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DILLON RADUNZ'S season came to end last weekend when the Tennessee Titans lost to the Cincinnati Bengals in the divisional round. Radunz played sparingly this year, but is expected to make a bigger splash next year. See our story on page 8.

Inside

BIG LAKE

The Big Lake City Council, Town Boards of Big Lake and Orrock, School Board and Sherburne County met last week for a community meeting. See the story on page 3.

COUNTY

The federal government is administering free COVID-19 at-home testing kits for those interested. See the story on page 4.

CVBC

The Clear Valley Business Connection organization held their quarterly meeting Jan. 13. See the story on page 5.

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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.

Contact Us

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

763-275-0275

Clear Lake hears annual report from Sheriff Brott

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

Sherburne County Sheriff Joel Brott attended Tuesday evening's Clear Lake City Council meeting to provide the annual report on activity within the city.

Brott reported that there were 521 law enforcement contacts within the city in 2021, which can range from traffic stops to more serious calls such as DUIs or burglaries.

The number of calls

two years. "Once the grant funding expires, we will have to decide if we are going to fund it."

Brott noted his office is "all-in already" with the program being just several months old and he expects that they will continue the co-responder program well into the future.

Brott also shared several national accreditations that his office has achieved in the last year, including one for the dispatch center, as well as in the jail.



SHERBURNE COUNTY SHERIFF JOEL BROTT attended Tuesday's Clear Lake City Council meeting to share the city's SCSO Annual Report. Council Member Karen White looks on as Brott explained the statistics to the council. (Photo by Mark Kolbinger.)

was up significantly from 2020, but those numbers were lower across the county due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Once again, Brott noted that there were zero assaults within the city for the third year in a row, and also thefts and criminal damage to property incidents were both down from prior years.

The Sheriff went on to explain his office's participation in a grant program to provide the Crisis Intervention Co-Responder Initiative, where a mental health professional is trained to respond along with law enforcement to certain calls. In addition to the Sheriff's Office, several police departments in the county are participating.

"It's been a tremendous program for the Sheriff's Office," Brott noted, explaining also that the grant cycle will expire after

"Our dispatch center is one of the few in the state that has attained the accreditation, which is tied to national standards," Brott said. "We're very proud of that and any time we can hold ourselves to these national standards, we are achieving our goal of offering the best services possible to the public."

Mayor Tim Goenner thanked Brott for his office's continued service and partnership with the city.

"You guys are around quite a bit and you do a great job," Goenner said.

Sewer Issue

Residents Kelly and Cole VanderHeyden were present at the meeting to discuss a sewer issue that they had at their residence recently when the main sewer pipe near their neighborhood was getting cleaned, or "jetted."

According to the couple, pressure that built up

CLEAR LAKE CITY COUNCIL to page 4

New Board Member!



FARM FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Julie Dosh has joined the Board of Directors at Farm Friends Barn located in Becker. She is pictured with Jean Johnson (Farm Friends Chairperson). Dosh been a life long resident in the Becker area and a graduate of Becker High School. Julie comes from a local Century Farm Family. Julie and her siblings remain a part of the family farming operation. Julie will be a great asset to the Farm Friends Barn Board of Directors. (Submitted photo.)



DANCE FEVER. Evelyn Hemish of Palmer enjoying dance class to keep warm on a wintry day last week! Evelyn is the daughter of Andrew and Calley Hemish. (Submitted photo.)

Strom, 2 others nominated for prestigious program

Submitted Article

Big Lake High School senior Hannah Strom has been nominated for the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

The candidacy is based on Strom's demonstrated ability and accomplishment within her career and technical program. Strom was nominated for this prestigious award by Minnesota's Chief State School Officer, Dr. Heather Mueller.

The Commission will select up to 20 Scholars who have outstanding records of leadership and academic achievement, and contribution to school and community.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by Executive Order of the President to recognize some of the nation's most distinguished graduating seniors for their accomplishments in many areas: academic success, leadership, and service to school and community. In 1979, the program was expanded to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional scholarship and talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts. In 2015, the program was expanded once again to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical fields.

Each spring, the Commission on Presidential Scholars names up to 161 distinguished graduating high school seniors as U.S. Presidential Scholars.



HANNAH STROM, a senior at Big Lake High School, has been nominated for the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. (Patriot Archive Photo).

Being selected as a U.S. Presidential Scholar is one of the highest honors this nation's high school students may receive. Information about the program can be gleaned on the program's website at www.ed.gov/psp.

U.S. Presidential Scholars are honored for their accomplishments during the National Recognition Program each June. To commemorate their achievement, the Scholars are awarded the Presidential Scholars Medallion.

Summer B. Langva of Big Lake, who attends Monticello High School is also a candidate for U.S. Presidential Scholar in Career and Technical Education as well as Quinn C. McCalla of Monticello (Monticello High School).

Lynden Twp. Considers New Road Ordinance

By Penny Leuthard, Contributing Writer

During their first meeting of the new year the Lynden Twp. Board of Supervisors discussed a number of miscellaneous agenda items, included ARPA funds, a new road ordinance, a plat split, and their upcoming spring cleanup day.

ARPA Funds

Treasurer Jean Schermer provided the board with an update on the ARPA funds the township has already received and expected future payments. Previously proposed projects include replacement of the town hall HVAC system, including furnace and central air, HEPA filters, LED lighting with motion detector switches, tone, paper, Zoom license, Microsoft Pro for laptop security, internet, and an office desktop for streaming capabilities.

Supervisor Dennis Niemi and Planning Administrator James Kantor are obtaining quotes. A spreadsheet will continue to be utilized by Clerk Jenny Schmidt for tracking purposes.

Road Updates

Niemi explained the need for a township road ordinance and presented a sample ordinance for the board to review. Further discussion was tabled until the township's February meeting in order to give the board time to review the document.

Niemi provided the board with an update on open items from their fall road tour, which includes brush cleanup scheduled for 200th St. and replacement signage, which is pending with Chairman Dave Johnson.

The board reviewed the proposed annual hauling permit for Pilgrim's Pride. The permit will be issued once the \$100 permit fee has been received by the township.

Property Updates

Lynden Twp. Building Inspector Nancy Scott is continuing to work with Jerry Konz on the property line building encroachment on Hubble Road. Konz indicated he has a purchase agreement with the adjacent property to the east and has reached out to Stearns Co. about consolidating the two parcels. A copy of the purchase agreement has been given to the clerk.

Dylan Nelson approached the board to present the Nelson Family Acres preliminary plat to split the 29.5 acre lot on Dover Road into a 27.1 acre lot and a 2.4 acre lot. The county considers this to be an administrative split.

A motion carried approving the preliminary

LYNDEN to page 4

INDEX

EDITORIAL/NEWS

- Pages 1-8

CHURCH DIRECTORY

- Page 4B

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Page 2B

COLUMNS/OPINIONS

- Page 5

LEGALS/JUDICIAL

- Pages 2B & 3B

CLASSIFIEDS

- Page 1B

EMPLOYMENT

- Pages 6 & 7

SPORTS/ACTIVITIES

- Pages 7-8

OBITS

- Page 4B



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Clearwater Fire Dept. still looking for new firefighters

By Penny Leuthard,
Contributing Writer

At their first meeting of the year, the Clearwater City Council discussed a number of agenda items regarding the fire department.

Mayor Andrea Lawrence told the council she plans to join other Fire Relief members in a door-to-door effort to recruit new members to the fire department. A suggestion was made to make a brochure that could be handed out detailing the city's board and commission and fire department openings.

City Administrator Aninita Smythe informed the council that Council Member Richard Petty had requested they discuss the possibility of implementing a term of office or rotation for the fire chief position, which would provide more opportunity and advancement possibilities for other fire department members. The request isn't intended to slight the current fire chief, who would be eligible to reapply when his current term expired.

Members asked for more time to think about the request, to hear the fire department members' thoughts, and for more details from Petty, who was absent from the meeting. Input will also be requested from the Fire Relief committee.

Motions carried to accept the resignation and retirement of Fire Chief Ryan Pridgeon and the retirement of firefighters Ritzer, Mooney, and Kirchenbauer. Appreciation for the service from all retirees was expressed.

Code Enforcement

The board continued discussion concerning code enforcement on the Elm St. Kelly property they had begun during their September meeting. Kelly had attended

the meeting to address complaints about his property and to request the council honor an old building permit and variance for him to build a garage. The matter was tabled until additional information could be gathered by staff.

City staff found there are four primary issues related to this code enforcement action. The first violation concerns outside storage on a vacant lot, which staff agreed can be resolved with a lot combination and screen. The second violation is the expiration of an old building permit for the garage, the third, the status of a claimed variance, and lastly, encroachments on city property.

The board determined a new building permit will be required for any construction and noted the claimed variance was actually for a covered porch, not a garage. Currently the owner doesn't have an active variance to build a garage on the desired location.

Smythe explained that the owner hadn't begun the lot combination process due to difficulty in obtaining a survey, however council members believe he has had sufficient time to get a survey done.

According to city records, the city's property that surrounds the Kelly property was obtained by fee title after it was purchased from the railroad. Board members all agree the owner must remove any encroachments from the city's property.

A motion carried directing staff to proceed with further code enforcement actions pursuant to the findings noted and Smythe's letter from last August

Parks

At their meeting held prior to the council meeting, the Park Commission recom-

mended the council proceed with the Veterans Memorial project as presented in the grant agreement if the city is approved for grant funds. A community outreach program to solicit feedback on a proposed community center was suggested, and staff was requested to check into the El Dorado Park hockey rink as no boards have been placed.

Smythe reported a concern had been raised regarding someone hunting in a city park. As it appears the current city ordinance no longer complies with state law changes, the city attorney is reviewing it for suggested changes.

Other Business

A TIF application for a proposed apartment project and a call concerning a possible kennel were received by the city. Staff is meeting with the developer of the proposed cold storage project.

Tony Strande was recognized for his retirement at the December Sewer Authority meeting. During the meeting the board approved both the budget with a rate increase and having an independent consultant review the solar options under consideration.

In a closed session the council conducted Smythe's annual performance review, after which a motion carried approving Resolution 2022-04 – Consider Step Increase for City Administrator, with approval for an increase to step 11.

The sheriff reported 187 calls for the previous month, including 46 traffic stops, six motor vehicle accidents, one harassment, one stolen vehicle, and one fire.

The next Clearwater City Council meeting will be February 14 at 7 p.m.

Area Chamber News



Business Expo/Craft Fair
Feb. 26 - 10 am - 2 pm
Becker Field House

Dueling Pianos
Feb. 26 - 6:30 dinner, 7:30 show
Pebble Creek - Tickets on sale now

If you would like more information on any of these events or if you would like to become a member of these organizations please reach out to them:

Amity Felton
763-262-2420
Chamber@BeckerChamber.org



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Saron Lutheran Church

Community Fair
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Gloria Vande Brake
763-263-7800
Info@BigLakeChamber.com



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Clearwater Library
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Glenna Soenneker
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GSoenneker@GMail.com

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Big Lake School Board approves bond sale

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

Jan. 6 was a busy evening for the Big Lake School Board, as they held a special meeting, a reorganizational meeting, and a session that night.

Awarding Bids

The board kicked off the special meeting by approving the bond sale. The school received nine bids and got an excellent rate on the debt at 1.9954%. The

board was thrilled with the results, as they can be confident they got the best possible rate.

The low rate does not effect the school or its plans, but the \$2.5 million in savings is passed on to the taxpayers, who will not have to pay the full amount approved in last fall's bond referendum vote.

The board also approved bids for roofing work at the high school, middle school, and Liberty elementary school. The

work was awarded to the low bidders on each project.

Reorganizational Meeting

The reorganizational meeting is held annually in January to assign roles on the board and in committees to the members. They also announce official service providers for the schools, such as newspaper, fund depository, etc.

