

Mission Statement

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

Board of Directors

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Meraki Property Management & Consulting 763-275-1515

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763.262.9988

Secretary: Brenda Geldert
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Cory Laugen, State Farm
763-263-0513

Oscar Cooper, El Teca Barber Shop
763-207-8822

Allen Snegosky, Sherburne State Bank
763-271-4919

Tim Truebenbach, Big Lake Schools
763-262-5218

Executive Director: Gloria Vande Brake

info@biglakechamber.com
160 Lake Street N
P.O. Box 241, Big Lake, MN 55309
763-263-7800

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 am - 2:15
Or by appointment

GLORIA’S GEMS

I’ve been a faithful customer of Coborn’s even before I moved to Big Lake. When I worked in St. Cloud, I would shop at one of their stores before heading home.

Since working for the Chamber, I’ve greatly appreciated their support of the Chamber events as well other non-profit and youth organizations. They gave away free food at our Community Fair last month and will provide hamburgers and brats at our August 21st Block Party at McPete’s. We truly appreciate their partnership with us!



BUSINESS OF THE MONTH:

“I’ve been with the Coborn’s stores since I was 16 years old,” proudly stated Big Lake Store Manager Gordy Midas. “I started part-time in the produce department, then in management of Coborn’s stores in St. Cloud and Albertville and now here for the past year.”



In April Coborn’s celebrated 100 years of service, with their first store in Sauk Rapids. According to their website, Coborn’s is employee-owned with 120 stores in 6 midwestern states. Third and fourth-generation Coborn family members are still involved in the leadership of the company.

Coborn’s opened their Big Lake store 18 years ago and recently refreshed it with new products. Almost 2 years ago they offered online ordering and curbside pick-up. They have 144 full and part-time employees.

While last year they were unable to provide brat sales for non-profit organizations and youth groups due to COVID concerns, they started their first brat sale outside their doors a few weeks ago.

“I, along with Coborn’s, firmly believe in supporting our communities in whatever way we can. We truly appreciate the support of our customers,” exclaimed Midas.



At left Store Manager Gordy Midas was welcomed last year. At right Midas and his staff served the Big Lake Ambassadors at last month’s Community Fair.





BIG LAKE SPUD FEST IS 3 WEEKS AWAY!

Chamber members are encouraged to sponsor, volunteer and provide door prizes for the 2021 Spud Fest. This year the Chamber is partnering with the Spud Fest to offer online Carnival ride pre-sales. Consider a purchase for your kids, grandkids, and neighbor kids. Check it out [here!](#)

The Board and volunteers of Spud Fest are planning great things for 2021 Big Lake Spud Fest Thursday, June 24 -Sunday, June 27. Talent Show is Thursday night, Fireworks on Friday evening, Parade at 11 am on Saturday and Big Lake Ambassadors Coronation on Saturday afternoon. Big Lake Lions will serve potato pancake breakfast Sunday morning and a Spud Daze Marketplace of vendors will offer their products from 9-2 pm on Sunday. Music, Bingo, softball, motorcycle run, SpudINC Robotics and lots more is being planned. Check out the schedule [here!](#)

Sponsorships are still needed. Please consider donating [here!](#) Chambers members are encouraged to donate prizes for the many rounds of Bingo games and can drop the items off at the Chamber office. Or email info@biglakechamber.com for staff or volunteers to pick it up.

Volunteers during Spud Fest are also needed. Perhaps you can gather a group from your businesses or non-profits or even family and friends and sign up together [here!](#)

BIG LAKE SPUD FEST IS IN NEED OF BINGO PRIZE DONATIONS



The Bingo Tent is open all week-end during Spud Fest and a lot of rounds of bingo games are played.

Prize donations help so much in making this event successful!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN DONATING...

You can drop off at the Big Lake Chamber office or Big Lake City Hall during business hours

OR

DEB JOHNSON by emailing biglakespudfest@gmail.com to make arrangements for pick up

It would be great if all donations could be made by June 24th.



