



## PATRIOT

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**BIG LAKE SOPHOMORE GYMNAST LOLA VISCI** had the top score of 9.5750 on uneven bars at the MSHSL State Tournament for gymnastics last weekend. See the story on how she and her teammates did at the event on page 9. (Submitted Photo).

### Inside

#### COUNTY

A Sherburne County sergeant made an unusual arrest a few weeks ago that took a warrant man from Elk River off the streets. See the story on page 2.

#### BECKER

Mckayla Rae Ewing of Becker accepted an invitation of lifetime membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. See the story on page 4.

#### NATURE

Regular columnist Stan Tekiela has a story on woodpeckers that should ruffle some feathers. See the story on page 8.

## Newberger, Paulson throw hats in the ring for new district Redistricting shakes up some communities

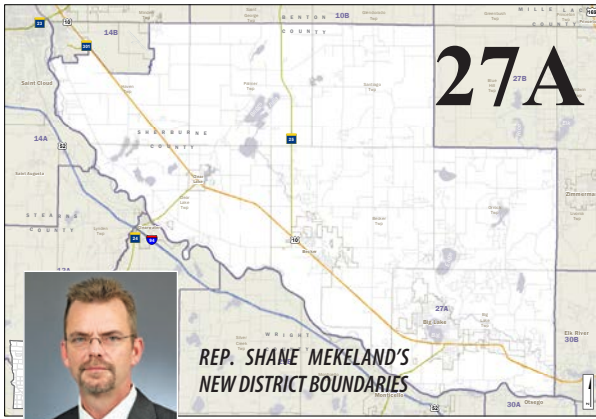
By Bill Morgan, Staff Writer  
reporter.bill@patriotnewsnmn.com

A panel of Minnesota judges rolled out new district maps last week that will shape Minnesota elections for the next decade.

Many Minnesotans will have new representation thanks to revised maps released last Tuesday showing the redrawn legislative and congressional districts that will direct the state's elections for the next 10 years.

The new maps could give edges to Democrats or Republicans in their battles for control of Congress or the state Legislature. They'll give hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans new representatives — and give some representatives thousands of new voters. The new districts will reshape what parts of the state are politically competitive, and which communities have the voting weight to elect their own members into office.

The state is constitutionally required to redraw the boundaries of its voting districts to reflect population growth and shifts over



the past decade, the latest based on the results of the 2020 Census. Each district must have roughly the same number of people, so districts where population was lost or grew more slowly are expanded geographically while the boundaries of faster growing districts shrink.

The state's total resident population is 5,706,494 based on the results of the census, which makes the "ideal population" of the state's 67 Senate districts 85,172, and half that, 42,586, for the 134 House districts.

Redistricting is the process of redrawing the boundaries of election dis-

tricts to ensure that the people of each district are equally represented.

Local governments are responsible for redistricting other election districts:

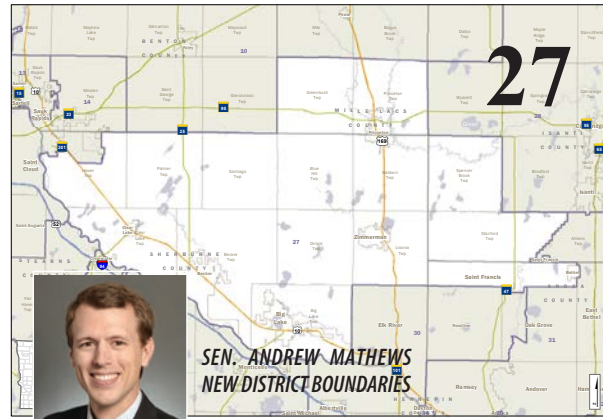
- County boards are responsible for redistricting county commissioner districts;

- City councils are responsible for redistricting city wards;

- School boards are responsible for redistricting board member districts.

In addition, during the redistricting time period, cities and townships will establish (or reestablish) their precinct boundaries as part of the redistricting process, as will counties that have unorganized territory.

**Tom Emmer**



Minnesota's 6th Congressional District in Stearns County lost the cities of Avon, Cold Spring, Richmond, Kimball, and Holdingford. Congressman Tom Emmer represents the district. The cities are now in Minnesota's 7th Congressional District, represented by Michelle Fischbach. The 7th District also gained all of Morrison County, previously part of the 8th Congressional District.

St. Cloud, Sartell, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park, St. Joseph, Rockville, and St. Augusta will remain in the 6th Congressional District, as will all of Benton, Sherburne, and Wright County. The 6th district lost terri-

tory because the district's population centers, like the St. Cloud area, grew. According to the redistricting data, 104,017 people in Stearns County live in the 6th District, and 54,275 live in the 7th District.

