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NATURIST STAN TEKIELA has a great column talking about the complexity of nature — while on a trip to Yellowstone National Park leading photographic tours. See Stan's story on page 7.

Inside

BIG LAKE
Matt Homan was named CEO of Premier Marine, the pontoon manufacturer who is relocating to Big Lake and constructing a brand new building along Hwy. 10. See the story on page 3.

COUNTY
The MnDNR is seeking public input on deer population goals in 28 of 130 deer permit areas throughout the state. See the story on page 4.

BECKER
The Cook family of Becker got together recently and posed for a photo featuring four generations of their family. Check it out on page 2.



CHEERLEADERS TAKE OVER CULVER'S! On January 20th and 30th, the Big Lake Cheerleaders were seen helping out at the Monticello Culver's. The student-athletes ran out customer orders, greeted customers, and bussed tables. In exchange for the help, the restaurant donated a percentage of sales to the students' upcoming trip to compete in nationals. The team also accepted donations. Anyone who missed the team during their stint at Culver's can still support the team's trip to nationals by visiting BigLakeCheer.com. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

Clear Lake Twp. to put in place new mailbox resolution

By Penny Leuthard, Contributing Writer

During their January meeting, the Clear Lake Twp. Board of Supervisors discussed the replacement of residents' mailbox posts.

Township policy states that if a mailbox is struck by the snowplow, the township will replace it up to a specific amount using only U.S. Postmaster approved structures. Currently residents can use any type of structure if installed themselves.

Board members noted that swing away mailboxes aren't getting knocked down by the snowplows, as they're designed to swing out of the way of them. They're also approved by the post office.

After discussion, a decision was made to request the township attorney draft a new resolution stating that mailbox replacements and mailboxes installed due to new construction or roadwork must be swing away models. Board members also discussed using a preferred contractor so all mailboxes will be installed correctly and consistently.

Annual Report

Sherburne Co. Sheriff Joel Brott presented the 2021 annual sheriff's report



SHERBURNE CO. SHERIFF JOEL BROTT explains information in the sheriff's annual report for Clear Lake Twp. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)

for Clear Lake Twp. There were 1160 total calls for service/arrests for the year compared to 836 in 2020, which was lower than usual due to the pandemic.

Serious criminal activity included 12 thefts, nine DUIs, three criminal damage to property, and one each assault, narcotics, and criminal sexual conduct.

Brott explained the successful new crisis intervention co-response initiative between the county LE agencies and Central

Minnesota Mental Health Center's (CMMHC) crisis response team. Through it, police officers and mental health professionals work together to provide on scene behavioral health evaluations, crisis interventions, and treatment planning.

He noted they were proud their dispatch center received its first accreditation in 2021, and the county jail, which received its first accreditation in 2107, was awarded re-accreditation.

Brott informed the board their new virtual reality police training simulator has been extremely successful, and they've begun sharing it with other departments. The system uses virtual reality to replicate scenarios officers may face on the job.

He reminded the community the sheriff's office will periodically check on residents' property while they're on vacation or south for the winter. The security check is a free service.

Other Business

Twp. Engineer Terrence Vander Eyk informed the board the township's seal coat projects have been advertised; bid opening will

TOWNSHIP to page 3

Advocates, Policy Makers to Highlight Work of MN's Libraries Minnesota Libraries on the Rise

Submitted Article

The Great River Regional Library (GRRL) hosted an event — January 25, 2022 — with Minnesota library advocates on the important work of libraries across the state.

One of the featured speakers is local District 14B Rep. Dan Wolgamott, who is the chief author of the bill advocating for library support (SF1131/HF1710). Speakers shared how their regional library system has helped their community through the pandemic.

Other speakers scheduled for the event are: GRRL Board member Zurya Anjum, Ottertail County Community

Development Director Amy Baldwin, Viking Library System Director Erin Smith, Minnesota Library Association Legislative Chair and Lake Agassiz Regional Library Executive Director Liz Lynch, and St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis.



To wrap up the session, Rep. Wolgamott will discuss how the legislature can collaborate with libraries. As people have seen libraries build, grow, and readjust through the pandemic to best fit patrons' needs, there are ways that communities can continue to improve and show their local library support in

GRRL to page 3

Tuesday Was Caucus Day in MN

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

Caucus day in Minnesota was Tuesday, Feb. 1. Democrat, Republican, and Legalize Marijuana parties met in order to discuss party news and complete straw polls for governor candidates. The Patriot was personally invited to attend the Republican caucus, which composes the content of this article.

Republicans from Becker, Santiago, Palmer, Orrock, and Big Lake (precinct 4) gathered at the Becker Intermediate School for their caucus. The meeting began late as many individuals were misdirected by GPS devices to other schools at the Becker campus.

Former representative Jim Newberger led the proceedings for the night. He started the evening by leading the attendees in the pledge of allegiance and a prayer.

Sen. Andrew Mathews spoke next, saying that he and the other senate republicans continue to fight the governor's COVID-19 restrictions. He claimed that most people in the senate, including Democrats, were getting tired of the mask rules, citing meetings he's had with members of both parties in private areas during which masks were removed. Mathews promised to make removing masks from schools one



JIM NEWBERGER spoke at Tuesday's caucus. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

of his top priorities. He informed the attendees that the Republican party would have to play a lot of defense this year, but that would set the party up for some wins down the road.

Rep. Shane Mekeland also spoke, saying that he was also focused on getting politics out of the schools. He also asked the attendees to say a prayer for a couple from northern MN who were being transferred to a hospital out of state in order to receive COVID-19 care, a transportation which Mekeland helped to facilitate in a story similar to that of a Buffalo man who was transferred out of Minnesota to a Texas hospital.

After the speakers left,

CAUCUS to page 3

PATRIOT



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News & Advertising Deadlines

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

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

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

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INDEX

EDITORIAL/NEWS
- Pages 1-10
CHURCH DIRECTORY
- Page 4B
ANNOUNCEMENTS
- Page 2B

COLUMNS/OPINIONS
- Page 5
LEGALS/JUDICIAL
- Pages 2B & 3B
CLASSIFIEDS
- Page 1B

EMPLOYMENT
- Pages 6 & 7
SPORTS/ACTIVITIES
- Pages 8-10
OBITS
- Page 4B

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County board approves interchange plan contract with Bolton & Menk

By Ken Francis,
Contributing Writer

The Sherburne County Board of Commissioners approved a contract with Bolton & Menk Inc. for the Zimmerman Interchange design at Hwy. 169 and Co. Rd. 4 during their last meeting in January. The contract price tag is \$1,727,895.

The road project, considered to be one of the largest undertakings in the county, will require collab-

ent options that will likely be discovered as we start digging back into this.”

Under the contract, Bolton & Menk is proposing to complete the final design, right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation by late 2023, as well as bidding out the project in 2024.

Witter said the artist’s design drawing on the cover of the plan is just a concept and not necessarily a representation of the final

remaining five years of Tom Hammer’s term;

- Authorized the Auditor-Treasurer to submit an application for a Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grant from the State of Minnesota to assist with election security in the coming 2022 election. It has been determined that the county will qualify for approximately \$40,523 in election grant funds;
- Approved donations from various donors to



AN ARTIST’S RENDITION OF THE ZIMMERMAN INTERCHANGE shows what the finished project might look like. This is only a concept which has not been fully vetted, and the final product might look different. (Submitted photo.)

poration between MnDOT, the City of Zimmerman and Sherburne County.

The county received bids from two other consulting firms: WSB \$1,868,165 and SRF/TKDA \$1,936,691.

Director of Public Works Andrew Witter called the project schedule “more aggressive” than some others.

“We’re going to continue to work as hard as we can to move forward as quick as possible. We’ve identified right of way limits which would allow us to get into the property acquisition phases of the project,” he said. “We will continue working on the final plans and look for (plan) completion in and around late summer early fall of 2023. This will allow us to get back to the public to provide ample public input on a number of differ-

plan.

“It’s just one concept. It hasn’t been vetted. It hasn’t been through any engineering studies,” he said. “It’s just a concept.”

In Oct. 21, 2020, Gov. Walz signed HF 1 into law, which appropriated \$2,000,000 for a Local Road Improvement Program grant to Sherburne County for work associated with the project.

ARPA Funding
The board approved American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for a tape backup system for the Sheriff’s dept. (\$25,700.04), SARS-COVID test kits (\$10,078.54) and jail touchpad cleaning (\$45,150).

Other Business
In other action the board:

- Approved the appointment of Greta Starkler to the Sherburne County EDA to fill out the

Health & Human Services totalling \$26,103.43;

- Approved the final contract payment to Knife River for the Co. Rd. 42 project from Co. Rd. 1 Co. Rd. 9 and Co. Rd. 70 pavement resurfacing. The original contract amount was \$1,209,310.15. The final contract amount: is \$1,324,439.26.

- Approved the appointment of Dispatch Supervisor Matthew Paumen as the designated alternate representative for the 911 Technical Operations Committee through the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board;

- Approved a \$25 donation to the Sheriff’s Office Mounted Patrol, made by The Stein Financial Group in memory of Mounted Patrol member Kelly Gretton, who passed away on Dec. 17, 2021.



FOUR GENERATIONS IN BECKER enjoyed time together recently: Emma Cook, Nora Cook, Chris Cook, Lou Kuklok, Michael Cook, and Ozzy Cook. (Submitted photo.)

Area Chamber News



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

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

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

Amity Felton
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Chamber@BeckerChamber.org



Membership Meeting
Feb. 22 - 11:30 am
Saron Lutheran Church

Community Fair
April 23 - 10 am - 1 pm
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Big Lake News

TOWNSHIP from page 1

be held during their February meeting at 7:30 p.m.

A motion carried to match the \$25,000 donation from the Clear Lake Lions to build a 24' x 24' park pavilion this summer. Anticipating leftover funds, the board discussed installing a small playground and parking area.

A motion carried approving the purchase of three outdoor message boards for the township to use for posting information to the public. The boards will be installed on posts at township hall, White Farm, and Sherwood Shores.

After a short discussion, a motion carried to purchase outdoor video surveillance signage to install at the entrance to the township hall parking lot.

A motion carried approving the Bingo permit for Travelers on the Mississippi.

Clearview Elementary's request for permission to cut down invasive Siberian elms was approved, as was the building of a new podium for the township's boardroom.

Township cleanup day will be May 7.

The sheriff reported 73 calls for service, including 28 traffic, six medicals, three fraud complaints, one DWI, one assault, and one theft of a snowmobile.

The Board of Audit meeting will be March 1 at 9 a.m. at township hall.

The next Clear Lake Twp. meeting will be on February 15 at 7 p.m.

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Matt Homan named CEO of Premier Marine in Big Lake

Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by Premier Marine.)

Premier Marine announced Matt Homan as the company's new Chief Executive Officer and equity part-

rience, character and drive align perfectly with the culture we're building here at Premier Marine," said Premier owner Chris Carlson. "I've worked with Matt in the past and have always admired his strong market and product understanding, coupled with

Off-Road Vehicles, Homan worked with the team to build a strategy and execute a plan that quickly led to rapid improvements across the business. Homan will utilize those skills as he builds a world-class team that will eventually occupy a new 150,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art manufacturing facility and accompanying 30,000 sq. ft. fiberglass and tooling operation in Big Lake. The company has already gained incredible momentum since the 2021 acquisition with over 130 new hires, including 13 key leadership positions, including Homan.

Homan began his career at General Mills with various marketing roles after receiving his bachelor's degree in Marketing and an MBA from the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management. Homan and his wife, Jenna, of 27-years have three daughters. They love to travel and can be found in the mountains of Utah skiing in the winter months.

About Premier Marine

Premier Marine Inc. is a manufacturer of luxury performance pontoon boats under the Premier brand. Premier Marine holds numerous patents and trademarks on manufacturing elements such as the Premier Ricochet Ladder System, corrosion resistant high strength furniture hinges, and the PTX™ performance package. The 29-year-old company sells its pontoons through boat dealers located throughout the United States and Canada. Premier Marine is headquartered in Wyoming, Minnesota and owned by Envision Company of Elk River, Minnesota.

his amazing leadership instincts and a history of building high-performance teams." "This is a tremendous opportunity," said Homan. "Premier represents one of the most respected luxury pontoon manufacturers in the market and the brand's growth potential is limitless. The culture and core values at Premier align with my approach to business, and I'm excited to help accelerate the momentum that they've established."

"I knew right away I wanted to join this team," Homan continued. "Chris has a track record of success, and I believe the alignment of a corporate executive and an entrepreneur with the vision that Chris has is a powerful one."

As president of Polaris

CAUCUS from page 1

Newberger mentioned that the new legislative districts will be announced Feb. 15, and that everyone in attendance would be notified via email about the changes. Finally, Newberger asked for delegates to represent the district at the Republican convention later in the year.