COST TO REGISTER -FREE-

2 Divisions To Compete:
Student (up to age 18) and Adult (18 and older)
1st place in each Division wins \$100 and 2 Mega Passes

To Register
Or For More Information
SCAN HERE >>



www.BigLakeSpudfest.com



JOIN US FOR THE WAVE YOUTH CENTER'S
GOLF SCRAMBLE FUNDRAISER AND SILENT AUCTION!

Pebble Creek Golf Club, Becker, MN
Saturday, June 19th, 2021
18-hole Scramble Golf Tournament
8:00am Shotgun Start

*Special events include contests, PRIZES, buffet lunch,
silent auction and raffle offering great items for bid*

\$150 per person - includes green fees, golf cart,
buffet lunch and player gift bag

\$40 ticket available for buffet lunch only

*All proceeds benefit The Wave Youth Center in Big Lake, MN
with The Eddy Foundation offering a \$10,000 donor match!*

**RSVP thewaveyc.org/golf before June 12 to
reserve your spot!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KATRINE JACKSON AT
DIRECTOR@THEWAVEYC.ORG





BLOCK PARTY!

Saturday Aug 21st

SPONSORS NEEDED FOR BIG LAKE BLOCK PARTY AUG 21ST

Block Party Committee Chair Dr. Kristin Alpin of Big Lake Veterinary Hospital is excited to announce our 2021 Big Lake Block Party will be held on Saturday, August 21st from 10-2 pm at McPete's Entertainment Center.

For just \$5 each, youth over 2 years old and adults can enjoy mini-golf, bowling and great games from our sponsors. The Wave Youth Center will once again sponsor water balloons from 1-2 pm.

Coborn's is again provide hamburgers, brats and fixings at a reasonable price.

Sponsors are needed for this major fundraiser of the Chamber. The options are listed to the right. Bikes will be given away to youth who attend and register.

You can also sign up as a sponsor [here!](#)

Volunteers are also needed along with items for the first 100 children's gift bags.

Additional Committee members include Nick Ellingson of Insurance Specialists Team, Amber Digiovanne of Minco Credit Union, Dan McElwee of St. Croix Valley Insurance and Allen Snegosky of Sherburne State Bank. If you would like to join the Committee, please contact one of the members of the office!

McPete's Entertainment Center
590 Humboldt Drive
Big Lake MN 55309

Big Lake Chamber of Commerce & Industry

ELEVENTH ANNUAL BIG LAKE BLOCK PARTY!

Saturday, August 21st, 2021 from 10 am-2 pm.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Platinum Sponsor \$1,000 Premiere logo recognition on all marketing materials. Includes 10 passes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold Sponsor \$500 Prominent logo recognition at inflatables and on marketing materials. Includes 6 passes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver Sponsors \$250 Significant logo recognition. Includes 4 passes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hole in one Contest Sponsor \$250 (Maximum 2 Sponsors) Prominent logo recognition and contest table on Mini-Golf hole. Includes 4 passes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bowling Lane Contest Sponsor \$250 (Game Ideas on Backside) Prominent logo recognition at bowling lane. You choose a game with prizes. Includes 4 passes. Must bring a small table.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carnival Game Sponsor \$150 (Game Ideas on Backside) Just like the old time bazaars. You choose a game with prizes. Includes 2 passes. Must bring a table and tent if needed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze Sponsors \$150 Name recognition at bowling lanes. Includes 2 passes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bike Sponsor \$100 Sponsor a bike that the youth register to win!
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Sponsor \$50 Name recognition at Mini-Golf course.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am interested in volunteering at the Block Party Wear your company shirt and mingle!

(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE BELOW)

I would like Sponsor passes I am not interested in Sponsor passes

Here's your invitation to participate. Sign up today! Due by July 28th
You do NOT have to be a Chamber member to participate. All are welcome!
[All logos must be emailed to info@biglakechamber.com for marketing materials by July 28th](mailto:info@biglakechamber.com)

****Participating sponsors are required to bring their own tents and tables****
If you wish to have a booth or sell tickets at the event for your own organization, a minimum \$150 sponsorship is required!