Minnesota's Sixth District has been a reliable Republican stronghold over the past decade, represented first by Rep. Michele Bachmann and later Rep. Tom Emmer, after Bachmann's retirement. The district lost the city of Anoka, which is now part of the Third District. It gained a large part of Carver county in the southwest metro, including Chanhassen and communities south of Lake Min-

**REDISTRICTING to page 5B**

## Clear Lake Twp. awards 2022 seal coat projects

By Penny Leuthard,  
Contributing Writer

A bid opening for their 2022 seal coat projects was held during Clear Lake Twp.'s February meeting. Bids were received from Astech, St. Joseph Pearson, and Allied Blacktop.

Twp. Engineer Terrance Vander Eyk opened and summarized each bid for the board, with Allied Blacktop coming in significantly lower than the other two contractors. He indicated he will thoroughly review each bid in the coming week.

A motion carried awarding the projects to Allied for \$67,750.

#### Mailbox Ordinance

Edits were recommended by the township's attorney after review of the new mailbox ordinance, and it was recommended it be included as part of their building permits along with language regarding new construction or reconstruction. Eyk added that it was critical to include the height of the mailbox and the distance it needs to be located off of the bituminous.

The main thrust of the new ordinance is for swing away mailbox posts to be installed with all new construction and roadwork. When replacing mailbox structures, homeowners will be allowed to install it themselves or use the township's approved con-



**MICHAEL CATHCART** discusses Sunrise Energy Ventures' latest solar farm proposal during the Clear Lake Twp. meeting last week. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)

tractor. When swing away mailboxes are in place the township will be responsible if they're knocked down by the snowplow. If a different type of structure is used the homeowner will be responsible.

Swing away mailboxes are approved by the U.S. Postmaster and are designed to swing out of the way of snowplows.

#### Twp. Park

Chairman Gary Gray presented the estimates received for Clear Lake Twp. Park's new park pavilion. With materials, labor, dirt work, and permits the cost is projected to come in around \$36,000. The remainder of the \$50,000 earmarked for the project will be used for the addition of a small playground area and parking lot.

The park's neighbors will be asked for input on what should be included in the playground.

Supervisor Bud Stimmler informed the board he had spoken with Sherburne Co. Soil & Water concerning the township park's new wildflower area. Sections that were burnt will have seeds spread on them, trees and shrubs that crop up will be cut down and then sprayed next fall, after which the remaining seed will be spread.

#### Solar Farm

Michael Cathcart approached the board to discuss Sunrise Energy Ventures' latest solar farm proposal. The one-megawatt solar garden will be located north of the company's current one-megawatt solar garden on the same plot of land.

After a brief discussion a motion carried to approve and send positive comments to the county.

#### Other Business

Gray informed the board he would be asking the township attorney to draft and present the township's comments for Sherco Solar Project public hearing on April 20.

The sheriff reported 118 calls for service for January, including 60 traffic, one dwelling fire, and one warrant arrest.

The next Clear Lake Twp. meeting will be March 8 at 8 p.m.



**VINTAGE SNOWMOBILE RUN.** A Vintage Snowmobile Run was held Saturday, January 29th. The event started at Brickyard Bar & Grill in Clear Lake and went to Knitski's Bar & Grill in Palmer; then back to Brickyard. Winter enthusiasts of all ages were not deterred by cold temperatures. Many local residents participated in the event with vintage snowmobiles. A nice meal was served courtesy of Brickyard and Knitski's. A good time was had by all. The next Vintage Snowmobile is slated to be Sat. Feb. 26th and all are welcome to participate. The event will start at Knitski's Bar & Grill in Palmer and go to Brickyard Bar & Grill in Clear Lake. (Submitted photo.)

## Becker Dollars for Scholars® holding 32nd annual Phone-A-Thon in March

Submitted Article

Becker Dollars for Scholars® is sponsoring the 32nd annual Phone-A-Thon for scholarships.

The Phone-A-Thon will be held on the evenings of March 7 and March 15 with March 17 and dates to be determined on the week of March 21 as alternate dates.

Volunteer students will call Becker School district residents to take

pledges. Larger donations from individuals, businesses, and organizations are also accepted. All money raised is awarded to Becker High School students. Scholarships of \$500 (or more) are available to graduating high school seniors planning to attend public or private colleges or technical colleges and to those who are already attending college or technical college. The Becker community has

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## 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.

### Contact Us

LEGALS/CLASSIFIEDS/OBITS  
Call 763-275-0275  
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## Wanted man arrested with half pound of meth

Submitted Article

(The following information was submitted to the Patriot by the Sherburne County Sheriff's Dept.)