Before the attendees broke into groups for the straw poll, Becker School Board Member Mark Swanson caught the attention of the gathered republicans. He announced that he had decided not to run for reelection on the school board this year, so his seat will be open in the fall. He encouraged anyone with questions to get into contact with him.

SHANE MEKELAND (nearest right) spoke at Tuesday's caucus. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

ANDREW MATHEWS (farthest right) spoke at Tuesday's caucus. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)



THREE INDIVIDUALS MANNED THE WELCOME TABLE at Tuesday's Republican caucus in Becker. From left to right is Anne Felber, Gregg Felber, and Anne Kostrzewski. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)



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GRRL from page 1

new ways.

GRRL provides library services at 32 public libraries and to-go systems in Benton, Morrison, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd and Wright Counties. GRRL2GO is a locker system that allows one to pick up items at the Sartell Community Center. GRRL supplies residents of Central Minnesota with nearly one million books, CDs and DVDs, 250 public computers, programming, and information services.

This event is open to the public and press. Masks are strongly encouraged. More information can be found on the library website: <https://griver.org/library-news/event-why-minnesota-libraries-are-on-the-rise>.



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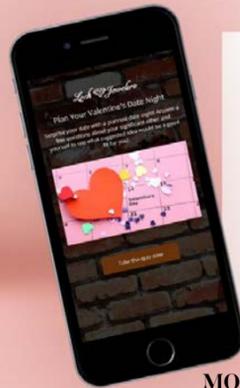
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BL City recognizes employee service

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

During the recent Big Lake City Council meeting, the board recognized the years of service for several employees, welcomed a new police officer, and said goodbye to two police officers.

Employee Years of Service Recognition

Mayor Paul Knier recognized the years of service for several city staff members: Chera Cruze of the liquor store, five years; Ryan Aderman of the BLFD, five years; Kiel Ruberg of the BLFD, five years; Ryan Hanson of the BLFD, 10 years; Phil Kollar of public works, 15 years; and Michael Bondhus of the BLFD, 30 years. Each employee was presented with a certificate and a thank-you from the mayor.

Police Officers, Coming & Going

A new officer, Kyle Rossberg, was sworn in during the meeting.

Shortly after Rossberg's swearing-in, the board went on to recognize the retirement of Officer Rich Berg. Berg submitted his retirement notice six months ago, and his last day was Friday, Feb. 4. Berg served for the department for 25 years. He also served with the BLFD for five years.

During the consent



OFFICER KYLE ROSSBERG was welcomed to the BLPD officially with a cake. (Photo taken from BLPD Facebook page.)



OFFICER RICH BERG (MIDDLE) recently retired from the BLPD after 25 years of service. He's pictured here with BLPD Office Manager Tina Petersen (L) and Administrative Assistant Nicole Pearson (R). (Photo taken from BLPD Facebook page.)

agenda, the board also acknowledged the resignation of Officer Tim Mikelson. Mikelson submitted his resignation Jan. 7 and his last day was Jan. 22. Mikelson had served with the department for just over one year. He and his wife decided to move to Missouri to be closer to family.

Department Reports

Norm Michels of the streets/parks department reported that there have been six plowable snow events

so far in the calendar year. In addition, there were three instances where plows were dispatched to handle snow drifts, and five instances where staff was dispatched for salting/sanding. This is more activity than in previous years.

All three ice rinks are open and in good skating condition. The warming house remains closed due to concerns over COVID-19.

Public Works is now maintaining the police vehicles in-house. Michels hopes to expand this program to all city-owned vehicles.

In Other Business, the Board:

- Heard an update from County Attorney Kathleen Heaney;
- Approved a professional services proposal for ordinance revisions;
- Approved a comprehensive plan amendment to adopt a road classification system;
- Approved a \$300 increase in benefits for the Fire Relief Association;
- Spoke briefly about working with the county to plan possible changes for Hwy. 25.

BL Schools hears updates

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

During the recent Big Lake School Board meeting, the board heard updates from Big Lake Online and the Middle School, and heard about a possible new project for the high school called "Big Lake Sandbox."

Open Forum

Ashley Schabillion sang praises for the schools and the board. She thanked the board for not longer requiring those speaking at open forum to declare their address to the audience (address is still required to be turned into the board chair.) She then thanked all of the teachers in the district for their dedication to in-person learning. She especially thanked staff at the Liberty Elementary School, who make an effort to make sure students are safe and excited for the school day as they are dropped off by parents in the morning, even in the incredibly cold temperatures of the last few weeks. Finally, she thanked the PTO for bringing the Sky Dome Planetarium to the students and letting them have that experience.

Big Lake Online Update

Keri Neubauer, administrator for Big Lake Online, gave an update for the online school. The school has students who take classes online

full time or as a supplement to in-person classes or an apprenticeship program.

Currently enrolled in the program are 51 elementary students, 49 middle school students, and 232 high school students (this includes those students who are taking supplemental courses).

Staff has had a difficult time connecting with students who are not originally from the district. Students and parents from outside of Big Lake (such as St. Cloud) don't reach out to staff and have the same connection families originally from the district do. Some students from outside the district also do something known as "school-jumping." This involves signing up for a series of online schools in order to avoid truancy. They do not engage in the course material, but so long as they are enrolling in a new school their home counties don't really step in. BLO has dropped about 12 students that were not engaging in their courses, and have made an effort to speak with families and home districts of the students to find a way to find an appropriate solution for the situation. Other problems involve students procrastinating in their courses and trying to catch up at the last minute. Staff are trying to help these students establish consistent study habits in order to make sure the students don't fall behind

in their coursework.

Staff is considering requiring students to require an in-person orientation in order to increase program success for the students who have not attended online school before.

Middle School Update

Mark Ernst, principal for the Big Lake Middle School, gave an update for his school as well.

The school had a rocky start as students and teachers transitioned back into being in-person full time. Staff thought the hybrid model the school was using would transition nicely to an all in-person model, but it didn't. Staff had to take a hard look at some of the systems in the school and adjust accordingly. For example, the issuance of hall passes was cut down from 300 to only 85. And students who went to the cafeteria during WIN time (study hall) were encouraged to instead seek out teachers for classes where they need extra help instead, therefore cutting down on the overcrowding in the cafeteria.

SEL and literacy practices in the school seem to help keep students engaged.

Sandbox

Several staff members and teachers came up with an idea for "Big Lake Sandbox." This would effectively be an active excavation site at the northwest corner of campus,

alongside Eagle Lake Rd. High School students would be given the opportunity to work with construction machines at this excavation site. A classroom component would teach students safety on the construction site, maintenance of machines, and excavator theory.

Staff plans to speak with the owners of the houses that would neighbor the site. They stated there will be no early morning or late evening excavation.

Sponsors for the program would lease equipment to the schools for the students to use. The school will need to pay for PPE, fuel, and some other items.

The presenters and the board members spoke about the skill that goes into being an excavator and the income opportunity for the students who get training and have experience right out of high school.

In Other Business, the Board:

- Heard the monthly finance update;
- Agreed to form a multi-school cooperative for boys' and girls' lacrosse teams;
- Reviewed bids for air conditioning work;
- Heard a brief update from the student liaison.

Mississippi 8 band/choir conference held at Becker High School

Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by Big Lake Schools.)

The Mississippi 8 Conference Honor Band, Honor Choir and Honor Jazz Band was held Monday January 17th at Becker High School. These groups are the top musicians from the Mississippi 8 schools of Becker, Big Lake, Cambridge-Isanti, Chisago Lakes, Monticello, North Branch, Princeton and St. Francis. The musicians are selected by nomination by each of their prospective directors. The student mu-

sicians rehearsed during the day, and presented a closing concert that evening.

The concert band program included: Overture for Winds, Charles Carter; Cajun Folk Songs, Frank Ticheli; Song for Lindsay, Andrew Boysen; and Affirmation, Randall D. Standridge.

The jazz band program included: Dat Dere, Bobby Timmons/Arr.; Erik Morales, Spain, Chick Corea/Arr. Paul Jennings; Jamie, Sammy Nestico; and Such Sweet Thunder, Ellington/Strayhorn/Arr. Mike Kamuf.

The choir program consisted of Af-

ternoon On a Hill by Minnesota-born composer Eric Barnum; Swedish Folksong Trilo; O Love by contemporary Iowa composer Elaine Hagenberg; and an arrangement of the African American Spiritual Walk In Jerusalem by active composer/conductor/educator Rollo Dilworth.

Clinician for the Concert Band was Dr. Ward Miller, Jazz Band was David Mantini, director at North Hennepin Community College and for the Choir, Dr. Bradley Miller on music faculty at the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University.



BIG LAKE SCHOOLS HONOR BAND. (Top) Jaden Anderson, Katja Vaatainen, Claire John, Georgia Morris. (Back) Henry Schmidt, Ethan Martin, Olivia Potter, Grace Heider, Brynn Johnson, Jaden Rust, Kaitlyn Mitchell, Cody Helriegel. BIG LAKE SCHOOLS HONOR CHOIR. (Bottom) Brandon Dombrowski, Brian Nyland, Emily Franz, Tala Dobrovolsky. (Back) Josalyn Rust, Emma Vogt, Nick Gjerstad, Carter Starks, Jonah Overby, Alex Eccless (not pictured: Julia Oudekerk) (Submitted photos.)

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DNR seeking public input on deer population goals

Submitted Article

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

Beginning Monday, Jan. 24, the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources is asking for public input on deer population goals in 28 of 130 deer permit areas (DPAs).

"We're continuing with an online questionnaire this year and adding webinars for those who wish to connect directly with area wildlife managers on this topic," said Barbara Keller, DNR big game program leader.

The DNR establishes deer population goals — how much of an increase or decrease is desired in a deer population in a particular DPA — as part of managing the state's wild deer.

Population goals established in this process will provide direction for management in each goal-setting block for a 10-year period, with a midpoint review at the five-year mark. Goal blocks and the DPAs that comprise them are established based on similar habitat, land uses, deer populations and deer hunter distribution.

The targeted DPAs this year are:

- DPAs 117, 118, 126, 130, 131, 133 in the Superior Uplands - Arrowhead block;
- DPAs 169, 184, 197, 210, 298 in the North Central Plains Moraines block;
- DPAs 241, 246, 251, 258, 259, 287 in the Pine Moraines block; and
- DPAs 341, 342, 343, 344, 643, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 655 in the Blufflands Plateau block.

Online feedback opens on Jan. 24 and concludes on Sunday, Feb. 13. Participants

will be asked to complete an online questionnaire and indicate whether the deer population in a particular area should increase, decrease, or stay the same—and provide their rationale.

Webinars during the last week of January will present information about each goal-setting block, seek participant input and allow DNR wildlife staff to answer participants' questions. Webinars will be recorded and posted online for those who can't participate in the live events.

"We strongly encourage people to join us for these webinars," Keller said. "Anyone may participate, regardless of affiliation or knowledge of the process, and we'll present useful information and answer questions that will help participants formulate their online responses."

Details about each goal block, how to participate in the process, the webinar schedule and how to access the questionnaire are listed on the DNR's website (mndnr.gov/mammals/deer/management/population.html).

In 2019, the DNR updated its deer population goal-setting process, which previously obtained input through citizen advisory committees and in-person public meetings. The new format allows more participants and encourages varied perspectives.

The DNR is committed to socially and ecologically responsive and responsible deer management for the benefit of all Minnesotans now and in the future. Visit our deer management page (mndnr.gov/deer) to learn about the many things we do to manage one of Minnesota's most popular animals.

Editorials/Opinions

Joy Everyday



By Rev. Monica Parrish

embarked on a journey as an entrepreneur and opened a business, so that I may have more flexibility for ministry work. All week I worked diligently to make sure all tasks were completed so I could shift gears back to my sermon prep as I was scheduled to preach on Sunday. I felt led to share a message about joy, although it's a topic more commonly spoken of during the holidays. But joy is meant for us every day, not once a year. I had everything perfectly arranged for sermon writing. Study bibles, notepads and a fresh cup of coffee in my grandma's special mug "I can do all things through Him who gives me strength." I was excited and ready to write on the topic of joy! And then I received a work-related text message. My immediate attention was required. Four hours and 80 miles later, all was resolved. It was a humorously-timed reminder that joy is deeper than our outside circumstances. There will always be things that may threaten to disrupt our sense of joy; other peo-

ple, work, finances, worry, insecurities, fear; the list goes on and on. But we must keep our focus on God. Joy is a fruit of the spirit, and it grows over time, as we mature in our faith. Our joy as Christians is deep-rooted in many things including our salvation from the redeeming work of Christ, knowing and remaining in God's word, loving one another, and the hope and peace we have in Him. Joy is beautifully illustrated in 1 Peter 1:8, "Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy." When I am tempted to allow everyday problems to rattle my joy, I will instead focus on my faith in the sovereignty of God. In Phil 4:4, the Apostle Paul instructed the church in Phillipi, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice." Strangely, Paul was unjustly imprisoned at the time. And yet he rejoiced that the gospel was not only continuing, but actually being advanced as a result of his adverse circumstances. Paul kept a God-centered perspective. One of my new favorite scriptures came as a result of this joy study, from Romans 15:13, "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." I pray this message blesses each one of you.

