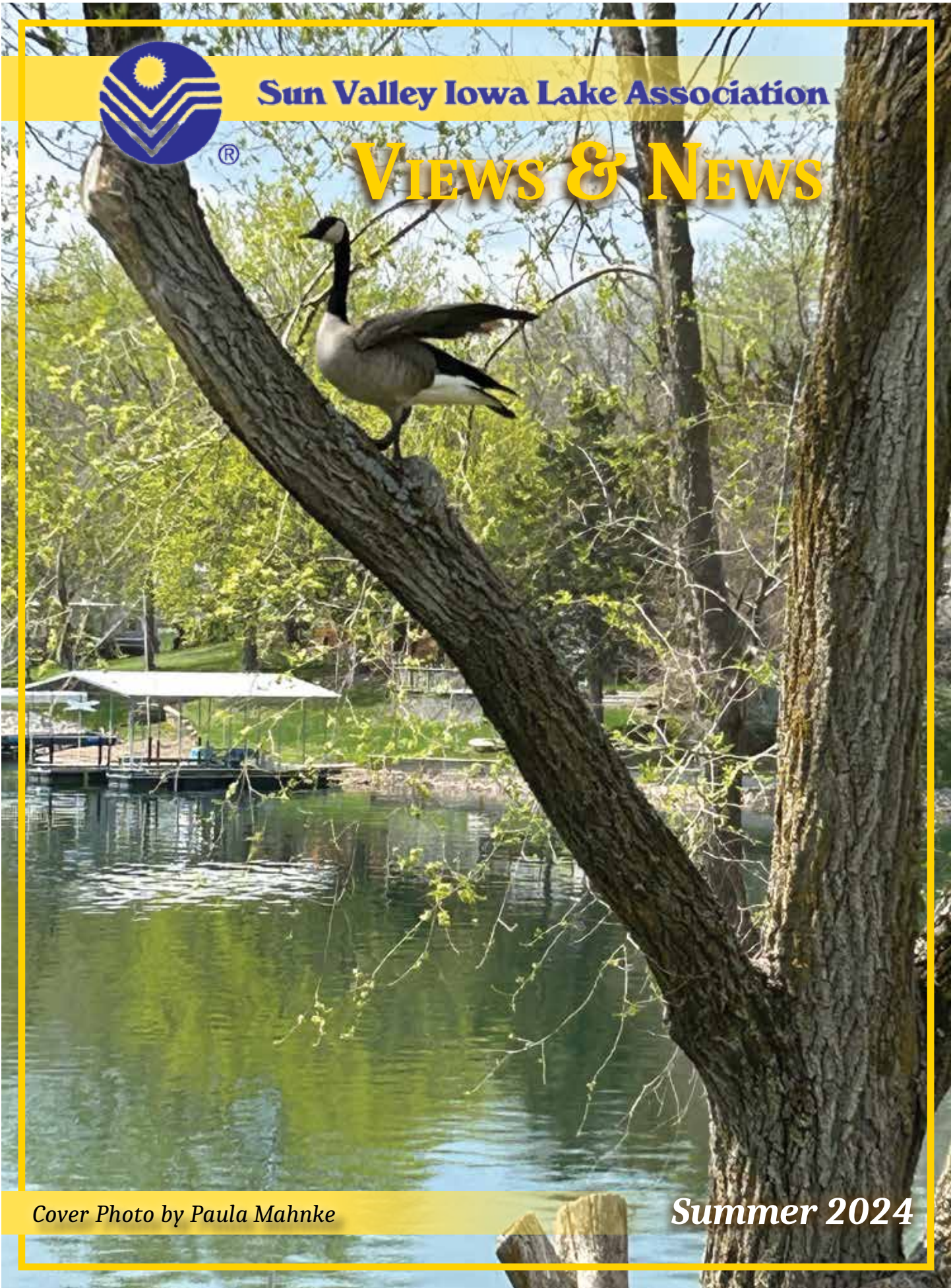




**Sun Valley Iowa Lake Association**

# **VIEWS & NEWS**



*Cover Photo by Paula Mahnke*

**Summer 2024**





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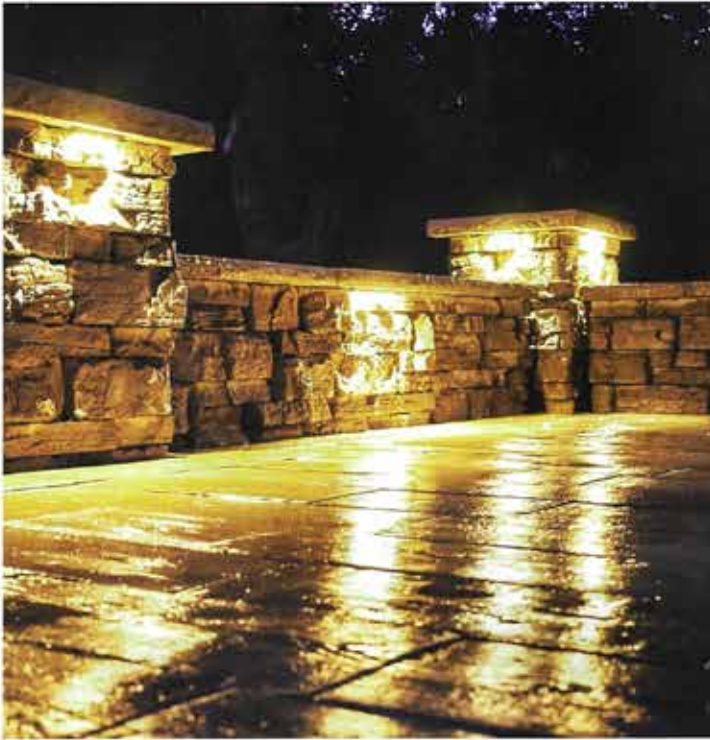
Did you know, our private lake community boasts of its very own Sun Valley Sports Plex? Members and their guests can play pickle ball, enjoy tennis or basketball, and now a new shuffleboard court. For your convenience, SVILA has provided paddles and balls, located in a storage box courtside. These are limited quantities, so please use responsibly.



Equipment for shuffleboard play is also available, but must be coordinated through the SVILA Office.

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## A Director's Perspective



As I write this in May, Summer is around the corner, and I know we are all looking forward to some warmer weather with sun filled days. We have been blessed with much needed rain in April and early May and from my perspective the water looks incredibly clear. Soon there will be more and more people at the lake enjoying the weather and all that the lake provides.

The Board has been focused on many challenging areas including the ongoing litigation which we have been updating the members on, as well as normal activities and the four areas of focus Bill Breakenridge articulated in his Board President letter published in

the Spring edition of the *Views & News*. If you have not had a chance to read his perspective, it is worth a few minutes of your time. In addition, we will be reviewing the opportunity to build a road to connect Morman Trail to Canoe Lane.

Of course, the litigation is top of mind and as the Board has articulated, it is not practical to provide updates for every detail that is occurring. But some brief comments from my non-lawyer perspective are worth repeating. The litigation preparation continues, and the trial is scheduled for October 2024. We are not happy about the time and financial resources the litigation is consuming. However, we believe there is no doubt that the best interests of the association are being served by enforcing our safe boating rules through this legal action and we now, after counter claims have been filed by the member, must defend the fact the lake is a private lake as well as a number of other counter claims being made against the association. We will continue to be diligent and work to achieve a successful outcome in the litigation.

The association needs your help! Our members are critical to the lake and what the association is able to accomplish. If you are able to volunteer, please do so. If you are not able to volunteer, at the minimum, please familiarize yourself with the rules of the lake so that you can safely enjoy your time at the lake with family and friends. In particular, the Safe Boating and Roads Committee and the Fishing Committee updated their rules for 2024. Please read and follow these rules so we can all safely enjoy the time we spend at the lake.

