

SEPT-OCT 2022 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> Monica Parrish Meraki Property Management & Consulting 952-392-8805

Vice Chair: Tim Truebenbach Big Lake Schools 763-262-5218

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

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

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

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

Becky Jacobs, Northstar Technology Solutions 763-262-0729

> Cory Laugen, State Farm 763-263-0513

Allen Snegosky, Sherburne State Bank 763-271-4919

Executive Director: Gloria Vande Brake

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

Office Hours

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

GLORIA'S GEMS:

I enjoy reading about the history of Big Lake businesses. Learning that one of our businesses has provided nearly 110 years of service to our community is truly admirable. And they continue to volunteer and be an active part of our community!

MEMBER OF THE MONTH: OLD NATIONAL BANK

Old National Bank opened its first branch in Indiana in 1834, 88 years ago. It merged with Klein Bank 3 years ago. Previous bank names were Preferred Bank. Citizens State OLD NATIONAL BANK

Previous bank names were Preferred Bank, Citizens State Bank and First National Bank opening in Big Lake in 1913-14 or nearly 110 years ago, according to Big Lake History Facebook. Old National recently merged with First Midwest Bank in the Chicago suburbs, now totaling over 250 locations and making it a top 35 bank in the country. There are 35 locations in MN.

Big Lake Bank Center Manager Donna Clarksean has been in banking 30 years, including working in a community bank and a national bank before coming to Big Lake. With five employees here, the bank offers personal and business financial services. Market President Jake Lindquist is located at the Buffalo office but frequently comes to Big Lake to meet with customers.

Old National Bank is paying their staff to volunteer across MN to volunteer at non-profits later this month.

Donna has served 6 years on the Chamber Board and currently volunteers with our Ambassadors Committee. She has served as treasurer for Big Lake Spud Fest for the past 8 years. "I really encourage businesses to join the Chamber, attend meetings and get involved,

"exclaimed Donna. "It's a great way to get connected in the community and grow your business! Businesses working together get things done!"

Old National Bank has been a sponsor of many of the Chamber



events, including the Community Fair and Block Party. Last week they continued their dinner sponsorship of the Golf Scramble.

Photo at left is Deana & Donna at the Golf Scramble. At right is Jake Lindquist with his 1st place golf team of Barry Cleasby, Tom Lindquist and Dr. Scott Schulz.





MEET YOUR NEW MEMBERS!

Americas Best Value Inn features amenities such as a guest laundry facility, meeting facility, and business center. Guests are invited to wake up and enjoy their free coffee in the lobby and maintain their physical activity with an on-site fitness center. Whether you're traveling for business or pleasure, guests stay connected with free Wi-Fi available throughout the property. Each of their guest rooms feature the ambiance of home luxuries such as free Wi-Fi, microwave, mini-fridge,



coffeemaker, hairdryer, 32 inch or bigger flat panel cable TV, and alarm clock radio. Owner Saghir Abid and his staff are excited to meet you and show you their facility for your guests and business consultants or contractors. Check out their <u>website here</u> or call 763-262-7666 or <u>email Saghir here!</u>

Ona Rawson Realty Coldwell Banker: Ona Rawson is a real estate agent new to Big Lake after relocating from the Lake Minnetonka area. For the past three years, Ona has been helping her clients buy and sell homes anywhere from Mankato to the Twin Cities. Ona is also a military veteran who is well versed in VA-related real estate transactions. In her free time, you can find Ona spending time with her family, running with her dog Dixie, or camping! Email her or call her at 952–232-9553.



THE GENERAL STORE

The General Store provides a vast array of unique and fun items for everyone. Their 12

vendors offer a combination of home

goods, clothing, purses, shoes, tumblers, art, local honey, homemade jam, Gluten-Free goodies, and dog biscuits. They are open on Tuesday and Thursday from 6pm to 8pm and on Saturday and Sunday from 9am - 5pm. <u>Check out their website here</u> or find them on Facebook at GeneralStoreBL. Kristen Thomas, the owner of the shop, is a recent MN transplant who has faced at least one MN winter and decided to stay. Her two children, two dogs, two sheep, two goats, eleven cats, and hundreds of chickens live on the farm with her in Becker. Bringing vendors together to offer an amazing shopping experience has been a goal of hers for many years and she is excited to watch The General Store grow and become a part of the Big Lake community.



