

Mission Statement

“Committed to the success of the Big Lake business community through information, communication, cooperation and support for all.”

Board of Directors

President: Tim Suchy
Edward Jones 763.262.9988

Vice President: Steve Westerberg, Big Lake Schools 763.262.5218

Treasurer: Brenda Geldert, Options, Inc. 763.263.3684

Secretary: Hanna Klimmek, City of Big Lake 763.251.2979

Ken Geroux , Ken Geroux Construction 763.263.6878

Paul Knier, Cabot Lodge Securities 763-263-1716

Scott Schulz, Great River Spine & Sport 763.260.8401

Allen Snegosky, Sherburne State Bank 763-271-4919

Karen Tomfohrde, Insurance Specialists Team (IST) 763-244-3735 x302

Executive Director: Gloria Vande Brake 763-263-7800

info@biglakechamber.com
160 Lake Street N
P.O. Box 241, Big Lake, MN 55309

Office Hours

Tuesday & Wednesday
8 am - 10 am
And alternate Fridays
Or by appointment

GLORIA’S GEMS

I just want to thank all the businesses, non-profit organizations and governmental agencies who sponsored a booth at the Big Lake Community Fair on March 3rd, along with all the volunteers, performers and special attractions.

This month I want to feature one of our non-profit members who has for years, faithfully volunteered many hours at the Community Fair: Women of Today!

MEMBER OF THE MONTH: WOMEN OF TODAY

Big Lake Women of Today has been organized for around 30 years, similar to Big Lake Chamber.

One of their two major events is the Easter Egg hunt scheduled for 11 am on Saturday, April 13th at Lakeside Park (although they recommend families come at 10:30). Natalie Bender reports that they prepare 16,000 Easter eggs and lots of candy & toys.

The second event is the Spooktakular Trail that Women of Today member Melissa Kroll organizes, with the help of many others. This year they operated the Haunted Trail for 3 weekends.

Their volunteers also help organize Spud Fest Parade.

Kroll encourages “other women who want to be involved in the community, help out at community events, share ideas and have fun to come to a meeting and check us out!”



Women of Today volunteers at the Sunday Fair include: (front) Melissa Kroll, Nyla Bender, Natalie Bender, Patti Borchert (back) Mel Borchert, and Michelle Donner.





Colin Sinkfield, owner of **Gazelle Painting LLC**, joined the Chamber last month and sponsored a booth at the Big Lake Community Fair.



The business provides a variety of services including painting, wood-work, drywall repair and installation, deck staining and door trimwork and installation.

Big Lake Lions Annual



MARCH 8, 2019

4:30pm to 7:30pm

Big Lake Lions/Township Park
21960 - County Road 5

Potato Milk and Coffee Coleslaw
FRIED FISH
Baked Beans Dinner Roll

Big Lake Lioness Club will be selling dessert!

ADULTS - \$10.00
CHILDREN (10 & UNDER) - \$5.00

Proceeds will be donated to the
Big Lake Backpack Buddies

We collect old eye glasses - bring them with you.

See you there!

Ambassadors Meeting

Join us on Wednesday, March 12th at 11:30 at
Friendly Buffalo!



Events



Living the Dream –Historic Homes of Minnesota

Photographer Doug Ohman shares "If walls could talk" as he takes you to many of Minnesota's most elegant homes. For school age children to adults. A Legacy event.

Monday, March 11 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The Magic of Dr. Seuss

Join Magician Bob for his Magic of Dr. Seuss show. For ages 3 and up. Limit 40. No registration necessary. A Legacy event.

Friday, March 15 from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Author Brian Freeman-rescheduled from Feb

Join Brian for a funny and entertaining look at his 14 year career writing twist-filled psychological thrillers, including best-sellers like "Alter Ego" (set in Duluth!). For teens and adults. A Legacy event.

Monday, March 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.



YOUR VOICE IN GOVERNMENT



Governmental Affairs Committee members Allen Snegosky of Sherburne State Bank, Tim Suchy of Edward Jones & Gloria Vande Brake headed to the Capital on Feb 27th with over 200 other business representatives from 30 chambers at the MN Chamber's Business Day at the Capital.



The day before at the February membership meeting, Snegosky asked if anyone had any concerns that we needed to share with our legislators. Spud Fest board member Raeanne Danielowski reported that their lawful gambling proceeds to worthy community projects were severely reduced by the high state taxes they pay.

