



Sherburne County's Legal Newspaper

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BIG LAKER RON SKOOG — who many knew as the “bike guy” — passed away Monday after a long battle with several ailments. See his story on page 2. (Submitted Photo).

Inside
CLEARWATER AREA NEWS
St. Cloud Schools are returning to in-person learning for grades 6-12 in the third trimester of the school season. See the story on page 2.

COUNTY NEWS
Sherburne County issued an update on availability of COVID-19 vaccines and how to get the shots. See the article on page 5.

BECKER NEWS
Nevada Arnold (6) of Becker has a minor role in a recently-released movie from Lionsgate Entertainment. See the story on page 4.

Patriot
In The Meantime
BECKER DISCOVER COMMUNITY GUIDE
For those in the zip code areas of 55308 and 55319, check out the Discover Becker Community Guide in this week's Patriot Newspaper!

SPRING APPROACHES
Spring is quickly approaching and the Patriot staff will be working on producing our annual Spring Home Guide as well as compiling information for special graduation sections for students at area schools, so keep your eyes peeled!

C'mon SPRING!



Patriot
News & Advertising Deadlines

NEWS DEADLINES
With the newspaper wrap up occurring Wednesday evening, all news items submitted to run that Saturday must reach our office by Wednesday morning by 11 a.m.

SPORTS DEADLINES
Coaches and assistants are expected to contact our sports writers by Wednesday morning, 11 a.m. at the latest to have their information included in that week's publication.

CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINES
Information for classifieds need to be submitted to our staff by noon Wednesday to be included in that week's publication of the PATRIOT.

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Call 763-275-0275 or email Kathy @legals.kathy@patriotnewsmn.com

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Call 763-275-0275 or email Bill @reporter.bill@patriotnewsmn.com

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PATRIOT

POSTAL PATRON

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• VOL. 1 • NO. 35 SAT., FEB. 27, 2021

Becker to adopt 5-year street improvement plan

By Katherine Cantin
Staff Writer
Reporter.Katie@PatriotNewsMN.com

The City of Becker is planning to adopt a five-year street reconstruction plan. A public hearing for the plan will be held at the next city council meeting at 5 p.m. March 2.

Working on the Plan
Phil Knutson, Public Services Director for the city, says city staff has been working on this plan along with city council for several months now. The streets were reviewed along with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and it was found that many streets were nearing the end of their lifespan. Last April, staff took the city council members on a tour of the streets, showing where some were quickly becoming worn. The five-year plan being proposed



PLAN to page 12

PHIL KNUTSON (L) AND CONNIE ROBINSON (R) have been working on a five-year street reconstruction plan along with city staff. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

The Kettle in Clearwater closes doors for good

By Penny Leuthard,
Contributing Writer

One of the many hurt by a year of pandemic restrictions, *The Kettle* restaurant in Clearwater has permanently closed its doors.



Owner Rory Amundson, who has run the restaurant since he bought it in 2015, said the pandemic, state restrictions, and severe lack of help are

KETTLE to page 14

30 attendees at recent chamber meeting

Submitted Article

The Becker Area Chamber of Commerce had a great turnout for the February 17 member meeting last week. With over 30 members in attendance, the meeting was held at Becker Pebble Creek.

The business highlight for the month was *Keller Williams Realty*. Troy and Amity Felton presented information about the real

estate market in the Becker area, and what to expect with the market in 2021. They, along with *Haller Realty* agents agreed that there is a major shortage of homes available for sale in the area, and homes continue to be in demand. Interest rates are still low, which helps balance the cost of homes.

Marie Pflipsen from

CHAMBER to page 14

Anselment honored for 33 years in the Wright County Sheriff's Office

Submitted Article

In 1988, America was in the second term of the Reagan Administration, the Berlin Wall was still a year from coming down, fans of the Minnesota Twins were still celebrating their first World Series title in franchise history, the Internet wasn't yet available to the public, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* dominated the box office and *Guns N' Roses* topped the music charts with "Sweet Child o' Mine."

It was that same year that 22-year old Dan Anselment joined the Wright County Sheriff's Office.

At the Feb. 23 meeting of the Wright County Board of Commissioners, Anselment was honored with a retirement plaque for his 33 years of service to the residents of Wright County.

Sheriff Sean Deringer presented the plaque, saying that Anselment has forged friendships with and earned the respect of generations of his law enforcement colleagues over



DAN ANSELMMENT of the Wright County Sheriff's Office was honored for his 33 years of service this past week. (Submitted Photo).

the years – leaving a legacy that has made a lasting imprint on Wright County.

"I think we as leaders in the organization recognize that the No. 1 asset of any business or organization is our personnel," Deringer said. "Today we celebrate 33 years of Captain Anselment being present. I think that it stands as a testament

that we have former sheriffs in the room, former members of the command staff, family and friends."

Anselment is one of only two current members of the Wright County Sheriff's Office that was hired by iconic former Sheriff Darrell Wolff, who died in office in 1989 and is the longest-tenured member of the Sheriff's Office. Deringer said that every sheriff Anselment worked under has recognized his talent.

"Every sheriff (that followed) Sheriff Wolff saw value in Dan – what he was able to do and what he was able to accomplish," Deringer said. "Sheriff (Don) Hozempa promoted him to sergeant. Sheriff (Gary) Miller promoted him to lieutenant. Sheriff (Joe) Hagerty promoted him to captain. I guess I'm the one that gets to kick him out the door."

Deringer wasn't the only one cracking jokes. Following the ceremony, Miller told Anselment why

ANSELMMENT to page 14

Coyote Moon Chef Chosen As National Contest Winner

Submitted Article

Two Central Minnesota restaurants have been selected as winners of the *General Mills Foodservice's* 2020 Neighborhood to Nation contest.

The *Coyote Moon Grille's* Adam Meyer was named as one of 20 nationwide winners for his southern fried chicken sandwich with raspberry chipotle sauce recipe.

Another Minnesota restaurant, *Madigan's Pub and Grill* in Maple Lake, was chosen for Chris Nelson's Ragin' Cajun Pizza.

The contest celebrates independent restaurants and food trucks for their one-of-a-kind dishes and independent restaurants' role in local

communities.

Each winner receives \$5,000 cash, support to market the restaurant, and entered into the People's



Choice awards for the grand prize, which is an additional \$5,000 donation toward a local food bank charity.

Many restaurants said they were struggling, even with doing takeout and delivery, and some closed altogether due to indoor dining shutdowns because of the COVID-19 pandemic, so *General Mills* decided to double the number of winners for 2020. A press release says doubling the number of winners would allow restaurants and food truck operators to win "much-needed cash as well as paid advertising and other marketing tools to promote their business."

To enter, applicants had to upload a picture of their recipe using at least one ingredient from *Gen-*

eral Mills Foodservice's participating brands and share how they creatively used that item. They could also explain how that dish brings comfort and joy to their customers at a time when comfort and joy are desperately needed. Recipes for the Neighborhood to Nation Recipes Contest were judged based on taste, appearance, creativity, and foodservice viability.

Voting for the *People's Choice* opened February 22 and runs through February 26.

Coyote Moon is located at 480 - 55th Ave. SE in St. Cloud on Territory Golf Club. *Coyote Moon Grille* is open year round for dinner and Sunday brunch; lunch available April through September.

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Area News

St. Cloud Area schools to return to in-person learning

Submitted Article

Superintendent Willie Jett announced at the Feb. 3 Board of Education meeting a tentative plan to see students in grades 6-12 return to in-person learning third trimester.

The calendar of events includes:

- Feb. 26: End of Trimester 2;
- March 1-5: Mid-win-

ter break;

• March 8-9: Staff transition days as required by the Minnesota Department of Education;

• March 10: Tentative start to in-person learning for grades 6-12.

There are no changes for preschool, elementary, and alternative special education schools, which returned to in-person learning today. Secondary Distance

Learning Academy will not be in session March 8-9, but otherwise is not impacted by this transition.

Secondary schools have not been in session Monday-Friday since last March. Jett said he will update the board and community on secondary return-to-school plans at the next Board of Education meeting on February 17.

Chili to warm guests



CVBC CHILI COOKOFF. Clear Valley Business Connection members were treated to a chili cook off at their annual meeting Thursday, February 11. The meeting was hosted by Rejoice Lutheran Church in Clearwater. First prize for the chili contest was awarded to outgoing CVBC president Lori Johnson, and there was a tie for second place between Alyssa Braaten (AFLAC) and Jenny Massman (American Heritage Bank). Watch for full story in next week's issue of the Patriot. Pictured above are the people who submitted chili for the chili cook off: Leigh Holman (Sunset Ridge Ranch), Alyssa Braaten (AFLAC), Kevin Peterson (Royal Renovations), Lori Johnson (Root of Wellness and Johnson Materials), Jenny Massman (American Heritage Bank), Eron Bordson (Clearwater Family Chiropractic) and Dan Lunning (Cutting Edge Catering). (Patriot Photo by Mary Nehring).

Auctions

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HOUSEHOLD: Kitchen & bakeware, Holiday décor, Framed art & prints, Home Interior's décor, Dolls, Hot wheel cars.

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NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY IS QUICKLY EVOLVING

According to data from the Newspaper Association of America (NAA), trends reflect that the print industry is evolving its business model in significant ways.

Some of these ways include connecting with developments in technology, tapping into consumer behavior, understanding advertiser interest, and more in order to grow audiences and diversify its revenue stream.

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CW man airlifted to hospital following snowmobile crash

Submitted Article

A Clearwater man was airlifted to the hospital following a snowmobile crash last Thursday.

The incident happened around 5:40 p.m. along a snowmobile trail northwest of Franklin Rd., about one mile north of Clearwater.

The Stearns County Sheriff's Office says

32-year-old Travis Imholte, of Clearwater, was heading north on the trail, when he lost control of his 2018 Polaris 600 snowmobile, causing it to turn over.

Authorities say Imholte was found unresponsive at the scene and was airlifted to St. Cloud Hospital by a North Memorial Helicopter.

The Sheriff's Office

says he was in stable condition in a medically induced coma at the hospital.

The Stearns County Sheriff's Office was assisted by Mayo Ambulance, Clearwater Fire and Rescue, Wright County Sheriff's Office, and North Memorial Helicopter.

Skoog, Big Lake bicycle man, passes

Submitted Article

Ron Skoog, a life long Big Lake resident, firefighter, fire chief and rescue squad member, died earlier this week.

Skoog served the Big Lake area from 1959 to 1987 serving the BLFD as chief, assistant chief, captain and firefighter.

Most people knew him as the guy that fixes bicycles out of his garage on Eagle Lake Road.

See Ron's obituary in next week's edition.



BIG LAKE RON SKOOG — who many knew as the "bike guy" passed away this week after a long battle with several ailments. (Submitted Photo).

SMALL-TOWN COMMUNITIES LOVE THEIR LOCAL PAPERS

A recent study found that 67% of small-town residents read their local paper at least one time per week. Out of the participants, 78% said newspapers were their main source for information about local news, and 71% of participants said newspaper inserts motivated them with their buying decisions.

Area News

Big Lake named one of Minnesota’s safest cities

Submitted Article

Big Lake was named the second safest city in the State of Minnesota for 2020.

True to its friendly image, the Land of 10,000 Lakes has violent and property crime rates below national levels. What’s more, violent crime has dropped in Minnesota for the last 10 years straight, including an 8% drop between 2017 and 2018.

The safest city in Minnesota is Orono, a city of about 20,000 located on the north shore of Lake Minnetonka. Crime is nearly nonexistent in Orono: the city recorded just six violent crimes in 2018 and has a property crime rate less-than-a-third of the national average.

Big Lake is Minnesota’s second safest city. A quiet

lakeside community known for its annual “Spud Fest”, Big Lake has the lowest property crime rate in the state, along with a violent crime rate of exactly 1 offense per 1,000. Their population is listed at 11,036

Minnesota’s third safest “city” is the combined jurisdiction of the South Lake Minnetonka Police Department, comprising parts of the communities of Excelsior, Greenwood, Shorewood, and Tonka Bay. Together, they logged just three violent crimes in 2018.

Earning the #4 spot is Minnetrista, which continues Minnesota’s streak of remarkably low violent crime by posting a 0.39 per 1,000 violent crime rate in 2018, coupled with a property crime

rate below 10 per 1,000.

The city of Stillwater, located on the St. Croix River



just west of Wisconsin, rounds out the list of Minnesota’s five safest cities. Known as the shooting location for many popular Hollywood films, including *Fargo* and *Grumpy Old Men*, Still-

water logged 2018 violent and property crime rates of about one-third of national levels.

To identify the safest cities, the National Council For Home Safety and Security (Alarms.org) reviewed the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics. They eliminated any cities that failed to submit a complete crime report to the FBI and cities with populations under 10,000. This left 3,381 cities (out of a total of 9,251).

There are two broad classifications of crimes: violent crimes and non-violent crimes. According to the FBI, “Violent crime is composed of four offenses: murder and non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Violent crimes are

defined in the UCR Program as those offenses that involve force or threat of force. Property crime includes the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The object of the theft-type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat of force against the victims.”

Alarms.org computed the total number of crimes reported by each city by adding violent crimes and property crimes. They then created a crime rate as the number of crimes per 1,000 population. Then they transformed the total crime rate variable so that the skewness was reduced and normalized.

Data from 2,831 law enforcement agencies was then collected to determine police adequacy (TotalCrimes / Number of police employ-

ees). Alarms.org considers that the smaller the police adequacy statistic is, the safer the city is. This variable was also transformed and normalized.

Finally, the two variables were combined to create a safety score for each city.

“This is something we should all be proud of,” said Big Lake PD Deputy Chief Matt Hayden. “If it wasn’t for our citizens, elected officials, city leaders, and all of our city departments working together, we would not be able to enjoy this community we all love.”

“Thank you for your continued effort in supporting our police department and helping us keep the crime out of our city!”

Monticello man dies morning after head-on crash near Big Lake

Submitted Article

A Monticello man has died after a head-on collision near Big Lake last Thursday.

The Sherburne County Sheriff’s Office said the crash happened on Co. Rd. 14, just south of Hwy. 10, Thursday morning.

According to the sheriff’s office, 86-year-old Ronald N. Olson lost control of the car he was driving and crossed the center

line of Co. Rd. 14, sliding into the path of an oncoming truck.

Olson was taken to a hospital, where he died Friday morning.

The sheriff’s office said the driver of the pickup truck suffered injuries that aren’t considered life-threatening.

Investigators believe slippery road conditions were likely a contributing factor in the crash.

Becker Schools seeking approval of \$37.5M bond referendum

Submitted Article

This spring voters in the Becker school district will vote on a proposed \$37.5 million bond referendum.

Supt. Jeremy Schmidt says because the district has some expiring bonds, along with low-interest rates right now, there will be no increase in taxes for property owners if it passes. Upgrades would be made to every building, including safety and security measures.

The plan also includes shifting some grades to other buildings to alleviate overcrowding in the primary school building.

“To handle that is keeping our Pre-K, K and First grades in the primary school, shift the second grade to our intermediate school, and then shift the fifth grade to the middle school,” says Schmidt. “So our addition would be to the middle school to add that fifth grade on to there, so they would have four grade levels.”

The middle school is

expected to get some new classrooms for the fifth graders. Both the intermediate and middle school would get new cafeterias.

Other plans for the money include a new transportation facility, turf on the football field, and maintenance at all buildings.

“The Becker school district is growing with no sign of it slowing down anytime soon,” said Schmidt.

One recent study says the Becker and Big Lake school districts will be the seventh and eighth fastest growing in the state in the coming years.

“Becker and Big Lake area, this area of the state really entices people because we have those large lots and we have the ability to get to places very quickly and easily,” said Becker’s Super. “We don’t see that going away.”

The \$37.5 million referendum will have just one question on the ballot. Early voting starts March 26 with election day on May 11.

Intoxicated driver crashes into BPD vehicles

Submitted article

On Feb. 21 at approximately 12:39 a.m., Becker Police Officers conducted a traffic stop at US Highway 10/Sherburne Ave in the left lane. During the investigation of the initial traffic stop, two officers were in their squad, and two officers were standing outside of their squad cars. The two officers standing outside observed a vehicle traveling West bound on Hwy. 10, and was observed to not be slowing down, and did not attempt to move over for the emergency vehicles. This vehicle struck both squad cars, damaging the passenger side on each vehicle. No one was injured as a result of this occurring.

