

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

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

Board of Directors

<u>Chair:</u> Paul Knier Cabot Lodge Securities 763-263-1716

> Vice Chair: Monica Parrish 763-275-1515

Secretary: Brenda Geldert Options, Inc. 763-263-3684

<u>Treasurer:</u> Hanna Klimmek City of Big Lake 763-251-2979

Ken Geroux, Ken Geroux Construction 763-263-6878

Cory Laugen, State Farm 763-263-0513

Allen Snegosky, Sherburne State Bank 763-271-4919

Tim Suchy, Edward Jones 763.262.9988

Executive Director: Gloria Vande Brake 763-263-7800

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

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 am -noon Or by appointment

<u>GLORIA'S GEMS</u>

During this next year I plan to feature our dedicated Board members in our monthly newsletters.

In addition to the monthly board meetings, they serve on at least one other Chamber Committee. They encourage other businesses to join the Chamber and offer great ideas on improving the Chamber and the Big Lake community. Please join me in thanking them for their service.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH:



"I love Big Lake and am excited to pitch in wherever way I can to help it grow", exclaimed newly-elected Chamber Board Chair Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities.

Knier has been a financial advisor for the past 27 years and with Cabot Lodge Securities since 2010 when they purchased his company. He maintains Series 7 and Series 66 licenses. He is a graduate from University of Min-



nesota Carlson School of Management. Office manager Scott Brodeen has been with him for 10 years.

Serving on the Chamber board for the last 20 months, Knier is also a member of the Chamber's Golf Committee. He has completed his first year on the Big Lake City Council. Some of his Council Committees include Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, Finance Committee and Labor Management Committee.

"As with any part of life, what you get out of it is what you put in," noted Knier. "I encourage everyone to share their gifts to the Chamber and Big Lake."



Paul and his wife Julie have 5 children ages 12-22. He volunteered at the 2019 Golf Scramble in the photo on left.

Chamber of Commerce & Industry

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

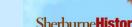
Realty Group: Realtor Carla Swanson attended the January membership meeting featuring the House 30A Candidates Forum and joined the Chamber within days. Her husband Brad joins her in their business and they became silver sponsors of the Big Lake Community Fair! They can be reached <u>here!</u>

El Teca Barbershop: Owner Oscar Cooper at El Teca Barbershop is beginning his second year of business in Big Lake. City of Big Lake Community Development Director Hanna Klimmek encouraged him to consider joining the Chamber. He can be welcomed as a new member Tuesday-Saturday from 10-6 pm at 171 Lake St. or call 763-207-8822.

Edina Realty-Ryan Benjamin became a realtor after being in the automotive business for 21 years. He has lived in the Big Lake/Becker area for 10 years. Along with his expertise in negotiations and networking, his company also provides support to his customers. He can be reached here!



Thank you to our Sponsors!



NEW MEMBERS









Free Family Event! Crafts*Games*Cake

www.sherburnehistorycenter.org 763-262-4433 **OUR NEW STATE REPRESENTATIVE: PAUL NOVOTNY**

Voters in Tuesday Feb 4th's special House 30A election approved Republican-endorsed Paul Novotny as their new House 30A representative. Novotny has been employed for 30 years with the Sherburne County Sheriff's office.

Both Representative Novotny and DFL-endorsed candidate Chad Hobot of Elk River attended the January 28th Membership meeting in their only public forum before the

special election. Photo below right taken by Riverwood Bank Jim Finn captures the forum and includes Governmental Affairs Chair and moderator Allen Snegosky of Sherburne State Bank. Novotny won with a 63% margin.

In his acceptance letter, Novotny indicated his excitement to "get to work at the state capitol on the things I was elected to do: Protect Life and the Second Amendment, fixing on roads and bridges and ending fraud and abuse and giving the taxpayer a better to-morrow than yesterday."

We congratulate Representative Novotny! He begins his work next Tuesday when Session begins.