A Sherburne County investigative sergeant on his way to work Feb. 11 recognized a man with active warrants for his arrest, detained the suspect and found a half pound of methamphetamine in the suspect's vehicle, according to Sheriff Joel Brott.

Arrested Friday morning at a gas station in Becker was Shane Earl Priem, 51, of Elk River, according to Brott. Priem has been charged with two



SHANE EARL PRIEM of Elk River was arrested and charged with two counts of first-degree possession of a controlled substance last week. (Submitted Photo).

counts of first-degree possession of a controlled substance.

A plain-clothes sergeant spotted Priem's vehicle at the gas station and saw Priem walk out of the store. The sergeant was aware that there were warrants active for Priem's arrest. The sergeant arrested Priem and searched Priem's vehicle.

Inside the vehicle were packages of meth, paraphernalia, Ziploc bags and a digital scale. The search resulted in the seizure of 8.6 ounces of meth, according to Brott.

## BL Middle Schoolers demonstrate knowledge at History Day event

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

Big Lake Middle School held its History Day last week. Sixth, seventh, and eighth-graders showed off their knowledge on the theme of "debate and diplomacy."

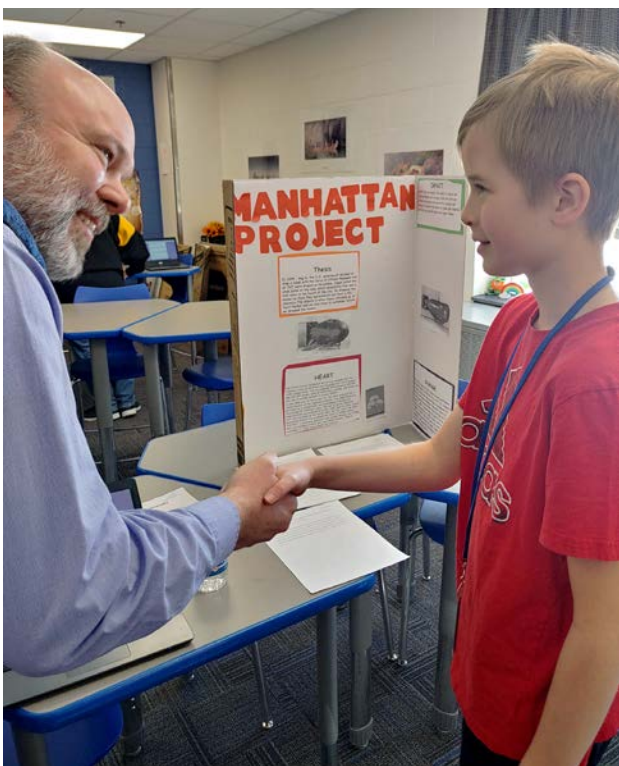
### The Projects

Students began their projects back in November, and worked hard on them until their due date in mid-February. Students were allowed to pick any event in history that interested them, so long as it fell under the theme for the year.

Many students put together traditional poster-board presentations, although some students presented their projects in a different format, through sketches, research papers, documentaries, or websites created to explain their topic.

For many students, the history day project was the first introduction they've had to research. Students learned about the importance of both primary and secondary sources, how to write a thesis statement, and other useful information.

Most importantly, students were tasked with explaining how their topic has an impact on their lives today.



SUPT. TIM TRUEBENBACH, serving as a history day judge, shook hands with Evan. Evan created a presentation on the Manhattan Project. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

Middle school teacher April Bischoff said the students worked very hard, especially as they approached the deadline.

### Competition

Some talented students will get the opportunity to take their project to the regional competition. Their teachers will select the students who put in the most effort to make their project amazing. Students who do well at the regional level will have the opportunity to

progress all the way to the national level of the competition.

Social studies teacher Ann Segner wanted to note that the Minnesota Historical Society has been incredibly helpful to the project, giving advice sessions to the students, training to the teachers, and judges for the final project.

### History of History Day

Big Lake Middle School has participated in History Day for a few years now, although they took last year off since it would have been difficult to coordinate with students over hybrid or distance learning. This was the first year that all three grades participated.

## Bill to pay off UI debt passes Senate

Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by Sen. Mary Kiffmeyer.)

"A \$2.73 billion proposal, SF 2677, to immediately pay off the state's \$1.2 billion in Unemployment Insurance (UI) debt today passed out of the Senate," said Senator Mary Kiffmeyer. This bill would pay the accruing interest, replenish the trust fund, protect employees' benefits and help businesses survive.