A Tough, Yet Hopeful Start to 2022

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

With the rise of the Omicron variant, this winter HAS been hard for all of us. As Minnesotans have responded to the ongoing pandemic with such resilience, I have been hard at work in Washington fighting for Minnesotans.

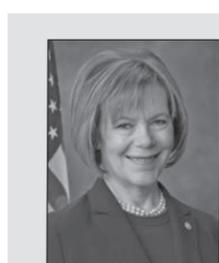
New legislation that I helped pass into law went into effect a few weeks ago, and it prevents patients from receiving surprise medical bills for most types of emergency care. I have also continued to push the Biden Administration to increase access to free, at-home COVID-19 testing.

And thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, I am excited to share that the U.S. Department of Transportation will begin rolling out its largest financial investment in bridge construction and repair in its history. Hundreds of Minnesota bridges will see repairs and improvements, along with a boost in local construction contracts and new jobs.

No Surprises Act

On January first, a new law I helped passed to stop people from receiving surprise medical bills for most types of emergency medical care went into effect.

When Minnesotans go



By Sen. Tina Smith

to the emergency room, they receive care from doctors and nurses who may not accept your insurance. In the past, patients were stuck with bills sometimes costing thousands of dollars for choices they did not make. That's not going to happen anymore. Hospitals and insurance companies will now have to figure it out instead of saddling the patient with the bill.

Wilma Mankiller

The U.S. Mint has granted my request for Wilma Mankiller, the first woman elected principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, to be featured on the U.S. quarter. I am proud to celebrate and honor such a prolific humanitarian and leader.

Mankiller was a strong advocate for Tribal sovereignty, freedoms, and social justice. In 1998, she received the Presidential

Medal of Freedom and was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1993.

Bridge Projects and Repairs

I am happy to announce that Minnesota will soon see new federally funded bridge projects and repairs, thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law I helped pass last year.

This means the bridges Minnesotans drive over every day will be safe and more resilient to climate change and severe weather. These bridge projects will create more local construction jobs.

Although exact details are still underway with the state legislature, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) believes this funding will be used for bridge repairs on the I-494 Minnesota River Bridge, the I-94 Douglas County bridges, the I-535 Blatnik Bridge, and the Highway 61 Ontario Border Bridge over the Pigeon River.

The Federal Highway Administration and MnDOT are also considering hundreds of other smaller bridge improvement projects across Minnesota.

Top Priority: Tax Relief

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

Minnesota's 2022 legislative session began Monday and I hope this goes down as the year the Legislature turned a historic \$7.7 billion surplus into permanent tax relief for Minnesotans.

We are staring at an opportunity to provide permanent tax relief for Minnesotans unlike anything this state has ever seen. People are being slammed by inflation and our businesses have had the deck stacked against them the



By Rep. Shane Mekeland

last couple of years, much of which is linked to restrictions the governor placed upon them. Our state has an overabundance of revenue

and people are struggling. The timing couldn't be better for providing meaningful, permanent tax relief to lessen their burden. I look forward to addressing this issue throughout the new session, along with other key subjects, such as strengthening public safety at a time violent crime has surged in our state.

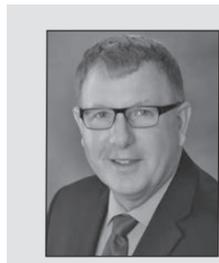
I welcome correspondence throughout the session and encourage District 15B residents to call (651) 296-2451 or email Rep. Shane.Mekeland@house.mn to get in touch.

(Editor's Note: The following column was submitted by Paul Novotny's team.)

I (State Representative Paul Novotny, R-Elk River), released the following statement regarding the introduction of House File 2705.

The bill, among other things, would ban all magazines over 10 rounds in Minnesota, require gun owners to register almost all semi-automatic firearms with their local Chief of Police or Sheriff or be charged with a gross misdemeanor, and turn over to law enforcement or destroy magazines with capacities of 10 rounds or be charged with a felony.

At a time when violent crime is spiking, the elderly are robbed going to get groceries, and when law abiding members of the public



By Rep. Paul Novotny

are using legally carried concealed firearms to protect themselves and others from violent assaults, it is no surprise that Democrats will once again look to limit the 2nd Amendment for law-abiding Minnesotans. All while the Ramsey and Hennepin County Attorneys refuse to pursue strong punishment

for those that are committing these violent crimes.

The bill is filled with bans on standard capacity handgun and rifle magazines and includes mandatory registration of most semi-automatic firearms including hunting shotguns. If passed, this bill would turn many gun owners into felons without them even knowing it.

Any gun control bill will need to come through the Public Safety Committee in the House and as a member of this committee, I will work hard to make sure this unconstitutional bill does not become law. I am a strong supporter of the 2nd Amendment and will always stand for the right of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves and their loved ones.

Getting MN "Right on Track"

(Editor's Note: The following column was submitted by Sen. Andrew Mathews.)

Senate Republicans recently held a press conference to announce session priorities to get Minnesota on the Right Track. The focus of Senate Republicans this session, which began Jan. 31, will be on affording everyday life, reducing crime, and empowering parents.

Ensuring the safety of our communities is critical. We will focus this session on addressing our state's rise in crime by providing strong support for law enforcement. Additionally, parents play a key role in our children's education, and we will back the parents. Distance learning has



By Sen. Andrew Mathews

greatly affected our children's education, and we must work to keep kids in the classroom.

Helping People Afford Their Lives

The state's projected \$7.7 billion surplus will be one of the most discussed items in St. Paul. Follow-

ing stubborn and record inflation from runaway congressional spending, Senate Republicans are advancing a series of tax cuts targeted at working Minnesotans, families, and seniors to help them afford their everyday life.

In the last five years, Republicans have secured billions in tax cuts, including exempting most seniors from taxes on social security and the first income rate tax cuts in 20 years.

The \$7.7 billion surplus means Minnesotans are being highly overtaxed. Taxpayers should be getting refunds in the thousands, not just hundreds like the 'Walz Checks' re-

MATHEWS to page 7

Letters To The Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

I am the vice president of the Great River Regional Library (GRRL) board of trustees, and a Stearns County commissioner. GRRL is one of Minnesota's 12 regional public library systems. GRRL operates 32 libraries in Central Minnesota - in cities as large as St. Cloud and as small as Belgrade. I support SF1131/HF1710 which fixes a problem with how state public library funding is divided. Representative Dan Wolgamott (District 14B) is the chief author, and the bill has bipartisan support in the state senate. The League of Minnesota Cities Fiscal Futures Committee also supports this proposal. Public libraries provide access to vital technology and broadband. They support students, their families and lifelong learners. Public libraries demonstrated this in many ways over the past two years. Libraries offer curbside services. GRRL began lending wi-fi hotspots to assist students with distance learning. GRRL also distributed hotspots to organizations like Promise Neighborhood of Central Minnesota for their work with students and families. The library system developed partnerships to expand access to career exploration opportunities. I urge everyone to use our great libraries. Stories like this happened in all 365 communities with a public library across the state.

Leigh Lenzmeier Stearns County Commissioner

Vice President of Great River Regional Library Board of Trustees

TO THE EDITOR:

On Thursday the 27th of Jan, I along with numerous fans from Big Lake and Becker had a chance to see two very good wrestling teams compete in a dual meet. I would like to congratulate both teams and their coaches for a very exciting dual meet. There was excitement from the 1st whistle until the last whistle and the meet wasn't decided until the final match. Just what you would expect from 2 state ranked teams. May everyone stay healthy as you approach the section qualifier.

Brad Novak Becker, MN

TO THE EDITOR:

"Walz Checks", Don't Go Far Enough. The State collected too much money, i.e., the tax rate was too high. Walz only wants to return \$700 million (less than 10%) when we were over charged \$7.7 billion! The State should not spend this money simply because they have it, money should only be spent on what is necessary. First, this surplus needs to go back to the people that paid it and not be re-distribute to everyone in the form of welfare. Second, a much higher percentage needs to be returned. If I hand the clerk at the store \$40 for a \$30 bill, I expect \$10 back but Walz is only giving me less than \$1 in change.

Bret R. Collier Big Lake, MN

TO THE EDITOR:

Regarding using solar/wind power per the January 29 letter to the editor, not the utilities but rather the state legislature pushes these technologies. Statute 216B.1691 mandates renewables provide 25% of electricity by 2025 and by 2030 solar provide 10% of electricity. Xcel is penalized with more aggressive mandates because Xcel uses the Monticello and Prairie Island nuclear plants to generate carbon free, reliable, safe energy. The goal to reduce carbon emissions and environmental impact is laudable, however in part misguided. Coal consumption is reduced, however natural gas consumption is increased. Carbon emissions are not lowered fast enough nor in a cost-effective manner. Solar and wind power have 25% and 35% capacity factors. That means solar power built for 100 homes supplies only 25% of the needed power. The other 75% is from fossil or nuclear. Using natural gas, the fossil fuel of choice to backup solar and wind, drives up home heating costs. It is time to stop investing in solar and wind. Minnesota nuclear plants provide 26% of our carbon free, reliable, safe energy at a 92% capacity factor. Our legislature needs to repeal state statute 216B.243, subdivision 3b, prohibiting new nuclear construction in Minnesota.

Marvin Engen Clear Lake, MN

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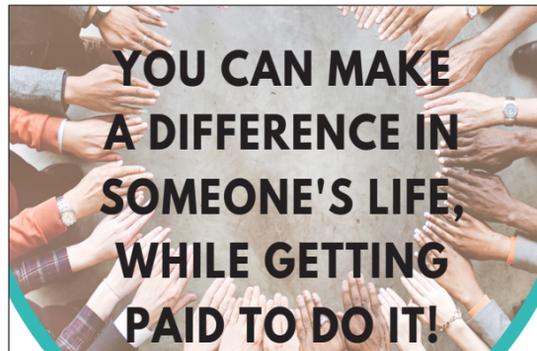
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Yellowstone Scavengers

The complexity of nature is often hard to understand and even harder to witness. Sure, we learn about it in school, read about it in a book, or watch it on a TV nature documentary, but it isn't until you see it firsthand that you start to understand and appreciate the complexity of nature. I have been fortunate to be able to see it myself and gain a better understanding.

Take for example something that happened just a couple days ago. I am in Yellowstone National Park leading photographic tours in the dead of winter. Snow and cold rule the land. For a month I am moving around the park, entering the inner core of the park that is not accessible without large trucks with massive wheels and tires to navigate through the deep snow.

Of course, finding and capturing images of wolves is the ultimate goal for my photo tours but honestly you never can be sure you will even see wolves, let alone capture some images. Even less likely is to witness the life and death struggles that occur in the natural world. But that doesn't stop us from trying each and every day even with sub zero temperatures and snow squalls that dump three inches of snow in one hour then the sun comes out.

On one clear and very crisp morning, just before the sun came up, we located a "kill site". This is where the local pack of wolves was successful at taking down a bison. We were able to climb up a short hill through deep snow to where the wind had blown the snow clear. Setting up our tripods and cameras we were able to witness the harshness and overwhelming reality of a complex and intact ecosystem.

This pack of wolves had 13 members and three of the wolves were at the bison carcass. The rest were very high up on the mountain in a small clearing laying in the snow. We could only see them using high powered binoculars or spotting scopes. But right in front of us were the facts of life. Or should I say, life and death and the complex-



By Naturalist
Stan Tekiela

ity of nature.

Wolves are top predators, usually called apex predators. They live in family units of anywhere from four to 30 members. Usually these are blood relatives, so they are brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews. They need to live in family units because a single 80-pound wolf can't possibly take down and



kill a 2,000 pound bison. So, they work together as a family to subdue their prey.

However, the more members in the pack the less food each wolf gets to eat in the end. Studies show that the optimal number of members in a pack of wolves is six to eight. This is enough wolves to take down a large animal such as a bison or elk, but not too many mouths to feed, thus each member gets enough to eat.

But the real complexity of nature really doesn't show itself until after a pack of wolves has killed their prey. I have seen this time and time again and it always amazes me. Within minutes of the kill, the first birds arrive. First to arrive are the ravens. These amazing birds often follow wolf packs around waiting for something to happen. They are very bold, and the entire family of ravens show up. It is not unusual to have 20 or more ravens within the first 15 minutes.

