

**Mission Statement**

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

**Board of Directors**

Chair: Monica Parrish

Meraki Property Management & Consulting 763-275-1515

Vice Chair: Tim Suchy, Edward Jones  
763.262.9988

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

Treasurer: Hanna Klimmek  
City of Big Lake 763-251-2979

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

Cory Laugen, State Farm  
763-263-0513

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

Allen Snegosky, Sherburne State Bank  
763-271-4919

Tim Truebenbach, Big Lake Schools  
763-262-5218

Executive Director: Gloria Vande Brake

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

**Office Hours**

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

**GLORIA’S GEMS**

*Many of us don’t think about the care we may need as we or our parents get older. My aunt died last summer after having dementia for several years and needed special care.*

*Big Lake is blessed to have several options of care. As I interviewed staff and toured Cherrywood, I was excited to see this level of care in such a personable setting. Stop by and chat with them at our Block Party on August 21st!*



**BUSINESS OF THE MONTH:**

Cherrywood Advanced Living® is celebrating their 10th year in Big Lake. The company developed their first facility 12 years ago in Richmond and has added homes in St. Cloud, South St. Cloud and Andover.

Offering assisted living with dementia care, enhanced nursing and end of life care in 20 private suites, their 24 staff provide personal care for each of their residents.

“Our staff includes a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) around the clock, “ noted Assisted Living Director Natalie Schendel, “with a Registered Nurse (RN) on call to help us provide quality care to our residents. Physical and Occupational Therapy can be provided here as well as hospice care so a resident doesn’t need to leave if he or she needs more advanced care.

“This month we added several birds in our Great Room and our residents enjoy watching and listening to them,” Natalie continued. “We have a few beds open and potential residents and their families are welcome to come and check us out! We also enjoy having youth and adults come and share their talents and abilities with our residents.”



Owner Wendy Hulsebus concludes, “My partners and I spent over two years developing a plan of care that would deliver around the clock nursing care in a small home setting. Hence Advanced Living®! Focused on personal choice, our model is so unique we were granted a trademark! Best of all, Cherrywood allows me to combine my business operations and financial management skills with helping care for some exceptional people. I am privileged to say, "I love my job."



### JOIN US AT THE BIG LAKE BLOCK PARTY



Our sponsors are planning great activities for the youth and their families at the 11th Annual Big Lake Block Party from 10-2 pm on Saturday, August 21st!



A balloonist from Funtime Funktions will return, making balloons for youth upon request. Big Lake Ambassadors will offer face painting. Youth and families can bowl, mini-golf, toss toilet paper in a toilet, play Bingo, Jenga, Plinko and do other great games and activities from our sponsors. Entertainment will be provided by Evolution Tae Kwon Do and Starz Dance Studio. The Wave Youth Center will once again sponsor water balloons from 1-2 pm. Fourteen bikes, scooters and skateboards will be given away to youth who attend and register. To save time at the registration table, attendees can prepay [here!](#)



Coborn's is again providing hamburgers, hotdogs, fixings and ice cream at a reasonable price.



Spud Fest is a Platinum Sponsor. Gold sponsors include Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital, Big Lake Police Department, Cargill, Cherrywood Advanced Living, Connexus Energy, Kwik Trip, Liberty Bank, Minnco Credit Union and Sherburne State Bank.

100 kid-friendly items are needed by Tuesday, August 17th for the youth bags, sponsored by Guardian Garments.

Committee members include Dr. Kristi McAlpin of Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital, Nick Ellingson of Insurance Specialists Team, Amber Digiovanne of Minnco Credit Union, Dan McElwee of St. Croix Valley Insurance and Tom Obariski of Sherburne State Bank.



**Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021 10-2 pm**

**McPete's Entertainment: Platinum Sponsor**

590 Humboldt Drive, Big Lake





**Balloonist**

**Face Painting by Big Lake Ambassadors**

**Games/Activities: Fish Bowl, Jenga, Bingo, Toss**

**Drawing for 14 bikes, Scooters & Skateboards!**

**Gift bags for first 100 youth!**

**Entertainment: Evolution Tae Kwon Do & Starz Dance Studio**






**WATER BALLOON DODGEBALL**

for Youth 1-2 PM



**PLATINUM SPONSOR:**

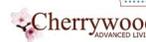


**Platinum Sponsor**



**GOLD SPONSORS**









**SILVER SPONSORS**






**BRONZE SPONSORS:** Becker Spine, Big Lake Lions, DATA Success, Friends of Big Lake Library, Michelle Backlund, CPA, Minnesota Limited, Park Dental and The Bank of Elk River.

