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## PATRIOT



EMBER COFFEE HELD THEIR OFFICIAL ribbon-cutting ceremony as they opened their doors for business last Friday. Elise Berry (above) held the giant scissors. See the story on page 5. (Submitted Photo).



## (Old) Russell's getting major facelift

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

In what many social media activists describe as irreverence, the new owners of Russell's on

the Lake (Willy McCoys) took down the turret and conical roof as part of their reconstruction of the restaurant on Big Lake.

Though currently unsightly, the construction crews have been working diligently to reno-

vate the building for an expected grand opening sometime late spring or early summer.

It is reported the owner(s) plan to construct a large deck out back and have already installed several docks for boats to moor

during the summer.

Russell's On the Lake closed their doors December 12. The restaurant/catering business has been a staple in Big Lake for 34 years.

### Inside

#### COUNTY

The Sherburne County Board established new commissioner district lines. See the story on page 3B.

#### BIG LAKE

Bridgeview Church in Big Lake won a national award for its newly-completed expansion. See the story on page 2.

#### CLEARWATER

The Clearwater City Council discussed the new contract renewal for mosquito spraying control which caused a split in the vote resulting in a failed motion. See the story on page 6.

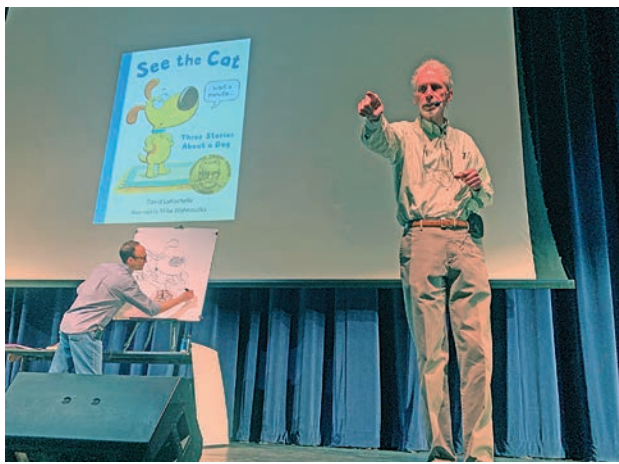
## PATRIOT

PICK UP A COPY OF THE PATRIOT AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- CLEARWATER:** Coborn's;
- SANTIAGO:** General Store;
- PALMER:** General Store;
- BECKER:** Food Pride;
- BIG LAKE:** Coborn's;
- PATRIOT** office

**We are now in Palmer!**

## Penmen and artists visit students at Becker



AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS David LaRochelle (R) and Mike Wahnoutka (L) gave inspiring presentations to K-5 students at the PAC Monday. (Submitted Photo).

### Submitted Article

On Monday, Becker K-5th grade students had a unique opportunity when award-winning Minnesota authors and illustrators, David LaRochelle and Mike Wahnoutka, took time out of their busy schedules to visit the students at the PAC throughout the day.

These visits were extra special because normally only a single author/illustrator makes a visit to a school, never two at the same time. However, LaRochelle and Wahnoutka have collaborated on a number of books the students enjoy, so a joint visit was arranged.

VISIT to page 5

## Gilyards Passing the Torch

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

The Gilyards made it official. Bill's Superette and its conglomerate are landing in Becker.

The Gilyards, Virgil, Joel, John, Julie and Kristi, had been in negotiations for months with the Rademacher Company — who also operates under the name, Bill's Superette, located in Andover, MN.

"We are passing the torch," was what Kristi Gilyard (Kelly) posted on the Becker, MN Community Forum page on Facebook.

Becker's grocery store, Becker Food Pride, will be converted to Bill's Family Foods and Jubilee Liquors will switch over to G-Will Liquors.

The Deli Plus Shell Station will no

longer be Shell. The store will convert to a Bill's Superette and rumor has it the site will have new gas pumps and eventually a car wash system.

"It has been a pleasure to be a part of the Becker community," Kristi's post said. "We appreciate every customer choosing to shop with us over the past 62 years. Our wonderful employees we will also miss, and you will most likely see them continue on with the Rademacher Company."

Kristi had nothing but praise for the new owners who closed the deal with the Gilyards Wednesday.

"Exciting changes are coming down the pike. The Rademachers are local, progressive, and will be a great

GILYARDS to page 5

## BILL'S SUPERETTE

YOUR SMALL SUPERMARKET



## LOCAL STUDENT EARNS EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

### Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by St. Cloud State University.)

Corey Sakkinen, Clearwater, an Elementary Education K-6 major, was among 22 St. Cloud State University students who received honors at the 34th annual Excellence in Leadership Awards Banquet, April 24.

The Excellence in Leadership Award is the University's highest award for student leadership, recognizing seniors and second year graduate students who have made outstanding contributions through leadership, service and scholarship to St. Cloud State and the St. Cloud community.

"This year's award winners are an especially resilient and dedicated group of leaders, as they have had to overcome many challenges during the pandemic," said Christa Hayes, St. Cloud State director of civic engagement and assessment.



Students received a certificate of excellence and a medallion to recognize their work and leadership.

Founded in 1869, St. Cloud State University prepares students for life, work and citizenship in the 21st century on the banks of the Mississippi River in St. Cloud, Minnesota. In its rigorous academic programs, students apply their knowledge in real-world settings. With individualized student support, the institution's 200 undergraduate academic programs, 60 graduate degrees and two doctoral programs serve more than 10,000 students. St. Cloud State is leading into the future by boldly altering the way serves a new generation of students with a focus on research and innovation. Learn more about St. Cloud State University at [www.StCloudState.edu](http://www.StCloudState.edu).

COREY SAKKINEN of Clearwater received an Excellence in Leadership award last Sunday in St. Cloud. (Submitted Photo).

## PATRIOT

News & Advertising Deadlines

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

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

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

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## Refuge holds Easter Bunny event

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

KJ's Refuge in Orrock Twp. held an Easter event April 10 in which the Easter Bunny made an appearance for all the guests. The event was hosted by the Elk River Lions.

Over 356 children from all over the area came to see the giant white rabbit in the yellow bow tie. Many had their photo taken with the bunny and others enjoyed crafts and coloring pages in the craft area. There was a bunny walk and lots of games as well as a huge Easter basket filled with 1,200 eggs!

KJ's held a bike drawing at 2 p.m. and donated food items were gathered and collected to be given to the Big Lake Community Food Shelf.



THE FRIENDLY EASTER BUNNY at KJ'S Refuge in Orrock Twp. posed for photos with several of the bike drawing winners including this very happy youngster. (Submitted Photo).

## Bridgeview Church wins national award for expansion

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

Bridgeview Church, off of Co. Rd. 11 in Big Lake, recently won a national award for its newly completed expansion.

**About the Expansion**  
The expansion was completed in December 2021. Two wings and a parking lot expansion were added to the original structure to accommodate for the church's growth.

The additions included lots of extra space for kids' classrooms and youth ministry. "The only part of the building that wasn't touched was the kitchen," said Dan Johnson, project manager for the construction and church member.

Classrooms which are separated according to kids' age line the hallway of one of the new wings. At the end of the hallway is a worship area for older kids, those in first through fifth grade. There is even a sensory room at the back of this worship area, for those kids who are overwhelmed by too much stimulus. According to Pastor Steve Royalty, the room is used every week.

A patio area with hanging lights and fire pits make up the section between the two new wings of the church. Finishings around the church were designed to have a modern lodge look. Pastor Royalty was excited about the expansion, saying it gave the church

up working in favor of the church, Pastor Royalty claimed. Without the congregation tracking mud into the building every week, construction was able to continue without much interruption. As area residents turned to watching Sunday services online, church membership contin-



BRIDGEVIEW CHURCH was recently expanded to double its original size. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

the opportunity to offer new ministries and other services. Mom groups, kids karate, and other gatherings are also being offered in the new expanded space.

**COVID-19**  
Construction occurred during the worst of the pandemic, which ended

ued to grow. Now Bridgeview is happy to welcome back its congregation to in-person worship, and nearly 600 people attended Easter Sunday services this year.

**Award**  
The building recently won the National Frame



**NATIONAL AWARD.** Bridgeview Church was presented with a national award for its recent expansion. Pictured from left to right are: Dan Johnson, project manager; Pastor Steve Royalty; Ron Knapper, Lester Buildings; and Joe Lempere, Lempere Buildings. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

Building Association's 2021 Building of the Year Award. This award considers buildings around the nation, and determined the church to be the best of the nominees in construction for 2021.

Ron Knapper of Lester

Buildings (Lester Prairie) and Joe Lempere of Lempere Building (Becker) were very pleased with the outcome. The two companies collaborated to create the beautiful building. Knapper said it was a true honor to even be nominated

for the award, let alone to win. The expansion also won a recognition award from Lester Buildings. The two awards were presented to Pastor Royalty Monday.

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# National Day of Prayer to be held next week



**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER.** Local residents are pictured last year lifting up the local communities in prayer at National Day of Prayer outside at Becker City Hall. (Patriot archive photo by Mary Nehring).

By Mary Nehring, Contributing Writer

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. The event was created 70 years ago (in 1952) by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

The Task Force is a privately funded organization whose purpose is to encourage participation in the National Day of Prayer. It exists to communicate with every individual the need for personal repentance and prayer, to create appropriate materials, and to mobilize the Christian community to intercede for America's leaders and its families. The National Day of Prayer Task Force represents a Judeo-Christian expression of the national observance, based on our understanding that this country was birthed in prayer and in reverence for the God of the Bible.

The goal of the national event is to join scores of others across the U.S. to pray for our families, our churches, our communities and our nation and that God's love would permeate every aspect of this community. The event will consist of small group prayer with scripture and prayer prompts.

Becker National Day of Prayer event will be held at Becker City Hall flagpole at noon. For more information, contact pastor Nathan Bucher at Becker Baptist Church at [nathan.bucher@beckerbaptist.org](mailto:nathan.bucher@beckerbaptist.org) or 763-261-4202.

Big Lake National Day of Prayer event will be a prayer breakfast held Thurs., May 5 at Caroussel Works from 6:45 a.m. to 8 a.m. For more information, contact Pastor Kyle Sidlo from Saron Lutheran at 763-263-2209 or email at [kyle@saron.org](mailto:kyle@saron.org).

# Mother's Day

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**Happy Mother's Day!**

To: **Young Mothers, Old Mothers, Grandmothers, Step Mothers, Biological and Non-Biological, Foster Mothers, Those with Mothers in Heaven, Those with Babies in Heaven, Those who have stepped into the role, Those who have a Mothering Heart!**

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## GSLHS holds prom at Keller Lake



STUDENTS FROM GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL held their prom dance at Keller Lake Commons in Big Lake where they danced for and with the residents as well as played games and exchanged recipes. (Submitted Photo).

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

Good Shepherd Lutheran High School trekked to Keller Lake Commons in Big Lake to celebrate their prom with the Keller Lake Commons residents.

The students did a grand march, danced to some classic music for the residents and participated in some fun games as well as a recipe exchange.

Good Shepherd students have volunteered at Keller Lake Commons Assisted Living doing service

projects, getting to know the residents and this year, wanted to share their prom experience with them.



**20th ANNIVERSARY SEASON**

Great River Chorale presents

**In Every Corner Sing**

Sunday, May 1, 2022 at 2 p.m.  
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Saint John's University Abbey Church  
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Adults (19 and older): \$18  
Youth/Students (w/ID): Pay-what-you-can (\$5 suggested)  
Buy tickets at [greatriverchorale.org](http://greatriverchorale.org) and at the door.

All seats are general admission.  
To view COVID-19 safety protocols, visit [greatriverchorale.org](http://greatriverchorale.org).

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# Community Fair shines on rainy day

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

Over 40 exhibitors and hundreds of patrons descended upon Big Lake High School for the Big Lake Chamber's annual Community Fair last Saturday morning.

Entertainment was provided by BLHS Chamber Choir, Treble Choir, Jazz Band and Poetry Out Loud students, Evolution Tae Kwon Do and Starz Dance.

Vendors associated with the Farmer's Market had to set up inside the building this year as early morning rainfall and cool temperatures disrupted the event. The Chamber gave away six bicycles and three scooter/skateboard combos.

Coborn's gave away free food samples and a huge line formed in front of the Liberty Bank booth where they were giving away free coolers while supplies lasted. Robotics students put on a demonstration with their robot and Shrek actors from the school's current play were in costume and strolled

through the gym to spark interest.

Caricatures by William Morgan provided free caricatures to guests who stood in line patiently for their chance to see themselves in cartoon form.

All proceeds from the event were donated to BLHS Volunteerism Scholarships.

Gold and Bike Sponsors of the Fair include Becker Big Lake Ice Association, Custom Doors Sales, Insurance Specialists Team, Liberty Bank & State Farm-Cory Laugen.

Silver Sponsors include Big Lake Spud Fest, Casey's, Coborn's, Edina Realty—Ryan Benjamin, Fed Ex Ground, First Class Mortgage, Minnco Credit Union, Minnesota Limited, Park Dental, Starz Dance Studio, Window Concepts of MN and Wruck Sewer & Portable Rentals.

Additional Bike Sponsors include Big Lake Spud Fest, Driscoll Accounting, Edina Realty-Ryan Benjamin & Window Concepts of MN.



VANESSA KOVACS (above) was the prize winner of a gift basket after she successfully tossed at least one bean bag in the bean bag toss game at the Patriot Newspaper booth last Saturday. Her name was then drawn from dozens of submissions and earlier this week she stopped by the Patriot office to garner her prize. (Patriot Photo by Kathy Nelson).

MAYOR PAUL KNIER (R) was interviewed by members of the Big Lake Ambassador program during the Community Fair last weekend. (Patriot Photo by Carol Hanson).



PARKER FRIEDMAN OF LIBERTY BANK (above) was in charge of handing out the very popular soft-sided coolers at their booth at the Big Lake Community Fair at BLHS last Saturday. (Patriot Photo by Carol Hanson).





## Living the Dream

In my last column, I wrote about my aspirations to travel and to see the Caribbean. I'm here to tell you, it was better than I imagined.

My first glimpse of the Caribbean was from the plane. The turquoise waters and the unknown islands below captivated my attention. No longer a dream in waiting, but one to be realized.

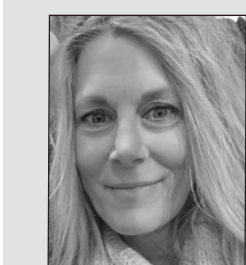
We arrived at Punta Cana airport and stepped onto the tarmac. It's a sunny and wonderful 84 degrees. We get through customs and head to the resort.

Scott is talking with the driver and I'm looking at all the palm trees along the highway. It's a welcome site for this Minnesota girl. My mind is setting up the tropical paradise that awaits. I'm so excited!

The Grand Bavaro Princess Resort is as beautiful as the pictures online. We check in and we take the trolley car to our room. Our building is the second one from the beach. We have a clear view of the tiki huts and palm trees. We can hear the waves crashing on the shore.

It's time. The moment that I have been waiting for since I was a teenager. We walk past the tiki huts and step into the softest white sand. I lift my head up and behold the most beautiful shade of turquoise that I've ever seen. It's better than I had imagined.

Everything on this resort was beautiful. The



By Shelley Berthiaume  
Contributing Writer

landscaping, animals, flowers, pools, and even the people.

It was an adventure walking around. You never knew what you would see. One day, we came upon a Rhino Iguana. It was bigger than any iguanas we had ever seen and looked prehistoric.

Various ducks, birds, pelicans and peacocks walk around. The male peacocks would call out to the females and then fan their feathers. It was awesome.

Flamingos adorned a large pond. I never thought you could get so close and actually feed them, but you can. They take the bread crumb out of your hand.

