



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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Marissa McKee, Sherburne State Bank
763-271-7182

Yvonne Olderbak, Minnco Credit Union
763--552-7309

Stacey Stanley, Real Broker, LLC
763-443-1943

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 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Or by appointment

GLORIA’S GEMS:

Sadly, after 5 years as the Chamber’s Executive Director, I finally visited Wright Tech in Buffalo for the first time during their Open House in April. I was very impressed with the variety of classes they offer students as an alternative to the regular classroom. Their career and technical courses allow students to explore a variety of job careers. Members seeking to hire youth for on-the-job training or as a youth apprenticeship should check out the graphic on page 11 and their [website here!](#)



MEMBER OF THE MONTH: Wright Tech Center



Wright Tech Center (WTC) is celebrating over 50 years as a cooperative public high school, providing instruction in career, technical and alternative education. WTC services eight member school districts in both Wright and Sherburne counties.

The eight local districts include: Annandale, Big Lake, Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose, Delano, Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted, Maple Lake, Monticello, and St. Michael-Albertville. WTC provides students with fourteen different career and technical program choices to meet their needs, skills and career interests.

Executive Director Brian Koslofsky just finished his 36th year in education and 6th year at WTC. He was an Industrial Arts Teacher and coach for 19 years before he became an administrator.

WTC is adding a Heavy Equipment Operations and Maintenance class beginning this upcoming fall. They are also planning for a future Electrical /Plumbing and HVAC class to the existing Construction Technology class. The CEO - Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities class will begin its ninth year in the fall. Mark Lee is instructor for the class in addition to teaching the OJT - On-The-Job Training and Youth Apprenticeship classes. (continued on page 11)

Wright Tech Center Board includes at left Executive Director Brian Koslofsky, Clerk Sue Lee of BHM, Chair Jennifer Mealey of Annadale, Carol Steffens of STMA, Treasurer Melissa Curtis of Monticello, Vice Chair Amber Sixberry of Big Lake, Paul Bravinder of HLWW, Coleen Carlson of Maple Lake and Jim Gierke of Delano.





Cambo Flare's owner Mike Nget and staff have spent the last 10 years of climbing up the ranks with all the greatest food vendors to have ever graced Minnesota's best music festivals. They will serve you fresh hot or cold dishes that will intrigue your tastebuds to new heights: Specialty Drinks, Boba, Coffee, Soups and Curry, Fresh Veggies, Marinated Steak, Quality Seafood, and Stir Frys. They serve their classic food truck items and expand upon what has been dubbed as the best festival food ever with an exciting menu. Vegan, Gluten Free, Carnivorous, Thirsty, Fresh, Healthy, and Gratifying Options. Call 763-923-8145 to place an order for pick-up at 16777 Marketplace Dr. in Big Lake or [order from their menu here!](#) After picking up your food at the counter, you can eat in the dining room or one of the outside tables!



Green Acres Animal Rescue located in St. Augusta is an animal shelter dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating, and rehoming animals in need. They provide shelter and care for animals who have been

abandoned, neglected, abused, or surrendered. Their team of compassionate staff and volunteers work diligently to ensure all of their animals are given the best possible chance at finding their forever homes. Animals provide humans with unconditional love, companionship, and even therapeutic benefits, while humans provide animals with safety and security. The bond between humans and animals can be so strong that it transcends the physical, offering emotional and spiritual connections that can last a lifetime. Sheri Meline is the director and can be reached at 320-406-9602. You can [email her here](#). Learn more from [their website here!](#)



LISI Medical is a well-known international subcontractor specializing in the manufacture of medical devices (implants and instruments) related to bone surgery and advanced surgical technologies. LISI currently has recognized expertise in the manufacture of joint prostheses, spinal implants and osteosynthesis. The division also specializes in the manufacture of mini-invasive surgical instruments. LISI MEDICAL relies on teams located in the United States and in France. Learn more [on their website here](#). LISI's HR Business Partner Carlie Kohn can be reached [at this email](#).



MN Representative Shane Mekeland is in his third term as a state representative but first term with Big Lake area in District 27A. His territory also includes Becker & Clear Lake and area townships. His MN House Committees are Climate & Energy Finance & Policy and Labor & Industry Finance & Policy.

Shane owns his own business in construction. [His email is here](#) and his [website is here!](#) You can call him at 651-296-2451.



