



Mission Statement

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

Board of Directors

Chair: Tim Trueebenbach
Big Lake Schools 763-262-5218

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Options, Inc. 763-263-3684

Secretary: Becky Jacobs
Northstar Technology Solutions
763-262-0729

Treasurer: Scott Driscoll
Driscoll Accounting
763-221-2803

Ryan Benjamin, Edina Realty
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Oscar Cooper, El Teca Barber Shop
763-207-8822

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:

It's been a great 5 1/2 years as I've served as your Executive Director. I'm met so many dedicated members, willing to support the Chamber and volunteer their precious time to make Big Lake a better place.

Thank you for all your encouragement and support. It has meant a lot to me. The Chamber continues to be strong financially and membership has grown through your efforts! New programs and events have added some spice!

I'm not sure what I'll do in my retirement, although avoiding some of the MN winters is attractive! After I return from AZ next spring, I'll sure I'll see some of you around as I continue to shop and volunteer in the community.

See ya around!

Gloria Vande Brake



NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Julie Brandt

Julie Brandt will begin working as the Big Lake Chamber's Executive Director in mid-October after she wraps up her duties with Sherburne County United Way (SCAUW).

Many Chamber members may have seen Julie attend Membership Meetings and serve as staff to the SCAUW United We Shiver event at Lakeside Park last February.

"I am so excited for the opportunity to work within the community of Big Lake. There are so many great things happening! My passion for people, community interaction, and events has always been apparent in my life. With my business management degree and experience, I look forward to meeting all of you and promoting the businesses of this area. Feel free to stop in and say Hi!"

Julie was previously employed by Becker Public Schools and as President of the Becker Chamber.



NEW MEMBERS



BEAUTIFUL YOU DERMATOLOGY LLC opened this month at 310 Lake St. South in Big Lake. The clinic is in the previous Montessori school and additional renovations plan to be completed by November. Owner Crista Wenisch is board certified as both a family practice and dermatology-certified nurse practitioner. She has over a decade of experience as an advanced practice nurse practitioner in dermatology. Crista will work with her team to treat patients of all ages. She will focus on medical/surgical dermatology and also offer select cosmetic services. Conditions treated (not limited to) include: full skin exams, skin cancer, acne, rosacea, warts, eczema, psoriasis, hair loss, connective tissue disease, and nail disorders. In addition, her practice will offer medical-grade skin care products, Botox, and other cosmetic services. Patients can [learn more, schedule online](#) or call 320-204-4858. See below their ribbon-cutting event earlier this week!



CoMITTED 365 ROOFING & EXTERIORS is licensed, insured, and bonded to provide the very best roofing and exterior services. Their team has over 50 years of experience for their customers wanting to remodel, have storm damage, need restoration, or want to update siding or gutters. Gary Swenson can be [emailed here](#) or call him at 320-895-0512. Check out their [website here!](#)



DAVE'S HEATING & AIR is a very dependable HVAC company in Big Lake and Columbia Heights, MN. They have over 50 years of experience and the tools and knowledge to tackle any challenge. Free estimates are available. Call Dave at 763-227-2186.



Enthusiastic attendees at Beautiful You Dermatology's Ribbon-Cutting event on 9/26 included at left: Doug Boser and Jim Schlepfer of Inventure Real Estate, Scott & Linnai Driscoll of Driscoll Accounting, Taylor Mondloch of Beautiful You Dermatology, Therese Haffner of City of Big Lake, Mayor Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities, Crista Wenisch of Beautiful You Dermatology, Deb Wegelben of City of BL, Leah Vos of Beautiful You Dermatology, Oscar Cooper of El Teca Barber Shop, Yvonne Olderbak of Minnco Credit Union, Greg Wenisch of Beautiful You, Ryan Benjamin of Edina Realty, Stacey Stanley of Real Broker Inc, Sue Emberland of Monticello Times, Jessica Barthel of Sherburne County, John Uphoff of Inventure Real Estate, Becky Jacobs of Northstar Technologies, Barry Kirchoff of SBDC & Triad Consulting, & Brenda Geldert of Options Inc.



Beautiful You
DERMATOLOGY

Crista Wenisch, DCNP, is coming to Big Lake, MN. Fall 2023!

Crista focuses on medical and surgical dermatology care. She will also offer select cosmetic services.

Taking appointments now!