When we met with State Senator Mary Kiffmeyer about this concern, she informed us that she cosponsored S.F. No. 414 to help non-profit organizations, by allowing lawful purpose contributions to be excluded from the state tax.



The companion House bill is HF1027. When we met with Rep. Nick Zerwas & Rep. Marion O'Neill of Monticello, we shared this bill with them. Rep. Zerwas indicated he would support it and Rep. O'Neill appreciated hearing about the bill and supported its passage as it moved out of her Commerce Committee a couple days later.



The picture to the right is Chamber President Tim Suchy with State Senator Bruce Anderson.



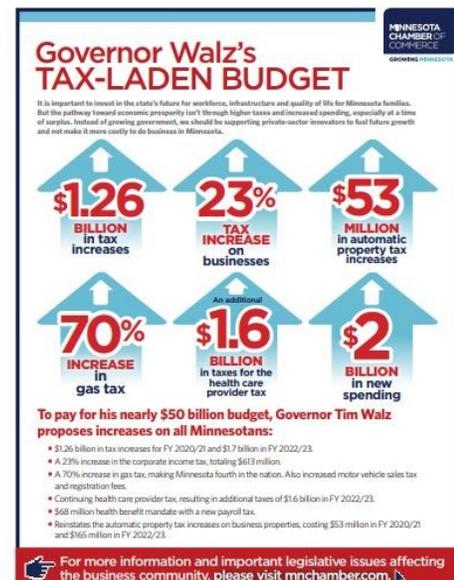
MINNESOTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

GROWING MINNESOTA

Minnesota Business Tax Increases?

With the revised budget projections for 2020-21 dropping almost \$500,000, the Minnesota Chamber would like the state legislature and Governor Walz to rein in new spending. While there may be a surplus in revenue in the next couple of years, projections in 2022-23 may have over a \$10 million deficit.

Unfortunately, Governor Walz's budget puts a hefty burden on area businesses with a request for \$.20/gallon gas tax increase and an overall 8.5% increase in the state budget. The flyer to the right indicates the proposed increases for businesses.



Governor Walz's TAX-LADEN BUDGET

It is important to invest in the state's future for workforce, infrastructure and quality of life for Minnesota families. But the pathway toward economic prosperity isn't through higher taxes and increased spending, especially at a time of surplus. Instead of growing government, we should be supporting private-sector innovators to fuel future growth and not make it more costly to do business in Minnesota.

\$1.26 BILLION in tax increases	23% TAX INCREASE on businesses	\$53 MILLION in automatic property tax increases
70% INCREASE in gas tax	\$1.6 BILLION in taxes for the health care provider tax	\$2 BILLION in new spending

To pay for his nearly \$50 billion budget, Governor Tim Walz proposes increases on all Minnesotans:

- \$1.26 billion in tax increases for FY 2020/21 and \$1.7 billion in FY 2022/23.
- A 23% increase in the corporate income tax, totaling \$613 million.
- A 70% increase in gas tax, making Minnesota fourth in the nation. Also increased motor vehicle sales tax and registration fees.
- Continuing health care provider tax, resulting in additional taxes of \$1.6 billion in FY 2022/23.
- \$68 million health benefit mandate with a new payroll tax.
- Reinstates the automatic property tax increases on business properties, costing \$53 million in FY 2020/21 and \$165 million in FY 2022/23.

For more information and important legislative issues affecting the business community, please visit mchamber.com.



Employee-Owners
WORKING FOR YOU

RiverWood Bank is now employee-owned, so you have the opportunity to work with an owner every day. Stop by or call us today.



RiverWoodBank.com

BIG LAKE
 240 Jefferson Boulevard
 763-262-2265

MONTICELLO
 1421 7th Street East
 763-295-2265

MEMBER FDIC



GOLF SCRAMBLE THURSDAY, MAY 23rd

Thanks to the enthusiastic Golf Committee, the Chamber will be hosting their first annual Golf Scramble on Thursday, May 23rd from 9-5 pm at the Monticello Golf Club.

Master Sponsors to date include :



will provide \$20,000 to a Hole in One golfer.

1st Annual

GOLF SCRAMBLE

Building Community Connections

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019 FROM 9-5 PM
MONTICELLO COUNTRY CLUB
1209 GOLF COURSE RD, MONTICELLO MN

SPONSORSHIPS

Master Sponsors: \$625 for sponsorship of event & includes green fees, cart, light breakfast & dinner for 4 golfers)

Classic Sponsor: \$200. Includes sponsorship of a golf hole with signage. You are encouraged to have a game or event at your golf tee box.