SPONSORS NEEDED FOR BEER TENT



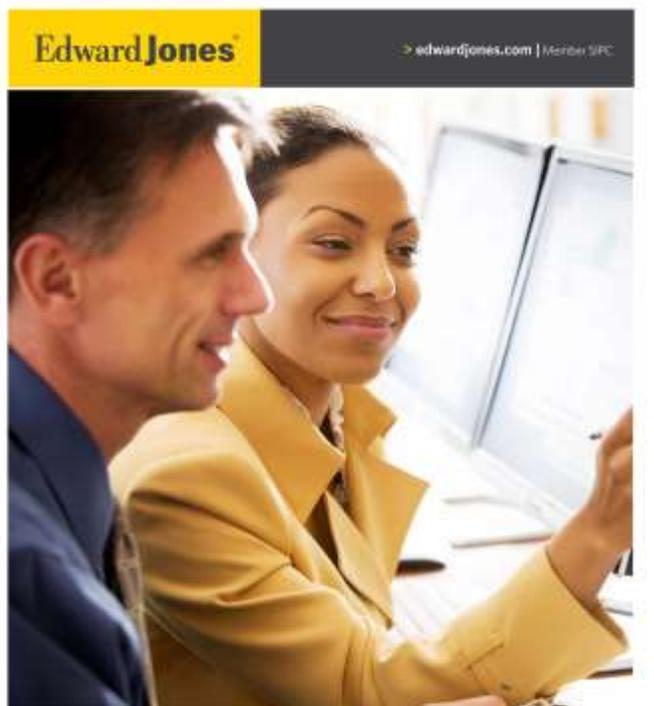
Big Lake Chamber is again sponsoring the Chamber-Lupulin Beer Tent at Music in the Park six Thursday evenings in July & early August from 5:30-8:30 pm.

Liquor Liability Insurance is expensive and weekly sponsorships help cover the cost of this service. We appreciate Style Catering provided the beer tent during June.

[Check out the bands playing here](#) and sponsor a week for just \$200! Bring your lawn chairs and banner and chat with area citizens!

Edina Realty-Ryan Benjamin has sponsored July 6 with the Shane Martin Band. Our 2 lake associations (Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association and Big Lake Community Lakes Association) have joined together to sponsor our July 13th Business after Hours and Beer Tent at Music.

Sponsorships for July 20 and 27, Aug 3rd and August 10th (also our August Business after Hours) are still available. See flyer below for more information. It's a great way to promote your business!



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



**MUSIC in the PARK
BEER TENT
Lakeside Park
Thursdays 5:30-8:30 pm
July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug 3 & 10**

SPONSOR THE Chamber-Lupulin BEER TENT for \$200!

Display your banner!
Promoted in newsletter, FB



Email info@biglakechamber.com for more information and to sponsor.

Check band schedule here: <http://www.biglakemn.org/580/Music-in-the-Park>

Turn dreary into **dreamy.**



The price of homes may be returning to earth, but with mortgage rates still high and inventory low, buying a newer home remains difficult. Instead of looking for a different house, turn your current home into what you need. A **Home Equity Loan** from Minnco is a great way to transform your home from drab to fab. **Talk to one of our lenders, or apply online at minnco.com!**

The logo for Minnco Credit Union features the word "Minnco" in a large, blue, serif font, with "CREDIT UNION" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font below it. A blue wave graphic is positioned under the "Minnco" text.

613 Rose Drive
Big Lake, MN 55309
763-552-7370

Loans are subject to approval. Rates and terms are based on an evaluation of your credit and other factors. Minnco membership required. See a lender for more information.





BLOCK PARTY

August 19th



SPONSOR BIG LAKE BLOCK PARTY



The 13th Annual Big Lake Block Party is scheduled for Saturday, August 19th from 10-1:30 pm at McPete's Sports Bar and Lanes. This is a great family event! For a reasonable fee, children and adults can enjoy 3.5 hours of mini-golf, bowling and many games with prizes by our sponsors.

Our Gold Sponsor Liberty Bank is sponsoring a balloonist. Big Lake Ambassadors will offer face painting. El Teca Barber Shop is providing free hair cuts. Ambulance, fire and police vehicles are on display. Entertainment by Evolution Tae Kwon Do and Starz Dance is scheduled. The Wave Youth Center will conclude the event with the ever-popular water balloon games!

Coborn's is offering hamburgers, hotdogs and more for a reasonable price. Eleven bikes will be given away to youth who attend the event.

Sponsors are also needed as this is one of the Chamber's largest fundraisers. We thank our Platinum Sponsors: Ace Solid Waste, Coborn's and McPete's.

Our Gold Sponsors are Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital, Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, Liberty Bank, Lupulin Brewing Company and Sherburne State Bank.

First-time Exhibitors can have table space for just \$50. Other sponsorship opportunities as well as prepaying for admission wrist bands are available [here!](#)

The Block Party Planning Committee includes Dr. Kristi McAlpin of Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital, Trista Spurgin of Minnco Credit Union, Lois Breitlow and Ginny Martinson of LC of Big Lake Lioness, Bill Blackhurst of Scouts, Marissa McKee of Sherburne State Bank and Dan McElwee of St. Croix Valley Insurance. They encourage members to sponsor, volunteer or come to the Block Party with their kids, grandkids and neighbor kids!