**BIKE SPONSORS:** Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital, Big Lake "Do It Best" Lumber, Big Lake Police Department, Big Lake Spud Fest, Cargill, CentraCare, Cherrywood Advanced Living, Connexus Energy, Kwik Trip, Liberty Bank, Minnesota State Senator Mary Kiffmeyer, Minnco Credit Union, Sherburne State Bank and State Farm-Cory Laugen Insurance.

**COMMUNITY SPONSORS:** Big Lake American Legion Auxiliary, Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, Monticello Times/Shopper, & PATRIOT News.

Registration is \$5 for adults and children 3 and older.  
 SAVE TIME at the event by prepaying your registration on the August Events Calendar at [biglakechamber.com](http://biglakechamber.com)



**RIBS FOR**



**THE RIBBON**

**5TH ANNUAL  
BACKYARD BBQ  
COOK-OFF**



**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO BRING AN EXCITING AND FUN FILLED DAY OF BBQ. WE ARE A 501 (C)3 ORGANIZATION AND YOUR DONATIONS HELP US GIVE BACK. RIGHT HERE IN BIG LAKE!**

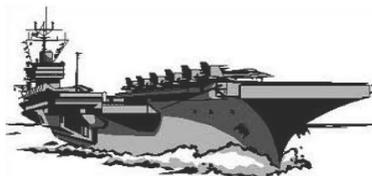
- \* **COOKING TEAMS WANTED! (NEW OR EXPERIENCED, BUSINESS OR PERSONAL, EVERYONE WELCOME!) SPONSOR A TEAM!**
- \* **ANY MONETARY DONATION OF \$500+ AND PLACE YOUR COMPANY BANNER IN THE CONTEST AREA DURING THE EVENT.**
- \* **TICKETS SALES START AT 1:00PM, TASTING STARTS AT 3PM. \$10 RIB BOX (5 TICKETS = 5 RIBS, \$2 EACH ADDITIONAL TICKET.**
- \* **PUBLIC RIB TASTING STARTS AT 3PM. CAST YOUR VOTE FOR THE PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD FOR THE BEST RIBS IN BIG LAKE.**



**LAKESIDE PARK (BEACH)**

**BIG LAKE, MN  
SATURDAY, SEPT 25, 2021**

**ALL PROCEEDS  
BENEFIT**



**Beyond the  
Yellow Ribbon  
Big Lake**

CONTACTS: BIGLAKEBTYR@GMAIL.COM

GREG GREEN 612-446-9527 OR KETTI GREEN 763-482-2392

### WANTED: SPONSORS & GOLFERS AT OUR SEPT GOLF SCRAMBLE!

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

New this year is a putting contest at 10:30 for \$10 with the winner sharing the pot with the Chamber!

Golfers receive a discount if they sign up before August 26th. They can sign up [here!](#)

Additional Committee members include 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 Cory Laugen of State Farm.



## 3rd Annual GOLF SCRAMBLE

THURSDAY, SEPT 9, 2021

MONTICELLO COUNTRY CLUB

1209 GOLF COURSE RD, MONTICELLO MN

### SPONSORSHIPS

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

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

**Master Sponsor:** \$625 for sponsorship of event & includes green fees, cart, light brunch & dinner for 4 golfers



**Classic Sponsor:** \$200. Includes sponsorship of a golf hole with signage. You are encouraged to have a game or event at your golf tee box.

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



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



**Party Cart:** \$200. Party Cart will be decorated to theme of the Golf Scramble & have sponsor's logo on signage on the cart. Sponsor can also provide prizes.