Dinner Sponsor: Receives signage at table at start time and also at the dinner buffet.

Beverage Cart Sponsor (2): \$450. Your company logo on carts

Driving Range Sponsor: \$200. Signage at the driving range. Can have table set-up to greet golfers the day of the tournament

Putting Contest Sponsor: Donate prize.

Party Cart: \$200. Party Cart will be decorated to theme of the Golf Scramble & have sponsor's logo on signage on the cart. Sponsor can also provide prizes.

HOLE IN ONE \$20,000 PRIZE sponsored by



*** All sponsors will be recognized in Big Lake Chamber Newsletter, Facebook, & Big Lake Chamber Website and Special Recognition at the Awards Dinner.



Sponsor at www.biglakechamber.com/eventsand search for golf.



SCHEDULE

- 9 am Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 10 am Shotgun
- 3 pm Social Hour
- 4 pm Awards Dinner



Classic sponsors include: Connexus Energy, DataSuccess, Old National/KleinBank and Options, Inc.

There are still many opportunities to sponsor as noted in the poster to the left.

Below is a flyer for golfers and their teams to register. Early bird registration is due April 20th. You can go online to sponsor or register at [Golf Scramble here!](#)

1st Annual GOLF SCRAMBLE

Building Community Connections

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019 FROM 9-5 PM
MONTICELLO COUNTRY CLUB
1209 GOLF COURSE RD, MONTICELLO MN

GOLFERS

Enjoy games such as longest drive, longest putt, closest to pin, Mulligans

HOLE IN ONE \$20,000 PRIZE sponsored by



First, Second & Third Prizes with Trophy

Team with Lowest Score receives \$200 to use at Pro Shop

Team with Highest Scores receives FREE lessons by pro!

Early Bird by April 20th: \$80 each or Team of 4 at \$300 paid together

After April 20th: \$90 or \$360 per Team of 4 paid together

Master Sponsors include:



Register at www.biglakechamber.com/eventsand search for golf.



2019 Big Lake Community Fair



This past Sunday on March 3rd, Big Lake Chamber hosted the Big Lake Community Fair at the High School with an attendance of nearly 500. Thirty-eight businesses, non-profit & governmental groups sponsored booths and offered fun activities to attendees, Big Lake Ambassadors offered face painting. Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon offered samples of MREs (Meal Ready to Eat) that our soldiers eat. Coborns and Kwik Trip provided various food items. Students from Evolution Tae Kwon Do performed for the attendees. We thank Connexus Energy for sponsoring the event.




Please join us at
Guardian Angels'
17th Annual Gala

“Enchanted Garden”

Saturday, March 9, 2019
at 5:00pm

Courtyards of Andover
13545 Martin Street NW, Andover, MN

Step into a preview of spring and enjoy cocktails, appetizers, games, prizes and silent action with a gourmet dinner to follow. Proceeds will provide seed money for two exciting new programs at Guardian Angels. Learn how you can be part of seniors improving their health, aging in place, and maintaining personal dignity and quality of life.

For more information contact:
Pat Hackman at
phackman@ga-er.org
or 763-635-5476
guardianangelsmn.org

ENCHANTED GARDEN
Guardian Angels 2019 Gala



What's important to you? Let's talk.



Tim Suchy, AAMS®, CRPC®
Financial Advisor
690 Humboldt Drive Suite D
Big Lake, MN 55309
763-262-9988

www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



ST. CLOUD STATE
UNIVERSITY

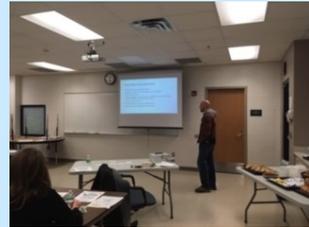
MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING



St. Cloud State University President Robbyn Wacker will be speaking at our March membership meeting on Tuesday, March 26th. As St. Cloud State University celebrates its 150th anniversary serving students from Big Lake, across Minnesota and beyond, President Wacker wants to hear from Chamber members on their ideas to help shape SCSU to best serve the changing needs of students in our area. She is dedicated to creating more pathways for everyone to access higher ed programs. The Hideout Restaurant will be hosting and providing a buffet lunch. Meeting begins at 11:45 and lunch will be \$15. [Register here!](#)



Photo to the left is from our February meeting with Brad Schnitzler, Big Lake Schools Community Education Director & Liberty Principal Caryl Gordy sharing their programs to the members. Sherburne County Sgt Ryan Broich updated members on the activities of the Drug Task Force.