Becker Police officers pursued the striking vehicle stopping it at Hwy. 10 and Bradley Blvd. During the

traffic stop investigation, the male driver who was identified as David Henry Delk (35), of St. Cloud, was found to be under the influence of alcohol. Delk was arrested for 2nd Degree DWI.

Charges are pending for Delk to include: 2nd Degree DUI, Leaving the Scene of an Accident, Open Bottle of Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Failure to Move Over for Emergency Vehicle. Pending the investigation, which is ongoing, additional charges are likely.

The Becker Police Department was assisted by the Minnesota State Patrol and the Sherburne County Sheriff’s Office.


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Grace period for renewing expiring driver’s licenses coming to a close

Submitted Article

The Wright County License Bureau is reminding residents that the grace period for being able to drive with an expired driver’s license is ending soon.

The deadline for those with commercial driver’s licenses is Sunday, Feb. 28. After that date, the grace period that resulted from state license bureaus and DMVs being closed for six weeks will no longer apply.

For those with standard driver’s licenses, the deadline is Wednesday, March 31. After that date, they will be deemed driving with an expired license and subject to ticketing.

It is estimated that 300,000 Minnesotans had driver’s license that were set to expire between March 13, 2020 and Feb.

28, 2021. That number doesn’t include individuals that applied to upgrade their licenses to Real ID or enhanced licenses.

There is an option for those with expiring licenses to renew online. If nothing changed on their licenses (name, address, etc.), they are eligible to renew online in a one-time program that won’t require a vision screening and the photo on the license will remain the same. Anyone looking for a Real ID license will have to renew in-person because of paperwork requirements that accompany upgrading to Real ID or an enhanced license.

For those eligible to renew their licenses online, it can be done here: <https://onlineservices.dps.mn.gov/EServices/>

4-H Ambassadors host successful drive

By Katherine Cantin
Staff Writer
Reporter.Katie@PatriotNewsMN.com

Recently, the Sherburne County 4-H ambassadors completed their Winter Service project. Several Sherburne County students organized a donation drive to collect items for children in foster care.

Winter Service Project
The 4-H ambassadors are a group of students who are dedicated to community service. While they were brainstorming ideas for their Winter Service Project, they found that several among them were passionate about helping kids in foster care. An advisor and mom for the group, Kimberly Knapp, had a connection with an organization called The Forgotten Initiative, which offered guidelines to the students on which items to collect to support kids in foster care.

The Drive
After a couple months of planning, the 4-H ambassadors held their contactless item drive at the Sherburne County Government Center. The drive was focused on collecting baby items, as the organization expected an upcoming baby boom. However, items for kids of all ages were happily accepted, so long as they were in new condition.

Danielle Ganje, Sherburne County 4-H extension educator, said it is important that kids in foster care have their own, personal belongings as they are placed in a new home. The hope of the drive was to create backpacks or diaper bags that would go with the children wherever they were placed.

The drive was very successful. Knapp reported that her car was full to the brim with donations.

“We were blown away

by the generosity and the number of donations we received,” said Ganje. “This was the ambassadors’ way of fulfilling their 4-H pledge to give to others.”

Those who missed the drive, but who would still like to support foster children by donating items or money, can go to *TheForgottenInitiate.org*.

Other Projects
With the success of the drive, Ganje says she could see doing a similar project in the future. 4-H hosts various other events throughout the year, and they would love support from the community. Individuals can support the club by following the group on social media, or by making a donation at z.umn.edu/4H-giveSherburne.

The ambassadors also recently worked on making blankets for Project Linus, an organization which provides blankets to children who are



SHERBURNE COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADORS coordinated a county-wide drive on Feb. 8 to collect items for the foster care community. 4-H families and community members donated many needed items in a drive-up style drop-off. Pictured above are Elizabeth Knapp, Arabelle Rohs, Owen Babler, Kayla Meyer, Dashton Mueller, and Bailey Muehlbauer. (Submitted photo.)

seriously ill or traumatized. The ambassadors, a group of teenagers, also work regularly

to teach younger students in 4-H.

Ganje says that 4-H

hopes to hold its normal events in-person once again in the near future.

Becker youngster plays supporting role in Hollywood movie

By Katherine Cantin
Staff Writer
Reporter.Katie@PatriotNewsMN.com

Nevada Arnold, 6 years old, of Becker, has a speaking role in *Barb and Star Go to Vista Del Mar* distributed by Lionsgate Entertainment Company. This is Nevada’s first role in a full budget Hollywood feature, playing Sharon Gordon Fisherman, age 3. *Barb and Star Go to Vista Del Mar* is a girlfriend’s vacation comedy that was filmed in Mexico and New Mexico in the summer of 2019 and stars – and was written by – *Bridesmaids* writers Kristen Wiig and Annie Mumolo. It was released on February 12, 2021 via video on demand by Lionsgate Entertainment Company. Arnold plays Sharon Gordon Fisherman in a flashback scene. A four-year old at the time of filming, she was given a few lines on set that day by director, Josh Greenbaum, that were not included in

the original screenplay; one of which made it into the final film.

As with so many auditions these days (but especially now with COVID-19 protocols making in-person auditions nearly impossible) Arnold auditioned via self-tape that was viewed by Angelique Midthunder and the team at *Midthunder Casting* prior to being seen by production. Nevada was cast for the role directly off her self-tape submission. She and her mother traveled to Albuquerque, NM to film the scene at the end of August, 2019. The film was originally scheduled to have a theatrical release in July 2020 but was pushed back to July 2021 due to the on-going pandemic closing most movie theaters or greatly reducing allowed capacity.

On January 11, 2021 *Lionsgate* announced that they were foregoing a theatrical release of the film instead debuting it via premium VOD Feb. 12, 2021.

Nevada attends kindergarten at Becker Primary School, after she and her family moved to the area last May. She did an interview on *The Jason Show* last Thursday.



NEVADA ARNOLD is a kindergartner at Becker Primary School. Above, she is watching herself in her first film, *Barb and Star go to Vista Del Mar*. To the left, Nevada models her Becker Bulldogs jersey. (Submitted photo.)

Becker Twp. gears up for construction season

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

It might still be winter in Minnesota, but the Becker Twp. Board met Monday evening and took several actions to prepare for roadway maintenance once the ground thaws.

Two. Engineer Wes Davis presented several items for board consideration, including the LRIP Grant proposal for 97th St. Clear Lake Twp. and the City of Becker are cooperating partners on the project, which will seek state funding to reconstruct the road to a 10-ton design with wider lanes and an overall safer profile.

Davis explained that if the project were funded, construction would most likely be for the 2023 construction season because of the number of agencies involved. The board unanimously approved the grant proposal and thanked both of the adjacent governmental entities for their support of the concept.

Davis also received approval of the Joint Powers Agreement with Sherburne County which allows for utilizing their bidding structure to gain more favorable pricing on certain road projects.

Road Supervisors Joe Danielson and Robin Boros have been working with Davis to develop plans and specifications for projects on 164th Ave. and 142nd St. The board approved Davis to advertise for bids on the two roads, as well as several chip seal projects. These will be advertised for two weeks and bid opening could take place at the April board meeting.

In other road related news, Danielson reported that some brush cutting has been accomplished and other areas will be addressed in the coming months. He and Boros conducted meetings with the business owners and residents who will be affected by the work on 164th Ave. and received their support for the

project.

Planning

Planner Ben Wikstrom reported that Sherburne County is working on securing a CUP from the township for the stockpiling of material related to work they plan to do on the trail system in Bridgeview Park. The work is in the county park itself, while some town right of way will need to be used for temporary storage of materials.

Sheriff's Report

Sgt. Dan Frank of the SCSO reported to the board on the 139 calls for service within the last period, including 50 traffic stops. He said reports of mail tampering have slowed down within the township, although they are still occurring in neighboring communities. He pledged to keep the board updated on the situation.

Fire Dept.

Supervisor Luke Babler shared that the turnout gear purchased with the CARES Act dollars had finally arrived and all that is left to be delivered is the coveralls used for medicals. These remain on backorder but are expected to be delivered soon. The new truck has also arrived in Minnesota and is at the dealership in Apple Valley undergoing final preparations. Babler also reported that the Eddy Foundation had donated \$4,000 to the department to be used for whatever needs are identified.

Recycle Day

Recycle Day, the event formerly known as Clean Up Day, will again be held in conjunction with the city. This year’s date will be May 1, but the location will change to be held at *Northern Metals Recycling*. According to the plans received from the city, no trash will be accepted this year.

The board held a lengthy discussion as to the goals of the day, as they would like to have the ability to collect trash at the event even if it meant charging participating

residents a higher fee for the service. If trash is not collected, it is many times found in the ditches of township roads through the spring and the costs of clean up for these items trickles down to the township anyway. Because an event like this takes a good deal of time to plan and organize, the board decided to keep it as a combined event this year but will look at holding its own event in the future if trash collection is not part of the city’s plan.

Franchise Agreements

The board and legal counsel continue to work through franchise agreements with a pair of broadband providers in Midco and Tekstar (Arvig). Discussion was held on how to address right of way work and restoration that is not done up to acceptable standards. One way to address the issue is through a letter of credit from the companies, while a plan B is to have the township contract necessary work and charge it back to the companies. After a discussion about the pros and cons to each option, the board directed legal counsel to pursue option B because of the timeliness of the work, as well as the control it would give the township to ensure any restoration is done properly.

Up next for the town board will be this year’s election and Annual Meeting to be held March 9 at the Becker Legion (old fire hall), followed by the board’s regular March meeting at 7 p.m. March 15 at the Town Hall.



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BECKER POLICE RESERVES RECEIVE AWARDS. (L-R) Reserve Officer Tristan Mello, Reserve Lieutenant Jenna Voigt, and Reserve Sergeant Zach Cargill received 2020 Presidential Service Awards recently for their service to the Becker Police Department and City of Becker. Both Voigt and Cargill received Gold service awards for volunteering over 700 and 600 hours respectively in 2020. Mello received a Bronze award for volunteering over 160 hours in 2020. Each received a certificate signifying their achievement along with a letter signed by the President, a pin and a challenge coin. This is the second such award for Voigt who last year received a Bronze award. Per Chief Brent Baloun, "I'm proud of our Reserve Officers and their commitment to our community. They are a great asset to our police department and community." (Submitted photo.)

County News

Update on county vaccination efforts

Submitted article

There continues to be a very limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine in Minnesota. Despite a modest recent increase in vaccine supply from the federal government, Minnesota still does not have enough to meet demand. Minnesotans are encouraged to remain patient as more vaccine arrives in the weeks and months ahead. Sherburne County staff will continue to distribute vaccines using a phased approach and immunize those at highest risk of getting COVID-19, as well as those most at risk of severe disease and complications if they become infected.

Those 65+ are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine now. Sherburne County has been holding vaccination clinics when the vaccine is received from the state. Staff has been successful in administering the vaccine within 72 hours of receiving it from the state. The county has the capacity to deliver far more vaccine than it receives, but is limited by what the state allocates.

How to get the Vaccine

Local public health is just one administrator of vaccine in Sherburne County. Clinics, hospitals (Fairview Northland) and pharmacies are also giving vaccine

shots.

To receive information for getting COVID-19 vaccines in MN, individuals can:

1. Contact their medical provider;
2. Contact their pharmacy;
3. Use the Find My Vaccine website to search for other statewide vaccine sites. <https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/find-vaccine/locations/index.jsp>

Those who live in Sherburne County can:

4. Add themselves to the COVID-19 interest form. Electronic version is preferred. This does require an email address. Those who do not have an email address could use the email address of a friend or family member. Visit <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/5e2baad7c-5504616b22afdb3b7f31632>
- Paper forms are accepted at the Sherburne County Government Center or can be mailed to Sherburne County Health & Human Services, 13880 Business Center Drive NW, Suite 100 Elk River, MN 55330-4468

Filling out the form does not guarantee an appointment but will get the patient's name on an interest list for upcoming clinics.

5. New as of Feb. 18, the Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector is a tool that helps Min-

nesotans find out when, where, and how to get their COVID-19 vaccine. When Minnesotans become eligible, the Vaccine Connector will:

- alert them of their eligibility;
 - connect them to resources to schedule a vaccine appointment; and
 - notify them if there are vaccine opportunities in their area.
- Go to <https://vaccineconnector.mn.gov/>

Minnesotans unable to sign up online can have family or friends help them sign up online, or call 833-431-2053 for assistance signing up over the phone.

Translation is available by phone in all languages. Minnesotans can call the translation hotlines at 833-431-2053 and 651-318-0989 for assistance signing up over the phone.

Filling out the form does not guarantee an appointment but will get the patient's name on an interest list for upcoming clinics.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is it ok to be on all the interest lists available in MN?

Yes, it is unclear who may have vaccine available first. If someone is contacted after having already been vaccinated, they can just ask to be removed from

the list.

If someone has signed up for the pre-registration list for the Community Vaccination Program should they sign up for the Vaccine Connector as well?

No, those registered through either the COVID-19 Vaccine Pilot Program or the COVID-19 Community Vaccination Program do not need to resubmit their information.

Should educators or child care providers sign up for the Vaccine Connector?

Yes. All Minnesotans who have not yet been vaccinated should sign up to ensure they stay updated on vaccination opportunities in their area when they become available — including educators and child care providers.

Those who already completed the Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine – Education and Child Care survey do not need to complete the Vaccine Connector form or re-submit their information. Educators, school staff, and child care workers will continue to hear from their local public health agency, employer, state-sponsored community vaccination site, or state vaccination partner about when and where they can get vaccinated.

Are those who sign up for

the Vaccine Connector required to get vaccinated through the options sent to them?

No. Those who are eligible to get vaccinated do not have to wait for information from the Vaccine Connector before getting the shot. If someone's health care provider, pharmacy or local public health contacts them about making an appointment, or if they have another opportunity to get vaccinated, they can and should do that.

Vaccine Process in Sherburne County

Friday: Sherburne County Public Health gets notification of how much vaccine will be available next week and who it is intended for.

Sat-Tue: Sherburne County Public Health gets emails out to interested 65+ group with instructions on how to schedule an appointment online. The email is intended for the person the interest list, not to be shared with others.

Wed-Fri: Vaccine clinics at the determined locations. This is currently at the Sherburne County Government Center in Elk River.

Process will get repeated to schedule an appointment in 28 days for the second dose.

DNR adjusts how married anglers/hunters buy combination licenses

Submitted Article

Both members of married couples who want to purchase a combination angling or hunting license in person will need to be present at the sales location starting Feb. 18, when the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will begin requiring both spouses to provide and verify their own complete customer records on file to purchase a combination license.

“These changes will bring the DNR into compliance with state and federal laws that require collecting this information for angling or hunting license sales,” said Steve Michaels, licensing program director. “The information helps prevent licenses being sold to people with violations or unpaid fines.”

Customers will continue to pay the same price for combina-

tion licenses, which are discounted compared with purchasing two individual licenses.

When purchasing a combination license in person, both spouses must be present, and, if age 21 or older, also must provide their current Minnesota driver's licenses or identification cards. If both spouses are not present, the person present may purchase their part of the license and their spouse may obtain their license at a later date at no additional charge.

If a spouse does not have a record on file with the DNR, that spouse can create one with their full name, birth date, social security number. If they are a Minnesota resident age 21 or older, they also will need a current Minnesota driver's license or current Minnesota identification card. They can create their record anywhere DNR licenses are

sold, or call the DNR license center at 877-348-0498 or 651-297-1230 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. New resident customer records for people age 21 and over cannot be created online.

“Thank you to all our license purchasers for patience adjusting to these changes and for buying a license,” Michaels said. “Your license dollars pay for a great deal of DNR conservation work and leverage more federal funding that supports hunting and fishing opportunities and habitat work.”

The DNR offers the following married combination licenses:

- Angling, valid for fishing;
- Conservation angling, valid for half the possession limit, per spouse;
- Sports, valid for fishing for both spouses and small game hunting for one spouse;

- Super Sports, valid for fishing for both spouses, small game for one spouse, includes two state trout stamps, and waterfowl and pheasant stamps for one spouse. It also offers the choice of a firearm, archery or muzzleloader deer license for one spouse;

- Family nonresident angling, valid for one or both parents and dependent children under age 16.

More information about purchasing licenses, including license agent locations, is available on the DNR website (link is external). Questions about licenses can be directed to the DNR Information Center at 888-646-6367, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, or via email at info.dnr@state.mn.us.

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• BECKER

Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Pastor: David M. Johnson, 763-262-7782, 11185 27th Ave SE. Services: Sun. Worship 9am, Sun. School 10:30am, Wed. J.U.M.P. 6pm.