One of the restaurants you could sit right up by a pond. There were lush palms, tropical plants, white pelicans and other beautiful birds flying around. Definitely was our favorite.

We took a catamaran excursion to Saona Island. It was wonderful being out on the sea. The island itself was tropical and jungle like in every aspect.

Swimming with the dolphins was an experience. I always knew dolphins were smart, but seeing them up close and what they can do is amazing. They are in their natural environment when you meet them. I danced, swam and even got a kiss. I loved every minute. There was more to this adventure than the dolphins. This was a park reserve with wild birds that you could feed out of your hand and see the Macaw parrots up close.

One of the highlights of this trip was meeting people from all over the world. Germany, Argentina, London, fellow Americans and many from our northern cousin - Canada. I found we have more in common than we realize. It was interesting and rewarding at the same time. We came as strangers and left as friends.

The beach by far was my favorite. I couldn't get enough of it. We spent hours swimming, walking and just watching the waves roll in. There is something about the rhythm of the tide going back and forth. It's relaxing on every level.

We took lots of pictures, met some of the nicest people, drank straight from a coconut and pineapple, and experienced the beauty of the Caribbean and Punta Cana. This trip was everything I had hoped it would be and more. We are definitely going back.

## Problem Solvers Unite!



By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

There's perhaps nothing that defines humanity as much as the fact that we are problem solvers. Whether it's medicine, logistics or other needs within the community, the human condition seems to hold the answers to helping one another live better, more prosperous lives. This week, let's celebrate the problem solvers within our community: the past, the present and the future.

**Past**  
Last week, Becker's high school robotics team traveled to Houston to compete in the World Championships and once again the team and its coaches represented this area well. Robotics has been championed as the "varsity sport of the mind" and don't let the fact that the team has qualified for the Worlds six times fool you: getting there is no easy task. Yes, I am for sure biased since I helped establish the team ten years ago. But these students continue to impress with their focus on solving problems that are put forth by each year's challenge. Sometimes the 100-plus pound robot needs to hurl objects at a target, while at other times it needs to climb a structure. Many times, it needs to do both.

For any of the curmudgeons out there who subscribe to the "these kids nowadays" complaints, take the time to look up the team and see their accomplishments. You would be amazed by the intellect, creativity and real-world problem solving skills that are demonstrated by this elite level team. Just take a minute to look up the sponsors and you will see that there are literally dozens of businesses who help fund our local problem solvers because the goals and ambitions of the participants and coaches line up perfectly with what our companies will need in the future. Yes,

indeed, Becker is home to one of the best groups of problem solvers in the United States - and they've been doing it for ten years.

**Present**  
Head Coach Jason Baune and the Becker girls softball team have a statewide reputation as a top program, as evidenced by their nearly routine trips to the state tournament (including a state championship a year ago). But in my estimation, it's their dedication annually to the "Strike Out Cancer" game that is even more impressive. This year, they are teaming up with the Bulldog baseball team and will be hosting an event on May 13 to raise funds for a local woman who is once again battling cancer. You can see the details elsewhere in this week's paper and all over social media.

These fine students and their coaches are today's problem solvers and it's a good lesson once again as to the power of high school activities. They see a purpose and a value in serving others and in stepping up to help solve problems that affect way too many people in our area each year. As our community has always done, let's all step forward to reward their efforts and help them make a difference. Because that's what problem solvers do... they make a difference for others.

**Future**

Often times, when people think of our Veterans, we think about those service men and women who have selflessly served our country in the past and have fought so hard to guarantee our freedoms as Americans. And that service should be celebrated, recognized and honored... freedom should never be taken for granted.

But here's a huge kudos to the Becker American Legion, Post 193, as they have focused their attention to the future. To our next generation of Veterans, war heroes and service members whose dedication to the community doesn't end with their discharge from the Armed Forces.

Our community has a problem in that our local Legion doesn't have a permanent home. It's a complicated issue, one that involves an expired 99-year lease and land/building ownership that crosses jurisdictional boundaries. However, the solution is not that complicated and can be remedied in the near future with the continued cooperation of both City and Township officials.

Veterans are problem solvers and these Legion members are ready, willing and able to solve the problems with their building through the seeking of Grant funding and other volunteer opportunities. They just need to be given the chance to do so. Our local elected officials, who are also problem solvers, need to step up to the plate and get this taken care of so our Veterans can continue to serve our community. This should be done in a matter of months, not years.

Solving problems works best when teams of humans do what humans do best - work together to solve problems. Let's unite behind their efforts in our local community!

## Supporting Projects in MN Communities

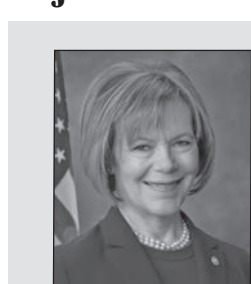
(Editor's Note: The following column was submitted by Sen. Tina Smith.)

After advocating here in Washington, I'm excited to share that over 70 Minnesota projects will receive over \$130 million in federal funding to improve transportation and infrastructure, education, housing, public safety, and more.

Although only a few projects are highlighted here, these are some examples of the variety of industries and areas in Minnesota that will benefit. I look forward to seeing how this funding fuels projects that will directly improve the lives of Minnesotans.

### Expanding Health Care Services

The Native American Community Clinic's expansion will enable it to serve twice the number of patients, provide new services such as COVID-19 care and



By Sen. Tina Smith

recovery, and create new jobs in the Minneapolis community. The clinic has provided culturally responsive health programming and critical telehealth services, testing pop-ups, and vaccination clinics during the pandemic. Over the past two years, the number of employees has already doubled, and this funding will allow the clinic to serve even more of Minneapolis's urban Indigenous community.

### Bringing Economic Growth to NW MN

The Thief River Falls Regional Airport Air Cargo Development will provide and support jobs in the

region, helping surrounding industries grow. Specifically, the funding will help pre-design, design, construct, furnish, and equip a cargo hangar.

### Providing Childcare Options

A new childcare facility in Little Falls is critical to ensuring families in the community have affordable, available childcare options. This funding will not only help build a new facility, but it will also help cover operating costs for the center.

### Improving Energy Efficiency in S MN

The Blue Earth County Energy Efficiency Project will bring environmental and economic benefits, including creating new jobs in southern Minnesota. The project includes the installation of solar panels to power buildings and county-wide energy efficiency measures. Also, it involves the addition of electric vehicle charging stations and a geothermal heating and cooling system.

## Biggest Issues Still on the Table

(Editor's Note: The following column was submitted by Rep. Shane Mekeland.)

Minnesota's 2022 legislative session began in January with converting a record state surplus into meaningful tax relief and getting a grip on surging violent crime among our numerous top priorities.

We now are entering the final month of the session and, while there is still hope on these issues, there also are reasons for concern. In fact, you could say we've actually taken a significant step backward by allowing an unnecessary tax on employers to take place despite the fact the state has a surplus of around \$10 billion and growing.

Employers are now experiencing tax increases on their unemployment insurance rates because Minnesota has not taken action since our state's unemployment funds were depleted during the pandemic. The Senate passed bipartisan legislation two months ago - by a veto-proof majority - to resolve this issue, but the House has not followed suit.

It is perplexing to see this issue stall in the House when it has received such bipartisan support this year. And now the House majority's supplemental budget proposal for this session includes \$0 to resolve this issue by repaying our state's depleted unemployment insurance fund. This is costing state taxpayers \$50,000 per day in interest and leaving employers on the hook for a tax increase at a time when the state has a massive surplus.

Differences in how the



By Rep. Shane Mekeland

House and Senate propose appropriating the state's surplus present sizable gaps to close in the next few weeks. The Senate passed the largest tax cut in state history - at more than \$8 billion - representing nearly the entire budget surplus. This includes eliminating the state's Social Security income tax and reducing income taxes. The average tax relief per filer would be \$759, with a family making \$100,000 per year receiving a tax break of \$1,066 every year.

Meanwhile, House Democrats propose \$21 in new government spending for every \$1 in tax cuts. Their approach spends more on programs, with total tax reductions in the House Democrat tax bill amounting to less than \$600 million over the next three years compared to more than \$12.2 billion in new government spending - a 14% increase.

As for public safety, we're seeing violent crime continue to soar in our state and there has not been much movement in the House despite outward bipartisan support.

Before the session began, House Democrats

touted stronger penalties for carjacking, house arrest for youth auto theft offenders, and grant programs aimed at recruiting police officers. And House Republicans earlier this session assembled a package of bills that would aim to reverse the dramatic increase in crime in our state by holding criminals responsible for their actions, helping recruit and retain peace officers, and providing transparency on decisions from prosecutors and the courts.

Unfortunately, these common-sense proposals have not received the support they warrant. Numerous DFL-backed proposals that failed to receive committee hearings even were brought forward as committee amendments by House Republicans - only to be voted down by the House Democrats, who now propose giving more money to violence interrupters and growing the state government by tens of millions of dollars while adding dozens of new full-time employees in St. Paul.

Senate Republicans have been moving a public safety bill featuring measures worthy of bipartisan support. This includes criminalizing the offense of carjacking, along with increased penalties for violent crimes by repeat offenders and increasing transparency when prosecutors dismiss charges on a case.

We owe it to Minnesotans to provide meaningful, permanent tax relief and to get a grip on violent crime. Anything less should be unacceptable.

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The Patriot, under the continuation of the Citizen-Tribune, is the official legal newspaper for Clear Lake, Clearwater, Orrock, Palmer & Santiago Townships, City of Becker, Becker Township and Becker School District #726 and Big Lake School District #727.

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- **Obituaries:** Obituaries are \$50 prepaid. The Editor reserves the right to edit lengthy obituaries.

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# Better latte than never: Ember Coffee opens

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

Last Thursday, the owners of Ember Coffee in Big Lake held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to christen their new business of selling coffee and goodies right along Hwy. 10.

Matthew and Elise Berry had a grand opening Friday, April 22 at their location at 450 Jefferson Blvd. in the heart of Big Lake. Their store is on the south side of the purple and blue two-

story building.

They are open from Monday thru Saturday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Not only does Ember Coffee serve a great brewed cup of java, they also sell travel tumblers,

Ember mugs, stickers and much more. They also have yummy pastries and even ice cream.

At some point in the near future, Ember Coffee will also offer sandwiches and other lunch items in the cafe, and they are excited to soon

feature a welcoming location and workplace for today's entrepreneur, small business operator, and freelancer.

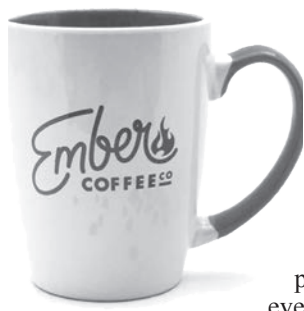
According to their website:

"Our mission is to turn strangers into friends, serve the best coffee anywhere, and be a place that cultivates creativity and good works. We are more than a coffee shop - we are a community on a mission, passionate about bringing beauty to every corner of our city."

Another motto they stand by:

"We don't serve coffee, we serve people."

There's no filtering that.



EMBER COFFEE HELD THEIR OFFICIAL ribbon-cutting ceremony as they opened their doors for business last Friday. Left to Right: Matthew Berry – Owner of Ember Coffee Co., Hanna Klimmek – Interim City Administrator, Ketti Green – Planning Commissioner, Elise Berry – Owner of Ember Coffee Co., Scott Zeterval – Planning Commissioner, J. Brian Calva – Big Lake EDA Commissioner, Deb Wegeleben – City Finance Director, Raeanne Danielowski – Sherburne County Commissioner and Paul Knier – Mayor of Big Lake. (Submitted Photo).

## ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAYS

### CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP & CITY of CLEAR LAKE ANNUAL CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday, May 7th, 7:30 a.m. to Noon

Located at 7938 116TH Street SE, Clear Lake Township Hall Parking Lot.  
Bring your unwanted materials and **PROOF OF RESIDENCY.**

VOLUNTEERS willing to work call Bud at 320-761-5793.

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Mattress or Box Spring (any size) (per piece)	\$20.00	Each Personal Computer or Laptop	\$ 10.00
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Household Air Conditioner	12.00	Television 24" to 39"	20.00
Passenger Car Tire or Utility Trailer Tire	3.00	Television greater than 39"	25.00
Passenger Car Tire or Utility Trailer Tire w/Rim	4.00	Bare/Broken Television/Monitor	50.00
Light Truck or Small Tractor Tire	5.00	Each Stereo System or Radio	10.00
Light Truck or Small Tractor Tire w/Rim	6.00	Scrap Metal	0.00
Large Truck Tire	6.00		
Large Truck Tire w/Rim	10.00	<b>ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:</b>	
Farm Tractor Tire	20.00	-- Gas Operated Refrigerators	
Construction Equipment Tire	30.00	-- Restaurant Equipment	
General Junk (Small misc. items) (per 2 yards)	15.00	-- Business Equipment	
Tree Trimmings, Branches & Leaves (per 2 yards)	5.00	-- General Garbage	
Motor Vehicle & Household Batteries, Oil Filters	0.00	-- Household Hazardous Wastes	

(Contact Tri-County Solid Waste Management Commission for disposal of household hazardous waste at 1-800-450-6140.)

For more information regarding the annual clean up day, contact Paul at 612-695-4714.

#### GILYARDS from page 1

asset to our Becker community."

The Rademacher organization has been operating for approximately 50 years. Rademacher Companies is estimated to generate \$19.2 million in annual revenues, employs approximately 130 people at the headquarters location in Andover and

180 total employees at all locations. Currently, with the procurement of the Gilyard properties, there are now nine Bill's Superette locations around the State of Minnesota (Becker, Nowthen, Ramsey, Lino Lakes, Oak Grove, Andover, Brooklyn Park, Champlin and Royalton).

Keep and eye out in your Patriot Newspaper for their weekly insert that will feature sale specials and bargain items.

We here at the Patriot wish the Gilyards well. It has been our pleasure to work with you through the years! Happy retirement!

#### VISIT from page 1

The students were not disappointed.

The students were entertained by some storytelling, audience participation, and illustrating demonstrations. Students even got a "sneak peek" of an upcoming title being released in the near future, with the help of a couple of teacher volunteers during each session.

Students were informed by LaRochelle and Wohnoutka of what it is like to be an author and/or an illustrator, as both men have experience in both.

Their presentations were engaging as they shared their experiences and lessons of persistence and practice to improve, even when receiving rejections from publishers. It was interesting to hear what inspires their ideas and creativity.



THE K-5 STUDENTS eagerly participated in the fun as the authors and illustrator presenters entertained the crowd. (Submitted Photo).

They encouraged students who want to be authors and illustrators to always remember they will need to practice and revise their work many times to get it "just right", as nothing is perfect the first time. A special thank you to

the Central Minnesota Library Exchange for helping make this visit possible.

To learn more about these talented authors/illustrators and their work, please visit: [www.david-larochelle.com](http://www.david-larochelle.com) and [www.mikewohnoutka.com](http://www.mikewohnoutka.com).

## NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY IS QUICKLY EVOLVING

According to data from the Newspaper Association of America (NAA), trends reflect that the print industry is evolving its business model in significant ways. Some of these ways include connecting with developments in technology, tapping into consumer behavior, understanding advertiser interest, and more in order to grow audiences and diversify its revenue stream.

## PetNet Works

Working with the community to find homes for needy pets



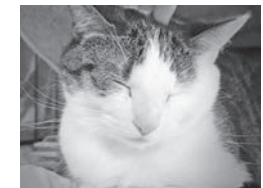
**Freya**

is a 170 pound terrier mix who is a good match for heavy-duty chew toys and plenty of exercise. She's an enthusiastic destination-driven walker. An Emily Weiss Walkie or Gentle Leader would help keep her in pace with you. Could this 48-pound hunk of love be your new best friend? Come to the shelter - she's waiting to meet you!