Roles on the board are as follows:

Board Chair – Tonya

Reasoner;

Clerk – Tony Scales;
Treasurer – Amber Sixberry.

The official newspaper was designated as the *Patriot*.

The official depository of school funds is Old National Bank of Big Lake.

Official legal council is Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney.

Board member compensation was increased by \$10 (previously \$65) to \$75 per meeting attended.

Board chair yearly stipend was increased to \$700 and board treasurer yearly stipend increased to \$500, an increase of \$100 for each.

Members were also assigned to the various school committees.

In Other Business, the Board:

- Approved the teaching contract agreement, which includes stipulations about pay raises and teacher leave;
- Approved a fundraising effort for the Big Lake

Cheerleaders, who will be cleaning tables, running orders, and assisting with miscellaneous chores at the Monticello Culver's on the 20th and the 30th of this month.

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Big Lake News

Big Lake leaders gather for community meeting

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

Last Thursday, representatives from the Big Lake City Council, Big Lake Town Board, Big Lake School Board, Orrock Town Board, and Sherburne County Commissioners met to discuss the past year for each of the entities represented and plans for the future.

Sherburne County

Representatives from the county kicked off the meeting. County administrator Bruce Messelt mentioned that the county would be reviewing its comprehensive plan, and that it was looking for input as they go through this process.

Messelt went on to state that the county is looking into planning the next big road project after the overpass in Zimmerman is completed. More specifically, they are looking into improving the traffic conditions on Co. Rd. 11, which tends to carry a lot of state traffic rather than just county traffic, causing the road to back up significantly at the intersection of 11 and Hwy. 10. A possibility of improving this situation is to “switch” it with Hwy. 25. Hwy. 25, which connects Big Lake to Monticello, tends to carry more local, county traffic and therefore could serve well as a county road. Instead, Co. Rd. 11, between Hwy. 10 and the current Hwy. 25, could be made a state highway, with turn lanes, frontage road, and other highway amenities that improve traffic flow. Messelt said he hoped the county’s partners (the cities and townships within the county) would support a project like this, since the county will not be able to afford the work that needs to be done on 11 by itself and will need MnDOT support and government grants to get the project done, neither of which will happen if all parties involved are not on board with the project.

The county continues to



SUPERVISOR PAUL ELLINGER (ORROCK TWP.), SUPERVISOR DEAN BRENTESON (BIG LAKE TWP), AND COUNTY COMMISSIONER RAEANNE DANIELOWSKI prepared for the Big Lake Community Meeting. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

investigate adding another bridge over the Mississippi, but this project is expected to take a long time.

ARPA funding for the county has been channeled into several areas, including support for housing, county organizations, businesses and nonprofits, community, mental health, and broadband accessibility. The county has partnered with both Midco and Arvig to bring broadband to underserved areas in the county. Messelt mentioned Big Lake Twp. and Orrock Twp. areas in particular. Currently, the county pays for a portion of the costs for installation, but Midco has stated an interest in bringing service to more of the county on their own dime.

Gina Hugo of the county parks department gave a brief overview of the successes of the department over the last year. Last summer, work was completed at Bridgeview Park off of Co. Rd. 11. The project increased the accessibility of the park, added a trail leading to the river, a scenic seating area, and river overlook. The county also partnered with the city of Elk River and Great River Regional Library to put up some “story strolls” at county parks. Story Strolls promote literacy and activity with children. Pages from a story book are printed on cardboard signs and posted alongside a walking trail. Families walk down

the trail to read the story. Hugo said families should keep an eye out for these story strolls on Facebook to stay informed on where they will pop up.

Going forward, the county hopes to bring more trails into the area, eventually connecting the trail system at Big Lake Lions Park to the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge and the Great Northern Trail. They also hope to add a footbridge over Elk River, parallel to the one on Co. Rd. 5. The current bridge is heavily trafficked and not very safe for pedestrians and cyclists.

Big Lake Twp.

Dean Brenteson, a supervisor on the Big Lake Town Board, gave the overview for the township. Results from the 2020 census showed a township population of 7,400. In 2021, 30 new homes were constructed, which is down from 42 in 2020. Last year the township completed eight miles of overlay projects. Road work was also done on 205th Ave. by Liberty Elementary School. A new process was used which allowed faster access of traffic after the road work was completed. The township traded roads with the county, giving them a township road which has become the new Co. Rd. 94 and turning the old Co. Rd. 79 into a township road.

Recycle day was successfully held again last year,

and the township renewed their contract with Metro Alliance Recycling. Dog vaccination day once again took place in the fall. This year, the township also offered free nitrate testing for water samples brought from home. The township plans to offer this service annually.

New trail signs have been made for Lions Park, and they will be put up as soon as the ground thaws.

Birch Lake has been removed from the impaired waters list after work was done to restore it. As a result, the county Soil and Water Conservation District awarded the township an award for being an “Outstanding Cooperator.”

Orrock Twp.

Paul Ellinger, supervisor for the Orrock Town Board, gave the update for Orrock. He started out by saying they are about half the size of Big Lake Twp. in most respects, with a 2020 population of 3,544.

A new development has come to the area, the Shores of Eagle Lake. So far, 32 building permits have been pulled to develop these lots. Over the next three years, the township expects that about 84 lots will be built out. The roads for the development were recently adopted by the township.

ARPA funding for the township will go towards expanding the current town hall. The building is very small

and old and cannot serve the current population during elections. The town board hopes to have the work completed by November, in time for the elections.

School Board

Tonya Reasoner of the school board gave the update for the schools. Last year, voters approved a bond referendum to pay for infrastructure updates around the school grounds. Thanks to getting a good deal on the bond sale, the school will save the taxpayers \$2.6 million in interest. Projects on campus will be completed during the next three summers, including roof replacements at three of the schools, high school gymnasium improvements, building control updates, and other items. In an effort to remain transparent during implementation of the projects, the public is invited to visit the Big Lake Schools website and select “Bond Referendum” under the community tab. This page will outline the progress of the projects and

to the expanding apprenticeship program. This program allows students to work and pursue an apprenticeship during the day and complete their schoolwork online in the evenings.

Big Lake City

City administrator Clay Wilfahrt gave the update for the city. During 2021 and continuing into 2022, the city has taken on some street projects. Because they got a good deal on the bond sale, they moved up some projects that were scheduled for the future, as well.

The Freedom Rock came to Big Lake last year. This project was completed without using taxpayer money, but relied solely on donations and sale of pavers. The rock is available to view now at Lakeside Park. It was painted by an artist who has completed similar projects all over the United States (he hopes to one day have at least one painted rock in every state.)

The industrial park is expanding, with Arrow Com-



CITY ADMINISTRATOR CLAY WILFAHRT (L) gave his update on the last year for the city. Mayor Paul Knier (R) listened as he studied the Power Point presentation. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

will show how every single tax dollar was used.

Enrollment is rising. The schools anticipate a huge kindergarten class this fall, as many students were held back due to uncertainty about the pandemic. Big Lake Online has helped the schools retain and attract some students during the pandemic, and has become a great complement

ponents and Premier Marine recently making the move. Other commercial development in the city included the new Nystrom facility, Liberty Bank, Great River Regional Credit Union, and the Big Lake Car Condos (second series).

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CL CITY from page 1

inside the pipe during the cleaning process caused water to back up into their home and their toilets to overflow with sewer water.

They were asking the city to reimburse costs of \$354 that they incurred to clean up after the issue.

There had been some discussion that the issue could have been caused by a blockage inside their house or a possible issue with their venting. They had companies come out to inspect their venting, as well as their plumbing and no issues were discovered.

Public Works Director Dustin Luhnning and City Engineer Keith Yapp both discussed the issue, noting that there can be a variety of factors that can cause a backflow issue.

However, since the timing to the backup coincided with the jetting, the Vander-Heyden's still felt the city should do something to help rectify any similar situations in the future.

After a lengthy discussion, council acted upon the advice of their attorney to not issue reimbursement, as that could set a precedent for future issues. They did pledge, however, to work to notify residents in the future when the jetting is occurring so people can be on the lookout for any issues.

In Other Action, the Council:

- Heard from Brott, who also delivered last month's statistics, including 25 calls for service;
- Decided to continue to investigate the replacement of the radar speed sign for Hwy. 24;
- Passed a resolution to explore financing and other logistics for the maintenance required on the city's water tower;
- Reminded the public that the Clearwater/Clear Lake Sewer Authority is looking for a member at-large to attend the bi-monthly meetings and help in the decision making process;
- Heard from Goenner that the CLFD will be moving to getting paid hourly for their training rather than a stipend as soon as the fire board approves the change;
- Approved the hiring of a seasonal on-call employee to help with snow plowing duties in case Luhnning is unavailable;
- Discussed the tear down and disposal of the city's nitrate plant. Yapp explained that there is probably little value in the plant other than scrap metal materials;
- Discussed two development projects that may move forward with new phases this summer – both Parkside and Hunter Lake Bluffs.

Commissioners weigh in on COVID-19 response

By Ken Francis,
Contributing Writer

After a 30-minute discussion last Tuesday, the Sherburne County Board agreed to develop a statement recommending wearing masks in the Government Center.

The vote followed a discussion about COVID-19, the Omicron variant and the response by other entities, most notably CentraCare and Stearns County.

At the previous county board meeting Jan. 4, the commissioners adopted an interim employee policy for wearing masks and testing. That decision was based on the federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration's (OSHA) Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) on Vaccination and Testing in the workplace, which became effective Nov. 5, 2021. The ETS required that certain employers adopt and enforce a vaccination policy in order to provide a safe and healthy workplace for all employees and to help minimize the transmission of COVID-19. The ETS also required that employers must determine the COVID-19 vaccination status of all employees no later than Jan. 10, 2022.

Last week, the Supreme Court blocked that ETS mandate by OSHA, so the county board Tuesday voted to rescind its temporary COVID-19 policy requiring masks and testing for unvaccinated employees.

But that was just one part of Tuesday's discussion. Also on the agenda was a request to approve and sign a Joint City/County Statement in response to the spread of the Omicron variant. The message was based on statistics provided by CentraCare regarding the spread of COVID-19. Those statistics included a three-day positivity rate of 49.7% as of Jan. 6 and growth of COVID-19 in the community since Dec. 20 at 250%. At St. Cloud Hospital, 25% of the hospital and 70% of ICU beds are filled with COVID-19 patients. It showed a graph indicating the predicted spike in cases over the next few weeks, and how wearing masks would lower that spike. It also stated that the Omicron variant is affecting young children more frequently than prior variants.

That letter was signed by the board chairs of Stearns and Benton County, and mayors of St. Cloud, Sar-

tell, Waite Park and Sauk Rapids.

The message recommended wearing masks indoors, limiting interaction with others outside of the workplace or family, washing hands, staying home when sick, and getting vaccinated.

Members of the board were in favor of the statement's concept. But Commissioner Tim Dolan felt the numbers didn't exactly reflect the numbers in Sherburne County.

"I'm okay with asking everybody to be smart," he said. "But the positivity rate was St. Cloud Hospital's positivity rate, not our county's. I don't mind the sentiment, but I think we should strip out (the statistics) and put in our own."

Administrator Bruce Messelt said with the board's permission, he could include a generic positivity rate, take out the data and say the board supports the concept.

"I'd be more in favor of that," said Dolan.

"I'm fine with that too, said Commissioner Raeanne Danielowski. "We're not mandating anything. We're just encouraging."

"I'm very fine with putting our own data in it and I'm also saying I'm very fine with saying wear your mask indoors when you're around others," said Commissioner Lisa Fobbe.

She said the next two weeks are critical as Omicron is expected to peak in late January and early February. So getting the message out about wearing masks is vital.

"The mask encouragement is needed yesterday. I don't think we can wait two weeks for a board meeting to decide this," she said.