Becker Baptist Church

Senior Pastor: Nathan Bucher, Youth Pastor: Kevin Drehmel, Director of Ministry to Children & Families: Amy Drehmel. 11951 Hancock Street, Becker • (763) 261-4202

Sunday Worship Service/Children's Church at 10:30 am - attend in person or watch live stream. Children's AWANA & Momentum Youth Group on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. www.beckerbaptist.org. Find us on social media.

Becker Evangelical Free Church

Pastors: Patrick Drury (Senior), Chris Salvendy (Youth), 763-261-4125, Becker High School, Office: 11373 150th Ave SE. Services: Sun. Worship/Teaching/Fellowship 10am.

Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church

Father: Mike Kellogg, 763-447-3339, 12100 Sherburne Ave. Services: Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. Mass 9:30am.

Faith (Becker) Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Pastor: Yolanda Denson-Byers, 763-261-5751, 11755 Sherburne Ave. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30 am, Sun. School 10am.

Oakwood Community Church Assemblies of God

Pastors: Gerry Bass & Sarah, 763-220-6004, 13140 1st St (SW Corner of Becker Furniture World). Services: Sun. Bible Study/Sun. School 9am, Sun. Worship 10am.

Snake River Free Church

Pastor: Steve Johnston, 612-219-8648, 180th St SE. Services: Sun. Worship/Sun. School 10:30am., Hymn Sing is second Sun. of every month.

Becker Christian Center & Abundant Grace Church

Pastor: Ken Hanson, 763-262-2177, 15455 59th St SE. Services: Sun. Praise & Worship 9:30am, Wed. Family Fellowship 7pm.

Beacon House of Prayer

Pastors: Brian & Linda Holmes, 763-263-3771, 12264 Pleasant Ave. Services: Thurs. Worship 6:30pm.

Free Grace United

Pastor: Kevin Wilson, 763-245-0001, 14000 Clubhouse Ln. Services: Wed. Worship 6:30pm.

• BIG LAKE

Acts Seventh-Day Adventists Community Church

Pastor: Bill Nixon, 763-263-2287, 20455 187th Ave NW. Services: Sat. Worship 9am, Sat. Sabbath School 10:15am.

Bethany Bible Church

763-263-2167, 511 Eagle Lake Road. Services: Sun. School 9am, Sun. Worship 10am.

Bridgeview Assembly of God

Pastor: Steve Royalty, 763-263-6274, 20500 County Road 11. Services: Sun. Worship 10am, Wed. Service 6:30pm.

SVEA Hill Covenant Church

Pastor: Don Bellach, 763-263-6322, 16392 235th Ave NW. Services: Sun. Worship 10am.

Cornerstone Baptist Church

Pastor: Gordon Langdon, 763-263-7878, 15300 County Road 35.

Hope Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Orrock

763-263-7990. www.hopeintherefuge.weebly.com.

IFLESIA AMOR VIVIENTE

Living Love Church

Pastors: Juan & Patricia Aguayo, 763-607-5403, 21 Lake St N. Services: Sat. 6pm.

Lord of Glory Lutheran Church

Pastor: Marty Mabry, 763-263-3090, 15550 190th Ave NW. Services: Sun. 8am & 10am.

Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church

Father: Mike Kellogg, 763-447-3339, 440 Lake St N. Services: Mass temporarily at Becker location, Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. Mass 9:30am.

Riverside Church

Online: www.myriversidechurch.com, 763-263-2410, 2014 County Road 14. Services: Sun 8:45am, 10:30am & 12:05pm.

Saron Lutheran Church

Pastor: Kyle Sidlo, 763-263-2209, 311 Lake St. S. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am, indoors or livestream.

• SANTIAGO

South Santiago Lutheran Church ELCA

Pastor: Daryl Thul, 763-662-2048, 14675 37th St. Services: Sun. 9am drive-in Worship, Sanctuary Worship 10am.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church E.L.S. & Princeton Evangelical School
 Pastor: Timothy Zenda, 763-662-2570, 18977 17th St. Services: Sun. School/Bible Class 10:30am, Divine Worship 9am.

Glendorado Lutheran (ELCA)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Pastor: Shari Routh, 920-573-0193, 1100 186th Ave NE. Services: Sun. Good Shepherd 9am, Sun. Glendorado 10:30am.

Gethsemane Church (ELCA) – Ronneby

Pastor: Barbara Peterson, 320-983-5002, 14478 78th St. NE. Services: Sun. Worship 10am.

Glendorado Evangelical Country Church

Pastor: Sam Alfano, 763-662-2244, 16999 Glendorado Road NE. Services: Sun. School 9:30am, Sun. Worship 10:30am.

• CLEAR LAKE

Living Waters Church

Pastor: Mark Stahl, 320-292-0250, 7830 Church St. Services: Sun. Worship 10am, Wed. Bible Study 6:30pm.

Trinity Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Pastor: Josh Reber, 320-743-2919, 8641 Main Ave. Services: Sun. Worship 8:45am, Sun. School 9:45am.

St. Marcus Catholic Church

Father: Joseph Backowski, 320-743-2481, 8701 Main Ave. Services: Sat. Confessions 4:15pm, Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. Jan-June 8am, July-Dec. 10am.

• DUELM

St. Lawrence Church

Father: Joseph Backowski, 320-968-7502 or 320-743-2481, 10915 Duell Road NE. Services: Sun Mass – Jan-June 10am, July-Dec. 8am.

• CLEARWATER

Clearwater United Methodist Church

Pastor: Alison Hendley, 320-558-2581, 405 Main St. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am.

Freedom Bible Church

605 Lime St. (Old Clearwater Post Office). Services: Sun. Bible Study 9:30am & 6pm, Sun. Worship 10:45am, Wed. Bible Study 7pm.

Rejoice Lutheran Church – ELCA

Pastor: Jim Bump, 320-558-6851, 1155 County Road 75. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am.

Church of St. Luke

Father: Dennis Backer, 320-558-2124, 17545 Huber Ave NW. Services: Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. Mass 8am & 10am, Weekday Mass Tues.-Fri. 8am/ Sat. 9am.

Tri-County Alliance Church

Pastor: David Fugal, 320-558-2750, 8464 160th St NW. Services: Sun. School 9am, Sun. Worship 10:30am.

• SILVER CREEK

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Pastor: Ken Tatkenhorst, 763-878-2820, 11390 Elliot Ave NW. Services: Sun. Worship 9am

Silver Creek Community Church

Pastor: Zach Pryor, 320-963-3957, 4282 114th St NW. Services: Sun. Worship 9am, Sun. Fellowship 10am, Sun. School 10:30am.

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Editorials/Opinions

Nature Smart: Wolves Part II

The bison turned quickly, ready to charge. The two feet of snow didn't slow its powerful hooves but rather kicked up a rooster-tail of shiny ice crystals into the cold winter air, highlighting the Bison's efforts. What was surprising was how quickly the pack of wolves turned around to evade the largest land mammal in North America that was now coming after them.



By Stan Tekiela, Naturalist

Moments before I arrived one of the adult bison suddenly dropped over dead. Its lifeless body lay in the deep snow. The herd of over 50 Bison stood around their fallen herd member. It is hard to know what was going on in their heads, but it looked like they were trying to encourage the dead Bison to get up. Several of the herd would gently nudge the lifeless body. Others would put their muzzle in the fur of their fallen friend and sniff. One thing was for sure, the members of the wolf pack wanted at the carcass and the Bison were not having any of it. By my

count there were 17 wolves, most with black fur and just a few gray ones. The wolves would advance to see if they could push the herd and encourage them to move on. Just when the Bison started to move several Bison would turn and chase the wolves, pushing them back.

A flood of thoughts were racing through my head such as, how interesting that most of the wolves had dark or black fur. In other parts of the world, wolves are gray in color. After all, that's why their official name is "Gray Wolf". The black pelage (fur) of these wolves is fairly unique to North America and Yellowstone in particular.

I was also thinking about the relationship between wolves and Bison. Most wolf packs are not good enough to actually kill large animals like Bison. I had recently read a published study that took place in Yellowstone that pointed out that wolves required at least 13 members to take down a single bison but then only if the pack was highly organized, had experience with killing Bison and could cooperate at an extraordinary high level. Even then they only are able to take the weak, sick or injured Bison.

I was thinking about how difficult the harsh winter conditions can be on

these animals. So much so that apparently this adult Bison dropped over dead in the snow. Which led me to think about how fortunate these wolves will be if they can get to the carcass.

While my mind was racing through all of this biological information, about half of the herd of Bison started to wonder off and move down the ridge line. The Bison who were still engaged with the dead comrade and who were chasing off the wolves stayed.

I was able to capture some amazing video of the wolves advancing and then retreating with each turn of the herd. Black-billed Mag-

pies, a bird in the crow family, fluttered in and landed on the dead bison. The other Bison did not seem to mind these scavengers advancing on their fallen friend.

Then the tide shifted and for some reason the Bison started to move away, and the wolves started to chase them. The Bison ran through the snow while the wolves chased them for about 50 yards before turning and headed back to the dead Bison.

Most of the pack gathered around the carcass with their tails wagging and started to feed. A lucky break for the wolves in the dead of winter. The sun

was setting, and the light drained from the mountain top.

In the morning I returned, just 12 hours later at first light to find nothing remained of the carcass, no bones, no fur, just blood-stained snow. In nature, nothing goes to waste. Until next time...

Stan Tekiela is an author / naturalist and wildlife photographer who travels the U.S. to study and capture images of wildlife. He can be followed on Facebook.com, Twitter.com and Instagram. He can be contacted via his web page at www.naturesmart.com.

Ending Governor's Rule over Schools

Friends and neighbors, **Local Control of Schools**

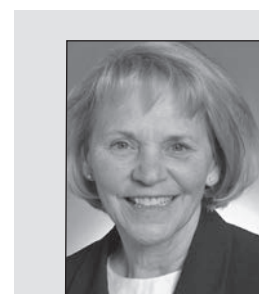
Last week, the Senate passed SF 2, a bill that would end the governor's authority to close schools or restrict student learning during a pandemic or any emergency.

Minnesota is a very large state with very different populations and geography. Local school boards and superintendents are highly qualified to know their districts and have ample resources including the Dept. of Health to advise them. Currently, under the emergency powers the governor has the authority to make decisions for public schools across the state. SF 2 would put the power back into the hands of local school districts and remove the governor's power to decide if or when schools can safely open and activities safely continue.

Research shows that children do not suffer from coronavirus the way older populations do and are not as contagious to others. The harm to our kids is real and we need to allow kids to socialize, have a safe and reliable place to go and have in person contact with their teachers. Distance learning has been incredibly hard on teachers, parents, and students. Local school boards and superintendents can do better than a confusing array of one-person centralized control.

Redemption Project

The Redemption Project is working to reduce recidivism by connecting inmates with employment mentors while they are still



By Mary Kiffmeyer, State Senator

incarcerated so the inmates can obtain meaningful employment upon release. Making a mistake or starting out poorly should not be a life-long sentence. But re-entry into society after prison life is difficult. So the Redemption Project has stepped in to bridge the transition in order to make it successful and long lasting.

Prior to being temporarily put on pause due to COVID-19, the Redemption Project during the three years they have existed they have had 56 graduates and none of them have had any new charges. This program is successful, and I am eager to work alongside them to expand their program statewide. The inmates made a mistake, but society benefits when they are helped to success.

Voter ID

In the finance committee on Tuesday, we heard SF 173 on Voter ID. The US Supreme Court has already upheld the policy recognizing that who you are is relevant to the voting process and proving that with a Voter ID is reasonable.

The Court went on to

say that deterring, detecting and preventing fraud is a just reason for the requirement and proving fraud is not necessary. We use a Photo ID for very important transactions all the time, whether traveling, purchasing items, to proving your age in a liquor store. Certainly gaining a ballot to cast your vote is of even greater value. Showing ID is something we routinely do.

When voting, you should have to prove who you are and that you are a citizen of the United States and a resident of Minnesota. The Court also stated that a free ID must be provided to those who cannot afford one and making the costs of documents necessary to prove identity should be covered by the state.

If passed, in the upcoming elections if a voter has not yet taken the time to get a photo ID, they can cast a provisional ballot which gives the voter time after their ballot is cast to prove their identity before the ballot is cast and counted. The bill already has great deal of money provided for publicizing the information and facilitating the process. SF 173 is on its way to the floor where it is expected to pass.

I remain committed to advocating for you and your family at the Capitol in any way I can. I am always available to talk and encourage you to reach out to my office with your questions, comments, and concerns.

My phone number is 651-295-5655 or you can email me at Sen.Mary.Kiffmeyer@senate.mn.

Pushing to empower locals, remove Gov's ability to close schools

This week, I am kicking off my week in Washington with a telephone town hall to focus on education and the reopening of schools. Our children have suffered for far too long during COVID, and it's time we get them back to the classroom.

I am committed to ensuring students return to their learning environments.

The Biden Administration has set their goal for schools to partially reopen by April 30, 2021. However, the Administration has failed to provide a clear and coherent definition of what "reopening" actually means.

Many of our kids have not had an opportunity to learn in the classroom since March of last year, and they're in desperate need of a return to the learning environment that best suits them - in person, with their teachers and classmates.

The science suggests it is safe to return now. The Director of the CDC announced at a White House press briefing that there is, "increasing data to suggest that schools can safely reopen and that safe reopening does not suggest that teachers need to be vaccinated."

Following this announcement, I wrote to President Biden to urge him to follow the science and listen to his CDC Director. It's time to reopen all schools, now.

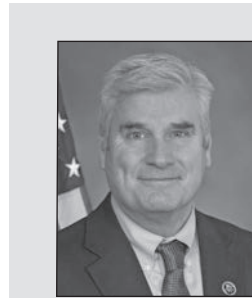
In addition to the telephone town hall, I will also be introducing legislation to ensure veterans receive same-day physical and mental health care at all VA facilities. Stay tuned for more information on that!

Financial Services Committee

I serve on the House Financial Services Committee, where I advocate for Minnesotans' access to economic opportunity. Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District consists of hundreds of banks and numerous credit unions that we all rely on. These institutions support nearly 60,000 Minnesota jobs in finance-related fields.

Early in my days in Congress I started a Financial Services Advisory Council, made up of Minnesotans in the industry who could assist me in understanding the issues they face in serving their customers.

I conducted my first meeting of 2021 recently, and we discussed the new Congress, the upcoming fi-



By Congressman Tom Emmer

nancial landscape, and the needs of our nation as we recover from COVID-19.

Last week, I also spoke at a House Financial Services Committee hearing titled, "Game Stopped? Who Wins and Loses When Short Sellers, Social Media, and Retail Investors Collide." This hearing served as an opportunity to advocate for the individual investors all across America who want to participate in the greatest financial markets in the world.

My work on the Financial Services Committee is centered around valuing the right of the individual to make decisions for themselves, especially regarding their financial goals. My work on this Committee is also focused on ensuring individuals have the autonomy to do what they want to do without having to rely on others, or their government. Stay tuned with my work on financial services here.

Heart Month

As we close out February, I wanted to take the time to remind everyone that February is American Heart Month, and it serves as a chance to learn about heart-healthy practices.

Unfortunately, 30.3 million Americans are currently living with heart disease. This is approximately 12% of the adult population.

Nearly half of all Americans have at least one of the main risk factors for heart disease: high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or are smokers.

However, there are tangible steps we can take to prevent heart disease: make healthy lifestyle changes! Get more exercise, do not smoke, and add more fiber to your diet. You can learn more about how to include heart-healthy practices in your routine here.

If you're interested in other ways you and your loved ones can be proactive about your heart health, I encourage you to explore the Million Hearts Campaign. The Million Hearts initiative is a joint effort

of the CDC and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, aimed at preventing 1 million heart attacks and strokes by 2022.

Motorcoaches

Our nation's motorcoach industry serves many of us in times of crisis. They assist when weather-related events require immediate evacuation. They assisted in the evacuation of cruise ship passengers when COVID-19 hit. And most recently, motorcoaches brought National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. to protect the Capitol.

The motorcoach industry supports the transport of more than 600 million passenger trips each year. After COVID hit, nearly 3,000 companies completely shut down, leaving 36,000 vehicles parked, and most of their 88,000 employees laid off.

Motorcoach companies play a vital role in transporting the public, providing transit to and from military deployments, supporting rural communities, and connecting workers to their jobs.

As our economy and our nation recover from COVID-19, we will need this industry once again. I spoke in support of an amendment to help and sustain the motorcoach industry during a Financial Services Committee markup on the Administration's proposed COVID-19 relief package.