**Leila**

is a big dog with a big heart - and she's searching for a place for her 105-pound frame to call home! Honestly though, her frame should not be carrying that much weight, so a few less calories and a few more walks would be in order. Leila by the way is a spayed 3-year-old brown and white Am Staff mix.



**Precious**

is a 4YO spayed kitty who wants a place with lots of cozy beds, a cat tower, scratching posts/pads, and, of course, toys. You can budget to give Precious the life she so richly deserves because she qualifies for our Fabulous Five Dollar Feline promotion and her adoption fee would be waived completely for a senior or veteran.



**TEX**

is a 2YO neutered black Lab mix who likes Kongs and other durable chew toys. Tex is a smart cookie too; he knows his name, sit and shake. He's house-trained and will let you know he needs to go out by getting in your face to get your attention.



**Fluff Fluff**

has a colour room to herself now because all her roommates got adopted. This lovely black cat is a fan of the following: Sleeping in sinks, interactive toy playtime, and even belly rubs! She's 6 months old and spayed, so she qualifies for our Fabulous Five Dollar Feline promotion.



**O'Malley**

is a 3YO neutered cat whom we strongly recommend be an indoor-outdoor cat. When he's indoors, he should have plenty of opportunities for mental enrichment. He'll come to you when he wants attention; otherwise, best to let him be! His fee would be waived for a senior or veteran.



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Mondays, 6-7pm  
Recommended ages 5-7  
Must be 4 yrs. by May 1

### PITCH-BALL

Mondays, 6-7:30pm  
Recommended ages 8-9

### SOFTBALL

Mondays 6-8:30pm  
Softball: Recommended ages 10-14  
Player may not turn 15 after May 1

**VOLUNTEER COACHES AND PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.**

**PLEASE TEXT OR CALL LAURA AT 320-250-7510 OR EMAIL**

**PALMERBALLPROGRAM@GMAIL.COM**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.**



## Array of agenda items at Lynden Twp.

By Penny Leuthard,  
Contributing Writer

The Lynden Twp. Board of Supervisors attended to a combination of items during their April meeting.

### Property Issues

The Planning Commission performed a site visit in March for Donald Haggmann's property on Belview Road; he's requesting a road variance. Planning Administrator James Kantor informed the council the variance is necessary as it is currently a non-conforming structure from the center line and side setback. The variance will then allow Haggmann to apply for a building permit from the county.

A motion carried setting the public hearing.

Richard Murray inquired about a ROW permit for his non-compliant drain field. The county septic system ordinance requires recorded permission from the township before placing any portion of the septic system within a township road. There isn't enough room on the prop-

erty to meet all the setback requirements and they're currently utilizing a lake setback granted in 1994.

The proposal is to replace the existing trench system with a smaller pressure bed in the same location. If the township prefers to have Murray move the system closer to the lake and outside of the ROW, it will require new soil borings, a new drain field design, and a new lake setback variance as ordinance requires 150' setback from a tank/drain field to a natural environment lake.

No action was taken as no application has been received nor was Murray present at the meeting.

Victoria Luedtke approached the board to inquire about the property line of her 5th Ave. property. She has been working with private surveyors to determine boundary lines and corners as the current legal description is dated and vague; she hadn't yet received the completed survey.

Stearns Co. confirmed there is a building entitlement for the parcel, but she would

need to comply with things such as setbacks due to the parcel's small size. Chairman Dave Johnson suggested she contact the Stearns Co. Assessor and Surveyor.

### Road Updates

Niemi received an estimate to fix the upper Alder Road water flow; all work would be within the township road ROW. He also received the annual bridge inspection report and will contact Schendzielos to correct Bridge L9896 to remove beaver dam and debris from the south side of the culvert.

A bid of \$45,030 was received from Astech Surface Technologies for seal coating Birchwood, 17 Ave. E. and the town hall parking lot. A motion carried authorizing the expenditure.

Motions carried authorizing the township chair and clerk to sign the Five Year Road Plan with Short Elliot pending suggestion suggested by Twp. Attorney Michael Couri and the 2022 Summer Maintenance contract with Schendzielos.

### Other Business

A motion carried to au-

thorize expenditure for bobcat rental not to exceed \$500. The bobcat is necessary based on numerous scheduled sign replacements. A second motion carried to resume rentals of the town hall but with an amendment to include a max capacity of 50.

The ARPA funding received by Lynden Twp. to date is \$113,435. Supervisor Dennis Niemi obtained a quote of \$2,125 for LED lighting, the labor will be donated. A motion authorizing the expenditure was made and then withdrawn after further discussion. The item was tabled to May.

MIDCO representative Steve Johnson confirmed to the council a business proposal of \$85/month for 100 mbps and no installation fee, and the option to upgrade to higher mbps without an additional installation fee. A motion carried accepting the quote.

The next Lynden Twp. meeting will be May 2 at 7 p.m.

## Clearwater Council split on mosquito control

By Penny Leuthard,  
Contributing Writer

During the Clearwater City Council's April meeting, resident Sarah Tasa came forward during the public forum to express concerns over the mosquito contract renewal. She stated she is opposed to the mosquito control spraying because of concerns about chemicals used. It was noted that residents can opt out of having their home sprayed.

The council returned to the issue later in the meeting when discussing the mosquito spraying contract renewal. Last year's contract was only good for one year. Mosquito spraying was initially implemented because of the two rivers running through town and concerns about the West Nile Virus.

Mayor Lawrence explained last year the city had a detailed discussion on the matter, surveyed the public, heard from company representatives, and considered several options. Residents who responded to the survey indicated they wanted to continue spraying with Permethrin, which is less expensive than the organic Merus product.

Member Lindsey Luhmann stated she is opposed to spraying as she doesn't believe it works and is concerned about health effects. Member Wayne Kruchten

said he is also opposed because of the cost and is concerned about toxicity. He suggested the city forgo spraying for one year and see if residents notice a difference.

Member Kris Crandall said he remembers what it was like before spraying began and stated he believes spraying is a benefit to residents.

A motion to approve the contract renewal with the Permethrin product failed 2-2.

### Public Forum

Along with her concerns about mosquito spraying, Tasa stated she is concerned with the assessment process for late utility bills. She believes the assessment fee is too high and should be removed, that people should be allowed to make a payment plan for late bills, and that there should be more information made available about resources for payment assistance.

A discussion followed addressing the city's process, the number of notifications sent to residents, the information on the city's website and Facebook page, and the fact that the county charges the city a fee for assessments which must be passed on or covered by other residents.

Pat Briggs approached the council to reiterate his position that they consider his request for 26 years of TIF as-

sistance for his proposed Ash Street apartments project.

Mayor Andrea Lawrence stated as this item wasn't on the agenda for discussion she needed additional time to review everything before she could determine her position on the issue; other council members concurred.

City Administrator Anita Smythe explained that the city had not yet drafted the TIF development agreement as it's typically done following site plan approval. Briggs stated he would like the financial details finalized before proceeding to the site plan and requested the city begin drafting the agreement.

### Other Business

A discussion was held concerning the snow fence ordinance the city adopted last year. There were a handful of complaints over the winter regarding snow fencing being in disrepair, however it was hard for staff to enforce once the fence was erected due to poles getting frozen into the ground.

Mayor Lawrence reiterated that she isn't in favor of the fencing as it's not permanent and proposed sending the ordinance back to the Planning Commission to strike out the third exception that allows snow fencing near undeveloped areas.

Crandall said there was a lot of discussion in regard to the issue last year and he was

fine with it as is; Kruchten stated he was fine with either option. Mayor Lawrence asked if there was a majority who wanted it referred to the Planning Commission, which failed for lack of a majority.

Caroline Stutsman from Bergan KDV provided the council with an overview of the audit report, after which a motion carried accepting the report.

Motions carried approving Resolution 2022-25 Certifying Lien for Unpaid Utilities and Resolution 2022-28 Appointing Planning Commission Member.

Motions carried authorizing the purchase of a new sewer pump for a slight increase over bid and the purchase of a new mower by state bid; the expected cost is \$41,000.

Motions carried approving acceptance of the scoreboard for Sportsman's Park that was donated by the Clearwater Lions and approving the hiring of Breanna Rhodes to complete the mural at Spring Street Park for \$800.

Michael Lenz was appointed to the council seat vacated by Richard Petty with a term ending December 31, 2022.

The CVBC Business Expo will be May 1.

The next Clearwater City Council meeting will be May 9 at 7 p.m.

## Public hearing held for Xcel solar field project

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

Becker and Clear Lake area residents once again had the opportunity to voice their opinions about a potential Xcel Energy solar field in the area. A public hearing at the Becker High School Performing Arts Center was moderated by Judge Kimberly Middendorf, with representatives of Xcel Energy, the Public Utilities Commission, and the Minnesota Dept. of Commerce present on stage with her.

After a brief presentation from the Xcel representatives, the floor was opened to those wishing to voice their opinions.

The City of Becker, represented by Interim City Administrator Jeff O'Neill, announced they would no longer be against the solar panels, having worked with Xcel to minimize the impact the solar field would have on industrial park expansion.

Micheal Corre, an attorney representing Clear Lake Township, expressed the township's dissatisfaction with not being consulted in the issue of future



JUDGE MIDDENDORF and various government and Xcel Energy representatives were on hand at the public hearing. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

business park expansion. The township remains a supporter of the solar field, and stated that they preferred the original plan, which included more land.



Several individuals representing local workers' unions voiced their approval of the project, as the construction of the project would create many local jobs.

Some residents, including Randy Sealy, Lefty Kleis, and Sharon Klisch, voiced their disapproval of

the project, voicing concerns about maintaining a reliable, affordable energy source.

One individual, Bryan Olson, asked several ques-

tions of the Xcel representatives, many of which the representatives were able to answer on the spot.

He asked whether the solar field would create a heat sink, to which Xcel representative William Risse replied that, while heat sinks occurred in southern states, it was not

expected to happen here.

Olson asked what the Sherco plants currently generate and what the solar field would generate in regards to power, and how the difference would be made up. Risse replied that the current generation of all three plants is 2,400 megawatts of power per year, while the solar field would produce 460 megawatts of power per year. The difference would be made up by natural gas plants at sites outside of Sherburne County.

Olson asked how many jobs the Sherco plants currently support on a daily basis, and how many permanent jobs (individuals coming in on a daily basis) would be created by the solar field. Risse replied

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BRYAN OLSON asked several interesting questions of the Xcel Energy representatives. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)



FORMER MAYOR LEFTY KLEIS spoke against the solar field project. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

that 230 workers are currently employed to run the Sherco plants, while the solar field would employ four or six individuals.

Olson asked about the plans for a natural gas plant in Becker, but Risse informed the audience that those plans had been scrapped.

Some individuals were concerned about agricultural land being converted to a solar field, but Risse explained that the owners of the land all agreed to lease their land to Xcel for the project.

Judge Middendorf stated that all comments submitted during the public hearing will be considered, as well as any written comments submitted by 4:30 May 5, 2022. Comments may be submitted online (<https://mn.gov/puc/consumers/public-comments>), via eDockets (<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/>), through email ([publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us)), or through U. S. Mail Public Advisor - Minnesota.



# Employment (Continued to page 8)

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## Sports News

# Boys lacrosse starts season 1-1

By Bill Morgan, Staff Writer  
[reporter.bill@patriotnewsnm.com](mailto:reporter.bill@patriotnewsnm.com)

The Becker boys lacrosse team had their first game last Tuesday against Big Lake and won 17-3.

"We had strong performances from our upperclassmen and had excellent contribution from a few of our freshmen," said Head Coach Brandon Kent.

Becker had seven goals in the first half, then 12 goals in the second.

The Bulldogs played Monticello last Thursday, and lost 14-3. Titus Peters led the Magic with five goals and one assist on 10 shots.

Kent has 26 players on his roster for this year including Harrison Kent, Sam Steiskal, Brady Johnson, Titan Hoover, Kaden Hartkopf, Dillon Lindenau, Joshua Miller, Adam Jurek, Dylan Kolby, Dru Fitzsimons, Robert Leaders, Noah McDonald, James Hartkopf, Collin Lietha, Jake Rosenow, Maxwell Olson-Burkman, Jeffrey Fossum, Kaden Rish, Austin Koester and Jackson Kinzel.

Kent is joined on the sidelines by assistants Jakob Edling, Dominic



**THE 2022 BECKER BOYS LACROSSE TEAM.** (In no particular order): Harrison Kent, Sam Steiskal, Brady Johnson, Titan Hoover, Kaden Wilson, Michael Bentley, Andrew Lauzer, Ethan Duncombe, Max Super, Estin Quill, Caden Hartkopf, Dillon Lindenau, Joshua Miller, Adam Jurek, Dylan Kolby, Dru Fitzsimons, Robert Leaders, Noah McDonald, James Hartkopf, Collin Lietha, Jake Rosenow, Maxwell Olson-Burkman, Jeffrey Fossum, Kaden Rish, Austin Koester and Jackson Kinzel. (Submitted Photo).

Esler and Kasey Rice. "I do enjoy coaching," said Kent. "When I get on the field it's like a sanctuary, everything else disappears - kinda refreshing. Time commitment is the most challenging, trying to juggle work schedule and the lacrosse schedule."

Kent says building relationships and trust with his players is the most rewarding part of the job. He tries to pattern his coaching style after some of the coaches he's faced while playing sports as a youth.

"I was lucky have some very influential coaches in high school and college," he said. "They were animate about winning and competing while building their players character."

Though Kent is always thinking about getting his team to an elite level, he knows how important it is to take one game at a time and build the team as it goes.

"We always want to compete, but it's important to build quality players who trust in each other and believe in the team," he says.

Kent awarded the captainship of the team to two seniors, Estin Quill and Michael Bentley, who he says are very committed and supportive of their teammates.

Working with teens who have so much energy and enthusiasm, who are anxious to score goals and help carry the team to victory, can be one of the big-

gest challenges for a coach in any sport. Practices consist of getting the youths to stay focused and fine tune their skill sets.

"Implementing and executing defensive, offensive and special teams concepts is most challenging," Kent says. "We incorporate a lot of skill work into practice but rely on the players to independently work on their fundamental skills."

Monday's scheduled match against Chisago Lakes was postponed for weather reasons. Thursday, the Bulldogs hosted the Hornets of Big Lake and results will appear in next week's Patriot.

# Bulldog girls lacrosse goes 1-1

By Bill Morgan, Staff Writer  
[reporter.bill@patriotnewsnm.com](mailto:reporter.bill@patriotnewsnm.com)

The Becker Girls lacrosse team kicked off their first two games of the season, winning April 19 against Big Lake and losing to Monticello April 21, 12-4.

**Becker 10, Big Lake 7**  
 Despite giving up six goals in the first half, the Lady Bulldogs buckled down and the defense did a phenomenal job, allowing just one goal in the final frame.

"After we figured some things out and got the first game jitters out of the way, we were able to settle in and get into a groove," said Becker Head Coach Anicca Lundeen.

**Monticello 12, Becker 4**  
 Monticello proved to be a tough opponent as always. The Bulldogs lost by eight after starting off with a goal on their first possession. Their excitement and positiveness quickly disappeared as the Magic seemed to be able to score at will and put a stop the Becker's offensive firepower.

"We found ourselves in a big hole we had to try to dig out of," said Lundeen. "However, our team stayed positive and did some really

good things. We may not have come out with a win, but we definitely learned from this game."

Becker's player of the game was Natasha Bertheaume.

