gave way."

Another routine Bella outgrew is strolling around town.

"We used to walk Bella around town every night. We had a little harness for her, but she outgrew that," McAllister said.

McAllister admits there is one unique challenge posed by their non-traditional pets.

"The most challenging thing is if we want to go on vacation, we have to do it separate, because we have nobody to watch them," McAllister said. "That's the only downfall of it; you can't go anywhere. But they're fun, they jump around and have a great time."

McAllister said Jamaica doesn't have an ordinance against pigs as pets. He said the city's ordinance prohibits animals that



Michelle McAllister teaches Hazel to give kisses.

become a nuisance, but Hazel and Bella haven't bothered anyone.

Since the McAllisters also have other pets, one might assume the smaller pets would live in fear of the pigs, but that is not the case.

"We also have a cat and a chihuahua. The chihuahua is the ruler of the house," McAllister said. "They will not mess with that little fella."

McAllister recalled another dog interaction that went in a completely different direction.

"One time we had a dog jump over our fence and came in. It was growling at me, and Bella chased it off," McAllister said. "That dog didn't know what the hell it was, but he ran anyway." ■



Kristin Crouthamel, 10 Squared organizing committee member; Tandem Eischeid, Guthrie Center Elementary Principal; Devan Seec, GCPTG Board Member; Lindsay Gilland, GCPTG Board Member; Shelby Lewis, GCPTG Board Member; Jamie Terwilliger, GCPTG Board Member

10 SQUARED WOMEN PRESENT THIRD QUARTER DONATION OF 2025

Special to the Panora Times

The 10 Squared Women of Guthrie County held their third-quarter meeting of 2025 on Tuesday, Aug. 2, at The Port on Lake Panorama. A record 71 women attended in person or via Zoom, and the group welcomed four new members this quarter.

Ruth Owen presented on behalf of the Guthrie County Arts Council, Devan Seec presented for the Guthrie Center Parent Teacher Group (GCPTG), and Abby Pudenz presented for the Panora Parks and Rec Board. After hearing all three presentations, the group announced that a total of \$14,400 would be awarded to the Guthrie Center Parent Teacher Group (GCPTG).

This donation consists of member contributions and several employer matches.

10 Squared Women focuses on donating funds to local organizations that commit to putting those dollars to work in Guthrie County. The funds support a wide variety of projects that benefit communities and residents throughout the county. With this quarter's donation, the group has contributed a total of \$415,300 since its inception in 2017.

The group is continuously seeking new members who are passionate about supporting their communities and Guthrie County. To learn how to get involved, visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/10squaredwomengc> or email 10squaredgc@gmail.com. ■

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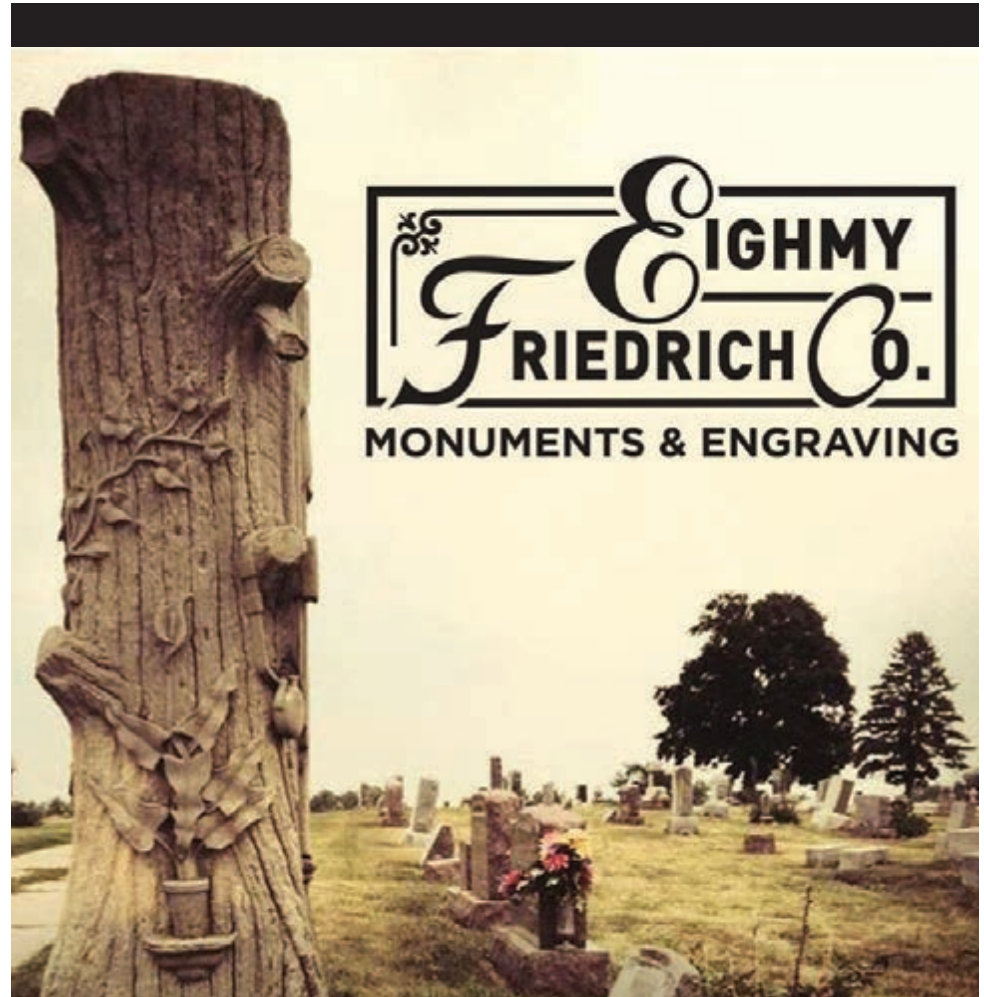
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"The Smashing Machine"



"Tron: Ares"



"A House of Dynamite"



"Black Phone 2"

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY
Panora Times

"THE SMASHING MACHINE"

Dwayne Johnson is an engaging and increasingly talented actor. He is also an actor not afraid to take chances. "The Smashing Machine" is a big chance for sure. He plays the professional wrestler Mark Kerr, who was a force to be reckoned with on the pro tour in the 1990s. Back then, wrestling turned its collective backs to violence, drugs, steroids and, to a large extent, severe pain and serious injuries. A dolled-up Emily Blunt plays his wife, and both Blunt and Johnson are almost unrecognizable at times. Beware this is an ultra-violent and, at times, not pretty tale. That being said, there is no way Johnson's name doesn't come up during Oscar nomination season. **Grade: B+**



"TRON: ARES"

Disney's groundbreaking "Tron" films ("Tron," "Tron: Legacy" and now "Tron: Ares") are visually stunning and, many times, ground-breaking but also lack in comprehensive and engaging stories. "Tron: Ares" follows that same formula and once again pulls former great actor Jeff Bridges out of mothballs for no apparent reason other than to push the film way over budget. The film is visually stunning, but, from a story point, mind numbing. **Grade: B**



"A HOUSE OF DYNAMITE"