BIG LAKE BLOCK PARTY Saturday, Aug. 19, 2023 10-1:30 pm

McPete's Entertainment: Platinum Sponsor
590 Humboldt Drive, Big Lake

3.5 Hours of FUN for just \$5: bowling, mini-golf
Tour Ambulance, Fire & Police Vehicles
Face Painting by Big Lake Ambassadors
Entertainment & Music!! FREE Haircuts!
Games/Activities from our Sponsors
Bikes or Scooter/Skateboard Combos Given Away!

WATER BALLOON DODGEBALL

PLATINUM SPONSOR: ACE
SOLID WASTE, INC.
783-427-8318

GOLD & BIKE SPONSORS

SPONSORING BALLOONIST

SILVER SPONSOR

BRONZE SPONSORS: Insurance Specialists Team, Loch Jewelers and Michelle Backlund, CPA
Additional BIKE or SCOOTER/SKATEBOARD SPONSORS: Big Lake Lions, CentraCare Health, Cherrywood
Advanced Living, Insurance Specialists Team and Riverwood Bank
Community Sponsors and First-time Exhibitors: Big Lake American Legion Auxiliary, Cub Scouts and LC of Big Lake Lioness

Registration is \$5 for adults and children 3 and older.

SAVE TIME & MONEY at the event by prepaying your registration on the August Events

SPONSORSHIPS & GOLFERS WANTED!

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE: Sponsors and Golfers for the Chamber’s 5th Annual Golf Scramble Thursday, Sept. 14th starting at 10 am at Monticello Country Club.

With a Country Western theme of *Partner with Big Lake Chamber*, the Golf Scramble Committee is planning to “round up” sponsors and golfers for a “real good time”.

Our Dinner Sponsor is Old National Bank. Master Sponsors include Cabot Lodge Securities-Paul Knier, Liberty Bank, Minnco Credit Union, Monticello Country Club, Sherburne State Bank and State Farm-Cory Laugen.

Beverage Cart sponsor is Dahlheimer Beverage. Insurance Specialists Team is offering \$20,000 for a Hole in One and West Metro Buick GMC is also providing a large prize for Hole in One.

Classic or Hole Sponsor include Riverwood Bank. Snack Sponsor is Von Hanson’s Meats.

Sponsors and golfers can [register here!](#)

Golf Scramble Committee members include Dr. Scott Schulz of Great River Spine & Sport, Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities, Jennifer Baysinger of Edina Realty Heitz Gardner, Tim Suchy of Edward Jones and Yvonne Olderbak of Minnco Credit Union.



5th Annual GOLF SCRAMBLE
THURSDAY, SEPT 14, 2023
MONTICELLO COUNTRY CLUB
1209 GOLF COURSE RD, MONTICELLO MN

Country Western Theme: Partner with Big Lake Chamber!

SPONSORSHIPS

Dinner Sponsor: OLD NATIONAL BANK
Golf Towel Sponsor: \$800 with your logo on golf towels and a team of golfers & dinner
Master Sponsor: \$650 for sponsorship of event & includes green fees, cart, light brunch & dinner for 4 golfers
Beverage Cart Sponsor (2): \$450. Company logo on carts
Classic Sponsor: \$200. Includes sponsorship of a golf hole with signage. Host a game or event at your golf tee box
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.
Brunch Sponsor:
Social Hour FREE drink
Snack Sponsor:

SCHEDULE

- 10 am Registration & Continental Brunch
- 11 am Shotgun start
- Putting Contest
- Social Hour
- Awards Dinner

HOLE SPONSORS

- Cabot Lodge-Paul Knier
- Insurance Specialists Team
- Liberty Bank
- Minnco Credit Union
- Monticello Country Club
- Old National Bank
- Riverwood Bank
- Sherburne State Bank
- State Farm-Cory Laugen
- West Metro Buick GMC

GOLFERS

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

HOLES IN ONE PRIZE: \$20,000

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

Early Bird by Aug 31st: \$90 each or Team of 4 at \$360 After Aug 31st: \$100 each or Team of 4 at \$400

BUY Swanny Pro Package of a mulligan, a putting mulligan, a power drive or a ball toss for \$40

Register at www.biglakechamber.com/golf-scramble

TWO RIBBON-CUTTING EVENTS

Big Lake Chamber Board of Directors and Ambassadors held 2 ribbon-cutting events for new members.

