

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
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 - 2:15
Or by appointment

GLORIA'S GEMS



A month ago I wouldn't have believed that sectors of our business and non-profit community would be forced to reduce their services or close temporarily due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

The extension of the Governor's Executive Order for Minnesotans to "stay at home" through May 3rd will truly be a hardship for many of members.

The Chamber has created a Bingo card to encourage our area residents to SHOP LOCAL at our members impacted by COVID-19. Please consider buying a \$25 or \$200 gift card at one of our members and donating it to this program.

Big Lake businesses, non-profits and governmental agencies are resilient and along with our residents, we will survive this calamity and the forced isolation. But while you are concerned about your employees and others, remember to stay safe and healthy and take care of yourself too!

EL TECA BARBER SHOP



Even though they were forced to closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, owner Oscar Cooper decided to donate 4000 latex gloves to the Chamber and community groups who needed them.

Big Lake Post Office Manager Kelly Johnson was thankful to receive them. “We’ve requested these for weeks and hadn’t received them yet. Our carriers will really appreciate them.”

Other businesses and organizations who received the gloves include Big Lake Community Food Shelf, Big Lake Fire Department, City of Big Lake, Debbie’s Cleaning, Lake Liquors, Lord of Glory Lutheran Church, Saron Lutheran Church and Sherburne County Emergency Services.



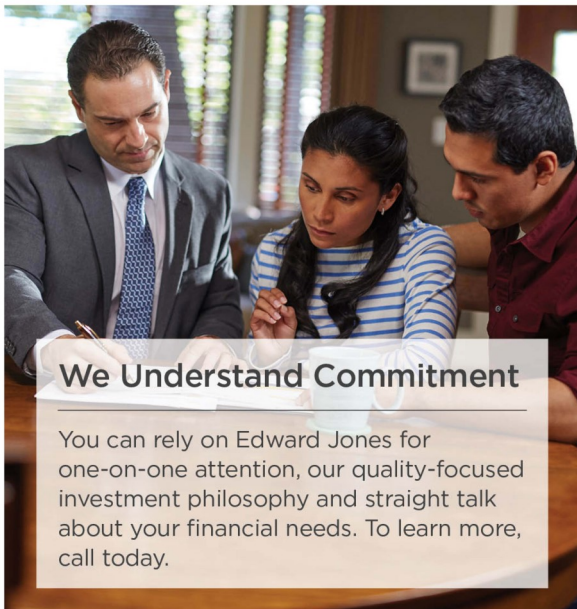
WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER

Citizen-Tribune has been publishing a weekly newspaper for the past 26 years. Owner Gary Meyer purchased the Citizen in 2001. The Citizen has 7 employees and covers the Becker, Clear Lake and Clearwater communities. Members wanting to promote their products and services in those communities can email citizenlegals@midconetwork.com.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BIG LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT!

The City of Big Lake was named in the top 14% of the 2020 Safest Cities in Minnesota by SafeWise. We greatly appreciate all you do to keep us safe!

Photo to the right demonstrates youth checking out BLPD's ATV at last summer's Big Lake Block Party!



We Understand Commitment

You can rely on Edward Jones for one-on-one attention, our quality-focused investment philosophy and straight talk about your financial needs. To learn more, call today.



Tim Suchy, AAMS*, CRPC*

Financial Advisor
690 Humboldt Drive
Suite D
Big Lake, MN 55309
763-262-9988

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Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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.

CHAMBER'S BINGO CARD

Support one or more of our members impacted by the coronavirus pandemic by buying a \$25 gift card or even a \$200 gift card at one of these members below and donating it to the Chamber Bingo contest. This will encourage area citizen to SHOP LOCAL. Contest goes through May 31st and winners will be announced June 3rd.

Contact the office or one of our Ambassadors for more information: Hanna Klimmek of City of Big Lake, Janelle Houston of DATA**Success**, Raeanne Danielowski of JC's U Lock Storage, Monica Parrish of Meraki Property Management and Consulting, Becky Jacobs of Northstar Technology Solutions, Donna Clarksean of Old National Bank, Brenda Geldert of Options Inc, Stacie Skalek of Options Inc, Naomi Jacobson of Riverwood Bank, and Dan Weber of Sherburne County.