Unique new items arriving daily

Home Decor, Clothing, Candles, Goat Milk and Shea Butter Soap, Fresh Honey, Homemade Jam, Jewelry, Resin Sculptures, Wreaths, Handmade Signs, Gluten-Free goodies, Hand Crafted Dog Biscuits and award winning Dead Fish Art.

> 35 Lake Street South Suite 600 Big Lake, MN 55309

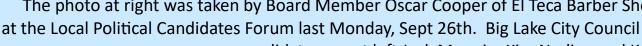
YOUR VOICE in GOV'T

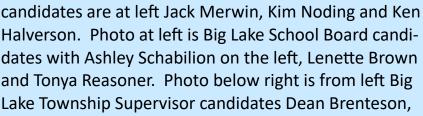


County & State Political Candidates Forum

Candidates for the 4 Sherburne County Commissioner Districts, Sherburne County Auditor/Treasurer, State Rep 27A and Senate District 27 will present their views and priorities at a Political Candidates Forum Monday, Oct 10th starting at 5:30 pm at the Big Lake High School Auditorium. The graphic at right details the schedule. This event is cosponsored by Becker Area and Elk River Area Chambers of Commerce.

ver Area Chambers of Commerce. The photo at right was taken by Board Member Oscar Cooper of El Teca Barber Shop





Erica Rosa and Carey Adler and Orrock Township Supervisor Seat B

Candidates Bob Hassett and Anne Felber with Moderator Gloria Vande Brake of the Chamber. These last two photos were taken by Chamber Board Chair Monica Parrish of Meraki Property Management & Consulting. The video of the Local Political Candidates Forum will be on the Chamber website shortly.

KSTP.COM KSTP reported yesterday, Sept 29th that the State

plans to report next week the number of front line workers receiving bonus pay. Previously, it was reported this information would be finalized in Sept.

49 persons connected with an organization called Feeding Our Future for stealing \$250 million in COVID funds designed to feed hungry children but spent on cars, jewelry, homes and property for personal use. Lugar called this making "MN the worst pandemic fraud in US". The funds were granted by the MN Dept. of Education.



Beer and Wine TASTING

With Silent Auction, Raffles, Wine Wall, Boat Races, chances to win a week's getaway on Eagle Lake (worth \$2,000), and Vikings tickets (worth 1,500)!

> Friday October 7, 2022 6:30-9:00 PM At the "Buff" in Big Lake \$10.00

Pay at the door or order online at : www.bigeaglelakeimprovementassociation.com







POLITICAL CANDIDATES FORUM October 10, 2022 Big Lake High School Auditorium

 5:30 pm
 Meet & Greet, Coffee & Cookies

 6:15
 4 Sherburne County District Seats

 7:30
 Sherburne County Auditor/Treasurer

 8:15
 State Rep & Senate for Becker & Big Lake

ons will be accepted from audience or email your question to:

The forum will be recorded by Sherburne Wright Cable Commission and broadcast on City of Big Lake Cable Channel 189 and on the Chamber's websites. ALL VOTERS THROUGHOUT SHERBURNE COUNTY ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!



MEMBER AD

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

In partnership with the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation Scholarship Council, Minnco Credit Union is pleased to offer a scholarship program exclusively for credit union members to help further their pursuit of education.

https://www.minnco.com/scholarship



www.minnco.com | 763-552-7370 | 613 Rose Drive, Big Lake



2022 MEMBER OF THE YEAR

WHO WILL BE OUR 2022 MEMBER OF THE YEAR?

Chamber members can nominate another member whom they believe should receive the Big Lake Chamber's 2022 Member of the Year award at our Holiday Social on Thurs-

day, Dec. 1st at Style Catering's remodeled new location! Nominations are Thursday, October 27th. Check out the form below.

Sponsorships will be available for the Member of the Year Award and the Holiday Social. Volunteers are needed on the Holiday Social Planning Committee. For more information, email Gloria at in-fo@biglakechamber.com or call 763-263-7800.

Plan to join us on Dec. 1st at 5:30 pm to congratulate our Fourth Annual Winner!

Fourth Annual



MEMBER of the Year Award

Nominations from Chamber members are due Thursday, Oct. 27th 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 Scultz, McPete's--Eric Petersen and Edward Jones-Tim Suchy. Winner will be announced at our Holiday Social in Dec.