Blackbird Coffee Co powered by Options Inc. celebrated their coffee kiosk at Sherburne County Courthouse with an open house on June 15th. They are committed to supporting adults with disabilities to fully engage in their community through work and social experiences. Customers can order their [favorite coffee and other items here](#) before they drive up!

Their staff are in the black t-shirts with their white logo. At left in the photo is Oscar Cooper of El Teca Barber Shop, Alicia O'Malley of Blackbird Coffee-Options Inc, Becky Jacobs of Northstar Tech, Scott Driscoll of Driscoll Acct,



Mandi Sabourin, Dee Will, Andrea Earl (holding scissors), Brenda Geldert, Aleigha Arvidson (holding scissors), Stacie Skalek, Matt Carlson (all of Blackbird Coffee-Options Inc), Yvonne Olderbak of Minnco Credit Union, Jessica Bartell of Sherburne County, Gloria Vande Brake of Big Lake Chamber, Dan Weber of Sherburne County, Hanna Klimmek and Therese Haffner of City of Big Lake. Photo was taken by Debbi Rydberg of Elk River Area Chamber of Commerce.

Erbert & Gerbert's at Coborn's opened May 9th with a ribbon-cutting before they served lunch! They have a good variety of sandwiches and soups. Their hours are 10 am-9 pm. They have a drive-through and will deliver. [Check out & order from their website here!](#) Photo below includes from left: Coborn's Assistant Director Drew Howard, Chamber Exec. Director Gloria Vande Brake, Coldwell Banker Cindy Lemm, Real Broker LLC Stacey Stanley, Liberty Bank Parker Friedman, Old National Bank Donna



Clarksean, Old National Bank Michelle Jakubowski, City Community Development/EDA Director Therese Haffner, Monticello Times Sue Emberland, Edina Realty Ryan Benjamin, Options Stacie Skalek, Erbert and Gerbert's Manager Dorothy Vitullo, Options Brenda Geldert, Northstar Technology Solutions Becky Jacobs, Sherburne County Assistant Administrator Dan Weber, and Coborn's Store Director Matt Schacht. Photo was taken by Carol Hansen of PATRIOT News.



Minnesota Chamber summarized the actions of this year’s state legislature as “anti-employers”: spending its surplus \$17.5 billion, increasing state budget 37% in next biennium and adding \$10 billion in taxes to citizens and businesses in the next 4 years. The legislature also eliminated e-pulltabs, sharply reducing income for many of our non-profits. Here is a partial list of new mandates for businesses, their effective dates and time-line:

JULY 1, 2023

- Noncompete agreements banned
- Lactating employees, pregnancy accommodations, unpaid leave updates and small business exemptions removed
- Motor vehicle sales tax increases

AUGUST 1, 2023

- Restrictions on employer-sponsored meetings and communications (captive audience)
- Fees increase for groundwater appropriation permits
- Recreational marijuana legal

OCTOBER 1, 2023

- Sales tax increases for housing
- 1% metro area sales tax for transit and housing

JANUARY 1, 2024

- Sick and safe time mandated
- Ban established on asking about pay history
- Tab fee increases
- Gas tax indexed to inflation

JULY 1, 2024: New 50 cent per-delivery on retail deliveries over \$100

JANUARY 1, 2025

- Minnesota Secure Choice Plan - retirement savings program
- PFAS ban in 11 products

JANUARY 1, 2026:

- New Paid Family and Medical Leave mandate
- New reporting requirements for all PFAS products



When will new policies impact your business?
The Minnesota legislature passed many bills this legislative session. Here is a timeline of when these bills become a reality for your business.

ALREADY IN EFFECT

- Hair texture and styles added to the definition of race
- Ban on restrictive franchise agreements (“no-poach” or “non-solicitation” agreements)
- State Building Code process/rules change to require adult-size changing facilities
- Cumulative impact reporting on state air permits
- Odor management oversight
- Air toxics reporting criteria to obtain a permit
- Additional public meetings for nonexpiring air permits

July 1, 2023

- Noncompete agreements banned
- Lactating employees, pregnancy accommodations, unpaid leave updates and small business exemptions removed
- Human rights act updated with new definitions of sexual orientation and gender identity
- New and increased OSHA permits, classification of violation date, authority to inspect employer exclusion
- Ergonomics Grant program
- New organics reporting requirements
- New agriculture and food processing worker standards
- Nursing home standards board established to set new employment standards
- Motor vehicle sales tax increases

August 1, 2023

- Restrictions on employer-sponsored meetings and communications (captive audience)
- New practices in place for warehouse distribution centers
- Fee increase for groundwater appropriation permits
- Outdoor construction worker wage protections
- Recreational marijuana legal

October 1, 2023

- Sales tax increases for housing
- 1% metro area sales tax for transit and housing