Company Name: _____
 Contact Name: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Payment information: Checks payable to Big Lake Chamber of Commerce & Industry, P.O. Box 241, Big Lake, MN 55309
 Name on Credit Card _____
 Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVC: _____
 Total credit card charge _____ Zip Code of Card _____
 Phone # _____ Email address _____



Carnival Games & Bowling Lane Sponsor Ideas

Below are some ideas for the Carnival Game, Hole in One Mini-Golf and Bowling Lane Sponsorships. This list is simply a starting point. If you would like to add another idea or alter an already existing idea, feel free! The Chamber volunteers can help set up your activity.

*****Please contact the Chamber Office to ensure your activity isn't duplicated by anyone else.***

- Bean Bag Tournament**
Teams of two try to win at an old fashioned game of bean bags! Prizes will be awarded to the top four teams.
- Giant Jenga**
This activity includes life size Jenga pieces. Players try to remove the Jenga pieces without knocking the tower over. If they are the last to remain in the game by not knocking the tower over, then they win a prize.
- Fish Pond**
This activity includes a pool of water that is filled with glass fish bowls. The participant gets a chance to throw a ping pong ball and if it lands in the bowl, they get to take a goldfish home with them.
- Minute to Win It**
This activity is more open ended. Participants will be given a challenge that they need to complete in under a minute. If they complete the challenge, they receive a prize.
- Cake/Cookie Walk**
This activity can be done in one of two ways. Either the sponsor can donate the baked goods that kids will win, or they can sponsor the event and the Chamber will purchase the baked goods from a local business.
- Limbo Contest**
Two participants face off and try to out-limbo each other. Winner of the two gets a prize.
- Spin the Wheel** to win a prize
- Dunk Tank**
Select individuals who don't mind getting wet if a participant throws the ball at the target!
- Ring Toss**
Participants try to throw rings onto cones. The more rings you land on the cones, the more points you receive and the closer you get to a grand prize.
- Other**

We are also looking for businesses to donate bag stuffers that will go into 100 draw string bags. The first 100 kids that attend the Block Party will receive these giveaways. There are two options for these bag stuffers: 100 of one item to be placed in each bag or 1-2 larger-value items to be given as grand prizes.

Note: The Wave Youth Center will offer water balloons form 1-2 pm so attendance at booths may decline!

Contact the Chamber Office for questions or if you have bag stuffers that need to be picked up.



Deb Johnson-2021 Citizen of the Year



City of Big Lake Mayor Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities was pleased to present Deb Johnson the 2021 Citizen of the Year award last month. Deb is a long-time volunteer for both the Big Lake Lions and Big Lake Spud Fest. State Senator Mary Kiffmeyer also presented a certificate to her. Councilmen Paul Seefeld, Ken Halverson and Seth Hanson are seated in the photo to the left.

MN Supplier Match



Grow Minnesota! initiative seeks to highlight Minnesota's robust supply chains and increase business-to-business activity in the state. Any Minnesota business can register and/or receive credentials to source from the database at no cost. Register as a supplier [here](#). To access the database for sourcing purposes, email suppliermatch@mnchamber.com for login credentials. Contact Sean O'Neil, sonel@mnchamber.com for more information.



ELECTRIC VEHICLE WEBINAR

The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO) invites you to join them on Tuesday, June 8 from 9-10:30 am for a free webinar on The Coming of Electric Vehicle Infrastructure in Minnesota: Lessons from the Nordics, a briefing event to bring you up to speed on our own EV infrastructure landscape and also what we can learn from our EV-embracing Nordic friends. You can register [here!](#)