More times than not, the wolves take a break and rest directly after taking down their prey. After all it takes a lot of energy to kill something that is 10 times

your size, and you can only use your teeth to kill it.

Next are the Black-billed Magpies. These black-and-white birds with long tails sneak in between the ravens and grab what they can.

Next are the Bald Eagles. These birds usually push off the ravens and magpies and temporarily take over the carcass.

Right after that is the Golden Eagle. They often fight with the Bald Eagles for a place at the table.

Coyotes are never far away. There is no doubt they can smell the kill and literally come running as if someone rang a dinner bell. They approach slowly and cautiously, looking around and making sure the wolves aren't too close. When they approach the carcass, they chase off the ravens, magpies and eagles.

Red Foxes are never too far behind the coyote. They stay away from the coyote and bid their time waiting for a chance to get in there and grab a bite to eat. And they always do make it in somehow.

The wolves often return and chase everyone off. They will eat quickly, and each wolf can consume up to 20 pounds of meat in one sitting. It doesn't take very long and the only thing left is bones and some fur. Even the bones and fur are eventually used. Absolutely nothing goes to waste in the natural world.

Most of the time within 24 to 48 hours everything is gone. Just a few remaining scraps and a stain of blood in the snow. It is amazing how so many other critters benefit from what the wolves do. Until next time...

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

MATHEWS from page 5

cently proposed by the governor. It also long overdue to provide 100% exemption from Social Security taxes for Minnesota's seniors."

Law Enforcement Support

Another priority this year will be investments in public safety and initiatives to drive down crime. Senate Republicans plan to quickly address the urgent need to increase Minnesota's police presence while providing additional tools and resources to fight crime and recruit and retain police officers. Republicans will also continue to be tough on crime, and address failed progressive policies that reduce or eliminate bail. We will also introduce legislation increasing penalties for repeat offenders, carjackers, and crimes involving dangerous weapons.

Parents as Education Partners

Finally, the closure of schools due to COVID has been an eye-opening experience for parents across the state. Across the nation, many parents have raised concerns about their kids' education coming at the cost of political activism. To that end, Republicans propose increasing transparency and accountability in school to the parents, and empowering parents to be active partners in their child's education.

Senate Republicans have had control of the Senate since 2017 and consistently stopped harmful tax increases on working and low-income Minnesotans. We stabilized the health care market in 2017 with the very successful reinsurance program and passed record funding for students in schools. Senate republicans also continue to reduce burdensome regulations on Main Street businesses and support economic development across the state.

Right to Vote Rally



ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022, a group of individuals representing several social justice and political activist organizations led by Wright County Indivisible peacefully assembled in front of Tom Emmer's congressional office in Otsego. The pro-democracy group was supporting the right to vote legislation and called the event the "Every Vote Counts Rally." The rally ended at 12:30 when representatives from the group met with Tom Emmer's staff. Tom Emmer voted against the Right to Vote legislation. (Submitted Photo).

Level 3 sex offender plans to return to county

Submitted article

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

A Level 3 sex offender who was released from custody in September and briefly lived in Sherburne

County is planning to move back to the county.

David John Kangas Jr., 34, has served his prison sentence for sexually assaulting a teenage girl.

The state Department of Corrections on Wednesday informed the Sherburne County Sheriff's Office that

Kangas would be moving back to rural Princeton on Thursday in the vicinity of 307th Ave. NW and 147th St.

The DOC also said that Kangas intends to relocate to another county in the near future so his stay in Sherburne County could be

brief.

A community notification meeting regarding Kangas was held in Zimmerman on Sept. 21, after he was released from DOC custody. Another community notification meeting has been held Monday, Jan. 31 at the Zimmerman Pub-

lic Safety Building.

Because Kangas was designated a Level 3 sex offender, law enforcement is allowed to notify the public about this release and where he plans to live.

Becker dancers have great meet in Monticello

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

The Becker Dance Team competed in their last regular-season competition at Monticello High School last Saturday.

It was nearly a clean sweep for the Bulldogs in all divisions and categories with every team taking first place except varsity jazz losing the first place tie breaker to take second!

"The 13 teams that competed on Saturday are 13 of the 15 Becker will be seeing at the section tournament on Feb. 5th," said Head Coach, Nadia Fischer-Danzeisen. "The team was ranked second but with beating the first place team, they're looking to fight for the section championship spot."

The coaches expressed their gratitude towards the JV and b-squad athletes and parents as this was their last event for the 2021-2022



THE BECKER DANCE TEAM posed for a team photo in Monticello after nearly completing a clean sweep against 15 teams last Saturday. (Submitted Photo).

season. "I am so proud of how much growth the JV teams had this year," said JV Head Coach, Autumn Martin. "I feel confident that

several of them are ready to move up to the varsity level next year."

"The team that placed the most often this year was our b-squad Jazz team,"

said Assistant Coach, Megan Timm. "They're the best b-squad team in the history of the program!"

Hornet wrestlers top Mora, Albany

By Ken Francis,
Contributing Writer

The Big Lake wrestling team won another triangular meet last Tuesday, beating Mora and Albany by almost identical scores.

Against Mora, the Hornets opened with two wins. At 106, Big Lake 56 Mora 15. Ivan Lapointe pinned Stratton Nelson at 1:46 and Cash Sixberry beat Anthony Nelson by major decision, 17-9 at 113.

At 120, Mora's Mason Nelson took a 12-8 decision over Cash Stortz.

Christian Noble pinned Carter Gmahl at 0:36 at 126 before Mora's Nathan Nelson beat Nolan Reiter, 12-5

at 132. At 138, Zack Smith won by forfeit.

Dillon Brown won by major over Avery Nelson, 15-5 at 145.

Mora's Cole Gmahl won a close decision, 5-3 over Carson Gellerman at 152.

At 160, Tyler Dehmer pinned Josh Yates at 1:29.

Johnathon Murphy pinned Cael Sjodin at 1:27 at 170.

At 182, Brett Bordwell pinned Brock Peterson at 1:39.

Peter Duncombe pinned Jared Yates at 2:54 at 195.

Mora got its final points at 220 when Dyllon

Adams pinned Rieley Mullen at 4:48.

Kane Lapointe closed out the scoring for the Hornets with a pin of Ben Everson at 0:46.

Final score was 56-15. Big Lake beat Albany, 59-15 in their other matchup.

Ivan Lapointe pinned Ean Hansen at 2:44.

Cash Sixberry won by forfeit.

Cash Stortz beat Mason Geise by major decision, 15-6.

Christian Noble won by forfeit.

Nolan Reiter pinned Carson Holthaus at 2:57.

Zack Smith won by major decision over Mason

Plumski, 15-7.

Dillon Brown beat Spencer Kollmann, 6-2.

Carson Gellerman pinned Cole Moulzolf at 4:04.

Tyler Dehmer pinned Peyton Krumrei at 6:01.

Johnathon Murphy won by forfeit.

Hunter Tate got Albany's first point with a pin of Brett Bordwell at 3:26.

Albany's Declan Crumley beat Peter Duncombe, 8-1.

Rieley Mullen got a win by forfeit before Albany's Jacob Adrian pinned Kane Lapointe at 4:25.

Defending a MN Way of Life

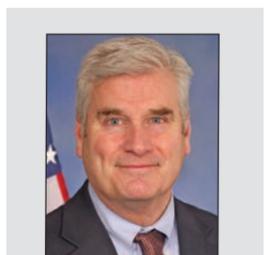
(Editor's Note: The following column was submitted by Rep. Tom Emmer.)

Happy February! We're counting down the days until the Congressional Hockey Challenge later this month, and there's still a lot to do before I can lace up my skates. The Democrat-controlled House and Senate are currently staring down a potential government shutdown, yet another massive spending bill, and now a retirement on the Supreme Court.

Defending the MN Way of Life

Last week, the Biden Administration dealt a devastating blow to the livelihoods of thousands of Minnesotans. On Wednesday, the Department of Interior announced that they are canceling Twin Metals, Minnesota's long-held, properly obtained leases to mine in the Iron Range.

The project has incredible potential to re-invigorate mining in Minnesota and provide Americans a sorely needed domestic source of critical minerals. Critical minerals are a resource indispensable to America's military, national infrastructure, and economy. They're used in everything from cell phones to solar panels, and yet America is almost



By Congressman Tom Emmer

wholly reliant on imports from countries like China and Russia for much of our supply

To make matters worse, our state stands to lose out on thousands of good-paying jobs related to the project. Sadly, this action is just one of the Biden administration's attempts to cancel projects that provide jobs and domestic production of key resources — don't forget, President Biden canceled the Keystone XL pipeline on his very first day in office.

This is a setback, but we're not giving up on the potential for Minnesota's mining future.

The "America Competes Act"

This week, the House of Representatives is considering the "America Competes Act." This massive bill, which was sup-

posed to help our nation stand up against the Chinese Communist Party, contains a laundry list of Democrat wish list items: it pours \$8 BILLION in an unaccountable UN climate slush fund, which has already awarded \$100 million to China and spends millions to study coral reefs.

The bill also does little to hold China accountable: the word "genocide" has been stripped from provisions on human rights in Xinjiang, and it includes no measures to enforce sanctions laws or bolster our national defense.

Ironically, one version of this supposedly anti-authoritarian bill contained a provision which would give the Department of the Treasury unchecked authority to block Americans' digital currency worldwide. Just like last year's Democrat attempts to allow the IRS spy on the financial transactions of millions of law-abiding Americans, this is another disturbing step towards digital authoritarianism.

I will keep a close eye on this legislation, and any others that threaten our basic right to financial privacy and freedom.

Celebrating School Choice Week

Parents are the first and

last word when it comes to their child's education. School choice is essential to ensuring that families can select education options that align with children's needs and strengths, along with their family's values.

Last week marked National School Choice Week, when parents and educators came together to reaffirm the importance of educational options for all K-12 students. These include traditional public schools, public charter schools, magnet schools, private schools, online academies, and homeschooling.

Research shows that school choice programs improve academic outcomes for all students, save money, reduce crime, and help students graduate high school and enroll in college. Additionally, the stress of virtual learning and curriculum concerns have made school choice more important than ever. 2021 was the best year ever for school choice, with a record number of states passing or expanding school choice.

Families and educators both benefit when students have the freedom to attend a school that fits their needs. I'm excited to see the importance of school choice be recognized.



THE BIG LAKE BOYS (B61) 6TH GRADE BASKETBALL TEAM took first at the Princeton Tip Off tournament on Saturday, January 29th. They played against Dassel-Cokato, Grand Rapids, and Chicago Lakes. Big Lake was 3-0 in the tournament. The Hornets played with fast offense and aggressive defense. Congratulations boys!! (Submitted photo.)

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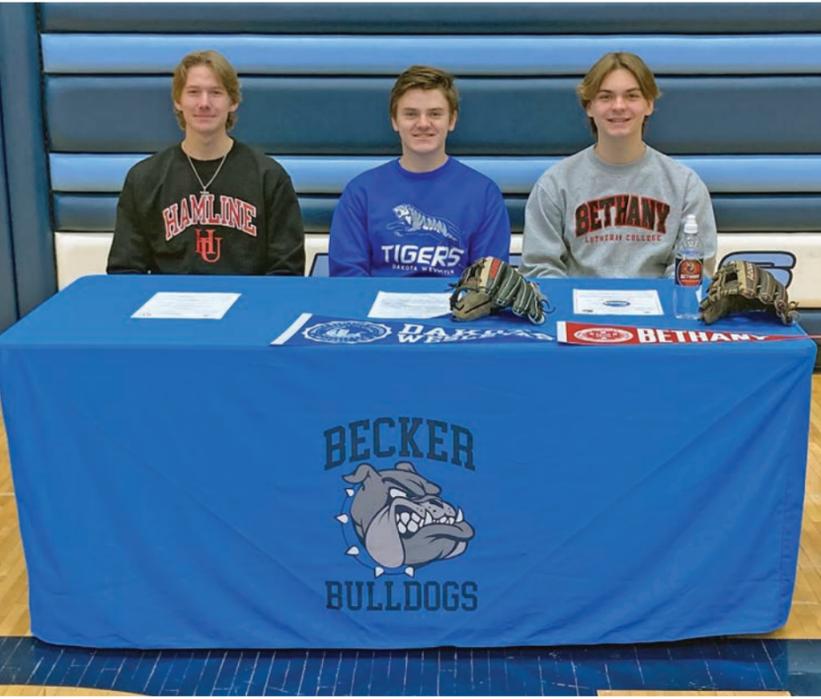
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LOI signings at Becker



CONGRATULATIONS to (L to R) Ben Dumonceaux (Baseball- Hamline University), Jacob Bergsten (Baseball- Dakota Wesleyan University) and Brady Taylor (Bethany Lutheran College) for signing their Letters of Intent to attend college and play in their respective sports next year. Becker Schools is very proud of all that they have accomplished so far as Bulldogs and the school wishes them all the best as they take the next steps in their lives after they graduate from BHS. (Submitted Photo).