She said the board should consider a temporary mask consideration (two to six weeks) because of the impact the virus could have on the county's operations.

"I know some of our departments are talking about going with skeleton crews. If our DMV Dept., for example, was to be wiped out, we'd be out and not be able to support the public for about 10 days," she said.

Commissioner Felix Schmiesing said he was not in favor of any mask mandate. But he felt some masks could make a difference.

"We know the N95 mask is the one that protects you from others and others from you. But here

we are in our second year and N95 masks are not readily available for everyone who wants one," he said. "If the county was to do something, I would rather see us provide some N95 masks to people who want to wear them and not to mandate mask wearing to anyone."

"I wouldn't be in favor of mandating masks in the building right now. However, I definitely reserve to change that based on people's behavior and where numbers continue to go," said Commissioner Dolan. "Right now I just want to make sure that our employees and the general public understand all the information that is coming from us and coming from public health and is being shared by medical professionals."

"I would be good with having signage and having N95 masks available for visitors when they come into the building, and our employees as well," said Danielowski.

Board Chair Barbara Burandt said masks of any type would help with the public health emergency.

"I'm on another group called Towards Zero Deaths. That's a highway safety issue. This is the same thing, it's a public health safety issue," she said. "We see Sherburne County having people becoming ill in numbers we haven't seen before and we see deaths higher that they have been before. The one rapid change for us to make that can alter that is mask wearing. So I want us to really think about if for a period of time until the peak goes down that we would say everybody who comes here and works here wears a mask of some sort."

At the end of the discussion, Dolan said the masks CentraCare used in its study were KN95s, not N95s, which were less readily available.

The board did not propose or make a motion for a mask mandate. They instructed Messelt to work with the public health dept. to develop a statement for the public and employees about safety recommendations as outlined in the CentraCare message.

Messelt said he would also have signage for the doors of the Government Center and look into having a supply of masks, preferably KN95s, available to staff and the public.

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Kindergarten Registration
ATTENTION PARENTS
OF 2022-2023 KINDERGARTNERS:

On Thursday, February 3, 2022
Becker Kindergarten Registration will be held at the Primary school for those children who are eligible to attend Kindergarten this Fall. (Child must be 5 years old by Sept. 1).
A letter has been sent to the parents of children eligible to attend Kindergarten in the Fall of 2022. If you did not receive a letter and you have a child that will be 5 years old by Sept. 1st, please call the Primary school office at 763-261-6330 as soon as possible.

Free COVID-19 tests available from federal government



Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by Wright County.)

The federal government announced last week that, as of Wednesday, Jan. 19, a website would go live that will allow every address (home or rental property) to order four at-home rapid tests for COVID-19.

That website (www.CovidTests.gov) went live with a soft opening and is fully operational as of

today. The process is simple and takes only a couple of minutes to complete. Once at the website, hit the "Order Free Tests" button to be redirected to a United States Post Office page. Simply type in the contact information and mailing address – an email address for shipping notifications is optional. Then hit "Check Out Now" to finish. The tests are expected to ship within seven to 12 days.

LYNDEN from page 1

plat and allowing the township chair and clerk to sign the final plat outside of a regular meeting as long as there are no changes from the preliminary plat.

Other Business

Supervisor Tom Plaggerman provided an update on the township's 2022 spring cleanup day. Rate increases were discussed, and quotes will be obtained for review at the next board meeting. Plaggerman has contacted Clearwater Twp. to determine availability of their facility, which Lynden Twp. has used for their most recent cleanup days. He requested and received permission (via a motion) to schedule a date once he has heard back from them.

The board is gathering content to be included in their annual newsletter; deadline for submission is January 21 so a draft can be prepared for review at the February meeting.

Dan Torgersen resigned this position as deputy treasurer; transition training with Schermer will continue for a short time period.

The township's annual meeting will be on March 8 at 8:15 p.m. Schmidt will prepare a draft agenda for review at the February meeting.

The township's audit meeting will be Jan. 26 at 6 p.m.

The next Lynden Twp. meeting will be Feb. 7 at 7 p.m.

DNR seeks to fill 200 paid summer internships

Submitted Article

(Editor's Note: The following article was appropriated from the Wright County's website.)

The Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources is looking for passionate and dedicated students interested in learning more about possible careers with the DNR through paid summer internship opportunities.

DNR summer interns will not only gain valuable experience and training, but also will help the agency create a healthy, sustainable, and livable Minnesota for future generations.

The internship opportunities are located throughout the state and run the gamut of agency operations — including fisheries, forestry, park operations, invasive species watercraft inspection, communications and more. Interns work 20 to 40 hours per week and receive a competitive wage of \$15 an hour. Fulfilling an aca-

ademic requirement or receiving academic credit is a requirement to be considered for a DNR internship.

To apply, visit the state of Minnesota careers website (mn.gov/careers). In the "external applicants" box, select "search for jobs now." Enter "intern" into the keywords field on the job search page and select "Natural Resources Dept" in the "Agency" column on the left side of the page. Choose the internship(s) of interest and click the apply button to submit an application.

Applications will be accepted through Feb. 7. Positions will start in May and June and last until August or September.

The DNR is an equal opportunity and veteran-friendly employer. The DNR celebrates diversity, equity, and inclusion. To request an accommodation or alternative-format application please contact the DNR at: ADAdiversity.DNR@state.mn.us; 651-259-5016; or call using a preferred telecommunications relay provider.



DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

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Peggy

is a 2-year-old spayed cat with a mellow, laid-back attitude who has done well with children. However, she's been cautious around dogs and other cats. Peggy qualifies for our Fabulous Five Dollar Feline promotion or her adoption fee would be waived for a senior or veteran.



Daisy

is a 7-month-old Rex mix bunny who got along with children in her previous home. Slow and proper introductions to resident pets and people are always recommended when bringing a new pet home.



Paws

is a 210 spayed mini panther and is friendly with other cats. Paws likes to sleep on furniture, scratch on cardboard scratchers, and play with feather teasers. She qualifies for our Fabulous Five Dollar Feline promotion and her adoption fee would be waived for a senior or veteran.



Duke

1-year-old neutered Beagle/Pointer mix has done well around other dogs and cats in the past. He's house-trained and will let his humans know he needs to go outside by placing his paw on their hand or letting out a low growl.



Winnie

is a 9YO spayed cat who's looking for a calm, low-key home. Winnie is very vocal when she has something to say! Winnie's lived with dogs and cats in the past. She qualifies for our Five Dollar Feline sale and her adoption fee could be waived for a senior or veteran.



Brandy

is a 3YO, 53 pound lap dog! This sweet girl has lived well with children in the past but is not a fan of other dogs. She knows the commands sit, shake, and lay down and plushies are her favorite kind of toy.



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Editorials/Opinions

Critters, Critters Everywhere

I'm not a big fan of snow. I don't mind getting a dusting around Christmas Eve to set the mood for the holidays. And a little snow helps cover and insulate my septic field.

But otherwise I could care less if we got any snow during the winter.

Growing up in New Jersey, we rarely got any significant snow. Back then as youngsters it was a novelty for us to get a snowstorm. Most of us kids didn't even have a sled, so our winter activity was limited to snowball fights, or building a small igloo if there was enough snow.

No one had a snowmobile or a snowblower. There wasn't really much need for either. Although recently I've seen news reports of some pretty big "storms." They probably call five inches a storm.

Now on the farm, snow just makes it harder to get things done outside. I've got to put everything away, or else it gets covered and frozen to the ground. Neither me or my wife, Rita, like to drive in the snow. And getting from the house to any of the outbuildings requires shoveling a path.

But one benefit I've found over the years to having snow is how it allows me to see where the wild animals have been. I know hunters use footprints to track animals. I don't hunt, but I am curious about what's been walking near the house at night.

We have a few laying hens that we keep in a chicken house. We let them out every day to walk around in their pen in the spring, summer and fall. The weather determines when they can be let out in the winter.

We also have a cat who strayed onto the farm about a year ago and adopted us as his family. He stays outside year-round. I built him a little house with a heat bulb for really cold days. We put out some food and water for him each day near the front door.

We also have a bird feeder hanging from a pine tree across the driveway from our kitchen. We fill the feeder a few times a week and watch the little birds stop by for a seed or two, then fly off to a nearby tree. They leave lots of footprints in the snow below the feeder, as do the numerous squirrels that scavenge for dropped seeds.

Other than that, any tracks I see in the snow are animals that live around the farm or close by.

There are dozens of deer tracks, which isn't surprising since we see lots of deer in the fields a few times a week throughout the year. What is surprising is how close they come to the house – just three or four feet away from our living room window. The tracks start in a wooded area behind the house, pass right by



By Ken Francis
Contributing Writer

the house, then head through the field to the neighbor's property across the road. We even see flattened areas in the snow where the deer lay down at night.

Near the front door we can follow tracks where the cat has been walking during the night. He seems to be making his rounds to the machine shed, the barn and near the chicken house. I wasn't sure if he's been hunting or looking for a litter box. But the other day I found out.

Just by the north end of the machine shed I saw more tracks. The parallel footprints are a telltale sign of a rabbit. The cat's tracks are close by. So far I think the rabbit must be safe because I haven't spotted any signs of a struggle – or body parts.

I've noticed signs of other small creatures in the chicken pen. They're looking for remnants of chicken feed or cracked corn we sprinkle on the ground for the hens. I know a few of the tracks are from small birds like sparrows, because I've seen them fly through the netting on top of the chicken wire fence.

But there are also small mammal-like footprints, probably mice, rats or chipmunks that can squeeze through the fence.

Just over a week ago I noticed some unusual tracks near our front door in the same general area we feed the cat. I followed the tracks that morning and saw they led under the old granary, which is empty now. I figured it must be living there, whatever it was. I was hoping it wasn't a skunk. I've had problems with them before, and I didn't look forward to running into one again.

Then a few nights later I peeked out through storm door window and saw a little greyish-white animal trying to find some cat food. It was a possum. When I opened the front door, it looked up at me, then slowly walked away towards the granary.

I've also seen blue jays and crows near our compost pile, which is a good 200 feet from the house. The other day I walked out there and spotted some raccoon tracks.

I've also seen tracks that look like paw prints from a dog. I've seen our neighbor's dog run through the property once or twice, so it may be him. But we've had coyotes in the area during the summer. One was about 30 feet from the house.

I haven't walked much in our woods since the first snow of the season. But I can see lots of deer tracks leading along the path that way. There could be any number of creatures roaming the woods, and I'll make it a point to get out there soon and see.

Who knows? Maybe I'll see some Big-foot tracks.

CVBC quarterly meeting held

By Mary Nehring,
Contributing Writer

The quarterly meeting of the CVBC was held Thursday, Jan. 13, at Restoration & Construction Services in Clearwater. Restoration & Construction Services is owned by Mathew and Amanda Dirksen. The meeting began with the popular annual chili cook-off (ninth annual), complete with a plethora of chili fixings including fresh green onions, shredded cheese, sour cream, hot sauce and more. Clearwater Travel Plaza provided an array of breads from their



Clear Lake Township Board Chair Gary Gray gave an update on Clear Lake township happenings. (Photo by Mary Nehring.)



MATHEW AND AMANDA DIRKSEN shared information about their business during the quarterly meeting of the Clear Valley Business Connections. (Photo by Mary Nehring.)

bakery, as well as several varieties of scrumptious pies. Attendees enjoyed sampling chili and voting on their favorite, with the top two entries receiving Coborn's gift cards. CVBC Chili Cookoff winners included Dan Lunning from Cutting Edge Catering (\$50 Coborns gift card); second place went to Amanda Dirksen from Restoration & Construction Services (\$25 Coborns gift card); third place and honorable mention went to Dr. Eron Bordson of Clearwater Family Chiropractic.