CHAMBER CHAT at noon on Tuesday, March 19th at Chamber Office. Share your ideas, thoughts and let's solve the world problems together!

MEMBER DEALS

Check out our member-to-member offers on the Chamber website. [Check them out here!](#)



OPEN HOUSE

2019 Construction Trades-Student Built House

Monday March 11th at 4:00-7:00pm

FOR SALE

1,560 sq ft 3 BR rambler, 3 bath (1 full, 1 ¼ and ½ bath) bay window, 1st floor laundry, vaulted ceilings-living room, dining room & kitchen with quality tile, vanities, flooring and cabinets. Marvin Integrity windows & patio door. Buyer moves to their location.

Sealed bids accepted up until Monday March 25th by 3:00pm.

MINIMUM BID: \$79,900



Wright Technical Center
1405 3rd Ave. NE
Buffalo, MN 55313
763-682-4112

Please visit our website www.wtc.k12.mn.us or contact Wright Technical Center for more information. If you are unable to attend the open house, please call for an appointment.

Wright Technical Center
OPEN HOUSE

We invite you to visit our state-of-the-art facility and learn more about the exciting Career & Technical programs and answer any questions!

WHEN: Monday, March 11, 2019
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

WHO: All students, parents, business partners and community members.

1405 3rd Ave NE
Buffalo, MN 55313

Come for a hotdog, chips, beverage and a chance to win fabulous door prizes.

Questions about the Open House event, please call 763-682-4112.



The **WRIGHT** path for High School

Economic Development Business After Hours



March's Business After Hours on **Thursday, March 21st starting at 5 pm** at Russell's will focus on an informal discussion on economic development in the Big Lake area. Join the Chamber's Economic Development Committee and Hanna Klimmek, City of Big Lake Community Development Director discuss what's happening with business growth in the area and ideas for the future. There is no charge but we ask you to [register here](#).

FUTURE BUSINESS AFTER HOURS--SAVE THE DATE

April 18th - Trails

May 16th - Third Rail

June 20th - Friendly Buffalo

July 18th - Lupulin

August 15th - McPete's

All events begin at 5 pm



KleinBank
A DIVISION OF OLD NATIONAL BANK

888-553-4648
Big Lake | 19943 Co Rd 43
kleinbank.com

Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

Adopt A Pole

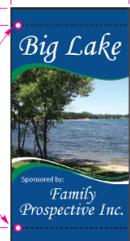
Businesses and families in the Big Lake area have an opportunity to adopt a pole on Highway 10. Sponsor this program to receive your name on two seasonal banners hung year-round and help **Promote Community Spirit!**

**Projected
Lifespan
3-4 years!**



Year-Round Banner Package: \$125

Contact Corrie Scott, Recreation Coordinator for the City of Big Lake:
612-297-6331 or cscott@biglakemn.org



The City of Big Lake will be responsible for storage and maintenance as needed. The City of Big Lake is not responsible for acts of vandalism or severe weather damage. The above banner design is from 2014. Design is subject to change.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Lupulin Brewing will end its celebration of Big Beer Week with a Firemen's Chili Cookoff from 4-8pm on Saturday, March 9th along with Gess What's Cooki' all day and Wicked Garden performing live at 8 pm.



City of Big Lake rescheduled its February Lake Clean Up Day to Sunday, March 10th from 1-3 pm at Lakeside Park. Dress warm (including water-resistant boots) and email Corrie at scott@biglakemn.org if you have access to sleds or four-wheelers.



City of Big Lake has an opening for a member on the Big Lake Economic Development Association. See Community Development Director Hanna Klimmek for more information.

Members can submit their announcements to info@biglakechamber.com.



American Legion Post 560
AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

\$1,000 COVERALL
*Additional \$5 Card Purchase Required

COACH PURSE BINGO

HORSE & DUCKY
Video Pull Tab Races

PURSE RAFFLES
Must Be 18 or Older To Attend

Saturday - March 9th
Friendly Buffalo - Big Lake
Proceeds benefit Veterans and their families

Doors Open AT 11:00 AM
Games Start AT 1:30 PM

\$20 ENTRY PACKAGE | **\$5** EXTRA PACKAGE
6 Faces for Each Game | 3 Faces for Each Game

THE FRIENDLY BUFFALO
A SPOT FOR FUN AND FOOD



Saturday, May 4th, 2019
11:00am - 1:00pm
Big Lake Senior Center
Located in City Hall
160 Lake Street North, Big Lake, MN

Do you have broken or damaged items lying around the house? Instead of sending them to a landfill, get them fixed and learn valuable repair skills!
Examples of what to bring include small appliances and items such as clothing, curtains, jewelry, coffee makers, fans, toys, lamps, stereos, blenders, frames, etc...