Bulldog boys hound Hornets, 79-65

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

The Becker Bulldogs boys basketball team played host for last Monday night's border battle against the Big Lake Hornets, and for the first half it was all Becker, as Coach Josh Ihrke's team jumped to a 48-32 halftime lead.

However, in the second half the Hornets made a valiant comeback effort, narrowing the gap to single digits before Becker steadied the ship and sailed away with a 79-65 win.

"We started off the first half really distributing the ball well and attacking the paint with purpose," Ihrke said. "It was fun to see our defense force them into tough shots and we executed at a high level."

Becker showed great overall offensive balance all night, as eight differ-



BECKER'S ALEX WEISS gets ready to advance the ball up court against the defensive pressure of the Hornets' Kade Layton. (Photo by Mark Kolbinger.)



BIG LAKE'S KADE LAYTON lofted a shot from the baseline as Becker defenders (from left) Julius Hendricks, Carter Callahan and Hayden Harmoning closed into the lane. (Photo by Mark Kolbinger.)

ent players scored for the Bulldogs, including three in double figures. Despite the big halftime lead, Ihrke knew that the Hornets would make a bid for a comeback in the second half.

"It is always a battle with Big Lake and they made a nice push but it was great to get the win," Ihrke said. "Julius Hendricks put together a nice game on both ends of the floor for us."

Hendricks ended the game with 14 points for the Bulldogs, including a 4-for-8 performance from beyond the arc. Joining him in double figures were Alex Weiss with 15 points, and Brady Paumen with 18 points and 14 rebounds.

For the game, the Bulldogs' shooting prowess was the big difference, as they hit 51% of their shots to the Hornets' 35%. Becker also dominated the paint, scoring 50 points in the lane to Big Lake's 30.

Neither team suffered from foul trouble, as both clubs were whistled for just 13 personals in the game.

The loss dropped the Hornets to 6-7 overall and 1-3 in the conference, while Becker improved to 3-2 in the M8 and 9-4 overall.

Becker scoring: Alex Weiss, 15; Nick Berglund,

seven; Julius Hendricks, 14; Ryan Bengtson, six; Hayden Harmoning, nine (four assists); Eric Seavert, six (eight rebounds); Brady Paumen, 18, Carter Callahan, four.

Big Lake scoring: Carson Kunz, eight (seven rebounds); Owen Layton, five; Kyle Segner, two; Kade Layton, 20; Joe Stepp, 12; Johnny O'Brien, 13; Hayden Thiele, two; Nolan Miller, three.

Tigers
A week ago last Friday, the Bulldogs suffered a loss to M8 leader Princeton, as the Tigers used a big first half push and then held on for a 86-75 win.

Haydn Stay had a big night for the Tigers, pouring in 21 points, as his team led at halftime 52-35. A big difference in the game was the Bulldogs' 21 turnovers, which the Tigers turned into 23 points.

Becker was led by Alex Weiss, as the guard scored 19 points and added 10 rebounds for a double-double. Eric Seavert also notched a double-double with 18 points and 12 Rebounds, while Brady Paumen added 18 points for the Bulldogs.

Becker scoring: Alex Weiss, 19; Tristan Pickwall, three; Julius Hendricks, seven; Ryan Bengtson, three; Hayden Harmoning,

five (nine rebounds); Eric Seavert, 18; Brady Paumen, 18; Landon Goebel, two.

Storm
Last Monday night, the boys dropped a very close game to the Sauk Rapids-Rice Storm, 70-68. The Storm hit a very difficult shot at the end to sneak away with the victory.

The stats for the game were extremely close in most categories, but the Bulldogs did turn the ball over four more times than their opponent.

The Bulldogs' Julius Hendricks led all scorers in the game with 18 points, including a 6-for-10 performance from beyond the three point arc.

Becker scoring: Weiss, seven (four steals, six assists); Berglund, two; Hendricks, 18; Harmoning, six; Seavert, 17; Paumen, 14; Callahan, four.

Magic
Last Friday, the team dropped a contest to the Monticello Magic, 75-85.

Becker was down by 12 at halftime and came back with a nice performance to outscore the Magic by two points in the second half.

Scoring: Weiss, 11; Berglund, 17; Hendricks, six; Bengtson, five; Harmoning, six; Seavert, 14; Paumen, 14; Callahan, two.

Season Check-in
As the Bulldogs close out the first half of the season, Ihrke has been pleased with what he has witnessed from his team so far.

"So far in the season it has been really fun to see the development of the team and throughout the whole program," Ihrke said. "We are continuing to improve on both ends of the floor and are engaging offensively and defensively. When we distribute the ball and make open shots we are going to be a tough opponent every night."

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Bulldog girls hoopsters gain momentum with 3 wins

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

The evidence is in and it's been declared official: the Becker girls basketball team is on a roll. With three wins racked up over the past week, including their 50th straight Mississippi 8 Conference win, Coach Dan Baird and his team are starting to gel with just three weeks left in the regular season.

"Our team is playing really well right now," Baird said after the last of the three wins. "I hope we can sustain this as we approach the end of the season."

The recent hot streak started last Thursday against Monticello, as the team picked up its 50th consecutive victory over a conference opponent with a 76-45 win over the Magic.

Baird said his team didn't play their best game, yet the outcome was never in doubt as the Bulldogs raced to a 41-21 halftime lead.

"We did have only 11 turnovers, as anything under 12 is ideal," Baird said. "We hit 11 threes, and anything over 10 is good. We also didn't foul much, nine, which is below our goal of 13. We won this game but didn't play our best - we just weren't very crisp."

Defensively, Baird had his team on the move, as they picked up 17 steals to the Magic's six.

"Lexi Rose had a nice game, with 14 points on 6-for-11 shooting, six rebounds, three assists, and zero turnovers," Baird said. "Addy Kent led our team in scoring with 17, to go along with six rebounds."

Scoring: Dani Nuest, 15; Maren Westin, 12; Hannah Dierkes, three; Ayla Brown, 11; Adeline Kent, 17 (six rebounds); Alexa Voller, two; Alexis Rose 14; Liz Mackedanz, two (seven rebounds).

Community Clash

Last Saturday, the Bulldogs traveled to STMA to participate in the Break-down's Community Clash, and came away with a stellar performance against the Waconia Wildcats, winning 88-47.

"We played a great game against a quality opponent," Baird said. "We had only nine turnovers and our defense was stifling in half court man! We had four girls score over 17 points, so that is hard to defend!"

Becker's speed was just too much for Waconia, as Becker posted 50 points in the second half as they wore down their opponent.

The Bulldogs held a 27-2 advantage in transition points,



while also scoring 32 points off 23 Waconia turnovers. The Bulldogs were also on target, shooting over 49% from the field in the game.

Becker Scoring: Nuest, 21; Westin, 17; Dierkes, two; Brown, 19 (seven assists); Kent, 17; Voller, three; Rose, nine.

Roseville
Monday night, it was another road contest against a Class AAAA school as the Bulldogs traveled to pick up a 76-60 win over the Roseville Raiders.

The Raiders came into the game with a high ranking and a great deal of experience against some of the top teams in the state, but Baird said his crew was up for the challenge.

"It was a great game for us against a team with 165 QRF compared to our 131," Baird said, referring to the Quality Results Formula, which ranks teams according to their record while taking into account strength of schedule.

"Even though Roseville is a nice defensive team, our girls consistently scored throughout the game even when we were struggling to stop them. In short, we never had a drought."

Becker was on fire from three point range, hitting 10 of 20 shots from deep, while holding the Raiders to a 6-for-32 performance from beyond the arc.

Once again, the Bulldogs were able to make the halftime adjustments needed to extend their lead in the second half.

"We struggled early with post defense and dribble penetration, but did well adjusting to this and defended well in the second half," Baird said. "Our offense was relentless at attacking the basket and sharing the basketball. Maren Westin scored 20 points to go with 12 rebounds, and this rebounding really sparked the team in the second half."

With the win, Becker moved to 14-3 on the season and Baird expects his team to regain the #1 ranking in Class AAA.

Becker scoring: Nuest, 15 (six assists); Westin, 20 (12 rebounds); Brown, nine; Kent, 14; Rose, 16; Mackedanz, two.

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Bulldog matmen come from behind to edge Hornets for M8 top spot



BECKER'S BRYCE KUSCHEL takes the upper hand in the 285 pound match, as the referee gets ready to slap the mat, much to the delight of the Becker fans in the background. The win in the final match secured the Bulldogs' team win in their Hwy. 10 rivalry match against the Big Lake Hornets. (Photo by Mark Kolbinger.)

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

It was a raucous atmosphere last Thursday as the Becker wrestling team hosted Big Lake in a Hwy. 10 border battle with the top spot in the Mississippi 8 Conference on the line. With a wild crowd cheering on every turn in the matches, the #5 state ranked Hornets jumped out to a big lead before the #3 state ranked Bulldogs came from behind to win the final four matches to post a 37-26 win.

"It was a great atmosphere to wrestle in," Bulldog coach Travis Holt said after the match. "Two high level teams competing in a packed gym, filled with passionate fans... it doesn't get any better than that."

Big Lake jumped to a 3-0 lead at 106 with an Ivan Pointe decision victory, and that was followed by a 113 pound match that highlighted the rivalry and foreshadowed the back-and-forth battles that would follow all night.

Becker's Kaden Nicolas and the Hornets' Cash Sixberry wrestled to a 5-5 tie and

went to overtime in a match ultimately won, 6-5, by Nicolas, as he successfully rode the top position until time expired. The result led to a 3-3 tie in the team points, and a feeling by the fans that it was going to be a close match all night.

Becker next took a brief lead, 7-3, after a Landen Kujawa major decision at 120 before the Hornets ripped off four straight wins to assume a commanding 23-7 advantage that left the Bulldog side of the gym in a bit of disbelief. But the Bulldogs weren't done, as a Mason Doucette injury default win at 152 followed by an Adam Jurek 6-4 decision win at 160 brought the Bulldogs back to within 16-23.

This time, it was the Hornets who answered, as Johnathon Murphy maneuvered a 9-6 decision win at 170 to extend the Homet lead to 16-26. However, it would be the last match the Hornets would win, as the Bulldogs reeled off wins in the last four matches to seal the win.

Dyaln Weber pinned his opponent in the second period

to pull Becker to within 22-26 and Joe Goth followed with a 9-5 decision to bring Becker to within 25-26.

Becker's Dylan Kolby maneuvered for a pin in the opening seconds of the second period at 220 and the Bulldogs had the lead 31-26. That left the 285 pound match, where Becker's Bryce Kuschel would face off against Big Lake's Kane Lapointe, with the packed gymnasium standing and cheering to see who would emerge victorious. Kuschel was able to execute his pinning combination 30 seconds into the second period and the Bulldogs had completed the comeback for a 37-26 win and sole possession of the top spot in the Mississippi 8.

"The victory was truly a team effort. Every one of our wrestlers battled for their teammates, knowing every point matters," Holt said. "Even if the outcome of their own match wasn't pleasing, they needed to bounce back and support their team. They did that well."

Both teams left the gym knowing full well that a re-

match in the section tournament is a distinct possibility.

"We still have much to work on, in preparation of the remainder of the season, but we will be ready to battle, come postseason," Holt said.

Complete match results:

- 106: Ivan Lapointe (BL) over Bennett Kujawa (13-8 dec.)
- 113: Kaden Nicolas (Bec) over Cash Sixberry (6-5 OT dec.)
- 120: Landen Kujawa (Bec) over. Cash Stortz (17-5 maj. dec.)
- 126: Christian Noble (BL) over Nolan Muellner (fall :29)
- 132: Nolan Reiter (BL) over Drew May (tech fall 19-3)
- 138: Zack Smith (BL) over Ethan Duncombe (9-6 dec.)
- 145: Dillon Browen (BL) over Ethan Anderson (fall 3:26)
- 152: Mason Doucette (Bec) over Dante Visci (injury default)
- 160: Adam Jurek (Bec) over Tyler Dehmer (6-4 dec.)
- 170: Johnathon Murphy

(BL) over Tyson Ricker (9-6 dec.)

182: Dylan Weber (Bec) over Gauge Hoffman (fall 3:29)

195: Joe Goth (Bec) over Brett Bordwell (9-5 dec.)