Call 320.204.4858 or book at: beautifulyoudermatology.com

320.204.4858

beautifulyoudermatology.com



MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

FIFTH ANNUAL MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Big Lake Chamber Board of Directors is asking its members to nominate a member who has done outstanding work for the Chamber or the Big Lake Community.

Past winners include Minnco Credit Union, Edward Jones-Tim Suchy, McPete's-Eric Petersen and Great River Spine & Sport-Scott Schultz.

Nominations are due Tuesday, Oct 31st. Members will vote on the 2024 Member of the Year in November.

In addition to receiving the beautiful glass award pictured above right, the winner will receive 2 free dinner tickets to the Holiday Social Thursday, Dec. 8th where they will be honored. The form is below or comments can be [emailed here!](#)

Fifth Annual



MEMBER of the Year Award

Nominations from Chamber members are due Tuesday, Oct. 31st at the Chamber office or emailed to info@biglakechamber.com. Voting by Chamber members will occur in November. Previous winners were Great River Spine & Sport--Dr. Scott Schultz, McPete's--Eric Petersen, Edward Jones-Tim Suchy and Minnco Credit Union. Winner will be announced at our Holiday Social Thursday, Dec 7th at Style Catering.

Criteria

- Owner(s) and/or staff who volunteer or support community organizations
- Is a Chamber member in good standing.



Nomination:

Please nominate your Chamber member by responding to these two questions:

- I would like to nominate _____.
- This member is deserving of the 2023 Member of the Year Award because (please include comments about your nominee's initiative, innovation, leadership, growth and/or staff motivation): _____



MEMBER

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*All loans are subject to approval.

SPONSORS NEEDED TO DECORATE CHRISTMAS TREES!



Sponsors are needed to once again bring some beautiful color to the east corner of Lake Street & Hwy 25 at Browns Park and Veterans Memorial Park.



Last year sponsors decorated 11 trees

at Browns Park south of City Hall and 3 trees at Veteran's Memorial Park across of Big Lake American Legion. The trees at Veterans Memorial Park must be entirely decorated in 1 color: 1 tree in red, 1 in white and 1 in blue.

Cost is just \$80 and only LED lights can be used. Additional decorations must be securely fastened to the branches and it is recommended not to use glass bulbs.

The Chamber office can invoice sponsors. Sponsors receive a sign that can be attached to the lower branches. Please register by Nov. 9th. Photo below includes Doreen and the youth from The Wave Youth Center decorating their tree last year.




**CHAMBER CHRISTMAS TREE
DECORATING AT BROWNS PARK
& VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK**

Monday, November 27, 2023 from 3-6 pm

\$80 fee includes, tree, stand, electrical fees and hook-up and recognition sign or banner as well as removal and disposal of your tree.

Sponsors will be responsible for providing their own lights and decorations.
Only LED lights will be allowed.
Register by Nov 9th!

For more information, call 763-263-7800,
info@biglakechamber.com OR
Register at the events calendar
at www.biglakechamber.com

**Trees at Veterans Memorial Park will be decorated
with either white, red or blue-only lights.**

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS!



Golfers at the Chamber’s 5th Annual Golf Scramble Thursday, Sept. 14th enjoyed a beautiful warm day at Monticello Country Club.

With a Country Western theme of *Partner with Big Lake Chamber*, volunteer Jessica Barthel of Sherburne County in the



photo at upper left encouraged the golfers to make a Hole in One at the North Risk Partners/Insurance Specialists Team hole to win \$20,000. At upper right, Andy Moll of Mosford, Barthel & Co playing on the Edward Jones team was very close to winning that cash. Photo was taken by spotter volunteer Linda Paulsen of Citizens for Big Lake Freedom Rock.



First place team with the lowest score was Old National Bank. At left is Tom Linquist, Jake Linquist, Scott Schulz and Barry Cleasby. Photo by Yvonne Olderbak of Minnco Credit Union. Some of these golfers won first place for the last 5 years!



Photo at upper right is Chamber Executive Director Gloria Vande Brake and Golf Committee Chair Scott Schulz of Great River Spine & Sport announcing hole contest winners. Minnco Credit Union-Olderbak team is seated. Photo was taken by Yvonne Olderbak.

We thank our Dinner Sponsor: Old National Bank. Master Sponsors included Cabot Lodge Securities-Paul Knier, Edward Jones-Tim Suchy, Liberty Bank, Minnco Credit Union, Monticello Country Club, Sherburne State Bank and State Farm-Cory Laugen. Seven hole sponsors offered fun games and activities for the golfers to try.