COVID-19 UPDATE



Sherburne County COVID cases: as of June 3rd, we've had 11,937 confirmed cases compared to 11,401 last month, 9828 in April, 8642 in late Feb, and 7617 in Dec. We have 100 deaths, just 8 more deaths than last month, 80 in late Feb, and 29 deaths in Nov. Likely due to more vaccinations, the county's 7-day average count has dropped to 6.1 (the lowest since Feb), compared to 39.9 last month, 46.9 in April, 10.1 in late Feb, 30 on Dec. 30th, 92.6 on Dec. 9th and a high of 174 in mid-Nov. Average age dropped slightly to 38.3, similar to the last 2 months. Big Lake's cases total 2400 compared to 2300 last month, 1900 in April, 1700 in Feb and Jan, 1500 in Dec, 547 in Nov, 244 in Oct. and 163 in Sept. 34, 996 persons in Sherburne County have received at least one dose of vaccine and 31,210 have completed the series. Check it out [here!](#)

SPONSORS NEEDED FOR OUR SEPTEMBER GOLF SCRAMBLE!

Dr. Scott Schulz of Great River Spine & Sport and Chair of the Chamber's Golf Committee is encouraging every member to consider participating in our Sept 9th Golf Scramble at Monticello Country Club. Members can be a sponsor, play 18 holes and win prizes, and donate door prizes and silent auction items.

New this year is a putting contest for \$10 each with the winner sharing the pot with the Chamber!

Golfers receive a discount if they sign up before August 26th.

Sponsors & golfers can sign up [here!](#)

Additional Committee members include Hanna Klimmek of City of Big Lake, Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities, Tim Suchy of Edward Jones and Cory Laugen of State Farm. If you would like to serve on the Committee or volunteer at the event, please contact one of the members or email the office.



3rd Annual GOLF SCRAMBLE

THURSDAY, SEPT 9, 2021

**MONTICELLO COUNTRY CLUB
1209 GOLF COURSE RD, MONTICELLO MN**

SPONSORSHIPS

Dinner Sponsor:  OLD NATIONAL BANK
Your bank. For life.

Golf Ball Sponsor: \$1000 with your logo on 30 dozen golf balls and a team of golfers

Master Sponsor: \$625 for sponsorship of event & includes green fees, cart, light brunch & 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.

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

Driving Range Sponsor: \$200. Signage at the driving range

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

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

SCHEDULE

10 am Registration & Continental Breakfast
10:30 Putting Contest
11 am Shotgun start
Social Hour
Awards Dinner

CLASSIC SPONSORS

DATA Success
Great River Spine & Sport



GOLFERS



Enjoy games such as putting contest, longest putt & longest drive.

HOLE IN ONE PRIZES:

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

Early Bird by Aug 26th: \$80 each or Team of 4 at \$320

After Aug 26th: \$90 or \$360 per Team of 4

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



Big Lake Chamber

of Commerce & Industry

MEMBER ADS

Investing is about more than money.

At Edward Jones, we stop to ask you: "What's important to you?" Without a real understanding of your goals, investing holds little meaning.

Call today to discuss what's really important: *your goals.*



Tim Suchy, AAMS®, CRPC®
Financial Advisor

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

edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

MKD-8652C-A



MUSIC IN THE PARK SCHEDULE

Summer Concert Series
Lakeside Park
101 Lakeshore Drive, Big Lake, MN
Thursdays | 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

June 3: Rockin' Hollywoods | 50's - 80's Rock

June 10: Outside Recess | 70's - 90's Rock

June 17: Lady Luck | Rock, Pop, Country

June 24: Live Music at Spud Fest Grounds

July 1: Band 51 | Rock, Pop, Country

July 8: Shane Martin | Modern Country, Rock

LIVE MUSIC | FOOD TRUCKS | FREE PARKING

*THE GRILL WILL BE CLOSED IN 2021, FOOD TRUCKS WILL BE ONSITE

Follow the City of Big Lake on
Facebook or visit
biglakemn.org for updates



DEBBIE'S CLEANING SERVICE, LLC

"busy as a bee"

Homes • Offices • New Construction

Buzz Me



763-568-5558

BIG LAKE FARMERS MARKET

Local food trucks
Free parking
Live music
Debit-credit accepted
Snap-EBT & Market Bucks
Power of Produce Program
Free activities weekly

Every Wednesday from June - August from 3pm - 7pm
Every Wednesday in September from 3pm - 6pm
Lakeside Park
101 Lakeshore Dr., Big Lake, MN

Questions? Contact Corrie Scott at 612-297-6331 or visit
biglakemn.org for more information.