Tax Information

As we all begin to file our taxes to meet the April 15 deadline, my casework team has heard from many wondering if the economic impact payment, otherwise known as a "stimulus check," is considered taxable income.

The IRS has announced that the payments are not included in your gross income. Therefore, you will not need to include the payments in your taxable income on your Federal income tax return. These payments will also not affect your income for purposes of determining eligibility for federal government assistance or benefit programs.

At this point, the IRS has said all first and second Economic Impact Payments have been sent to qualifying individuals. If you need to check the status of your payment, visit the *Get My Payment* tool.

Visit the IRS Economic Impact Payment Information Center for more information.

Letters To The Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

Pro Trump - anti Biden letter writers were certainly vocal in the *Patriot* last week. Critical thinkers would say to look at more than one side of an issue. It's in our best interest to hope that every president is successful. Filing for bankruptcy multiple times, stiffing contractors and scamming hopeful students with a third class university hardly defines a successful businessman. Both Trump and Biden used executive orders. The vitriol from Republicans during Obama's terms was terrible. I have NO remorse about Joe Biden's election, just gratitude for his experience, wisdom and kindness in truly returning America to greatness! I

have a suggestion for Ms. Lenk. Sign up to become an election judge. You will be surprised at how well run our elections are and how extremely unlikely it would be to "steal" an election. I think Dr. Schultz is right about us suffering from an epidemic of HATRED-16. When is it "good" to give huge tax cuts to the rich and "bad" to give help to those struggling to survive? Let's all take a deep breath and sit down and read Matthew 25 with particular attention to verses 35-46. It's not what they/you say, it's what they/you do.

**Dr. Joyce LeClaire, PhD
Big Lake, MN**



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- Subscription Rates: \$75 annually, \$37.50 for six months, \$18.75 for three months or \$1.57 a week.
- Deadlines: Wednesday 12 pm Legals & Notices, Wednesday 10 am Display & Classified Ads.
- Submitted Material: There will be a \$30 charge for all thank you, engagement, wedding and birth announcement pictures. The PATRIOT is not responsible for correctness of ads received by telephone.
- Letters to the Editors: The PATRIOT welcomes letters to the editor. Addresses and telephone numbers should be included for verification purposes. All letters must contain the original signature of the writer. E-mailed letters can be accepted. The deadline for all letters is noon Wednesday. Limit letters to 200 words or less. Letters will be printed at the discretion of the editor and are subject to editing for grammar, libel and brevity. 2 letters per writer per subject each year.
- Obituaries: Obituaries are \$50 prepaid. The Editor reserves the right to edit lengthy obituaries.

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Valuable tidbits

Want extra cash in your pocket? Try saving on car insurance

StatePoint

When it comes to saving money, it helps to cut out smaller expenses that add up over time — like frequent lunch dates, unused gym memberships or online subscriptions. But if you really want to make a dent in your budget, you need think bigger.

How big? Well, consider that after a home, a car is the single most expensive thing many people will ever buy, and cars need insurance. And you need that insurance if, for example, you injure someone in a crash or damage their car, or your own car is stolen or damaged in bad weather. Should such an incident occur, you'll likely consider it money well spent. But that doesn't mean you should pay more for it than you need to.

Here are three ways to reduce car insurance expenses.

1. Purchase safe car models. The cost to insure a particular car depends on several factors, but one is safety. The auto industry and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration test cars to determine their safety ratings, and insurance companies build on that information by reviewing customer claims data to see how the vehicles perform over time in the real world. The result? Safer vehicles tend to be less expensive to insure.

2. Keep it clean. Insurance companies use information about you to determine your likelihood of having a crash and filing a claim. One thing they



consider is your driving history, because they have found that past performance can help predict what will happen in the future. If you've had speeding tickets, accidents or other violations within the last few years, your auto insurance rate may be higher than if you have a clean driving record. Research has also shown a correlation between good credit and good driving. Certain credit information may predict future insurance claims, so some insurance companies may use credit history to help determine the cost of car insurance.

3. Take advantage of discounts and special programs. Just about every insurance company offers discounts, so be sure to ask your insurance agent which ones apply to you. For example, you may be able to get a multi-policy discount if you insure multiple cars, or a car and a home with the same company. And depending on what type of car you drive and its features, (e.g. factory-installed airbags, anti-theft devices, anti-lock brakes) you may be eligible for discounts.

Also explore unique and out-of-the-box programs that can save you money. For example, Erie Insurance has a program for their customers called YourTurn that gives drivers rewards in the form of gift cards just for doing something many people already do — drive safely. Drivers just install an app on their phone that measures factors like speeding, hard braking and phone usage and provides scores and feedback to encourage better driving habits. Based on the score, they can earn rewards that they can redeem for gift cards or donate to charity. Besides the financial benefit, the app has been shown to reduce risky driving behaviors, which can lead to safer roads for everyone, and ultimately lower insurance costs. To learn more about the Erie Insurance YourTurn program, visit erieinsurance.com/blog/your-turn.

When it comes to having more money in your pocket, don't overlook the bigger opportunities like getting the most value from your car insurance.

Convenient, Functional Gear Prepares You for Adventures or Emergencies

StatePoint

The new normal and natural disasters are dominating the headlines. At the same time, consumers have embraced socially distant adventure travel. Whatever your reasons for wanting to be prepared, easy to carry, functional gear will prepare you for what's to come. Here's how:

Secure Packing

Whether you're backpacking on your favorite trail or evacuating from a disaster zone, knowing your gear is protected from mishaps and extreme weather is important.

Keep organizational packing tools handy, such as Reusable Rubber Twist Gear Ties, that provide a versatile way to wrap and hang items. It may also be helpful to store a few Slidelock Aluminum S-Biners in your to-go bag to secure keys and water bottles.

When it comes to waterproofing, gear should endure the harshest elements. That's where options like the CorSurf 25L Waterproof Dry Backpack come into play. It floats and features special pockets to protect electronic equipment. Finally, expand your travel possibilities with a bag designed to adhere to TSA's Liquids Rule for carry-ons, such as Nite Ize's RunOff Waterproof 3-1-1 Pouch. Its gusseted bottom keeps travel-sized toiletries organized while protecting against leaks.

Safe Water

Safe tap water is not a given on outdoor adventure trips or during natural disasters when local water sources can become compromised.

Having a low-maintenance, long-term means to filter water, whether sheltering in place or on the road, gives you peace of mind. Ultralight and durable, the LifeStraw personal water fil-

ter straw lasts for up to 1,000 double-duty. The Radiant



gallons of water -- enough drinking water for an individual for over five years, and protects against bacteria, parasites, microplastics, dirt, sand and cloudiness. Another good choice for personal use --and great for hikes -- is the LifeStraw Go Insulated Stainless Steel water filter bottle, which not only protects against contaminants, but also keeps water cold for hours.

With family or friends? Look for water filtration designed to accommodate many people, such as the LifeStraw Mission water purifier, which features a built-in backwashing system and removes viruses, bacteria and parasites.

Illumination

Maintain visibility during power outages or when enjoying nature with battery-operated light sources.

A durable, tactical flashlight is a must. Try the INOVA T8R Powerswitch Rechargeable Dual Color LED Flashlight to preserve night vision while pitching a tent or looking for the circuit breaker. For a hands-free option, consider a lightweight headlamp with a rechargeable battery. The Biolite HeadLamp 330 sits flush on the forehead and its moisture-wicking fabric keeps the wearer cool and dry.

Finally, let tools pull

314 Rechargeable Lantern will not only illuminate your home or campsite, its built-in power bank allows you to charge devices anywhere, handy for staying connected when it's most vital.

Protection

From emergency uses (e.g. self-defense) to the mundane (e.g. slicing fruit), you never know when you'll need the utility of a pocket knife. Pack light with the Nite Ize Doohickey Key Chain Knife. Its 2-inch blade offers everyday portability.

Insect bites can be a major health hazard and an unwanted factor during weekend getaways or emergency scenarios. For naturally-derived DEET-free solutions, pack Natrapel Lemon Eucalyptus insect repellent. Individually-wrapped Natrapel Picaridin insect repellent wipes provide all-day protection from ticks and mosquitoes.

A high-quality first aid kit is vital for any household and the Adventure Medical Kits Mountain Backpacker contains hospital-quality contents ideal for multi-day adventures.

Whether you love adventure travel or just value emergency preparedness, great gear is essential.

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Public Notices

Probates

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE PROBATE DIVISION

In Re: Estate of LeRoy John Anderson, Deceased.

Court File No. 71-pr-21-22
ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY.

DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 25TH day of MARCH, 2021, at 3:50 a/p.m., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Elk River, Minnesota, on petition of Jennifer McLaird for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the above named decedent, and for the appointment of Jennifer McLaird whose address is 709 2nd Avenue South, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota 56379, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in unsupervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, a personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: 2/5/2021 By
/s/ DeVilbissHendry, Gina
(Sherburne Court Administration)
Court Administrator DEPUTY
Joseph S. Mayers
Attorney No. 0295747
KELM & REUTER, P.A.
1287 2nd Street North, Suite 101
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
(320) 251-1423
kelmreuter@kelmreuter.com

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/20/21; 02/27/21).

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION

Estate of: Court File
No. 71-PR-20-156
Kevin Edward Glynn, Decedent
NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:
Notice is hereby given, that an application for informal probate of the above named decedent's estate has been filed with the Registrar herein, and the application has been granted informally probating without a will. Any objections may be filed in the above, and the same will be heard by the Court upon notice of hearing fixed for such purpose.

Notice is hereby further given that informal appointment of Bryan Glynn, 3634 226TH Av. NW, St. Francis, MN 55070 as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent, has been made. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or any object to the appointment of the personal representative and the personal representative is empowered to fully administer the estate including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate, unless objections thereto are filed with the Court (pursuant to Section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the District Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: 02/12/21
/s/ Kuka, Patricia (Sherburne Court Administrator)
Probate Registrar
Scott A. Becker Esq., for
Benefits & Business Law Advisors, PLLC
4660 Slater Road, Ste. 146
Eagan, MN 55122

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/20/21; 02/27/21)

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF SHERBURNE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Estate of JAMES GEORGE GRAEN (A.K.A. JAMES G. GRAEN), Decedent
Court File No. 71-PR-21-19
NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on 3/11/2021, at 3:50 p.m., a hearing will be held for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Jeffrey Allan Graen, whose address is 16633 Saddle Horn Court, Eden Prairie, MN, 55347 as Personal

Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an unsupervised administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT
Dated: 2/2/2021
/s/ DeVilbissHendry, Gina
Sherburne Court Administrator
Court Administrator Deputy
Attorney for Petitioner
George Byron Griffiths, Esq.
George Byron Griffiths Law, PLLC
5001 Chowen Ave S, 2nd Floor
Minneapolis, MN, 55410
Attorney License No: 0397481
Telephone: (612) 564-5054
Email: geordie@gbglawpllc.com
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21; 03/06/21).

Restraining Orders

State of Minnesota District Court Sherburne County Tenth Judicial Court

Court File Number: 71-CV-21-93
Case Type: Harassment
Petitioner Rachel Marie Glime and OBO Minor
vs
Respondent Micheal Paul Cappiello

Notice of Issuance of Harassment Restraining Order by Publication
To Respondent:
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Harassment Restraining Order has been issued on February 3, 2021.

A hearing has not been scheduled. You may request a hearing on this matter by filing a *Request for Hearing* HAR301 with the Court within twenty (20) days of the date this Notice is published. You may get a copy of the HRO from the court administrator's office at the following address:
13880 Business Center Drive NW, Elk River, MN
Failure to appear at a scheduled hearing or to get a copy of the Harassment Restraining Order will not be a defense to prosecution for violation of the Court's order.
Date: February 18, 2021
/s/ Patricia A. Kuka
/s/ Terri Anderson
Court Administrator / Deputy
Notice of Issuance of HRO by Publication
HAR703 State ENG Rev 12/19
www.mncourts.gov/forms
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21).

State of Minnesota District Court County Judicial District: Tenth Sherburne Court File Number: 71-CV-20-1321

Case Type: Harassment
Petitioner Lani Ann Rean and OBO Minor Children
vs.

Respondent Richard Vinje Rean
Notice of Issuance of Order Denying Petition for Ex Parte Harassment Restraining Order and Granting Hearing by Publication
To Respondent: RICHARD VINJE REAN
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an Order Denying Petition for Ex Parte Harassment Restraining Order and Granting Hearing has been issued on December 29, 2020.

A hearing is scheduled for the following date, time, and location:
Date: March 18, 2021
Time: 2:10 p.m.

Location: Sherburne County Courthouse
13880 Business Center Drive NW
Elk River, MN 55330 – HEARING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY
Failure to appear at a scheduled hearing or to get a copy of the Harassment Restraining Order will not be a defense to prosecution for violation of the Court's order.

Date: February 19, 2021
/s/ Patricia A. Kuka
Terri Anderson
Court Administrator / Deputy
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21).

Juvenile Cases

State of Minnesota District Court Sherburne County Judicial District: 10th Court File Number: 71-JV-20-416

**Case Type: Juvenile
Summons and Notice
Termination of Parental Rights
Matter**

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:
Rachel Renee Fairbanks
Daniel Kurt Vernier

NOTICE TO: Daniel Kurt Vernier, above-named parent(s) or legal custodian(s).

1. A Termination of Parental Rights Petition has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Juvenile Court located at 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, Minnesota, alleging that parental rights of the above-named parent(s) or legal custodian(s) to the child(ren) named in the petition should be permanently severed.

2. **Notice is hereby given** that the matter of said Termination of Parental Rights Petition will be called for hearing before the Juvenile Court located at 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, Minnesota, on 4/27/2021 at 9:00 am. This hearing shall be held REMOTELY. Contact Sherburne County Court Administration for appearance instruction at (763)765-4600.

3. **YOU ARE ORDERED** to appear remotely before the Juvenile Court at the scheduled time and date.

4. You have a right to be represented by counsel.

5. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Court may still conduct the hearing and grant appropriate relief, including permanently severing the parental rights of the above-named parent(s) or legal custodian(s) and taking permanent custody of the child/ren named in the Petition.

WITNESS, the Honorable Mary Yunker,
Judge of District Court
BY:
Pat Kuka
Court Administrator
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21; 03/06/21; 03/13/21).



NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR A FRANCHISE Clearwater Township, Minnesota

Clearwater Township, Minnesota requests applications for Franchise rights to provide Cable Service and construct, reconstruct, operate and maintain a Cable Communications System in the Rights-of-Way in the Town. The closing date for submission of applications is March 1, 2021.

Applications shall be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk at the address listed below. There is no application fee. The Franchisee shall be required to provide, free of charge, a drop, outlet and monthly basic Cable Service to the Town Hall, provided the Town Hall is within 150 feet of the Franchisee's cable system.

All Franchisees shall obtain the appropriate permit or other required authorization as provided in the Town Right-of-Way Ordinance prior to any construction or work in or on the Right-of-Way, including construction of poles, conduits, amplifier boxes, similar structures, or other wire-holding structures. All Cable System facilities to-be located in the Right-of-Way shall be subject to Town approval with regard to location, height, type and other considerations.

All applications shall be evaluated based upon the capacity of the applicant to construct, operate and maintain a cable system that complies with 47 U.S.C. Subchapter V-A and Minn. Stat. Chapter 238. All applications must contain, at minimum, the information required by Minn. Stat. 238.081 Subd. 4.

The hearing on all timely submitted applications shall occur on March 1, 2021 at 8:00 o'clock p.m. at the Clearwater Township Hall, 15015 State Highway 24, Clearwater, MN, 55320. For further information, contact: Jean Just, Town Clerk, 15015 State Highway 24, Clearwater, MN, 55320. (320)558-4011.
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/20/21; 02/27/21)

PUBLIC NOTICE CLEARWATER TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 9, 2021

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Clearwater Township, county of Wright, State of Minnesota that the Annual Meeting for the Clearwater Township will be held on March 9, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. at the town hall located at 15015 State Hwy 24, Clearwater MN or online via *Zoom*. *Zoom* notice to be on township website one week prior to meeting (clearwatertownship.org) In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on March 16, 2021.

The town board of supervisors intends to ask the township electors to recess the meeting until a later day, so that the township can try to conduct the annual meeting fully in-person later this year, when conditions related to COVID-19 may have improved.

/s/ Jean M Just, Clerk
Clearwater Township
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/20/21; 02/27/21).

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS PALMER TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Palmer Township, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. In case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed until the third Tuesday in March.