<u>Criteria</u>

- Owner(s) and/or staff 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 Member of the Year Award because (please include comments about your nominee's initiative, innovation, leadership, growth and/or staff motivation): ______







MEMBER ADS



Friends of the Library

Thursday, Oct. 6-1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Friday,Oct. 7-10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8-10:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Friends of the Big Lake Library are hosting their annual Fall Book Sale. Come 1 day or all 3 days!! Proceeds from the sale benefit the Big Lake Library and help bring fun programs like Dollipops and Magic Bob to the Big Lake Library for the Big Lake Community and surrounding area

BIBRARY

BUSINESS

s paid papers EVERY mo



Ribs Cookoff

BBQ

Only the BEST can BBQ in the Winter

Only the best and the bravest BBQers will compete in the United We Shiver BBQ Ribs Cookoff. Do you think you have what it takes to smoke the best ribs in the middle of winter? Do you think you can brave the cold and take home the top prize or the People's Choice Award?

When: Saturday, Feb 4th, 2023 Where: Lakeside Park, Big Lake, MN Fee: \$150

Only 10 team spots, so sign up quick!

Judged cash payouts for 1st, 2nd & 3rd places. Public rib tasting starts at 3 pm. The public will cast votes for the People's Choice Award.

For registration and questions email: Keith.McCarty@outlook.com



This is a part of a larger event, United We Shiver, a frozen plunge benefiting local nonprofits. See last year's event: sherburneunitedway.org/unitedweshiver/

SPOTLIGHT Monthly Feature **Monticello Times & Crow River News** Let us tell your story in these special Business Spotlight page feature. will run once a month in the pages of the Monticello Times or Crow River Ne onticello-1st week, Albertville-2nd week, St.Michael-3rd week, and Big Lake

Don't miss out on the opportunity to promote your business EVERY month!



763-271-6478 sue.emberland@apg

Times CROW RIVER NEWS

Call TODAY to reserve your monthly ad space and schedule your article!

Actual Ad Size 3.22" wide by 4" high only \$80



SUCCESSFUL GOLF

GOLF WINNERS!

Chamber's Golf Scramble Dinner Sponsor Old National Bank won First Place in the Sept 15th Scramble with the lowest score. Williams Dingman Family Funeral Home Golfers won Second Place.

Becky Jacobs playing for Minnco Credit Union won closest to pin for women while Scott Swanson with the Beaudry Oil Team won closest to pin in the men's

category. DATA*Success's* Katie Kalsow won the longest drive for women. Cabot Lodge Securities-Paul Knier's team had 2 individual winners: Josh Bowers for the longest drive and Kevin Smith for the longest putt.

Master Sponsors included Cabot Lodge Securities-Paul Knier, Edward Jones, Minnco Credit Union, Monticello Country Club, Otis Minnesota Services (formerly Minnesota Limited), Sherburne State Bank and State Farm.



The Big Lake School Golfers were selected to drive the Party Cart and get extra prizes, sponsored by EDG & Associates.

Next year's Golf Scramble will be Thursday, Sept 14th. Save the date!

Committee members included Chair Dr. Scott Schulz of Great River Spine & Sport, Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities, Tim Suchy of Edward Jones, Julie Evans of Insurance Specialists Team, Yvonne Olderbak of Minnco Credit Union and Cory Laugen of State Farm.

Volunteers for the day in addition to Committee members were Lori Andreen of Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association, Naomi Jacobson of Riverwood Bank, Jessica Bartel of Sherburne County and Sarah Laugen of State Farm.

Photos of two new teams this year included the Monticello Country Club-Shore View Estates Team and the Minnco Olderbak Team.











CHRISTMAS TREE

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING

Chamber members can again help "light up" Browns Park on Hwy 10 & Lake Street by decorating Christmas Trees in late November. For just \$80 you can reserve your tree and make this park truly festive! See details on the flyer at right.

After many years of helping get the trees and spending hours in the cold putting them in the tree stands, our 2021 Member of the Year Tim Suchy of Edward Jones pictured below left at his tree last year wants someone else to take over. Please contact Gloria at the office if you're willing to help get the trees around Thanksgiving, check out the tree stands from last year, place the trees in Browns Park and have them ready to decorate by Monday afternoon, Nov. 28th.

Photo in the lower left is the Big Lake Ambassadors helping our sponsors decorate their trees last year!









MEMBER ADS



interest rates? Let's talk.