5 Ways to Develop Managers

Retailer Bob has indicated 5 ways to develop managers. While the suggestions refer to retail stores, they can be applied to all businesses. Check it out [here!](#)

Human Resource
Executive

Businesses Help Employees with Emergency Funds

This article from Human Resource Executive quotes Financial Adviser Suze Orman, “You can never fix a financial problem with [just] money,” she said, speaking last month at the 2021 virtual Health & Benefits Leadership Conference. “Instead, employees need to feel confident that they have a strong savings strategy in place and that their employer is with them every step of the way. Check it out [here!](#)

[Another](#) article identified 10 suggestions employers need to consider post-COVID!

This week an article indicated burnout is still prevalent among employees and asks if employers are doing enough to help their employees. Last month was National Mental Health Month. Check it out [here!](#)



Labor Force Challenges

MN Department of Energy & Economic Development has recommended in the graphic to the right ideas to attract more employee applications. For a complete review of their recommendations, check it out [here!](#)

MN Legislature: Special Session

With the negotiated budget amounts finalized by the Senate and House leaders along with the Governor, Conference Committees are determining specifics for legislative approval on or before June 14th.



- Review job postings to ensure they accurately reflect minimum qualifications and preferred qualifications for the position
 - › Edit the posting to include only the bare minimum qualifications for the job
 - › Remove the driver's license requirement if the position doesn't require driving
- Use plain language in your job posting
 - › Avoid internal jargon unless appropriate
 - › Use complex terminology only when legally required
- Update your website with your current openings
 - › Optimize postings for search engines
- Stay active on social media
 - › Post about new openings and encourage current employees to share your posts with their networks
 - › Post using your individual account in social media groups rather than a corporate account
- Share why people like to work for your company
 - › Ask employees to share in their own words why they like working for your company and post their stories on your website and share on social media
- Communicate often during the recruitment and hiring process to help prevent "ghosting"
 - › Ghosting is when a candidate doesn't show up for an interview or a new hire does not arrive for work
- Look for the right attitude in candidates instead of checking the boxes for every qualification
 - › Understand some talent may need to be grown
 - › Make sure your HR team knows your stance on being willing to grow talent
- Explore ways to overcome common barriers like lack of transportation and childcare
 - › Organize a carpool
 - › Align shift start and end times with the availability of public transportation
 - › Address "last mile" barriers by providing transportation from the end of the public transportation line to your facility
 - › Work with employee to align work and childcare schedules
- Consider your employer brand and work to correct misconceptions and negative perceptions:
 - › What does your organization mean to individuals in your community?
 - › What is the "word on the street" about what it is like to work for your organization?
 - › What misconceptions exist about your organization or the work you do?
 - › How did you handle any recent layoffs and how were they covered in local media and portrayed on social media?
- Consider offering non-traditional benefits that could make you an employer of choice
 - › Millennials and Generation Z are very concerned about student debt, so student loan payment assistance might be more enticing than some other more traditional benefits
- Learn what companies in your region or industry who are successful in recruiting and hiring are doing



For assistance understanding your regional labor market, developing workforce strategies and finding employment candidates now:

- › Contact a [CareerForce location near you](#)
- › Post your openings on [MinnesotaWorks.net](#)
- › Talk with your [regional Workforce Strategy Consultant](#)
- › Learn more about demand, wage trends and other information from your [regional Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development labor market analyst](#)



BIG LAKE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



Big Lake's 104th Graduation Ceremony will be outside for the first time in recent years on Friday, June 4th at 7:30. The event will be livestreamed for all to view [here!](#)

FREE FAMILY FUN FOR EVERYONE!

ECFE in the PARK!