The Election Poll hours will be open from 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. March 9, 2021 at which time the voters will elect:

One Supervisor to fill the office for a three-year term currently being held by Steve Demeules.

The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:05 P.M., to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law.

The annual election and meeting will be held at the following location:

**Palmer Township Hall
4180 – 105th Avenue
Clear Lake, MN 55319**

The Board of Canvass will meet following the Annual Meeting.

/s/ Kelly McCann
Palmer Township Clerk
February 17, 2021
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21; 03/06/21).

Emergency Department ASSISTANT NURSE MANAGER

FT managerial/direct care exempt position; primary days M-F
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Township Notices

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of the Town of Orrock, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 7:00 PM at the Orrock Town Hall, 26401 – 180th St. NW, Big Lake, MN 55309 and online via Webex. In case of severe weather, which warrants the closing of schools in Big Lake, the meeting may be postponed until Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

/s/ Chris Weber
Orrock Township Clerk
(Published in the *Patriot*: 2/20/2021 and 2/27/2021)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Clear Lake Township shall perform a public accuracy test of the ballot scanning and tabulation machine to be used in the township's March 9th, 2021 Annual Election. The test shall be conducted at the Clear Lake Township Hall located at 7938 116th St. SE, Clear Lake, MN on Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 10:00 AM. The Clear Lake Township Hall will be open Saturday, March 6, 2021 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM for absentee voting.

/s/ Gary Anderson, Clear Lake Township Deputy Clerk
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21).

CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS, AND BOARD OF CANVAS

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Clear Lake Township, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9th, 2021 at the Clear Lake Township Hall at: 7938 116th St. SE, Clear Lake, MN. In case of inclement weather, the election and meeting may be postponed until Tuesday, March 16th, 2021.

The election polls will be open on Tuesday, March 9th from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm at which time the voters will elect:
Supervisor B (3-year term), and,
Supervisor C (**Special Election** for a 1-year term.).
The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:05 pm to conduct all necessary business as required by law.

The Board of Canvas Meeting will be meeting March 9th, 2021 at Clear Lake Town Hall at: 7938 116th St. SE, Clear Lake, MN Following the Annual Meeting.

The township board of supervisors may, at its discretion, decide to hold the annual meeting either in-person, or, through a teleconferencing format (or by other electronic means), or the combination of both methods. Please refer to our website at <https://www.clearlaketownship.org> on the Home webpage, under the Notice section, for up-to-date information on the Annual Meeting.

/s/ Peggy Berger
Clear Lake Township Clerk
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/28/21; 03/06/21).

Lynden Township Stearns County, State of Minnesota NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Lynden Township, County of Stearns, State of Minnesota, the annual election of town officers and the annual meeting will be held Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at the Lynden Township Town Hall, 21367 Co. Rd. 44, Clearwater, MN 55320. In the case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed until the third Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

The election poll hours will be from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (per Resolution 2014-02) at which time the voters will elect One (1) Supervisor for a three term; and One (1) treasurer for a two year term.

The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:00 p.m. to conduct all necessary business as prescribed by law.

NOTE: Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the in-person meeting capacity (at time of print) will be limited to 40 residents and seven elected officials and staff. The meeting will also be streamed live but will not be interactive, so only residents attending in person will be able to vote.

The Board of Canvass will meet on March 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to certify the official election results.

/s/ Jenny Schmidt
Lynden Township Clerk
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/20/21; 02/27/21).

BIG LAKE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of the Town of Big Lake, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota;

The Annual Town Meeting will commence at 6:00PM on Tuesday, March 09, 2021. The meeting will be held at the Big Lake Township town hall – 21960 County Road 5, Big Lake, MN 55309 (Big Lake Township's Lions Park).

The purpose of the meeting is for the electorate to set 2022 Big Lake Township tax levies and conduct all necessary business prescribed by law.

In case of severe weather, the Annual Meeting may be postponed until Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:00PM.

/s/ Brenda Kimberly-Maas
Town of Big Lake, Clerk
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21).

NOTICE OF ADVERTISEMENTS FOR BIDS 2021 BITUMINOUS OVERLAYS TOWN OF BIG LAKE, SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Supervisors of the Town of Big Lake will receive sealed bids at the Town Hall of Town of Big Lake, 21960 County Road 5, PO Box 75, Big Lake, MN 55309, until 10:00 A.M. on March 23rd, 2021 for:

Estimated Quantities
Bituminous Wear Course (SPWEA240B) 10,037 TN
Common Topsoil Borrow 2,643 CY
and other necessary Appurtenances,

according to plans and specifications as prepared by Bogart, Pederson & Associates, Inc., 13076 First Street, Becker, MN 55308. Copies of the plans and specifications can be obtained at Bogart, Pederson & Associates, Inc., 13076 First Street, Becker, MN 55308 or by contacting wdavis@bogart-pederson.com.

All bids shall be accompanied by a cash deposit, cashier's check, bid bond, or certified check payable to the order of Town of Big Lake for not less than five percent (5%) of the amount bid.

Bids shall be addressed to the Township Clerk, securely sealed, and endorsed upon the outside wrapper with a brief statement or summary as to work, equipment, or materials for which the bid is made.

The Township Supervisors reserve the right to reject all bids or any alternatives; to hold bids for sixty (60) days; to accept any bid which, in the opinion of the Township Supervisors, serves the best interest of the Townships; and to waive any minor irregularities.

The bids will be opened by the Engineer at 10:00 A.M. on March 23 rd , 2021 at the Town Hall of Big Lake.

The bids will be considered by the Township Supervisors at the Town Hall at 6:00 P.M. on March 24 th , 2021 for Town of Big Lake.

/s/ Brenda Kimberly-Maas
Township Clerk
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21).

DEADLINES

Notices & Legals
Wednesdays At Noon
Contact Kathy:
763-275-0275 or
Email:
legals.kathy@patriotnewsnmn.com

Public Notices

Sherburne County Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

**CP 071-607-020: CSAH 7 – From US Hwy 10 to 1900' east of 40th Ave
CP 071-643-020: CR 43 – From Bridge # 71515 to
CSAH 15**

**CP 071-655-019: CR 55 – From US Hwy 10 to CSAH 6
BECKER TWP: Various Becker Twp Roads
CLEAR LAKE TWP: Various Clear Lake Township Roads
SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

Notice is hereby given that SEALED Bid Proposal Packages will be received by the Sherburne County Engineer at the office of the undersigned until 1:00 p.m. on the 18th day of March 2021.

The Major Quantities of Work are:
95,359 SY Remove Bituminous Pavement
146,627 SY Full Depth Reclamation
131,084 SY Mill Bituminous Surface
231 LF 6x4 Box Culvert; 18" & 42" CP Pipe Culvert
18,310 TONS Aggregate Base and Shouldering
55,907 TON SP 9.5 & 12.5 Wearing Course Mixture
3,640 CY Select Granular Borrow
145,882 LF Pavement Markings

Receipt of Bid Proposal: Bids will be received at the Public Works Office, located at the Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive Suite 100, Elk River MN 55330 until 1:00 p.m., March 18th, 2021.

Bid Opening: Proposals will be opened by the County Engineer after the hour set for receiving bids at the Sherburne County Government Center, Public Works Conference Room; 13880 Business Center Drive Suite 100, Elk River MN 55330. **Due to the COVID-19 Order 20-99, this will be a public online bid opening with no in person attendance by bidders. Information for accessing the bid opening will be provided with the bid proposal package.**

Plans and specifications may be examined at the office of the Sherburne County Highway Engineer, 13880 Business Center Drive Suite 100, Elk River MN 55330, or at <http://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/publicworks/index.php> and follow the Construction Projects & Bids (eGram) link. A user ID and password is required to download the Plans and Specifications. Contact Public Works at 763-765-3300 to obtain.

The cost to download the Plans & Specifications is free.

The cost to obtain a hard copy of the Plans & Specifications is \$50.00 with an additional \$10.00 mailing fee.

TO SUBMIT A BID – A Bid Proposal Package must be purchased. The cost to obtain the Bid Proposal Package is \$10.00. Requests are made to the Sherburne County Engineer, 13880 Business Center Drive Suite 100, Elk River MN 55330.

Requests must be accompanied by check, draft, or money order, payable to the Sherburne County Public Works. Bids must be accompanied by a Certified Check or Bidder's Bond made payable to the Sherburne County Treasurer as a proposal guarantee for at least 5% of the amount of the bid.

No bidder may withdraw their bid (which shall include the Certified Check or the Bidder's Bond) within 15 days after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids.

The County Board will consider award of the contract at the April 6, 2021 County Board Meeting contingent upon County Engineer & County Attorney review. It is the County's intent to **begin construction the first part of July 2021 and completed by end of August 2021.**

The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities.

Dated at Elk River Minnesota, this 16th day of February 2021.

/s/ Bruce Messelt, Sherburne County, Minnesota

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sherburne County has designated its official website as <http://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/publicworks/index.php>. Official publication of bids, requests for information, and requests for proposals will be done on the official website as an alternative means to disseminate solicitations of transportation construction and maintenance projects.

Published in the *Patriot*: (02/20/21; 02/27/21; 03/06/21).

Other Notices

Notice of Vehicle Impound:

2013 Suzuki GSX-R 600 Blue/White in color current plate is not registered to the vehicle VIN #JS1GN7FA2D2102624 total fees owed are \$2500.18 owner must provide proof of ownership. 1996 Chevrolet Corvette Blue in color no plates VIN #1G1YY22P2T5110744 owner must provide proof of ownership total fees owed are \$2560.10. 1989 Ski-Doo MX no registration Serial #374200393 owner must provide proof of ownership total fees owed are \$2575.00. 1995 Polaris Magnum 425 no registration Serial #2285370 owner must provide proof of ownership total fees owed \$2500.00. Prices are subject to daily storage fees of \$50 per day. Vehicles may be reclaimed between the hours of 8-5 M-F and weekends Saturday 12pm-3pm and Sunday 10am til Noon. BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. The amount may not include total charges on the vehicle. In order to reclaim this vehicle, you must provide payment in full of all towing, storage, and associated charges. You must provide positive identification, and proof of ownership of the vehicle. Payment must be in the form of cash or certified check. Vehicles not reclaimed within 45 days of the date towed are subject to disposal in accordance with state law. You can contact Bob's Towing at 763-262-8697 between the hours listed above.

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Sherburne County Board of Adjustment will meet at **6:00 P.M. March 11, 2021** at the Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, Minnesota to consider the following applications. A hearing will not begin before the time set.

In response to COVID-19, we will continue to practice social distancing at our Board of Adjustment Meeting. The board room will be set up with 6' between chairs for our board members, applicants and residents that wish to comment. Masks are required to be worn at all times in the building. Depending on the amount of people in attendance you may be asked to wait in the hall outside the room until your particular hearing. Thank you for your understanding during this time. The meeting will be broadcast live at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfnnf5HDkSc48MnVx5_jK-g

Public comments may be submitted in writing in one of the following manners:

1. You may submit written testimony by emailing Addison March at Addison.March@co.sherburne.mn.us by 10:00 a.m. March 11, 2021.

2. You may submit written testimony to the Sherburne County Planning & Zoning Office, Attn: Addison March, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, Mn 55330, and the Planning & Zoning Office must receive those comments by March 11, 2021.

3. If you wish to make a virtual comment during the public hearing, please call the Planning & Zoning Office at 763-765-4450 by 9:00 a.m. on March 10, 2021 for WebEx meeting information.

A copy of the staff report can be viewed approximately one week prior to the meeting at: <https://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/agendacenter>. If you have any further questions, please contact our office at 763-765-4450.

JOHN D. REBER: Requesting a 5' variance in setback from Lake Julia to construct an addition and garage. Required setback from a Recreational Development Lake is 100'. Address: 12033 42nd St SE, Clear Lake, Mn Legal: Lake Julia Parkway Lot 1, Block 1 & Lake Julia Beach Lot 1 Sec 23, Twp 35, Rge 29 .44 Acres Agricultural District and within the Recreational Development Lakeshore District of Lake Julia.

TOM SWANSON: Requesting a 77' variance in setback from the OHWL of the Mississippi River for a detached garage. Required setback from the Mississippi Scenic River is 150'. Address: 6036 16th Ave SE, St Cloud, Mn Legal: River Haven Lot 3, Block 2 & That pt of Lot 4, Described as follows . . . (full legal on file) Sec 31, Twp 35, Rge 30 1.06 Acres Scenic River District and within the Scenic River District of the Mississippi.

TOM SWANSON: Requesting a 30' variance in setback from a bluff for a detached garage. Required setback from the bluff is 30'. Address: 6036 16th Ave SE, St Cloud, Mn Legal: River Haven Lot 3, Block 2 and That pt of Lot 4, Described as follows . . . (full legal on file) Sec 31, Twp 35, Rge 30 1.06 Acres Scenic River District and within the Scenic River District of the Mississippi.

BRENDA SPRINGER: Requesting a 35' variance in setback from the centerline of County Road #1 for a new house with attached garage. Required setback from the centerline of County Road #1 is 130'. Address: 28200 144th St NW, Zimmerman, Mn Legal: Pt of Govt Lot 2 Lying West of County Aid Road . . . (full legal on file) Sec 36, Twp 35, Rge 27 .70 Acres General Rural District and within the General Development Lakeshore District of Little Elk Lake.

MLMJR PROPERTIES & INVESTMENTS: Requesting a 4' variance in setback from the side property line for an addition onto the second story of the garage. Required setback from the side property line is 10'. Address: 11347 42nd St SE, Clear Lake, Mn Legal: Myohn Oaks Lot 8, Block 1 & That pt of Govt Lot 2 lying . . . (full legal on file) Sec 22, Twp 35, Rge 29 .24 Acres Agricultural District and within the Recreational Development Lakeshore District of Lake Julia.

MLMJR PROPERTIES & INVESTMENTS: Requesting a 41' variance in setback from the right of way of 42nd St SE for an addition onto the second story of garage. Required setback from the right of way is 67'. Address: 11347 42nd St SE, Clear Lake, Mn Legal: Myohn Oaks Lot 8, Block 1 & That pt of Govt Lot 2 lying . . . (full legal on file) Sec 22, Twp 35, Rge 29 .24 Acres Agricultural District and within the Recreational Development Lakeshore District of Lake Julia.

MLMJR PROPERTIES & INVESTMENTS: Requesting a variance to the Shoreland Ordinance Section 14, Subdivision 5.5B1 which states "Impervious surface coverage of lots must not exceed 25 percent of the lot (For Example: driveways, structures, sidewalks, and patios) area". Address: 11347 42nd St SE, Clear Lake, Mn Legal: Myohn Oaks Lot 8, Block 1 & That pt of Govt Lot 2 lying . . . (full legal on file) Sec 22, Twp 35, Rge 29 .24 Acres Agricultural District and within the Recreational Development Lakeshore District of Lake Julia.

The above hearings are open to you and any interested person, in opposition to or support of the request. The hearing of this request is not limited to those receiving copies of this notice, and if you know of any neighbor or affected property owner who for any reason has not received a copy, it would be appreciated if you would inform them of this hearing.

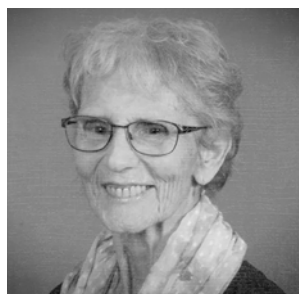
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/27/21).

Obituaries

Carol M. Michaletz, 81 Becker

February 12, 1940 – February 17, 2021

Memorial Services will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, February 27, 2021 at South San-



tiago Lutheran Church, Santiago Township for Carol M. Michaletz, age 81, who passed Wednesday at her daughter's home in Big Lake. Pastor Daryl Thul will officiate and burial will be in the church cemetery at a later date. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at the church. Arrangements have been entrusted to Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home, Becker.

Carol was born February 12, 1940 in Robbinsdale to Mildred (Newman) Hille. She married Curtis Michaletz on June 28, 1958 in Robbinsdale. They raised their children in New Hope and moved to Clear Lake in 1976. Carol was a homemaker and also the secretary at South Santiago Lutheran Church. She was an active member of South Santiago Lutheran Church where

she was involved with the Women's Guild and Quilting Group. Carol enjoyed baking

cookies especially chocolate chip, sewing, reading, camping with family, time at the lake in Aitkin, and spending time with her grandchildren. She loved taking a trip with her daughters every September. Carol was a sweet, kind, easy-going woman with a strong faith.