**Brunch Sponsor:** **KWIK TRIP**

**Social Hour FREE drink** 

**Snack Sponsor:** 

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

### SCHEDULE

10 am Registration & Continental Brunch  
10:30 Putting Contest for 50% of pot  
11 am Shotgun start  
Social Hour  
Awards Dinner

### MASTER-HOLE SPONSORS

**Cabot Lodge Securities**  
**Cargill**  
Connexus Energy  
DATA Success  
Foster White Insurance  
Great River Fed Credit Union  
Great River Spine & Sport  
Keller Williams-Chris & Christy  
Mincco Credit Union  
Minnesota Limited  
Monticello Country Club  
Old National Bank  
Park Dental  
Sherburne State Bank  
State Farm -Cory Laugen Ins

\*Master Sponsors in Bold

### GOLFERS



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



**HOLE IN ONE PRIZE:**  **\$20,000 Hole in One**

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

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

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

BUY Swanny Pro Package for \$40

Register at [www.biglakechamber.com/golf-scramble](http://www.biglakechamber.com/golf-scramble)



## BIG LAKE COMMUNITY GUIDE

Big Lake Chamber of Commerce & Industry is joining with PATRIOT News in the 2021-22 Community Guide. It will be published and distributed in late September to 7700 homes and businesses in the Big Lake area.

All active members of the Chamber will be listed in this Community Guide along with Events, Resources and great articles and photos.

The ad deadline is Aug. 20th. Check out the flyer and you can email Carol at the Patriot [here](#) or call her at 763-275-0275.

Monticello Times is also planning to print their Guide later this fall.



### CUSTOMER SERVICE TIPS

Retail Doctor Bob Phibbs recently identified 10 customer service techniques to help sales grow. While these are geared for retail, they do include good suggestions for all businesses. Check it out [here!](#)

**DON'T MISS OUT!**

**ON THE 2021 Explore Your Community Guide!**

The Patriot Newspaper will be publishing the 2021 Explore Your Community guide in September (9/25). This popular magazine will feature local community events, businesses, parks, city map and editorials, with distribution to 7,700 homes in Big Lake.

Contact your sales rep today! Deadline will be Friday, Aug. 20

The Guide will also be available ONLINE at [www.patriotnewsmn.com](http://www.patriotnewsmn.com)

**PATRIOT**  
WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM

| SIZES & RATES      |                    |       |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------|
| 1/8 of a page..... | Black & White..... | \$135 |
| 1/4 of a page..... | Black & White..... | \$245 |
| 1/2 of a page..... | Black & White..... | \$350 |
| Full page.....     | Black & White..... | \$600 |
| 1/8 of a page..... | Color.....         | \$180 |
| 1/4 of a page..... | Color.....         | \$295 |
| 1/2 of a page..... | Color.....         | \$450 |
| Full page.....     | Color.....         | \$750 |

Contact Carol Hanson or Mary Nehring at: Office: 763-275-0275, or by email at: [sales.carol@patriotnewsmn.com](mailto:sales.carol@patriotnewsmn.com) or [adsales@patriotnewsmn.com](mailto:adsales@patriotnewsmn.com)

## Business Succession & Transition Planning

Minnesota Chamber of Commerce's MN Supplier Match Program is sponsoring a Virtual Roundtable on August 16th from 10-11:30 to help businesses explore key issues around business succession and transition planning. Breakout discussions will be led by experts in areas such as ESOP conversion, Cooperative (Co-op) business models, business valuation, family business succession plans, and more. Event participants will be able to network, learn from peer businesses, and connect with business succession and transition experts. This event at a price of \$50 is for any business looking to better prepare their company for ownership transition now or in the future. For information on the speakers and to register, please check [this](#) out!

## Big Lake Freedom Rock



Artist Bubba Sorensen spent 2 weeks in late July painting murals on the sides of the Freedom Rock at Lakeside Park. Join the celebration on Sept 18th to learn about the Big Lake men and women featured on the Rock!