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

Debbie's Cleaning Service



ENJOY A CLEAN HOME THIS SUMMER! 763-568-5558

НОГЛЕ **EXCAVATION & TRUCKING** 320-291-6675 WHERE CUSTOMERS & OUALITY COME FIRST

• Septic Systems • Demolition • Foundation & Basement Digging • Tree & Stump Removal • Ditching Dozing • Driveways • Building Pads • Tiling • Water & Power Line Digging • Trucking Food Plots • Hunting Land Establishment • 54' Telescopic Lift Work • Will Travel

f

ImholteExcavationAndTrucking@Yahoo.com Licensed, Bonded and Insured



WE ARE SUPPORTING BUSINESSES THROUGH THE CHALLENGES OF AN EVER-CHANGING ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

YOUR BIGGEST RISK IS NOT TAKING ACTION

- pre Leads Learn how to EFFORTLESSLY generate as many new leads as you want
- More Conversions I'll show you how to close more sales using an automated PROCESS that does 90% of
 the work for you.
- More Transactions Increase your revenue OVERNIGHT by 34% using 2 simple strategies that cost you
 NOTHING to implement.
- More Profits Profitability is more than just eliminating costs. I'll show you two ways to instantly
 increase your profits without you having to spend a dollar.
- Brand Reputation Learn how to effectively communicate your brand story to your audience, that will
 increase traffic in your store and online.

• Staffing - Hire the right person for the job every time and keep them

As a profit accelerator & business coach, we are tailoring to your own business personalized roadmap to elevate your business to the next level.

Chamber of Commerce & Industry

EDUCATION/YOUTH



CHAMBER MEMBERS AT BLHS CAREER FAIR



Several Chamber members participated in the 5th annual Big Lake High School Youth Apprenticeship and Career Fair last Thursday, Sept. 22nd: Beaudry Oil, Big Lake Police Department, CentraCare, Edina Realty Heitz Gardner, Minnco Credit Union, Old National Bank, Options, and Sherburne County Sheriff



IPKI

Department. Youth stopping at the Chamber table were asked trivia questions to name a Chamber member where they could work or invest money or buy snacks!





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

Haunted Scavenger Hunt. Search the library for the hidden Halloween images. Once all images are found, return the completed sheet to the library desk and register for the prize drawing! For ages 5 to 12. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Saturday, Oct. 1 to Saturday, Oct. 22 During library open hours

FAMILY EVENT

Rock Balancing with Peter Juhl: a growing art form that uses ordinary rocks in nature to create startling sculptures. Reg.required. For ages 9 to adult. A Legacy event.

Saturday, October 15

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Thanksgiving Gnome Class. Use the supplies provided for this in-person class to create a gnome with a Thanksgiving theme. All supplies provided. For teens, adults, and seniors. Limit 12. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

Wednesday, October 26

4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

ADULT EVENTS

Tech Tuesdays for Seniors: Want to read an eBook on a tablet or take a practice driving test? Stop in and learn how to use the Digital Library or other online, library resources. Staff will have three 20-minute sessions available. Call the Big Lake Library at 763-263-6445 to register for a time slot. For ages 55 and up.

'Tuesdays, October 4, Nov 1 & Dec 6

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Assassination of President John F. Kennedy: An In Depth Analysis. This course will examine the discrepancies between the Warren Commission and the United States House of Representatives. The participants will develop a rounded perspective regarding many of the controversies. For adults and seniors. Please register. Wednesday, Oct. 12 & Thursday, Oct. 13 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.



TAKE PUMPKIN CARVING TO THE NEXT LEVEL! JOIN US AT LUPUPLIN TO CREATE SOME AMAZING PUMPKINS WITH THE HELP FROM THE MN TOOL LIBRARY!

\$15/PERSON | BRING YOUR OWN PUMPKIN Sign up for your time: 11-12:30, 11:30-1, 12-1:30



MEMBER NEWS





The Wave Youth Center is sponsoring Deuces Wild Dueling Pianos as their fundraiser Nov 10th from 7-9 pm at Lupulin Brewing. Tickets are \$55 each and you can purchase them here!



ival - Oct. 1

Saron Lutheran Church is sponsoring their Trunk or Treat event SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH Saturday, October 29th from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.



Friends of Sherburne Wildlife Refuge is hosting their Fall Wildlife Festival at the Oak Savanna Learning Center Saturday, October 1, 10 am - 2 **pm**! The festival is a free, family-oriented event for people of all ages and

abilities. Along the packed granite trails you can enjoy wildlife booths with hands-on activities. Learn more here! You can also email sherburne@fws.gov or call 763-389-3323 x 104 on other programs.