220: Dylan Kolby (Bec) over Rieley Mullen (fall 2:22)

285: Bryce Kuschel (Bec) over Kane Lapointe (fall 2:30)

Veldman Invite

Saturday, the Bulldogs wrestled in the South St. Paul Veldman Invite, a tournament named after their long-time A.D. Becker had five wrestlers win their weight class en route to finishing in first place as a team with 255 points, just ahead of the St. Francis squad (249.5).

Individual champions for the Bulldogs included Kaden Nicolas (113), Landen Kujawa (120), Mason Doucette (152), Tyson Ricker (170) and Bryce Kuschel (285).

Ryan Boecker (132) was a runner up in his class, as was Adam Jurek (160) and Dylan Kolby (220).

It's Tullibee time!

A forgotten sporty fish with a small but strong following — especially among ice anglers in Minnesota. A fast fighter, finicky but aggressive, fun to catch and an awesome table fare fish — mainly smoked, but awesome in a fry pan as well. And don't forget snack dips and hearty soups! Found in many of Minnesota's deep clear cold lakes, the tullibee (aka Cisco, Herring, Lake Herring) is a sign that a lake is a healthy body of water. They are mainly found in lakes scattered throughout North Central/Northern Minnesota. There are over 600 lakes in Minnesota that house tullibeas. Some prime examples are Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, Big Sand/Kabekona (Hubbard County), Cass, and Ten Mile (Cass County). Catching these silver bullets can be done throughout the open water season, but the late ice period (which is approaching fast) is prime time! And the beauty is, the techniques to catch tullibee are fairly simple.

Late ice tullibeas can be found roaming deep holes implanted throughout a lake's main basin. These types of holes are the easiest to spot on a good lake map or chart. I like to look for main lake basins in the 25-30 foot range with a "donut hole" stuck inside the basin. I hope that makes sense. These "donut



By Captain Josh Hagermeister

holes" can range from 30-70+ ft. deep — making them easy to spot to the untrained eye. tullibee are roaming fish, like salmon. Since I have a Garmin Livescope, I simply drill one



hole and scan the hole from a couple of different locations. If there are any number of tullibee using the area, they will show up on the screen — and spill the beans on what

depth your bait should be placed. Another way to find the fish can be done by simply walking around with your flasher (Vexilar) and shooting through the ice until a basic area with fish is found. At that point, drill a bunch of holes covering a fairly large area so that the "hole hopping" can begin. Even though these fish move around quickly, they will roam "certain areas" of a given deep hole or basin. They feast on insect larva in areas made up of primarily a mud bottom. That's important — mud and insects. Do they eat some minnows? I have found them in the stomachs, so yes, but primarily insects and larva. These fish are typically suspended, but can also be found along the bottom — so good electronics can be a huge time saver when trying to determine what depths to actually put your presentation. They can also be found roaming deep wide open mud basins. Without natural road blocks/barriers (like the walls of the donut hole"), they are much more difficult to pin down, so I personally try to concentrate on the deep mud filled "donut holes." Getting hungry yet?

If it helps, it's similar to fishing mid-winter crappies in the deep holes found

in the center of many lakes. Another give away to where the concentrations of tullibeas are found is where the masses of anglers are found. It's typically a good clue if there are 75 anglers standing on the ice in a large group in the middle of the lake — especially on a warm March day! I hardly ever promote following people, but this is an exception to that rule.

Now what? Get out the tackle box! Flutter spoons, ice flies, wax worms, and slip bobbers are all you need to catch a tullibee. Simple and cheap—just the way I like it. I use a two rod approach (since two lines are allowed while ice fishing in Minnesota). One presentation is used as the attractor and trigger. The fishing rod that is in my hand 90% of the time is the flutter spoon / fly rig. The reel is spooled with 6-8 lb. monofilament due to the stress caused by the flutter spoon. First, you will need to get your hand on a flutter spoon or two. I simply dive into my great lakes trout/salmon trolling spoon (around three inches long), take the treble hook off, and then attach a 18"-30" monofilament (4-6 lb.) leader. The length of the leader that works best seems to vary from day to day, but I'd say 24" is a consistent length — but do not be afraid to experiment especially if fish are rushing the bait and not committing. At the end of the leader is some

kind of ice jig/fly with rubber or hairy "legs" that you probably use for catching crappies and bluegills. I lean towards insect colors like grey, black, or brown to start with. There are times when a little brightness helps too. Tip the ice fly with a wax worm. Done. Work the bait with steady upward 2-4 ft. pulls, letting the spoon flutter back down and settle for about 10-15 seconds. Repeat. The fish will come out of nowhere and smack the ice fly. Fish on!

The other presentation is the classic dead stick approach sitting on the ice in the hole next to you—approx. 3-4 ft. away-but easily within reach. The dead stick rod is rigged with six lb. monofilament line (I'm a Berkley Trilene XL fan), a small split shot, a small ice ant, slip bobber, and again tipped with a wax worm. It's nothing but a slip bobber panfish rig with a little heavier line to help with the fight. Simply set the bait at the depth the fish are roaming at and let it sit — dead. Once in a while, jig the bait — and keep a close eye on that bobber! The simple two punch works in tandem as the flutter spoon will attract the fish from a great distance to the two options — the dead stick or the spoon fly rig. It varies from day to day on which bait the fish will actually hit — the spoon or the dead

Becker's Kuschel, Angell represent school at state

Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by Becker Schools.)

Congratulations to the two Becker wrestlers, Boston Kuschel and Owen Angell, that represented Becker in the Minnesota Ninth Grade (and under) Wrestling League State Tournament Saturday in Champlin Park.

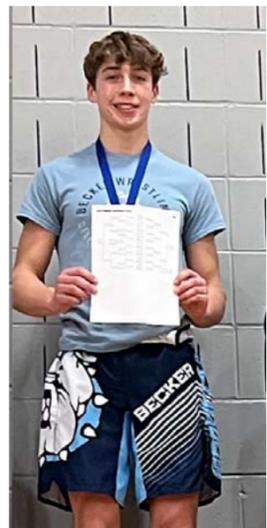
Both wrestlers had some great impressive wins Saturday in the single-class wrestling league with competitive teams across the state (with more than 130 schools). They both join the

growing group of 30 Becker place-winners within the history of the league.

• Boston Kuschel recorded two Technical Falls, a Major Decision, and a Pin in his route to fifth place at 94-lbs.

• Owen Angell recorded Three Pins and a Decision as he achieved the status of state champion at 145-lbs!

Owen becomes just the fourth Becker ninth grade wrestling league state champion. Owen shares that elite list with Zack Zimmer (2011), Cory Nelson (2009), and Russ Lumley Jr. (2002).



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Game Time

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| 62 | | | | | | | 63 | | 64 | |

CLUES ACROSS

- Requests
- Calendar month
- Invests in little enterprises
- Bird sound
- S. American plant cultivated for tubers
- Car
- Bullfighter
- Hill (Celtic)
- Strong criticism
- Detector
- When you hope to get there
- Having the skill to do something
- Legendary MLB broadcaster
- Vulcanite
- C. Asian mountain range
- In a way, healed
- Midway between east and southeast
- Small appendages of insects
- ___ Greene, "Bonanza" actor
- A place to bathe
- Postal worker accessory
- Classical music
- A way of wrecking
- Terminator
- You eat three a day
- Pointed end of a pen
- NATO official (abbr.)
- Genus of clams
- Boxing's "G.O.A.T."
- A colorless, odorless gas used as fuel
- Covered thinly with gold paint
- Bachelor of Laws
- Red fluorescent dye
- Engineering group
- Female sibling
- Adjacent

CLUES DOWN

- What a thespian does
- Footwear
- Adjust spacing between
- Witnesses
- Who shows excessive fondness
- Distinct form of a plant
- National capital
- Hunting expedition
- Related to medulla oblongata
- European country
- Cola
- Excluded from use or mention
- Speak
- Bloodshot
- Make better
- Keyboard key
- Type of degree
- Paddle
- Peacock network
- Not young
- Baseball stat
- One's grandmother
- Breakfast food
- Bathroom features
- Disease-causing bacterium
- NY ballplayer
- Got up
- Prophet
- Part of the mouth
- Unnatural
- Acronym for brain science study
- Three are famous
- Languages spoken in Patagonia
- Freedom from difficulty
- Widely used OS
- Many people pay it

This Week's Calendar Events:

Sun. - Feb. 6, 2022:

- Freelance Writers Appreciation Week (2/6-2/13)
- Safer Internet Day
- National Chopsticks Day

Mon. - Feb. 7, 2022:

- Give Kids a Smile® Day
- Baller Introduced to the US: Anniversary, 1827
- National Burn Awareness Week (2/7-2/13)

Tues. - Feb. 8, 2022:

- Boy Scouts of America Anniversary Day
- Extraterrestrial Culture Day
- World Ag Expo

Wed. - Feb. 9, 2022:

- National Pizza Day
- National Toothache Day
- National Read in the Bath tub Day

Thurs. - Feb. 10, 2022:

- National Home Warranty Day
- UN: World Pulses Day
- All The News That's Fit To Print Anniversary, 1897

Fri. - Feb. 11, 2022:

- National Inventors' Day
- National Make a Friend Day
- Pro Sports Wives Day

Sat. - Feb. 12, 2022:

- National Plum Pudding Day
- Abraham Lincoln's Birthday (1809)

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

Car Seat Distribution Classes
Mon., Feb. 7, 2022 6-7:30pm, & Wed., Feb. 23, 2022 9:30-11am 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 for an appointment or more information, 763-765-4112 or 1-800-433-5239.

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HIV testing
Free & confidential testing is available by appointment at: Sherburne Co. Health & Human Services, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, MN 55330. Contact our HIV tester at 763-765-4000.

Immunization/ Covid-19 Vaccine Tuesdays
Sherburne Co. Public Health is offering free Covid-19 Vaccine, & offering free or low cost immunizations for children 18 years of age or younger & uninsured or underinsured adults 19 years & 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 Co. Wellness bus will be at Salem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud on the 2nd & 4th Wed. of every month from 9:30-3pm. HHS staff will answer questions about public assistance programs & assist Sherburne Co. 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 & children to their 5th birthday. WIC provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, healthy foods & referrals to health services/community resources. The service is free, & 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 Co. Government Center? Free childcare is now available for children ages 6 weeks -12 years. 2.5 hour time limit. Hours of operation are Mon.-Thurs. 9am - 3:30pm & Fri. 9am-noon. Parent/caregiver will be provided with a pager & must remain on premises. Guidelines & capacity limits apply.

PUZZLE SOLUTION to page 4B

Becker Area Senior Center (BASC) Upcoming Events

BASC at Becker Community Center (BCC)

Mon., Feb. 7: Open All Day; 5am-Coffee's on; 10am-Cribbage
Tues., Feb. 8: 9am-Coffee, Conversation, Cards; 9:15am-500 Card Club-\$Prizes
Wed., Feb. 9: Open All Day; 5am-Coffee's on; 12pm-BASC Bingo, Liberty Bingo returns in Mar.
Thurs., Feb. 10: 9am-Coffee, Conversation, Cards; 11am-Play Upwords, Scrabble or other favorites.
Fri., Feb. 4: BCC Open all Day; 5am-Coffee's On

Becker Community Center: 763-200-4271
BASC Coordinator: Carol Brunnn
Activity Coordinator: Pat Throlson
Blood Pressure available whenever BASC is open
Send activity/class opportunities to: basc.becker@gmail.com

Announcements

Becker - Organizations

Becker American Legion Auxiliary
The auxiliary meetings are suspended from Oct. 2021 - Feb. 2022, we will start meeting again in Mar. 2022. If you have any questions or concerns, 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 beckeraagroupmn@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.BECKER-FREECHURCH.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 7 pm at Becker Legion (old fire hall). Looking for new members. Commander John Fischbach (320) 249-0579.

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

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) 263-0274 or after hours (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 CR4 & 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 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. Community Room by the Big Lake Police Station, 790 Minnesota Ave, Big Lake 55309. 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 7pm. 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 in the Community Room adjacent to the Big Lake Police Dept. & the Big Lake Library.

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 stenbergj@outlook.com

Upcoming Becker Events

Faith in Action's Annual Gala
Sat., Mar. 19, Rockwoods in Otsego. It will be a fun evening with a new comedian (Patrick Albanese, Triple Espresso), a delicious dinner, silent & LIVE auction items, a Wine Wall & best of all hearing how God is working in our community!

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

Upcoming Museum Events

Hill Museum & Manuscript Library
Feb. Event Series, Program 2 of 4. The boy from Buckman plants a seed. Feb. 12, 2022, 10:30-11:30am, Zoom event, cost is FREE. Hosted by Morrison County Historical Society. Register at 320-632-4007 or staff@morrisoncountyhistory.org by Feb. 10.