2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026

January 1, 2024

- Sick and safe time mandated
- New ergonomics standards in effect for warehouse, meatpacking, health care workers
- New safety standards for meatpacking
- New worker standards for meat and poultry processing
- Ban established on asking about pay history
- Tab fee increases
- Gas tax indexed to inflation

July 1, 2024

- New 50 cent per-delivery on retail deliveries over \$100

October 1, 2024

- Minnesota OSHA fines/permits indexed to inflation

January 1, 2025

- Minnesota Secure Choice Plan retirement savings program
- PFAS ban in 11 products

January 1, 2026

- New Paid Family and Medical Leave mandate
- New reporting requirements for all PFAS products

For more information on **Labor Law changes** with Dept. of Labor & Industry Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach, [check it out here!](#)



New Big Lake Chamber member State Representative Shane Mekeland reports in his late May Legislative Update that surplus refunds of \$260 per person, or \$520 per couple with income thresholds of \$75,000/\$150,000 is actually “a stipend to pay for one month of tax increases we’re about to suffer”. He also notes that DFL majority catered to “metro-centric activists” and “muzzled half of MN”.

Senator Andrew Mathews reports he was able to secure \$11.7 million for Highway 169 & CR 4 in Zimmerman. This funding is for the construction of a new intersection and overpass with important safety and mobility improvements. The stoplight in Zimmerman will soon be the only stoplight left in a 75-mile stretch until you reach Onamia.



SMOKIN' PULLED PORK COOK OFF
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12TH, 1:45-4:30PM

Calling all Pit Masters!
Lupulin Brewing, in conjunction with the Big Lake Improvement Association (BLIA) are hosting a smoked pulled pork cook-off on August 12th. Bring your best recipes for smoked pulled pork to be sampled by the public and an esteemed panel of local judges. **Cash prizes** will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places along with a People's Choice Award!

Interested in competing?
Smoker space is limited, register by July 31st to reserve your space! Rules and Registration forms are available online (<https://bit.ly/yourBBQ>) or behind the bar at Localis.

Just want to eat some meat?
Simply come on down to the Incheon Saturday, Aug 12th! Public Sampling will run from 1:45 to 4:30pm. Public Sampling Tickets are only \$2 (per sample).

Friday, Aug. 11th
12:00pm - Setup
3:00pm - Books Meeting

Saturday, Aug. 12th
1:00pm - Judging begins
1:45-4:30pm - Public Sampling
4:30pm - Awards

Questions?
Lori Schroeder | 952-683-1010
ljschroeder@gmail.com



FREE! YOU'RE INVITED !!
BIG LAKE ECFE
IN THE PARK
REGISTER YOUR FAMILY AT BIGLAKEECE.COM

ECFE
IN THE PARK 2023

- JUNE 7 LIBERTY ELEM.
- JUNE 21 SANFORD SELECT
- JULY 12 HUDSON WOODS
- JULY 26 WRIGHTS CROSSING
- AUG. 9 HIGHLINE
- AUG. 23 LAKESIDE

Join us 10-11:30 AM

MINNESOTA EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE



ATTENTION
GRILL MASTERS
NO ENTRY FEE!

The Wave

Flaunt your BBQ skills and win some fabulous prizes with The Wave Youth Center fundraiser! .

Event Date: Saturday, July 15, 2023

Entry Deadline: Saturday, July 1, 2023

Entry Fee: No fee to enter
Entry Requirements: Pork ribs—enough for 200 people to sample and judge

Any grills/smokers/equipment that need electricity will need to be provided by the registrant

Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to register early

Additional information and schedule will be provided as details are finalized.

Questions? [Email Molly Schroeder here!](#) .[Sign up by clicking here!](#)

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WRIGHT TECH (WTC) (continued from page 1)

Wright Tech Center had a request for \$9.5 million in the state bonding bill but unfortunately, it wasn't approved this year. WTC is planning on asking again in 2024. They need funding for facility updates and program improvements. As a Vocational Cooperative District, WTC relies on the funding received from member districts for tuition. The Alternative Learning Center receives little funding from the State for General and Special Education. WTC doesn't have levy authority for building improvements. The member districts do levy on behalf of WTC a small amount for facility repairs but isn't enough to cover all of the expenses. Additional revenue from the bonding bill other than for repairs would go towards remodeling the West end of the school to accommodate the two Headstart programs allowing them to move to the Early Childhood Education Careers program, thus providing space to move the Cosmetology program inside the main building. Currently the Cosmetology program is in a separate building.



YOUR VOICE IN GOVERNMENT/TIDBITS (continued from page 9)

This Star Tribune [article identifies the fastest growing states](#) between 2010 and 2020 are primarily Republican: Texas, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee and South Carolina because they are more pro-business.