--Pat Goodman, Board of Directors Vice President



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## Summertime at the Lake

By the time you're reading this, we should be starting into prime lake season and (hopefully) you're enjoying the replenished water level at Sun Valley. As evidenced by our lake level, we've had a wet spring season, and while the extra water is certainly contributing to the beauty and safety of our lake, it also presents other challenges (mowing, soft ground, re-adjusting dock placement, etc.).

With the summer season comes the fun and excitement of more boating and fishing activity. Our better lake depth helps improve our 'Fast Boat' area size and reduces (somewhat) the chances for striking unexpected, fixed hazards in the water. But the influx of water can also bring about more debris in the lake, and so we urge all our recreational boaters to stay alert

and aware for unexpected 'floating' objects. The increased water level also can impact shorelines that aren't adequately protected, creating erosion. We hope all SVILA lakefront owners are looking at their shoreline rock and, where necessary, making plans to reinforce it and protect our lake.

Many of you commented during dues renewal time about the improvements we've made for boating and non-standard vehicle (NSV) registrations. After a couple of transition years, we're now fully implemented with our new Homeowner Association Management system. Instead of completing forms each year, we'll now move forward with all membership data contained in one system, expedited boat and NSV stickering, online forms for new registrations, online rules acknowledgement, and more. We hope the changes make things easier for you as members to get your season started. We KNOW the changes are helping our office staff more easily manage the data complexities of our continually growing membership.

Lastly, you'll see some new (and some familiar) faces on the water this summer in our Lake Patrol boats. We continue to focus our program on safety, and we look forward to their contributions helping all Sun Valley members enjoy a great 2024 lake season. As you head towards the water, please be sure your families and guests are aware of our rules. We want everyone (members and guests) to enjoy a safe and fun summer on the water at our premier, private Iowa lake.

Gene Smith  
SVILA Manager  
[LakeManager@sunvalleylake.com](mailto:LakeManager@sunvalleylake.com)

Photo by Geri



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## MEET THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF FOOD (JLF)

Did you know every time you enjoy food at THE CLUBHOUSE Bar + Grille you are supporting a 501c3? Food proceeds go to support their efforts to "teach a man to fish" and fight hunger. We thought you might want to learn more about this organization that has a presence right here at Sun Valley Lake, starting with the mission and how it all started...