"Tasha stepped up at the beginning of the season to be our goalie," said Lundeen. "She has been working with Dwight (Lundeen) every day and is very talented."

JV is off to a good start winning over the Hornets 8-1 and the Magic 4-2.

"We have a lot of young talent and this will be a fun team to watch grow and get better as the season goes on," said Anicca.

The Bulldogs named Jessica Duncombe as their player of the game. Jess came in as goalie for half of the JV game after never playing goalkeeper before.

"She is an amazing teammate for even being willing to try," said Anicca.

**Up Next**  
 Due to the irregular spring season weather, the season will start getting really busy for Lundeen's squad with very little practice time as their calendar is filled with games.

The girls traveled to Big Lake Friday (April 29) and to Rocori Monday (May 2).

# Hornet baseball gets a win

By Ken Francis,  
 Contributing Writer

The Big Lake baseball team won its first game of the season, 9-5 over Becker at home last Thursday.

The visiting Bulldogs got on the board first with a run off Big Lake starter Isaiah Terlinden in the top of the second inning.

The Hornets took the lead with three runs in the home second.

Becker tied the game, scoring two runs in the third. But Big Lake went ahead to stay with three more runs in the fourth for a 6-3 lead. They added a run in the fifth and two more in the sixth.

Becker got a run back in the fifth and scored their final run in the seventh off Hornet reliever Dylan Ro-

beck.

had two. Keenan Hjermsstad, Conner Stukenholtz, Nolan Reiter, Conner Stern and Collin Skaug each had a hit. The Hornets also drew 10 walks and had 16 stolen bases.

Terlinden got the win. He allowed four earned runs on six hits and seven walks in six innings. Ro-beck pitched one inning, allowing an earned run on two hits and a walk.

Tuesday, the Hornets lost to Cambridge-Isanti, 6-2.

Defensive woes were a big part of the loss. Starting pitcher Hjermsstad allowed

three hits and three walks in 2.1 innings. But only two of the five runs he was charged with were earned.

The Hornets managed just three hits in the game. Stukenholtz and Haselius each had a double and scored a run. Dylan Ro-beck singled and had Big Lake's only RBI. Nolan Reiter reached base twice the hard way, getting hit by a pitch twice. He also stole two bases.

The Bluejackets had one big inning - the third, scoring four runs. Hjermsstad was relieved in that inning by Haselius, who allowed one earned run, three walks and no hits in 2.2 in-

nings. Blake Rondo pitched a scoreless sixth.

Big Lake fell to Monticello last Tuesday, 2-0. The Hornets managed just two hits in the game. Dylan Ro-beck and Blake Rondo both singled. Big Lake's only other batter to reach base was Isaiah Terlinden, who drew a walk.

Monticello scored both runs in the fourth inning off Big Lake pitcher Keenan Hjermsstad. He pitched well but took the loss. He allowed two earned runs on nine hits. He struck out five and didn't issue a walk.

The Hornets are 1-3 on the season. They have a busy schedule ahead. They were scheduled to play a doubleheader at Princeton Thursday and an away game at Zimmerman Friday. They host Sauk Rapids 4 p.m. Monday.



**YOUNG HUNTER GOES THREE FOR THREE.** Kenlie McDonald struck again when she recently bagged her third turkey in her three years of turkey hunting. She is the 12 year old daughter of Josh and Amy McDonald of rural Clear Lake. Kenlie has enjoyed many hunts in her 12 years. She has accompanied her dad on duck and goose hunts for many years, starting at age four. Kenlie also got her first buck while hunting with her dad this year, as well. (Submitted photo.)



# Sports/Area News

## Bulldog tennis continues to roll

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

Another week, another string of victories for the Becker boys tennis team, as the Bulldogs picked up a number of victories over some impressive opponents to remain undefeated.

### 3-0 Saturday

Last Saturday, the team played host to three teams and came away with a perfect 3-0 record on the day.

"Saturday was a great day of tennis for our team," Head Coach Hokan Bengtson said. "We played three quality opponents and had a chance to see the growth we have made over the past three weeks."

In the opening round, Becker picked up a 6-1 win over Minnewaska Area, which included Zach Bengtson's upset of the #3 Class A state ranked player Tate Reichmann.

"Round one we got off to a slow start at many of the positions versus Minnewaska Area," Bengtson said. "The highlight of the match was Zach upsetting the #3 ranked player in class A."

Bengtson lost the first set 0-6, but came back with 7-5 and 10-8 victories to claim the win at the #1 singles match.

Ryan Bengtson won the #2 singles match in stellar fashion, (6-4, 6-0), while Troy Nuest finished up the singles wins with a 6-2, 6-4 win at #4.

In the doubles, it was a clean sweep for Becker, as Luke Bordson - Eli Scheideman won the opener (6-4 6-2), while the #2 team of Nick Gruber - Sawyer Brown won 6-2, 6-0. Erik Baker and Landen Goebel combined to win the #3 match, 7-5, 6-4.

In the second match of the day, Becker took on Elk River and again came away with the win, this time by a score of 5-2.

"In round two we played some of our best tennis to date this season, as we had big wins at all three doubles positions and really competed well at three of the four singles spots," Bengtson said. "Elk River came into the match today 9-4 on the season and has a consistently good tennis team. Our guys really started to show some of the things we have been working on in practice - finishing points and choosing the correct shot for each situation."



SAWYER BROWN gets ready to return a volley in the Bulldogs' win over the Bluejackets. (Submitted photo.)



THE BECKER TENNIS CAPTAINS continue to show excellent leadership for the team, as the victories continue to pile up. Pictured are Eli Scheideman, Luke Bordson and Ryan Bengtson. (Submitted photo.)

Landon Peterson (6-0, 6-1 at #3) and Troy Nuest (6-0, 6-2 at #4) both had wins in the singles matches, while the teams of Bordson-Scheideman (7-5, 5-7, 10-8), Gruber-Brown (6-3, 6-3) and Baker-Max Haugen (6-0, 7-5) each had wins.

In the final match of the day, Becker faced perennial power Brainerd and picked up the win in a rain-shortened affair, 4-1.

"We played Brainerd a couple weeks ago, but they were missing their #2 singles player. Today we saw their full squad and we played well all over the courts," Bengtson said. "We had great wins by

Ryan, Landon, and the #1 and #2 Doubles teams."

The #1 Singles and #3 Doubles teams were not able to finish because of rain, so the final score was 4-1.

Becker singles winning matches included Ryan Bengtson 6-1, 6-1, and Landon Peterson 6-4, 6-3.

Doubles teams winning their matches were Bordson-Scheideman and Gruber-Brown.

### Anoka

Monday, Becker was dominant in a win over the Anoka Tornados, 7-0.

"Anoka graduated eight seniors from last years team and it showed, they were

young and inexperienced," Bengtson said. "We had some new guys playing #3 Doubles today and it was a great learning experience for them."

Singles results: Z Bengtson, 6-0, 6-0; R Bengtson, 6-3, 6-0; Peterson, 6-3, 6-0; and Nuest, 6-0, 6-1. Doubles results: Bordson-Scheideman, 6-0, 6-0; Gruber-Brown, 6-1, 6-2; Erik Baker-Adler Herdina, 7-6, 3-7, 6-3.

The win pushed the Bulldogs to a perfect 10-0 on the season and it also brought some statewide recognition, as Becker was listed just outside the top ten in the state Class AA rankings. For tennis, the Bulldogs compete in the highest class against huge metro schools such as Edina, Wayzata and Maple Grove.

### C-1

Tuesday night, Becker hosted Cambridge-Isanti and cruised to the win, 7-0.

"This was a good test for our guys versus a conference opponent that has a young team," Bengtson said. "We came out ready to play and stayed focused throughout the match. We had many good points and competitive games especially in singles."

Zach Bengtson again rolled at the #1 singles spot, winning both sets 6-1, followed by Ryan Bengtson at the #2 spot who also won in straight sets, 6-3, 6-3.

Landon Peterson picked up the win at #3 (6-2, 6-3), followed by Troy Nuest with a 6-1, 6-3 win at the #4 spot.

In doubles play, both of the Bulldogs tops teams blanked their opponents in straight sets, 6-0. Bordson/Scheideman and Gruber/Brown were perfect in their matches. Erik Baker and Landen Goebel teamed up for the 6-0, 6-2 win in the #3 doubles spot.

With the win, the Bulldogs sit at 11-0 on the season heading into yesterday's (Friday's) match against Duluth East, which Bengtson calls his team's "toughest test" so far this season.

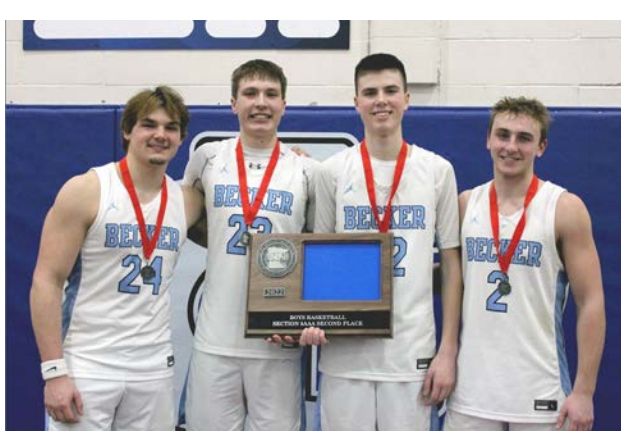
## Bulldogs boys hoops holds banquet

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

Head Coach Josh Ihrke and the Becker Bulldog boys basketball team recently held their end of the year awards banquet, where the team's accomplishments from the 2021-22 season were celebrated.

The program enjoyed a strong season, finishing 17-11 overall, runners-up in Section 5AAA and in third place in the M8 Conference. It was the team's first appearance in the Section Finals since 2001.

Ihrke presented letter awards to nine players who earned enough playing time to qualify: Nick Berglund, Carter Callahan, Hayden Harmoning, Tristan Pickwall, Julius Hendricks, Eric Seavert, Ryan Bengtson,



THE CAPTAINS OF THE BECKER BULLDOGS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM were honored at last week's banquet. Pictured are: Carter Callahan, Brady Paumen, Eric Seavert and Alex Weiss. (Submitted photo.)

Brady Paumen and Alex Weiss.

As a team, the Bulldogs sported a 3.59 GPA (M8 Gold Award) and as a result, several academic awards were presented to individuals. Earning academic all-conference status were: Callahan, Pickwall, Seavert, Paumen, Weiss and Hendricks. Weiss, with a 4.0 GPA, was honored as the team's Scholar Athlete.

Seavert and Paumen earned All-Conference awards from the M8 Conference, while teammates Weiss, Harmoning and Hendricks were presented honorable mention awards.

In announcing the statistics from the season, Ihrke noted top scorer Seavert (483 points), top rebounder Paumen (243 rebounds) and top field goal percentage shooter Callahan (66%). Paumen also had the most blocks on the team with 49, while Berglund nabbed 36 steals to lead the team. In the assists category, Seavert (114) and Harmoning (106) both reached triple digits.

Team awards included: Callahan as the Best Teammate and Most Improved, Paumen as Most Dedicated, Weiss as Defensive MVP and Seavert as Team MVP.

## Safety mindset essential around cold water

Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by the Minnesota DNR.)

The weather so far in April has been anything but consistent and the same can be said for the ice-out status of Minnesota's waterways. However, as people's focus turns to open water, the Minnesota Department of Resources reminds boaters and paddlers that cold water is dangerous and unexpected falls can turn tragic quickly.

Each year, about 30% of fatal boating accidents

happen during the cold-water period. In many instances, the victims weren't wearing a life jacket. Wearing a life jacket - not just having one somewhere on the boat - is the most effective way to survive a fall into cold water.

"For many of us, our most cherished memories revolve around time spent on the water," said Lt. Adam Block, boating law administrator for the DNR Enforcement Division. "But the water can be cruel and unforgiving, and failing to take the proper precautions before heading onto it can have di-

sastrous consequences." As boaters and paddlers take their first trips of the year onto the water, they should:

- Ensure their boat is registered and equipped with proper safety equipment, and that all pieces are functioning properly;
- Wear a life jacket (a foam life jacket is more effective than an inflatable life jacket during the cold-water season);
- Distribute weight evenly and abide by manufacturer's weight limits to reduce the likelihood of falling

overboard;

- Have a means of communication (boaters also should let other people know where they're going and when they plan to return);
- Watch the weather to avoid shifting winds or storms.

For more information about staying safe on or around cold water, visit the cold water dangers page of the DNR website ([MNDNR.gov/Safety/BoatWater/Cold-Water.html](http://MNDNR.gov/Safety/BoatWater/Cold-Water.html)).

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**Area Chamber News**

<p><b>Becker Area Chamber of Commerce</b></p> <p>Membership Meeting May 18 - Noon Location TBD</p> <p>Support Your Local Businesses!</p>	<p><b>Big Lake Chamber of Commerce &amp; Industry</b></p> <p>Business After Hours May 19 - 5 pm Location Pending</p> <p>Legislative Update May 31 - 11:30 am Location Pending</p>	<p><b>Clear Valley Business Connections</b></p> <p>Annual CVBC Expo Sun., May 1, 10 am - 1pm @ Clearwater Legion</p> <p>505 PINE ST., CLEARWATER AMERICAN LEGION 320-558-6627</p>
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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 <a href="mailto:Chamber@BeckerChamber.org">Chamber@BeckerChamber.org</a>	Gloria Vande Brake 763-263-7800 <a href="mailto:Info@BigLakeChamber.com">Info@BigLakeChamber.com</a>	Glenna Soenneker 320-267-4361 <a href="mailto:GSoenneker@GMail.com">GSoenneker@GMail.com</a>
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**As you know, the Big Lake Spud Fest event is celebrating their 50th year this summer and we at the Patriot are putting together a special tab guide that will feature this year's events, memories from the past, photos, coupons and lots of great surprises for all our readers!**

**We are asking for your help! If you have anything worthy of being put into the guide (see above), let us know! We'd love to feature your treasures, stories or photos in this special guide.**

**Call us at 763-275-0275 or email [production@patriotnews.com](mailto:production@patriotnews.com). With your help, we can make this 50th Anniversary issue a treasure itself!**

## Bulldog boys track team relishes first outdoor meet

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

Tuesday night was a seasonal milestone for the Becker boys track team, as they were finally able to participate in an outdoor meet as they traveled to Monticello for an invitational.

"We finally got an outdoor track meet in," Coach Paul Schmidt said. "It was a chilly meet, but one the team was happy to compete in."

Becker was the smallest school in the meet, but Schmidt was happy with his

team's overall performance.

"We competed very well and finished with 74 points as a team," Schmidt added.

Alexandria won the meet with 161 points followed by Monticello with 123.5. Osseo snagged third place with a score of 94.5, followed by a close grouping, including the Bulldogs. St. Cloud Tech, Rogers and Becker finished with 78.5, 75, and 74 points, respectively. In seventh place was North Branch and St. Cloud Apollo finished in eighth.

The Bulldogs were led

individually by some outstanding performances, as Tyson Ricker and Owen Angell paced the Becker squad with two wins each. Ricker won the 1600 meters with a personal best time of 4:28.48 and then ran a great race in the 3200 to win with a personal best time of 9:48.87. Angell had personal best performances in his two wins as well, winning both the 300 intermediate hurdles (42.91) and the pole vault with a vault (12'8").

"Angell also added a 110 meter hurdle fourth place

finish with a time of 17.3 seconds," Schmidt said. "Carter Leither had a really good night, running a personal best in the 400 with a time of 52.95 where he took third place and then also finished fifth in the 200 with a time of 24.05."

Schmidt also credited Logan Eisele, who finished sixth in the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.79.