On Jan. 1, 2020, Minnesota's UI trust fund balance was \$1.7 billion. However, the many people claiming unemployment during the pandemic greatly drew down the UI trust fund to the point where it hit zero. As a temporary solution, the state borrowed money from the federal government resulting in a negative balance of \$1.2 billion in debt.

The state is currently paying over \$50,000 a day on interest charges to the federal government for the loan.

"Last year, we tried to get Governor Walz to repay the federal government earlier using the federal emergency assistance fund to avoid daily interest. It is very frustrating that the governor knew this back then and our state has continued to incur more debt since," Kiffmeyer said. "Now, the governor is looking to do this at the end of session in May thus accruing even more interest."

est. We need this done before March 15 when three premium surcharges would take effect."

Employees do not pay into the unemployment insurance fund. This is paid by the employer and is a special charge that goes on every paycheck. Until the fund reaches a level considered adequate, state businesses would be penalized through a total of 16.5% average higher premium surcharges.

"If employers are required to pay higher premiums, they will not have the money to hire employees and increase salaries or buy new equipment. And it puts at risk future employee benefits," Kiffmeyer said. "Small businesses, which make up 75% of all businesses, are already struggling due to the pandemic. Those who survived could now be forced to close due to these greatly increased premiums. Paying off Minnesota's UI debt is just good government. Our businesses and employees need the Legislature and governor to get this done now."

According to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, it would take more than 10 years of additional higher taxes on businesses to replenish the UI trust funds to blink off additional taxes and end the federal government tax penalty.

SF 2677 will now go to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

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BIG LAKE MAYOR PAUL KNIER AND STUDENT MAXIE paused for a photo after the mayor listened to Maxie's presentation. Mayor Knier said he had learned a lot about history that he never knew before that morning! (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

## Business & professional services directory

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# Area News

## St. Patrick's Day Fun!

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- Craft Sale, Maple Lake Elementary 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Irish Scamper, Downtown 11 a.m., Registration at 9 a.m. at the Maple Lake High School.

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## Grant funds available to assist non-profits with COVID-19 response

Submitted article

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

Sherburne County Commissioners have approved a grant program to provide support for certain nonprofits and other community organizations who help to provide county residents with housing services, food, childcare programs, employment opportunities and access to social and mental health services to help mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Eligible organizations can begin applying for those funds starting February 22nd.

The focus of the county's Community Resource

Support Program is on responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative impacts. This includes responding both to the immediate harms caused by the pandemic and mitigating the long-term impacts of the pandemic in compounding systemic public health and economic challenges.

For more information and to apply, go to [www.co.Sherburne.mn.us](http://www.co.Sherburne.mn.us) and click on the news item "Nonprofit Grant Program" to find the link to the application.

The application window opens February 22nd and will close March 31st.

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# Adeline Kent recognized as top BB player

By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

Becker Bulldog Adeline Kent was recently recognized as one of the top players in Minnesota's Senior class, meaning she is on the watch list for the 2022 Miss Basketball title.

Kent's name was one of 29 that was shared by the Miss Basketball Committee when they announced their list in early February. The list will soon be narrowed to five finalists and the winner will be announced after the conclusion of the state tournament.

"Addy was selected as one of the final 29, which is a great honor," Becker coach Dan Baird said. "She's got a great resume and many accomplishments."

Baird went on to note that during Kent's tenure on the team, she has been named All State twice, as well as Honorable Mention during her Freshmen year when she averaged 16.8 points per game.

She has a 94-14 career record as a starter, which translates into an .870 winning percent-

age. In addition, the team is 54-0 conference play during that time, with Kent being named M8 All Conference the last three years.

For her career, she has 1713 points and counting, as the Bulldogs head into the final week of the regular season. During her time on the team, Becker has a 7-1 record in the state tournament, including qualifying for three state title games.

In reflecting on this honor, Kent says she is focused on the rest of her Senior season, but still grateful for the recognition.

"I am very grateful to be nominated for this award... it's exciting to see all the hard work I have put in pay off," Kent said. "The relationships I have built through basketball have been unique and very special."

Next season, Adeline plans to attend the University of Tampa to continue her basketball career.

"I chose the University of Tampa because it's a great school and I really enjoyed the atmosphere and the culture the team creates," Kent said. "Also, I am excited to get out of the snow and into the sun!"



ADELINE KENT has been named to the watch list for the 2022 Miss Basketball Award, which honors the top girl's player in the state of Minnesota. (Photo by Mark Kolbinger.)



Becker Area Chamber of Commerce

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## Becker student inducted into NSCS

Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by The National Society of Collegiate Scholars.)