Volunteers Needed!

People with skills in electronics repair, electrical repair, sewing, wood working, or general tinkering are needed to make this event a success!
If you are interested in volunteering or have any further questions, please contact Corrie Scott at 612.297.6331 or cscott@biglakemn.org.

VOLUNTEER FOR A CHAMBER COMMITTEE in 2019

In addition to its Board of Directors, the Chamber has seven Committees that members can be involved. Several of these are short-term Committees around a specific event while others advise the Board on specific issues. Please consider volunteering for one of the following and email your interest to info@biglakechamber.com:

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Ambassadors | Block Party | Economic Development |
| Golf Scramble | Governmental Affairs | Holiday Social |
| Community Fair | | |

Creating Trauma Responsive Environments: Understanding the Impact of Toxic Stress on Children's Behavior, How Exposure to Significant Stress Affects Children's Behavior and How We Can Help



Date: Thursday, March 28th, 2019

Time:

1:00-2:45 pm	Dr. Mark Sander on Toxic Stress
2:45-3:00 pm	Bounce Back Project
5:30 – 6:00 pm	Resource Fair
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Dr. Mark Sander on Stress Affects Children's Behavior
7:30 – 7:45	Bounce Back Project

Place: Becker High School
Performing Arts Center, Enter Door #3
12000 Hancock St. SE, Becker, MN 55308

**NO COST
EVENT!**

Dr. Mark Sander will present findings from current brain research regarding the impact of toxic stress and trauma on brain development, as well as findings from the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) study. He will provide examples of how to build resilience in various environments such as schools, after-school programs, and the community. Dr. Sander will speak on the importance of self-care for everyone who touches the life of a child and how self-care is one of the most important steps of building a trauma-sensitive environment.

Sponsored by Sherburne County BRIDGES Children's Mental Health Collaborative

Child care and food will not be available for this event. Please plan accordingly.



Winter Farmers Market
 Sharon Lutheran Church • 3:00-6:00pm
 311 Lakes St. S., Big Lake, MN 55309 • 2nd Friday of month
 November 9 • December 14* • January 11
 February 8* • March 8 • April 12*
*Market Hours: 10am - 1pm (weather dependent)

Debit/Credit & Snap/EBT Accepted
 Market Bucks Match Program
 Live Monthly Musicians
 Free Kids Activities
 Vendor Products:
 Homemade and homegrown produce, baked goods, meat, eggs, syrup, honey, tea, salsa, pickles, jam, crafts, and more!

www.biglakemn.org

Qualifying Chamber Code of 0123974331 or 02040@biglakemn.org

Newsletter Tidbits

Due

Want to include something in the Chamber Newsletter? Send us a 1/4 page ad or a few sentences to include in next month's newsletter by Wednesday, Friday, March 22nd. Full page ads can be added for only \$25 per month. Are you a new member? Ask the Chamber how to redeem your free full page ad!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Lions Fish Fry 4:30-7:30 pm @ BL Lions/ Township Park	9 Coach Purse Bingo 1:30 @ Friendly Buffalo Guardian Angels Gala at 5 pm at Court- yards of Ando- ver
10	11	12 Chamber Board Meeting 12:30 at City Council Chambers	13 Ambassadors 11:30 @ Friend- ly Buffalo	14	15	16
17	18	19 Chamber Chat noon at Cham- ber Office Bring your lunch.	20 Golf Scramble Committee noon at Trails	21 Economic De- velopment Business after Hours 5 pm @ Russell's. Reg- ister here	22	23
24	25	26 Membership Meeting at 11:45 at The Hideout Res- taurant. Regis- ter here!	27	28		

Mark Your Calendar!

April 12 at 3pm: Last Winter Farmers Market at Saron Lutheran. Seniors receive \$3 coupon.

April 18 at 5 pm: Business After Hours at Trails.

April 20: Early Bird registration expiring for Golf Scramble teams. [Click here](#)

April 30: Membership Meeting at 11:45 am featuring non-profit organizations.

May 4: Fix-It Clinic at BL Senior Center