**Big Lake**  
**★ FREEDOM ROCK® ★**

*You and your friends & family are invited to the:*

**Dedication of the Big Lake Freedom Rock®**  
**Saturday September 18, 2021**  
**10 a.m. to noon**  
**Lakeside Park - Big Lake**

Questions:  
Call Karen Blake,  
763-234-0369  
[www.thefreedomrock.com](http://www.thefreedomrock.com)




DREW A BLAKE  
U.S. NAVY  
1977-1981



## CNBC Ranks MN as #7 in America's Top States for Business

For 2021 CNBC ranked Minnesota as #7 in the country as a Top State for Business. MN ranked 4th in the country under the category of Life, Health & Inclusion and 12th for Infrastructure. However, MN was #42 for Cost of Doing Business, 29th for Workforce and 28th for Business Friendliness. Check it out [here!](#)



In Central Minnesota, the rebounding employment that started in the third quarter of 2020 appears to have stopped the job losses for older workers, but the most recent data tells us that workers 55 years and older held 4,417 fewer jobs in the third quarter of 2020 compared to the year prior. With 22% of our labor force at 55 and older, this is a critical sector. After losing a job, will older workers be motivated to regain employment, or will this inflection point cause many to consider an early retirement? [Check out here](#) our August Membership Meeting speaker DEED's Regional Analyst Luke Greiner's blog and register to hear him in person [here!](#)

### Save the date for the first annual Walk for Hope to End Family Violence

**Register to participate.** Register online at [www.riversofhope.org/events](http://www.riversofhope.org/events).

**Sign up to sponsor.** Find the sponsorship form on our [website](#).

**Invite.** This is an event geared toward people of all ages! Invite your friends and family for an evening of fun, food, and a variety of family friendly activities.

**Join.** Meet us at Ellison Park on August 5th, at 5 pm. The evening will consist of a mile-long walk to raise awareness for family violence, including yard games, food, and more.

**Donate.** If you are not able to attend the event, but want to support Rivers of Hope's mission, please consider donating at [www.riversofhope.org](http://www.riversofhope.org).

**Do you prepare more for family vacations than you do for college?**

For a personalized college cost report, call or visit a financial advisor today.



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

[edwardjones.com](http://edwardjones.com)  
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**Edward Jones®**  
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



# Big Lake Chamber

of Commerce & Industry

## MEMBER ADS



### SMOKIN' PULLED PORK COOK OFF

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH, NOON-5PM**

**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 14th. 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/PorkK021>) or behind the bar at Lupulin.

**Just want to eat some meat?**  
Simply come on down to the taproom Saturday, Aug 14th! Public Sampling will run from 2pm to 4pm. Public Sampling Tickets are only \$2 (per sample)

**Friday, Aug. 13th**  
6:00pm - Setup  
8:00pm - Cooks Meeting

**Saturday, Aug. 14th**  
1:30pm - Judging Take-in  
2:00-4:30pm - Public Sampling  
4:30pm - Awards

**Questions?**  
Lori Anderson | 612-902-3550  
[biglakechamber@gmail.com](mailto:biglakechamber@gmail.com)



**Minnco FOUNDATION & Minnco CREDIT UNION**

### SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE!

**AUG. 1-30**

**THE MINNCO FOUNDATION AND MINNCO CREDIT UNION ARE TEAMING UP TO MAKE SURE AREA STUDENTS HAVE ADEQUATE SUPPLIES AS THEY HEAD BACK TO SCHOOL. DURING AUGUST WE WILL BE COLLECTING NOTEBOOKS, FOLDERS, PENS, PENCILS, ERASERS, TISSUES, MARKERS, TAPE, GLUE STICKS, ETC. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! MORE INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE IN LATE JULY.**

### 2021-22 Construction Trades Student Built House



1560 sq. ft. 3 bedroom rambler with open floor plan. Vaulted ceilings in living room, dining room and kitchen, one full bath, one 1/4 bath in master bedroom, 1/2 bath in laundry room, 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.

Buyer moves to their location.  
Sealed bids accepted up until Friday October 1st by 12:00.

**MINIMUM BID: \$94,900**

**Wright Technical Center**  
1405 3rd Ave NE, Buffalo, MN 55313 - 763-682-4112  
Please visit our website [www.wtc.k12.mn.us](http://www.wtc.k12.mn.us) or contact Wright Technical Center for more information or to view the house, please call for an appointment.



## BIG LAKE FARMERS MARKET

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

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

Questions? Contact Corrie Scott at 612-297-6331 or visit [biglakemn.org](http://biglakemn.org) for more information.