"It was a very tight race which saw only seven hundredths of a second separate third to sixth place," Schmidt said. "Brody Stommes added

a personal best pole vault with a 9' 0" jump that landed him a fourth place finish."

Another top finish included Parker Spindler, who ran a personal best in the 1600 with a sixth place time of 4:56.28

The 4x800 relay team of Alex Kinney, Mason Becker, Caleb Reckelberg, and Parker Spindler finished with a fourth place finish, while the 4x200 relay team of Leither, Eisele, Quintrell Robinson, and Mitchell Soltau finished in fifth place and a time of 1:40.16.

"Overall I was very proud of how we competed," Schmidt said. "It was a great night for the Bulldogs."

Becker was next scheduled for a Thursday trip to Pillager.

### Addition

In the spring sports preview story about the Bulldogs, two returning letter winners were inadvertently omitted from the article. Both Alex Kinney and Ben Howe return to this season's team after winning letters a year ago.

## Bulldog girl runners take home meet

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

The Becker girls track & field team hosted a home conference quad on Tuesday. Due to weather conditions, the meet was moved indoors.

The Becker girls had a very good meet and won with 100 points followed by Chisago Lakes 60, Princeton 31.5 and Big Lake 26.5.

"We had many personal best marks and the three relays that competed had season best times," said Head Coach Trish Kealy.

In the field events, Paige Maunu won both the shot put (PR 31'6 1/4") and the long jump (15 5 1/2"). She continued her impressive competition by earning second in the



**LEXI ROSE (L)** was part of the 4x800 relay team that captured first place in a conference quad in the fieldhouse Tuesday. (Submitted Photo).

55M (8.01) and third in the 200M (29.54).

Also capturing first place in a field event was Lauren

Woelfel, with a PR vault of 9' in the pole vault. She came in fourth in the triple jump (30'5").

Lexi Rose took second in the high jump at 4'6", another PR.

Becker's track events started off with an exciting 4x800 relay that saw the team take first place in a season best time of 10:26.80. Team members were Lexi Rose, Abby Atwood, Alea Briggs and Ella McDonald.

In the 55M hurdles, five of Becker's girls earned PR times. Sarah Woelfel won the event in 9.45 (PR) and Regan Hausmann PR'd for third in 10.08. Also running well were Raelle Lyon (PR 10.45) Lauren Woelfel (10.47), Avery Boyer (PR 10.75) and Reese Hausman (PR 10.95).

In addition to Paige's second place in the 55, the Bulldogs also had Leon Mor-

ris placing fifth (8.26).

Becker's 4x200 relay team of Sarah Woelfel, Kailey Thompson, Reese Hausmann and Regan Hausmann won that event in a season best time of 1:57.39.

Ella McDonald ran a PR time of 5:43.26 enroute to winning the 1600. Olivia Babler placed fourth (6:03.24) and Natalie Trenz was fifth (PR 6:25.69).

Abby Atwood won the 400 in 66.13 for a season best while Alea Briggs placed second in a season best of 67.34. Kylee Morton ran a PR time of 71.02 for fourth place.

The Bulldogs took three places in the 800 with Lexi Rose in first with a season best time of 2:39.16, Katelyn Brower was third in a season

best 2:45.60 and Meghan Swanson fourth with a PR of 2:45.88.

Becker's 200M runners placed third with Paige Maunu-29.45, fourth Regan Hausmann 29.70, fifth Abby Atwood, 29.77 and sixth with Sarah Woelfel 30.06.

The Bulldogs finished out the meet with Becker taking first in a competitive 4x400 relay. The foursome's time was 4:29.78 to the team from Chisago Lakes 4:30.22. Becker's runners were Kailey Thompson, Lexi Rose, Ella McDonald and Alea Briggs.

Becker's next meet is an invitational scheduled for Tuesday at Monticello and then Thursday at Pillager for an invitational.

## FamilyWise Services Recognizes STIR

Submitted article

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

April is national Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month. In Minnesota, FamilyWise Services is the lead agency for child abuse prevention and the home of Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota following its 2020 merger with Minnesota Communities Caring for Children (MCCC). FamilyWise shares resources with partners, expands access to services, and balance conditions for positive childhood experiences to enrich every community and support parents and caregivers. Each year during April, FamilyWise recognizes its partners across the state who support child and family wellbeing with its Pinwheels for Prevention award. These partners provide services to families, create spaces to develop community connections, and raise awareness about the importance of supporting families and children.

STIR is being recognized for multiple campaigns and resources to promote healing, inspire resilience, share social connections, and celebrate the whole person through mind, body, and spirit throughout Sherburne County.

"STIR is delighted that our social media campaigns and website ([www.STIRMN.org](http://www.STIRMN.org)), which are

designed to promote resilience in our community, are being recognized at the statewide level for helping to strengthen Sherburne County families," said Victoria Johannes, Social Services Supervisor at Sherburne County Health and Human Services. "We hope the Pinwheels for Prevention award helps encourage community members to seek out our website and Facebook page to see more of what we are all about!"

"FamilyWise is dedicated to supporting parents and caregivers in building thriving families and creating fertile environments for healthy childhoods through parent education, wrap-around services and early childhood education," said Ann Gaasch, FamilyWise Services Executive Director. "This collaborative work with our statewide network has always been essential to family and community health, but over past three years families have experienced new and acute stresses due to the COVID-19 pandemic, uncertainty related to school and employment schedules, and the realities of social and economic injustice. The Pinwheel for Prevention awards honor the work these organizations do for families in our communities."

### Award Winners:

- Kandiyo-Henville ACES Coalition - for cre-

ating awareness of adverse childhood events (ACES) by distributing 15,000 House of Hope calendars through elementary and middle schools, churches, food shelves, early childhood and family education organizations, jails, public health services, restorative justice organizations.

- Olmsted County Child and Family Services with Families First of Minnesota Crisis Nursery - for working together to ensure that there are supports and services in place for children and their families, year after year.

- Junior League of Duluth - for hosting a day-long, virtual summit, Building a Community of Resilience, to shed light on the impacts and best practices for supporting people who have experienced developmental, generational, and complex trauma.

- STIR of Sherburne County - for multiple campaigns and resources to promote healing, inspire resilience, share social connections, and celebrate the whole person through mind, body, and spirit throughout Sherburne County.

- HOPE 4 Youth - for recognizing a need in their service area to support young parents who are struggling with homelessness and fighting for the chance to see their children thrive.

- American Indian Resource and Resiliency

Team, University of Minnesota Extension - for creating and delivering culturally adapted holistic health education within a system of existing relationships with Tribal partners and community members to increase community capacity in addressing the opioid crisis.

- Center for Prevention, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Minnesota - for developing multi-year funding initiative for the Health POWER Project to strengthen leadership development, invest in community-led solutions to support positive changes in the Center's goal of advancing health equity in commercial tobacco control, healthy eating, and physical activity.

- Restoring Lives Community Church - for ministering to the whole person by providing transitional housing for women after completing treatment and for serving families through classes, meals and free laundry nights in Zimmerman, Minnesota.

- Department of Human Services, Children's Mental Health & Family Services Collaboratives - for their support and technical assistance to the 90 Collaboratives across the state of Minnesota.

- Peacemaker Resources - for embodying the self-healing communities model approach, and walking the walk of ex-

panded leadership and a community-driven decision-making, as a method of working towards more trauma-responsive individuals and systems.

- United Way of Bemidji - for coordinating and hosting the call center for the December 2021 Radiothon to End Child Abuse to allow for safe social distancing, and facilitated the Radiothon auction, all while leading other local fundraising efforts at the same time.

- Hubbard Radio - Alexandria - for promoting the issue of child abuse prevention during the Alexandria Radiothon to End Child Abuse.

- Crow Wing County Child Protection Team and Hubbard Radio - Brainerd - for taking the lead on the annual Brainerd Radiothon to End Child Abuse, partnering to make a difference for children and families in Crow Wing County, and engaging the community's support through their dedication and creativity.

- Transforming Systems Together, Ramsey County - for taking the first step in reconciling past practices and systems that have created or caused harm to families and communities.

- Anoka County, Community Conversations - for using feedback gathered from the community as the catalyst for their Community Resilience Plan which

will be eligible for funding to support initiating and implementing a project to strengthen community resilience, in efforts of creating more Self-Healing Communities throughout the State of MN.

### About Child Abuse Prevention Month

The nationwide theme for 2022 is "Growing Better, Together." Positive childhood experiences in nurturing environments provide fertile ground for physical and mental health, learning, and social skills to flourish.

### About FamilyWise Services

FamilyWise has been keeping children safe and helping families lead stable, healthy, and productive lives since 1976. We educate, empower, and enrich families who are struggling with poverty, substance abuse, mental health issues, homelessness, and domestic violence. In 2020, FamilyWise merged with Minnesota Communities Caring for Children (MCCC) and became the Minnesota chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America and the National Circle of Parents.





# Sports/Area News

## Bulldogs improve to 5-1

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

The Becker Bulldog baseball team continued their winning ways as they knocked off the St. Francis Saints Tuesday night at home, 6-2.

This, following a disappointing 10-5 loss to Big

Lake on the road last week. Tuesday, middle infielders Nolan Murphy and Owen Kolbinger combined for five hits, two RBIs, and two runs scored at the plate.

By splitting the two games, the Bulldogs remained atop the conference with a 5-1 record heading into Thursday's game against Chisago Lakes.



## Hornet sports capsules

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

Following are spring sports capsules for Big Lake High School.

### Lacrosse

The Hornet boys team dropped their first two matches of the season, 19-3 to Becker on April 19 and 21-1 to Monticello, April 25. They suffered another loss, 10-8, at the hands of Rocori Tuesday.

### Softball

The Hornet girls soft-

ball team pulled out a big win in extra innings last Thursday over the Becker Bulldogs.

They continued their fine play with a 2-1 victory over Cambridge-Isanti Tuesday.

### Boys Tennis

The Hornet boys tennis team lost to St. Francis Tuesday, 6-1.

### Boys Golf

The Hornet boys golf team took third place at the North Branch Invitational Tuesday.



**MN HORSE EXPO.** Minnesota's largest equine trade show is sponsored by Minnesota Horse Council and held every spring at MN State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. Lillie Chavez of Becker and friend Erin Ramirez are pictured enjoying an equine obstacle challenge in the coliseum at the MN State Fairgrounds. (Photos by Mary Nehring.)

## Bulldog softball drops two close games

By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

It's the close games that continue to foil the Becker Bulldog softball team, as they dropped to 0-5 on the season with another pair of close losses.

"Four of the losses coming by a combined five runs," was how coach Jason Baune summed up the first weeks of his season. "We have a couple busy weeks ahead as we try to turn the season around."

The Bulldogs will have plenty of chances to get things on track, as they hosted their annual tournament today (Saturday) and then play four games in five days this coming week.

### Hornets

Last Thursday, the Bulldogs traveled to Big Lake and

lost the game 2-1 in extra innings.

"The game was a pitcher's battle as both offenses struggled to put much together early on," Baune said. "Neither team sent more than four batters to the plate in any of the first five innings."

The Hornets finally changed that in the bottom of the sixth as the leadoff batter bunted and reached on an error that also allowed her to move to second base. The next batter also bunted and another Bulldog error allowed a run to score. That was followed by a single and stolen base putting runners on second and third with nobody out.

"Maddie Sherman was able to get us out of the jam with three consecutive strikeouts and keep the score at

1-0," Baune said.

In the top of the seventh, Bulldog Nevaeh Gardner hit a 1-out double and advanced to third on a wild pitch. Evelyn Kreft followed with a sacrifice fly to right field that would knot the score at one. The Hornets failed to score in the bottom of the seventh and the teams headed to extra innings.

After a 1-2-3 top of the eighth, the Hornets threatened to end the game when the leadoff hitter hit a one-out triple. After Sherman struck out the next batter, the Bulldogs choose to intentionally walk the number three hitter and Sherman then struck out the following batter and sent the game to the ninth.

After another scoreless top of the inning, the leadoff hitter for the Hornets walked

and an errant throw on a bunt allowed the runner to score the winning run.

Maddie Sherman was the hard luck losing pitcher, going all nine innings and allowing two unearned runs on four hits. She walked two and struck out 14 Hornet batters. Makenna Zerwas led the Bulldog offense with two base hits.

### Saints

On Tuesday, the team traveled to St. Francis to take on the Saints.

"This time we were able to get on the board first, as Maddie Sherman led off the game with a walk and eventually scored on a Makenna Zerwas single," Baune said.

The lead, however, would be short-lived as the Saints were able to string together three hits and take

advantage of a Bulldog error and wild pitch to plate three runs in the bottom of the second.

The score remained 3-1 until the top of the fifth, when Maddie Sherman singled, advanced to second, and came around to score on a Cadence Koste single to make it 3-2. The Saints added an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth when they strung together three straight base hits. Sherman once again reached base in the top of the seventh, but the Saints would snuff out the threat and hold on to win 4-2.

Kurstyn Patnode took the loss, allowing four runs, two earned, on seven hits. Sherman was 2-for-3 with a walk to pace the Bulldog offense, while Hannah Bartlett was 1-for-2 with a walk.

## Bulldog ball teams to hold Strike Out Cancer game

By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

Becker head softball coach Jason Baune announced this week that the High School softball and baseball programs are teaming up to host a Strikeout Cancer Night on Friday, May 13th. All proceeds from the event will go to ReNita (nee Wilke) Henderson and her family. ReN-



ita and her husband, Josh, are former Becker students who have two children. ReNita was diagnosed with breast cancer three years ago and after believing she had beaten cancer, received a diagnosis of acute lymphoblastic leukemia in 2021.

"We are selling Strikeout Cancer t-shirts as one way to raise

money to help the family," Baune said. "We'd also love to invite you to show your support by attending the softball and baseball games on the afternoon of May 13th." Donations will be collected at the games, with checks being written out to the Becker Blast Softball Association.

The Varsity/JV Bulldog baseball teams will host Sauk Rapids that evening starting at 4:30, while the 9/JV/Var-

sity softball teams will play Elk River starting at 5 p.m.

T-shirts need to be pre-ordered by Sunday, May 1 and order forms can be found on various social media sites including the "Becker Softball" page on Facebook. Interested individuals can also check out the Patriot's Twitter feed @PatriotNewsMNI for info.

For more information, email Jason Baune at JBaune@JSD726.org.

## Becker reaches agreement to Sherco solar project footprint

Submitted Article

*Editor's note: the following press release was submitted to the Patriot by the City of Becker.*

The City of Becker has reached an agreement with Xcel Energy on modifications to the footprint of Xcel's proposed Sherco Solar project.

Under the agreement, approximately 250 acres of land abutting the city's western and eastern boundaries will be removed from the project.

The agreement, approved by the Becker City Council on April 5 and filed with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) the next day, comes ahead of important public hearings this week before an Administrative Law Judge tasked with receiving evidence and making a rec-

ommendation to the PUC on whether to issue site and route permits for Sherco Solar. The city had sought this modification to the project footprint in proceedings before the PUC to create opportunities for much needed new commercial or industrial development during the lifespan of the project.

"I am pleased that Xcel Energy has accommodated the city's request that the most attractive parcels for development in closest proximity to the city's municipal boundaries be excluded from the Sherco Solar project," said Becker Interim Administrator Jeff O'Neill in a filing with the PUC.

As the longstanding host community for Xcel's Sherco coal fired facility, the largest taxpayer in the city, Becker

values its partnership with Xcel and understands the challenges it faces. The city appreciates Xcel's corporate goal of diversifying its fuel source plan but raised concerns when the proposed size and location of Sherco Solar absorbed industrial land necessary for the city to diversify its economic base. As a result of Xcel's agreement to remove 250 acres from the project site, the City of Becker has removed its objection to this project.