Public Notices

Assumed Names

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

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

ASSUMED NAME: **Lake Home Rentals**
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: **13929 12th St SE Clear Lake MN 55319 USA**
NAMEHOLDER(S):
Name:
Stacey Wasner
Bryan Bruening
Address:
13929 12th St SE Clear Lake MN 55319 USA

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

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

SIGNED BY: **Stacey Wasner**
MAILING ADDRESS: **13929 12th St SE Clear Lake MN 55319 USA**
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: staceywasner@yahoo.com
Work Item: **1281176700032**
Original File Number: **1281176700032**

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
01/11/2022
11:59 PM
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State
(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/29/22; 02/05/22).

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT LIEN FORECLOSURE SALE
THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that default has been made in the terms and conditions of the Declaration of Barrington Place Townhome Association No. 2 (henceforth the "Declaration") recorded in the office of the Recorder for Sherburne County, Minnesota on February 12, 1987, as Document No. 204808, which covers the following property:

Lot 3, Block 1, Barrington Place Replat No. 5, Sherburne County, Minnesota

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, there is claimed to be due and owing as of January 10, 2022, from Matthew J. Hevey, title holder, to Barrington Place Townhome Association No. 2, a Minnesota non-profit corporation, the principal amount of Ten Thousand Four Hundred Ten and 03/100 Dollars (\$10,410.03) for assessments, late fees and related charges, plus assessments, collection costs, attorneys' fees and other amounts will be incurred since said date, including costs of collection and foreclosure;

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

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

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

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

The following information is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 580.025 and 580.04:

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

REDEMPTION NOTICE
THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL

DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Dated: January 10, 2022
HELLMUTH & JOHNSON
Lienor:
Barrington Place Townhome Association No. 2
By: /s/ Lukas F. Belflower, I.D. #0401161
Attorneys for Lienor
8050 West 78th Street
Edina, MN 55439
(952)941-4005
By: /s/ Lukas F. Belflower
Its: Attorney in Fact
THIS INSTRUMENT WAS DRAFTED BY:
HELLMUTH & JOHNSON
8050 West 78th Street
Edina, MN 55439
(952) 941-4005
File No. 30402.0002
(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/15/22; 01/22/22; 01/29/22; 02/05/22; 02/12/22; 02/19/22).

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

One 2014 Chevrolet Impala VIN# 1G115S30E170748 owned by State Farm Mutual Auto Ins. Co. of 1526 Bunker Lake BLVD, Ham Lake, MN 55304. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$21,465.00

One 2012 Ford Focus VIN# 1FAHP3M22CL339136 owned by Auto Owners of 1526 Bunker Lake BLVD, Ham Lake, MN 55304. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$39,195.00.

One 2012 Ford Focus VIN# 1FAHP3K24CL250753 owned by State Farm Mutual Auto Ins. Co. of 1526 Bunker Lake BLVD, Ham Lake, MN 55304. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$26,855.00.

One 2013 Chevrolet Cruze VIN# 1G1PE5SB3D7176705 owned by Illinois Farmers Ins. Co. of 1526 Bunker Lake BLVD, Ham Lake, MN 55304. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$63,155.00.

One 2015 Chevrolet Cruze VIN# 1G1PE5SB6F7174515. Owner unknown. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$62,555.00.

One 2004 Chevrolet Cavalier VIN# 1G1JF14F347255691. Owner unknown. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$44,245.00.

One 1997 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN# 3GNEK18R3VG156990 owned by Robert Saunders of 6165 McKinley Circle, Shorewood, MN 55331-8121. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$44,240.00.

One 1987 Buick Regal VIN# 1G-4GM11Y6HP403301 owned by Lindsay Eyles of 1439 York Ave, St. Paul, MN 55106-3508. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$44,290.00.

One 1999 Lincoln Continental

VIN# 1LNHM97V3XY644306. Owner unknown. Being auctioned for mechanics lien/storage fees in the amount owing of \$58,740.00.

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

Probate Notices

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION
Case File No.: 71-PR-21-141
In Re: Estate of Scott Alan Shelton, Decedent.

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND INFORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is given that an Application for Informal Probate of Will and Informal Appointment of Personal Representative was filed with the Registrar, along with a Will dated March 5, 2020. The Registrar accepted the application and appointed Christine M. Berg, whose address is 3297 15th Street SW, Willmar, MN 56201, to serve as the personal representative of the decedent's estate.

Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Any objection to the appointment of the personal representative must be filed with the Court, and any properly filed objection will be heard by the Court after notice is provided to interested persons of the date of hearing on the objection.

Unless objections are filed, and unless the Court orders otherwise, the personal representative has the full power to administer the estate, including, after thirty (30) days from the issuance of letters testamentary, the power to sell, encumber, lease, or distribute any interest in real estate owned by the decedent.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred. Dated: January 24, 2022 /s/ Patricia Kuka, Court Administrator

Court File No.: 71-PR-21-141
Business & Estate Planning Analytics William White
MN# 0232427
80 South 8th Street 900 IDS Center
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Telephone: 651-343-8955
E-mail: billw@bepapllc.com
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/05/22; 02/12/22).



Public Notices

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Case Type: Informal Probate Court File No.: 71-PR-22-13
In Re: Estate of Julius Mathew Carstens, Decedent (Deceased Person).

Order of Informal Appointment of Personal Representative (Without a Will)
The Application for the Informal Appointment of Personal Representative, which was signed by **Dean Mathew Carstens**, came before the Registrar.

Having considered the Application, the Registrar determines the following:

- The Application is complete.
 - The Applicant has declared or affirmed that the information in the Application is true to the best of Applicant's knowledge or belief.
 - The Applicant appears to be an "interested person" as defined by Minnesota law.
 - Venue in this County is proper based on the statements in the Application.
 - The Application indicates the following:
 - The applicant conducted a reasonably diligent search for any unrevoked testamentary instrument.
 - The Applicant is not aware of any unrevoked testamentary instrument.
 - There is no Personal Representative appointed in this or another county in Minnesota whose appointment has not been terminated.
 - The person appointed below has priority, is entitled to be appointed Personal Representative, and is not disqualified to serve as Personal Representative.
 - The requested appointment does not relate to any Will.
 - Any notice required by Minnesota law has been given.
 - The Decedent died on **12/17/2021**, and at least 120 hours, but not more than 3 years (except as allowed in Minn. Stat. § 524.3-108), have passed since Decedent's death.
 - The Decedent's heirs are: as identified in the Application.
 - All persons identified as heirs under Minnesota law have survived the Decedent by at least 120 hours.
 - From the statements in the Application, the person appointed below has priority and is entitled to be appointed personal representative, and is not disqualified to serve as personal representative.
 - The following statement is true: Decedent left no surviving spouse.
- IT IS ORDERED:**
- The Application is granted.
 - Dean Mathew Castens** is formally appointed as Personal Representative of Decedent's Estate.
 - The appointment of the Personal Representative is not effective until Letters issue.

Dated: January 28, 2022 /s/ Patricia Kuka, Court Administrator (Published in the *Patriot*: 02/05/22; 02/12/22).

Public Notice

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



PATRIOT
WWW.PATRIOTNEWS-NC.COM

Pick up a copy of the PATRIOT at the following locations:

CLEARWATER:
Coborn's;
Palmer;

General Store;
SANTIAGO:
General Store;

BECKER:
Food Pride,
Patriot office;

BIG LAKE:
Coborn's

Public Notices

Big Lake Schools Public Notices

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

This represents a summary of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Big Lake Public Schools #727. A complete set of minutes will be on file at the District Office and on our website at www.biglakeschools.org upon Board approval.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 727, Big Lake Schools, was called to order on January 26, 2022.
- II. ROLL CALL
All Board members were present.
- III. APPROVE AGENDA
A motion passed to approve the agenda.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. OPEN FORUM
Ashley Schabillon addressed the Board.
- VI. CONSENT AGENDA
A motion passed to approve the following:
A. PREVIOUS MINUTES
B. CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS
C. CREDIT CARD REPORT
D. PERSONNEL
E. FUNDRAISERS
F. APPROVAL OF 2022, 2023, and 2024 audit quotes
- VII. DONATIONS
A motion passed to approve the donations.
- VIII. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS
Big Lake Online and Middle School
- IX. HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTATION
Wade Olson and Matt Vogel gave a presentation for Sand-box.
- X. FINANCIAL REPORT
A motion passed to approve the financial report and budget revisions as presented.
- XI. APPROVE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE
A motion passed to approve the agreement as presented.
- XII. ACCEPTANCE OF HIGH SCHOOL DEHUMIDIFICATION BID RESULTS
A motion passed to approve the base bid of \$1,151,900.00, alternate #1 of \$269,300.00 and alternate #3 of \$6,423.00 for a total of \$1,427,623.00 from Northern Air Corporation.
- XIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT
A motion passed to adjourn the meeting.
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/05/22).

Township Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS 2022 SEAL COAT PROJECTS

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

General Description
The projects consist of the following major items of work:
Application of:
4,400 gallons of bituminous material for fog seal,
11,000 gallons of bituminous material for seal coat,
And 550 tons of seal coat aggregate, FA 2, Class A.
And other related items of work.

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

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

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

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

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

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 30 days of the actual date of opening thereof.
Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond in an amount equal to 5% of the bid
Date: 7 January, 2022
/s/ Gary Gray
Clear Lake Township Board Chair
(Published in the *Patriot*: 01/22/22; 01/29/22; 02/05/22).

Becker Schools Public Notices

**Independent School District #726
Becker, Minnesota
Regular School Board Meeting
September 12, 2021**

The complete minutes are on file in the district office and on the district website.

Chair Jurek called the regular meeting of the School Board of District #726 to order on the 13th day of September, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Teaching & Learning Center.

Roll Call.
Members present: Cindy Graham, Aaron Jurek, Ryan Obermoller, Connie Robinson, Sarah Schafer, Mark Swanson

Members absent: None
Others present: Jeremy Schmidt, Superintendent
Kevin Januszewski, Director of Business Services

Citizen Comments: Betsy Armstrong
Northwest Talent Academy, Gifted & Talented
Dylan’s Hope

Motion by Ryan Obermoller, seconded by Connie Robinson, to **Approve the Consent Agenda, as amended:**
• Remove 3F, Fundraisers to Regular Agenda for Discussion
Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA
MINUTES: July 26, 2021 Special School Board Meeting
July 29, 2021 Special School Board Meeting
August 2, 2021 Regular School Board Meeting
August 18, 2021 Special School Board Meeting (1)
August 18, 2021 Special School Board Meeting (2)

DISBURSEMENTS – in the amount of \$2,630,399.95
PERSONNEL, as presented
TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT (21-22, 22-23, 23-24), as presented

HEALTH & SAFETY RESOLUTION, as presented
TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING: December 6, 2021
Motion by Ryan Obermoller, seconded by Mark Swanson, to **Approve 2021-2022 Fundraisers**, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Connie Robinson, seconded by Sarah Schafer, to **Accept the Following Gifts:**

| Donor Name | Description of Gift | Purpose of Gift |
|--|---------------------|--|
| Becker Lions | \$1,000.00 | Leadership Retreat |
| Becker Lions | \$500.00 | Basketball Uniforms/ Equipment |
| Becker Lions | \$3,000.00 | Assist Families in Paying Off Negative Lunch Balance Debts |
| Becker Spine | \$100.00 | Gymnastics Cost for New Leotards |
| BYSA Gymnastics | \$3,263.70 | Gymnastics Cost for New Leotards |
| Genco Builders | \$500.00 | Gymnastics Cost for New Leotards |
| Norvanz, Inc. - Culvers of Albertville | \$250.00 | Gymnastics Cost for New Leotards |

Motion carried unanimously.
Motion by Mark Swanson, seconded by Ryan Obermoller, to **Approve the Health Insurance Increase and Rates**, as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Connie Robinson, seconded by Sarah Schafer, to **Approve the Request to Transfer \$75,000 to School Readiness, \$6,000 to Early Childhood Screening, and \$30,000 to Community Education from the General Fund.** Motion carried unanimously. A first reading was held on the following policies. A second reading will be held at the October school board meeting.

| | | |
|-----|---------|------------------------------------|
| 102 | Revised | Equal Educational Opportunity |
| 406 | Revised | Public and Private Personnel Data |
| 413 | Revised | Harassment and Violence |
| 501 | Revised | School Weapons |
| 524 | Revised | Internet Acceptable Use and Safety |

Motion by Mark Swanson, seconded by Sarah Schafer, to **Move the November School Board Meeting to the 8th.** Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mark Swanson, seconded by Cindy Graham, to **Approve the Maximum Preliminary Levy 2021 Payable 2022**, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mark Swanson, seconded by Ryan Obermoller, to **Approve the MSBA Delegate Assembly Resolutions**, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The board entered into a **Closed Session to Discuss Negotiations.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

/s/ Aaron Jurek, Chair
/s/ Ryan Obermoller, Clerk
Recorder: /s/ Angela Oswald
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/05/22).