STAY HOME & SHOP SMALL®

SHOP SMALL BY AMEX



BINGO

Spend at least \$10 with any of our members impacted by the coronavirus pandemic from April 9-May 31, 2020. This includes purchases, take-out and gift cards. Place the receipts on the corresponding logos to create a bingo (5 in a row across, down or diagonal) to win a chance at a \$25 gift card to one of our members. Spend \$10 or more at all of our members to win a chance at a \$200 gift card.

Check out these members' deals on our website [here](#) to see their hours, services and contact information. Note that some may have limited hours or closed temporarily.

Email photo or copy of receipts along with contact information to: info@biglakechamber.com or mail the receipts and contact information to Big Lake Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 241, Big Lake MN 55309 by June 3, 2020.

Winners will be announced on our website and FB. Participants must be 18 years or older.

				
		PLAYER'S CHOICE		
			Bob & Judy's Market 	
				
				PLAYER'S CHOICE

Community Fair Canceled

The March 21st Community Fair was first largest event in the area to be cancelled due to Minnesota Department of Health's recommendation to stem the spread of conoravirus (COVID-19). This highly-contagious respiratory illness is particularly susceptible to elderly and those with health problems. The Big Lake Schools closed all outside events at their buildings on March 13th. The Chamber Board is discussing rescheduling options.

Governor's Executive Order to close businesses such as country clubs, fitness centers, museums, bowling alleys and on-premise consumption at restaurants and bars began on March 17. Later salons and barber shops were added. An extension was given through May 3rd.

Minnesotans Stay at Home and Non-Essential Businesses Close

from March 28-May 3rd. These businesses include retail stores, jewelry stores, business support companies, social advocacy programs and businesses that cannot adhere to social distancing.

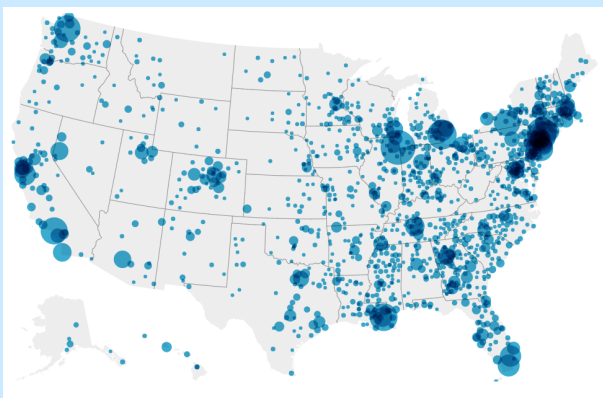
Chamber Networking Events

Chamber membership meetings in late March and April were cancelled with the Governor's Executive Order to close dine-in services are restaurants and bars.

April's Business after Hours will be held virtually via Zoom. See page 10 for more details.

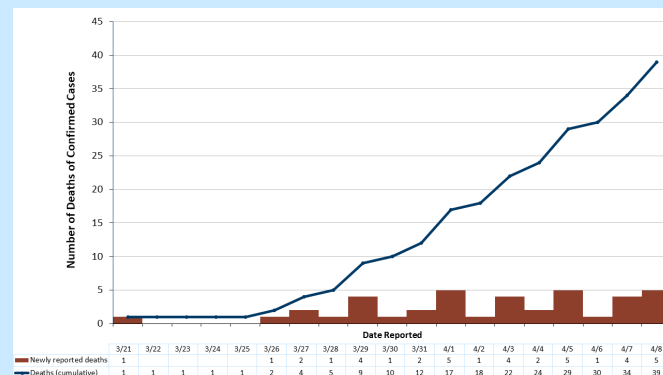
April's Board meeting will be held virtually. Committee meetings have been cancelled through April.

Chamber Office Closed during the Governor's Executive Orders for Minnesotans to stay at home although staff is working remotely.



Map on left shows heavy concentrations of COVID-19 throughout the US prepared by **eiimpact REPORT** as of April 8.

Graph at right shows 39 deaths of COVID-19 cases in MN from 3/21- 4/8. Sherburne County has 9 persons testing positive for COVID-19.



TAX UPDATES

Minnesota Chamber is recommending to Governor Walz and our legislative leaders that business property taxes due on May 15 be delayed sixty days so that businesses can continue to pay their employees, cover operating costs and access federal and state relief during a time of reduced or no income. They want to hear from businesses about the impact of COVID-19 [here](#).