This is the second movie this year that came out of nowhere to land firmly on my Top 10 list for this year. The first movie was the Riz Ahmed thriller "Relay" and now Kathryn Bigelow's ("The Hurt Locker" and "Zero Dark

Thirty") "A House of Dynamite." Both films received little to no advance notice (or praise) but literally knocked it out of the ballpark with acting, story, action and suspense. I will tell you no more about either one of them other than to say they have both cemented a spot on my 2025 Top 10 list and are best seen on a big screen. It's probably too late for that to happen with "Relay" but not for "A House of Dynamite." If you love well-made thrillers, find these two films. **Grade: A**



"BLACK PHONE 2"

Most anyone who saw "Black Phone" would agree that there was no reason from a box office or storyline point to make a sequel. But, the almost complete lack of originality in Hollywood these days made this sequel almost a no-brainer for the studio system. I am fairly certain that Kevin Bacon came back for the paycheck and the guarantee that he would have a small and an almost inconsequential role. Both are true. Set in a bitter cold wilderness, we see three young people in a cabin who are haunted by late night calls on a phone that has not been connected to service for years. Creepy? Yes. Original? No. Worth the money to see? Most certainly not. **Grade: D**



"Good Fortune"

tions but poor and sloppy execution. Ansari, who also wrote and directed, plays a man down on his luck who runs into an angel named Gabriel (Keanu). It feels a little like one of my all-time favorite movies, Kevin Smith's classic, "Dogma," but it can't muster either the charm or flat-out fun of that movie. Reeves looks stoned throughout the entire film, and Rogan is in full manic mode. The film has lots of great pieces, but they don't quite fit into the puzzle correctly. Too much talent to have so few laughs. **Grade C-**



Michael C. Woody has been reviewing movies on radio and television since 1986. He and his wife, Susan, are residents of Guthrie County.



"GOOD FORTUNE"

Keanu Reeves, Seth Rogan and Aziz Ansari star in a movie with great inten-



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PANORAMA SCHOOL BOARD APPROVES EMERGENCY GUIDE

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

The Panorama Schools Board of Directors met on Nov. 10. The board voted unanimously to approve the proposed Panorama Emergency Guide, with one change to include the area code on all phone numbers listed in the guide.

The board and Guidance Counselor Chris Webner discussed high school graduation requirements and weighted grades. No formal action was taken. Further discussion will occur at upcoming meetings.

In the Good News portion of the meeting, the board learned about three students (Mady H., Norah G. and Zoey K.) who auditioned in Clarinda Nov. 1 for the Southwest Iowa Middle School Honor Bands. Kudos were given to Zoey on oboe and Norah on clarinet for being selected into the Seventh Grade Band. They will represent Panorama at the festival on Nov. 14 in Denison.

As part of the consent agenda, contract recommendations approved included Emily Wedemeyer (elementary paraeducator) and Danielle Beasley (secondary paraeducator).

The board approved 12 students and three chaperones to go on the dance team trip to the State Dance Team competition Dec. 3-5 in Des Moines, as well as the senior class trip to Chicago March 30 to April 1 in Chicago. Approximately 40 students and four chaperones will participate.

The board voted to accept the bid from Last Outpost for \$2,200 for the 2008 Bluebird Vision School Bus, after signage is removed from the vehicle.

Upcoming dates noted included no school Nov. 26-28 (fall break) and the next board meeting Dec. 8 at 5:30 p.m. Immediately following the Dec. 8 meeting, a work session will be held.

At the conclusion of the regular meeting, the board went into closed session for evaluation of the superintendent. ■

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT NEWS

SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTIONS PRESENTS
TO GUTHRIE COUNTY SUPERVISORS

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

During the Oct. 14 meeting of the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors, Chair Maggie Armstrong brought up Resolution 26-10 (Declaring Emergency Medical Services an Essential Service in Guthrie County). The supervisors voted 4-1 to approve the resolution, with Mike Dickson voting no.

Health Service Director Jotham Arber provided a departmental update. He shared the county's plan for offering seasonal vaccinations.

"We haven't done a big push on our flu vaccines yet. We will; we're working with the pharmacies," Arber said. "We've kind of waited strategically into October to start doing our push, just because of the trend I'm seeing of the disease."

"We'll go and do the schools; we'll offer it to businesses," Arber said. He said

the plan is to make a big push for flu vaccinations through November and December.

Arber also shared plans for active shooter trainings.

"The hospital and the schools are doing an active shooter drill that we'll be participating in," Arber said. "The role of the health department will be the after-effects of that."

OCT. 21 - EMS AS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE VOTE, HEALTH INSURANCE FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

During the Oct. 21 meeting, the supervisors again considered Resolution 26-10 (Declaring Emergency Medical Services an Essential Service in Guthrie County). At the Oct. 14 meeting, the supervisors gave initial approval by a 4-1 vote, with Mike Dickson voting against. The supervisors voted again on the res-

olution, with an identical result. Supervisors Steve Smith and JD Kuster said they have heard from constituents voicing appreciation that the county is again pursuing the EMS issue. "Over the course of this last week, I've been contacted by several citizens in my area encouraging us to move forward," Smith said. "So, people are listening and reading."

Human Resources Director Jamie Lindsay discussed the county's status regarding the effective date of health insurance for newly hired employees. Currently, employee health insurance begins on the first day of the month after the hire date, but that results in the county paying an additional fee of more than \$300 each month due to how the insurance company handles payments.

The other option is to have insurance effective on the first day of the month after a 30-day wait following the hire date. Lindsay recommended the second option, as she pointed out that this would allow employees to get a "full" paycheck sooner, rather than having initial paychecks heavily deducted by insurance premiums.

Supervisors discussed the pros and cons of each option. The supervisors voted to implement the second option. Lindsay will make changes to the employee handbook to reflect this change.

County Information Technology (IT) Administrator Brian Hoffman discussed the county's AI (Artificial Intelligence) policy.

"It's everywhere, and we actually see it being used productively," Hoffman

said. "This policy doesn't forbid the use of AI; it just controls it."

After Hoffman's report, the supervisors unanimously approved the AI policy as presented.

The supervisors voted unanimously to re-appoint Tim Masters as Weed Commissioner. The supervisors also approved the 2025 Weed Commissioner's report.

OCT. 28 - SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTION PRESENTATION

The Oct. 28 meeting was held in the courtroom at the Guthrie County Courthouse to allow for more public attendance. Summit Carbon Solution Project Manager Brent Niese shared information on several topics related to the planned carbon dioxide pipeline project. He also shared information about planned "open house" events to provide more information and hear questions about the project.

Regarding payment to landowners, Niese stated that while Summit has traditionally given a one-time payment to landowners for an easement, some have asked about annual payments. He said that is now an option as well. Niese also said some landowners have asked about investing in Summit.

"Another option that we have now is to take that easement payment that would go to the landowner, invest in Summit, and the payment would come in financial distributions," Niese said. "So, now we've got three different options for landowners to see what works best for them."