AZINNO ranks MN as the most expensive state in the country to start a business while SD ranked #6 as the least expensive state, according to Simplify LLC. [Read about it here!](#)

KTSP reports electric grid needs more time than 2040 to be 100% carbon-free, noting that some of the regulatory steps and construction take 7-10 years. [Read about it here!](#)

MN Chamber's Women in Business Conference on July 13 in Golden Valley features newly-named CEO of the Minnesota State Fair Renee Alexander. [Register here!](#)

MPR News shares 10 things about new marijuana law [in this article.](#)

Human Resource Executive **This Human Resource Executive article** suggests two strategies to [boost retirement savings for employees.](#) [This article shares IRS increases in 2024 for Health Savings Accounts.](#)



BIG LAKE SCHOOLS OFFER SUMMER FOOD



Big Lake Schools are again serving free breakfasts and lunches to students throughout the summer months through the Minnesota Summer Food Service Program. Meals are available to anyone 18 and under (no registration or forms required) and are served at Big Lake Middle School: Monday-Thursday, June 5-August 17 (no meals served June 19 or July 3-4). Breakfast is from 7:30-8:45am & Lunch: 11am-12:30pm

Kidz Kitz: Thanks to BL Community Food Shelf, groceries, free and available for anyone to take, will be at the Middle School all summer long, inside the vestibule at the main doors. Pantry boxes will be dropped off every Monday, and various breads and pastries will be dropped off on Thursdays. Select anytime between 7:30am-4pm, Monday-Friday.

Upcoming Opportunities:
Adult Pickleball

Summer Pickleball Adults | Ages 20+
Open Pickleball
Wednesdays starting June 14 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

Spud Fest Pickleball Tournament
Pickleball Tournament
Thursday June 22 | 8:30pm
Teams of 2, men or women with experience & competitive skills welcome

Register Online: Open Pickleball: biglakesports.com
Tournament: biglakespodfest.com



[Learn more about The Wave's building project or donate here!](#)



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 EVENTS

Dollipops! 7/19/2023 4-5 pm
Sing, dance, and laugh with the engaging, high-energy, highly interactive kids' show! From classic beach tunes to current Hollywood and pop hits, Dolli and Pop use music to allow kids the chance to sing and dance along. For children & families.

CHILDREN & TEENS EVENTS

Driving to Drum: Heart & Soul at the Big Lake Farmers Market
Talented youth from Heart & Soul Drum Academy help kids 8 to 15 increase focus, discipline, and teamwork skills while celebrating African culture through drumming and dance.

TEEN EVENTS

Code Crackers! 7/1 All Day & 8/1/2023 at 1 pm
Break the Code to earn the prize. This STEM experience will help you think outside the box and perhaps create your own codes to crack! Limit 10. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

ADULT EVENTS

Skally Line 7/21/2023 10:30 am
Skally Line (Fred Keller and Bill Cagley) presents stories, music, and possibly a little singing and dancing featuring odd and forgotten corners of Minnesota history. For all ages.





Carefree Country Club invites Chamber members and governmental units to join their 4th of July parade on Saturday, July 1st with lineup at 11:30 and parade starting time at noon. The Sherburne County Sheriff's Department horse patrol heads up the parade. The Big Lake American Legion and Auxiliary march. The route is about 3/4 mile long and the spectators and kids are excited to see everything! Some of the entrants drive their cars or decorated golf carts; others walk the route holding signs or a banner. Participants may throw candy or prizes. Everyone is met with great enthusiasm at Carefree. To register call Activity Director Ruthie Neuman at 715-441-4883.



Willy's on the Water is hosting Twin Cities Live with Elizabeth Ries and Ben Leber on Friday, June 30th from 3-4:30 pm. **Lupulin Brewing** will be interviewed earlier in the week!



Big Lake Fire Department's new main non-emergency phone # is 763-260-6281



Sovran Technology Solutions for Business cautions small businesses to prioritize email security to keep their information safe. [Read their suggestions here!](#) For non-profits they offer [cloud storage and collaboration here!](#)



Lupulin Brewing Company received 4 awards in late April at the MN Craft Brewers Guild 2023 Brewers Cup & Awards. More than 450 beers from 90 breweries were entered. Scribbled Lines won 2nd place in the Wild, Sour & Funk Ales category. Barrel God Cuvee '20/'21/'22 won 2nd place in the Wood-Aged Beers category after winning 3rd place in the 2022 Festival of Wood and Barrel-Aged Beers in Chicago. Dance in the Rain, a collaborated Czech-style Dark Lager with a Madison WI Brew Bar received 3rd place and their Marketing & Artistic Director Marcus Paulsen won his third Best Art & Design award, the sole recipient of this award.