Mckayla Rae Ewing of Becker has accepted an invitation of lifetime membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS), the nation's leading certified honor society for high-achieving first- and second-year college students with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA.

NSCS is an honors organization that invites less than ten percent of all eligible students nationwide to join the ranks of its diverse membership each year. A leading interdisciplinary academic honor society, NSCS is made up of scholars from two-year, four-year and online institutions.

"NSCS is more than just a symbol of academic achievement; it is a distinction of honor," said Scott Mobley, NSCS Executive Director. "Our scholars are some of the best of the best who have shown an unwavering commitment to academic excellence early



MCKAYLA EWING OF BECKER was recently inducted into the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. (Submitted photo.)

in their collegiate journey. These dynamic individuals embody the NSCS pillars of scholarship, leadership, and service, and many go on to become active contributors within their respective fields."

Founded in 1994 by

veteran student affairs professional Stephen Loflin, NSCS continues to remain true to its promise of recognizing, elevating, and connecting high-achievers. With a portfolio of exclusive benefits that include access to over \$750,000

dollars in scholarships, chapter funds and awards annually, professional development resources, exclusive tailored content, and leadership and service experiences, NSCS is poised to support member growth and development throughout their academic and collegiate journey.

"NSCS members' deep commitment to service, integrity, and scholarship positively impact their campuses and local communities every day," said Mobley.

Notable NSCS distinguished honorary members include former president Jimmy Carter, U.S. Ambassador Dr. Robin Renee Sanders, the late Senator John McCain, and former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala.

"We welcome McKayla Rae Ewing to our community of like-minded, high-achieving nationwide scholars," Mobley said.

## County taxpayers paying their share

By Ken Francis, Contributing Writer

Sherburne County residents and businesses did their part to support local government programs and services in 2021, paying the highest percentage of property taxes in the last seven years.

A report by the Sherburne County Auditor/Treasurer this week shows the county collected 99.50% of property taxes levied in 2021, or \$51,971,914.69 of \$52,235,670.64.

That percentage topped the 2020 figure of 99.35%, when the county collected \$50,174,477.48 of \$50,503,073.33.

Figures for prior years were: 2019 (99.31%), 2018 (99.41%), 2017 (99.27%), 2016 (99.09%) and 2015 (98.99%).

Taxpayers also dug in to cover previous years' unpaid bills. In 2021, the county collected \$248,647.17 of 2020 taxes and \$52,006.01 from 2019.

**Service Agreement**  
The Board of Commissioners approved a master service agreement between Sherburne County and Braun Intertec for geotechnical, construction material testing, and phase I environmental site assessment services for the years 2022 and 2023.

The public works department solicited a Request for Proposals (RFP) from three consulting firms: American Engineering Testing, Braun Intertec and Independent Testing Technologies. After reviewing the proposals, it was determined that Braun Intertec met the requirements of the RFP and has a reputable history of working with Sherburne County.

The two-year contract is expected to save the county staff time by not having to solicit proposals every time there is a need for geotechnical, construction material testing, and phase I environmental site assessment services.

### ARPA Funding

The board approved the allocation of \$305,492.54 in ARPA funding for a Lead Child Welfare Social Worker in Health and Human Services and \$11,695.50 for COVID-19 related personal protective equipment for the sheriff's department. The social worker position is for three years.

### MnDOT Fiber Project

The board approved a resolution of support of MnDOT Dist. 3's application to pursue installing fiber along the Hwy. 25 corridor. The project includes installation of four miles of fiber line (3.5 miles on Hwy. 25 from 7th St. in Monticello to Hwy. 10 in Big Lake and 0.5 miles on Chelsea Rd. from Hwy. 25 to the MnDOT Truck Station in Monticello). Included in the fiber installation is the crossing of the Mississippi River.

### Special Olympics

The board approved six days paid leave for Sergeant Nabil Gubash of the sheriff's department to participate in the 2022 Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg for the Special Olympics USA Games, to be held in Orlando, FL, from May 30 through June 6.

### Solid Waste Hearing

The board voted to continue a public hearing on a draft amendment to the county's Solid Waste Ordinance. Testimony from members of the public included concerns over new

setback criteria, which limits where a landfill can be located.

"I understand there are some concerns," said Solid Waste Administrator Dave Lucas. "It is my recommendation that no action be taken today, that we continue this public hearing, allow for comments on suggested language to be submitted, then changes can be brought to this board at a continued public hearing date."

The hearing will resume March 22 at 9:10 a.m.