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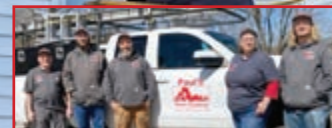


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Supervisors Chair Maggie Armstrong pointed out that the open house locations currently listed are all far from Guthrie County, and she asked that Summit consider offering an open house closer so that Guthrie County residents wouldn't have to drive so far to attend. Niese said he will look into that.

"As soon as you know, please let us know," Armstrong said.

Supervisor Mike Dickson asked about water usage needs expected by Summit. Niese said each ethanol plant's usage will vary.

"You're still threatening eminent domain, and you're going to offer 25 cents a foot. For most people, that's a couple hundred bucks," Dickson said. "How much is Summit making on that pipeline per foot?"

Dickson added that with a perpetual easement, the pipeline could sit unused at any time. He also asked about surveying to be done by Summit.

"Are they going to be a lot like last time? Are you going to threaten landowners and file documents against them?" Dickson asked.

Niese said Summit will follow all applicable federal, state and local laws.

Armstrong brought up a request from the Iowa State Association of Counties for financial support for an Amicus Brief

in the case of Couser v. Shelby County. The supervisors voted to approve \$500 in support.

The supervisors gave final consideration to Resolution 26-10 (A Resolution Declaring Emergency Medical Services an Essential Service in Guthrie County). By a 4-1 vote, the supervisors approved the resolution, with Dickson opposed.

Health Service Director Jotham Arber addressed the supervisors, asking that the county consider becoming the fiscal agent for the Guthrie County First Responders. The supervisors voted to approve that request.

Because of Election Day, the supervisors voted to cancel their meeting on Nov. 4.

NOV. 12 - ELECTION RESULTS, FAMILY FARM APPLICATIONS, MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

During the Nov. 12 meeting, County Auditor Dani Fink explained that there was a five-way tie in the write-in votes for one of the Yale city council "at-large" seats. The race was to fill three seats.

In that race, Clint Deardorff won with 43 votes as a registered candidate, Tim Walker won with three votes (by write-in), and the five-way tie (with two write-in votes each) involved Gerald McComb, Anna Arganbright, Johanne Godwin,

Christy Ocker and Scott Van Gundy.

By random drawing, Anna Arganbright was selected as the winner of the five-way tie.

"So, what we'll do then is I'll have to reach out to Tim and Anna both and make sure that they want to accept it," Fink said.

The supervisors adopted Resolution 26-11 (Certification and Canvass of Guthrie County Election Results for the 2025 City/School Election) as presented.

Deputy Assessor Jessi Heimerman addressed the supervisors regarding the 2025 Family Farm applications. She explained that 19 applications were recommended for approval, while she recommended the remainder be disallowed. The supervisors voted to follow the recommendation as presented.

Veterans Affairs Director Beth Watson provided a quarterly report. She reported increased usage of services in the Veterans Affairs department and the General Assistance department.

"We're going to have a mobile food pantry in Panora, behind the library and Veterans Auditorium building Nov. 19 from about 3:30-6 p.m., and we need volunteers," Watson said. "Three thousand pounds of food, and there were only two of us last month."

Watson said the mobile pantry is for

any needy recipients, not just veterans.

County Engineer Josh Sebern discussed plans for three road projects.

NOV. 18 - CONSERVATION ANNUAL REPORT, CLOSED SESSION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

During the Nov. 18 meeting, Conservation Director Brad Halterman summarized the department's 2024-2025 annual report.

"We had an average to above-average camping season," Halterman said. "As far as fiscal, it was a good year."

Halterman shared information on current and planned projects.

"One of the highlights, as far as the Raccoon Valley River Trail, within the last year we were able to secure a little over \$2 million on that \$4.8 million grant project," Halterman said.

The board approved the report as presented.

The board then went into a closed session to discuss matters regarding the Law Enforcement Center.

The supervisors meet regularly on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. The public is welcome to attend in person or via remote technology. To join remotely, call 323-792-6123, then use meeting code 547029216# ■

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603 Main St., Guthrie Center

MAY 19 | 5:30 p.m. Twin Vines Winery,
2821 Hwy 44, Panora

AUG. 18 | 5:30 p.m. To be determined

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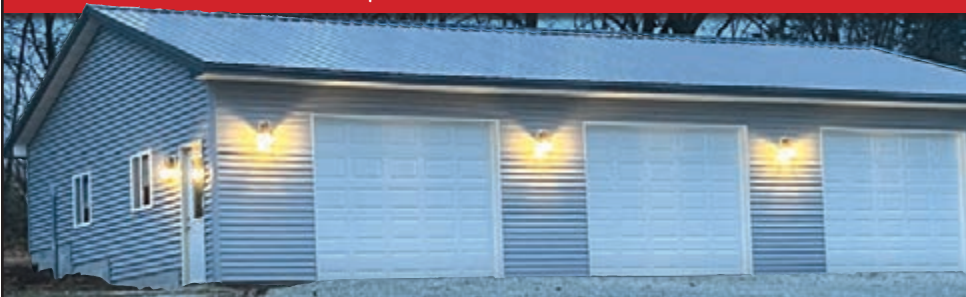
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PANORA CITY COUNCIL APPROVES 4 TO HUNT GEESE IN CITY LIMITS

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

OCT. 27 MEETING - PART-TIME POLICE PAY INCREASE, URBAN RENEWAL PLAN, BATHROOMS COMPLETED

During the regular meeting of the Panora City Council on Oct. 27, City Administrator Lisa Grossman explained Resolution 25-34, which would increase part-time pay for police from \$25 to \$25.50 hourly. The council approved the resolution as presented.

As part of the consent agenda, the council approved a 12-month retail liquor license for Owl's Nest.

The council approved Resolution 25-35, setting the date for a public hearing on designation of the Expanded Central Panora Urban Renewal Area and on Urban Renewal Plan Amendment. The hearing will be at the council's second

meeting in November, which will be Monday, Nov. 24.

Grossman provided a departmental report.

"The community center bathrooms have been completed," she said.

Councilmember Mark Sheeder discussed the new basketball court, which still needs to have lines painted on it.

"I did some research, and there are stencil kits which are reusable," he said. He suggested the city check to see if that would be an option in this situation.

NOV. 10 - HUNTERS APPROVED, SKID LOADER LEASE, THANK YOU TO JEFF BUMP

During the meeting on Nov. 10, the council considered a request from Jeremy King for four hunters to be allowed to hunt waterfowl on Ethan Boyer's field through Jan. 17, 2026. The request is for Jeremy King, Emmett King, Cadey Young and

Blake Michelsen. The council approved the request with Michelsen abstaining.

During the public forum portion of the meeting, State Representative Carter Nordman addressed the council. He described efforts to make EMS an essential service statewide. He said this was considered last year but didn't pass.

"Everything is on the table right now," Nordman said regarding EMS services.

Representative Nordman also talked about proposed changes to TIF (Tax Increment Financing).

"In my opinion, TIF is one of the few tools that rural Iowa has for any kind of development, but that doesn't mean that there can't be some reforms to TIF," he said. "But TIF is simply not going to go away."

The council approved a lease agreement with Lee White for use of his 2017 Case TR270 skid loader as needed for snow removal. The rate is unchanged from the

previous year.