**Independent School District #726
Becker, Minnesota
Regular School Board Meeting
October 4, 2021**

The complete minutes are on file in the district office and on the district website.

Chair Jurek called the regular meeting of the School Board of District #726 to order on the 4th day of October, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Teaching & Learning Center.

Roll Call.
Members present: Cindy Graham, Aaron Jurek, Ryan Obermoller, Connie Robinson (remotely), Sarah Schafer (remotely), Mark Swanson

Members absent: None
Others present: Jeremy Schmidt, Superintendent
Citizen Comments: Student Austin Clemen
Presentation by Early Childhood Staff

Motion by Ryan Obermoller, seconded by Mark Swanson, to **Approve the Consent Agenda, as amended:**

- Remove **First Reading Policy 470** and **Second Reading 524** from the agenda. This will be brought back to the board in the future.
- Move **Resolution for Election Judges** to Regular Agenda for Roll Call Vote.

Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA
MINUTES: September 13, 2021 Regular School Board Meeting
DISBURSEMENTS – in the amount of \$1,312,085.55
PERSONNEL, as presented
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH LOCAL 284

AGREEMENTS BETWEEN BECKER PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND ARCHITECT, CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

Motion by Mark Swanson, seconded by Ryan Obermoller, to **Approve the Resolution Approving Election Judges.** Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Becker Public Schools received a positive Review and Comment, and it is a requirement to hold a **Public Hearing to Discuss Commissioner’s Review & Comment.**

Motion by Mark Swanson, seconded by Cindy Graham, to **Accept the Following Gifts:**

| Donor Name | Description of Gift | Purpose of Gift |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Becker Lions | \$2,000.00 | Heart Rate Monitors for PE Dept. |
| Becker PTSA | \$300.00 | Dance Team Expenses |
| Clear Lake Lions | \$2,000.00 | Dance Team Uniforms |
| Clear Lake Lions | \$1,000.00 | Heart Rate Monitors for PE Dept. |
| Dylan’s Hope Foundation | \$15,000.00 | Mental Health Program |
| Santiago Lions | \$1,000.00 | Heart Rate Monitors for PE Dept. |

Motion carried unanimously.
Motion by Mark Swanson, seconded by Ryan Obermoller, to **Approve the Following Policy Recommendations:**

| | | |
|-----|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 102 | Revised | Equal Educational Opportunity |
| 406 | Revised | Public and Private Personnel Data |
| 413 | Revised | Harassment and Violence |
| 501 | Revised | School Weapons |

Motion carried unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

/s/ Aaron Jurek, Chair
/s/ Ryan Obermoller, Clerk
Recorder: /s/ Angela Oswald
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/05/22).

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS 2022 Bituminous Overlays LIVONIA TOWNSHIP, SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that SEALED Bid Proposal Packages will be received by the Township at the Township Hall until **7:00 PM on the 28th of February 2022.**

The Major Quantities of Work are:

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

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

Bid Opening: Proposals will be opened by the Engineer or the Town Board after the hour set for receiving bids at the Township Hall at **11162 265th Ave Zimmerman, MN 55398.** Plans and Specifications may be examined at the office of Bogart, Pederson & Associates, Inc., 13076 First Street, Becker, MN 55308, or obtained by contacting Wesley Davis, PE at wdavis@bogart-pederson.com or 763-262-8822.

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

Bids must be accompanied by a Certified Check or Bidder’s Bond made payable to the Township as a proposal guarantee for at least **5% of the amount of the bid.**

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

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

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

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

DEADLINES

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

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16455 122nd St Becker MN 55308
763-263-9471

• 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), 763-261-4202, 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: Patrick Drury (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.faithlutheran-becker.org.
Oakwood Community Church Assemblies of God
Pastors: Gerry Bass & Sarah, 763-220-6004, 13140 1st St (SW Corner of Becker Furniture World). Services: Sun. Bible Study/Sun. School 9am, Sun. Worship 10am.
Snake River Free Church
Pastor: Steve Johnston, 612-219-8648, 180th St SE. Services: Sun. Worship/Sun. School 10:30am., Hymn Sing is second Sun. of every month.
Becker Christian Center & Abundant Grace Church
Pastor: Ken Hanson, 763-262-2177, 15455 59th St SE. Services: Sun. Praise & Worship 9:30am, Wed. Family Fellowship 7pm.
Beacon House of Prayer
Pastors: Brian & Linda Holmes, 763-263-3771, 12264 Pleasant Ave. Services: Thurs. Worship 6:30pm.
Free Grace United
Pastor: Kevin Wilson, 763-245-0001, Becker High School, 12000 Hancock St, Enter door 11. Services: Wed. Worship 6:30pm.

• BIG LAKE
Acts Seventh-Day Adventists Community Church
Pastor: Bill Nixon, 763-263-2287, 20455 187th Ave NW. Services: Sat. Worship 9am, Sat. Sabbath School 10:15am.
Bethany Bible Church
763-263-2167, 511 Eagle Lake Road. Services: Sun. School 9am, Sun. Worship 10am.
Bridgeview Assembly of God
Pastor: Steve Royalty, 763-263-6274, 20500 County Road 11. Services: Sun. Worship 10am, Wed. Service 6:30pm.
SVEA Hill Covenant Church
Pastor: Don Bellach, 763-263-6322, 16392 235th Ave NW. Services: Sun. Worship 10am.
Cornerstone Baptist Church
Pastor: Gordon Langdon, 763-263-7878, 15300 County Road 35.
Hope Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Orrock
763-263-7990. www.hopeintherefuge.weebly.com.
IFLESIA AMOR VIVIENTE Living Love Church
Pastors: Juan & Patricia Aguayo, 763-607-5403, 21 Lake St N. Services: Sat. 6pm.
Lord of Glory Lutheran Church
Pastor: Marty 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: Sat. Confessions 4:15pm, Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. 8am.

• DUELM
St. Lawrence Church
Father: Joseph Backowski, 320-968-7502, 10915 Duell Road NE. Services: Sun. Mass 10am, Tues. Mass 8am.

• CLEARWATER
Clearwater United Methodist Church
Pastor: Alison Hendley, 320-558-2581, 405 Main St. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am.
Freedom Bible Church
605 Lime St. (Old Clearwater Post Office). Services: Sun. Bible Study 9:30am & 6pm, Sun. Worship 10:45am, Wed. Bible Study 7pm.
Rejoice Lutheran Church - ELCA
Pastor: Jim Bump, 320-558-6851, 1155 County Road 75. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am.
Church of St. Luke
Father: Dennis Backer, 320-558-2124, 17545 Huber Ave NW. Services: Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. Mass 8am & 10am, Weekday Mass Tues.-Fri. 8am/ Sat. 9am.
Tri-County Alliance Church
Pastor: David Fogal, 320-558-2750, 8464 160th St NW. Services: Sun. School 9am, Sun. Worship 10:30am.

• SILVER CREEK
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor: Ken Tatkendorst, 763-878-2820, 11390 Elliot Ave NW. Services: Sun. Worship 9am
Silver Creek Community Church
Pastor: Zach Pryor, 320-963-3957, 4282 114th St NW. Services: Sun. Worship 9am, Sun. Fellowship 10am, Sun. School 10:30am.



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Obituaries

Helen Esther Hyttsten, Age 95
Becker, MN
November 25, 1926 – January 28, 2022

John J. Helget, Age 72
Annandale, MN
April 28, 1949 – January 28, 2022



Helen blessed others was with the kitchen towels she embroidered. The only thing she enjoyed more than hand stitching each one, was giving them away to those she cared for. Ultimately Helen's life was defined by her faith and love for her Lord Jesus Christ. She loved the richness of the old hymns and embraced the new worship styles as she thrived on worshipping together with all generations. Helen consistently read and studied the Scripture with great passion. Her joy was not in the religious activity but in living out the gospel in each area and circumstance of life. We miss her greatly.

Helen Esther Hyttsten, age 95 of Becker died on January 28, 2022. Services celebrating her life were held on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 10:30 am at Riverside Church in Big Lake, Minnesota. Pastor Skipp Machmer and Glen McKinney officiated. Interment was at Becker Cemetery.

Helen is survived by her brother Alvin (Connie) Henry of Foley. Son David (Dianne) of Monticello, daughters Joyce (Ken) Herbranson of Battle Lake, Della (Calvin) Anderson of Paynesville, grandchildren Dan (Mamie) Hyttsten, Naomi (Darren) Lieser, John (Jaynee) Hyttsten, Anna (Jason) Wilkerson, Carrie (Ian) Cadorna, Molly (CJ) Barr, Mark (Erin) Anderson, Matthew Anderson, great grandchildren Sam, Hannah, Josiah, Tirzah, Ezra, Eliza, Zeke, August, Lance, Hugo, Lainey, Ellie, Milroy, Wilfred, Mabel, Eowyn, and Wilder and many nieces and nephews.

Helen was born November 25, 1926 to John and Della (Gilyard) Henry in rural Foley. She graduated from Foley High School and attended St. Cloud Beauty College. Helen married Lester Hyttsten on January 20, 1951. Helen was a homemaker, helped on the farm, cut hair and later was a rural mail carrier in Becker.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband Lester on February 16, 2008, brothers Vernon Henry and Donald Henry, sisters Alma Herbst and Doris Neumann.

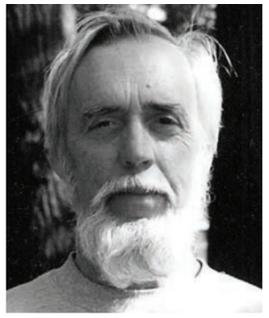
Helen's passion for life, faith, and love for others was seen through her everyday activities. As a devoted farm wife and mother, Helen worked side by side with Lester, the love of her life. Her presence, encouragement, and care made for a secure and loving home for her three children. Helen loved hosting and entertaining friends and relatives. Lots of food, lots of fun, and heartfelt caring defined any birthday, anniversary or other excuse to get together. Helen loved her yard and especially her raspberries. Her famous jam was enjoyed by so many. Another way that

Visitation was held on Tuesday, February 1 from 5:00 – 7:00PM at Peterson-Grimsco Chapel, 250 E Broadway St and one hour before the funeral at the church on Wednesday.

John (Jose) Joseph Helget, passed away peacefully at home, January 28th, 2022, at the age of 72.

John was born on April 28, 1949, in St. Cloud, MN, to Edward Paul Sr. & Lorraine Johanna (Seefeldt) Helget of Clearwater, MN. He attended Clearwater School through 8th grade and Tech High School. John was self-employed as a painter with Bob White in Annandale (1973-81). A member of Clearwater Volunteer Fire Department 20 years (1975-95) & Clearwater Sportsman's Club. John was employed as a Mechanic for 31+ years (1982-2013). He enjoyed hunting, fishing, 4-wheeling and spending time at their Towering Pines in Lake of the Woods.

John is survived by his wife Ruth (Lee) they shared 20 years together; daughters Leslie Newman, Laura (Jeremy) Neu, Alisha (Brent) Schubbe, 3 granddaughters, 2 grandsons, 9 great-grandchildren, Special Nephew Keith Helget, godchild Renee Wittrock, former wife Kitty Johansen & many other family & friends. John was preceded in death by his parents, Lorraine and Edward Helget Sr., brother Edward Helget Jr., stepmother Virginia C. (Seefeldt), best friend Tom Ness. He will



be greatly missed by family and friends. John earned his medallions for 40 years of sobriety that he credited to the AA Program and his Higher Power. A service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, February 5th, 2022, with Deacon Steve Yanish officiating. Visitation will be one hour before, masks are required, at Clearwater United Methodist Church, Clearwater, MN. A luncheon will follow. Ashes will be scattered at Lake of the Woods.

Honorary Pallbearers: Keith Helget, Tom Ness, Dennis Mix, Ron Niebolte, Randy Steinhuis, Mark Steinhuis, Scott Seefeldt, Brandon Hanebeuth, Jacob Fyle & Wayne Weisman
Obituary Online at <https://create.epilog.com/epilog/view/3300>

Norma Mitchell
We regret to announce that due to circumstances beyond our control, we have to postpone our Mother's (Norma Mitchell) celebration of life. We are hoping that we will be able to have it in the spring. We will post the new date and time as soon as we are able to. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.
The Children of Norma Mitchell



PUZZLE SOLUTION

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