

Mission Statement

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

Board of Directors

Chair: Paul Knier

Cabot Lodge Securities 763-263-1716

Vice Chair: Monica Parrish

Bullseye Properties 763-275-1515

Secretary: Brenda Geldert

Options, Inc. 763-263-3684

Treasurer: Hanna Klimmek

City of Big Lake 763-251-2979

Ken Geroux, Ken Geroux Construction
763-263-6878

Cory Laugen, State Farm
763-263-0513

Allen Snegosky, Sherburne State Bank
763-271-4919

Tim Suchy, Edward Jones
763.262.9988

Executive Director: Gloria Vande Brake
763-263-7800

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

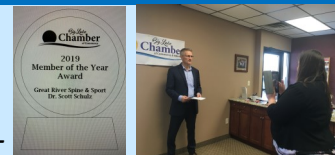
Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 am -noon
Or by appointment

GLORIA’S GEMS

It was exciting to have our members select Great River Spine & Sport-Dr. Scott Schulz as the first annual Member of the Year award winner. In the photo above, award sponsor Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities is video-taped by Monica Parrish of Bullseye Properties as he announces the winner at our Holiday Social.

Dr. Scott started the Christmas tree decoration in Browns Park as well as the Golf Scramble. He has completed five years on our Board with two of those years as chair. We thank him and Great River Spine & Sport for their contributions to the Chamber.



MEMBER OF THE MONTH: GREAT RIVER SPINE & SPORT

Great River Spine & Sport has been operating in Big Lake since 1978 when it was known as Big Lake Chiropractic with Dr. Greg Smock. In 2012 Dr. Bill Milke purchased the clinic.

Wanting to return to MN to be closer to family, Dr. Scott Schulz joined the clinic a year later after owning his own clinic in Nebraska for 24 years. He specializes in sports injuries, family care, workers' compensation and DOT physicals. “I really encourage preventative health care on a regular basis to keep you healthy,” Dr. Schulz noted. “This can reduce your pain when you are hurt.”

The clinic offers physical therapy and massage in Big Lake and acupuncture at their Monticello clinic.



Receiving the 2019 Member of the Year Award from Great River Spine & Sport: at left Tara Roehlke, Ali Landberg, Dr. Beth Briggs, Sicara Bluhm, Sara Peterson, Dr. Bill Mickle, Dr. Scott Schulz and Chamber Chair Tim Suchy. Photo by Corrie Scott of City of Big Lake.



WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Big Lake American Legion & Auxiliary: The Legion celebrated 100 years in September! They provide a Memorial Day Service every May and free dinner to veterans and their guests every fall. They also provide gift cards and services to military and their families, provide youth scholarships, contribute to the Big Lake Police canine program and community events such as the Big Lake Block Party and Santa Day in December. See their listing on our webpage [here!](#)

RE/MAX Results-Liz Fagen: Realtor Liz Fagen is a seasoned sales professional with 15 years of experience in the executive sales market. She has successfully negotiated numerous multi-million dollar transactions in her career. She is now using these sales and negotiating talents to help her clients negotiate the purchase of their new homes. Clients will appreciate her down-to-earth style, which gives them comfort, confidence and trust. Check her out [here!](#)



Keller Lake Commons Assisted Living
Would like to invite you to our
Show and Tell



Please come celebrate with us the opening of our assisted living program.

We'd love to tell you about our program and show you all we have to offer.

Lunch is on us! Come enjoy lunch and let us tell you about our assisted living program starting January 29th, 2020.

Please RSVP to our Housing Director at 763-263-2363 or Nicole.gilder@vapm.com

January 8, 2020 11am-2pm
655 Norwood Lane, Big Lake, MN 55309

We look forward to seeing you!

KELLER LAKE COMMONS
655 Norwood Lane
| Nicole.gilder@vapm.com |



We Understand Commitment

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Tim Suchy, AAMS®, CRPC®
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Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



*Proudly serving the
 Big Lake area since 1885*



**RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE TOP 50
 EXTRAORDINARY BANKS IN THE NATION**
 - INSTITUTE OF EXTRAORDINARY BANKING



"I am so proud of our 135-year legacy, but even more proud of our staff who build long-lasting relationships with our customers. As a community bank, our focus has always been to provide exceptional customer service and meaningful involvement in the community."