The federal government has allowed for a 90-day extension of the April 15 income tax payments for 2019 tax year for all taxpayers and for delay in first quarter 2020 estimated tax payment. Minnesota's 90-day extension of the 2019 income tax payment applies to individual taxpayers including those paying business income taxes through Minnesota individual income tax. Businesses that pay taxes at the entity level do NOT have a payment delay but should have a filing delay. Minnesota did NOT delay the first quarter 2020 estimated tax for any taxpayers.

Employee Retention Credit is also available for businesses. Check it out [here](#).

RESOURCES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Minnesota Chamber has a tool kit for small businesses impacted by coronavirus pandemic [here](#). This includes webinars, the Governor's Executive Orders, and links to federal and state assistance programs.

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) has a Guide to Small Businesses [here](#) that is worthy reading. Please contact your banker for assistance. City of Big Lake Community Development Director Hanna Klimmek and Sherburne County Assistant Administrator are also available for questions.

2020 Census

Remember to complete your census questionnaire online or by phone. Persons not responding will receive follow-up visits.

Census statistics help determine the number of seats each state holds in the U.S. House of Representatives and some experts indicate MN will lose a congressional seat. Census results also determine how billions of dollars in federal funds will be allocated by state, local, and federal lawmakers every year.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA) LOANS

The chart below from Shenandoah County VA Chamber of Commerce and approved by their Small Business Administration Regional Office as of 4/8/20 compares two federal programs available for businesses and non-profits impacted by coronavirus pandemic.

Businesses can apply for both if different operating expenses are submitted. Early responses to the EIDL program indicate that the \$10,000 forgiveness may be limited to number of employees or a percentage of loan request. Loan requests can be made to receive the forgivable advance without taking out the loan.

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)	USES	Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)
payroll & approved operating expenses		working capital
no collateral required	COLLATERAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no collateral on loans u/\$25K collateral required for loans o/\$25K SBA will take real estate as collateral when available
up to 100% with approval if employee and compensation levels are maintained for 8 weeks after the loan is made	FORGIVENESS	100% of \$10K EIDL advance
2.5X average monthly payroll for the prior 12 months maximum \$10M	AMOUNT	up to 6 months of operating expenses not to exceed \$2 million
1% on unforgiven portion 2 year fixed income	TERMS	3.75% small businesses 2.75% non-profits 30 year fixed note
no payments for first 6 months	DEFERMENT	no payments for first 12 months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> all for-profits Sole proprietors & Independent contractor private non-profits 	ELIGIBLE ENTITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small business with 500 or fewer employees Sole proprietors & Independent contractor small agriculture coops & aquaculture private non-profits
SBA APPROVED LENDER	APPLY	covid19relief.sba.gov

THERE IS STILL TIME TO SIGN UP AS SPONSOR REGISTER YOUR GOLF TEAM!

With spring here along with warmer weather, many golfers are practicing their swings in their back yards. Golf Committee Chair Dr. Scott Schulz of Great River Spine & Sport reports that sponsors and teams are welcome for the Chamber's 2nd Annual Golf Scramble on Thursday, May 28 from 10-5:30 pm at the Monticello Country Club.

While some of the sponsors have already signed up, many more are needed for a great day of fun and networking. Golfers registering by April 28th will enjoy an early bird savings. In addition to Dr. Schulz, Committee members include Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities, Hanna Klimmek of City of Big Lake, Tim Suchy of Edward Jones, Julie Evans of Insurance Specialists Team (IST) and Karah Hawkinson of Sherburne History Center.

For more information, you can contact any Committee member, email the Chamber office or sign up [here](#).

\$50 GIFT CARD



RIVERTOWN RESIDENTIAL SUITES IS A BRAND NEW BUILDING IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN MONTICELLO, SCHEDULED TO OPEN MAY 1ST 2020. AS A CHAMBER MEMBER WE ARE RUNNING A SPECIAL!! REFER A CLIENT AND FOR EACH SIGNED LEASE WE RECEIVE, YOU WILL GET A \$50 GIFT CARD FROM THE CHAMBER BUSINESS OF YOUR CHOICE!!