The council approved Resolution 25-38, approving local match of just more than \$68,000 for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program for the North Underground Project. The council also approved Resolution 25-40, approving local match of roughly \$102,700 for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program for the South Underground Project

A public hearing was set for Dec. 8 at 5:30 p.m. regarding the adoption of the city's new Code of Ordinances.

Mayor Curt Thornberry shared appreciation to Jeff Bump for his years of service to Panora as city attorney.

The next regular meeting is set for Monday, Dec. 8 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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FAVORABLE AUDIT REPORT PRESENTED TO GCH TRUSTEES

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

During the Oct. 23 meeting of the Guthrie County Hospital Board of Trustees, an audit report from the firm of Eide Bailly was summarized by Brian Green.

“Your bottom line, operating, for all the years I went back and looked, it said, ‘Operating Loss’ but this year it says, ‘Operating Income,’ so pretty exciting for you guys,” Green said. “We went from a \$1 million loss two years ago, \$500,000 loss a year ago, and \$720,000 gain this year.”

Green said total assets show nearly \$35 million.

“Two years ago, it was less than \$30 million, so we’ve seen a growth in assets of over \$5 million in those years,” he said.

“Finally, if I didn’t show you anything else, this graph looks at your equity as an organization. You can see from 2015 to 2018, really kind of a plateau. And from 2018, it’s kind of been a straight upward and to the right, so the building of your equity from \$7 million to \$25 million currently,” Green said. “That’s a very positive sign.”

Regarding the timeline for the planned expansion project, Chief Operations Officer Travis Martin reported on a likely delay caused by the government shutdown.

“One of the milestones was that bids

will be released on Nov. 5. I don’t anticipate that happening, because USDA has to give the blessing, and, currently, the USDA is on furlough,” he said. “Nothing we can really do without USDA being in the office.”

CEO Chris Stipe reported that a few trees were taken down on the hospital campus. He said some were related to the expansion project.

Martin discussed the need for a temporary parking lot and sidewalk.

“Graham Construction, as part of the project, has always intended to have a temporary parking lot south of the helipad between the house that we just bought and the helipad. That parking lot will be for the mobile trailer that will be the primary health clinic,” Martin said. “Graham has recommended that we try to get that done before the freeze, because part of that is sewer and a water line.”

Martin said the expected cost would be \$108,000.

“Around \$60,000 of that is the parking lot; the rest is the utilities,” Martin said.

The trustees approved the additional work as described.

The board went into a special closed session to discuss a matter related to the purchase or sale of real estate.

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the next regular meeting of the trustees is set for Monday, Dec. 1 at 4 p.m. The public is welcome. ■



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THE MONTH IN PANORAMA SPORTS

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Panorama's Bladyn Wearmouth (left, front) and Zach Hayden (left, back) and Olivia Beaudet (right). PHOTO BY MARK RENO



The Panorama cheerleaders performed during the football game against Pleasantville on Oct. 17.



Nerea Gimeno Perez and Elah Molloy earned Honorable Mentions in the West Central Activities Conference.



The Panorama band played at halftime of the football game against Pleasantville on Oct. 17.



Panorama's No. 15 Andrea Knode spikes the ball against South Central Calhoun on Oct. 20.



Panorama's No. 21 Cruz Crandall was named 1A District 7 Second Team Offense QB.



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Panorama's No. 19 Reed Draper leaps to make the spectacular grab over the Ogden defender during his nine-catch, 179-yard and two-TD performance.



Panorama's No. 15 Bryce Dawesis forced out of bounds against West Marshall on Oct. 3.



Panorama's No. 19 Elah Molloy was named to the KMALAND All-Senior and All-Defense teams for the WCAC.



Reed Draper and No. 3 Latyn Ashworth were named to the 1A 7 All District First Team Offense as WRs.



Panorama's No. 5 Austin Wagner breaks through the line against West Marshall on Oct. 3.



The Panorama dance team performed during the football game against Pleasantville on Oct. 17. ■

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MAKING SMILES AT LAKESHORE FAMILY DENTISTRY

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

A familiar building in Panora is Lakeshore Family Dentistry, the office of Dr. Larry Spray and his team. The practice has been located at 709 E. Main St. in Panora for 13 years.

“We have four exam rooms,” Dr. Spray said. “We started with two, 13 years ago, and now we’re up to four.”

For Dr. Spray, the Panora area was one he was always familiar with.

“I was born and raised in Dallas Center, so this is pretty close to home,” he said. “I’ve really enjoyed being in Panora. I like the small-town feel.”

Lakeshore Family Dentistry, as the name suggests, is a general dental office, with no specific specialty.

“We do a little bit of everything. We do some implants but not any one thing that we focus on. We’re pretty generalized,” Dr. Spray said.

Asked what makes Lakeshore Family Dentistry unique in the area, Dr. Spray and Dental Assistant Sue Bump pointed out that the practice offers Invisalign products and strives to cater to the need of youth patients.

“In general, we like to have a relaxed atmosphere here. Dental phobia is real. I’m a pretty goofy guy, so with kids, we can normally get them calmed down,” Dr. Spray said. “I’m all about making positive experiences, so sometimes that means we don’t get everything done that we wanted in one visit.”



The Lakeshore team: Cierra Wright (assistant), Sue Bump (assistant), Dr. Larry Spray and Kassity Voss (hygienist). Sam Willson (front office) is not pictured.

The office accepts most insurance programs, but Dr. Spray finds Medicaid regulations to be an ongoing challenge.

“We do see patients with Medicaid,

but we are not accepting new patients with Medicaid,” Dr. Spray said. “Every six months, it seems like there is a new change to the regulations, and that makes

it difficult to keep up with. I wish they could simplify it.” Anyone interested in scheduling an appointment can call the office at 641-755-

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Dr. Spray shows one of the four exam rooms.

3030. Dr. Spray said the office hours are designed to meet the needs of his patients.

“We’re open Mondays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesdays 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesdays we’re closed, Thursdays 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.,

and Friday is currently 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. but Fridays kind of vary because we have early-out,” Dr. Spray said. “We tend to be pretty busy at the extremes, early and late.” ■



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EVENT

HOLIDAY TOUR OF HOMES DEC. 7

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Panora Times

The annual holiday tour of homes sponsored by Women for Panora's Future (WFPF) will be Sunday, Dec. 7. Five homes and the Panora Church of the Brethren are participating this year. Ticket holders will choose their own route to each of the six locations 1-4:30 p.m.

Homes on the tour are owned by Jake and Ashlie Alspach, Mike and Natalie Blackford, Shane and Anne Broderick, Lyle and Monica Stutzman, and Mike and Joan Trebon. Addresses will be included on the tickets.

That evening, Lutheran Church of Hope Panora is holding a Christmas program and soup supper at the Panora Church of the Brethren. WFPF members plan to help decorate several Christmas trees that will be on display for the evening program. Organizers decided to open the Brethren Church for the holiday tour so more people can enjoy the decorated trees.

Tickets must be presented at each home the day of the event. Tickets purchased in advance cost \$10; tickets the day of the tour will be \$15. Advance tickets can be purchased from WFPF club members, Panora Library or by calling 712-249-2142.