### Other Business

In other actions, the board:

- Approved the appointment of James Kirchenbauer, representing Dist. 4, to the Sherburne County Extension Committee;
- Approved a MN Lawful Gambling Application (Premises Permit) to Conduct Excluded Bingo for Travelers Country Club on the Mississippi at 11290 80th Ave. SE, Clear Lake. The proposed 2022 Bingo events will take place May 25, June 25, July 30 and Aug. 27;
- Approved a contract with Hosington Koepler Group Inc. for \$82,100 for county park and trail system comprehensive planning;
- Approved an HHS contract with Patron Transportation to provide transportation services for clients. The county has budgeted \$4,000 for the service.

### SCHOLARS from page 1

contributed over \$600,000 to over 1,200 scholarship recipients over the past 31 years.

Becker Dollars for Scholars has a website through Scholarship America and all student applications will need to be completed by logging on to the website: [becker.dollarsforscholars.org](http://becker.dollarsforscholars.org) and click on the "Students and Parents" tab and follow the instructions there.

Anyone wishing to make a donation online by credit card, may log on to [becker.dollarsforscholars.org](http://becker.dollarsforscholars.org) website and click on the "donate now" tab and follow the instructions listed there.

Anyone interested in helping with the Phone-A-Thon, making a contribution (especially if one has an unlisted number or only uses a cell phone) or getting more information about supporting Becker Dollars for Scholars, one may contact Dale Seavert by cell phone or text at 320-290-5342 or through the website: [becker.dollarsforscholars.org](http://becker.dollarsforscholars.org) and clicking on the "volunteers" tab and following the instructions there.

## St. Cloud School District removes mask mandate

Submitted article

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

Beginning Thursday, February 17, universal masking will no longer be required in St. Cloud Area Schools. Masks will be optional for all students, staff, and guests. Due to the federal transportation mandate, masks continue to be required on all school buses and district transportation vehicles.

Superintendent Willie Jett reported that the decision was made in consul-

tation with local and state health officials.

School and district case rates have dropped significantly over the past month, mirroring those of the surrounding community and state.

Students and staff returning to school following a 5-day quarantine must continue to mask on days 6-10. Those who choose not to mask must complete a 10-day quarantine. Additionally, all participants in MSHSL activities must follow the Return to Play protocols which require masking on days 6-10.

## Area Chamber News

<p><b>Business Expo/Craft Fair</b> Feb. 26 - 10 am - 2 pm Becker Field House</p> <p><b>Dueling Pianos</b> Feb. 26 - 6:30 dinner, 7:30 show Pebble Creek - SOLD OUT!</p>	<p><b>Membership Meeting</b> Mar. 29 - 11:30 am BLPD Community Room</p> <p><b>Community Fair</b> April 23 - 10 am - 1 pm Reduced Booth Prices!</p>	<p><b>Annual CVBC Expo</b> Sun., May 1, 10 am - 1 pm @ Clearwater Legion.</p> <p>If you would like to host a booth, contact Lori Johnson at: <a href="mailto:lori.rootoffwellness@yahoo.com">lori.rootoffwellness@yahoo.com</a></p>
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If you would like more information on any of these events or if you would like to become a member of these organizations please reach out to them:

<p>Amity Felton 763-262-2420 <a href="mailto:Chamber@BeckerChamber.org">Chamber@BeckerChamber.org</a></p>	<p>Gloria Vande Brake 763-263-7800 <a href="mailto:Info@BigLakeChamber.com">Info@BigLakeChamber.com</a></p>	<p>Glenna Soenneker 320-267-4361 <a href="mailto:GSoenneker@GMail.com">GSoenneker@GMail.com</a></p>
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## PetNet Works

Working with the community to find homes for needy pets

<p><b>Lola</b> is a 1-year-old spayed German Shepherd mix who is a very active dog. A meet and greet would be required with any resident dog. Lola has a grey drive and cannot go to a home with cats/other small animals. She's very smart and would benefit from obedience training and plenty of durable toys suitable for an active chewer.</p>	<p><b>Gretchen</b> is a 6-year-old spayed Catahoula Leopard mix who is the perfect mix of hiking buddy and couch potato. She'll need a household who can help her get a little extra socialization and confidence through training. She can be possessive of her favorite people. She's a smart girl and already knows how to sit, stay, shake, and lay down.</p>	<p><b>Mariah</b> is a 3-year-old spayed German Shorthaired who has done well with other larger dogs in the past. She can be a bit of a Houdini and has been known to open doors to let herself out. Needless to say, Mariah is very smart and loves not only physical exercise but playing "train teaser" games, too.</p>
<p><b>WINNIE</b> is a 9-year-old spayed cat who is on the lookout for a calm, low-key home. She also can be quite vocal when she knows what she wants! Her favorite place to dwell is her pineapple-shaped cat bed, where she is often found napping.</p>	<p><b>Axl</b> is a 2-year-old neutered cat who was used to being both indoors and outdoors in his last home. He's social enough he'd likely not be a good barn cat, but he'd probably fit into the traffic of a workshop. Axl should be fed a high-quality diet with meat as the primary ingredient.</p>	<p><b>Spartacus</b> is a 6-year-old female yellow-bellied slider. These turtles, with appropriate care, can live 20-plus years. Spartacus needed some medical care and TLC when she arrived at the shelter; now she's much better and ready for a home that can give her the care she needs!</p>

