

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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Allen Snegosky, Sherburne State Bank
763-271-4919

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

Celebrations are always a great occasion and often businesses don't celebrate their milestones! Businesses in the energy industry often deal with intense scrutiny and regulations and deserve our appreciation for their work to provide safely products and services for their customers, employees and our environment.

Upper right photo includes J. Brian Calva of Beaudry Oil, with Rep. Paul Novotny and Nicole Novotny and I at the MN Chamber Session Priorities in St. Paul in late Jan.



MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

Forty years ago Ken and Carrie Beaudry founded Beaudry Oil & Propane. Since then, they've expanded to nearly 100 employees in 6 locations to serve their residential and commercial customers throughout Twin Cities, Central Minnesota, and East Central Minnesota. They continue to be committed to exceptional quality and service.



As they grew, they added products such as Kodiak Diesel, gasoline, propane, and lubricants. Notably, Beaudry Oil & Propane features Petro Canada Lubricants, a premium oil available for northern climates.



Ken and Beaudry staff emphasize, “We fought hard to never run out of product and prevent service disruptions throughout these last two challenging years. “ Ken’s motivation is to serve the Lord. He believes that his success

comes from God. Due to that belief, Beaudry donates to the Big Lake community and others throughout the state.

“It has been our great honor to serve Big Lake and the surrounding communities through it all, concluded Ken. “We will continue to identify ways to grow and help our communities thrive and we look forward to serving you for years to come. Thank you, Big Lake, for the honor of being selected as “Business of the Month”. We owe it all to our customers and communities such as you.”





MEET YOUR NEW MEMBERS!



First Bank Elk River is a full-service community bank. Over 120 years in business serving the Elk River area means they know what our clients want and need to succeed. Relationship Banker Brad Kwallek has the knowledge, experience, and the motivation to be your best financial partner. [Check out their website!](#) [Email him here](#) or call him at (763) 241-3637.



Imholte Excavation & Trucking is a family-owned and operated business that has the small town feel, with values that keep customers returning. They are able to do a turn key excavation from the demolition of an old home/ building/ or barn, take down trees & stumps to clear a lot, dig the basement or house footings, install radon rock, build a pole shed pad, build a road approach & then a driveway to the new home or building, and design/ install septic system. Or if you need a load of gravel hauled, other bobcat work, ditch cleaning or farm land work, bulldozer work to push dirt to new location, or hunting land work done. They have the equipment and know how to do so. Contact Marty at 320-291-6675 or [email him here](#). Check out their website [here](#).

RE/MAX RESULTS

Jen Snoddy is a Big Lake resident and licensed real estate agent at **RE/MAX Results**. She is people-oriented, passionate, and driven to get you the results you desire. Jen entered the real estate field with 20+ years of direct client support services. She enjoys serving the diverse needs of her real estate clients. As a family-focused businesswoman, her goal is to help clients navigate the often-challenging waters of the home buying and selling process. Jen works closely with home Buyers and Sellers to customize the experience to meet each client's needs. Her clients range from first-time buyers, lake and land properties, retirees, sellers seeking to up or downsize, new construction, and relocations out of state or area. You can email her [here](#) or call her at 952-495-4360. Check out her [website!](#)

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MINNESOTA
VETERANS
CAREER FAIR

MAY 18, 2022 | 2 - 6 PM
IN PERSON EARLE BROWN CENTER



OFFICE GRAND OPENING



*Heitz Gardner
 Group*



MAY 3RD FROM 4-7!

The ribbon cutting ceremony by Big Lake Chamber happens at 3:45 and then nothing but fun for all! We will have food, music and activities!



- ✔ Music by MOEDEL
- ✔ Face Painting by the Big Lake Ambassadors
- ✔ A bouncy house!
- ✔ Meet and Greet with Alec Robbins
- ✔ Food from Chowtown BBQ



📞 763-262-0123

690 Humbolt Dr NW
 Big Lake, MN

**Edina
 Realty®**

KEEP CHAMBER PARKS CHALLENGE TROPHY!

Big Lake Citizens are encouraged to walk in any or all of the parks of the City of Big Lake or those listed on the Sherburne County Area United Way (SCAUW) [webpage here](#) through April 22. They can take a picture of themselves, their pets, their kids, neighbor kids, a sign or unique feature of the park and upload the photo with the hashtag #biglakeparkschallenge2022 [here](#) along with the name of the park.

Each photo will be entered into a weekly drawing for prizes! The first week's winner is Cory Forslund with a photo of his dog Felix at Lake Ridge Park and he won \$140 of products from NewAge & Profusion CBD. Parks Advisory Committee Jack Merwin drew his name in a video at Sanford Select Acres. Check out the videos on the [Chamber FaceBook page](#). CentraCare and City of Big Lake Lakeside Park are providing prizes for Week 2 & 3. The more parks residents visit and submit photos, the more times they will be entered to win the Grand Prize, which includes a season parking pass to Lakeside Park, \$100 in cleaning from Debbie's Cleaning Service and a weekend of camping at Princeton plus more!