At the end of the day, it comes down to people, and I feel that we have the best. I'd like The Bank of Elk River to be your bank. We'd love to earn your business."

John Babcock
 President/CEO/Chairman



thebankofelkriver.com | 763-441-1000
 Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

COMMUNITY FAIR CHANGES DATE & TIME

For the first time in many years the Community Fair will be held on a Saturday in the morning as well as a couple weeks later than usual: March 21st from 9-noon.

The Winter Farmers Market vendors will join the Community Fair at the Big Lake High School. Entertainment is being planned in the gym with booths around them. Free food will be offered with lots of give-away items.

Because booth pricing is remaining the same as the last three years, sponsorships of \$250, \$500 and \$1000 are being requested to pay for the costs of providing entertainment in the gym.

Photos from last year's Fair below includes Abba Pregnancy Resources and Wright Sherburne Realty with Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon offering samples of Meals Ready To Eat (MREs). Early bird registrations are due Feb. 18th.



THE BUFF
Formerly The Friendly Buffalo

GRAND RE-OPENING

Thursday, January 16th, 2020 • 5-9PM

Join us in Celebrating our New Name!

- Complimentary Food Tasting
- Beer, Liquor & Wine Tasting

1/2 OFF ALL Flatbreads & Listed Appetizers

- Nachos
- Boneless Wings
- Buffalo Dip & Spinach Dip
- Walleye Cakes
- All Snack Baskets
- Sidewinders (Chili Cheese, Southwest Pork, & Cheesesteak)

\$3 — 20oz Taps

- Bud Light • Mich Light • Miller Lite • Coors Light



Formerly The Friendly Buffalo
16722 198th Ave., BIG LAKE, MN
thebuffmn.com

Bullseye Properties is a licensed real estate brokerage specializing in residential and commercial sales. We are experienced with: single-family homes, town homes, condos, apartments, homeowner associations and retail/office/warehouse.

As licensed Realtors, we recognize the importance of protecting and maximizing your real estate investment. Whether you're buying, selling or leasing, our trained professionals have both expertise and understanding to ensure you get the best value.



(763) 275-1515 | 35 Lake Street South, Ste. #300, Big Lake, MN 55309 | www.bullseyeproperties.com

FEATURED LISTING:



For Sale or Lease: \$208,999/\$1,750

2 Office Condos totaling 1,688 S.F.
14054 Bank Street, Becker, MN

Beautifully built-out with reception desk, 3 private offices, bathroom, breakroom, plus large flex room to use as showroom or cubical area or as you see fit.



2020 Community Fair
Saturday, March 21, 2020
9 am—noon
Big Lake High School

**With Winter Farmers Market
& Entertainment!**

BUSINESS NAME: _____

TYPE OF BUSINESS/ MAIN SERVICES: _____

PRIMARY CONTACT: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Registration fee includes: 8x10 draped booth, 1 8ft. draped table & two chairs, fully carpeted area, & promoting for Community event. Set up times: 7-9 pm on 3/20 and 7:30 am on 3/21

- ◇ 6 PREMIUM Booth Spaces at entrance of Fair- for an additional \$50: only available until February 18, 2020 (same day that Early Bird Discount ends)
- ◇ Early Bird- \$20 Discount on registration if paid by February 18, 2020
- ◇ Sales of new, pre-packaged items will be allowed at booths.
- ◇ PLEASE NOTE: Open food is NOT permitted in any part of the gymnasium. If you wish to give samples, we are offering one complimentary food court table with a paid booth in the gymnasium

Food Court is for FREE FOOD samples ONLY; sales in the court will NOT be permitted

Booth Space:	Sub-total:
<input type="checkbox"/> Chamber member**: 1 booth @ \$200.00; additional booths @ \$125 each (does not include electricity)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Chamber member: 1 booth @ \$350.00 ; additional booths @ \$200 each (does not include electricity)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Premium Booth Space ___x \$50.00 additional charge to booth fee.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Food Court Table (members) # of tables ___ x \$75.00 (includes electricity)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Food Court Table (non-members) # of tables ___ x \$125.00 (includes electricity)	_____