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SHERBURNE COUNTY SHERIFF GETS NEW K-9 UNIT. Bronco is pictured here with his K-9 handler Deputy Derek Sorensen. Sorensen and Bronco left Tuesday for training. Bronco turned one on Jan. 3. He is a Shepherd/Malinois mix who will be used for drug detection, searches and apprehension. (Submitted photo.)



# Editorials/Opinions

## Run for the Border

I love to travel. My goal is to see as many states and countries as possible during my lifetime. However with everything that's been going on all around the world in the past few years I'm starting to wonder if I'm going to have to call it good with the number I've visited to date.

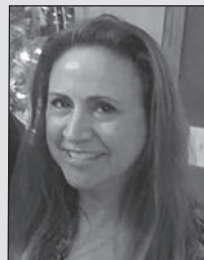
I especially hope I'm able to travel to Europe one day. All three of my kids had the opportunity to do so during high school. In the past their school offered a trip to Europe every couple of years, and they took advantage of it. Me? The only foreign countries I've visited so far are Canada and Mexico.

Mexico was a great trip. My husband and I went to the Playa del Carmen area to celebrate our 25th anniversary and stayed at an all-inclusive resort. Sun, sand, food, drink, and tourist hot spots. Canada, on the other hand, was a totally different story.

It was the late 1980s, and my future sister-in-law had just graduated from college with a K-12 teaching degree. At the time there weren't a lot of teaching positions available so when she was asked to come in for an interview at a school up by the Canadian border she didn't want to turn it down.

As it was a long trip to get there we decided to make an adventure of it, and she, my brother-in-law, my future husband, and myself got in the car and headed out.

The drive there was fine, and her interview went well.



By Penny Leuthard  
Contributing Writer

Afterward, we didn't want to head back right away because it had taken so long to get there, so we decided to drive around and check out the area in case she got the job.

While doing so we noticed a sign indicating entry into Canada. Excited that I would be able to say I'd been in a foreign country I suggested we take a detour. (It's hard to believe now, but at the time you didn't need a passport to get into Canada or Mexico.) The decision was made and off we went.

We were waved across the border and there we were. Minnesotans in a foreign land. Disappointingly it looked exactly like the United States' side of the border. We drove around for a bit and as there was nothing exciting to see we decided to head home.

Unlike traveling north into Canada, vehicles heading south into the U.S. were actually stopped at the border. When it was our turn we were asked what we had been in Canada for and how long we'd been there. Still happy that I could say I was now a

world traveler, I piped up and said we'd just been driving around for half an hour. Apparently that was the wrong answer.

The border agent turned and spoke briefly with a fellow agent who had been standing nearby. Turning back, he told us to pull over to the side and get out of the car. A number of agents were waiting. We were then asked to hand over our identification and wait in an office. As the walls were mostly glass, I was able to watch as the border agents searched our vehicle inside and out. It was a long wait.

A naïve 19-year-old, I hadn't considered how suspicious it was for someone to cross the border and then almost immediately turn around and come back.

When we were finally allowed to leave we breathed a sigh of relief. We hadn't hidden anything in the car, but my future brother-in-law had been in trouble with the law a number of times. Due to this he didn't have a driver's license, so we had been afraid he was going to be held.

Luckily they hadn't searched our persons, as one of us may or may not have had something slightly illegal on them.

Lessons learned. Think before you speak, and just because you can doesn't mean you should.

Oh, and my future sister-in-law didn't get the job.

## Remembering a Good Friend

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

This week, our state experienced an enormous loss. Congressman Jim Hagedorn, who represented Minnesota's First Congressional District, passed away Thursday.

Jim wasn't just a colleague in Congress, he was a good friend. Those who were lucky enough to know him remember his great sense of humor and his steadfast loyalty. What I'll remember most of all about Jim is his eagerness to serve. All Jim ever wanted was to give back to the people of the First District, the community he loved so much. I am so grateful he had that chance.