The community with the most entries submit will receive the traveling trophy, sponsored by Majestic Creations. Big Lake won the trophy last year.



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Elevier Women's Center Fundraising Banquet Thursday, May 12, 2022



**You are Precious... You are Wanted...
You are Chosen...**

Rockwoods Banquet Center - Otsego, MN

6:00 pm Social Hour

6:45 pm Seating

7:00 pm Dinner & Program

No Cost to Attend
Reservation Needed
to Reserve a Seat
Adult Only Event

RSVP by April 15, 2022

Online: elevier.org/rsvp

Email: event@elevier.org



COMMUNITY FAIR: GREAT FUN!



Cosponsored by Big Lake Community Education, Big Lake Community Fair on Saturday, April 23rd from 10-1 pm at Big Lake High School will offer many activities and entertainment to enjoy!

Forty exhibitors will showcase their products and services while giving away a variety of items.

Youth can register to win 9 bikes or scooter/skateboard combos.

Entertainment will be provided by BLHS Chamber Choir, Jazz Band, Treble Choir, Poetry Out Loud, Evolution Tae Kwon Do and Starz Dance.

Caricatures by artist Bill Morgan will be available along with face painting. Big Lake Robotics will demonstrate their robot. Attendees can participate in basketball challenge at our Gold Sponsor State Farm's booth. See the Shrek actors and actresses in full costume!

The Farmers Market will be held in the high school parking lot.

All proceeds from the 2022 Community Fair will go to Big Lake High School Volunteerism Scholarships.

We thank our other Gold Sponsors: Becker Big Lake Ice Association, Custom Doors, and Insurance Specialists Team along with our Silver Sponsors and Bike Sponsors listed on the flyer to the right.

Exhibitors can [register online here!](#) Big Lake Women of Today will help with registrations.



Big Lake Community Fair

Saturday, April 23, 2022 from 10-1 pm
Big Lake High School

Free admission **Free food**
Entertainment **Free giveaways**
Free Caricatures!
Job Opportunities

Buy locally-produced items at the Farmers Market!

**9 Bikes or Scooter/Skateboard
Combos will be given away!**

Gold & Bike Sponsors



Silver Sponsors: **Big Lake Spud Fest, Casey's, Coborn's, Edina Realty-Ryan Benjamin, Fed Ex Ground, First Class Mortgage, Minnco Credit Union, Minnesota Limited, Park Dental, Starz Dance Studio, Window Concepts of MN, and Wruck Sewer & Portable Rentals**

Sponsorship Opportunities Available
Booth Registration Forms due by April 18th.
www.biglakechamber.com/community-fair
info@biglakechamber.com

Hello, Big Lake!



We're not the "new kid" in town anymore, but we're as eager as ever to make more friends. If you haven't met our talented team yet, stop by for a visit! We'd love to show you why almost 30,000 members depend on Minnco for their financial services!



Enjoy **better loan rates**, **friendly service**, **powerful mobile and online banking**, **free billpay**, and *much more!*

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Chamber Day at the Capitol will be held in-person at the Capitol on Wednesday, April 20th.

Cost is \$35. [Register here!](#)

Unemployment Insurance. While the Senate quickly passed a fix to repay Minnesota's Unemployment Insurance (UI) Trust Fund deficit, the House DFL continues to use Minnesota businesses as a negotiation tactic. We need to pass a fix as soon as possible to help pull back a double digit payroll tax increase. Rep. Paul Novotny supports the Senate bill. If you know other Representatives, please contact them to support employers.

Reinsurance Extension was passed by Legislative leaders and Governor Walz before the April 1 federal deadline. This an important tool in keeping health care premium rates affordable for employers and employees and has kept rates about 20% lower than what they otherwise would be.

Taxes: With a record-setting \$9.25 billion surplus and over a billion of unspent ARPA federal dollars, MN Chamber supports permanent business tax relief and lower tax where Minnesota is the most uncompetitive.

- The Senate tax bill includes \$3.5 billion of tax relief in FY 2022/23 and \$5 billion in FY 2024/25 by reducing bottom tier income tax rate and exempting social security income.
- The House includes \$1.6 billion of tax relief in FY 2022/23 and \$1.6 billion in FY 2024/25 through variety of tax aids and credits.
- The governor proposed \$240 million in tax relief plus a \$2 billion one-time rebate and \$258 million in on-going tax relief for FY 2024/25.