The silent auction organized by Jennifer Baysinger of Edina Realty-Heitz Gardner Group raised \$820, of which \$500 will go to the Chamber High School Volunteerism Scholarships.

Free Veteran Dinner
for Veterans, Active Military and Guest.

Saturday, October 14, 2023
11am-2pm (or until gone)
Big Lake Township Hall – Lion’s Park
21960 Co Rd 5
Indoor Seating
(Rain or Shine)




- ★ Free Parking at Lion’s Park
- ★ Dinner will be catered by The Pork Chop Guys
- ★ See our Facebook page for more information

Sponsored by... Big Lake American Legion Post 147,
Big Lake American Legion Auxiliary Unit 147



SUCCESSFUL BLOCK PARTY!



The Aug. 19th Block Party at McPete's Sports Bar & Lane had an all-time high attendance of 247 paid youth and adults.

As one of the Chamber's largest fundraisers, net profits increased 7%. With 9 new sponsors, youth and adults had many games to enjoy, along with the mini-golf and bowling offered by McPete's.



Liberty Bank sponsored a balloonist next to Branch Manager Parker Friedman in the upper left photo. El Teca Barber Shop owner Oscar Cooper and his barbers offered free haircuts in the upper right photo.



Tips of \$93 were donated for the Chamber's Volunteerism Scholarships. Left photo is LC of Big Lake Lioness offering a fishing game. Big Lake Fire Department gave tours of their truck and registered youth for a free bike donated by Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon in the right photo.



BLFD OPEN HOUSE

October 14th 11am-2pm

20243 County Road 43

Free Pizza, Popcorn, Pop and Bottled Water - while supplies last

Free Pumpkins for all kids who fill out their Demonstration Passport

Throughout the day enjoy:

- Kids Waterball Activity
- Live Auto Extrication
- North Memorial, Life Link and State Patrol Helicopters
- Kilchen Fire Live Demo
- DNR, ATV Safety
- Centracare Ambulance Tours
- Sherburne County Water Patrol Water Rescue
- Big Lake Police Department
- Centerpoint Energy
- SCSO Mounfed Patrol

Touch a Truck

Face Painting, Bounce House & Much More!



COMMUNITY CONNECT

Thursday October 19, 2023
11:00am - 2:00pm
Elk River High School



Event brought to you by:

Sherburne County Area United Way



www.sherburneunitedway.org

Learn about services from local and regional organizations.

- housing assistance, government programs
- employment opportunities
- legal and financial services, tax services
- food assistance, and MORE!

Essential items available.

Haircuts, flu shots, winter coats, and new this year, The Shoe Bus will be available. Lunch provided.

Tri-Cap Transportation - Call for more info 888-765-5597 or 320-251-1612
For residents of Wright County, contact Trailblazer Transit at 1-888-743-3828



MUSIC IN THE PARK



The Chamber with 6 members sponsored the Lupulin Brewing beer tent at July & August's Music in the Park. Sponsors included Beautiful You Dermatology, Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association (BELIA), Big Lake Community Lakes Association (BLCLA), Driscoll Accounting, Edina Realty-Ryan Benjamin, and Real Broker, Inc. We thank Lupulin for their donation of time working at the events and ordering inventory.

Photo below left includes Linnai and Scott Driscoll of Driscoll Accounting with Patrick Pangborn of Lupulin seated. Photo below right includes Jeff Zierdt & Abbie Vogler of Lupulin, DaCota Weinzetl of BLCLA, Lori Andeen of BELIA, Scott Chapman of BLCLA, and Christina & Mike Vigoren of BELIA.



SPUD FEST

Chamber members volunteered for a shift at the Bingo tent during a hot June afternoon at Spud Fest. Featured at right is Marissa McKee of Sherburne State Bank, Yvonne Olderbak of Minnco Credit Union, Linda Paulsen of Citizens for Big Lake Freedom Rock, Stacey Stanley of Real Broker Inc, Dr. Kristi McAlpin of Big Lake Area Vet Hospital and Brenda Geldert of Options Inc.



Members of the Big Lake American Legion and Auxiliary led the Saturday parade. At lower left is Chamber Executive Director Gloria Vande Brake, Debbie Johnson of Debbie's Cleaning and Kathy Poslusny, President of the Auxiliary.