Extra, Optional Items:

- Electricity \$20 (one outlet per booth, limited availability, bring your own cord) _____
- Additional skirted table 4ft__ 6ft__ 8ft__ x \$30.00 (do not bring your own) _____
- Complimentary Food Court table with paid booth for food samples (does not include electricity)

Full Payment Must Accompany This Registration Form

Payment Information: Checks, Cash, or Visa/MasterCard accepted. Make checks payable and mail to:
Big Lake Chamber of Commerce & Industry, PO Box 241, Big Lake, MN 55309

Name on Card _____ Number _____ Expiration _____

Signature _____ Date _____ CVC _____

\$20 discount if payment received by February 18th, 2020 - _____

Total Paid: _____

Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 4th, 2020

*Your booth is NOT confirmed unless payment is received. A confirmation email will immediately be sent as soon as payment arrives. If you do not receive a confirmation email from the BLCC&I, we did not receive your info or payment. Please look for your email and contact us if you do not receive it within one week of sending your registration. **If you check member pricing, you must be up-to-date on your membership dues**



Since July 2019, The Wave Youth Center has raised nearly \$80,000 to remodel their space and hire staff. To continue to impact area youth, they ask for monthly sustaining gifts which can be set-up through their website, donor's bank bill pay system, or employer's gift-matching program.

HOURS: School Days: M,T,TH,F 2-6p; W 2-5:30p
Non School Days: M,T,Th,F 11-6p; W 11-5:30p



Events



Storytime

Children, with a favorite adult, enjoy books, songs, rhymes and movement activities while building language and early literacy skills through reading, singing, talking and playing. Craft project included. For ages 2+. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Every Friday starting January 10 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

ECFE at the Library

ECFE and the library are collaborating to host a monthly circle time! Join us as we sing songs, do movement activities, create fun crafts, and read books. For ages 0-5 and their families. Limit 30. Registration required.

Tuesday, Jan. 14 and Feb. 11 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Yoga Storytime

Movement enhances early learning. Sing and read, move and be still. Please wear comfortable clothing. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate with their children. For ages 3-6. Limit 20. Registration required.

Friday, Jan. 24 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

TEEN EVENTS

"Who Done It" Escape Room: Grab your friends and form a group for a 60 minute "scavenger" hunt. For teens. Limited space. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Wed., Jan. 22 and Mon., Feb 10 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

ADULT EVENTS

Winter Reading Program Kickoff: Kick off the Winter Reading Program with the shredded book challenge. Make your guess for a chance at a winter prize. Find out the answer at the end of January. For teens and adults. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Thursday, Jan. 2 to Friday, Jan 31. During library open hours

Valentine Craft : Come and enjoy a night out creating. Limit 15. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Monday, Jan. 27 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

FAMILY EVENTS

Mystery Art: Everybody loves a mystery! Learn an interesting layering technique...That's the only clue! Limit 12. For ages 12 to adult. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Thursday, Jan. 23 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Follow them and like them on FB. Events can be found and registration can take place on the online library events calendar <https://griver.org/events/6/all/all/0/calendar/2019-12>

ARE YOU FRIENDLY, APPROACHABLE AND AGE 55+?

If so, we need you! Volunteer at Big Lake Schools through RSVP.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Tasks can include:

- Helping in the classroom
- Leading recess games
- Helping in the Library
- Working in the garden
- Sharing your special interests
- And more! We can work with you to find a great fit!

GET IN TOUCH

RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) Big Lake Schools District Office
(763) 635-4505 / rsvp@ci.stcloud.mn.us (763) 262-2536
www.ci.stcloud.mn.us/RSVP communications@biglakeschools.org

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SPECIAL ELECTIONS FOR NEW STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Next week Tuesday January 14 from 7 am-8 pm a Special Primary Election is held at all the precincts for House District 30A Republican candidates. Paul Novotny of Elk River is the endorsed Republican candidate and Kathy Ziebarth of Big Lake is challenging him. Novotny plans to retire as deputy of Sherburne County Sheriff's office in May. Ziebarth is a veteran and a certified registered nurse anesthetist.