2021 DATES & PARKS
10-11:30 am

- June 9 @ Liberty Elementary
Theme: Nature! We will have the outdoor classroom open too!
- June 23 @ Lake Ridge Park Theme: Music
- June 14 @ Sanford Selects Acres Park
Theme: Science in the Park
- July 28 @ Highline Park Theme: Sports in the Park
- August 11 @ Wrights Crossing Theme: Art in the Park
- August 25 @ Lakeside Park Theme: Water Fun at the Park

EACH EVENT WILL INCLUDE

- FREE BOOK
- FREE COMMUNITY RESOURCES
- MUSIC, MOVEMENT, ART & MORE!



Hours: Mon 1-6p; Tues: 10a-2; Wed 1-7p; Thur:2-6p; Fri: 10-5p; Sat: 10-1p

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.



Check out our events at [here!](#)

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

- Storytime:** Craft kits available for participants to take home, following storytime. For ages 2-6. Limit 15. Registrations required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.
Friday, June 25 & July 9, 23 & August 13. 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.
- Wooden Cars Craft Kit:** Kick off your summer reading with a fun coloring kit. For ages 5 and up. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.
Monday, June 7 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Tissue Painting Kit:** Using pieces of colored tissue paper, create a unique art piece for yourself or a friend. For ages 5 to 12. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.
Tuesday, June 29 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Chromatography STEM Experiment:** Learn about chromatography, a process that separates out a mixture of chemicals. Pick up this STEM experiment kit while supplies last. For ages 6 and up. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.
Tuesday, June 13 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- Wooden Medallion Pendant:** Create an inspirational wood pendant to wear. For ages 10 and up. Sponsored by Friends of the Big Lake Library.
Wednesday, June 16 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Paper Butterfly Craft:** This adult Take and Make kit uses cardstock to create a beautiful butterfly to hang in your home. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.
Monday, June 21 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.



NOW OPEN Monday 2-7 pm, Tuesday 12-5 pm, Wednesday 12-3 at Lakeside Beach & 5-7 pm on-site and Thursday noon-5pm. We will continue to operate online

On **June 19th, 2021 The Wave is hosting its first-ever golf scramble fundraiser** and silent auction. A \$10,000 Hole In One Prize is offered by Insurance Specialists Team. Sponsors, Golfers and Donations for Silent Auction are needed! The Eddy Foundation is offering a \$10,000 Donor Match. See their full-page ad on page 3.

Climb Theatre is coming June 10 & 17!

Check out their website [here!](#)



Lupulin Brewing Company is offering a free beer this month if you get vaccinated! Bring in your proof of your vaccination within 2 weeks of getting the shot (1st or 2nd dose), and they will pour you a beer on the house! They encourage their customers to "Get Active" and join their Bike Club at 6 pm on Mondays or Run Club at 6 pm on Wednesdays. All ages and fitness levels welcome! Enjoy a free pour or soda on the house when you get back!

Lupulin's Marketing and Artistic Director Marcus Paulsen won three awards last month at the 2021 **Craft Beer Marketing Awards** (CBMA) virtual ceremony for his designs on cans.



Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge: Enjoy the views along the seven-mile loop at Prairie's Edge from your vehicle, bike or on foot! Open daily 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. For more information about the Refuge, check it out [here!](#)



SOVRAN President Traci Leffner announced at our May Legislative Dinner last week that they will help recycle old office electronics and equipment (laptops, monitors, keyboards, servers and more) during June in cooperation with PCs For People. Contact her [here](#) for more information or call 651-686-0515.

Sovran Earns Microsoft Gold Cloud Platform Cert



Gold Cloud Productivity
Gold Cloud Platform
Silver Small and Midmarket Cloud Solutions
Silver Collaboration and Content
Silver Datacenter



"Having the 'Gold Cloud Platform' certification gives us access to even more specialized training and additional support to serve clients better."

- Shonn Twilight, Sovran vCIO

Sovran is proud to announce we have just earned the Gold Cloud Platform certification from Microsoft! This means we will have access to new skills and information about Microsoft Azure, the cloud platform, which directly benefits our clients.