April Vasecka of Irrigation Management and member of Clearwater Parks Board gave an update on openings for different city board and commission openings. She explained they are in desperate need of Clearwater residents to step up and serve in several capacities for local boards and commissions. Openings are available in the following areas: Park Commission (meets monthly in the evening); Planning Commission (meets as needed, usually once per quarter in the evening); Economic Development Authority (meets monthly in the morning). For more information or to request an application, contact city Clearwater City Hall at 320-558-2428.

There was a brief discussion about the possibility of a Community Center coming to Clearwater in the future.

Movies and Music in the Park in Clearwater is also slated to happen again this year if permits from the city of Clearwater are granted and

locations for the events are secured. Several Clearwater area businesses have offered to provide sponsorships at a variety of amounts to help offset the costs associated with the Movies/Music in the Park events. Additional sponsors are needed. Donations in any amount are welcome. More discussion will follow in the next few months. Anyone interested in volunteering to serve on the committee overseeing the project should contact Alyx Johnson: Johns-onMaterials@Yahoo.com.

There is an interest in starting a Clearwater Farmer's Market. Lori Johnson, Root of Wellness business owner and CVBC Vice President, is spearheading this new project. The goal is for the farmers market to be launched spring/summer of 2023. Anyone interested in helping research for this project and/or serving on the committee should contact Lori Johnson: Lori.RootOfWellness@Yahoo.com.

Clear Lake Township Board Chair Gary Gray gave an update on happenings at the township level including the long overdue new township hall building, which is a beautiful structure made to give the appearance of a log structure. Gary explained that for decades the township meetings have been held in the basement of a very old building which felt much like a tomb, adding to the excitement of the new township facility. The new township hall opened November of 2020. Clear Lake township

meetings are held at the new location (7938 116th Street. SE. Clear Lake). They also dedicated a spot for a satellite office for Sherburne County Sheriff's Dept. The new Clear Lake Town Hall is open for visitors Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Gray also discussed solar projects in Clear Lake township that are underway, as well as a brief discussion about Clearwater's Clear Lake wastewater treatment plant. A short discussion was held about recent thefts in the area. Thieves have been gaining access to area homes using garage door remotes left in unlocked vehicles. Sherburne County Sheriff's Dept. recommend people lock their cars and take valuables out of their vehicles.

CVBC Treasurer Eron Bordson gave a treasurer's report. Dues for 2022 were collected at the meeting. A short discussion was held regarding the possibility of raising the amount for CVBC dues for 2023. Dues will remain the same at this time. A decision will be made at a future meeting whether to raise rates slightly for 2023.

Newcomer outreach packets is a project being led by Tri County Alliance Pastor David Fogal and Mission Outreach Director Becky Aanerud. Mary Nehring of *Patriot Newspaper* will also serve on the committee. Anyone who would like to help with the newcomer project can reach out to Pastor David Fogal of Tri County Alliance Church of Clearwater: PastorDaveTCA@gmail.com

CVBC Officers were elected for the new year. Glenna Soenneker will serve as President again this year. Lori Johnson will continue in her role as Vice President. Jenny Massmann will continue serving as Secretary. Eron Bordson will serve as Treasurer for another year.

CVBC Board member Angie Simon (Lake Central Bank) has accepted employment elsewhere, leaving a vacant CVBC board position. Lori Norlien (Norlien Fine Arts) was appointed to fill that open board position at the meeting.

Several wonderful door prizes from local businesses attending the meeting were awarded at the end of the meeting.

Mathew and Amanda Dirksen shared some background about their business and the facility (Restoration & Construction Services). The Dirksens also provided a tour of the facility after the meeting.

The next meeting of the CVBC will be held Thursday, April 14th at 11:30 am. Location will be announced at a later time.

Assessor update for Becker Twp.

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Becker Twp. Board met Monday evening, dealing with a variety of housekeeping items, in addition to receiving an update from Sherburne County Assessor Michelle Moen.

Moen discussed efforts by her department to try and keep up with the frenzied real estate market and the efforts to assess residential and seasonal properties within the county.

In 2021, a low supply and strong demand for homes led to an approximately 15% increase in values within Becker Township, while 2022 is off to an equally torrid pace.

Moen noted that the median sale price in the township was \$345,000, while the estimated market value was \$325,000.

"This is the highest market trend that I've seen

in my 24 years of experience," Moen said.

At the end of the presentation, Supervisor Brad Wilkening noted that just because a property value goes up by 20% or some other amount, that doesn't mean the taxes will increase by that much.

Moen agreed, saying that increases in the commercial and other rates across the county means that everyone's property value can go up but their actual tax payment won't increase by the same percentage.

Roads

In a move that shocked no one in attendance, 67th St. made another appearance on the official agenda.

Road supervisors Joe Danielson and Robin Boros noted that they had not had official contact with the Santiago Township Board since an article from that jurisdiction appeared in the *Patriot* last week.

The board demurred from discussing the central portion of the roadway that has led to the contrasting opinions over the past year, but did note that if the two boards cannot come to an agreement about its status, then the issue could be decided at the county level.

In addition, they reported that the gravel work on the portion of the road east of Co. Rd. 11 and the asphalt work on the western portion near Co. Rd. 23 are still slated to be completed in 2022.

In other road news, the acquisition and installation of new fire signs was discussed and Danielson plans to have quotes available by the February meeting. Currently, there are 1,887 fire signs located within the township, and the board is also considering making changes to the standard mailbox structures to encourage.

BECKER TWP. to page 7



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- **Letters to the Editors:** The PATRIOT welcomes letters to the editor. Addresses and telephone numbers are required 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. Two letters per writer per subject each year.
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Letters To The Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you! January 13th, I was attempting to find an address in Becker. I made a wrong turn and drove too far out of town. I waved to an oncoming car and it stopped. I told the lady I was lost. She told me to follow her back into town. We stopped along the side of a street. She was not familiar with the address. A Becker police car approached us. The lady left and the policeman escorted me to the location I had missed. Thank you so much for these two people that assisted me. I do not know the names of either of them. Their kindness and assistance were greatly appreciated.

**DeVonne Koppenberg,
St. Cloud, MN**

TO THE EDITOR:

In order to protect the health of caucus participants and communities across Minnesota, the Minnesota DFL Party has created a second option for a "contactless caucus." Each local unit has the option to choose between this or meeting in person. Senate District 30 DFL members will not gather in person on Tues., Feb. 1, 2022. Instead, members will go to dfl.org/caucus and fill out the Precinct Caucus Non-Attendee Form and if they choose, a Resolution Form. These forms will allow caucus-goers to run to be delegates to future endorsing conventions and submit resolutions to the DFL Party's Action Agenda and Platform. While on dfl.org/caucus, use the Caucus Finder to learn where to submit those forms. The forms can be sent via email or can be printed and dropped off on caucus night at the designated drop box for Senate District 30 between the hours of 6:30 and 9 p.m. on Feb. 1. For further information email: DFL_SD30-dfl.sd30@gmail.com.

**Joyce LeClaire
Big Lake, MN**

TO THE EDITOR:

Last Monday I drove down Hwy. 25 from Big Lake to Monticello. A bright and sunny day, no wind, -4 degrees (better than last night's -17 degrees which is also projected for tonight). You can see steam rising from both the Sherco coal plants and Monticello Nuclear plant, providing needed electricity to keep our homes warm. Then I noticed the solar farms on both sides of Hwy. 25, their panels covered with snow. When needed the most, these solar farms were generating little if any power. No breeze means there would have been no wind power generated either. Are you enjoying this year's spike in gas and electricity prices? These price increases will no longer be "spikes", but the norm as our utilities are continuing with plans to shutdown Sherco and divest from other coal plant in the area, investing in solar and wind. This year's price spikes will be remembered as the "good old days", of cheap power when we are faced with even higher prices, brown outs, if not rolling black outs in the middle of the winter and dog-days of the summer. It's time to tell our "government-approved monopolies", (e.g. Xcel, Connexus, etc.), to stop wasting money on solar and wind and to remove their state guaranteed profit.

**Bret R. Collier
Big Lake, MN**

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Duties include operation and maintenance of all road maintenance equipment, graders, snow plows, loaders and dump trucks. Preferred applicant to live within 20 minutes of Town hall and be available on call.

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STATE TRUE TEAM. The Becker Bulldogs gymnastics team performed well at the State True Team meet last Saturday in Melrose. Pictured: (front L to R) Tessa Maruska, Riley Norberg, Emma Hennessey, and Chloe Spear. Back: Allie Deters, Lauren Woelfel, Theresa Johnson, Justine Vilmo, Sarah Woelfel, Bella Kuschel, and Hailey Duncombe. (Submitted photo.)

Bulldog gymnasts perform well at True Team

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

Last Saturday's State True Team meet was a great experience for the Becker Bulldog gymnastics team, as they competed strong against the best Class A teams in Minnesota. Becker compiled 170.2 points to finish in seventh place out of the 10 team field, while Watertown-Mayer/Mound Westonka came away victorious with a score of 180.025.

"We came into the True Team State Meet ready to show up and show out!" Coach Kayla Kalinowski said. "Coming in ranked tenth in the state in a meet against the top ten Class A gymnastics teams in the state, we celebrated the fact that the only place we could go is up."

Kalinowski's team did just that, bettering three of the teams who had been ranked higher in the latest poll.

"We knew that most of these teams have qualified for the True Team State Meet the last few years and we were one of the only non-returning teams so we had to make a name for ourselves and prove we deserved to be there," the coach said. "Our girls didn't let the big environment and loud music scare them and had a fantastic meet."

The True Team State meet has a different format than other meets, as there are no individual results kept, but instead five gymnasts per team compete in each event and all five scores count towards the final standings.

"This meet truly celebrates being a team," Kalinowski added.

The Bulldogs started off the meet on floor, putting forth their best effort of



EMMA HENNESSY has been a stellar competitor for the Bulldogs this season. Here she is pictured on the Beam in a recent match versus North Branch. (Submitted photo.)

the season.

"We were able to not only hit our tumbling, but we performed our routines and got the cheering section to set the tone for the rest of the meet," Kalinowski said.

Floor scores for Becker included: Bella Kuschel (8.425), Lauren Woelfel (8.85), Sarah Woelfel (9.05), and Riley Norberg closed it off with a 9.125.

"Riley Norberg led the way again and let her senior leadership shine as she posted one of the highest vault scores of the entire meet," Kalinowski said.

Next, the Bulldogs had an up and down performance on the vault, but Kalinowski pointed out Norberg's performance as one that kept the Bulldogs with some momentum.

"Riley hit a beautiful pike tsuk to close out our rotation on a high," Kalinowski said. Scores included: Tessa Maruska (8.35), Kuschel (8.1), Sarah Woelfel (8.675), Emma Hennessey (9.1), and Norberg (9.5).

The next event was bars and the Bulldogs held their own against some impressive routines from around the state. Theresa Johnson started things off with a 7.85, while Justine Vilmo fought hard through her routine for a 7.35. Next was Sarah Woelfel, who hit a great routine for an 8.275, followed by Norberg's 8.125. Emma Hennessey closed out the event for Becker with a beautiful 8.35.

The final event was the Beam, and Kalinowski felt they had their routines dialed in by that point.

"The girls really showed their focus and determination and rocked an amazing beam set," the coach said.

Chloe Spear led off with what her coach called "a beautiful routine," scoring an 8.35, while Hennessey followed with a 7.575. Sarah Woelfel (8.525), Lauren Woelfel (9.05) and Norberg (8.525) rounded out the scoring for Becker.

"We had so many gymnasts step up and really show impressive maturity at a meet of that caliber and to not be intimidated by the big gymnastics and scores around us," Kalinowski said. "Our girls were able to stay focused and in the zone, but still had a blast being able to cheer on other school and take in the whole experience."

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Bulldog wrestlers down Bluejackets, win at Hutchinson

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Becker Bulldog wrestling team had two incredible performances last week, as they picked up another Mississippi 8 Conference win and then placed first in a large invitational tournament.