CHAMBER DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Join Chamber members across Minnesota at the Chamber Day at the

Capitol Thursday, Feb 27th from 1-5:30 pm at the State Capitol. Attendees will be initially briefed by Minnesota Chamber on key issues impacting the business community. Appointments have been scheduled with State Senator Mary Kiffmeyer and are pending with newly- elected State Representative Paul Novotny. Reception is at 4 pm. Cost is \$30 each and you can register <u>here</u>. Contact the office if you would like to carpool.

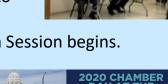
2020 Census

The 2020 Census will count everyone who lives in the U.S. as of April 1, 2020 (Census Day). Census statistics help determine the number of seats each state holds in the U.S. House of Representatives and some experts indicate MN will lose a congressional seat. Census results also determine how billions of dollars in federal funds will be allocated by state, local, and federal lawmakers every year for the next 10 years. Beginning in mid-March, households can respond to the census online or by phone. Additionally, about one-quarter of households will receive a follow-up paper questionnaire at that time. Beginning in mid-April, households that have not responded will receive a paper questionnaire.

Everyone is encouraged to complete their questionnaire.

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COMMUNITY FAIR March 21st 9-noon

COMMUNITY FAIR EARLY REGISTRATION DUE FEB 18

The deadline for March 21st's Community Fair early bird booth registration with a \$20 discount is Tuesday Feb. 18th.

The Winter Farmers Market vendors will join the Community Fair at the Big Lake High School. Entertainment is being planned in the gym with booths around them. Big Lake School's Jazz Band, Robotics Team and Evolution Tae Kwon Do will provide entertainment. Big Lake Ambassadors will offer face painting. Caricatures by William B. Morgan is available. Free food will be offered with lots of give-away items including bikes for youth who attend and register.

Because booth pricing is remaining the same as the last three years, sponsorships of \$250, \$500 and \$1000 are being requested to pay for the costs of providing entertainment in the gym. Big Lake Spud Fest is a Gold Sponsor with Connexus Energy, Old National Bank and Realty Group as Silver Sponsors.





COMMUNITY FAIR **COMMUNITY FAIR COMMUNITY FAIR**

Ale Gine	2020 Community Fair					
Chamber	· · · ·					
	Saturday, March 21, 2020					
With Winter Farmers Market	9 am—noon					
& Entertainment !	Big Lake High School					
BUSINESS NAME:						
TYPE OF BUSINESS/ MAIN SERVICES:						
PRIMARY CONTACT:						
PHONE: EMAIL:						
Registration fee includes: 8x10 draped booth, 1 8						
area, & promoting for Community event. Set up to 6 PREMIUM Booth Spaces at entrance of Fair-						
February 18, 2020 (same day that Early Bird I						
o Early Bird- \$20 Discount on registration if pai	d by February 18, 2020					
 Sales of new, pre-packaged items will be allow 						
 PLEASE NOTE: Open food is NOT permitted in give samples, we are offering <u>one</u> compliment 						
gymnasium	ary lood court table with a paid booth in the					
Food Court is for FREE FOOD samples ONLY; sale	s in the court will NOT be permitted					
Booth Space:	Sub-total:					
Chamber member**: 1 booth @ \$200.00; addition						
(does not include electricit						
Non-Chamber member: 1 booth @ \$350.00 ; addi						
(does not include electricity) Premium Booth Spacex \$50.00 additional charge to booth fee.						
Food Court Table (members) # of tablesx \$75						
Food Court Table (non-members) # of tables	x \$125.00 (includes electricity)					
Extra, Optional Items:						
 Electricity \$20 (one outlet per booth, limited available) 	lability, bring your own cord)					
Additional skirted table 4ft_6ft_8ft_x \$30						
Complimentary Food Court table with paid booth	for food samples (does not include electricity)					
Full Payment Must Accompar						
Payment Information: Checks, Cash, or Visa/Master Big Lake Chamber of Commerce & Indust						
big Lake chamber of commerce & music	y, TO BOX 241, BIG Lake, FIN 55507					
Name on CardNumber	Expiration					
Signature	Date CVC					
\$20 discount if payment received by February 18th. 2020						
Total Paid:						
Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 4th, 2020						
*Your booth is NOT confirmed unless payment is received. A confirmation email will immediately be sent as soon as payment arrives. If you do not receive a confirmation email from the BLCC&I, we did not receive your info or payment. Please look for your email and contact us if you do not receive it within one week of sending your registration. **If you check member pricing, you must be up-to-date on your membership dues**						