City of Big Lake Farmers Market is held every Wednesday from 3-7 pm through August and 3-6 pm in September at Lakeside Park.

Parking is free. Sponsors are still welcome. [Email Corrie Scott here](#) for more information



Check out Big Lake Spud Fest activities this weekend, June 22-25 at right!



Xcel Energy received \$20 million grant for iron-air multi-day battery storage.

Check out LISI Medical and Options Inc have jobs opportunities on our [Job Postings page of our website.](#)

2023 BIG LAKE SPUD FEST'S SCHEDULE (subject to change)			
THURSDAY, JUNE 22nd	FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd	SATURDAY, JUNE 24th	SUNDAY, JUNE 25th
<p>SPUD FEST FAMILY NIGHT LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE HIGHLIGHTS AT ADVANCED PRICES AT THE BIG LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY!</p> <p>3:00 to 4:30 = SOUL UP IN ALCHEMIST - www.thebiglake.com/alchemy - www.thebiglake.com/alchemy - www.thebiglake.com/alchemy - www.thebiglake.com/alchemy</p> <p>Kid Bike Races & Parade (3:30 - 4:00) decorate bikes and enjoy the fall rodeo! at 4:00 participate in the kid parade or line up by the cones to catch some of their candy!</p> <p>4:00 to 8:00 = Big Lake Ambassadors selling brats & hotdogs by main tent area</p> <p>4:30 to 8:30 = PARTY WAGON will entertain with fun music and dances.</p> <p>4:30 to 5:30 = ECFE at the FAIR (Bingo/Man Tam) Take part in potato-themed art, sensory activities, spud car creating and more!</p> <p>4:30 to 8:30 = PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT Located at Tennis Courts! A competitive tournament for experienced teams of two! Pre-Registration Required</p> <p>8:00 to 8:00 = POTATO SPUD CAR DERBY - After you make your potato car in the ECFE area, race it with the Car Derby!</p> <p>5:30 to 7:00 = KID'S BOOK BINGO & FACE PAINTING</p> <p>6:00 to 8:00 = Carnival starts. Use your Advance Wristband Pass - Session is the whole tent!</p>	<p>1:00 to Close = Carnival is open. Use your Advance Wristband Pass - Special Child Care Day Session is 1:00 to 5:00 & Regular Session is 5:00 to 10:00</p> <p>3:00 to 10:00 = BINGO with blackout starting at 9:30</p> <p>3:00 to 5:00 = PARTY WAGON will entertain with music.</p> <p>3:00 to Midnight = BEER starts pouring at the main stage area. Last Call is 11:30 & BRING ID = WE CARD EVERYONE!!</p> <p>5:00 to 7:00 = FACE PAINTING by the Big Lake Ambassadors</p> <p>6:00 = GUNS & HOSES (Police vs Fireman playing a friendly game of softball) to kick off the Softball Tournament</p> <p>5:00 to 8:00 = Concessions served at the main food tent by Minnesota Jets Cheerleaders</p> <p>8:00 to Midnight = Come dance to the music played by "GOOD FOR GARY"</p> <p>DUSK (around 10:00) = FIREWORKS SHOW! provided by Northern Lighters Productions</p> <p>Midnight = Closes for the night... come back tomorrow!</p>	<p>7:00 = RUN THE LAKES (jog or power) 8:30 = RUN THE LAKES starts at Lakeside Park</p> <p>8:00 = Softball starts</p> <p>8:30 to 10:00 = Royal Run Motorcycle Ride REGISTRATION @ Tooter's 10:30 = KICK STARTS LIST</p> <p>10:00 = TATOR TOT CLASSIC (been long time tournament - located out of the softball field)</p> <p>11:00 = PARADE</p> <p>11:00 to 8:00 = SPUD FEST! MARKETPLACE come shop & support local vendors.</p> <p>Neon to Close = Carnival is open. Use your Advance Wristband Pass - Sessions are from 5:00 and 8:00 to 10:00</p> <p>Neon to Midnight = BEER starts pouring at the main stage area. Last Call is 11:30 & BRING ID = WE CARD EVERYONE!!</p> <p>1:00 = PARTY WAGON = MUSIC playing all afternoon and band set up!</p> <p>1:00 = WATER BALL WARS with the Big Lake Fire Department</p> <p>1:00 to 10:00 = BINGO with blackout starting at 9:30</p> <p>1:00 to 8:00 = KIDS FUN TENT hosted by the Big Lake Women of Today. Kids can hang out, play games and have fun.</p> <p>2:00 to 4:00 = BIG LAKE AMBASSADOR CONGRATULATE at the Big Lake High School</p> <p>2:00 to 3:00 = Dance Caravan</p> <p>8:00 to Midnight = Come dance to the music played by TRUE VILLAINS with special guest BRIGGS LIVING</p> <p>Midnight = Closes for the night... come</p>	<p>8:00 = Softball starts</p> <p>7:30 to 9:00 = CAR SHOW REGISTRATION</p> <p>8:00 to 10:00 = CAR SHOW located in the Big Lake High School parking lot</p> <p>8:00 to 11:00 = Five O'Clock with the BIG LAKE LIONS at the main food tent</p> <p>8:00 to 4:00 = SPUD FEST MARKETPLACE come shop & support local vendors.</p> <p>10:30 to 3:00 = BEER starts pouring at the main stage area</p> <p>BRING ID = WE CARD EVERYONE!!</p> <p>10:00 to 3:00 = Come dance to the music played by a Big Lake Alumni, Five O'Clock</p> <p>Neon to 4:00 = Carnival is open. Use your Advance Wristband Pass - Session is the whole tent!</p> <p>1:00 = 4th Annual POTATO SCUP CONTEST at the main food tent - come taste & vote for your favorite scup!</p> <p>1:00 to 3:00 = KIDS FUN TENT hosted by the Big Lake Women of Today. Kids can hang out, play games and have fun.</p> <p>1:00 to 3:00 = BINGO with blackout starting at 3:00</p> <p>2:00 Registration 2:30 Start = PIGAL FULL over by the long set area</p> <p>4:00 = IT'S A WRAP FOR ANOTHER YEAR! SEE YOU IN 2024!</p>