### MISSION

The Justice League of Food (JLF) works to break the cycle of underemployment and food insecurity in Central Iowa by **"Teaching a Man to Fish"**. We invest in individuals by providing workshops, job training and placement in the food and beverage industry. The JLF envisions a strong workforce filled with people who are empowered to provide for themselves.

### HISTORY

The JLF was founded by Nick and Lynn Kuhn in 2017. After spending a few years feeding the homeless and the hungry with local food trucks, they realized that their efforts were not moving the needle as they were seeing the same faces year after year. This realization combined with other personal experiences prompted them to come up with a different solution. An opportunity to create a sustainable model based on collaboration between for-profit, non-profit and local government materialized and the JLF was born.

## "Teach a Man to Fish"

### WHAT WE DO:

The JLF partners with Polk County to prepare and distribute meals to hungry people in the Des Moines Metro. Hot meals are delivered to community centers 3 days a week for anybody who needs it, with no questions asked. The JLF also provides customized/tailored experiences designed around the needs of specific individuals or groups, including workshops, cooking classes, field trips, and a culinary and life skills job training program.

### WAYS TO HELP:

Know of an organization that serves at risk individuals that may benefit from culinary/life skills training/workshops?

Looking for a fun space & catering for your next event?

Want to know more about our fun workshops, classes and beautiful dinners?

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info@justiceleagueoffood.org (events, catering, tours)

beth@justiceleagueoffood.org (Job Training Program & Workshops)

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# TIMELY REMINDERS



**Kids' Fishing Tournament – June 29<sup>TH</sup>** - See information inside this issue. See the SVILA web page to register.



**PHOTO CONTEST RETURNS!** Take those photos to document and celebrate the 2024 Lake Season! Watch the SVILA website and Facebook page for details about when and where to submit.

**WOMEN WHO WINE – June 26<sup>th</sup> - July 31 – August 3<sup>rd</sup> – August 28<sup>th</sup>**

**YOGA WITH JESS, 10 a.m. June 29<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>**

**CONCERT @ the CLUBHOUSE, 7 p.m. June 29<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>**

**2024 FUN RUN – September 1<sup>st</sup>**



**SVILA FIREWORKS – FRIDAY, JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
**RAINDATE – SATURDAY, JULY 6<sup>TH</sup>**

Photo by Sandy Blount

Have you logged in to the NEW/UPDATED Sun Valley Iowa Lake Association web page?  
[www.sunvalleylake.com](http://www.sunvalleylake.com)

Connect to the Sun Valley Lake Facebook page!  
“Sun Valley Iowa Lake Association - SVILA”  
SVILA Members Only

Get the official updates and notices, learn what is going on at the lake from SVILA sources (SVILA Office, Committees, Lake Groups).



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- *Nephrology (Associates in Kidney Care)*  
**Patrick Chua, MD**
- *Orthopedics (Rural Partners in Medicine)*  
**Shehada Hamedan, MD**
- *Pain Management*  
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- *Podiatry*  
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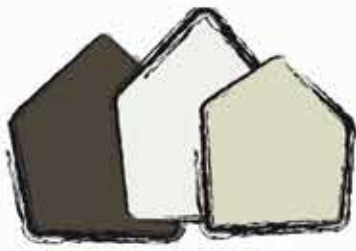
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Aww Summer!

At this writing the Lake is back to normal water levels and the Sanitary District is working at full capacity. Our project is nearly complete, but we are still waiting on the back-up generator for the Bunker Lift Station which is now expected in July. Once the generator is installed the upgrade project will be complete! Thanks again to everyone involved with the project.

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, we will hold our Special Election to elect a successor trustee to the Sun Valley Sanitary District. By the time you receive this publication, the election will be over, and we will most likely have elected Bill Havekost to the Board of Trustees replacing Pete Petersen as Treasurer. Please welcome Bill and thank Pete for his service to our community.

Most homes have an e/One lift station in the yard. Each lift station has an audible alarm and flashing red light to notify homeowners of e/One pump failure or the need for service. Please do not ignore the alarm or warning light. If you see or hear the alarms, smell sewer, or see sewage at any lift station, please call our service line immediately 641-234-2099.

REMEMBER ONLY HUMAN WASTE GOES IN THE SEWER SYSTEM. Among the items that should NEVER be flushed or put into the sewer drain include but are not limited to the following items: Female Hygiene Products (Tampons, Applicators or Pads), baby diapers, flushable or non-flushable wipes, disposal dish rags/towels, non-biodegradable products, paints, solvents, and more. If you're not sure, call before you dump it down the drain!

Once again, a big thank you to our employees Dion Giles and Carrie Christiansen and our Board of Trustees! They work tirelessly to keep our district working!

Have a fun and safe summer!!

Your Board of Trustees  
Chuck Gassmann  
John Bednarz  
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