Survivors include her children, Cindi (Jim) Scamfer of St. Paul, Shele (Tony) Skelton of Big Lake and Steve (Becky) Michaletz of Aitkin; brother, Bob (Pam) Hille of Sioux Falls, SD; and seven grandchildren. Carol was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Curt on March 17, 2014; and brother, Chuck.

Obituary, Guest Book, and Video Tribute available online: www.williamsdingmann.com

Diane M. Iten, 67 Remer

June 17, 1953 – February 10, 2021

Diane M. Iten, age 67, passed away Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 at her home in rural Remer, MN.

Diane was born in Palmer Township near Clear Lake, MN on June 17th, 1953, to Delroy and Veronica (Kampa) Chmielewski. She graduated from Tech High School in St. Cloud, MN. Diane married Peter Iten in 1971 and together they raised four children. Diane spent most of her career in accounting working side-by-side with Pete.

Diane is preceded in death by her parents; and siblings Dean Chmielewski, Denise Hansmeier, and Donna Roelike.

Diane is survived by her loving husband of 49 years; twin sister Debbie (Glenn) Gohman; daughter Tanya (Charlie) Crawford; son Peter (Jessica) Iten Jr.; son Alan

Iten; son Aaron (Miranda) Iten; nine grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and other friends and family.

Diane enjoyed gardening, hunting, fishing, water skiing, traveling, going on long walks with Pete and spending time with her family and friends, including concerts by her granddaughters' band "The Little Bitty Farm Girls." She was an avid member of The Church of God - PKG. She will be missed for her incredible kindness, determination, compassion, and commitment to her family and God.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, March 14, 2021, from 3:00 to 8:00pm, at Jack & Jim's Event Center in Duell, Minnesota.

Arrangements are being provided by Whispering Pines Funeral & Cremation Service, serving northern Minnesota.



Big Lake Police Department Activity Report Week of Feb. 15-21

Call for Service Summary:

Total Calls for Service for Week: 247

2020 Calls for Service: 1,632

Traffic Stops/Enforcement: 78

Citations: 19

Arrests: 7

Medical Emergency Calls: 8

Mental Health Holds: 1

Civil Mediation (Child Custody-Property): 4

Big Lake Police Arrests:

Dominic Bratcher – (Age 26 – Zimmerman, MN) – 5 th Degree Controlled Substance

Loretta Kramer – (Age 42 – Akeley, MN) – Felony 5th Degree Controlled Substance, DWI (controlled substance)

Tyler Bjelland – (Age 20 – Sartell, MN) – 5 th Degree Controlled Substance

Edward Johnson – (Age 57 – Minneapolis, MN) – GM 3rd Degree DWI

Nicholas Larson – (Age 39 – Arden Hills, MN) – Misdemeanor 4th Degree DWI

Mallory Howe – (Age 19 – St. Cloud, MN) – 5 th Degree Controlled Substance

Julie Uhrhammer – (Age 54 – La Pointe, WI) – GM 3rd Degree DWI

Sunday, February 21, 2021

Hwy 10/165 th Ave - Marijuana in a Vehicle - Officer stopped vehicle for a traffic violation, could smell burning marijuana, driver issued summons for Marijuana Possession.

Hwy 10/CR 15 – DWI/Narcotics - Driver stopped for a traffic violation and suspected to be under the influence of a controlled substance. Methamphetamine located in the vehicle. Driver was arrested.

Hwy 10/Jefferson Blvd - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked.

Lake St/Shore Acres Dr - Marijuana in a Vehicle - Officer stopped vehicle for a traffic violation, could smell burning marijuana, driver issued summons for Marijuana Possession.

Saturday, February 20, 2021

Lake St/Monroe - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked.

100 blk Mount Curve Ave - Domestic Disturbance - Officers mediated a verbal domestic altercation.

Hwy 25/Harrison Dr - Marijuana in a Vehicle - Officer stopped vehicle for a traffic violation, could smell burning marijuana, driver issued summons for Marijuana Possession.

13800 blk Hwy 10, ER – Agency Assist – Big Lake K9 requested for a sniff of a vehicle. Bruno alerted on the vehicle; search of the vehicle revealed methamphetamine in the direct area of Bruno's alert.

Hwy 10/Eagle Lake Rd – Agency Assist – Personal injury accident, assisted Minnesota State Patrol with traffic, minor injuries, no parties transported.

Friday, February 19, 2021

Eagle Lake Rd/Washington Ave - Marijuana in a Vehicle - Officer stopped vehicle for a traffic violation, could smell burning marijuana, driver issued summons for Marijuana Possession.

50 blk CR 43 - DWI - Driver stopped for a traffic violation and found to be under the influence of alcohol. Arrested and booked into jail, see bookings for charges.

Lake St/Monroe St - Marijuana in a Vehicle - Officer stopped vehicle for a traffic violation, could smell burning marijuana, driver issued summons for Marijuana Possession.

300 blk Lake St S - Domestic Disturbance – Report of a domestic situation that occurred earlier. Investigation ongoing.

Thursday, February 18, 2021

100 blk Lake St - Assault - Report of an assault having occurred, investigation ongoing.

1000 blk Eagle Lake Rd - Domestic Disturbance - Officers mediated a verbal domestic altercation.

300b blk Lake St - Domestic Disturbance - Officers mediated a verbal domestic altercation.

40 blk Lake St - Property Damage - Report of damage done to a vehicle's taillight.

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Hwy 10/CR 81 - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked.

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Rose Dr/CR 43 - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked.

Hwy 10/165 th Ave - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked.

Monday, February 15, 2021

Lake St/Hwy 10 - DWI - Driver reported to be impaired, found to be under the influence of alcohol, arrested and booked into jail, see bookings for charges.

500 blk Humboldt Dr - Property Damage - Report of damage done to vehicle.

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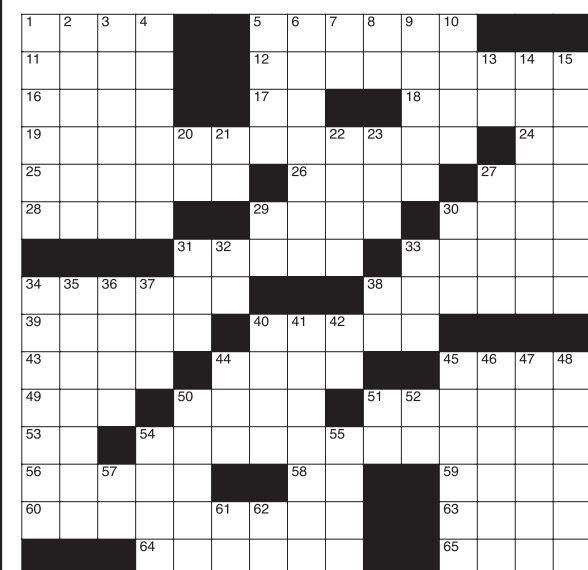
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Game Time



CLUES ACROSS

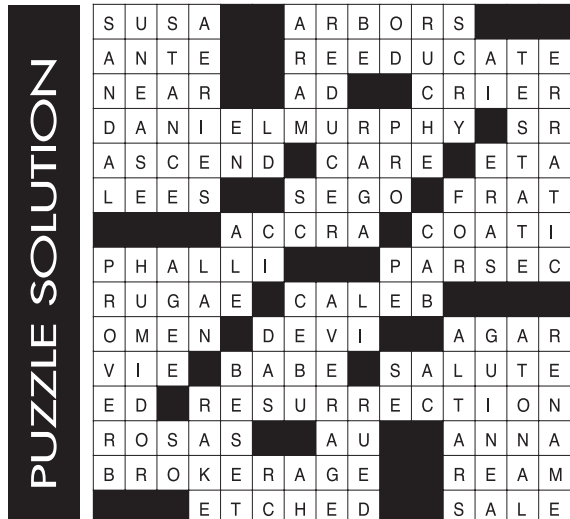
- Ancient Persian city
- Spindles
- Stake
- Retrain
- Close by
- Commercial
- One who publicly announces
- American ballplayer
- Junior's father
- Go up or climb
- Concern
- When you hope to get there
- Iacocca and Oswald are two
- Plant of the lily family
- Male college organization
- National capital
- Raccoonlike animal
- Symbols of fertility

- Astronomy unit
- Series of ridges in anatomy
- Hebrew leader
- A portent of good or evil
- Supreme goddess
- Gelatinous substance
- Engage in a contest
- Famed ballplayer Ruth
- Pledge
- , -, denotes past
- Revival
- Spanish surname
- Gold
- Elsa's sister
- Workplace
- Large quantity of something
- Engraved
- Discount

CLUES DOWN

- Shoe
- Disquiet
- Posture
- Large nests
- Soviet "Second Symphony"
composer
- Joins two pipes of different
diameter
- Exist
- Overdose
- Pleat of fabric
- Predict the future
- Burgeoning technology
- Having made a valid will
- Having no fixed course
- __ route
- Lethal dose
- Indian musical pattern of notes
- Athlete
- Geological times
- Atomic #21
- In support of
- Brew

- Certificate of insurance
- Taxi
- Type of saying
- For cigars
- Phil __, former CIA
- Local area network
- Gym class
- Philippine Island
- Not great or bad
- Eastern part of NY state
- Gov't lawyers
- Constructions
- Former British gold coin
- Unkeyed
- Rechristen
- Threaten persistently
- Southeast
- Cools your home
- Removes the leaves
- Regretted
- Thus
- Relief organization (abbr.)
- Exclamation of surprise



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March - Sherburne County Health & Human Services - Classes are as follows:

WIC (Women, Infants & Children) is for women who are pregnant,
breastfeeding, recently had a baby, infants and children to their 5th
birthday. WIC provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support,
healthy foods and referrals to health services/community resources.
The service is free, and you or your children may be eligible. For
more information, please call 763-765-4116 or 1-800-433-5239, or
check out the website <http://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/hhs/wic.php>.
The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits dis-
crimination in the administration of its programs. WIC is an equal
opportunity provider.
Immunization Tuesdays
Sherburne County's Immunization Clinic offers free or low cost im-
munizations for children 18 years of age or younger and uninsured
or underinsured adults 19 years and older in Minnesota who meet
eligibility guidelines on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for an
appointment or more information, 763-765-4000 or 1-800-433-5239.



RSVP / The Volunteer Bridge
Greeter at the Sherburne Government Center
Volunteers are needed to help greet individuals coming into the
Sherburne Government Center. This is a great way to help your
local government by answering phone calls, directing patrons on
where to go, and being the first point of contact for those in the com-
munity. This position is safely behind a partition and is the perfect
opportunity to safely meet others that reside in your community.
Good fit for those interested in your local government!
Senior Friendship Circle Leader with RSVP
Senior Friendship Circles are small groups of 3 members and one
Leader that meet via telephone calls on a weekly basis. For just
one hour a week, you can help combat loneliness of 3 others in your
community. One participant has even stated their group is one of the
best things that have ever happened to them. A simple weekly phone
chat can help others in a big way!
Driver with Great River Faith in Action
Especially now, people in the community struggle to get to and from
medical and social services appointments. This is a great opportu-
nity to help in driving individuals who just need a little help getting
where they need to go. If you have a car and the time, this flexible
position is perfect for you.
If you are interested in volunteering in these or other opportunities,
please contact:

RSVP Volunteer Program
763-635-4505
heather.brooks@ci.stcloud.mn.us
SherburneUnitedWay.org/Volunteer

Becker Area Senior Center (BASC) Upcoming Events

The Becker Area Senior Center will soon be relocating to
the Becker Community Center. We will be opening under
COVID-19 regulations. **Watch this Patriot column or**
www.beckercommunitycenter.com for more information
and EXACT OPENING DATE.
BASC 763-528-0643
Email: basc.becker@gmail.com

This Week's Calendar Events:

Sun. - Feb. 28, 2021:

- National Floral Design Day

Mon. - Mar. 1, 2021:

- World Prayer Day
- World Compliment Day
- Peace Corps Day
- National Horse Protection Day

Tues. - Mar. 2, 2021:

- Read Across America Day

Wed. - Mar. 3, 2021:

- World Hearing Day
- World Birth Defects Day
- National Anthem Day

Thurs. - Mar. 4, 2021:

- National Hospitalist Day
- International HPV awareness Day
- National Grammar Day

Fri. - Mar. 5 2021:

- Dress in Blue Day
- Boston Massacre Anniversary
- Moon Phase: Last Quarter

Sat. - Mar. 6, 2021:

- World Lymphedema Day

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“ASK A TROOPER” By Sgt. Jesse Grabow of the Minnesota State Patrol

Question: How does the Minnesota State Patrol decide what the injury type is labeled in crash reports? How does the Minnesota State Patrol decide an injury is life threatening or not?

Answer: When the Minnesota State Patrol responds to and investigates crashes, troopers begin the investigation by gathering information at the scene. This information is put together for crash reports and other investigative reports. The status of those involved are put into one of five categories.

- No injury
- Possible injury
- Minor injury
- Serious injury
- Fatal

For information posted on the Minnesota State Patrol’s webpage under “crash updates”, the injury types are listed as: none, injury and fatal. The injuries are listed as non-life threatening and life threatening. Generally, a life-threatening injury is an injury involving substantial risk of death; loss or substantial impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ or mental faculty that is likely to be permanent; or an obvious disfigurement that is likely to be permanent. The “crash updates” are not the official crash reports, but the public information that is available at the time.

Around 400 people have been killed and 30,500 injured every year on our Minnesota roadways for the past decade. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) uses the term “crash” instead of “accident” because traffic crashes can be prevented. Through enforcement, education, engineering and emergency trauma solutions, changes in driver’s behavior will help attack the public threat of tragic roadway fatalities and injuries.

Please drive smart so we can all get home safely at the end of the day!

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on [Twitter @MSPPIO_NW](#) or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).

Announcements

Becker American Legion Auxiliary
Meetings are held the second Tues. of every month at the old fire hall in Becker, 7 pm. Paula Hinds 763-262-6679.

Becker American Legion
Becker Legion meets the second Tues. of every month at 7 pm at Becker Legion (old fire hall.)

Becker AA Meeting
Area 35 Alcoholics Anonymous District 5 meets Thurs. at 8 pm at Church of Mary of the Visitation, 12100 Sherburne Ave., Becker. Steve 612-889-1000.

Becker Boy Scout Pack 92 Cardboard, Paper & Aluminum
Bring your aluminum cans to the trailer located near Becker True Value & paper & cardboard recyclables to the dumpsters near the same location the first Sat. of every month. There will be a Scout there to help unload between 9 am-12 pm.

Becker Evangelical Ministries
Every Wed., 6-7:30 pm at Becker Middle School. GYM 45 - growing young men. HIS KIDZ - K-3rd grade. G.I.R.L.S. GROUP - 4th & 5th grade girls.
Becker Free Church (763) 261-4125 or register online at WWW.BECKER-FRECHURCH.ORG (under Youth Connection click “Event Registration”).

Becker Food Shelf
Open Tues., 9-11 am & Thurs. 4-6 pm. The food shelf is located 12060 Sherburne Ave. in City Hall. 763-261-4612.

Becker Lions Club
Meetings are held the second Mon. each month at 7 pm at Becker City Park. Dale Seavert 320-290-5342.

Becker Lions Collecting Items to Recycle
The Becker Lions are collecting used eyeglasses (no cases please) and hearing aids. A collection bucket is located at the Becker Community Center. We are no longer collecting used cell phones or printer cartridges. If you have any questions please contact Lion Dale Seavert at 320-290-5342 (phone or text) or by email at djseavert@gmail.com.

Becker Sons of the American Legion Squadron 193
Meets the third Tues. of each month at 7 pm at Becker Legion (old fire hall). Looking for new members. Commander John Fischbach 320-249-0579.

Becker Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Meeting
The monthly meetings are held 6 pm the third Thurs. of the month at Becker City Hall. 320-980-2752 or see the state website at www.beyondtheyellowribbon.org.

Big Lake American Legion Post #147
Meets the first Thurs. of the month @ 7 pm. Community Room by the Big Lake Police Station, 790 Mnesota Ave, Big Lake 55309. Please

contact Commander Paul Seefeld 612-801-7731.

Big Lake Baseball Registration Is Now Open!!
Please visit www.biglakebaseball.com to register. Alternatively, you may attend our in-person mass registration that will be held at McPete’s in Big Lake, March 7th & 8th from 6-8pm.

An advantage to attending mass registration is that uniforms will be available to try-on at that time!