Big Lake Police Department was ranked #4 by Safewise as the safest cities in MN and was the top city in central Minnesota, ranking under Montevideo, Corcoran and West Hennepin. Becker was #8, Cold Spring #10, Buffalo #13 and St. Joseph #14. [Read more about it here!](#) Congratulations to BLPD and the City!



Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association shared the flyer below about cleaning docks to protect our lakes. Boats also need to be cleaned thoroughly. Their surveyor reported to DNR that with the extra herbicide treatment this summer, Curly Leaf Pondweed and Eurasian Water Milfoil were minimal in Big Eagle Lake.



MN Dept. of Employment & Economic Development reported in late August that after gaining almost 60,000 new residents since 2010, Central Minnesota saw a faster population growth than the state as a whole. All but two of the 13 counties in Central Minnesota managed to gain population over the past 12 years, providing a net gain of 59,172 people, for an 8.7% increase, compared to 7.8% for Minnesota. A growing population is the most important way for labor force growth to occur and a leading indicator of future labor force trends. The largest population gains happened in Wright County growing by 18.7% from 2010-2022, followed by Sherburne (+13.9%).



Minnesota Chamber's 2023 Manufacturers Summit featuring Polaris's CEO, Michael Speetzen will be held Oct 10 in Minneapolis. [Learn more and register here!](#)



MN Dept. of Labor & Industry reminds employers [here about the new Earned Sick and Safe Leave](#) effective

Jan. 1, 2024 to provide up to 48 hours of paid leave for their employees, accruing at 1 hour for every 30 hours worked. Time off can be for extended family. Webinars will be available Oct. 5 and 11.

WCCO News reports that beginning Oct 1st, residents and visitors buying in the seven-county metro area will have a 1% increase in sales tax. These funds, authorized by the DFL legislature, will go towards affordable housing, renter's assistance and transportation infrastructure. Big Lake businesses who sell their products and services in the metro area also need to increase their sales tax. [Learn more here!](#)

MINNPOST reports state employees minimum is \$20/hour and union contracts no longer need to be approved by Legislature. [Read about it here!](#)



Protect Our Lakes!
How to Clean Docks, Lifts, Swim Rafts, and Other Associated Equipment
View a video of these procedures here: <https://www.walpole.com/walpole-uhk/G0/19/>

Clean and Rinse these pieces of your equipment:

- Walking surfaces
- Rails for swim rafts
- Ladder and/or stairs for swim rafts
- Wheels
- Support bars
- Posts and railings
- Underside dock (including support bars)
- Walking surfaces

CLEAN
Thoroughly inspect all surfaces of your dock, boat lift, swim rafts, and other associated equipment. This includes any railings, posts, wheels, ladders, support bars, ladders, and stairs. All of this equipment has been sitting in the water for a long period of time, which provides an opportunity for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) to attach themselves. Remove and dispose of any aquatic plants, small animals (e.g., snails, muskrats, eggs), and other debris. If you find an invasive plant or animal you think is new to your lake, take a picture, keep a sample, and report it to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources immediately.

RINSE
All of your equipment should be rinsed off. Pressure washers work great for getting off any AIS that maybe stuck or attached onto your equipment that are not easily removed by hand or a cleaning tool. If possible, rinse your equipment off with hot water (at least 120°F). Hot water will be able to kill off any AIS that is present that you may not be able to see with the naked eye.

DRY
If you buy or sell a dock, lift, swim raft, or other associated equipment, it must dry for at least 21 days before moving to a different body of water.

PLAN AHEAD
Cleaning, rinsing, and drying your docks, lifts, rafts, and other associated equipment will take time. If you need help with any of these tasks, there are some cleaning tools available for purchase through different vendors. Or if you are physically unable to clean, dock, or dry your equipment, ask a family member, friend, neighbor, or hire a permitted Lake Service Provider. It is important to take all of these steps to help prevent and limit the spread of AIS!

Minnesota law requires a dry time of at least 21 days for any used docks, lifts, swim rafts, or other associated equipment before moving and installing the equipment to a different body of water.

Questions? Call the Sherburne SWCD at 763.238.9600 ext 187 or email dick@shercd.com or call DNR Information Center (651) 296-6237 or email info.dnr@state.mn.us

A FREE community event open to the public!
Saron's Mental Health Ministry
presents

Q & A On Mental Health Challenges
May 11, 2023 7-8 p.m.