Check out our latest blog to learn more about this certification, and find out how Sovran can help your business.

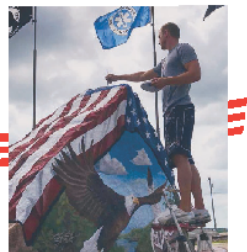
[Read More: Sovran Earns Gold Cloud Platform Cert](#)

Check out the article [here!](#)

**Big Lake
FREEDOM ROCK®
UPDATE 2**

- Come and see the **Big Lake Freedom Rock®** located at **Lakeside Park**
- **Pavers are available** for purchase to **honor your Veteran**

Iowa native Ray Sorensen has made it his mission to paint a **Freedom Rock®** in every one of the 99 counties of Iowa to say "Thank You" to every Veteran for their service. He has now expanded his mission to do at least one in every one of the 50 states. **Big Lake's** rock is scheduled to be painted this summer. We want to show our thanks and gratitude to all who have served. You can check out other **Freedom Rocks®** at www.thefreedomrock.com.



Here's how you can get involved and help raise the \$11,000 needed to finish the project:

- **Purchase a paver** – Honor a Veteran in your family by purchasing a paver to show their name and service time in the walkway around the rock. [Click on the link](#) to find out information on this.
- **Volunteer** – Help with a fundraising event for the project – Share your ideas!
- **Involve children** – If you have any ideas for getting kids in the community involved let us know. We would like them to own part of this too.
- **Share a Big Lake Veterans story** with us – or ideas of what you would like to see represented on the rock
- **Like and follow** our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/pg/biglakefreedomrock>
- **Donate** – send your donations to City of Big Lake – Freedom Rock
Mail or drop off donations at City of Big Lake offices, 160 Lake St N, Big Lake

Questions? Contact Karen Blake – blakk0178@gmail.com or 763-234-0369 or Linda Paulson – lindapaulson@tds.net

June's Business After Hours




June's Business after Hours is scheduled for 5 pm on Thursday, June 17th at the Lupulin Brewing. There is no cost but members are encouraged to register [here!](#) Last month we had 6 members attending representing Edward Jones, McPete's and Minnco Credit Union and Old National Bank!

Network Drawing Box valued at \$414

Members who had their names drawn this year but were not present to win include Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital, Big Lake Community Food Shelf, Casey's, Coborn's, DATASuccess, Magic Mushrooms in the Crystal Garden and United Bus Sales.

More prizes are needed but current Network Prizes include:

 4-pack of Works Plus Car Washes

 **GREAT RIVER**
SPINE & SPORT

Massage and First Chiro Check

 **AUTOSTOP** Certificate
Body & Mechanical Repair



Free Drink

 **PATRIOT**
Color Ads

Monticello Printing Certificate

August 31st Membership Meeting

Join us for our August Membership Meeting at 11:30 am on **Tuesday, August 31st** at Carefree Country Club.



DEED's Regional Analyst Luke Greiner will speak about the labor force in our area and how Big Lake and Sherburne County area doing with jobs.



Registration is at 11:30 am. Introductions and Committee Reports begin at noon. Lunch costs \$15 and you can register [here!](#)

A limited number of golfers will be able to play after the meeting.

Photo at left is from our May Legislative dinner with MN Senator Mary Kiffmeyer and Rep. Paul Novotny updating members on legislative activities.



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, June 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	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Board Meeting 12:30 at McPete's & virtually	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Business After Hours. 5 pm. Lupulin. Register here!	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 SPUD FEST	25 SPUD FEST	26 SPUD FEST
27 SPUD FEST	28	29	30 Block Party Committee Meeting noon at McPete's			

Mark Your Calendar!

Thursday, July 15th at 5 pm: **Business After Hours**

Saturday, August 21st from 10-2 pm: **Big Lake Block Party** at



Tuesday, August 31st at 11:30: **Membership Meeting** at



Thursday September 9th: Golf Scramble at