Big Lake Baseball Tryout Preparation Classes!!
Big Lake Baseball Association is offering FREE tryout preparation classes on Monday and Friday nights beginning February 15 - March 12th. Classes are available for K-8th grade! Please visit www.biglakebaseball.com to sign up, or contact Brian Goedker; Bgoedker@gmail.com. You see it under our Facebook Tab - Tryout Prep! All you need is your baseball glove, bat, helmet, mask, water bottle, and positive attitude! Let’s prepare for the season, Our opponents are!!

Big Lake OPEN AA Meetings
Mon., 7pm at the Church of Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church, Big Lake. Big Book Study, Handicap Accessible. Questions? Contact: Rob, 763-218-5328.

Big Lake Al-Anon
Meetings held Mon., 7pm by ZOOM. Please contact Laurie, 763-218-5330 for more information & meeting log-in.

The Big Lake American Legion Auxiliary
Meets the first Tues. of each month at 6:30 pm. in the Senior Citizen Center at Big Lake City Hall. Please contact Kathy at 763-263-6093 for membership information.

Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
The Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meets at 6:30pm on the third Mon., of each month in the Community Room adjacent to the Big Lake Police Dept. & the Big Lake Library.

Big Lake Community Food Shelf
The Big Lake Community Food Shelf hours of service are Mon. & Thurs. 5:30-7:30 pm & Wed. 9-11 am. We also serve clients every “Freebie Friday” from 10:30-11:30 am., providing produce, dairy, & bakery goods. To volunteer call 763-263-2432 or www.blcfs.org.

The Big Lake Lions
Looking for community minded people to join our organization. If interested in getting involved with our organization, please contact any Lion member or send a note to P.O. Box 128, Big Lake, MN 55309 or 763-263-2218.

Big Lake Lioness
If you are interested in joining an organization dedicated to service within their community, come visit us the second Mon. of every month at the Lions Park on CR 5 in Big Lake. Social starts at 6:30 pm & the meeting begins at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

The Big Lake Women of Today
Hold a monthly general meeting at Senior Activity Center located in the Big Lake City Office Building on the 3rd Thurs. of the month @ 7pm. Contact Natalie @ 612-518-3504 or find us at FaceBook or www.biglakewomenoftoday.webs.com.

Clear Lake Legion
Meets the second Tues. of the month at Palmer Twp. Hall. The Legion will meet at 7 pm. New members are always welcome. Bud Stimmler at 320-761-5793.

Clearwater AA/Alanon
Meeting is at 7 pm, Sun. night at Clearwater United Methodist Church, 405 Main St. Clearwater. 320-310-1399 AA or 320-558-6613 for Al-Anon.

Clearwater AA Meeting
Mon. nights, 7 pm at Rejoice Lutheran Church, 1155 CR 75, Clearwater. 612-801-7317.

Clearwater Legion
Clearwater Legion meetings are held the second Thurs. of the month. Auxiliary 6:30 pm, S.A.L. at 7 pm, Legion 7:30 pm. Clearwater Legion, Clearwater.

Clearwater-Clear Lake Food Shelf
Open Mon. 5:30-7 pm, Tues. 9-11 am & 6-8 pm, Wed. 3-5 pm & in the brown Lions Community Building beneath the water tower in Clearwater. We service residents of Clearwater & Clear Lake.

Clearwater Narcotics Anonymous
Meetings are at 7 pm, Wed. night at Clearwater United Methodist Church, 405 Main St. Clearwater. 612-607-4484.

Dementia Support Group
The fourth Wed. of each month at 10-11 am, Room 19 at Becker Community Center, 11500 Sherburne Ave. No cost to join. Tami Kolbinger at 612-590-2449 or email tjkolbinger@gmail.com.

FREE - Advocates for Independence
First & third Wed. of the month 2-4 pm at Independent Lifestyles, 215 North Benton Drive, Sauk Rapids. Make a difference in your community for people w/disabilities. Michele Pelka 320-281-2042. All abilities are welcome to attend.

Free Grace Recovery
Sun. 6-8 pm at Clear Lake Town Hall, 7684 1st Ave. W. Clear Lake. A light meal will be served at 6 pm. Everyone is welcome. Justin or Renee at 612-384-9069.

FREE - The Saint Cloud Area Parkinson’s Disease
(PD) Support Group invites you to “Coffee & Conversation” the last Wed. monthly at 10 am at Edgewood Living 677 Brianna Drive, Sartell. Meetings are open to those diagnosed w/ PD, their families, caregivers, & the general public. Group provides support, education, & awareness about the disease. Bobbi 320-281-3343.

God’s Grub Community Meal
Second Sun. of every month, 4:30-6:30 pm. Saron Lutheran, Big Lake, 311 Lake Street South. Served curbside, ready to go.

Living with Parkinson’s Under The Age of 60
We meet the third Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8pm at Saron Lutheran Church, 311 Lake Street So., Big Lake, MN 55309.
Any questions, please call Camille Johnson at 763-350-7401.

Mental Health Discussion Group
Meets Mon., 6-7 pm at Independent Lifestyles, 215 N. Benton Dr., Sauk Rapids. This is a free group, everyone is welcome. Ricky 320-281-2025.

Parkinson’s Disease Support Group
Meets third Mon. of the month, from 1-2:30 pm at IL-ICIL Independent Lifestyles, 215 N. Benton Dr., Sauk Rapids. This free group provides support, education, & awareness about the disease. Independent Lifestyles at 320-529-9000.

Rivers of Hope
Advocates for ending family violence, is a non-profit community based agency offering advocacy, support, education & referral services for victims of family violence. Working in partnerships w/ schools, law enforcement, social service agencies & the court system in Sherburne & Wright Co. 763-295-3433 or 1-800-439-2642 or info@riversofhope.org. Free & confidential. Phones answered 24/7.

Snake River Free Mission Church Upcoming Events
Hymn sings are held every other month on the second Sun. at 4:30 pm. Check Snake River Church FaceBook page for updates.
5 mi. N of Hwy 10 on CR 11, 1.5 mi. E n CR4 & then L on 180th Ave (8940 180th Ave), Becker. Mary 612-219-8648.

Volunteer as a Foster Grandparent
Local schools & organizations need caring adults like you! Orientation, training & ongoing support are provided. Pat Braun 612-390-0617.

Wright County Community Action
You have been affected & are having or are anticipating having difficulty paying your mortgage, WCCA is here to help you navigate your options & keep your home. To speak with a homeownership advisor, call Wright County Community Action at 320-963-6500 ext. 238 today. Services are unbiased, confidential & free of charge.

Young @ Heart
Group meeting at Rejoice Lutheran Church in Clearwater, will be canceled until further notice. We will wait until the state allows churches & other gatherings to begin & then look at our group & make a decision.

SHERIFF & POLICE REPORTS

are posted on our website:

www.patriotnews.com

Activity Report of the Becker Police Department for the week of February 15th – February 21st:

15-Feb: no proof of insurance Citation #066; driving conduct warning; vehicle lockout; welfare check; driving after suspension Citation #067; accident; fire alarm; speed / driving after cancellation Citation #068; gas leak/smell; civil; agency assist; agency assist

16-Feb: extra patrol; record check; alarm; speed warning; equipment warning / no proof of insurance Citation #069; security check; equipment warning; suspicious vehicle / possession of drug paraphernalia Citation #070

17-Feb: record check; hands free violation warning; record check; public safety; medical; fail to display registration warning; equipment warning / no proof of insurance Citation #071

18-Feb: stop sign warning; fail to display registration warning; traffic complaint; traffic complaint; trespass; public safety; driving conduct warning; stop sign warning; expired tabs warning; driving after revocation Citation #072; equipment warning

19-Feb: equipment warnings; Winter Parking Ordinance Violation / Admin Citation #3772; stop sign warning; vehicle lockout; juvenile concern; record check; theft; dog complaint; equipment warning; record check; expired registration warning; suspicious activity; accident; equipment warning; equipment warnings; vehicle off road; equipment warning; driving conduct warning; stop sign warning


20-Feb: No MN Drivers License Citation #074; failure to move over for emergency vehicle Citation #075; public assist; speed warning; mental health; equipment warning; equipment warning; driving after revocation Citation #076 / possession of small amount of marijuana Citation #077; open door

21-Feb: equipment warning; equipment warning; 2nd degree DWI / open bottle / marijuana in a motor vehicle / leaving the scene of an accident / failure to move over for emergency vehicle / driving after revocation / expired registration less than 6 months / no proof of insurance; miscellaneous officer; vehicle lockout; public assist; civil; garbage/littering complaint; alarm; medical; agency assist.

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City News

PLAN from page 1

will take care of the roads that need attention in a timely manner.

Rebuilding the Streets

The life expectancy of any paved road is about 20-30 years. The road can be preserved for a few more years so long as they are properly maintained through chip sealing and other maintenance measures. However, at some point after two or three decades it becomes more costly to continue to repair the road than it would be to completely reconstruct it.

"Sometimes business owners reach out to me

and say the roads are bad around their business, and they want to know what they can tell their drivers," said Knutson.

Now he can simply pull out the plan and tell them exactly when their street will be redone.

Some of the roads being rebuilt are those in right in town, on First St. and Bank St., among others, and some are in the industrial park. Knutson says that nearly 1,000 trucks travel through the industrial park every day, and so the roads need attention. Knutson says a lot of people for-

get about the roads in the industrial park, since they don't usually have a reason to drive through, but he encourages residents to do so, and so see the state of the roads for themselves.

Timing

Connie Robinson, City Treasurer, says this is a great time for the city to start working on the plan. The city is about to drop off a big chunk of debt, and with interest rates low at the moment, now is a good time to pick up another bond to finance the reconstruction project.

"We'll be able to keep

the tax levy almost right where it's at," said Robinson. "We're trying to make this transition as seamless as possible for the taxpayers."

She went on to note that most taxpayers would barely notice the tax increase. The former debt levy, which the city will be paying off shortly, was \$911,000. The new debt levy, to finance the project, will be \$980,000.

Robinson and Knutson said the council has done really well with managing the city's debt. There was a healthy amount of push-

back from council to have staff work out the best possible plan. Staff is pursuing grants and looking for any way to stretch the taxpayer dollars however they can. The city and the township are pursuing one grant together for reconstructing 97th St., which runs along the Elk River just north of the city.

There have even been discussions about one day being able to maintain city infrastructure without using any debt at all. Unfortunately, with roads quickly nearing the end of their lives, this won't be possible

in the near future.

Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held at the next city council meeting, 5 p.m. on March 2. Knutson and Robinson both encourage residents to attend the hearing if they can, or to reach out through a phone call or email if they cannot. Phil Knutson can be reached at pknutson@ci.becker.mn.us, and Robinson can be reached at crobinson@ci.becker.mn.us, and both can be contacted through the city hall phone number, 763-200-4239.

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Becker Sports

Bulldog girls continue to build on school records

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

Another two games, another two wins for the Becker Bulldog girls basketball team as they downed a pair of conference opponents within the past week. The victories stack up to a school record 35 game winning streak, as they have easily eclipsed the old record of 31 wins which was set by the state title team of 2007.

Monticello

Last Thursday, the team hosted the Monticello Magic and dominated in every statistical category, winning 93-27.

“We did a nice job winning the turnover battle 11 to 39 and we shot 59% to 23% for Monti,” said Coach Dan Baird, who noted his team was very unselfish in the game in collecting 30 assists.

“Our 1-2-2 press looked decent for putting it in just a week prior.”

It was a rout early, as both Adeline Kent and Maren Westin had over 20 points in the first half to lead the team to a big 58-20 halftime advantage.

Kent ended the game with 24 points on 11-for-14 shooting and she also had 8 assists and nine steals, coming up just shy of a triple-double.

“She played just like she practiced the day before, so it was nice to see that translate to the game,” said Baird. “That’s not always the case with our girls, but this was a great example of a player on our team demonstrating that!”

Westin was also on fire as she scored 21 points, including a 4-for-7 performance from the three-point



ADELINE KENT has shown a scoring touch in recent games, as she tallied 24 against Monticello and 14 against Princeton in Becker's two wins. (Patriot photo by Mark Kolbinger).



AYLA BROWN had the hot hand for Becker in the win over Princeton, scoring 19 points. (Patriot photo by Mark Kolbinger).

line to go along with seven assists and five steals.

“Maren also had a fantastic game,” said Baird. “She is shooting 51% from the three-point line this year and her anticipation on defense was excellent!”

Scoring: Julia Bengtson 17, Kent 24, Westin 21, Dani Nuest 2, Megan Gamble 14, Alexis Rose 3, Ayla Brown 2, Liz Mackedanz 6, Evelyn Kreft 4.

Princeton

Tuesday night, Becker traveled to Princeton and again brought a balanced scoring attack in winning 87-38. And as has been the case throughout the season, it was a different Bulldog stepping to the line to lead the team in scoring.

Ayla Brown poured in 19 points in the game, in-

cluding 11 in the first half as Becker again was fast out of the gate to lead 47-19 at halftime.

“Ayla was all over the court tonight like a bumblebee,” said Baird, referring to Brown’s defense and energy throughout the game.

“She was canning the three pointers, too.”

Overall, it was a clean game as the Bulldogs were whistled for just nine total fouls and Princeton committed only eight. Becker hit on 6-of-13 fouls shots, while the Tigers attempted just six, making three.

Scoring: Kent 14, Westin 9, Alayna Lindquist 4, Courtney Nuest 9, Bengtson 15, Gamble 9, Dani Nuest 7, Brown 19, Kreft 1.

Bulldog gymnasts split pair of home meets

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Becker Bulldog gymnastics team hosted a pair of conference meets last week, losing a close match to Monticello before rebounding for a nice win over Princeton.

Monti

In Thursday’s tilt against the Magic, Becker scored a first place finish in two individual events plus the all around but came up a bit short on the score-board, 136.125 to 134.525. Riley Norberg placed first on both the vault (9.4) and the beam (8.95), as well as the all around competition (34.925).

Lauren Woelfel also had a great match, finishing second in the floor exercise (8.95) and the all around (34.2).

“The whole team has been working hard through our steady meet schedule to put in a few of their upgrades,” said coach Kayla Kalinowski. “It has been fun to see the improvements they have been making.”

Additional place finishers and scores; **Vault:** Sarah Woelfel (T3 8.8); **Bars:** Sarah and Lauren Woelfel (T4 7.8); **Floor:** Norberg (3rd 8.85), Chloe Spear (4th 8.7).

Princeton

Last Saturday, the girls hosted Princeton and ran away from the Tigers, winning 134.125 to 122.8.

Norberg again had a strong meet, winning the vault (9.375), floor (9.0) and all around (34.875).

Lauren Woelfel also kept up her recent strong performances, scoring wins in the bars (8.275) and beam (8.55), while taking second in the all around (33.875).

“Overall the meets this week went very well and we are excited for next week as we get a break from the long stretch of meets we have had and finally have time to put in those last few upgrades we have been working on,” said Kalinowski. “These girls have improved so much already and we can’t

wait to see what happens when we add those final upgrades to our routines!”

Additional place finishers and scores; **Vault:** Sarah Woelfel (2nd 8.85); **Bars:** Norberg (2nd 8.2), S. Woelfel (3rd 8.1); **Beam:** Norberg (2nd 8.3), Spear (3rd 7.55); **Floor:** Spear (2nd 8.775).

JV

Becker’s JV team had several notable highlights in the past week as well.

Against Monticello, Justine Vilmo and Lauren Biegler went 1-2 in the all-around with scores of 30.2 and 30.15, while Hailey Deters scored a personal best 8.4 on floor. Biegler hit a nice beam set for a second place score of 7.9, while Vilmo had a nice bars routine for a first place score of 7.2, as Becker

(121.9) edged Monticello (120.0).

Against Princetoon, Becker’s JV won 120.8 to 100.9.

Vilmo won the all around again with a score of 30.4, while Deters won the vault with a personal best score of 8.25. Vilmo won the bars (7.6) and floor (8.2), while Theresa Johnson won the beam with a beautiful set for a score of 8.15.

Deters finished second on the floor (8.1) and Hailey Duncombe was close behind (8.0).

The team’s last meet will be a dual against Cambridge-Isanti Thursday, March 4, and then the varsity will have a few weeks to prepare for sections on Saturday, March 20 in Big Lake.



KYLE MILLARD signed a Letter of Intent to play Football at North Dakota State College of Sciences next year! BHS is proud of all that Kyle has accomplished as a Becker Bulldog and wish him the best of luck next year. (Submitted Photo).