Tickets the day of the tour will be available at the Panora Community



1



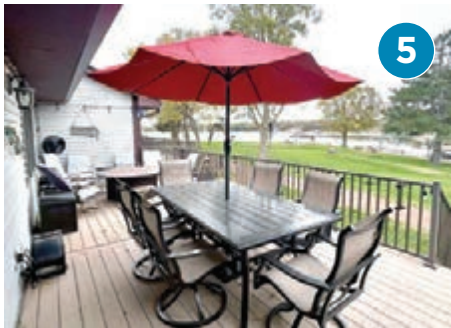
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3



4



5

- 1 Shane and Anne Broderick, 5211 Bean Bend, Panora
- 2 Mike and Natalie Blackford, 6908 Andrews Terrace, Panora
- 3 Jake and Ashlie Alspach, 24808 A Ave., Linden
- 4 Mike and Joan Trebon, 4940 Lynn Drive, Panora
- 5 Lyle and Monica Stutzman, 4946 Lynn Drive, Panora

Center 1-4:30 p.m. Holiday refreshments will be available, and club members will be selling raffle tickets for \$1. There also will be a door prize drawing.

The home tour is the group's largest annual fundraiser. It usually raises enough money to award several scholarships each year and support other local entities and projects. ■

EVENT

WSO HOLIDAY LUNCHEON DEC. 5

BY SUSAN THOMPSON
Panora Times

The Panora Women's Service Organization (WSO) annual holiday luncheon will be Friday, Dec. 5. This is the 52nd year for this fundraising event. The luncheon will be held at Faith Bible Church, which is north of Panora on Highway 4.

Serving begins at noon. As guests arrive, they can purchase raffle tickets and sign up for door prizes. The décor this year will feature a Christmas tree theme. The meal includes ham balls, dinner rolls and a large variety of salads made by WSO members.

Tickets are \$20. Tickets can be purchased from any WSO member, at the Panora Library, or by contacting Sue Merryman at 641-751-5956 or Barb Halupnik at 641-740-7773.

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

Another major fundraising event for WSO is an annual home tour, which in 2026 will be Friday, June 5. This will be the 50th WSO home tour. Tickets for this event will be limited, so those interested will want to contact their usual ticket seller in early May.

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



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John Rutledge presents an appreciation plaque to the 2025 president, Julie Dent-Zajicek.

RUTLEDGE NAMED PRESIDENT OF PANORA AND LAKE PANORAMA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP

BY SHANE GOODMAN
Panora Times

The Panora and Lake Panorama Economic Development Group met on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at Panorama High School. This was the annual meeting for the group, which meant the passing of the gavel of the president. John Rutledge was named to the position for 2026, replacing the 2025 president, Julie Dent-Zajicek. The Panora and Lake Panorama Area Economic Development group serves as the principal economic development orga-

nization in the Panora and Lake Panorama area. The group traces its roots in Panora to the 1980s and even earlier, beginning as an informal group of business leaders looking to attract, support and grow area businesses and promote housing. In 1987, the corporation was called Panora Economic Development Corporation and was formed as a for-profit corporation. A new corporation was formed in 2000 as a nonprofit. Today, the organization is comprised of business and community leaders from Panora, Lake Panorama and the surrounding area. ■

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12-7 Cribbage Tournament, check in at 12:30 pm
12-31 10 Fold Return Band 8:30-12:30 + fireworks



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Guthrie County Hospital offers:

- Telehealth Endocrinology Services with Dr. Huyam Awadalla - third Friday each month
- Diabetes Support Group
 - » Join us on Thursday, November 20th at 7:00 p.m. at Sneakers Café
- Diabetes Self-Management Education Program

Talk with your provider about your risk for diabetes and schedule your screening today.

For more information about diabetes services, call (641) 332-3802.

For Endocrinology, patients can be referred by their primary care provider or call GCH Specialty Clinic with any questions at (641) 332-3900.

www.guthriecountyhospital.org

COMMUNITY

HARMANN HONORED FOR 25 YEARS AS AEMT

Special to the Times Vedette

At the Panora EMS meeting on Thursday evening, Matt Harmann was honored with a wooden plaque to recognize his 25 years in the department. Harmann joined as a volunteer in 2000 and is now retiring from the department as an advanced emergency medical technician (AEMT). Harmann has held officers positions and was instrumental in the hiring of the first paid paramedic in 2005.

“He was one of the few that ran call after call, putting his business and life

aside to make sure we could keep growing and moving forward to continue to hire paid employees,” Panora EMS President Ryan Recker said. “A wooden plaque isn’t at all near enough to thank him for his years of selfless dedication to Panora EMS and this community. You can still find Matt being our fire chief, and, of course, you know him now as Sheriff Harmann.” ■



Matt Harmann

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COMMUNITY



Representatives of 32 organizations that received GCCF funding.

GUTHRIE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LEARNS ABOUT SUCCESSES FROM FUNDED PROJECTS

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

On Thursday evening, Nov. 13, representatives of 32 area entities came together at the Panora Community Center to describe the projects being done with funding from the Guthrie County Community Foundation (GCCF).

The mission of the Guthrie County Community Foundation is to foster giving, strengthen service providers and improve the local conditions and quality of life. The foundation promotes philanthropy, endowment building, community-building, capacity-building, grant making, organizational collaborations and public leadership for the benefit of Guthrie County and is committed to improving the quality of

life throughout Guthrie County by investing in area nonprofits through its grant programs. The foundation also provides individuals, families and area businesses with a way to give back.

Grants are available to 501(c)3 organizations and government entities serving Guthrie County. Grant selections are made in an effort to create a better quality of life for people in Guthrie County. The local governing committee reviews the applications from charitable organizations serving their community.

Applications are now available for groups wishing to request funds from the GCCF. They are due Jan. 31, 2026. Contact gccfoundation@gmail.com with any questions or visit www.GuthrieCounty-CommunityFoundation.org. ■

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Panora ASK TIMES



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Q: I NOTICED THE FLAGS WERE AT HALF-MAST RECENTLY, I ASSUME DUE TO THE DEATH OF DICK CHENEY. IS THERE A WAY TO BE NOTIFIED ABOUT THE FLAG LOWERINGS?

A: Here is a website you can sign up to receive state and federal alerts via email: <https://halfstaff.org>.

Q: HOW AND WHEN ARE TOWNSHIP OFFICERS ELECTED?

A: Township officers are elected by the voters of the township who reside outside of the corporate limits of a city. Township officers may be residents of a city within the township. Township officers are elected to serve four-year terms on the general election ballot.

Q: WHAT'S WITH ALL THE LILACS BLOOMING THIS FALL? I HAVE NOTICED A FEW SMALL BLOOMS IN PAST FALLS, BUT THIS YEAR THEY ARE LARGER AND MORE

NUMEROUS AND NOTICEABLE.

A: Lilacs blooming in the fall in Iowa is typically due to stressful growing conditions during the summer, such as heat, drought or disease, which can trigger them to bloom out of season. While this unusual blooming won't harm the plants, it may result in fewer flowers the following spring.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF NO VOTES ARE CAST FOR ANY CANDIDATE IN A CITY COUNCIL ELECTION?