2nd ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

SAVE THE DATE: MAY 28th

Golf Committee Chair Dr. Scott Schulz of Great River Spine & Sport recently announced the Chamber's 2nd Annual Golf Scramble will be Thursday, May 28 from 10-5:30 pm at the Monticello Country Club.

Schulz and Committee members Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities, Hanna Klimmek of City of Big Lake, Tim Suchy of Edward Jones, Julie Evans of Insurance Specialists Team (IST) and Karah Hawkinson of Sherburne History Center are seeking sponsors and teams. Golfers registering by April 28th will enjoy an early bird savings. You can contact any Committee member, email the office or sign up <u>here</u>.





GOLFERS Enjoy games such as longest drive, longest putt & closest to pin \$20,000 HOLE IN ONE PRIZE sponsored by Team with Lowest Score receives \$200 to use at Pro Shop

After April 28th: \$90 or \$360 per leam of 4

BigLake Early Childhood Programs

SUPPORT OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS



& fundraiser

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7 ~ 6-8PM PIZZA & CONCESSIONS • PHOTO BOOTH & FACE PAINTING SILENT AUCTION • MUSIC & DANCING

> liberty clementary 17901 205TH AVE. BIG LAKE

WWW.BIGLAKESCHOOLS.ORG/ECFE For children ages birth - second grade & their families!



EDUCATION/YOUTH

Superintendent Search Survey

The Big Lake School Board is asking community members and parents to provide input into the characteristics and priorities of the next superintendent along with your thoughts on the strengths and challenges that exist in the district. The survey found <u>here</u> is available through Friday, Feb 8th.

Superintendent Steve Westerberg who served on the Chamber Board for the past 3 years announced his retirement in May.





MEMBER EVENTS

WRIGHT TECHNICAL ACCEPTING BIDS

The student-built house project at Wright Technical Center is accepting bids until 3 pm on March 27th . Minimum bid is \$79,900.

Special features and specifications for this house project are: 1560 sq. ft., open floor plan

with vaulted ceilings in living room, dining room and kitchen, 3 bedroom rambler, one full



bath, one ¾ bath in master bedroom, angled bay window in living room, patio door in dining area, first floor laundry, kitchen island, custom quality cabinets and vanities, all light fixtures, switches and outlets installed, Marvin Integrity Casement windows and patio door, Dura Core Entrance Door Systems, Mainstreet vinyl siding and accessories, 20" blown in insulation in attic-R60.

See details <u>here</u> or contact Mike Anderson, Construction Trades Instructor, 763-684-2214 or the office at 763-682-4112, for more information.

Business Expo & Craft S Sunday February 16th What you need to know about paying taxes and state and federal laws llam - 3pm WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 | 8:30-3:30 | NO COST **Topics covered:** Properly classifying workers **RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARY IN MAPLEWOOD** More Info and Vendor List: Minnesota Tax ID & withholding **3025 SOUTHLAWN DRIVE** MAPLEWOOD, MN 55109 **REGISTER AT WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM** Wage detail reporting and thebuffmn.com/expo filing Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations to attend this seminar State & federal labor should contact the Minnesota Business Tax Education Partnership at standards ui.mn@state.mn.us or call 651-259-0779. Workers' compensation We are an equal opportunity employer and program provider. The event is Formerly The Friendly Buffalo Business requirements and responsibilities free, but you must register online. Visit www.uimn.org and search 16722 198th Ave. "Educational Seminars" for more information. BIG LAKE, MN thebuffmn.com EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Join us for our February membership meeting on Tuesday, February 25th at 11:45 at Independence STEM Elementary School as they share exciting activities in science, technology, engineering and math for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. A tour is available after the meeting. Chartwells will provide a penne and spaghetti pasta buffet with alfredo and Italian meat sauce, Caesar salad and cookies at a price of \$15. Registrations and lunch is at 11:45 with the meeting starting at noon. Register here!