ANNA BRIGGS signed a Letter of Intent to participate in Women's Tennis and Women's Track and Field at the University of MN, Morris next year! BHS is proud of all that Anna has accomplished as a Becker Bulldog so far and look forward to watching her during the track and field season this spring and wish her the best of luck next year. (Submitted Photo).

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Bulldog boys using different paths to victory, go 2-1

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

It’s a good thing Becker boys basketball coach Josh Ihrke is a math teacher, because finding the correct solution for victory in his team’s latest games has proven to be an exercise in Calculus.

Just last Thursday, he drew up an impressive defensive formula for the team to grind out a 46-41 victory in a road matchup with the Monticello Magic.

Monday evening, Ihrke needed a different equation to guide his team to a wide open, exciting 86-83 overtime win over Zimmerman.

Monticello

“We found ourselves on a cold shooting night,” said Ihrke, referring to the game last week with the Magic. “Monticello did a lot of good things to take away our clean looks at the hoop and they used aggressive man-to-man defense to cause us to miss some shots.”

Coming into the game, Becker had been averaging nearly 70 points per game, while the Magic had been averaging about 55, so it was a bit of a surprise that Monticello held a 19-15 advantage at halftime.

However, Ihrke tinkered with a few things during the intermission and the result was a much better second half, as the Bulldogs used a 31-22 scoring advantage to seal the win.

“We held strong to our defense and did enough on the rebounding side of things,” said Ihrke. “We were in jeopardy of losing, but with three minutes to go

we switched our full court press and executed in key late game possessions to get the win.”

The shooting statistics for the Bulldogs told the story of the offensive struggles, as they hit on just 30% of their shots, including a 4-for-24 performance from beyond the arc. While both teams struggled to score in the half court game, the transition game wasn’t much better, although Becker did hold a 10-4 advantage in that statistic. Becker’s margin for victory could be attributed to the free throw line, with the Bulldogs going 10-for-17 while the Magic were 3-for-12.

“I’m proud of how the team rallied and relied on defense to pull out a road win,” added Ihrke.

Scoring: Alex Weiss 2, Nick Knute 5, Hayden Harmoning 9, Eric Seavert 15, Brady Paumen 9, Landen Goebel 6.

Zimmerman

In Monday’s battle with the Thunder, it was a tale of two styles as Becker overcame a big Thunder advantage in the paint to chart a course for victory. Zimmerman dominated in some aspects of the game, including out-rebounding the Bulldogs 55-31 and winning the points in the paint battle 52-34.

However, the Bulldogs shot better from the three-point range (33% to 25%) and from the free throw line (19-for-28 to 8-for-18) to secure the win. In the first half, Becker’s offense was spectacular, as they scored 46 points and held a six point lead at the break.

The Thunder tied it up

Wrestlers improve to 20-1

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Becker wrestling team continues to show great team balance and depth, as they piled up several wins over the past week to improve to 20-1 on the season.

NL-S

Last Tuesday, the Bulldogs ripped off a 51-18 victory over the New London-Spicer Wildcats in the opening match of a triangular.

Five Bulldogs picked up pins in the match, including Owen Angell (138), Lukas Paulson (145), Kylen Rish (170), Tyson Ricker (182) and Caden DeWall (220). It was Paulson’s 75th career pin for the Bulldogs.

Scott West

In the second match of the Tri, Becker wrestled strong against a very talented Scott West team and came away with a 37-22 win.

Kaden Nicolas opened with a 20-4 technical fall over his opponent and Ryan Boecker was the next victorious Bulldog with a pin at 126. However, the team went 2-4 in the next six matches, with the Bulldog wins going to Paulson (145) and Mason Doucette (152), and Becker trailed 18-22 going into the 182 pound match. Fortunately for the Bulldogs, the top weights again came through and Becker would finish 4-0 to secure the win. Both DeWall and Bryce Kuschel picked up pins for the Bulldogs in the upper weights.

Tigers

Last Thursday, the Bulldogs took on conference foe Princeton and had to wrestle a complete match for the



Brayden Weber returned to the mat for the first time in almost a year after collapsing at Xcel Energy last year. Weber won his match. (Submitted Photo).

win, edging their M8 Conference foe, 40-32.

“Princeton is a good team and they have several wrestlers highly ranked in the state,” said Coach Matt Aho. “We had to overcome some adversity during the dual and not panic—figuring out how to win was a good thing as we move toward the postseason.”

Kaden Nicolas started things off for Becker with second period pin at 106, but the Bulldogs would lose the next five matches to trail 6-27 heading into the 145 pound match. Paulson then picked up a major decision to start the Becker comeback, which included an Adam Jurek fall at 152 and a close 1-0 decision by Ricker at

with a 36-30 advantage in the second half before Becker took the 10-7 scoring advantage in overtime. Despite the high scoring affair, the Bulldogs also did a much better job handling the basketball, committing just nine turnovers while the Thunder had 18.

Scoring: Weiss 14, Nick Berglund 13, Nick Knute 14, Hayden Harmoning 3, Eric Seavert 19, Brady Paumen 14, Landen Goebel 9.

Princeton

Tuesday night against the Princeton Tigers, the Bulldogs couldn’t find the winning formula and came up short in a 91-70 loss.

The first half was fairly even, with Princeton leading 41-35, but Becker’s legs were tired in the second half and they couldn’t keep the pace. It was Becker’s second game in two nights, while the Tigers hadn’t played since Saturday.

The Tigers have been a tremendous offensive team all season, as they average 91 points per game and have eclipsed the century mark three times en route to an 11-1 record.

Becker was led in scoring by Nick Berglund’s season high 26 points, while Brady Paumen chipped in 15. Eric Seavert added 13, Nick Knute had 6 and Landen Goebel scored 4 points, while Alex Weiss, Carson Makarrall and Hayden Harmoning each finished with 2 points.

Becker will take its 8-5 record into Tuesday’s matchup with Cambridge-Isanti.

170. However, the Bulldogs still trailed 19-33 going into the 182 pound match before falls by Rish (182) and DeWall (195) brought the score to 31-33. From there, Kuschel (decision at 220) and Dylan Kolby (fall at 285) sealed the win.

“We knew it was going to be close and one thing I told our team was that all they needed to do is worry about their match and the team score would take care of itself,” added Aho. “Plus, we just could not lose because Coach Zimmer is now on a 29 year win streak against Princeton and the guys did not want that to end this year.”

As it turned out, it was just enough motivation to push the Bulldogs to remain unbeaten at 5-0 in the Mississippi 8 Conference this season.

Sabres

Tuesday night, Becker completely dominated the Sartell Sabres, winning 61-13 behind three forfeit wins and six pins.

Becker’s youngsters started off the match the right way, as eighth graders Kaden Nicolas (forfeit 106) and Issac Daluge (decision 113) gave the Bulldogs an early 9-0 lead. The match then became a back and forth affair until Paulson’s pin at 145 pounds, as Becker would lose just one weight class the rest of the way. Jurek, Rish, Ricker, DeWall and Brayden Weber each picked up pins for the Bulldogs.

With the win, Becker eclipsed the 20 win mark for the second consecutive year.

Big Lake Sports/Area News

Hornet gymnasts continue to roll

By Bill Morgan, Staff Writer
reporter.bill@patriotnews.com

The Big Lake varsity gymnasts once again recorded a season high team score of 143.8 in a contest against North Branch Feb. 18. North Branch finished with a score of 134.8.

The Hornets improved to 4-1 on the season and moved up to #4 in the state rankings. They also set season highs on balance beam, floor and the uneven bars.

Vault

The Hornets varsity team started on vault and after hitting all five of their vaults including a stuck front hand-spring full from Allie Goracke 8.925. Britney Krumrei scored a 9.0 and Lola Visci 9.025. Grace Kluk led the Hornets with her season high score of 9.25.

Bars

Big Lake kept rolling on bars, scoring their season high 34.95. Lola Visci's bar routine was incredible and scored her season high 9.55. Grace Kluk finished second with an 8.85. Britney Krumrei 8.55 finished fourth and Sam Merten 8.0 finished fifth.

Beam

The varsity girls showed more confidence than at previous meets on beam and it showed with a new high of 36.475. Britney Krumrei and Autumn Grunewald tied for first and Amber Grunewald finished third. Lola Visci scored 8.925 and placed fifth.

Floor

Big Lake finished with a 36.175 another season high on floor. Britney Krumrei has returned from a back injury to start the season and anchored the Hornets floor lineup with a beautiful 9.5 routine to take first place on the event. Kennadie Ell had her season best performance with a score of 9.1 to finish tied for second. Amber Grunewald 8.925 finished fifth and Allie Goracke



BRITNEY KRUMREI took first place overall last Thursday against North Branch. (Photos by Paul Krumrei).



AUTUMN GRUNEWALD was the top JV bar gymnast Thursday as she scored an 8.6.

8.65 placed seventh.

All-Around

In the All-Around results, Britney Krumrei took first with a score of 36.25 and Lola Visci placed third 35.3.

Junior Varsity

Big Lake JV scored 133.05 while North Branch did not have enough athletes to qualify for a team.

The JV girls also had their best performance so far this season and remained undefeated in the Mississippi 8 Conference.

JV Vault Top 3

Autumn Grunewald 8.6, Grace Gardner 8.4, Hannah

Horvath 8.3.

JV Bars Top 3

Autumn Grunewald 8.4, Kennadie Ell 7.8, Grace McCrone 7.7.

JV Beam Top 3

Grace McCrone 9.05, Sam Merten 8.5, Hannah Horvath and Grace Kluk tied for third with a 8.3.

JV Floor Top 3

Hannah Horvath 8.6, Autumn Grunewald 8.55, Katie Goracke 8.45.

JV All-Around Top 2

Grace McCrone 33.15, Hannah Horvath 32.75

"We are seeing the girls confidence in themselves and each other grow day by day and meet by meet," said Co-Head Coach Lanny Goldsmith. "It was an incredible night for our athletes, families and coaches."

Big Lake's next meet is against a tough Monticello team, who is ranked #9 in the latest rankings.

"We will also compete against them at our section 7A meet in March," said Goldsmith. "So it should be a fun night. Then we finish up our regular season at home vs St. Francis."



THE KETTLE IN CLEARWATER has permanently closed their doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic, state restrictions and a lack of employees. (Submitted Photo).

KETTLE from page 1

a few of the factors behind the difficult decision to close.

On Facebook and on the restaurant's website, Amundson conveyed his gratitude and thanked his loyal customers for their support over the years. Customers expressed disappointment in the news, noting that they'll miss the establishment and the great food served there. Some even revealed their favorite fare that will now be unavailable for them to enjoy.

Amundson purchased The Kettle from previous owner Keith Olson, who ran the business for 14 years. During that time the restaurant was known as Keith's Kettle.

Local libraries holding annual fundraiser

By Penny Leuthard,
Contributing Writer

March is here again, which means it's time for the Great River Regional Library's annual 'Locally Grown' fundraiser.

The goal of the fundraiser is to help each GRRL branch raise money for special items for their own library; 100% of the Locally Grown money raised by each branch stays at that library.

Each of the 32 branches in the GRRL system has its own unique goal and special wish list items it would like to purchase, including the area's local libraries in Becker, Big Lake, and Clearwater. Last year's 'Locally Grown' fundraiser was unfortunately cut short because of pandemic restrictions, so many of the libraries weren't able to reach their goals.

The Becker and Big Lake Libraries have both set goals of \$500 this year, which they plan to use for crafting and take and make supplies, as well as Summer Reading Program prizes. Becker Library is also starting

to save for a non-traditional circulation item, which will be announced in the future. Big Lake Library is saving for a mural painting in their children's area.

This year Pebble Creek Golf Club has once again teamed up with the Becker Library to help them reach their Locally Grown fundraising goal. On March 21, 10% of their sales will be donated to the library.

"We're looking forward to the collaborative effort with Pebble Creek," said Librarian Jeannette Burkhardt. "What a great way to support two organizations and keep the funds local. Be sure to mark March 21 on your calendar!" Because their fundraising effort was cut short last year, Becker Library fell short of their goal, but what was raised was used to purchase take and make kits so local kids could still have fun and take part in library activities at home.

The Clearwater Library was one that was able to make its goal last year. This year, Librarian Shelly Kuelbs is hoping to raise \$400 to purchase summer reading pro-

gram prizes, take and make craft supplies, and some wall activity panels for the children's area.

"We have also been talking with an area artist about expanding our mural from the juvenile fiction area into the children's area," said Kuelbs. "The mural is our objective if we exceed our \$400 goal."

The money donated to the Clearwater Library last year was going to be used for three Como Park Zoo programs. This money was set aside for when restrictions have been lifted and the Zoo is able to visit in the future.

GRRL's Locally Grown fundraiser continues through the end of March. All donations, no matter the size, help the libraries get one step closer to their goals. The donations are tax deductible and can be given directly to the Becker, Big Lake, and Clearwater library service desks or donated online at griver.org/locally-grown.

Remember, all donations stay at the library where they were donated at!

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ANSELMANT from page 1

he promoted him, taking a page from *Forrest Gump*.

"The only reason I promoted you was so I would have a Lieutenant Dan on my staff," Miller said with a chuckle.

While his colleagues affectionately kidded Anselment, there was a heartfelt friendship and respect that was reflected in the turnout at his plaque presentation. Deringer said it was because of the type of person Anselment has been in his professional life.

"Few people have the ability to really make others around them feel important," Deringer said. "Dan's always had that gift in our office. As I've talked about servant leadership, if you wanted to find it in a human and a leader, that's always been Captain Anselment. He's given a lot to our office and this is not going to be an easy position for us to replace and fill."

With his 33 years in the Wright County Sheriff's Office – the last 20 on the command staff – Anselment is twice the age of some of his newer co-workers, which has earned him the nickname of "Uncle Dan." He has been a person just about everyone in the office could turn to with questions or advice because there wasn't much he hasn't seen over his tenure with the WCSO.

Anselment said he has been proud to work for Sheriff's Office and fought to maintain his composure as he said his thanks for a work experience he wouldn't have changed for the world.

"It's been a good career," Anselment said.

"Living and growing up in a county that I got to serve for 33 years is amazing. Thank you to everybody for allowing me to continue to work for Wright County. I love Wright County, I always will and I will always support the Sheriff's Office. This has been my dream job."

Hozempa joked that Anselment worked for five sheriffs in his tenure and was loyal to every one of them. But, at some point, he wants to find out which one was his favorite. But, he did get serious for a moment to express his gratitude for the extraordinary work Anselment did for the residents of Wright County and the equally extraordinary person he is.

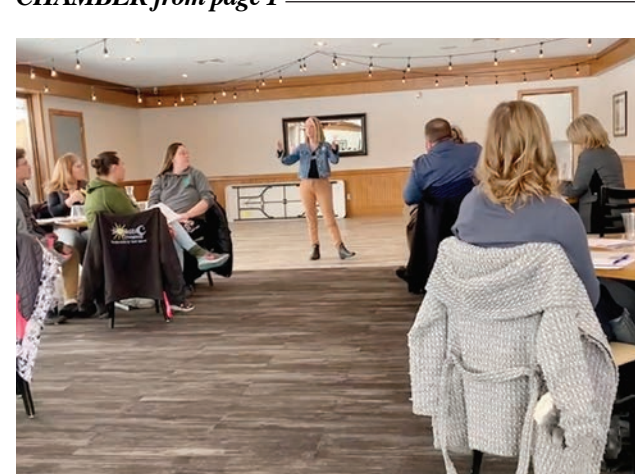
"He was loyal – he bleeds brown, we all do in this room," Hozempa said. "Dan you've done well. I'm proud of you and I know you'll keep busy. You're a talented, talented person outside of the Sheriff's Office."

Following a standing ovation from those in attendance, Anselment returned to the microphone to inform the commissioners, his soon-to-be former co-workers and his wife of his plans for retirement.

"The only promise I've made is that I'm growing a ponytail and getting a tattoo," Anselment said with a smile. "We'll see what happens."

The retirement presentation can be seen at the following link, starting at the 6:30 mark: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZ-5P0cxJ0UA&feature=youtu.be>.

CHAMBER from page 1



AMITY FELTON (MIDDLE) gave a real estate market update during her time speaking at the most recent Becker Area Chamber of Commerce meeting Feb. 17. (Submitted Photo).

the City of Becker spoke about development plans for the city, and Jeremy Schmidt from Becker Schools talked about the plans to have all students return to in-person learning. He also spoke on the long-range plans for the district with the capacity needs of facilities to meet student

needs, and the importance of supporting the schools through the upcoming referendum - which has a \$0 net tax increase to district residents.

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