Human Resource  
**Executive**

## Response to a Candidate's Bluff?

A recent article in Human Resource Executive describes strategies in negotiating salary packages in a more competitive labor market. Check it out [here!](#)

## Employee Flexibility/Benefit Options

Another article in HR Executive uses a survey from Monster that indicates 95% of workers would consider switching jobs or even industries. Suggestions to keep employees include staggered start times and varied schedules to allow for managing child-care needs, self-care days, assistance with child- and elder-care, and open discussions on mental health and wellness issues at work. Learn more [here!](#)

## Manufacturers' Summit

The Minnesota Chamber's Manufacturers Summit on Oct 5th at DoubleTree Hilton Minneapolis--Park Place is offering a \$50 early-bird registration by Aug 6th. Check it out [here.](#)



Please join us for a special preview of our Spread the Sunshine tart wheat ale on August 10th.

**WHEN: 5:30-7:30PM**

Appetizers will be served, Spread the Sunshine tapping at 6:30 with Jeff Zierdt & Johnny Fish

**WHERE: Lupulin Brewing Company**

570 Humboldt Dr, Suite 107, Big Lake, MN - adjacent to the sunflower field



**OLD NATIONAL BANK**

# Customer Appreciation Days

**AUGUST 18-20**

- Shred bins available
- Register to win a prize
- Free giveaways

oldnational.com | Member FDIC



## BIG LAKE SCHOOL REFERENDUM



Last month Big Lake School Board approved asking the voters to support a \$30 million referendum for various deferred capital projects in a special election on Nov 2nd. Projects could include roofs and ventilation systems, and renovations to educational spaces including career and technical education, special education, and other instructional spaces. Monticello Times and the PATRIOT News rereported that the ballot will also include the election of a school board member upon the resignation of Lori Kampana.

Big Lake Schools will again be offering free meals for all children grades preK-12 each school day. Breakfast and lunch will be provided at no cost to all children enrolled in Big Lake Schools. The school is asking families to complete the

[free and reduced meal benefit application here](#) by Sept 3rd. School districts receive additional funding based on the number of these approved applications, such as funding for technology and student support services, lower class sizes and discounted athletic and activity fees.



**Hours:** Mon 1-6p; Tues: 10a-2; Wed 1-7p; Thur:2-6p; Fri: 10-5p; Sat: 10-1p  
**Join the Friends of Big Lake Library.** Friends are seeking new members of any age who want to support the library. They meet the first Monday of each month at the library at 5:30 pm.



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

### CHILDREN'S EVENTS

**Storytime:** 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. For ages 2-6. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Friday, August 13 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

**Mystery Braided Cuff Kit:** Learn the art of mystery braiding. Turn a strip of leather into a unique leather cuff. Keep for yourself or give as a gift. Kits available at the Big Lake Library, while supplies last. For ages 12 and up. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Wednesday, Aug 18 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Crepe Paper Flowers:** Learn how to make roses to decorate your packages. Make and Take kits include supplies and instructions while they last. For ages 9 and up. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library

Thursday, Aug. 26 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

### ADULT EVENT

**Stone Craft for Adults:** Using supplies enclosed in the kit, make a unique stone craft to decorate your home. For adults. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Monday, Aug. 16 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.



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

The Wave Youth Center Board and staff asks you to consider:

- Volunteer your time at The Wave Youth Center.
- Financially support us by donating at an Old National Bank location, mailing a check, or through GiveMN <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Thewaveyc>
- Become a local community business partner
- Allow employees from your business or organization to give an hour or more of their time during the work day to volunteer.
- Become a corporate sponsor.



Is raising funds for the Big Lake Fire Department. Check their FB page for more information on their Sept 11th event!