PLEASE CONTACT US WITH ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE!!

RIVERTOWN RESIDENTIAL SUITES
212 LOCUST STREET



2nd Annual GOLF SCRAMBLE

Building Community Connections

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020 FROM 10-5:30 PM
MONTICELLO COUNTRY CLUB
1209 GOLF COURSE RD, MONTICELLO MN

SPONSORSHIPS

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

Golf Ball Sponsor: \$1000 with your logo on 30 dozen golf balls and a team of 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: OLD NATIONAL BANK Business Development Team

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.

Social Hour FREE drink provided by

SCHEDULE

10 am Registration & Continental Breakfast
11 am Shotgun start
3:30 pm Social Hour
4:30 pm Awards Dinner

CLASSIC SPONSORS

Cabot Lodge Securities
Connexus
Great River Spine & Sport
Old National Bank
Options Inc
Von Hanson's Meats



GOLFERS



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

\$20,000 HOLE IN ONE PRIZE sponsored by

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

Early Bird by April 28th: \$80 each or Team of 4 at \$320
After April 28th: \$90 or \$360 per Team of 4

Register or sponsor at www.biglakechamber.com/golf-scramble



DISTANCE LEARNING AT BIG LAKE SCHOOLS



Big Lake Schools closed from March 16-March 27th following Governors' Executive Orders to stem coronavirus. Distance learning began on April 3rd and goes through May 1st, unless it is extended. Electronic devices were provided to families who needed them.

Breakfast and lunches were offered to students for pickup at the Middle School and buses started delivery food options at specific drop-off points on March 23rd.

The Wave Youth Center

Is closed, following Big Lake School's classroom schedule.

Our Fundraising Event below will be re-scheduled to a future date.



Temporarily Closed until April 13



Due dates/fines

- Items due during the closure have extended due dates.
- Items should not accrue fines at this time, but if some items do accrue fines, library staff will be happy to remove them when libraries reopen.

Requesting items/items on hold

- Items on hold have been extended to April 18. You may still place items on request [via our catalog](#).

Returning items/book drops

Please do not return items to book drops during this closure.

- This includes items from other libraries borrowed via inter-library loan.
- Donations of books/other items

Please do not donate materials during this closure.

Card expiration/renewals

- Cards set to expire in March have been extended through April 30. If your library card has already expired, you may [submit a renewal request online](#).

Registering for a library card: all ages may [register for cards online](#).



Join the Friends of Big Lake Library. Friends are seeking new members of any age who want to support the library. They meet the first Monday of each month at the library at 5:30 pm. They support programs such as Storytime, Winter and Summer Reading programs, Craft programs, Bookclub for Teens, Gingerbread House, Wednesday Crafts and Books at the school in Summer and lots of programs for all ages at our local library.

Follow and like us on FB. Register on the online library events calendar <https://river.org/events/6/all/all/0/calendar/2019-12>

Waves of Expression

Annual Spring Fundraising event to benefit The Wave Youth Center
11am - 2pm
Saturday, April 18th at The Buff
16722 198th Ave, Big Lake, MN 55309

Join us for a light lunch to celebrate The Wave Youth Center and their accomplishments, followed by a live auction. The hall will be full of unique and creatively decorated tables that are sure to delight. This event is new for our area, so please contact us with questions and ask how you can be involved. We are in need of table hosts and auction items. We are aiming for an auction of "services" such as painting, yard clean-up, window washing, custom woodworking, furniture refinishing, handycraft services, etc. However, we will gladly accept items as well, i.e., games/theater tickets, jewelry, gift baskets, and the like.
Contact Molly at 612-801-2234 or molly@thewaveyc.org

LIVE AUCTION
www.thewaveyc.org

CHECK OUT ALL OUR MEMBERS IMPACTED by COVID-19 on our member deals section of our webpage [here](#). This includes products and services available, hours open and contact information.



As a provider of essential PC service to multiple critical sectors, we are still here to serve you by providing: remote support, phone assistance, and on-site (mandatory) assistance. Call 763-263-7070. Our normal business hours are 8:00 to 4:30 Mon-Fri.