Just as Xcel must transition from fossil fuels to alternative energy sources, the city must transition its economy from a dependence on tax revenues generated by Sherco to a more diversified economy with a broader commercial base. The city, the state and Xcel have partnered

on a project to develop the Becker Business Park with the potential for a large data center to be the first of multiple new projects to locate in it; but more work is needed to mitigate the impacts of Sherco's closure on the city and the local economy.

"Sherco Solar brings two important policy objectives into tension: investing in more sustainable energy generation and cultivating economic development," said Becker Mayor Tracy Bertram. "The agreement to exclude this property from the solar project will better balance Xcel's and the state's important interests in developing sustainable energy sources with the need to grow the local and state economies."

In reaching agreement with Xcel, the city is sensitive

to the rights of the property owners in and around the proposed Sherco Solar project. In their joint filing to the PUC, Xcel and the city observed that "the removal of these lands from utility scale solar development does not determine what these landowners may choose to do with their property within the confines of local, state, and federal rules and regulations."

"The city looks forward to continued cooperation with Xcel and local property owners on important company, city and private projects affecting the Becker community," concluded Bertram.

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## Hornet girls lacrosse nets first two wins

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

The Big Lake Hornet girls lacrosse team captured their first two wins of the season — and in school history — as they went 2-1 to kick off the 2022 season.

### Big Lake 13, Rocori 2

Tuesday, though the Hornets went down 1-0 early, they followed it up with goals by Amber Grunewald on a free position shot and a passing play from Elle Dixon to Ella Beach for the go ahead goal, 2-1. The Hornets followed that up with four unanswered goals to go up 6-1 at halftime. Goals came from Amber Grunewald (assisted by Bailey Isaacson), Autumn Grunewald, Bailey Isaacson and Elle Dixon.

The girls felt confident in their play during the first half intermission, but also acknowledged they had to stick to the game plan of strong defense and creative offense to achieve success.

Their second half scoring started with a goal from Ella Beach (assisted by Amber Grunewald). Big Lake found the back of the net another four times with goals by Amelia Gardner (assisted by Abby Polacec), Amelia again (unassisted), Abby Polacec (unassisted), Grace Dols (unassisted), and Autumn Grunewald (assisted by Eden Dixon).

Rocori was able to tally their second goal, making it 12-2 before McKenna Leeseberg made the final 13-3 with a closing goal.

### Big Lake 7, Waconia 0

The Big Lake girls lacrosse team was scheduled to kick off their season back on April 14 against Waconia, but with temperatures in the teens, the match was rescheduled for last Friday, April 22. Waconia and Big Lake's lacrosse programs came into the league around the same time, and neither had achieved a regular season varsity contest win before last Friday — so one of the teams was going to leave the field with their first program win. "With that said, our girls recognized this as a great opportunity for us to get our first win," said Hornet Head



THE HORNET GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM was jubilant Tuesday after beating Rocori on the road for the team's first two wins of the year. (Submitted Photo).

Coach Lindsey Hartfiel. "They have been putting in the work at practice, and have been learning some team systems which have helped them outwork other teams."

The match began slow and it took a little time for the Hornets to net their first goal, which came from Abby Polacec at 14:16 of the first half.

While the teams were playing relatively even throughout the first part of the first half, Grace Dols carried the ball down the field to get Big Lake's second goal of the night at 8:48. Then, to finish out the half, the Hornet girls moved the ball down the field and Amelia Gardner scored and was assisted by Autumn Grunewald to make it 3-0 at intermission.

"The girls were excited to have the lead at half, and had earned it to that point," said Hartfiel. "The coaching staff reminded them that there was still another half to win, but to continue to play confidently."

Amelia Gardner opened the scoring of the second half at 18:26 right where she left off in the first. Big Lake had most of the pressure and ball possession from that point, but Waconia weathered the storm for a while.

Big Lake's next goal came at 7:08 of the second by senior Hailey Schuller, making the score 5-0.

But they weren't done yet.

Abby Polacec scored her second goal of the night and shortly after, Ella Beach scored (assisted by Dols) making the final 7-0.

Goalkeeper Eden Dixon saved all 10 shots Waconia put on net giving her the first shutout of the season. This was the first win in Big Lake program history for girls lacrosse!

"I am so proud of what our girls have accomplished and cannot wait to see what more they can do," said Hartfiel.

The Hornet girls JV team started the night off in the rain, capturing an 8-3 win over Waconia's JV squad, with goals by Eden Dixon (2) Amelia Gardner, Grace Dols (2), Izzy Swinehart, Hannah Weseloh, and Jordyn Schumacher. Once that game finished the varsity squad headed over to the varsity field to play under the Friday night lights.

### Mound Westonka 12, Big Lake 1

April 21, the Hornets had to travel to Mound Westonka for a match against a very good team.

"The Mound Westonka game presented some challenges playing against a more experienced group of players," said Hartfiel.

Big Lake struggled and by halftime, they saw themselves down 11-1 with serious doubts. However, the Hornet coaches didn't want the girls giving up.

"At half time, our group came together and decided they could play in a way that would decrease the chance of high scoring chances for the other team," said Hartfiel. "The girls went out there and played a phenomenal half."

Defense was key as Mound Westonka was only able to get one goal by the Hornet defense to make the final 12-1.

### Up Next

Big Lake's upcoming games next week include Sartell/Sauk Rapids on May 3 and a rematch against Rocori for their senior night on May 5.

## Hornet track making strides

By Ken Francis, Contributing Writer

The Big Lake boys outdistanced the field in a multi-team track and field meet at Annandale last Thursday. The Hornets finished first ahead of Delano, Annandale, Mayer Lutheran, Melrose and Watertown-Mayer.

The team had five Top 10 performances and 15 season's bests in 18 events.

Owen Layton won the 3200 meters in 10:05.65, putting him sixth on Big Lake's All Time Top 10 list. Jack Leuer was second in 10:22.19 and David Guyse took third in 10:59.89 for a 1-2-3 sweep in the event.

Kade Layton won the 1600 in 4:38.68, good for seventh on the Top 10 list.

Christian Noble won the 800 meters in 2:06.16 with Spencer Vold second in 2:07.93.

Hayden Thieke won the long jump at 19'11.5" and the triple jump at 41'0.5".

Carson Kunz took first in the high jump with a leap of 5'10". He was also third in the triple jump at 39'6".

Riley Thompson won the discus with a throw of 122'6".

Luke Hugo placed second in the shot put with a

throw of 42'4.5". Two days earlier, he set a personal best and won the shot put at a Becker indoor meet with a throw of 44'10", putting him fourth on the Top 10 list.

Spencer Vold cleared 12 feet in the pole vault and finished second. That puts him at #4 on the school's Top 10 list. Christian Noble was third at 11'6".

Joe Murphy was second in the 100 meters in 11.54 seconds.

The 4x800 relay team of Jack Leuer, Kade Layton, Owen Layton and Christian Noble won in 8:21.08.

The 4x400 team of Murphy, Kade Layton, Vold and Noble also won in 3:39.72.

The 4x200 team of Evan Secord, Jack Berner, Amado Espinosa and Gauge Hoffman took second in 1:41.19.

For the girls, Hannah Strom won the pole vault, clearing 8'6".

Ava Eastman took second in the 200 meters in 28.29 seconds.

Emilee Doperalski was second in the 3200 meters in 14:03.40, just four seconds behind the winner.

Jade Flavin placed second in the long jump at 15'6.25". She also finished in the top 10 in the triple jump at 30'2".

Erin Kjellberg was fifth in the 400 in 67.91.

Big Lake's 4x200 relay team of Flavin, Gardner, Kennadie Ell and Eastman placed second in 1:57.99.

Hailey Andersom took fifth in the discus with a throw of 71 feet even.

Miranda Segner and Grace Gardner each cleared 4'8" in the high jump, finishing fifth and sixth respectively.

The Hornets hosted an invitational Thursday, results to follow next week.

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## Little Mermaid comes to Monticello

Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by North Star Arts.)

Long ago, in a magical, watery kingdom beneath the ocean, A beautiful young mermaid longs to leave her home under the sea to live in the world above the waves. Featuring Oscar winning songs by Alan Menn and Howard Ashman, *The Little Mermaid* is one of the most compelling and cherished stories of all time and is a musical favorite among audiences of all ages.



LITTLE MERMAID PLAYS AT MONTI MIDDLE SCHOOL. Ursula played by Rick Wyman. (Submitted photo.)

Join in as a cast of talented professional character actors, recording artists, and some adorable little sea creatures bring this enchanting story to the stage in the newly renovated Monticello MS Theater. *The Little Mermaid*, live on stage, features dazzling special effects, gorgeous costumes, and fin flipping fun for all. The show opens May 5 at the newly renovated Monticello MS theatre and runs through May 8. Tickets are available at [NorthStarArts.org](http://NorthStarArts.org) or by calling 763-245-6627.



LITTLE MERMAID AND HER PRINCE. Ariel played by Lilly Hayworth. Prince Eric played by Joe Voth. (Submitted photo.)



## 2022 Spring Grass Clippings & Leaf Drop-Off Event

Sherburne County is sponsoring a Grass Clipping and Leaf Drop-Off Event the weekend of **May 7th & 8th and Oct. 8th & 9th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** (both days) at **Jan's Christmas Trees** located at **12519 37th St SE, Clear Lake, MN** (see map below).

Residents may deliver grass clippings, thatch, leaves, plants and flowers **free of charge**

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For additional information, please contact Gabrielle Holman with the Sherburne County Planning & Zoning Department at 763-765-4457 or [Gabrielle.Holman@co.sherburne.mn.us](mailto:Gabrielle.Holman@co.sherburne.mn.us)

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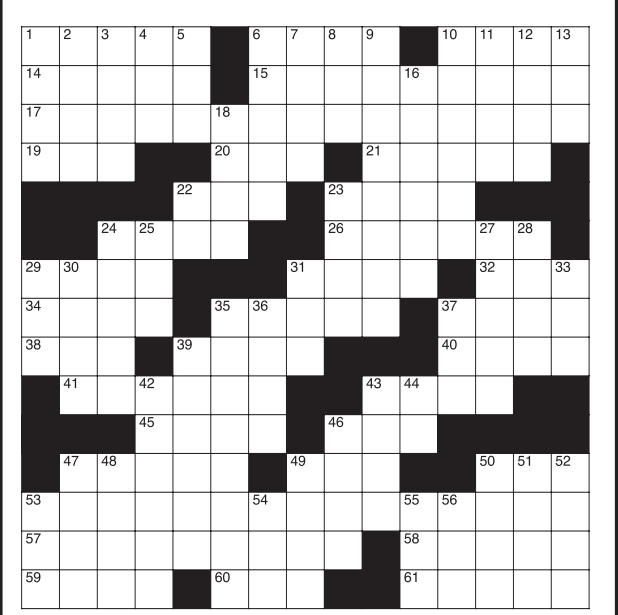
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**This Week's Calendar Events:**

- Sun. - May 1, 2022:**
- May Day
  - Law Day
  - National Lemonade Day
  - School Principals' Day
  - National Loyalty Day
  - Children's Mental Health Awareness Week (5/1-5/7)
  - National Family Week (5/1-5/7)
  - Drinking Water Week (5/1-5/7)
  - New Homeowner's Week (5/1-5/7)
  - PTA Teacher Appreciation Week (5/1-5/7)
  - Mother Goose Day
- Mon. - May 2, 2022:**
- CVS: No School
  - Melanoma Monday
  - Air Quality Awareness Week (5/2-5/8)
  - Be Kind to Animals Week (5/2-5/8)
- Tues. - May 3, 2022:**
- National Teacher Day
  - Garden Meditation Day
- Wed. - May 4, 2022:**
- National Bike to School Day
  - Star Wars Day
- Thurs. - May 5, 2022:**
- Cinco De Mayo
  - Cartoonists Day
  - National Astronaut Day
  - National Hoagie Day
- Fri. - May 6, 2022:**
- BHS: Student Half Day - Distance Learning 8:10-12:15
  - Military Spouse Appreciation Day
  - National Nurses Day
  - No Diet Day
  - National Nurses Week (5/6-5/12)
- Sat. May 7, 2022:**
- BHS: Prom
  - Kentucky Derby
  - National Fitness Day
  - National Train Day
  - Spring Astronomy Day
  - Free Comic Book Day

(Becker Schools=BS  
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Big Lake School=BLS  
Clearview School=CVS)

*Game Time*



- CLUES ACROSS**
1. North American people
  6. Chinese surname
  10. Fit in at the last minute
  14. "Very" in musical terminology
  15. Underwater displays
  17. Crosby's bandmates
  19. Belong to he
  20. Informed about the latest trends (archaic)
  21. Sequences of alternating turns
  22. Genus of grasses
  23. Satisfy
  24. Petty quarrel
  26. Made level
  29. Ruler of Iran
  31. Historical region of Syria
  32. Food suitable for babies
  34. Something to lend
  35. Zone of oceanic trenches
  37. Philippine island
  38. Domesticated animal
  39. Plant of the lily family
  40. Bluish green
  41. \_\_ Tomei, actress
  43. Without (French)
  45. Lilly and Manning are two
  46. Apply pressure to
  47. Divide in half
  49. Bad deed
  50. Don't know when yet
  53. Hollywood's greatest honor
  57. Aiming to export
  58. Faked
  59. A way to pierce
  60. Midway between northeast and east
  61. Points

- CLUES DOWN**
1. Chop up
  2. \_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
  3. Egyptian goddess
  4. Split pulses
  5. Afflict
  6. Type of area rug
  7. Tide
  8. Affirmative
  9. Sudden change
  10. One picked
  11. Debauched man
  12. Stiff bristles
  13. Famous arena
  16. Established rules and methods
  18. Injection
  22. Father
  23. Protein-rich liquids
  24. He delivers gifts
  25. Advanced degree
  27. Fencing swords
  28. Chinese mountain range
  29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
  30. Precursor to hemoglobin
  31. Much \_\_ about nothing
  33. Composite fabric (abbr.)
  35. A way to act slowly on
  36. Ottoman military commanders
  37. Popular kids' network
  39. Hard compound
  42. Sympathize with
  43. Northeast college
  44. Blood group
  46. Frosted
  47. Turn away
  48. Benefit
  49. Dry or withered
  50. Bangladeshi monetary unit
  51. Reproduced
  52. Contributes
  53. Thrust horse power (abbr.)
  54. Wear
  55. Promotes retention of water (abbr.)
  56. Very small

**SOLUTION TO PUZZLE to page 4B**

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**EMPLOYMENT**  
**KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS:**  
**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**  
position available August 2022.  
Apply: www.kms.k12.mn.us. Attach letter of interest, resume, transcripts, three letters of recommendation and copy of current Minnesota education license.

**KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS: SPEECH**  
**LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST**  
position available August 2022.  
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**EIGHTH GRADE TEACHER**  
**(PHYSICAL SCIENCE)**  
New London-Spicer Schools.  
MN Licensure Required. Open  
Until Filled. Start August 2022.  
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Apply: www.kms.k12.mn.us. Attach letter of interest, resume, transcripts, three letters of recommendation and copy of current Minnesota education license.

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**KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS:**  
**7-12 FT SOCIAL STUDIES**  
position available August 2022.  
Apply: www.kms.k12.mn.us. Attach letter of interest, resume, transcripts, three letters of recommendation and copy of current Minnesota education license.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD**  
**FAMILY EDUCATION**  
New London-Spicer Schools. (2FTE)  
MN Licensure Required. Open  
Until Filled. Start August 2022.  
More info: nls.k12.mn.us/employment

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We are currently recruiting moti-  
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house Team. For more details,  
write to: jsiemens972@gmail.com

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**Garage Sale**

**BIG LAKE**  
All-City Garage Sales are  
**SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022!**  
The deadline for ads is May 10!  
Call Patriot News MN  
763-275-0275 or email:  
legals.kathy@patriotnewsmn.com  
to advertise!