Thursday night, the Bulldogs manhandled the Cambridge-Isanti Bluejackets, 62-6.

Bennett Kujawa picked up a major decision at 106 pounds, but dropped the 113 pound match to trail in the match 4-6. From there, the Bulldogs won 12 straight en route to the victory.

Winners from the Bulldogs in the lower weights included: Kaden Nicolas (maj. dec. 120), Landen Kujawa (dec. 126), and Drew May (maj. dec. 132).

The Bulldogs then scored three straight pins, with Ethan Duncombe (138), Ethan Anderson (145) and Mason Doucette (152), each sticking their opponent in the second period.

Adam Jurek then won a 22-7 tech. fall over his opponent at 160, followed by Tyson Ricker's 4-2 decision win at 170.

The upper weight were

dominated once again by the Bulldogs, as Ryan Nelson scored a fall with just six seconds left in his match at 182, while Dylan Weber stuck his man at 195 in the second period.

Joe Goth then eked out a 4-3 decision at 220, while Bryce Kuschel scored a first period pin in the 285 pounds match.

The dual match win then set up a monumental tilt for Thursday evening, when Becker will host Big Lake with a possible Mississippi 8 title on the table. Check back in next week's *Patriot* for details.

Hutch Win

Last Saturday, the Bulldogs traveled to the Hutchinson Invite and came away with the championship hardware, scoring 224.5 points to take the crown over second place Watertown-Mayer-Mayer Lutheran (211.5).

There were a total of 12 teams in the field, and Becker also picked up three individual titles in the weight classes.

"The team competed well and continues to progress as we near postseason," Coach Travis Holt said. "They are developing the attack first mentality and it has shown in their performances. Overall, we were very pleased

with the weekend."

Kaden Nicolas was the 113 pound champion, winning the title match with a first period fall. Teammate Landen Kujawa picked up the title at 120, as the freshman picked up a MD win over Minnesota junior Peyton Gillund.

Dylan Weber continued his recent surge by winning the 182 pound bracket, including a 4-2 decision over WML senior Jonah Blakstad in the title match for Becker's third individual title.

Drew May finished fourth at 126, while Ryan Boecker was fourth and teammate Nolan Muellner fifth at 132.

Ethan Anderson was runner-up at 138, while Ethan Duncombe picked up a 4th place finish in the 145 pound bracket.

At 152, Mason Doucette placed third for the Bulldogs, while Adam Jurek was the runner-up at 160, losing a razor close 5-4 decision in the title match.

Tyson Ricker placed second at 170, while Joe Goth finished in sixth place at 195.

Bryce Kuschel finished in third place at 285 to round out the Bulldogs' win.

BECKER TWP. from page 5

sure it can better withstand the snow plowing season.

Broadband

The board tabled a request from Sherburne County for a funding request to include 22 more homes in a broadband project.

The project, which would provide fiber direct connections to a few underserved areas mostly in the northern part of the township, comes with a hefty price tag and the supervisors felt more information was needed.

Of the 49 possible residences to be served, the county had approximated that 22 would accept the service.

It was the consensus of the board that in order to allocate the significant funds requested, more information was needed about how, when, why and where the money would be spent.

In Other Business, the Board:

- Heard the Sheriff's report from Sgt. Dan Frank, who detailed 177 calls for service in the last period;
- Directed Clerk Lucinda Messman to gather more information about the finances and cost appropriations of adding a trail along Co. Rd. 23 to City Park;
- Approved a variance for Carefree CC resident Linda Meyer;
- Approved partial payments for 142nd St. and 164th St. projects, while discussing the 97th St. project, which is slated for construction in 2023;
- Tabled the discussion about Recycle Day and co-hosting with the City of Becker. The board felt that the former version of the day, including garbage collection, could be a better fit for residents and they will explore what options exist to host their own event if needed.
- Set the Board of Audit meeting for Feb. 23 at 6 pm.



Call of duty recipients

THESE BIG LAKE FIREFIGHTERS received "Call of Duty" awards last Saturday. In order to receive this award, each firefighter had to respond to more than 50% of the calls for service last year. The highest response from one person was an amazing 90%. (Submitted photo.)

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Bulldog girls claim two more M8 wins

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

It was another successful week for the Becker girls basketball team, as last Friday they knocked off the Princeton Tigers before going on the road Tuesday night and securing a 96-30 win over their Hwy. 10 rivals, the Big Lake Hornets. Against the Hornets, the Bulldogs were hitting on all cylinders offensively, including from beyond the three-point arc as they hit 12 long balls in the game. Defensively, Becker smothered the Hornets all evening, holding Big Lake to just 12 second half points.

The Bulldog bench played heavy minutes in the game and the players responded, with eight total Bulldogs cracking the scoring column. “As a team, we shot 63% which is best I can ever remember for a game,” coach Dan Baird said. “We were 12-for-20 from the three point line.”

The Bulldogs forced 35 Hornet turnovers, while also amassing a 33-16 edge in the rebounding department.

Baird also sang the praises of several of his players who packed the stats book.

“Maren Westin was close to a quadruple double, with 19 points, nine

rebounds, seven assists, and eight steals... this is one of the best individual performances I’ve seen!” Baird said. “Addy Kent had 23 points, five assists, and eight steals.”

Senior Emily Steen again led the Hornet offense, as she had 14 points in the game.

The win pushed Becker to a perfect 8-90 record in the Mississippi 8 Conference and 11-4 overall. The very young Hornets, who play just one senior, remained winless on the season.

Becker scoring: Dani Nuest – 16, Maren Westin – 19, Ayla Brown – 17, Madi Bass – three, Adeline Kent – 23, Alexa Voller – two, Lexi Rose – 11, Liz Mackedanz – five.

Big Lake scoring: Lexi Moen – seven, Rylie Sternquist – five, Emily Steen – 14, Abby Polacec – four.

Tigers

Last Friday, the Bulldogs traveled to Princeton and again poured on the offense, claiming a 92-52 victory.

Becker amassed a 49-30 halftime lead behind 23 first half points from Ayla Brown.

“Ayla had 34 points in the game, which was a career high and just five off the school record,” Baird said. “She also shared the ball with seven assists on

13-for-21 shooting and was 4-for-6 from the three point line.”

Baird noted that Brown was being featured as one of the *Star Tribune’s* players of the week.

Becker’s shooting was impressive at 53% for the game, but they also took care of the ball well.

“As a team we had only six turnovers and played a solid game,” Baird added.

Becker scoring: Nuest – 18 (six assists), Westin – 17 (eight rebounds), Brown – 34 (seven assists, four steals), Kent – 12 (seven deflections), Rose – 11 (eight rebounds).

Season Check-in

The Bulldogs are past the half-way point of the season and they’ve played one of the most difficult non-conference schedules in the state. Despite the tough competition, Baird is happy with where the team is headed.

“For the Season, we are 11-4 overall and ranked second in the state,” Baird said. “We are starting to play through some early season kinks and we are playing great basketball right now! We are super excited about the rest of the season, and what we can accomplish. This is a fun group of girls to coach, and we’re starting to establish an exciting identity!”

Radunz hopes next year is his year

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

Dillon Radunz, the Becker Bulldog alum and Tennessee Titans’ second-round pick in this year’s draft, lost his chance to be a Super Bowl champion when the Tennessee Titans coughed up a loss to the Cincinnati Bengals in last weekend’s divisional playoffs.

Radunz did not see any action in the game, but will head into the offseason as a strong potential starter in 2022-23 with the starting five O-line in flux.

Radunz was selected with the idea he would compete for the team’s starting right tackle position straight out of the gate. That never really materialized after allowing Jack Conklin leave via free agency during the 2020 offseason.

However, the transition from North Dakota State – an FCS power – proved much more daunting than the Titans or Radunz ever would have imagined. As they always say, the speed of the game takes the most adjusting.

Heading into the draft, the Titans liked Radunz’s versatility. They felt the second-rounder could play both guard and tackle, and he worked at both spots during Senior Bowl practices in January. However, the team would like Radunz to fit in at one position and be the anchor whether at tackle or guard for years to come.

“In a perfect world, he plays one position,” offensive line coach Keith Carter said. “You stick him there and see where it can get him. We’re going to need him to play more than one spot.”

Radunz’ fate might all change come next fall.

“Dillon’s doing a nice job plugging him in where ever we ask him to play and knows his stuff,” said Todd Downing, offensive coordinator for the Tennessee Titans.

“We’ll just continue to watch him grow and develop,” he said.

Radunz did get his first start in a game versus San Francisco in week 16. His task was to try and shut down one of the best pass rushers in Nick Bosa and Radunz did just that. So much that Bosa ended up moving to the right side of the line to face David Quessenberry, whom Bosa



DILLON RADUNZ (L) started his first game as a pro in week 16 of the regular season, even getting the task of blocking all-pro defensive lineman Nick Bosa of the San Francisco Forty-Niners. Radunz’ season (as well as his team’s) ended last weekend with a last second loss to the Cincinnati Bengals. (Christopher Hanewinkel-USA TODAY Sports).

deemed an easier matchup than the rookie.

Titans’ management have said Radunz “has a future on the outside where he could use his athleticism and length to leverage his way around and in front of defenders.” They say he has the perfect blend of athleticism and size to play as a fullback or tight end in their jumbo packages.

In fact, you could honestly have him take Geoff Swaim’s place on the bulk of running downs considering his struggles in run blocking this season.

Will Lomas, a writer for the Titans said in early January, “Regardless of how they might use him, the fact is that they just need him on the field in some role. The coaching staff can’t pretend like he is still a work in progress anymore and the fans should be furious if the coaching staff makes him a healthy scratch again.”

One of Radunz’ issues has been his time away from the game. Counting the two preseason games this year, Radunz had played in only three games since the 2019 college season because the pandemic restricted North Dakota State’s schedule to one game. No matter how much time you spend getting reps in practice, it’s hard to shake that kind of rust off and be at full speed.

“Once he catches up to the speed of the game, he plays lightning fast,” said former North Dakota State offensive line coach A.J. Blazek “He’s a guy that understands X’s and O’s. He’s an engineer. He’s really smart with angles. Some guys that are thinkers, they slow down. He’s able to

process all of that and still play fast too.”

In August in Tennessee’s second preseason game, Radunz started at right guard against the Buccaneers before moving to right tackle. Buccaneers’ first-round pick Joe Tryon-Shpyinka beat Radunz repeatedly off the edge.

Tryon finished with one sack and a QB hit to go along with a number of pressures. Sometimes it was a bull rush, other times it was speed off the edge. Almost every time, it wasn’t pretty.

However, the inconsistency didn’t rock Radunz from his confidence and nerve.

“He’s had his struggles,” offensive line coach Keith Carter said. “But every rookie has their struggles. He’s got a great attitude. We focus on small victories. There are things improving and getting better every day.”

All season, coaches have praised the work ethic and the character of Radunz, who headed out to the practice field early each day, eager for the opportunity to do extra work with assistant offensive line coach Mike Sullivan. There was never a hint that Radunz’s struggles were anything like right tackle Isaiah Wilson’s, the Titans’ 2019 first-round pick, who self-destructed during his rookie season.

Prior to week 16, Radunz had been scratched from the lineup five times, most recently in Week 13 against Jacksonville. In the nine games Radunz played, he logged a grand total of 53 offensive snaps.

“Obviously, as far as

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Grant Applications Open for Invasive Aquatic Plant Management

Submitted Article

(Editor’s Note: The following article was appropriated from the Wright County’s website).

The Minnesota DNR is opening the annual aquatic plant management grant process.

In 2022, a total of \$1.25 million will be available to fund projects to help manage invasive aquatic plants. This includes \$850,000 in special one-time funds to help lake associations manage invasive aquatic plants. These one-time grants will be available for both traditional control projects and projects focused on new infestations and innovative control methods.