The winner of the primary will face DFL-endorsed candidate Chad Hobot of Elk River (photo below at right) at the special election polls at all precincts on Tuesday, February 4th from 7 am-8 pm. Hobot owns an internet marketing company. The candidates have been invited to speak at the Chamber's January 28th membership meeting.



MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Effective January 1st the minimum wage for small businesses in MN is \$8.15/hr when the employer's annual gross revenues are less than \$500,000. Minneapolis is \$11.00/hr at St. Paul will be \$9.25-\$10 in July.

SESSION PRIORITIES COMING FEBRUARY 11

**MINNESOTA
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**
GROWING MINNESOTA

Minnesota Chamber's 2020 Session Priorities is Tuesday, February 11 at the RiverCentre in St. Paul from 4:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Business attendees hear directly from the Governor and House and Senate leadership on key issues they will focus on in 2020.

Big Lake Chamber members will join with Elk River Chamber and our local state representative and State Senator Mary Kiffmeyer. Limited seats are available on a first-come, first serve basis at \$150 each. Contact the office if you are interested in attending.

OUR EVENTS



Minnesota Chamber invites you to attend the first-ever **Women in Business Conference** April 16 at the Best Buy headquarters. This half-day conference is highlighted by a keynote from the youngest female CEO in the Fortune 100: Best Buy CEO Corie Barry! You can register [here!](#)



JANUARY MEMBERSHIP

MEETING

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Join us for our January membership meeting on Tuesday, January 28th at 11:45 at Big Lake Township Hall. Staff and elected officials from Big Lake Township and the City of Big Lake will present key issues they face in 2020. Candidates for the State House District 30A special election on Feb. 4th have been invited to share their ideas. A delicious lunch will be offered. [Register here!](#)



NEW BOARD OFFICERS AND NEW DIRECTOR NEEDED!

At their December Board meeting the Board elected Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities as Chair, Monica Parrish of Bullseye Properties as Vice Chair, Brenda Geldert of Options as Secretary and Hanna Klimmek of City of Big Lake as Treasurer.

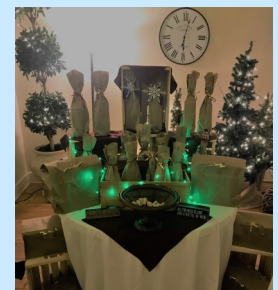
The Chamber Board has an opening for a director. We meet monthly at City Hall. If interested please contact a Board member listed on page 1 or Gloria at 763-263-7800.

DECEMBER'S HOLIDAY SOCIAL

The Chamber had nearly a 77% increase in attendance with 78 members and their guests attending the December 12th Holiday Social at Carousell Works.

Big Lake High School Chamber Choir under the leadership of Mary Ebanks performed again this year. Big Lake Finance Director Deb Wegeleben, Police Chief Joel Scharf and City Clerk Gina Wolbeck auctioned wrapped items donated by members. A table of wine, spirits and beer was nearly sold out in the first hour of the evening.

Many thanks to the hard work of the Planning Committee: Sandy McClurg of Big Lake Community Food Shelf, Corrie Scott of the City of Big Lake, Brenda Geldert and Stacie Skalak of Options Inc. and Naomi Jacobson of Riverwood Bank.



**2020 CHAMBER
DAY AT THE
CAPITOL
February 27**

MINNESOTA
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
GROWING MINNESOTA

Join us at **Chamber Day at the Capitol** on Thursday, February 27th from 1-5:30. Cost is reduced this year to only \$30 each!

The Bank of Elk River has been recognized as one of the top 50 extraordinary banks in the nation by The Institute for Extraordinary Banking™ for the third consecutive year. The bank was presented with four Banky awards at The Best Banks in America™ Super Conference in Minneapolis last September



Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge's annual meeting Tuesday, Jan 14 at 6:30 pm at Oak Savanna Learning Center. It's also a great time to snow shoe!



Best Western Plus needs 100 door prizes, cash and volunteers for their 14th Annual Operation Valentine on Feb 16th from 3-7 pm for those serving in the Armed Forces and their families at the hotel.