Options Executive Director Brenda Geldert and Chamber Board Secretary joined State Auditor Julie Blaha, Rochester and Moorhead mayors, and Hennepin & Winona County Commissioner and staff last month as they discuss the State of Main Street and how CARES Act funding impacted their communities during the pandemic. State Auditor Blaha called Options a “wonderful program”. If you missed her, you can watch the [YouTube recording here!](#) If you wish to advance directly to her presentation, forward 28.5 minutes. Thanks Brenda for your advocacy for persons with disabilities!



DEED's Regional Analyst Luke Greiner reported last month that Transportation employment is still lower than pre-pandemic levels. [Read about it here!](#)



A Human Resources Executive [article reports](#) financial expert Suze Orman's best employee benefit: an employer-sponsored emergency fund. [This article](#) claims employers offering adult education and professional learning for their employees builds company loyalty, provides a career path for valuable talent and slows the rate of employees quitting. [A third article](#) also suggests increasing learning and development budgets for employees.



Big Lake Chamber

of Commerce & Industry

MEMBER ADS

COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY EVENT



FREE EVENT

Funded by: Donations to the CentraCare Foundation

BETTER TOGETHER: A DAY OF WELLNESS

Big Lake Football Stadium
May 15, 2-5pm

SPECIAL PERFORMERS:
KOO KOO KANGA ROO



PERFORMANCE: 2:15-3:00PM

Make & Take Stations
Community Resources
Food Trucks & Concessions

Visit the Bounce Back Project Facebook page or Big Lake Schools webpage for weather related announcements

BOUNCE BACK PROJECT
promoting health through happiness

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, April 18, 2022
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

★ FREEDOM ROCK® ★

Your Paver Tribute
will surround the Big Lake Freedom Rock® joining hundreds of other veterans honored in this unique way and leaving a permanent legacy in the community. *Spring 2022 dedication of new pavers.*



Residing at:
101 Lakeshore Drive
Lakeside Park,
Big Lake, MN
Free parking available




CONTACT PERSON FOR QUESTIONS
Your name: _____
Phone or text: _____
Email: _____
Address, where to send Recognition Certificate: _____

Please describe the paver as follows (print in UPPERCASE letters, 15 characters per line that includes punctuation and spaces, 4" x 8" grey paver, 3 lines of type. No rank or status will be included):
Name: _____
Branch of Service: _____
Dates of Service: _____

Return this form with your tax deductible contribution of \$100 per paver to:
Citizens for the Big Lake Freedom Rock®, 1874 221st Avenue N., Big Lake, MN 55309 or bring to Big Lake City Hall, 100 Lake Street N., Big Lake, MN 55309
Checks made payable to: City of Big Lake - Freedom Rock®

QUESTIONS: Karen Blake 763-234-0369, kbld0178@gmail.com



Debbie's Cleaning Service



ENJOY A CLEAN HOME THIS SPRING!

"BusyBee"

763-568-5558



Big Lake Schools Seek Input



The public is invited to respond to a Big Lake Schools survey as they develop their strategic plan, in cooperation with the Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA). The results of the survey will help in identifying the district's strengths and areas for improvement. Complete the survey by:

- Click on this link to complete the [survey](#) electronically. The survey will close on April 21, 2022 at 8:00 am.
- Stop by the District Office from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm, or any school building to pick up a copy and fill it out. Completed surveys should be returned by 8:00 am on April 21, 2022.
- Call the District Office at 763-262-2536 to request a copy to be sent to your home, or request a copy of the survey via [email here](#).

Your participation is greatly appreciated by Big Lake Schools!

OPEN Monday - Thursday 3:30 - 7 pm

Summer Weekend Tournaments at Big Lake Schools include :

- Fastpitch Ice Breaker Tournament: May 20-22
- Youth Baseball Tournament: June 3-5
- Youth Baseball Tournament: June 10-12
- Youth Baseball Tournament: June 17-19

Note: date subject to change!



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

Storytime Tuesdays and Fridays: 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. Social distancing measures will be in place at programs. Please stay home when sick. For ages 2-6. Limit 20. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Tuesday, April 19 and Fridays April 15, 22 & 29 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Tiny Tot Tuesday: a self-directed time for parents/caregivers to explore and play with their little ones. Activities that help to build early literacy and school readiness will be set up around the Community Room down the hall from the library. Supplies are provided. Limit 10. Reg. required.

Tuesday, April 26 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

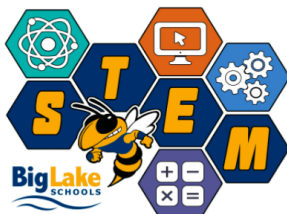
TEEN & ADULT EVENT

Wire Sculpture Class: Join Marilyn Dirkswager and learn about wire sculpture while making a sculpture of your own during this in-person class. All supplies provided. Social distancing measures will be in place at programs. Limit 12. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Monday, April 18 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Call for Community Partners!