Saron Lutheran Church
311 Lake Street S. • Big Lake, MN 55309
763 263-2209 questions

*Presenters: Emily Mochtemes, LSW, Adult Mental Health Outreach, Sherburne County;
Samantha Relander, LSW, Adult Mental Health Case Manager, Sherburne County*

About 80% of us struggle with mental well-being at some point, whether we have a mental illness or not. Common challenges and signs include:

- Lack of a sense of purpose
 - Regularly stressed from daily pressures
 - Lack of good social support system
 - Lack of housing or employment
 - Experiencing social exclusion
- Minnesota Department of Health

“At some time in your life you, or someone you love, will experience mental health challenges.”

— NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

Please join us and get your questions answered.



Saron Lutheran Church Presents

TRUNK OR TREAT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28TH 1-4PM

LIVE MUSIC DRINKS FOOD & GAMES
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CHAMBER WORKING FOR ITS MEMBERS



NEW SCHOOL STAFF WELCOME

Over forty new school staff were welcomed to the Big Lake Community with donations from Chamber members and a community tour on Aug. 21st.

Options Inc clients enthusiastically put the welcome bag together in the photo in lower left. Linda Paulsen educated the new school staff about the Big Lake Freedom Rock in the center photo. The new staff also toured Big Lake Community Food Shelf, Cocoa Maas, McPete's and The Wave Youth Center. Mayor Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities and Chamber Vice-Chair Brenda Geldert of Options Inc. provided updates and took a group photo in the lower right photo. Chamber Executive Director Gloria Vande Brake provided a historical background on Big Lake by asking trivia questions during the bus ride.



CHAMBER MEMBERS REPRESENTED AT CAREER DAY

Chamber members were offered as potential employers to youth in grades 5th and 8-12 at Big Lake Schools Career Day on Sept. 21st. Executive Director Gloria Vande Brake in the lower left photo asked trivia questions, encouraging youth to identify Chamber members where they can work, eat, and obtain services such as buying a house or a car, and getting a loan or financial services. Students who answered correctly the question registered for gift certificates to Ember Coffee.

In the center photo Sara Rivers and Connie Nance of Options shared their employment opportunities. City of Big Lake Engineer Layne Otteson and Community Development/EDA Executive Director Therese Haffner shared their opportunities and services with the youth. Other Chamber members at Career Day included Beaudry Oil, Big Lake Community Education, Big Lake Police Department, LISI Medical, Minnco Credit Union, Old National Bank, Sherburne County, and Xcel Energy.





CHAMBER MEMBERS: NEWEST INDUCTEES



Big Lake Schools inducted two Chamber members into their Hornet Hall of Fame at Homecoming last week.

Congratulations to Delores "Dee" Juhl Leslie and Eric Petersen, the newest members of the Hornet Hall of Fame! Dee has been a Charter Member of the LC of Big Lake Lioness for 40 years, and has also volunteered for many summers with Big Lake Spud Fest and volunteers at Saron Lutheran Church.

Eric has been the proud owner of McPete's Sports Bar and Lanes since 1998. He received the Chamber's 2020 Member of the Year award by fellow Chamber members. Eric is a proud member of the Big Lake Lions Club, the Knights of Columbus and also partners with many local non-profit organizations, booster clubs, chambers, and sports teams in fundraising projects.



DEUCES WILD DUELING PIANOS

fundraiser is Nov. 2nd 7-9 pm at Lupulin Brewing Company.

Advance tickets until Oct. 1st is just \$60. After that they are \$75. [Purchase your tickets here!](#)

Do you have a unique item, service, or experience that you'd like to donate for their Silent Auction? Every contribution will go a long way in making a difference in the lives of the youth they serve. Plus, it's a fantastic way to showcase your brand or service to a passionate audience! You can [donate your items by Oct. 27 here!](#)

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





Friends of Big Lake Library's Fall Book sale continues today, Friday, Sept. 29th from 10-5 and Saturday, Sept. 30th from 10-3 pm in the Community Room next to the Library.



The Wave Youth Center received the most votes in July to receive \$1500 from Connexus Energy customers in their Foundation's Your Community Your Choice program.



Liberty Bank CEO/President Mark Bragelman was honored by the City of St. Cloud when they named their second oldest park The Mark Bragelman Playground at Central Park. Mark grew up across the street from the park and Liberty Bank and the City upgraded the equipment.