Applications were accepted starting at midnight on Friday, Jan. 21. The application deadline is 9 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 21.

Application materials and details about the grant types and requirements are available on the 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant Program page of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html).

Applicants must submit an invasive aquatic plant management permit application through the Minnesota DNR Permitting and Reporting System (mndnr.gov/mpars) before submitting a grant application. A copy of the permit application must be submitted with the grant application.

More details regarding eligible costs can be found on the 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant Program page of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html).

Questions may be directed to DNR aquatic invasive species research and grants coordinator Jake Walsh or to DNR regional invasive species specialists (mndnr.gov/invasives/ais/contacts.html).

Welcome to the spotlight, Dillon Radunz. Let’s hope he continues to shine come next July when training camp opens. And maybe, just maybe, Dillon helps bring a Super Bowl title to Tennessee.

Titan Up!

Announcements

Clear Lake/Clearwater – Organizations

Clear Lake Legion

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

Clear Lake Lions

Meets the first & third Tues. of the month at 4180 105th Ave., Clear Lake at 7:30pm. Please contact any Lions member or one of the officers listed on our website: www.clearlakelionsmn.org

Clear Valley Business Connections

Meets quarterly on the 2nd Thurs. of the month from 11:30am-1pm at various locations. Glenna Soenneker, President, (320) 267-4361, clearvalleybc@gmail.com.

Clearwater AA/Al-Anon

Meets at 7pm, Sun. night at Clearwater United Methodist Church, 405 Main St. Clearwater. (320) 310-1399 for AA or (320) 558-6613 for Al-Anon.

Clearwater AA Meeting

Meets Mon. nights, 7pm at Rejoice Lutheran Church, 1155 CR 75, Clearwater. (612) 801-7317.

Clearwater Area Friends of the Library

Clearwater Area Friends of the Library are currently accepting donations of gently used books, DVDs & CDs

for their used bookstore located in the Clearwater Library. Donations are tax deductible & can be dropped off at the Clearwater Library.

Textbooks, dictionaries, encyclopedias, outdated medical books, magazines, & moldy books cannot be accepted. All proceeds from the sale of used books are used to support the programs, services & equipment of the Clearwater Library.

Clearwater American Legion Post 323 & Auxiliary

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

Clearwater/Clear Lake Food Shelf

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

Clearwater Narcotics Anonymous

Meets at 7pm, Wed. night at Clearwater United Methodist Church, 405 Main St. Clearwater. (612) 607-4484.

Free Grace Recovery

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

Lions Club of Clearwater

Meets second Tues. of the month at 8pm. Clearwater Lions Pavilion. www.clearwaterlionsmn.com

Young @ Heart

Community Young@Heart will meet on the third Thurs. of every month at Rejoice Lutheran Church, 1155 Co. Rd. 75, Clearwater, MN. Join us: 10:30 to meet & greet old & new friends, 11:30 lunch (suggested donation), 12pm program.

Miscellaneous – Organizations

Every Child Deserves a Family! WE NEED YOU!

Sherburne County is recruiting Foster Homes! Family Foster Care offers a temporary home until children can be safely reunited with their families or achieve permanency through kinship care or adoption. Foster Care is the 24-hour care of a child in a home that meets the child's basic need for food, shelter, clothing, medical & dental care, privacy, safety, & adult supervision.

Children enter Foster Care whose families are experiencing difficulties, have special medical, emotional, or developmental needs or who struggle with their own issues such as mental health, behavior, or truancy. Foster Care is the least restrictive out-of-home placement option & most likely a family setting.

Please contact: Chelsea

Doherty 763) 765-4033 or chelsea.doherty@co.sherburne.mn.us.

FREE - Advocates for Independence

First & third Wed. of the month 2-4pm 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 - The Saint Cloud Area Parkinson's Disease

(PD) Support Group invites you to "Coffee & Conversation" the last Wed. monthly at 10am 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.

Mental Health Discussion Group

Meets Mon., 6-7pm 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 1-2:30pm at ILICIL 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.

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.

Upcoming Becker Events

Faith in Action's Annual Gala

Sat., Mar. 19, Rockwoods in Otsego. It will be a fun evening with a new comedian (Patrick Albanese, Triple Espresso),

a delicious dinner, silent & LIVE auction items, a Wine Wall & best of all hearing how God is working in our community!!

Tickets are available on our website www.grfia.org or call (763) 263-4277. Hope to see you there!! Sponsors: Pellico, Beaudry Oil, PEM, Morrell, Becker Furniture World & more.

Upcoming Stearns County Events

Stearns History Museum

This event is part 1 of 4 of the Exploring History & Culture in Central Minnesota Lecture Series - Feb. 2002. Join Dr. Daniel K. Gullo & Joseph S. Micallef for a look at the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem.

This event is free & virtual. Sat., Feb. 5, 2022, 10:30-11:30am. Please register by Feb. 3, call (320) 632-4007 or email staff@morrissoncountystory.org. Hosted by Stearns History Museum.



Assumed Names

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Certificate of Assumed Name Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: **Lake Home Rentals**

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: **13929 12th St SE Clear Lake MN 55319 USA**

NAMEHOLDER(S):

Name: **Stacey Wasner**

Bryan Bruening

Address: **13929 12th St SE Clear Lake MN 55319 USA**

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: **Stacey Wasner**
MAILING ADDRESS: **13929 12th St SE Clear Lake MN 55319 USA**

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: staceywasner@yahoo.com

Work Item: **1281176700032**

Original File Number: **1281176700032**

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED

01/12/2022

11:59 PM

/s/ Steve Simon

Secretary of State

(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22).

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT LIEN FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that default has been made in the terms and conditions of the Declaration of Barrington Place Townhome Association No. 2 (henceforth the "Declaration") recorded in the office of the Recorder for Sherburne County, Minnesota on February 12, 1987, as Document No. 204808, which covers the following property: Lot 3, Block 1, Barrington Place Replat No. 5, Sherburne County, Minnesota

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, there is claimed to be due and owing as of January 10, 2022, from Matthew J. Hevey, title holder, to Barrington Place Townhome Association No. 2, a Minnesota non-profit corporation, the principal amount of Ten

Thousand Four Hundred Ten and 03/100 Dollars (\$10,410.03) for assessments, late fees and related charges, plus assessments, collection costs, attorneys' fees and other amounts will be incurred since said date, including costs of collection and foreclosure;

WHEREAS, no action is now pending at law or otherwise to recover said debt or any part thereof;

WHEREAS, the owner has not been released from the financial obligation to pay said amount;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Declaration, said debt created a lien upon said premises in favor of Barrington Place Townhome Association No. 2 as evidenced by the lien statement recorded on December 13, 2021, in the office of the Sherburne County Recorder as Document No. 934060;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the power of sale granted by the owner(s) in taking title to the premises subject to said Declaration, said lien will be foreclosed by the sale of said property by the sheriff of said county at the Sherburne County Sheriff's Department, Sherburne County Sheriff's Office, Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, Minnesota, on March 8, 2022, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, to pay the amount then due for said assessments, together with the costs of foreclosure, including attorneys' fees as allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by the unit owners, their personal representatives or assigns is **five (5) weeks** from the date of said sale. The following information is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 580.025 and 580.04:

- Street Address of Property: 701 Auburn Place NW, Elk River, MN 55330
- Name of Transaction Agent, Residential Mortgage Servicer, Lender &/or Broker: N/A
- Tax Parcel Identification Number of the Property: 75-449-0115
- Transaction Agent's Mortgage Identification Number, if known: N/A
- Name of Mortgage Originator, if stated on mortgage: N/A
- Date on which Occupant must vacate Property, if mortgage is not reinstated under Section 580.30 or property redeemed under 580.23: 11:59 p.m. on April 12, 2022. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then the date to vacate is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

REDEMPTION NOTICE

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Dated: January 10, 2022

HELLMUTH & JOHNSON

Lienor: Barrington Place Townhome Association No. 2

By: /s/ Lukas F. Belflower, I.D. #0401161

Attorneys for Lienor 8050 West 78th Street

Edina, MN 55439 (952)941-4005

By: /s/ Lukas F. Belflower

Its: Attorney in Fact

THIS INSTRUMENT WAS DRAFTED BY: HELLMUTH & JOHNSON

8050 West 78th Street

Edina, MN 55439 (952) 941-4005

File No. 30402.0002

(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/15/22; 01/22/22; 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22; 02/19/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 2014 Chevrolet Impala VIN# 1G1155S30EU170748 owned by State Farm Mutual Auto Ins. Co. of 1526 Bunker Lake BLVD, Ham Lake, MN 55304. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$21,465.00 (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 2012 Ford Focus VIN#1FAHP3M22CL339136 owned by Farmer Owners of 1526 Bunker Lake BLVD, Ham Lake, MN 55304. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$39,195.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 2012 Ford Focus VIN#1FAHP3K24CL250753 owned by State Farm Mutual Auto Ins. Co. of 1526 Bunker Lake BLVD, Ham Lake, MN 55304. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$26,855.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 2013 Chevrolet Cruze VIN#1G1PE5SB3D7176705 owned by Illinois Farmers Ins. Co. of 1526 Bunker Lake BLVD, Ham Lake, MN 55304. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$63,155.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 2015 Chevrolet Cruze VIN#1G1PE5SB6F7174515. Owner unknown. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$62,555.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 2004 Chevrolet Cavalier VIN#1G1JF14F347255691. Owner unknown. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$44,245.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 1997 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN#3GNEK18R3VG156990 owned by Robert Saunders of 6165 McKinley Circle, Shorewood, MN 55331-8121. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$44,240.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 1987 Buick Regal VIN#1G4GM11Y6HP403301 owned by Lindsay Eches of 1439 York Ave, St. Paul, MN 55106-3508. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$44,290.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 1999 Lincoln Continental VIN#1LNHM97V3XY644306. Owner unknown. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$58,740.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Notice of Mechanics Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Minnesota Statute §514.18 a Sheriff Sale will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Gross Body & Frame Alignment Inc., 2155 12th Street SE, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56304, to dispose of the following abandoned vehicle:

One 1979 Chevrolet Impala VIN#1L35L9J240656 owned by Teklyo Tyson of 410 Norway Dr E, Annandale, MN 55302-9565. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$67,735.00. (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Date: December 1, 2021

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

- Default has occurred in the conditions of that certain mortgage that was executed by and between Paul J. McMahon, mortgagor, and Sherburne State Bank, 12500 Sherburne Avenue, P.O. Box 428, Becker, Minnesota 55308, mortgagee,

dated July 13, 2016 and filed for record on July 15, 2016, as document number 823367, with the Office of the County Recorder in and for Sherburne County, Minnesota.

- The mortgage has been assigned as follows: n/a
- The original principal amount secured by the mortgage was: \$25,000.00.
- No action or proceeding at law is now pending to recover the debt secured by the mortgage, or any part thereof.
- The holder of the mortgage has complied with all conditions precedent to acceleration of the debt secured by the mortgage and foreclosure of the mortgage and all notice and other requirements of applicable statutes.
- As of the date of this notice, the amount due on the mortgage, and taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the mortgage is: \$26,531.78.
- Pursuant to the power of sale in the mortgage, the mortgage will be foreclosed on the land described as follows:

Lots 13 and 14, Cedar Cove, Sherburne County, Minnesota.

Street Address: 7087 - 100th Avenue SE, Clear Lake, Minnesota 55319

Tax Parcel Identification Number: 20-403-0130

and will be sold by the Sheriff of Sherburne County, Minnesota at public auction on Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the Office of the Sherburne County Sheriff, Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive NW, Elk River, Minnesota 55330.