July Business After Hours



July Business after Hours is scheduled for 5 pm on Thursday, July 13th at the Chamber-Lupulin Beer Tent at Music in the Park, Lakeside Park, sponsored by Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association and Big Lake Community Lakes Association. Thrillbillies will perform southern rock & country music from 7-8:30 pm. No parking charge. Please [register here](#) by 3 pm on the 13th to save enough room! Members who attend can win prizes from the Network Box.

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. At our May Business after Hours Scott Driscoll of Driscoll Accounting won the Network Prizes and CentraCare Health won the Network prizes at our May Legislative Membership meeting/ All who are present while their name is called will win prizes valued at over \$300 which include:

\$10 Gift Certificate



Massage and First Chiro Check



Color Ads, notepad



Lunch Cooler and reusable grocery bag

August 29th Membership Meeting



Our **August 29th Membership Meeting** will be held at Carefree Country Club at 11:30 am. Sherburne County Commissioner Raeanne Danielowski, Administrator Bruce Messelt, Assistant Administrator Dan Weber and Elections Manager Ken Selser will share the latest from the County as well as elections updates. Golfing on their challenging private course is available after the meeting at 1:15 at a reasonable cost. Please register so enough carts can be obtained. Coworkers & guests are welcome! [Please register here](#) by 1 pm Thursday, August 24th.

Photo below includes State Representative Shane Mekeland and State Senator Andrew Mathews who updated over 40 members at our May Legislative Membership Meeting on the bills passed by the State Legislature. In photo below left, Ethan Hellier of U.S. Chamber of Commerce shared federal updates.



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 the next bimonthly's newsletter by July 24th. 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
	MAY 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Coborn's Erberts & Gerberts Ribbon-cutting 10 Board Mtg 12:30 Willy's	11 Ambassadors Mtg 11:30 Willy's Business after Hours 5 pm El Loro	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Golf Scramble Mtg noon Trail's; Community Fair 1:30	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Legis. Membership Mtg 11:30 Style Catering	31 Block Party Mtg noon McPete's	JUNE 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Business after Hours 5 pm Willy's	9	10
11	12	13 Board Meeting 4 pm	14	15 Blackbird Coffee Co Ribbon-Cutting 10 am	16	17
18		20	21	22 		24 
25	26 	27	28 Block Party Mtg noon McPete's	29 Golf Scramble Mtg noon Coborn's Erbert & Gerberts	30	JULY 1
2	3	4 	5	6 Chamber-Lupulin beer tent Music in the Park 5:30  	7	8
9	10	11 Board Meeting 12:30 Willy's	12	13 Ambassadors noon Willy's Business after Hours 5 pm Lupulin Beer Tent at Music. Register here!  	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Chamber-Lupulin beer tent Music in the Park 5:30 pm	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Chamber-Lupulin beer tent Music in the Park 5:30 pm	28	29
30	31	AUGUST 1	2	3 Chamber-Lupulin beer tent Music in the Park 5:30 pm	4	5

Mark Your Calendar!

August 19 from 10-1:30 Block Party  August 29th Membership Mtg 11:30-1 
 Sept 14 starting at 10 am Golf Scramble  March 16, 2023 Community Fair Big Lake High School