A: According to The Iowa League of Cities, if nobody files to run for an elected position, including mayor or city council seats, then the position could be decided entirely by write-in votes. If no write-in votes are cast, the existing council or board would then decide whether to hold a special election or appoint new members. They must follow specific procedures, including publishing a notice of intent to appoint or holding an election within a certain timeframe. If there is a tie, a name will be drawn by the Board of Supervisors. ■



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FOR SHIRLEY KONZ, ART AND NATURE MERGE

Panora artist paints on many surfaces.

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

Shirley Konz of Panora discovered long ago that she enjoyed painting, and she has never stopped.

“I started back in the 1970s and 1980s with oil painting, watching Bob Ross on TV. We had a family friend that encouraged me,” Konz said. “At that time, I had a greenhouse and a big garden, so I traded her some plants in exchange for letting me come over and paint with her.”

Obviously, most any hobby is bound to evolve over the decades. That is certainly true with Konz’s painting.

“Most people start with oils and then move on to other things. Blending colors is good with oils,” Konz said. “Now I do acrylic and watercolors. I no longer do oils much because of the chemicals involved in oil painting — the turpentine and solvents.”

Besides the change of paints, Konz has also painted on many surfaces.

“Through the years, I’ve painted on a lot of things. Back in those early years, we were painting on cream cans, coffee pots and all of the tin in the kitchen and saw blades,” she said. “I always said if it didn’t



Shirley Konz makes a wide variety of art.

move, I could paint on it.”

For Konz, when two hobbies are combined, the result is even more satisfying. “I’ve always had big gardens and green-

houses, so now I’m kind of combining that with my art,” Konz said. “I’m not doing as much painting as I once did, but I’m trying to combine that with my pressed flowers.”

For the past seven years, Konz has displayed some of her artistic creations for sale at Art on State in Guthrie Center. She also offers her creations at many local ven-

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Feather art is a recent addition for Shirley Konz.



Shirley Konz's leaf art is popular at vendor fairs.



Shirley Konz makes many pressed flower art pieces.



A barn painting on a board from an old barn.

dor markets, but she stresses that she is not in it for the money.

"I pretty much stay local," Konz said. "It's a hobby, not a business."

One of Konz's most recent angles is incorporating dried pressed flowers and leaves into her art. She said pressing flowers is simple but takes patience.

"The timing is important. You want any dew dried off of them, but you also want them fresh, before they would wilt," she said. "I've always found that freshly opened flowers work best."

Konz continues to paint on many items other than just canvas.

"I've been doing a lot of reclaimed wood. At one time, I painted on driftwood," Konz said. "I have a lot of friends that bring me

leaves and barn boards and things."

Although Konz does some custom art, most of her creations are simply ideas that come to mind. But, she admits seeing others' art helps inspire her, too.

"One thing just leads to another," Konz said. "And, I'm inspired by the other vendors. Right now, I'm planning to focus more on the painted feathers, the painted leaves and the pressed flowers."

Konz admits that non-canvas painting creates a challenge due to the unique surfaces.

"Feathers are probably the most difficult to paint on, because they move," she said.

For Konz, creating art is only half of the fun. She truly enjoys interacting with customers at vendor events, as well as the

chance to socialize with other artists. Because she stays mostly in the local area, she sees many familiar faces at the events she attends.

"We're almost a family," she said. Anyone interested in Konz's art can email her at shirleykonz@netins.net or look for her at many of the holiday and vendor events in and around Guthrie County.

Konz has advice for anyone who hasn't yet found an artistic outlet. She pointed out that painting is an easy way to begin.

"Try it. Just jump in and do it. Acrylic is the easiest. You can do wonders with just the little bottles of acrylic paint," she said. "You don't have to invest a lot. My investment is the time." ■



Shirley Konz shows her flower press.



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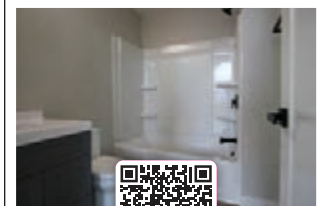
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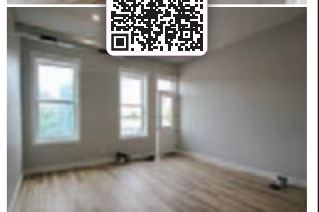
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OBITUARY

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JOSEPH EDMUND LOUIS
1932-2025

Joseph Louis, 93, was born Oct. 22, 1932, on a farm just south of Dwight, Illinois, the fifth child of Ludwig and Margaret (Goley) Louis. He was a graduate of Saint Paul Catholic High School class of 1950 in Odell, Illinois. Joe worked for Caterpillar Inc. as a crane operator in Joliet, Illinois, for a brief period before serving in the U.S. Army Infantry during the Korean War conflict. Following his honorable discharge in 1954, he attended the University of Illinois where he would receive his B.S. in mechanical engineering. While attending U

of I, and during a visit back home, he met the love of his life, Joyce M. Coughlin. They were married in Kinsman, Illinois, on Sept. 8, 1956. Joe worked his entire career (35 years) for Sundstrand Corporation, initially in Rockford, Illinois, then leading the station wagon with their five kids to transfer to the new factory in Ames. Joe and Joyce remained in Ames until his retirement from Sundstrand in 1993, when they built and moved to their retirement lake home in Panora. They enjoyed their time on Lake Panorama boating, golfing, and teaching their grandchildren water sports. They also enjoyed wintering in Lakeland, Florida. Several years after Joyce passed, Joe relocated to a very nice independent living facility in Leawood, Kansas, in 2024 where his family visited him often.

Joe was always focused on his faith and family, and his interests included golfing, boating, hunting, woodworking and problem solving. He never argued but loved spirited discussions, sometimes stating, "I'm probably telling you more than I know." Joe

was a devoted Catholic, a member of the Knights of Columbus, and eventually joined a veterans' group in Florida.

Survivors include his five children: Michael (Kim) Louis of Ames; Robert (Diane) Louis of Davenport; Kevin (Ronnie) Louis of Casa Grande, Arizona; Jane Wasel of Scituate, Massachusetts; and Gary (Loretta) Louis of Overland Park, Kansas. He had 14 grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his wife of 55 years, Joyce; his parents; his siblings: Mary Margaret (Lee) Masching, John (Kay) Louis, Vince (Jean) Louis, and Louise (Clarence) Masching; and a grandson, Joey Louis.

Services were held at St. Cecilia Catholic Church in Panora on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025, with visitation at 10:30 a.m. and mass starting at 11:30 a.m. A veteran's graveside service followed at Resurrection Cemetery in rural Guthrie Center.

Twigg Funeral Home, Panora, was entrusted with his services.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Kansas City Hospice House. ■



All obituaries also publish at **gctimesnews.com**



OBITUARIES

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JOHN LYNN HEILAND
1940-2025

John Lynn Heiland, 85, peacefully passed away on Nov. 15, 2025. John was a devoted husband, father and friend whose life touched all who knew him. John's journey was marked by a deep sense of family, service and an unwavering spirit of adventure that defined the way he lived and loved.