NEW BOARD DIRECTOR NEEDED!

The Chamber Board has an opening for a board member. We meet monthly at City Hall on the second Tuesday at 12:30 pm. If interested please contact a Board member listed on page 1 or the office.

BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION/GROW MN

The Chamber joined the City at Options Inc last week. Options empowers and supports 262 adults with disabilities to live and work in the community. They employ 67 staff and have a fleet of 28 vehicles to transport their clients.

Bullseve

Proverties

Leasing 🔹 Realty

At right is Options Director of Employment Services and Quality Assurance Stacie Skalak, Big Lake City Administrator Clay Wilfahrt, Community Development Director Hanna Klimmek, Options Executive Director Brenda Geldert, Chamber Chair and Councilperson Paul Knier and Chamber Board member and Options Board Vice-Chair Ken Geroux.

Bullseye Properties is a licensed real estate brokerage specializing in residential and commercial sales. We are experienced with: single-family homes, town homes, condos, apartments, homeowner associations and retail/office/warehouse.

As licensed Realtors, we recognize the importance of protecting and maximizing your real estate investment. Whether you're buying, selling or leasing, our trained professionals have both expertise and understanding to ensure you get the best value.

(763) 275-1515 | 35 Lake Street South. Ste. #300, Big Lake, MN 55309 | www.bullseyeproperties.com

FEATURED LISTING:



OFFERED AT: \$154,900

2 BD 2 BA | 1,235 SQFT 1139 Ridgestone PI, Buffalo, MN

1235 s.f., Vaulted Ceilings, End Unit Townhome, Central Cooling, Attached Garage, Built in 2003







MEETING



MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Friends of Big Lake Library is seeking new members of any age who want to support the library. They meet the first Monday of each month at the library. In March they meet at 1:30 pm and April thru Dec is at 5:30 pm. They support programs such as Storytime, Winter and Summer Reading programs, Craft programs, Bookclub for Teens, Gingerbread House, Wednesday Crafts and Books at the school in Summer and lots of programs for all ages at our local library.



Sherburne**History**

Second Winter Lecture Series 202 will be held on Wednesday, February 12, center at 2:00 pm. SHC Program Coordinator Karah Hawkinson will be speak on the

communities of Sherburne County, and show lots of vintage photos. The event is free, and all are welcome. For more information, call the Sherburne History Center at 763-261-4433 or visit their website here for additional events including Renae Elert speaking on whaling history on Wednesday, Feb 26 and the Museum of Russian Art (TMORA) of Minneapolis's Russian art and culture program on Saturday, February 29, at 1:00 pm. Local artist Linda Croteau will be also be showing some of her oil paintings from February 1 until April 15.

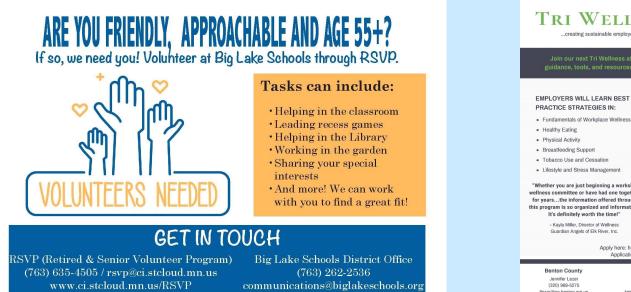
Women of Today needs donations for the candy and toys that they give out to hundreds of children at their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4. Donations can be left at the Chamber office.

Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge is offering a free afternoon of snow boarding with a bonfire, treats and hot drink on Feb 22nd from 1-4 pm at Oak Savanna Learning Center. Preregistration is requested at sherburne@fws.gov or call (763) 389-3323.