**Garage Sale**

**BECKER and CLEARWATER**  
All-City Garage Sales are  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2021!**  
The deadline for ads is May 31!  
Call Patriot News MN  
763-275-0275 or email:  
legals.kathy@patriotnewsmn.com  
to advertise!



# Announcements

## Becker - Organizations

**Becker American Legion Auxiliary**  
The auxiliary meets the second Tues. of the month at 7pm.. For info please contact Paula Hinds (President) at (763) 262-6679 or see John Riebel or Nellie Simpson at Becker True Value.

**Becker American Legion Post 193**  
Becker Legion meets the second Tues. of every month at 7pm at Becker Legion (old fire hall.)

**Becker AA Meeting**  
Becker Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Thurs., 8pm at Mary of the Visitation, 12100 Sherburne Ave, Becker. For information, call/text (320) 247-4732 or email beckeragroupmn@gmail.com

**Becker Boy Scout Pack 92 Cardboard, Paper & Aluminum**  
Bring your aluminum cans to the trailer located near Becker True Value. Paper & cardboard recycling location is at the Becker Community Center, please remember to flatten the cardboard & absolutely no garbage on the first Sat. of every month. There will be a Scout there to help unload between 9am-12pm. Thanks for your support!

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

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

**Becker Hearts & Hands Quilt Guild**  
Meet 2nd Mon. of month at 7pm. Becker Baptist Church. Contact Elizabeth Steckelberg (320) 259-9542.

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

**Becker Lions Collecting Items to Recycle**  
The Becker Lions are collecting used eyeglasses (no cases please) and hearing aids. Collection buckets are located at the Becker Community Center, Insight Eye Care and Becker Food Pride. We are no longer collecting used cell phones or printer cartridges. If you have any questions please contact Lion Dale Seavert at (320) 290-5342 (phone or text) or by email at dj-seavert@gmail.com.

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

**Becker Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Meeting**  
The monthly meetings are held 6 pm the third Thurs. of the month at Becker City Hall.

(320) 980-2752 or see the state website at www.beyondtheyellowribbon.org.

**Compassion Connection**  
A 501(c)(3) community-based non-profit. We partner with local & private child welfare agencies. We fulfill emergency requests to expedite safe placement of babies & children & assist aged-out youth as they transition.  
At our Resource Closet, we are committed to helping not only the foster community but families in need making the most items in our Resource Closet available to all. We host regular events to encourage awareness & motivate community participation in support of our most vulnerable children. For more info: www.thecompassionconnectionmn.com.

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

**Great River Faith in Action**  
If you are a senior, age 60 & above, family caregiver or an individual in need of services, Great River Faith in Action can provide volunteer transportation, chore services & grocery shopping assistance, as well as caregiver groups. Call (763) 263-4277.

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

**Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge**  
The Refuge is open to visitors year-round during the daylight hours. The Refuge is located at 17076 293rd Ave, Zimmerman. Call (763) 389-3323 or sherburne@fws.gov

## Big Lake - Organizations

**Big Lake Ambassador**  
Empowering young ladies of Big Lake to be women of tomorrow through Community Service. To promote leadership, professional development & personal growth with an opportunity to earn an educational scholarship. Core Values - Honesty, Respect, Loyalty & commitment." Information about program email: biglakeambassadors@gmail.com or biglakejuniorambassadors@gmail.com.

**Big Lake American Legion Post #147**  
Meets the first Thurs. of the month @ 7 pm. At the old West Sherburne Tribune office on the corner of Hwy 10 and 25. Please contact Commander Paul Seefeld (612) 801-7731.

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

**Big Lake Al-Anon**  
Meetings held Mon., 7pm at Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church - Big Lake Annex. "lawn chairs outdoors when weather permits."  
Newcomers encouraged - we are a very welcoming group! Laurie (763) 218-5330.

**The Big Lake American Legion Auxiliary**  
Meets the first Tues. Mar.-Dec. at 6:30pm. in the Senior Citizen Center at Big Lake City Hall. Please contact Kathy at (763) 263-6093 for information.

**Big Lake / Becker Mops**  
Mother's of preschoolers Group meets the second & fourth Wed. of the month (Sept.-May) at Becker Baptist Church, 9-11:30am.

**Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon**  
The Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meets at 6:30pm on the third Mon., of each month at the old West Sherburne Tribune office on the corner of Hwy 10 and 25.

**Big Lake Bicycle Advisory Committee**  
Meets second Tues. of each month at 11am. Meetings via Zoom due to COVID. Contact Recreation & Communication Coordinator Corrie Scott at cscott@biglakemn.org or 612-297-6331 for meeting links or questions on the Committee Website: https://www.biglakemn.org/443/Big-Lake-Bicycle-Advisory-Committee.

**Big Lake Community Food Shelf**  
The Big Lake Community Food Shelf hours of service are Mon. & Thurs. 5:30-7:30pm & Wed. 9-11am. We also serve clients every "Freebie Friday" from 11:30am-12:30pm., providing produce, dairy, & bakery goods. Our new, "Pop-up Pantry", from 11:30am-12:30pm every Tues. To volunteer call (763) 263-2432 or www.blcfs.org.

**Big Lake Day of Prayer**  
Big Lake meets year round the first Wed. of the month, at 7am for a prayer breakfast at Big Lake High School flagpole.

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

**LC of Big Lake Lioness**  
If you are interested in learning more about the LC of Big Lake Lioness you can catch us on FB: www.facebook.com/BigLakeMnLionessClub, or attend any meeting held the second Mon. of the month at the Lions Park on CR5. social starts 6:30pm, meeting 7pm. All are welcome to attend to learn more about the club.

**Big Lake Narcotics Anonymous Meetings**  
Big Lake Living Clean NA meeting Sun., 7pm, Bridgeview Assembly of God Church, 20500 Co. Rd. 11, Big Lake, MN, (763) 482-1695.

**Big Lake Women of Today**  
Hold a monthly general meeting at Senior Activity Center located in the Big Lake City Office Building on the 3rd Thurs. of the month @ 7pm.

Contact Natalie @ (612) 518-3504 or find us at FaceBook or www.biglakewomenoftoday.webs.com.

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

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

**Moms in Prayer**  
Meets weekly to pray for their children & the school they attend. Information: www.momsinprayer.org or Colene Stenberg (763) 263-6809 or stenbergcj@outlook.com

## Upcoming Big Lake Events

**BELIA Annual Meeting**  
Save the Date: Annual Meeting May 7. Keep an eye out for a email for an invitation to our annual meeting. Carousell Works, May 7, 8:30-10:30am. Guest speaker Frances Gerde from Sherburne Soil & Water Conservation. She will be presenting on different shoreline restoration & erosion control techniques, with some information & resources on native plants as well.

**Better Together: A Day of Wellness**  
Bounce back project, promoting health through happiness. Big Lake Football Stadium, May 15, 2-5pm. Special Performers: Koo Koo Kanga Roo at 2:15-3pm. Make & take stations, community resources, food trucks & concessions.  
Visit the Bounce Back Project Facebook page or Big Lake Schools webpage for weather related announcements.

## Upcoming Clear Lake Events

**Clear Lake Lions and American Red Cross**  
Give blood. Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. So please come to the blood drive at St. Marcus Church, 8701 Main Ave. Clear Lake, Mon., May 16, 2022, 12:30-6:30pm.  
Sponsored by the Clear Lake Lions. App/Info: Call Judy 320-743-2108 or RedCrossBlood.org & enter Sponsor Code: Clear Lake.



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## 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: Syverson Tax Service  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 11282 Laura Circle Becker MN 55308 USA  
NAMEHOLDER(S): Sarah Syverson  
Address: 11282 Laura Circle Becker MN 55308 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: Sarah Syverson  
MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided  
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: sarah.syverson@syverson-tax.com  
Work Item: 1309072000025  
Original File Number: 1309072000025  
STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FILED 04/13/2022 11:59 PM /s/ Steve Simon Secretary of State (Published in the Patriot: 04/23/22; 04/30/22).

**Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Certificate of Assumed Name Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333**  
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ASSUMED NAME: Flying Blue  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 1607 S 12th Street Princeton MN 55371 USA  
NAMEHOLDER(S): United States Distilled Products Co.  
Address: 1607 S 12th Street Princeton MN 55371 USA  
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MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided  
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ASSUMED NAME: Casa Cantina  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 1607 S 12th Street Princeton MN 55371 USA  
NAMEHOLDER(S): United States Distilled Products Co.  
Address:

1607 S 12th Street Princeton MN 55371 USA

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SIGNED BY: Patricia Pelzer  
MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided  
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: govtrags@usdp.com  
Work Item: 1309918600023  
Original File Number: 1309918600023  
STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FILED 04/18/2022 11:59 PM /s/ Steve Simon Secretary of State (Published in the Patriot: 04/23/22; 04/30/22).

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ASSUMED NAME: Rock Leaf  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 13230 Island View Dr NW Elk River MN 55330 United States  
NAMEHOLDER(S): Michelle L Binsfeld  
Address: 13230 Island View Dr NW Elk River MN 55330 United States  
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.  
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SIGNED BY: Michelle Binsfeld  
MAILING ADDRESS: 13230 Island View Dr NW Elk River MN 55330 United States  
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: binsfeldshelly@gmail.com  
Work Item: 1311243200020  
Original File Number: 1311243200020  
STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FILED 04/26/2022 11:59 PM /s/ Steve Simon Secretary of State (Published in the Patriot: 04/30/22; 05/07/22).

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NAMEHOLDER(S): United States Distilled Products Co.  
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ASSUMED NAME: Rock Leaf  
Water Environmental  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 13230 Island View Dr NW Elk River MN 55330 United States  
NAMEHOLDER(S): Michelle L Binsfeld  
Address: 13230 Island View Dr NW Elk River MN 55330 United States  
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SIGNED BY: Michelle Binsfeld  
MAILING ADDRESS: 13230 Island View Dr NW Elk River MN 55330 United States  
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: binsfeldshelly@gmail.com  
Work Item: 1311243200020  
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**Sherburne County Recorder. Street Address: 677 Independence Drive, Big Lake, MN PID #65-520-1008**

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, there is claimed to be due and owing as of the date of this Notice by Nicole Nelson as unit owner to Harrison's Cove Homeowners Association, the principal amount of Three Thousand One Hundred Twenty-seven Dollars and 84/100 (\$3,127.84) for assessments through March, 2022; and no action being now pending at law or otherwise to recover said debt or any part thereof, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, said debt creates a lien upon said premises in favor of Harrison's Cove Homeowners Association.  
NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power of sale created by statute, said lien will be foreclosed by the sale of said premises with the hereditaments and appurtenances, which said sale will be made by the Sheriff of Sherburne County, Minnesota at Sheriff's Main Reception in the Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Dr. NW, Suite 100, in the City of Elk River in said County on May 18, 2022 at 10:00 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 attorney's fees as allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by the unit owner, her personal representatives or assigns, is six (6) months from the date of said sale.

**TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY:** If the real estate is an owner-occupied single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the unit owners must vacate the property if the lien is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on November 18, 2022. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then the date to vacate the property is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.  
Dated: March 21, 2022  
**HARRISON'S COVE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION FULLER, SEAVER & SWANSON, P.A.**  
By: /s/ Timothy D. Fuller 32694 12400 Portland Avenue South, Suite 132 Burnsville, MN 55337 (952) 890-0888  
Attorneys for Harrison's Cove Homeowners Association (Published in the Patriot: 03/26/22; 04/02/22; 04/09/22; 04/16/22; 04/23/22; 04/30/22).



## Public Notices

## DEADLINES

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

## PATRIOT



## PATRIOT

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# Public Notices

## Township Public Notices

### Town of Becker, Sherburne County, Minnesota Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Becker Town Board will hold their monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 16, 2022 at Becker Town Hall, 12165 Hancock Street. The Town Board will hold public hearings regarding the following:

**7:10 p.m. Building Code Ordinance** – Clarification of language as it relates to soil boring requirements.

Anyone interested in this item is encouraged to attend and comment at the Public Hearing. If you are unable to attend please provide written comment to Lucinda Messman at PO Box 248, Becker, MN 55308 or by e-mail to [clerk@beckertownship.org](mailto:clerk@beckertownship.org) by 4:00 p.m. on May 16, 2022.

Lucinda Messman  
Becker Township Clerk  
(Published in the Patriot: 04/30/22).

### BECKER JOINT PLANNING BOARD ORDINANCE 2022-01

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5: DEFINITIONS; SECTION 7: AGRICULTURAL; SECTION 8: GENERAL RURAL; SECTION 16: GENERAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS; SECTION 17: SPECIAL PROVISIONS OF THE BECKER JOINT PLANNING BOARD ZONING ORDINANCE**

The following official summary of the amendments listed in Ordinance 2022-01 has been approved by the Joint Planning Board of the Town of Becker as clearly informing the public of the intent and effect of the ordinance.

Town of Becker Joint Planning Board Zoning Ordinance  
The Becker Joint Planning Board does hereby amend the Becker Joint Planning Zoning Ordinance as follows:

- Section 5, Definitions, Home Business and Home Occupation definitions shall be amended to delete the current definitions and reference new definitions and categories in Section 17.
- Section 7, Agricultural District, shall be amended to include home businesses as Interim Use Permits.
- Section 8, General Rural District, shall be amended to include home businesses as Interim Use Permits.
- Section 16, General Performance Standards, shall be amended to remove Home Occupations and Home Business in Accessory Structures from the section.
- Section 17, Special Provisions, shall be amended to include new definitions of In-Home Businesses, Site-Based Businesses, and On-Site Businesses along with standards and permitting requirements for each category.

A printed copy of the entire ordinance is available for inspection by any person at Becker Town Hall, 12165 Hancock Street, Becker, MN, or Becker City Hall, 12060 Sherburne Avenue, Becker, MN during office hours. Or by viewing on the Becker Township Website at [www.beckertownship.org/ordinance.html](http://www.beckertownship.org/ordinance.html) or by emailing [clerk@beckertownship.org](mailto:clerk@beckertownship.org).

Brad Wilkening, Chair, Joint Planning Board  
Attest: Lucinda Messman, Clerk  
(Published in the Patriot: 04/30/22).

## CVBC quarterly meeting held at new Clear Lake Twp. hall

By Mary Nehring,  
Contributing Writer

Clear Lake Township Chair Gary Gray welcomed everybody to the CVBC meeting held at the new Clear Lake Township Hall Thursday, April 14th. The meeting was called to order by CVBC President Glenna Soenneker. Glenna introduced all current CVBC Board Members. Each business introduced themselves. City reports were shared. April Vasecka (Irrigation Management) gave a report from the Clearwater Parks Committee, including an update on a mural that is being completed on Spring St. and reported an artist had been found to complete the mural. John Dufour was present and discussed a rugby group that is wanting to put together a youth league to play this spring and summer at the field near El Dorado Park in Clearwater (to include players from St. Cloud area, as well).

An EDA update was given by Lori Johnson (Root of Wellness and CVBC Vice President) and Jenny Massman (American Heritage Bank and CVBC Secretary). A new website for the city of Clearwater will officially go “live” once a few items have been updated. New “Welcome to Clearwater” signs are being designed along with discussion on locations where they will be placed. A discussion is in the initial stages with ideas on the frontage road in front of Tom’s Auto Repair, CW Tire & Auto, Subway, etc.. The EDA is being proactive in looking at possible solutions to relocate the road in case MNDOT would decide to close it off.