Lupulin Brewing has new items in their gift shop: zip-ups and pullovers, beanies and caps, stickers and patches, dog bowls and leashes, tacker signs and lighted signs, can koozies, crowler koozies, bottle openers, fishing buffs, mugs, boots, tasters, tekus, rastals, revivals, and growler gift boxes!



Shop Local

BIG LAKE WINTER FARMERS MARKET

November 16 • December 21
January 18 • February 15
*March 21 • April 18
*MARCH MARKET LOCATED AT HIGH SCHOOL 9AM-12PM

THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

BIG LAKE CITY HALL
160 LAKE STREET N, BIG LAKE, MN




www.biglakemn.org
Questions? Contact cscott@biglakemn.org or 612-297-6331

TRI WELLNESS AT WORK

...creating sustainable employee wellness programs in Benton, Sherburne, and Stearns Counties

Join our next Tri Wellness at Work Learning Collaborative for FREE to receive guidance, tools, and resources to customize your workplace wellness program.

EMPLOYERS WILL LEARN BEST PRACTICE STRATEGIES IN:

- Fundamentals of Workplace Wellness
- Healthy Eating
- Physical Activity
- Breastfeeding Support
- Tobacco Use and Cessation
- Lifestyle and Stress Management

"Whether you are just beginning a worksite wellness committee or have had one together for years...the information offered through this program is so organized and informative. It's definitely worth the time!"

- Kayla Miller, Director of Wellness
Guardian Angels of Elk River, Inc.

WHY WORKPLACE WELLNESS?

Employers offering a comprehensive workplace wellness initiative experience:

- Decreased absenteeism and health care costs
- Improved productivity
- Increased employee recruitment and retention
- Bolstered employee morale and commitment
- Improved time and stress management



This opportunity is made available by the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership at no cost to employers.

Apply here: <https://tinyurl.com/Tri-Wellness-at-Work>
Application Deadline: February 20th, 2020

Benton County	Sherburne County	Stearns County
Jennifer Lezer (320) 968-5275 jlezer@co.benton.mn.us	Kristy Heying (763) 765-4106 kristy.heying@co.sherburne.mn.us	Jennifer Wald (320) 656-6503 jennifer.wald@co.stearns.mn.us

Business After Hours & Networking Prize Drawing

In addition to great networking, January's Business After Hours on **Thursday, January 16 starting at 5 pm at Trail's Grill & Sports Bar** will include a Network Prize drawing with a value of \$335. Winners were drawn at both the November Business after Hours and the November Membership Meeting, although the second winner returned the prizes for someone else to win. All Chamber members are entered into the Network Box. If the lucky winner isn't present, the business name will be placed back in the box and another business will be drawn at the January 28th Membership Meeting at Big Lake Township Lions Park. There is no charge but we ask you to [register here](#) to allow for adequate space.

Prizes at this time include:

\$25 gift certificate



Chiropractic treatment at



\$30 Gift Card at



Monticello Printing free address stamp



\$25 gift card

Debbie's Cleaning Service

"BusyBee"



Need some help with your Winter cleaning?
Buzz Debbie at 763-568-5558 or
763-263-9300 and get your appointment
scheduled today!

WANTED: A used camera
with zoom and lighting capabilities.
Email details to info@biglakechamber.com



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 Thursday, Jan. 23rd. 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 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Ambassadors 11:30 The Buff/ Friendly Buffalo	9	10	11
12	13 Member/Prospects Visits 1-2 pm. Call office for visit!	14 House 30A Spe- cial Primary Elec- tion 7 am-8 pm Board 12:30 City Large Conference Room	15 Golf Committee noon @ Trails	16 Business after Hours 5 pm at Trails. register here.	17	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Holiday-Office Closed	21	22	23 Member/Prospects Visits 11-1 pm. Call office for visit!	24	25
26	27	28 Membership Mtg 11:45 at Big Lake Township Lions Park. Register here!	29	30	31	

Mark Your Calendar!

Tuesday, February 4 House District 30A Special Election. Polls open 7 am- 8 pm.

Thursday, February 20 Business after Hours at 5 pm.

Tuesday, Feb. 25 Membership Mtg at 11:45 at Independence Elementary School. Register [here!](#)

Saturday, March 21 from 9-noon Community Fair at Big Lake High School. Early registrations due 2/18