Cargill reported in late August that they received the Business Intelligence Group (BIG)'s Sustainability Leadership Award and Sustainability Service of the Year in 2023. [Learn more here!](#)



Options Inc's Blackbird Coffee was featured on WCCO News earlier this month. [Watch it here!](#)



Xcel Energy received MPCA approval last week to expand their Sherco Solar project to become one of the largest in the country.. [Read their press release here!](#)

Adobe, Dave's Heating & Air and Cambo Flare have posted Member deals on our webpage. [Check them out here!](#)

Free Impactful Film Series

Want to watch a film that will help you?

LIKE
a film about finding balance in a digital world

October 04 Where: Saint L'Assise Church Time: 6:30-8pm Address: 211 Lake St, Big Lake	December 20 Where: Central Lutheran Church Time: 7-8:30pm Address: 1153 Johnson St, Oak River
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ANGST
a film about understanding anxiety

October 25 Where: E. & West High School Time: 6:30-8pm Address: 400 School St, Oak River	November 14 Where: Big Lake High School Time: 6:30-8pm Address: 501 Main, Ave, Big Lake
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UPSTANDERS
a film about resilience and connection

October 12 Where: Rebeck High School Time: 6:30-8pm Address: 1388 Hancock St, Becker
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Funded by: BlueCross BlueShield of Minnesota

Sponsored by: STIR

For information and FREE tickets scan the QR code or go to stir.org

THE BIG LAKE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS!

CONTACT US TODAY TO FIND OUT MORE!

Jared Matson
Big Lake Activities Director
j.matson@biglakeschools.org
763-262-5114

Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge

THE 36TH ANNUAL **WILDLIFE FESTIVAL**

Saturday, September 30, 10am - 2pm
Oak Savanna Learning Center
16797 205th Ave NE, Zimmerman, MN

- Wildlife Discovery
- Live Animals
- Dip-Netting
- Inflatable BB Gun Range
- Eagle's Nest Nature Store
- Friends of Sherburne Silent Auction
- Food Trucks
- Open Refuge Service Roads
- And More Hands-On Activities!

Join us for this FREE family friendly event!

For more sporting events and refuge information check our website www.fws.gov/refuge/sherburne. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to these events for all participants. Please direct all requests for special accommodation to Refuge Headquarters 763-509-3121, sherburnefest@fws.gov, or TTY 800-877-8339 at least two weeks prior to the event.

October Business After Hours



October Business after Hours is scheduled for 5 pm on Thursday, Oct 12th at Lupulin Brewing Company. 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 \$350 which include:

\$10 Gift Certificate



Massage and First Chiro Check



\$150 Color Ads, notepad



Lunch Cooler and reusable grocery bag



More prizes are welcome!

October 31st Membership Meeting

Our **Oct 31st Membership Meeting** will be held at Big Lake Schools at 11:30 am. Learn about their programs and services. Meet the Chamber's new Executive Directive Julie Brandt. Please bring ID and register at the office. Lunch is at 11:30 with announcements and the program beginning at noon. Coworkers & guests are welcome! [Please register here](#) by 1 pm Thursday, Sept 26th.

Photo below left from our Sept 26th Membership meeting includes speaker Rivers of Hope Executive Director Hannah Ruth Patterson on how they can help businesses. Center photo includes Dr. Kristi McAlpin of Big Lake Area Vet Hospital, Hannah Ruth Patterson of Rivers of Hope, Dave Roberts of Dave's Heating-Air, Todd Witte of Profusion CBD and Gary Swenson of CoMitted 365 Roofing and Exteriors.



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 quarterly's newsletter by Dec. 15th. 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
Oct 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Board Mtg 12:30 Willy's	11	12 Golf Scramble Wrap-Up 11:30 Minnco CU Business after Hours 5 pm Lupulin. Register here!	13	14
15	16	17	18 Block Party Wrap-Up noon McPete's	19	20	21
22	23 Holiday Social 10:30 Style Catering	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Membership Mtg 11:30 BL Schools Register here!	Nov 1	2 Ambassadors noon	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Business after Hours 5 pm	10	11 
12	13	14 Board Meeting 4 pm	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 	24 OFFICE	25 CLOSED
26	27 Christmas Tree Decorating 3 pm	28 Annual Membership Mtg 11:30 Willy's	29	30	Dec 1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Holiday Social 5:30 pm Style Catering	8	9
10	11	12 Board Meeting 12:30	13	14 Business after Hours 5 pm	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Mark Your Calendar!

March 16, 2024 Community Fair at