**Big Lake Cheerleaders** are requesting sponsors and vendors for its Taste of Terror event on Sat. 17, 18, 24 & 25 at Sherburne County Fairgrounds in Elk River. For more information, check out their website and buy tickets [here!](#)



**CentraCare** Neurosurgeons [Jeffrey S. Gerdes, MD](#) and [Lindsay Dingman, PA-C](#) are now seeing patients in Monticello. Neurosurgeons provide minimally invasive back surgery, carpal tunnel release and ulnar nerve decompression. CentraCare Neurosurgery helps patients with brain, spine and nerve disorders.



offers a virtual tour of their new center [here!](#) Or you can join the Chamber Ambassadors, Board and other members for a personal tour Wednesday, August 11th at 11 am at 19022 Freeport St. NW, Suite E in Elk River. Email Gloria at the office if you'd like to carpool!



**Lupulin Brewing Company** has partnered with Fish Sunflowers to dedicate a nearby field of sunflower to the JZ Cancer Fund in honor of Co-Founder & President Jeff Zierdt's late brother Jonathan who lost his life to prostate cancer. Try out a special sunflower seed tart wheat ale beer with honey called "Spread the Sunshine" at their Thank You event on Aug 10th. See their ad on page 9.



opened a new exhibit on loan from Morrison County Historical Center, "The Story Behind the Tat: Tattoo Art in Central Minnesota". Artists from Elk River to Little Falls will be featured through November 24th.



thank its 67 Adopt-a-Road volunteers as they cleaned 23 miles of roadsides that border and bisect refuge land this spring. For more information about the Refuge, check it out [here!](#)



## August's Business After Hours



August's Business after Hours is scheduled for 5 pm on Thursday, August 19th at Monty's Tropical Hideout. You can register [here!](#) Last month we had members attending Business after Hours representing Citizens for Big Lake Freedom Rock, City of Big Lake, Minnco Credit Union and Options Inc!

## Network Drawing Box valued at \$450

Members who had their names drawn this year but were not present to win include Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital, Big Lake Community Food Shelf, Big Lake "Do It Best" Lumber, Casey's, CentraCare Health, Coborn's, DATASuccess, Freedom Strategy Group, Magic Mushrooms in the Crystal Garden, Northstar Technology Solutions and United Bus Sales.

Current Network Prizes are valued at \$450 and include:



4-pack of Works Plus Car Washes



Massage and First Chiro Check



and Monticello Printing Certificates



Free Drink



Color Ads

## August 31st Membership Meeting



Join us for our August Membership Meeting at 11:30 am on **Tuesday, August 31st** at Carefree Country Club. DEED's Regional Analyst Luke Greiner will speak about the labor force in our area and how Big Lake and Sherburne County area is doing with jobs.

Registration is at 11:30 am. Introductions and Committee Reports begin at noon. Lunch costs \$15 and you can register [here!](#) A limited number of golfers will be able to play after the meeting.



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

### Newsletter Tidbits Due

Want to include something in the Chamber Newsletter? Send us a 1/4 page ad or a few sentences to include in next month's newsletter by Wednesday, Aug 25th. Full page ads can be added for only \$25 per month. Are you a new member? Ask the Chamber how to redeem your free full page ad!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday | Saturday  |
|--------|--------|---|---|---|--------|---|
| 1      | 2      | 3   | 4<br><b>Block Party Meeting</b> noon at McPete's or virtual         | 5   | 6      | 7   |
| 8      | 9      | 10<br><b>Board Meeting</b> 12:30 at McPete's & virtually  | 11<br><b>Ambassadors Ribbon-Cutting</b> 11 am Elevier. All welcome. | 12<br><b>Golf Committee</b> noon at Trail's   | 13     | 14  |
| 15     | 16     | 17  | 18<br><b>Block Party Committee</b> noon at McPete's                 | 19<br><b>Business After Hours.</b> 5 pm. Monty's Tropical Hideout. Register <a href="#">here!</a> | 20     | 21<br><b>Big Lake Block Party</b> 10-2 at McPete's. Pre-pay tickets <a href="#">here!</a> |
| 22     | 23     | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27     | 28  |
| 29     | 30     | 31<br><b>Membership Meeting</b> 11:30 at Care-free Country Club. Register <a href="#">here!</a> |   |   |        |   |

**Mark Your Calendar!**



Thursday September 9th: **Golf Scramble** Register [here](#) for early-bird discount by Aug 26!

Thursday, September 16th at 5 pm: Business After Hours

Tuesday, September 28th at 11:30: Membership Meeting