- The time allowed by law for redemption of mortgagor or mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months after the date of sale.
- The date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. § 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. § 580.23 is July 26, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, then the date to vacate is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

- THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR OR THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINN. STAT. § 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Sherburne State Bank, Mortgagee

LATHROP GPM LLP

By: /s/ Andrew J. Steil

Andrew J. Steil #387048

1010 West St. Germain Street

Suite 500

Public Notices

Probates

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF SHERBURNE
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File No.: 71-PR-21-192
Case Type: Informal Probate
In re the Estate of
Melodie Ann Fulton,
Deceased (Deceased Person).

Notice of Informal Probate
of Will 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 Last Will dated 4/08/2021 has been filed with the Probate Registrar, and the application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Probate Registrar has informally appointed the following: Craig Adam Wright, 12241 313th Ave - Princeton, MN 55371, as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative, or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed pursuant to Minn. Stat. §524.3-607, and the court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the probate of the Will, or to the appointment of the personal representative, must be filed with this court, and will be heard by the court after the filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

Notice is also given that subject to Minn. Stat. §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 (4) months after the date of this Notice, or the claims will be barred.

Dated: 12/29/2021
s/ Patricia . Kuka,
Court Administrator
(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/22/22; 01/29/22).

Public Notice

Public Notice

On the seventh day of January 2022, 1-7-2022, at one sixteen am, a baby girl, by: Violet Jean-Baldrige was born to the father, by: Levi McKenzie-Baldrige and the mother, by: Jolene Rose-Baldrige and also to the grandparents of Elizabeth Fiecke-Baldrige, David Edward-Fiecke, Donna Jean-Bourgeois, and Thomas Mark-Bourgeois, anyone that rebuts the facts herein to be true must rebut in writing with a wet ink signature within thirty days of this publication, a correct response would be sent to c/o 12991 Carole Drive Becker, MN, 55308, failure to rebut with a wet ink signature will be considered a non-response: By: Levi McKenzie-Baldrige all rights reserved without prejudice By: Jolene Rose-Baldrige all rights reserved without prejudice (Published in the *Patriot*: 01/22/22; 01/29/22; 02/05/22).

DEADLINES

Notices & Legals

Wednesdays

At Noon

Contact Kathy:

763-275-0275

or Email:

legals.kathy@

patriotnewsmn.com

PATRIOT

WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM

SHERIFF & POLICE

REPORTS

are

posted on

our

website:

www.patriotnewsmn.com

Big Lake Public Notices

Section 00 11 13
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BIG LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 727
501 MINNESOTA AVE, BIG LAKE, MINNESOTA 55309
Bids close at 2:00 P.M. (local time) on Thursday, February 17th, 2022

By order of the School Board of the Big Lake School District, sealed bids for construction of the Controls Upgrade at Big Lake High School and Liberty Elementary School in Big Lake, MN will be received at the District Office of the Big Lake School District at 501 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake, MN 55309, Attention: Angie Manuel – Director of Business Services, until **2:00 PM (local time) on Thursday, February 17th, 2022**, in accordance with the specifications set forth herein and the “other” terms, conditions and instructions to the specifications. At that time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. **All bids received after the time stated will not be considered.** The bidder assumes the risk of any delay in the mail or on the handling of mail by employees of the school district. Whether the bid is sent by mail or by means of personal delivery, the bidder assumes responsibility for having their bid clocked in on time at the place specified. Fax or telephone amendments will not be accepted at any time. Bidders shall submit bids in duplicate on the forms provided in the Project Manual. No oral, facsimile or telephone bids or modifications of bids will be accepted. **All sealed bids are to be labeled with the project name.**

You may view and order bid documents by going to the Franz Reprographics web site at www.franzrepro.com, and selecting the **Franz Public Plan Room**. Please login with your email address and password or register if this is your first time in the Plan Room. Select the project from the list of public projects. Once you have selected the project, please review the **Bid Details** for information on ordering documents.

The Project consists of complete controls upgrade at Big Lake High School and Liberty Elementary School.

Each bidder shall submit with the bid, a cashier's check or bid bond, made payable to Big Lake School District, in the amount of five percent (5%) of the maximum amount of its bid.

All vendors entering into a contract with the district for \$10,000 or more are to provide a Labor and Material Payment and Performance Bonds for 100% of the contract. Bonds must be furnished within 10 days of notice of award of the Contract. Contract is subject to compliance with the applicable Schedule of Prevailing Wage issued by the Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry. Provide all State required Responsible Contractor Forms with your bid.

There will be a pre-bid meeting and walk through on Tuesday, February 8th, 2022 at 1:00 PM at Big Lake High School. The meeting will take place at the district office, which is Door 'M' of the High School.

Bids may not be withdrawn for thirty (30) days after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids without the consent of the Big Lake Public Schools. The School Board reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and informalities in the bidding procedures, and to act in its best interest.

BIG LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22).

Township Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
2022 SEAL COAT PROJECTS
Clear Lake Township, Sherburne County, Minnesota
Sealed proposals for the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment for the bituminous seal coat of four town roads in Clear Lake Township, Sherburne County, will be received by the Clear Lake Township Board of Supervisors at the Clear Lake Town Hall, 7938 116th Street SE, Clear Lake, MN, 55319, until 7:30 P.M., CST, on February 15th, 2022, and then will be opened and publicly read aloud. The Township's mailing address is; P.O. Box 305, Clear Lake, MN 55319.

General Description

The projects consist of the following major items of work:

Application of:

- 4,400 gallons of bituminous material for fog seal,
- 11,000 gallons of bituminous material for seal coat,
- And 550 tons of seal coat aggregate, FA 2, Class A.
- And other related items of work.

Contract Description

The contract is a unit price contract and is described in the Bid Package.

Project Schedule

All work included in the contract shall be completed within 20 calendar days of date of commencement as stated in the Notice to Proceed.

Project Plans and Documents

The Bid Package as prepared by Clear Lake Township Roads is on file in said Town Hall located at 7938 116th Street SE, Clear Lake, Minnesota. Arrangements for reviewing the bid package are to be coordinated with Clear Lake Township Roads, cltwproads@hotmail.com, 320 267 7393.

Copies of the Bid Package for use by Contractors in submitting a bid may be obtained from the the QuestCDN web site for a non-refundable fee of \$15.00.

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

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 30 days of the actual date of opening thereof.

Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond in an amount equal to 5% of the bid
Date: 7 January, 2022

s/ Gary Gray
Clear Lake Township Board Chair
(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/22/22; 01/29/22; 02/05/22).

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
2022 Bituminous Overlays
LIVONIA TOWNSHIP, SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA
Notice is hereby given that SEALED Bid Proposal Packages will be received by the Township at the Township Hall until **7:00 PM** on the **28th of February 2022**.

The Major Quantities of Work are:

MOBILIZATION	LUMP SUM	1
MILL BITUMINOUS SURFACE	SQ YD	3 8
TYPE SP 9.5 WEARING COURSE MIXTURE (2.B)	TON	4632
TRAFFIC CONTROL	LUMP SUM	1
4" SOLID LINE PAINT	LIN FT	18527

Receipt of Bid Proposal: Bids will be received at the Township Hall Located at **11162 265th Ave Zimmerman, MN 55398** until **7:00 PM** on the **28th of February 2022**.

Bid Opening: Proposals will be opened by the Engineer or the Town Board after the hour set for receiving bids at the Township Hall at **11162 265th Ave Zimmerman, MN 55398**.

Plans and Specifications may be examined at the office of Bogart, Pederson & Associates, Inc, 13076 First Street, Becker, MN 55308, or obtained by contacting Wesley Davis, PE at wdavis@bogart-pederson.com or 763-262-8822.

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

Bids must be accompanied by a Certified Check or Bidder's Bond made payable to the Township 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 Bidder's Bond) within 15 days after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids.

The Township will consider award of the contract at the **March 28th, 2022**, meeting contingent upon Engineer review. It is the Township's Intent to begin and complete construction in the year **2022**.

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

Jody Hammre, Township Clerk
Livonia Township, Sherburne County, MN
(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22).

Section 00 11 13
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BIG LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 727
501 MINNESOTA AVE, BIG LAKE, MINNESOTA 55309
Bids close at 1:00 P.M. (local time) on Thursday, February 17th, 2022

By order of the School Board of the Big Lake School District, sealed bids for construction of the Sound Systems at Big Lake Middle School in Big Lake, MN will be received at the District Office of the Big Lake School District at 501 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake, MN 55309, Attention: Angie Manuel – Director of Business Services, until **1:00 PM (local time) on Thursday, February 17th, 2022**, in accordance with the specifications set forth herein and the “other” terms, conditions and instructions to the specifications. At that time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. **All bids received after the time stated will not be considered.** The bidder assumes the risk of any delay in the mail or on the handling of mail by employees of the school district. Whether the bid is sent by mail or by means of personal delivery, the bidder assumes responsibility for having their bid clocked in on time at the place specified. Fax or telephone amendments will not be accepted at any time. Bidders shall submit bids in duplicate on the forms provided in the Project Manual. No oral, facsimile or telephone bids or modifications of bids will be accepted. **All sealed bids are to be labeled with the project name.**

You may view and order bid documents by going to the Franz Reprographics web site at www.franzrepro.com, and selecting the **Franz Public Plan Room**. Please login with your email address and password or register if this is your first time in the Plan Room. Select the project from the list of public projects. Once you have selected the project, please review the **Bid Details** for information on ordering documents.

The Project consists of electrical and technology systems for new sound systems at Big Lake Middle School.

Each bidder shall submit with the bid, a cashier's check or bid bond, made payable to Big Lake School District, in the amount of five percent (5%) of the maximum amount of its bid.

All vendors entering into a contract with the district for \$10,000 or more are to provide a Labor and Material Payment and Performance Bonds for 100% of the contract. Bonds must be furnished within 10 days of notice of award of the Contract. Contract is subject to compliance with the applicable Schedule of Prevailing Wage issued by the Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry. Provide all State required Responsible Contractor Forms with your bid.

There will be a pre-bid meeting and walk through on Tuesday, February 8th, 2022 at 10:00 AM at Big Lake Middle School. The meeting will take place at the front office.

Bids may not be withdrawn for thirty (30) days after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids without the consent of the Big Lake Public Schools. The School Board reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and informalities in the bidding procedures, and to act in its best interest. BIG LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22).



BEST OF HAWAII FOUR-ISLAND TOUR

12 days, departs year-round

Oahu • Hawaii Island • Kauai • Maui — Enjoy a fully guided 4-island Hawaiian vacation with centrally located lodging in Waikiki on Oahu, and beachfront lodging on the “Big Island” of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui. Guided throughout by our friendly Tour Directors—your local experts. Includes 3 inter-island flights.



promo code **N7017**

1-877-375-2291

* Prices are per person based on double occupancy plus \$299 in taxes & fees. Single supplement and seasonal surcharges may apply. Add-on airfare available. Offers apply to new bookings only, made by 3/31/22. Other terms & conditions may apply. Ask your Travel Consultant for details.

Come on through...
help us build
strong
communities.



We are a third generation, family-owned construction company that was founded in 1926 by three Duinink brothers. While our capabilities have expanded over the years, our values-based approach to each project has remained the same – we start with great relationships, do quality work, and honor our commitments.

We hire the best in the field and we are committed to providing our employees with opportunities to grow in their jobs. We believe in supporting the communities we serve, investing in people, and living our values every day.