Born in 1940 in Panama, John was the son of Helen Knowlton Heiland and Billie B. Heiland and was raised within the close-knit Panama community.

John graduated from Panama High School, where he forged lifelong friendships. Following high school, John attended Northwest Missouri State and graduated from Drake University.

Answering the call to serve, John joined the United States Army in 1963 and was stationed at Fort Sherman defensive base in the Panama Canal, where he was a Hawk Missile launch controller.

John's greatest joy was his family. In 1965, he married the love of his life, Susan Teale, and together they raised five children, building a home filled with laughter, warmth and adventure. As a devoted father, John cherished every moment with his loved ones, from cross-country road trips to days spent boating on Lake Panorama, creating treasured memories and many funny stories. John and Susan were happily married for 48 years until her passing in 2013.

John built his career in finance and sales and was a member of the Masons and the Elk organizations.

As we remember John, we honor his legacy of joy

and love. He leaves behind fond memories and a grateful family. John will be dearly missed, but his warmth, wisdom, sense of humor and memories of his contagious laugh will live on.

John is survived by a loving family — daughters, Leza (Charles) Woods of South Carolina, Mari (Jason) Wolf of Lake Panorama, and Kayla Parker of Adel; sons, Ryan Heiland of Maryville, Missouri, and Cody (Jewelyn) Heiland of Rockford, Illinois; 11 grandchildren; sister, Joan Millhollin (John) of Yale; brothers-in-law, Frank (Sandi) Teale of Panama, John (Kris) Teale of Maryville, Missouri; and sister-in-law, Sheri Heiland (Jim) of Guthrie Center. He was preceded in death by wife, Susan; his parents; and his brother, James Heiland.

Visitation was Thursday, Nov. 20, 2025, at 1 p.m., with the funeral immediately following at 2 p.m. Services were held at the Twigg Funeral Home in Panama. Burial followed services at the Brethren Cemetery in Panama.

Memorials to be donated at the discretion of the family. ■



ROBIN SUE LEIB
1960-2025

Robin Sue Leib, 65, daughter of Roger and

Rose Mary (Heckman) Leib, was born Oct. 12, 1960, in Sioux City. She passed away Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025, at her home in Panama.

Robin graduated from Guthrie Center High School in 1980. She started working at Craft Care Center, later Panama Specialty Care, in 1977. She retired on Oct. 10, 2025, after almost 48 years of working at the care center.

Robin was in a bowling league in her younger days. She loved to spend time with family, especially with her nieces. She also enjoyed spending time with her friends and her church

family and enjoyed traveling.

She is survived by her son, Jason Leib of West Des Moines; brother, Randy (Tina) Leib of Murfreesboro, Tennessee; sister, Rhonda Leib of Germantown, Maryland; and nieces, Natalie (Jesse) Weedman, Lindsie Mills, Darcie Leib and Audrie Leib. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorial services were held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2025, at the Twigg Funeral Home, Panama, with visitation starting at 5:30 p.m. Burial of her remains will be in Union Cemetery, Guthrie Center, at a later date. ■

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From Guthrie Center Times, Nov. 26, 1975

HAWK LETTERMEN. Coach Ken Janvrin has four lettermen returning from last year's Little Eight Co-champs. From left are: Tim Watts, Greg VanPelt, Steve Richey and Kevin Wood.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Nov. 7, 1985

MINI-MALL GROWING UP. While earthwork continued at the site of Panora's new shopping mall on Highway 44 east, footings were being poured last week (right center). This view of the project is looking toward the south-west. In the background is the old John Deere implement dealership building. The mall is being constructed by Irv Gerlich, Lake Panora, who developed the Boulder Cove and Clover Ridge projects.

30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Nov. 23, 1995

GUNNING FOR STATE. Returning letterwinners from Panorama's state tournament team are front row: Amy Dahl, Andrea Safley, Jan Maxwell and Kylee Heiland. Back row: Alicia Heiland, Megan Carstens and Amy Jorgensen.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Nov. 3, 2005

KNOWLEDGE BOWL TEAMS. Panorama High School computer teams competed in the 2005-06 Knowledge Bowl computer contest Oct. 5. They worked together in teams to answer 150 challenging questions covering all areas of the curriculum. Those involved were, front row: Caryline Lowe, Sarah Tighe, Whitley Kemble, Katherine Mills and Mallory Lowe. Second row: Ryan McCleary, Dylan Rivas, Josh Armstrong, Josh Woodvine and Jesse Seibert. Back row: Michael Lowe, Kylea Sheley, Jacob Breibach, Chris Keeran and Kayla Muyskens.

10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Nov. 19, 2015

CENTER STAGE. Panorama High School presented "Wizard of Oz" last weekend. Deb Arganbright, an English teacher and Panorama's speech and drama coach, co-directed the play with Panorama's vocal music director Chris Helm. The cast and crew — between 50 and 60 students — were mostly high school students with a few junior high students playing Munchkins and Poppies. The production drew a crowd of more than 600. Above, Panorama seniors Michelle Meynek, Glinda the Good Witch, and Annie Kemble, Dorothy Gale, take center stage.

5 YEARS AGO



Guthrie County Times Vedette, Nov. 12, 2020

DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS. The Iowa High School and College State Dance Team Championship has been moved up to Nov. 17-19. The 45th annual competition will see the team and solo championships combined and increased from two days of dancing to three. Front row: Emma Reinhart, Reagan Gibson, Jordan Douglass and Carolyne Carstens. Second row: Justice Sheeder, Lindsey Meyer, Donovan Delp, Kaidyn Denkclau and Kylie Doran. Third row: Tori Heckman, Riley Gibson, Sarah Westergaard, Zoey Hambleton and Natalie Donovan. ■



FRIEND'S APPLES CREATE A PERFECT FALL TREAT

BY JOLENE GOODMAN
Panora Times

When Cheryl Castile shared a bag of freshly picked apples with me, I knew exactly what to do — turn them into something warm, comforting and perfect for sharing. I love to bake, and these apple cinnamon muffins are the result: soft, fragrant and filled with cozy autumn flavor in every bite. There is something special about baking with fruit that comes straight from someone's tree.

As they bake, the kitchen fills with the irresistible scent of cinnamon and caramelizing apples, promising a treat that is both nostalgic and homemade. These muffins strike the right balance — tender on the inside with just a hint of golden crispness on top. They are

wonderful for breakfast, a mid-morning snack or an afternoon pick-me-up with coffee or tea.