Independence Elementary STEM School is looking to team up with community businesses. The goal is for our students to learn from community organizations and companies, while serving and supporting our community.



If this sounds interesting, please reach out to **Scott Pierce** at 763-262-7259 or s.pierce@biglakeschools.org



Brenda from Monticello Printing retired on March 31st and wanted to share these words with Chamber members: “ I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to spend the last 45 years working with a lot of you. It's been a true pleasure getting to know everyone! I have enjoyed the many business relationships and appreciate the trust that you put in me. Many of you have already met Mollie and Wendy who will continue to give you the service and quality you’ve come to know. I’m not leaving the area so hope to see some of you around town. Thanks again for the many years of serving you and this great community! Wendy is our new contact and you can [email her here!](#)”



Sovran is offering a Coupon Deal of 10% off monthly IT services on contracts signed before May 31st or on purchases of \$5000 or more. [Check it out here](#) on our Member Deals Page of our website.



To celebrate 50 years, Big Lake Spud Fest is seeking sponsorships, ranging from \$50-\$1000. Businesses can also sponsor one of the bands, the fireworks on Friday night, the softball tournament that runs all week-end. [Check out their new website here.](#) The Chamber will be collecting items for Bingo prizes so please consider donating some of your promotional goodies. And volunteers will also be needed. If you have any ideas regarding activities, contests or other forms of sponsorships, you can email them [here!](#)



Sherburne County Historical Society is currently seeking candidates to fill open seats on the Board of Directors of the Sherburne History Center. Positions will begin immediately for 3-year terms. Primary duties include oversight of policy and procedures at the Sherburne History Center, assist in fundraising activities, and development and promotion of programs and events. For more information you can [email Mike Brubaker](#) or call at 763-275-2210.



City of Big Lake’s has 2 sponsorship opportunities. **Music in the Park** concert series is returning for a full season on select Thursday evenings June-August to celebrate its 10-year anniversary! **The Big Lake Farmers Market** supports local farmers, crafters, and musicians and offers a variety of exciting programs that rely on sponsorships including the Power of Produce and Frequent Shopper programs, kids’ activities, Music at the Market, Senior Day coupons, and more. Contact Corrie [here.](#)



Lupulin Brewing Company announced that their Hooey, their Hazy IPA was named #1 in the top 22 highest rated Hazy/New England style IPAs of 2022 on Untappd! Read about it [here!](#)



April's Business After Hours



April's Business after Hours is scheduled for 5 pm on Thursday, April 21st at one of our newest members, Ember Coffee Company. To provide adequate seating, please register [here!](#)

Attend our Meetings to Win Prizes!

At every Business after Hours and Membership Meeting, 2 names are drawn from our Network Box containing all of our members. Members who missed the opportunity to win the prizes from previous network opportunities include Driscoll Accounting Services, Ember Coffee Company, Freedom Strategy Group, Gazelle Painting, Howmet, Michelle Backlund, Monticello Times, Scouts, Sherburne History Center and Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home. Members who are present while their name is called win prizes valued at over \$400 which include:



\$10 Gift Certificate



Massage and First Chiro Check



FREE Drink



Monticello Printing Certificate



2 Color Ads, notepad



April 26th Membership Meeting

Our **April Membership Meeting** will be held Tuesday, April 26th at 11:30 am at Lupulin Brewing. Sherburne County Commissioner and Chamber member Raeanne Danielowski will talk about upcoming voting precinct changes and Parks Coordinator Gina Hugo will inform us about Sherburne County Parks. Announcements and introductions begin at noon. Primo Pizza will cater lunch and the Lunch is \$15. Members can also attend virtually. Please register [here](#) by Thursday, March 21st.



At left, former City Administrator Clay Wilfahrt updated members at the March meeting as one of his last "official" reports. We thank him for his 7 years of service and support for the Chamber. Interim City Administrator Hanna Klimmek and Chamber Board Treasurer at right shared business development news.

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, Apr. 27th. Full page ads can be added for only \$25 per month.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Board Meeting 12:30 McPete's and virtually	13	14	15	16
17 	18	19	20 Block Party Mtg 12:30 McPete's	21 Business After Hours 5 pm at Ember Coffee. Register here	22	23 COMMUNITY FAIR 10-1 BL High School
24	25	26 Membership Meeting 11:30 Lupulin. Register here!	27	28	29	30

Mark Your Calendar!

Thursday, May 19th at 5 pm: Business after Hours.

Tuesday, May 31st at 11:30 am: Membership Meeting with our Legislators.

Saturday, August 20th from 10-2 pm: Block Party at



Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022: Golf Scramble at