JUST SOME OF THE POSITIONS WE ARE LOOKING TO FILL RIGHT NOW ARE:

ASPHALT / PAVING:
•Area Manager
•Estimator/
Project
Manager
•Plant Oilier
•Plant Technician
•Loader /
Dozer Operator
•Utility Operator
•Laborer

AGGREGATES:
•Operations Manager
•Crusher
Operator
•Loader / Dozer
Operator
•Wash Plant Operator
•Laborer

BRIDGE:
•Carpenter/
Laborer/Welder

UNDERGROUND:
•Backfiller
•Excavator
Operator
•Pipelayer
•Topman

GRADING:
•Excavator Operator
•Utility Operator
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Becker Police Department Activity Report Week of Jan. 17th – Jan. 23rd

17-Jan: 1 extra patrol, 1 speed warning / no proof of insurance Citation #026, 1 suspicious person, 1 speed warning, 2 medical, 1 gas leak/smell

18-Jan: 2 public assist, 2 fail to yield warning, 4 record check, 1 fire alarm, 4 speed warning, 3 permit to purchase, 1 fail to move over for emergency vehicle warning, 1 driving conduct warning, 1 public safety, 1 stop sign warning

19-Jan: 2 agency assist, 2 extra patrol, 2 expired registration warning, 1 funeral escort, 2 speed warning, 1 public safety, 1 miscellaneous officer, 1 medical

20-Jan: 4 extra patrol, 3 security check, 1 miscellaneous officer, 2 medical, 1 parking on sidewalk violation / Admin Citation 3687, 2 fire alarm, 1 vehicle lockout, 1 record check, 1 speed Citation #027, 1 public safety, 1 domestic dispute, 1 hazardous materials, 2 public assist, 1 speed Citation #028, 1 expired registration warning / driving after revocation and no insurance Citation #029, 1 dog complaint, 1 driving after revocation / no insurance Citation #030

21-Jan: 1 fire alarm, 1 extra patrol, 1 medical alarm, 3 public safety, 1 civil, 1 equipment warning, 1 stop sign warning, 1 suspicious activity, 1 public assist, 1 agency assist, 1 suspicious vehicle

22-Jan: 1 Winter Parking ordinance violation / Admin Citation 3933, 1 Winter Parking ordinance violation / Admin Citation 3934, 1 speed warning, 1 domestic dispute, 1 extra patrol, 1 agency assist, 1 minor consumption under 21 Citations #031, #032, #033, #034, #035, #036, #037, #038 / possession of small amount of marijuana and drug paraphernalia Citation #038

23-Jan: 1 fire alarm, 1 miscellaneous officer, 2 public safety, 1 public assist, 1 suspicious activity, 1 felony domestic assault / misdemeanor property damage, 1 warrant arrest, 1 accident

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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

Pastors: Nathan Bucher (Acting), Kevin Drehmel (Youth) & Amy Drehmel (Dir. Of Ministry), 763-261-4202, 11951 Hancock St. Services: Sun. Worship/Children 10:30am, Wed. Youth Group 6:30pm.

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 8:30am & 10:30am. Masses held 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays of the month. (Masses held on 2nd & 4th Sundays in Big Lake).

Faith (Becker) Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Pastor: Yolanda Denson-Byers & Vicar Molly Wills, 763-261-5751, 11755 Sherburne Ave. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30 am, Sun. School 8:30am, Wed. Confirmation 5:30pm, Senior High Youth Group 1st & 3rd Wed. 6pm

www.faithlutheran-becker.org.

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, Becker High School, 12000 Hancock St, Enter door 11. 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 Orrick

763-263-7990. www.hopelutheran.org

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: Sat. Mass 5pm; Sun. 8:30am & 10:30am. Masses held on 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month (Masses held on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays in Becker).

Riverside Church

Online: www.myrcc.church, 763-263-2410, 20314 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. 8am in Sanctuary Worship, 10am in Sanctuary. Audio broadcast in parking lot for both services.

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.

SHED Church - Non-Denomination in Palmer

Pastor: TBD, 320-241-0123, Palmer Town Hall, 4180 105th Ave. Services: Sun. 5pm.

St. Marcus Catholic Church

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

• DUELM

St. Lawrence Church

Father: Joseph Backowski, 320-968-7502, 10915 Duell Road NE. Services: Sun. Mass 10am, Tues. Mass 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 Fogal, 320-558-2750, 8464 160th St NW. Services: Sun. School 9am, Sun. Worship 10:30am.

• SILVER CREEK

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Pastor: Ken Tatkendorst, 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.



Obituaries

Kenneth "Ken" W. Hemmelgarn, Age 76
Elk River, MN
August 17, 1945 – January 19, 2022



A gathering of family and friends will be at a later date for Kenneth "Ken" Hemmelgarn, age 76, who passed away Wednesday at Mercy Hospital in Coon Rapids. Arrangements have been entrusted to Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home in Becker.

Ken was born August 17, 1945 in St. Cloud to Abie & Katie (Kampa) Hemmelgarn. He grew up on a farm between Clear Lake and Becker, and honorably served our country in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. Ken married Lucille Doering on August 17, 1965 at St. Marcus Catholic Church in Clear Lake. He worked as a Machine Operator in the Manufacturing Industry for most of his life, retiring in 2002. Ken was a proud member of Clear Lake American

Legion Post #354. He enjoyed cooking, fishing, fish fry's, gardening, bird watching, squirrel hunting, and was famous for his banana cake. Ken loved being with his family and was a great babysitter and teacher to his grandchildren. He was kind, compassionate, accepting, had a great sense of humor, and always made sure his family was okay. Ken was proud of his abilities and the relationship he had with his family.

Survivors include his wife, Lucille of Elk River; son and daughters, Chris (Wendy) Hemmelgarn of Elk River, Amy Borst of Princeton, and Kim (Rick) Clyne of Princeton; mother, Katie of St. Cloud; brothers and sisters, Ray (Dolly) Hemmelgarn of Richfield, Carol Lucius of Clear Lake, Donna (Steve) Bebus of Clear Lake, and Allen (Janie) Hemmelgarn of Andover; grandchildren, Justin, Katie, Clarissa, Lee, Colton, Heather, and Sadie; and great grandchildren, Nolan, Olivia, and Amelia. Ken was preceded in death by his father, Abie.

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

Carol Ann Rittinger, Age 70
Big Lake, MN

December 26, 1951 – January 17, 2022

Carol was a master gardener and loved helping others with her nursing degree but also donated often to Girl Scouts, both Golden Valley and Coon Rapids Humane Societies and The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Preceded in death by her parents Henry and Doris Skaja.

Survived by her husband Michael Edward Rittinger, her daughters Heather Hudak (Rittinger) and husband Dustin Hudak of Andover, MN and Melissa Ann Rittinger of Brooklyn Center, MN. Her grandchildren Jocelyn LaRae Hudak 14, Brady Archie Hudak 13, Tynneleigh Ida Hudak 2, Pyper Rose Hudak 11 months, Zachary M. Jones 19, Omari C. Palmer 13, and Myles D. Smith 10. Her siblings Susan Foster Marker, Daniel Skaja, Janet Mitchell, Linda Sweno, and Brian



Skaja. Beloved nieces, nephews and cousins, many long-time friends, coworkers and affiliates as well.

In Lieu of flowers, Please donate in Carol's honor to her two most loved places either the Animal Humane Society or The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Celebration of her life will be decided at a later date.

Shirley Ann (Kraemer) Winkelman, Age 94
Clear Lake, MN
November 16, 1927 – January 24, 2022



The Mass of Christian Burial for Shirley will be held 10:30 am, Monday, January 31st, at St. Marcus Catholic Church in Clear Lake. A visitation will be held from 4 pm to 8 pm, Sunday, January 30th, at the church in Clear Lake, as well as an hour before the

service on Monday. Parish prayers will be held Sunday at 5:00 pm. Shirley entered her spiritual journey on January 24, 2022, in the comfort of her daughter's home.

Shirley began her earthly journey on November 16, 1927, the daughter of Eldred Sr. and Carolyn (Nett) Kraemer. She was one of seven children. Shirley attended Clear Lake High School, graduating in 1946. She married Everett Winkelman on July 27, 1949, at St. Marcus Parish, Clear Lake. Shirley worked at Walgreens, was a nanny, owned and operated a restaurant with her husband Everett, and then was a full-time mother.

Her greatest joy was family, gardening, and baking. Shirley taught CCD classes at St. Marcus, was a 4-H leader for over 30 years, where she served on the advisory board and the 4-H camp board. Shirley was named Queen for Palmer Days in 2008, was the Senior Volunteer Queen of the Sherburne County Fair in 1998, as well as the Senior Citizen Volunteer of the year 2005.



Shirley was the mother of six children: Larry (Penny) Kelliher, MN; Ellen Sievert, Becker; Sharon, St. Cloud; John (Tammy), St. Cloud; Yvonne (Todd) Schendzielos, Clear Lake; Karen (Dennis) Pilarski, Clear Lake. Shirley was also the grandmother of 10: Paul (Cynda), Suzanne (Greg), Stephen (DeAnna) Winkelman; Michael (Julie), Christopher (Amanda), Parker (Kelly) Schendzielos; Samantha Sievert, Rosamond (Ronnie) Dodd Sievert and Philip and Sara Winkelman. She was also a great-grandmother to 16, as well as a step-grandmother and a step-great-grandmother.

Shirley is survived by her children; brother Jerry Kraemer, Laport, MN; brother-in-law and sister-in-law Charles and MaryAnn Winkelman, St. Cloud.

She is preceded in death by her spouse Everett (March 2013); parents, Eldred and Carolyn Kraemer; in-laws, John and Ellen Winkelman; siblings Eldred Jr., PA, Andrew (Connie), St. Cloud, Richard (Arlene), St. Cloud, Maxine (Buck) Jones, NC, Winnifred (Delroy) Perske, St. Cloud; step-grandson Justin McClung and step-granddaughter Shannon Backes.

Family would like to thank Moments Hospice for their love and caring ways, as well as special friends and angels on earth; Madison L, Dee L., and Barb J.

Thomas Joseph Hammer, Age 67
Becker, MN
August 10, 1954 – January 22, 2022

Thomas Joseph Hammer, age 67, died Saturday, January 22nd, 2022, at the St. Cloud Hospital.

Tom was born on August 10, 1954, in Brooklyn Center, MN, the son of Thomas and Marie (Becker) Hammer. He grew up in Brooklyn Center and Tom's dad moved the family to Becker, MN in 1969, and started Hammer Potato Company. He graduated from Becker High School in 1972, and was president of the senior class.

In 1979, Tom and his brother Gary started a partnership where they farmed 20-30 acres of potatoes, which was T&G Farms. In 1980, Tom renamed the farm TJ Farms and started growing potatoes on his own. In 2017, Tom started Precision Rain of MN and became a Reinke Irrigation, Great Plains Equipment, and Becks Seed Dealership.

Tom found great joy in giving back to his community by being a part of many organizations, such as: Centra Sota Cooperative board member, past President and member of St. Cloud EAA, past President and member of the Clear Lake Lions, past President and member of MN Area 2 Potato Council, and past President of the Clearwater Food Shelf. "Can do" was an understatement for his ambition.

In 1990, Tom married the love of his life Penney, and accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior. He loved his family deeply, and had a passion for farming. Like his dad, he loved to work. Tom considered all his employed guys the best of friends. They built buildings together, installed irrigation, and even helped him build one of his airplanes.

He loved buying insur-



ance salvage equipment, cars, boats, semi trucks, and tractors to name a few. He also loved flying his airplanes with his brother Jeff and friends. He enjoyed spending time at the Pine River deer cabin, and attending the Oshkosh air shows with his brothers and sons. A big highlight every year was the annual snowmobile trip to West Yellowstone with his sons, brothers, and friends. You could always find Tom with a Diet Coke on ice. Tom loved meeting and visiting with people. He made everyone he met feel important and treated them truly as a friend, with love and respect.

Tom is preceded in death by his father, Thomas, and his mother, Marie.

He is survived by his wife Penney, and two sons Hunter and Tanner. His three brothers: Jeff (Lynda) of Princeton, MN, Stephen (Mary Jo) of Mary Esther, FL, and Gary (Kris) of Glenwood, MN. Tom is also survived by his 4 nephews and 6 nieces, as well as his great nieces and nephews.

Tom truly was larger than life and will be greatly missed by all who loved and knew him.

A private family funeral service was held Thursday, January 27 2022.

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