Please beware of Stimulus Payment Scams:

1. Be alert for phone scams. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury Department, or any other government agency will not contact you by phone to collect information for stimulus payment processing. Period.
2. Be alert for phishing scams. Government agencies will not email or text you to collect information for stimulus payment processing. Watch for suspicious emails or texts with links or attachments requesting information for processing stimulus deposits or checks. If you receive one, do not click the link or open the attachment. It's a scam. Delete it.
3. Be alert for state-related scams. State agencies will also not call, email or text you to collect information or a fee to process a stimulus payment. To date, no state has introduced their own version of a stimulus payment.

State Senator Mary Kiffmeyer added #4 in her Legislative Update on 4/8. "Be alert for texting scams or "smishing". Criminals can easily mask themselves by texting you pretending to be government workers. Government departments will not ask for your information via text. Do not respond and delete the message. If you would like further clarification. You can report the scam attempt here: <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us>."



As your local CBD provider, your safety and health is our number one concern. Right now more than ever it is so important to reviving and strengthening your Endocannabinoid and Immune System. With the Covid 19 virus, everyone will be hunkering in place for weeks. Our Main Office in St. Cloud stays OPEN. We are SHIPPING FREE. Check out our website [here](#) for other great products.

Call (320) 251-5800. If we are on the line or with a customer, please leave a message and we will promptly return your call. You may also email me at JOHN.JOSEPH.HENRY@GMAIL.COM

Friends of Sherburne Wildlife Refuge honors volunteers. In 2019 our volunteer team accumulated 8,575 hours, the equivalent of nearly four full time staff! Their efforts span across every aspect of the refuge from connecting with visitors on and off the trails, to collecting seeds for habitat restoration projects. They play an integral role in our educational programs, refuge maintenance and events.



Big Lake Gardening 101 Series

FREE GARDENING WORKSHOP SERIES FOR FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS OF ALL AGES!

Learn the basics of vegetable and flower gardening in this series presented by the City of Big Lake, Big Lake Community Education, and the Sherburne County Master Gardeners.

<p>NO COST TO ATTEND!</p> <p>REGISTER AT BIGLAKECE.COM</p>	<p>WORKSHOPS START AT 6PM ON THE 3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>MAY 19</td> <td>JUNE 16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>JULY 21</td> <td>AUGUST 18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SEPT. 15</td> <td>OCT. 20</td> </tr> </table> <p>COMMUNITY GARDENS 18041 198TH AVENUE BIG LAKE, MN</p>	MAY 19	JUNE 16	JULY 21	AUGUST 18	SEPT. 15	OCT. 20
MAY 19	JUNE 16						
JULY 21	AUGUST 18						
SEPT. 15	OCT. 20						



April's Business After Hours Virtually!

In keeping with social distancing, April's Business After Hours on **Thursday, April 16 starting at 4 pm** will be held virtually via Zoom. Enjoy "catching up" with your fellow Chamber members. Everyone must register [here](#) by 2 pm to receive the link include a Network Prize drawing with a value of \$335. All current members are entered into the drawing and members must be present to win. 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 May 26th Membership Meeting at The Buff..

Prizes at this time include:

\$25 gift certificate



Monticello Printing free address stamp

Chiropractic treatment at



\$25 gift card at



\$30 Gift Card at



May Membership Meeting

With dine-in services closed due to Governor's Executive Order to stem coronavirus disease, the Chamber's April membership meeting has been cancelled.

Join us for our May membership meeting at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, May 26th at The Buff, formerly Friendly Buffalo for a legislative update. Note the change in time. State Senator Mary Kiffmeyer and Representative Paul Novotny will update us on bills impacting our members. Registrations and social hour is at 5:30, dinner at 5:45 and the meeting starting at 6 pm. Registrations will be available in early May.

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 Wednesday, May 27th. 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	9	10	11
12	13	14 Board 12:30 via Zoom	15	16 Virtual Business after Hours 4 pm Register here .	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Membership Meeting - CANCELLED	29	30		

Mark Your Calendar!

Thursday, May 21 Business after Hours at 5 pm at McPete's.

Tuesday, May 26 Legislators @ Membership Meeting 5:30-7 pm at The Buff/Friendly Buffalo

Thursday, May 28 Golf Scramble at 10 am at Monticello Country Club. Register [here!](#)

Saturday, August 15 Block Party from 10-2 pm at Mc Pete's.