Simple to make and even better to share, these muffins are a sweet way to say thank you or to celebrate the small gestures of kindness that brighten an ordinary day. So, if you have a handful of apples and a little time, this recipe transforms them into something truly special — a batch of warm, cinnamon-kissed gratitude. ■

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



Jolene Goodman

APPLE CINNAMON MUFFINS

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ teaspoons cinnamon
- ½ cup brown sugar, packed
- 1 large apple, granny smith works well
- ¾ cup sugar
- ½ cup butter
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 ½ cups flour
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
- 1 pinch salt
- ½ cup milk (can use soy, almond or other varieties)



Directions

Combine cinnamon and brown sugar and set aside. Peel apple, dice into small pieces and set aside. Mix

flour, baking powder and salt and set aside. Cream together sugar and butter using a mixer. Add eggs and vanilla and mix well. Stir in flour mixture. Slowly stir in milk until combined. Grease a 12-muffin pan. Divide dough, diced apples and cinnamon/brown sugar mixture in half. Place one half of the dough among the 12 muffin cups. Follow with one half of the apples and then the cinnamon/brown sugar mixture. Repeat. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes. These can be frozen up to three months or enjoy warm. ■



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AREA CHURCH GUIDE

▶ SUBMIT CHANGES OR UPDATES TO SHANE@GCTIMESNEWS.COM

BAGLEY

Bagley United Methodist Church

401 Main Street, PO Box 40

www.umc.org

Sunday Service: 11 a.m., Wednesday: 3:45-5:00 pm after school kids program. All school age kids welcome.



JAMAICA

Jamaica Union Church

409 Van Nest St., Jamaica

Sunday School: 9 a.m., Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

LINDEN

Linden United Methodist Church

106 N. Evans St., Linden

PANORA

Church Of The Brethren

2946 200th Road, Panora

641-755-3800

Sunday School: 8:45 a.m., Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

Calvary Chapel Of The Raccoon River Valley

604 E. Main St., Panora

www.calvaryraccoon.com

641-755-4268

Sunday service: 10 a.m.



Faith Bible Church

2096 Highway 4, Panora

www.fbcpanora.com

641-755-3034

Sunday Service: 9 am

Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.



First Christian Church

102 E. Church St., Panora

www.panorafcc.org

641-755-2227

Sunday Service: 10 a.m.



Fountain of Life Church

2322 Wagon Road, Panora

www.folcpanora.com

641-755-2322

Sunday Service: 10 a.m.



Lighthouse Assembly of God

400 S.E. Third St., Panora

www.panoralighthouseassemblyofgod.com

641-755-3060

Sunday School: 9 a.m.,

Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

Wednesday: Children/Youth 7 p.m.



Lutheran Church of Hope

5405 Chimra Road, Panora

515-222-1520



Panora United Methodist Church

119 E. Main St., P.O. Box 601, Panora

www.panoraumc.org

641-755-2655

Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m.

Saint Cecilia Catholic Church

220 N. First St., Panora

www.st-mary-patrick-cecilia.com

641-747-3843

Catholic Mass: Sunday 8 a.m.;

Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m.

Confession: Sunday 7:30 a.m.,

Wednesday and Thursday 7:45 a.m.

Adoration: Tuesday 3:30-4:30 p.m.



Saint Thomas Lutheran Church

2106 Highway 4, Panora

<http://panoralutheran.com>

641-755-2051

Sunday School /Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.

Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study: Tuesday 11 a.m.



YALE

Yale Church of Christ

304 Lincoln, Yale

church-of-christ.org

641-757-1104 ■



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Leslie Anderson
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Ben Hayes
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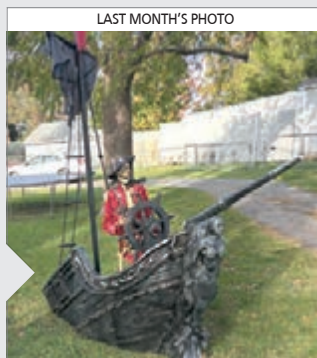
Let's Connect!



WHERE IS IT?



Be the first to respond with the correct answer to the location of this photo and receive a certificate for a free coffee at Crafty's Coffee and Gifts in Panora.



Last month's photo of the skeleton pirate and boat was located near a home owned by Robert and Christina Boecker at 109 West Market St. in Panora. There were no correct responses. Have a photo to submit for future issues? Send to shane@gctimesnews.com. ■



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Friday 8AM - 5:30PM
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2002 State Street Guthrie Center

Contact Us
for more information



OUR SERVICES



Counseling and Therapy

Our team offers confidential counseling and therapy tailored to your needs.



Resource Navigation

Gain access to essential information and resources by participating in our mental health management programs.



Referral Services

If additional specialized care is needed, we can refer you to trusted mental health professionals.

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LOCAL

FOR SALE: 2001 Chrysler mini-van, handicapped equipped with rear lift. 148,000 miles. Asking \$5,200. Call 515-770-5071.

RIDE NEEDED: Female seeks a ride from G.C. to Panora Al-Anon meeting Tuesdays 6:45 PM; returning 8:10. Must be careful, female driver. Call 641-332-2778.

'58 CHEVY BISCAYNE FOR SALE: Power steering. Car has been very well kept up. Call Robert for more info or leave message at 1-877-747-3015.

AUCTIONS

CEDAR RAPIDS LARGEST FLEA MARKET and Garage Sale held at Lindale Mall, old Younkers store. Saturday, November 8th, 8am -7pm and Sunday, November 9th, 9am -5pm. 200 vendors! Space is still available. 515-298-3968. (mcn)

FOR SALE

NEW, (2 BR-2 BA), 14x66, Gas Range, 2-Door Refrigerator, Dishwasher, Walk-In Master Shower. Tub/ Shower in 2nd Bath, \$99,900. Delivered, Set, On Your Prepared Lot in Iowa. Coachlight Homes. 1-319-239-1920. (mcn)

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WANT TO BUY your manufactured or mobile home 1990 and newer CENTURY HOMES of OSKALOOSA 641-672-2344 (mcn)

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GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-485-1046. (mcn)

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Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-429-2331 today! (mcn)

CABLE/INTERNET

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-833-472-7954. (mcn)

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roof! Sign up for Directv and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-866-296 -1409. (mcn)

FINANCIAL

Inflation is at 40 year highs. Interest rates are way up. Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Do you have \$10k or more in debt? Call NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF and find out how to pay off your debt for significantly less than what you owe! FREE quote: Call 1-866-552-0649. (mcn)

HEALTH & MEDICAL

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance -NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-973-9175 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/midwest) (mcn)

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ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-650-5916. (mcn)

HOME SERVICES

Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Our home warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. We stand by our service and if we can't fix it, we'll replace it! Pick the plan that fits your budget! Call: 1-833-816-2128.(mcn)

WATER & FIRE DAMAGE RESTORATION. Our trusted professionals will restore your home to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-833-879-1480. Mold Remediation services are also available! (mcn)

MISCELLANEOUS

OFFERING \$3,000 REWARD for recovery of gold coins lost at Fairmont, MN post office on or about August 24, 2025. 1- 1oz. proof U.S. gold eagle 1987, in box, 14 - .10 oz. gold eagles, dated 2016, .5 oz. gold eagle, 2017 PR-70 and other items. Send information to P.O. Box 697, Fairmont, MN 56031 or call 507-399-9982. (mcn)

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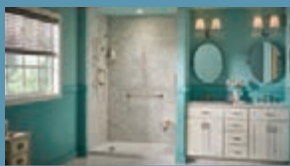
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This Thanksgiving, we're especially grateful for you. Your trust, support, and friendship continue to inspire us. We're thankful for the wonderful community we serve.

Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

—2 Corintinians 9:15



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