Best Western Plus needs 100 door prizes, cash and volunteers for their 14th Annual Operation Valentine on Feb 16th from 3-7 pm for those serving in the Armed Forces and their families at the hotel. Volunteers are also welcome.







Tri Wellness at Work ..creating sustainable employee wellness programs in Benton, Sherburne, and Stearns Cou

EMPLOYERS WILL LEARN BEST

"Whether you are just beginning a worksite wellness committee or have had one together for years...the information offered through this program is so organized and informative. It's definitely worth the time!"

WHY WORKPLACE WELLNESS? Employers offering a comprehensive workplace wellness initiative experie

- · Decreased absenteeism and health care costs
- · Improved productivity
- · Increased employee recruitment and retentio · Bolstered employee morale and commitment
- · Improved time and stress management

This opportunity is made available by the Statewide

Apply here: https://tinyurl.com/Tri-Wellness-at-Work Application Deadline: February 20th, 2020

Benton County	Sherburne County	Stearns County	
Jennifer Lezer	Kristy Heying	Jennifer Wald	
(320) 968-5275	(763) 765-4106	(320) 656-6503	
er@co.benton.mn.us	kristy.heying@co.sherburne.mn.us	jennifer.wald@co.stearns.r	



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Thursday, February 20

Business After Hours & Networking Prize Drawing

In addition to great networking, February's Business After Hours on **Thursday, February 20 starting at 5 pm at The Third Rail** will include a Network Prize drawing with a value of \$335. All current members are entered into the drawing and members must be present to win. If the lucky winner isn't present, the business name will be placed back in the box and another business will be drawn at the February 25th Membership Meeting at Independence STEM Elementary School. You can register <u>here</u> at no cost

In January both A Catered Event and Angell's Construction were drawn as winners but as they were not at the events, their names were placed back in box for future drawings.

Last month's attendees below right include Jonathan Hopkins of Protection Plus Home Inspections, Chamber Vice-Chair Monice Parrish, Dr. Scott Schulz of Great River Spine & Sport and Chamber Chair Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities.

Prizes at this time include:

\$25 gift certificate

Chiropractic treatment at

\$30 Gift Card at

Monticello Printing free address stamp

\$25 Gift Card at



WANTED: A used



GREAT **9** RIVER

camera with zoom and lighting capabilities.

Email details to info@ biglakechamber.com





Newsletter Tidbits Due

Want to include something in the Chamber Newsletter? Send us a 1/4 page ad or a few sentences to include in next month's newsletter by Thursday, Jan. 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!



FEBRUARY 2020

CALENDAR

Sunda	y Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Community Fair 11 City Large Confer- ence Room	4 House 30A Spe- cial Election 7 am -8 pm	5	6	7	8
9	10 Member/Prospects Visits 1-2 pm. Call office for visit!	11 Board 12:30 City Large Conference Room	12 Ambassadors 11:30 The Buff/ Friendly Buffalo	13	14	15
16	17 Presidents Day. Office closed	18 Community Fair early bird regis- trations due <u>here</u> Community Fair 11 in Conf. Room	19 Member/Prospects Visits 1-2 pm. Call office for visit! Golf Committee noon at Trails	20 Business after Hours 5 pm at The Third Rail. Regis- ter <u>here</u> .	21	22
23	24	25 Membership Mtg 11:45 at Inde STEM Elem. Reg- ister <u>here!</u>	26	27 Chamber Day at the Capitol. Register <u>here</u>	28	29 LEAP YEAR

Mark Your Calendar!

Thursday, March 19 Business after Hours at 5 pm.

Tuesday, March 4 Booth registrations for Community Fair due here!

Saturday, March 21 Community Fair at Big Lake High School from 9am-noon.

Tuesday, March 31 Membership Mtg at 11:45 at Hideout Restaurant. Register <u>here!</u>

Thursday, May 28 Golf Scramble at 10 am at Monticello Country Club. Register here!

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