Bud Stimmler gave an update on Clear Lake news, including playground equipment being purchased for the park located by the township hall. They are also constructing a pavilion later this spring. This was made possible with a large donation from the Clear Lake Lions.

Sherburne County Commander of Operations, Bob Stangler was on hand to give the group an update on Sherburne County happenings. Bob also informed the group he will be retiring at the end of May after 29 ½ years. He gave a shout out to the Clear Lake Fire Department for all the responses they completed.

Eron Bordson (Clearwater Family Chiropractic) and CVBC Treasurer, gave a report on CVBC finances and provided a copy of the general ledger for everybody



CVBC OFFICERS & BOARD. Board member Lori Norlien, Norlien Fine Art; Board member Jean Schermer, Lake Central Bank; Board Member Roger Maleska, MN Wearables; CVBC President Glenna Soenneker, Mary Kay Cosmetics; CVBC Vice President Lori Johnson, Root of Wellness, CVBC Treasurer Eron Bordson, Clearwater Family Chiropractic; CVBC Secretary Jenny Massman, American Heritage Bank. (Photo by Mary Nehring.)



BOB STANGLER (Sherburne County Sheriff's Office) Bud Stimmler (Clear Lake Township Supervisor) and CVBC officers Alyx Johnson - CVBC Social Media Coordinator (Johnson Materials), Lori Johnson - CVBC Vice President (Root of Wellness), CVBC President Glenna Soenneker (Mary Kay Cosmetics), CVBC Secretary Jenny Massman (American Heritage Bank) and CVBC Treasurer Eron Bordson (Clearwater Family Chiropractic). (Photo by Mary Nehring.)



RUGBY LEAGUE. John DuFour of Feeders Rugby is in the planning stages for a rugby league forming with games to be held at Eldorado Park in Clearwater on Thursday nights. The tentative spring schedule is as follows: Thursday, April 23rd vs St. Paul Pigs; April 30th vs Banshees; May 7 vs Fairbault/Rochester; May 14 vs Red River and May 28th vs Sioux Falls. (Photo by Mary Nehring.)

to review. Some annual dues have been deposited and some expenses were reported from advertising, chili cook-off supplies and the permit fee for the Expo. Jean Schermer made the first motion to approve and 2nd by Chelsie Lortz. All in favor.

Annual dues for CVBC membership were discussed. \$50 dues are payable to CVBC treasurer Eron Bordson. Membership also includes listing in Clearwater Community Guide published by Patriot Newspaper in May annually. Membership also allows businesses to host a table at the annual CVBC Business Expo held in May at Clearwater Legion. Members are also encouraged to donate items to the newly formed Welcome to the Community packets.

Meeting minutes from January’s meeting were provided for everybody to review. The minutes were approved by Dave Fogal and second by Caleb Haag. All were in favor. CVBC Vice President Lori Johnson gave the group an update on the annual CVBC Business Expo taking place Sunday, May 1st from 10am to 1pm at the Clearwater Legion.

An update on the Wel-

come to the Community Packet project was given to the group by Pastor David Fogal of Tri County Alliance Church of Clearwater. He asked for an additional 30 items from each business donating to the welcome packets. Donations for the welcome packets can be dropped off at one of the following locations: American Heritage Bank (Clearwater), Royal Renovations (Clear Lake) or Tri-County Alliance Church (Clearwater). Pastor Fogal also thanked the members of the committee for all their help: Glenna Soenneker, Michael Loftin, Rudy Meyer, Mary Nehring and Becky Anerud.

Alyx Johnson (CVBC Social Media Coordinator) and Chelsie Lortz (Glass Slipper, Clearwater) updated the group with information they put together for Music in the Park events planned for Clearwater this summer. They would like to have the events at El Dorado Park every Thursday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. from June 2 until August 25. They have reached out to local bands and food vendors and have received support. They have also researched information on event insurance which will

be \$120-170 per event. They also presented information on hosting Movies in the Park which would take place on Fridays. They have different sponsorship levels for businesses to participate in. They also asked CVBC for funds to cover a \$160 projector screen to advertise the sponsoring businesses during the events and funds to also cover \$25 permits for each event (12 events x \$25= \$300). First motion made by John Koshiol (Now IT Connects) to approve the funds (\$460) to help sponsor the MITP and second motion made by Michael Loftin (American Heritage Bank). All were in favor.

The next CVBC meeting will be Thursday, July 14 at St Cloud/ Clearwater RV Park.





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## Commissioners settle district lines, terms

By Ken Francis,  
Contributing Writer

It didn’t take long for the Sherburne County Board to make its decision on new county commissioner district lines, or the terms each district commissioner will serve.

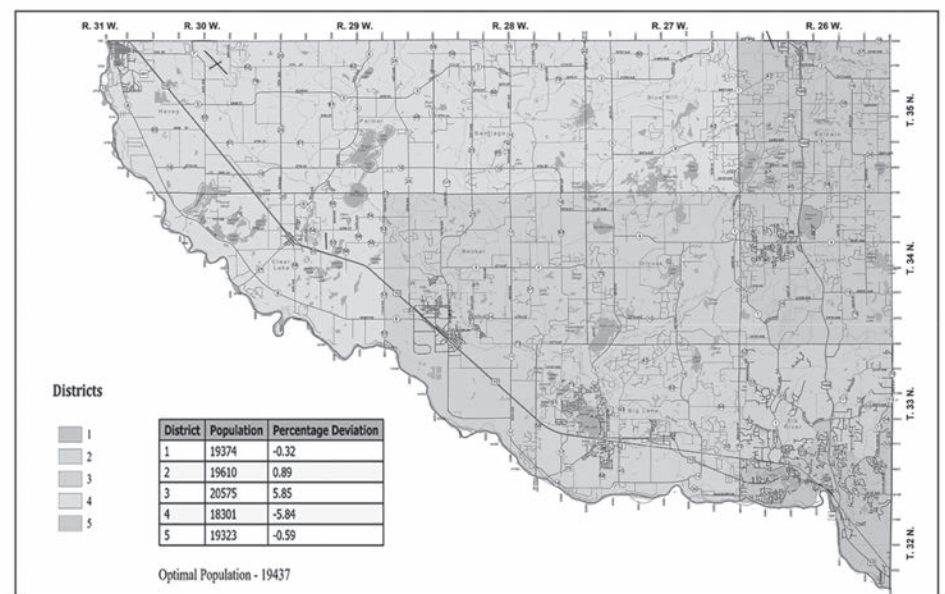
After a brief 10-minute discussion at a special commissioner meeting Tuesday, members of the board voted to approve a revised commissioner district map that sets the district boundaries for the next 10 years.

Tuesday’s meeting was necessary because the board had tabled its vote a week earlier. Commissioner Tim Dolan was not present that meeting, and one of the issues within the redistricting vote was the term length for each commissioner district. Rather than vote without Dolan’s input, the board tabled the vote until Tuesday, which was also the deadline for setting the new district lines.

At the opening of the meeting Administrator Bruce Messelt told the board the only redistricting map that is considered viable is Option 1, which adjusts the City of Elk River Precincts to accommodate changes in population.

Redistricting is necessary after each census to assure the county’s population has equal representation. Statutes require that each district has an equal population number, with a variance of no more than 10% between districts.

The other four options



MAP ADOPTED for the new commissioner district boundaries with populations for each district. The only changes from the old map are ward line changes in the City of Elk River. (Submitted image.)

that were being considered would have required moving boundaries lines based on actions by townships to alter their precincts. Auditor/Treasurer Diane Arnold said the townships were not willing to make those changes.

**Because of the new map being adopted by the board, four of the five commissioner districts would have a population change of more than five percent.** Under state statute, that change automatically triggers the requirement to hold an election in those districts in the same year. So part of Tuesday’s discussion was about the length of terms in each district. Messelt said the requirement is three four-year terms and two two-year terms.

When the discussion began, Commissioner Felix

Schmiesing (Dist. 4) said he had two consecutive two-year terms once before because of redistricting. Schmiesing, who has announced he will not be seeking re-election, said he would like whoever was elected in his district to have time to learn the job.

“It wouldn’t be fair for me to determine a two-year term for the next commissioner,” he said. “It would be the easy way to do it, but I don’t think it would be fair.”

Commissioner Dolan (Dist. 4) said he had a discussion with Commissioner Barbara Burandt (Dist. 1) about the issue. He said since both he and Burandt serve part of Elk River, it would be better not to have the terms of both of them up for election at the same time.

“She (Burandt) had ex-

pressed her willingness to take a two-year term and split Elk River into alternate terms, so the entire City of Elk River is not turning over both commissioners that represent them on the same election cycle,” he said. “That would solve the problem for one of the two-year terms.”

For the other two-year term, since Commissioner Lisa Fobbe (Dist. 5) is not up for election this year, her term expires in 2024. The board agreed to have her district’s term be set at two years at that time.

After the board voted, Messelt said the resolution would first be filed with the auditor/treasurer, then with the secretary of state’s office.

He said filings for candidates for the four districts up for election begins May 17.



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**• BECKER**

**Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS)**  
Pastor: David M. Johnson, 763-262-7782, 11185 27th Ave SE. Services: Sun. Worship 9am, Sun. School 10:30am, Wed. J.U.M.P. 6pm.  
**Becker Baptist Church**  
Pastors: Nathan Bucher (Senior), Kevin Drehmel (Youth) & Amy Drehmel (Dir. of Child/Fam. Ministry), 763-261-4204, 11951 Hancock St. Services: Sun. Worship/Children 10:30am, Sun. School 9:15am, Wed. AWANA/Youth Group 6:30pm during school year. www.beckerbaptist.org.  
**Becker Evangelical Free Church**  
Pastors: Gerald Deppa (Interim Senior), Chris Salvevold (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.faihlutheran-becker.org.  
**Oakwood Community Church Assemblies of God**  
Pastors: Gerry Bass & Sarah, 763-262-6004, 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 Orook**  
763-262-0028. www.hopeintherefuge.weebly.com.  
**IFLESIA AMOR VIVIENTE Living Love Church**  
Pastors: Juan & Patricia Aguayo, 763-607-5403, 21 Lake St N. Services: Sat. 6pm.  
**Lord of Glory Lutheran Church**  
Pastor: Marty Mably, 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.myrc.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: Mon. & Wed. Mass 8am, 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. School that begins in Worship 9:30am. Livestream worship at Rejoice's Youtube Channel, https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsJGuBda4orT9TWYi5vmGw  
**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 Tatkenhorst, 763-878-2820, 11390 Elliot Ave NW. Services: Sun. Worship 9am  
**Silver Creek Community Church**  
Pastor: Zach Pryor, 320-963-3957, 4282 114th St NW. Services: Sun. Worship 9am, Sun. Fellowship 10am, Sun. School 10:30am.

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Obituaries

**Douglas Raymond Wolfsteller, Age 72**  
Big Lake, MN  
November 19, 1949 – December 21, 2021



1949, Doug lived in the Maple Lake/Annandale area before moving to Orrock as a child. After graduating from Big Lake High School Doug joined the United States Air Force where he proudly served while stationed in Alaska, North Dakota, and Florida. He spent his adult life working at Hoffman Industries, retiring after 40 years with the company.

Doug's children are hosting a celebration of his life on Saturday, June 25, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Lions Park in Big Lake, 21960 Co Rd. 5 NW Big Lake, MN 55309.

Douglas Raymond Wolfsteller, 72, passed away on December 21, 2021, with his three children by his side. Born in St. Cloud on November 19,



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**Big Lake Senior Center**  
The Big Lake Senior Club meets Tues., 1-4pm, Big Lake City Hall, 160 Lake St. North.  
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For More Information Call: (763) 309-1010 and/or (763) 207-8703

**Becker Area Senior Center (BASC) Upcoming Events**  
BASC at Becker Community Center (BCC)  
Mon., May 2: Open All Day; 5am-Coffee's on.  
Tues., May 3: 9am-Coffee, Conversation; 9am-500 Cards today.  
Wed., May 4: Open All Day; 5am-Coffee's on.  
Thurs., May 5: 9am-Coffee, Conversation, Cards; 11am-Create a craft make & take Spring, Mother's Day, Graduations all coming up.  
Fri., May 6: Open All Day; 5am-Coffee's On.  
Becker Community Center: 763-200-4271  
BASC Coordinator: Carol Bruhn  
Blood Pressure available whenever BASC is open  
Send activity/class opportunities to: basc.becker@gmail.com

www.patriotnewsmn.com

**AmeriCorps Seniors**  
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**Spring Clean Up** - Get outside and work with other volunteers on spring yard clean up for older adults or those with physical limitations. Short term commitment and scheduled in locations convenient to you.

**Nature Store Volunteer** - Help support wildlife conservation through serving in the retail store. Learn and help educate others about the National Wildlife Refuge and US Fish and Wildlife Service as a member while serving as a part of a great team.

**Service & Social Event - Becker**  
Participate in a fun service project packaging activity kits which bring sunshine and support to pediatric patients and their families. This one-time commitment of 2-3 hours during National Volunteer Week includes free refreshments and a built-in sense of purpose. Space is limited, get on the list today!  
If you are interested in volunteering in these or other opportunities, please contact Carol:  
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rsvp@ci.stcloud.mn.us  
www.ci.stcloud.mn.us/rsvp

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

**Car Seat Distribution Classes**  
Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 6-7:30pm, and Thursday, May 26, 2022, 1:30-3pm at the Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive NW, Elk River. If eligible, residents of Sherburne County can receive a car seat for a \$20 suggested donation. Call to find out income guidelines (families who are on WIC or children on medical assistance are automatically eligible). Call to register or more information, 763-765-4111 or 1-800-433-5239.  
**First Steps Central MN Personal Nurses**  
Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright County have a team of Personal Nurses who connect with families that are pregnant or recently had a baby. Our Nurses offer support and information to be the best parent you can be, have a safe, loving home for you and your baby, connect to resources in your community to get things needed for your baby, and find ways to continue your education and develop job skills. The program is at no cost to you. Call 763-276-0441 or visit www.firststepscentralmn.org for more information.  
**HIV testing**  
Free and confidential testing is available by appointment at: Sherburne County Health and Human Services, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, MN 55330. Contact our HIV tester at 763-765-4000.  
**Immunization/ Covid-19 Vaccine Tuesdays**  
Sherburne County Public Health is offering free Covid-19 Vaccine, and offering free or low-cost immunizations for children 18 years of age or younger and uninsured or underinsured adults 19 years and older in Minnesota who meet eligibility guidelines on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for an appointment or more information, 763-765-4000 or 1-800-433-5239.  
**Outreach in St. Cloud**  
The Sherburne County Wellness bus will be at Salem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from 9:30-3pm. HHS staff will answer questions about public assistance programs and assist Sherburne County residents in applying for, or maintaining, benefits. Need Help with Food, Child Care, Medical Assistance, Housing, Utility Disconnects, Evictions? Walk ins welcome!  
**WIC (Women, Infants & Children):** is for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, recently had a baby, infants, and children to their 5th birthday. WIC provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, healthy foods, and referrals to health services/community resources. The service is free, and you or your children may be eligible. For more information, please call 763-765-4116 or 1-800-433-5239, or check out the website http://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/hhs/wic.php. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in the administration of its programs. WIC is an equal opportunity provider.  
**\*Drop-in Childcare**  
Need someone to watch your children while you renew your driver's license, attend a court hearing, apply for a passport, or conduct other business at the Sherburne County Government Center? Free childcare is now available for children ages 6 weeks -12 years. 2.5-hour time limit. Hours of operation are Monday - Thursday 9am - 3:30pm and Friday 9am - noon. Parent/caregiver will be provided with a pager and must remain on premises. Guidelines and capacity limits apply.

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

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