Lupulin Brewing Company is opening early for the Vikings game this Sunday, October 2 for the ultimate Sunday Funday right here in Big Lake! **Doors open at 8AM**, game starts at 8:30AM. The Bloody Beer Bar is back, as well as a BrAdam infusion. The Flaming Bowl will be here, but not until after the game, so feel free to bring in your favorite breakfast items in your trusty crock pot and let's have a party!

Sovran is offering FREE IT Equipment and E-Waste recycling during October. Read more about it here!

Big Lake American Legion Auxiliary is sponsoring a Soup-n-Sip fundraiser Oct 22nd starting at 4:30 pm at Lupulin. Persons wanting to compete can pick up registration forms at Lupulin's Taproom and Big Lake City Hall.

Did you know? You can list your Job Openings on the Chamber website at no cost? Five members currently have their jobs listed. Check it out here! For just \$150/year, you can promote your logo, name and website on the front page of our website. This is limited to 1 business per industry.

Ribbon-cutting at 3 Sons Hardware earlier this month included at left: Sue Emberland of Monticello Times, Jessica Bartel of Sherburne County, County Commissioner Raeanne Danielowski of JC's U Lock Storage, Mayor Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities, Lori & Dave Ables of 3 Sons Hardware, Oscar Cooper of El Teca BarberShop, Tamara Volkert of Minnco Credit Union, Dan Weber of Sherburne County and Gloria Vande Brake of the Chamber. Photo taken by Jeff Hage of Monticello Times.





October's Business After Hours

October's Business after Hours is scheduled for 5 pm on Tuesday, October 11th at Style Ca-

tering. Please register here! Photo to the right is 15 members who attended our September Business after Hours: (seated at table with their backs to the camera) Mindy Michels & Kris Seefeld of Minnco Credit Union, Sherburne County Commissioner Raeanne Danielowski of JC's U Lock Storage, (standing) Chris Meyer & Casey

Hanson of PATRIOT News, Pam & Craig Erickson (back facing camera) of Pillar to Post Home Inspections, Mayor Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities, Donna Clarksean of Old National Bank, (seated at table) Linnai and Scott Driscoll of Driscoll Accounting, Wendy Borst of Monticello Times, (standing) Tim Suchy of Edward Jones and Saghir Abid of Americas Best Value Inn. Board member Becky Jacobs of Northstar Technology Solutions took the photo.

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. Two of our newest members, Stacey Stanley of Edina Realty Heitz Gardner Group and Tami Rangel from Travelers Country Club on the Mississippi each won over \$400 in prizes earlier this year. Members who are present while their name is called win prizes valued at over \$400 which include:

\$10 Gift Certificate

FREE Drink

October 24th Membership Meeting

Our October Membership Meeting will be held Tuesday, October 24th at 11:30 am. Sherburne County Administrator Bruce Messelt and Assistant County Administrator Dan Weber will share updates on Sherburne County. Location is pending. Registration and lunch is at 11:30. Introductions and Committee Reports begin at noon. Lunch is \$15. Please register here by Thursday, Oct 20th. Photo below left is Big Lake High

School REAL Staff Wade Olson and Community Education Director Stephanie Hillman who presented at our September Membership Meeting.

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 the 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!













Massage and First Chiro Check

Monticello Printing Certificate

2 Color Ads, notepad







OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	7 Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						October 1
2	3	4 Community Fair Meeting 1 pm City Large Con- ference Room	5	6	7	8
9	10 County & State Political Candidates Forum 5:30 pm BLHS.	11 Board Meeting 12:30 McPete's and virtually Business After Hours 5 pm Style Catering. <u>Register</u> <u>here!</u>	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Membership Mtg 11:30-1 <u>Register</u> <u>here!</u>	26	27 2022 Member of the Year Nomi- nations Due!	28	29
30	31	November 1	2	3 Ambassadors Noon	4	5
6	7	8 Board Meeting 12:30 McPete's and vir- tually	9	10 Business after Hours 5 pm	11	12

Mark Your Calendar!

Monday, Nov. 28th Christmas Tree Decorating

Tuesday, Nov 29th ANNUAL Membership Meeting from 11:30-1 pm at

Thursday, Dec. 1st at 5:30 pm HOLIDAY SOCIAL at