Jim and his family are in our hearts. The House of Representatives will honor Jim's life and work in Congress, however an even greater memorial would be for all of us to live like Jim did: in happy service to the community he loved.

### Town Hall Recap

I always welcome the chance to hear from my constituents about the issues that impact them and their families. It is even better when I can connect individuals in the Sixth District with experts that can help address these concerns. I am excited to announce that last week's town hall featuring Local Taxpayer Advocate Wendy Rozinka was a great success, with



By Congressman  
Tom Emmer

more than 8,800 constituents participating!

We are amid a uniquely difficult tax filing season: in the past year, many Americans received atypical incomes, like Economic Impact Payments or Child Tax Credits, or experienced unemployment. All these factors have led to tax filing headaches for many of us. Wendy was an excellent resource for the event, providing tax filing tips and advice.

If you weren't able to join us last week, my office can still serve as a resource for tax concerns. You can find some tips on my website here. My casework team also stands ready to assist; you can contact them at (763) 241-6848.

### Tax Cuts

This economy has provided little relief for working families. Inflation has hiked prices to their highest levels in forty years, and for many Americans, wages are struggling to keep up. There has been a bright

spot for lower and middle-income Americans: the relief offered by the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. I was a proud supporter of this legislation, which reduced taxes on small businesses and individuals alike and increased the standard deduction and family tax credits.

Now, we can see the results of this legislation in action. IRS data now shows that low-income filers received a tax cut of 16-26 percent, while middle-income filers saw tax cuts of 15-17 percent. This is substantial relief, which has empowered working Americans to enjoy a better quality of living and save for their futures.

I recently signed on as a cosponsor to my colleague's, Representative Rodney Davis's, legislation to make these hugely beneficial tax cuts permanent. We must allow these reforms to fulfill their promises of lowering taxes, spurring economic growth, and sparking prosperity.

### Farm Challenges

Our farmers have faced enormous challenges over the past few years, from supply chain issues to COVID-19 to drought. While we are fortunate they have remained resilient, our ag community unfortunately has another hurdle to overcome: inflation.

Farmers are paying

EMMER to page 5B

## Tax relief bills unveiled

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

The 2022 legislative session is hitting its stride and, as predicted, tax relief is at the forefront.

For starters, bills have been authored eliminating the state tax on Social Security and protecting businesses from suffering the injustice of a six-year unemployment insurance tax increase at a time the state has a \$7.7 billion surplus.

More than 35 other states already have used federal COVID relief funds to address their UI deficit, but Minnesota remains one of the states that literally has not taken care of business. We only have until March 15 to prevent this tax increase from kicking in, so it is good to see the Senate is advancing legislation with bipartisan support to solve this problem. It's been a rougher road over in the House, where the majority's initial plan only addresses part of the issue and still results in a six-year tax increase, per the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

Our small businesses have been through enough over the last couple of years and it's time to do right by them. With inflation soaring to 40-year highs, supply chain issues, workforce challenges, and more stacked against them, we should not be subjecting our businesses to higher taxes at a time when Minnesota has a record-set-



By Rep.  
Shane Mekeland

ting \$7.7 billion surplus.

The subject of frontline worker pay also is surfacing with legislation to provide bonuses receiving committee hearings in the House. There are a lot of layers to this issue and differing priorities regarding who should receive funding and how much they should be paid. Some people want to cast a wide net and provide vast numbers of workers with smaller compensation. Others want to narrow the focus and provide more meaningful payments to those who truly work on the front lines.

While there's been a lot of debate over this subject, and questions galore, one thing we are not hearing nearly enough about is getting our economy out of this rut. People are paying more for goods and services across the board. Any more money you may be taking in via relief dollars or otherwise are likely being gobbled up by the skyrocketing prices of gas, groceries, electric bills, and everything else costing

more in today's economy.

Let's forget playing politics and arguing over which workers are "essential" or "non-essential" because every job is essential to the person who holds it. Instead, let's put more energy toward getting our private-sector economy back on track to bolster income, make housing more affordable, provide for our children and more. Permanent tax relief is what families and businesses need for long-term recovery.

Speaking of children, the Senate majority has come forward with a package of bills to reinforce parental involvement and enhance transparency in education. While I will not speak to the entire package, I firmly support initiatives to put parents in the driver's seat of their kids' education. Learning regression experienced during COVID restrictions is only likely to make the hill even steeper to achieve educational success.

Increasing school transparency, disclosure, and accountability to parents would be a step forward in helping get them back on track to brighten their future and also to mitigate our state's woeful achievement gap. Classrooms should be a place for children to learn core curriculum. Divisive politics have no place in that environment.

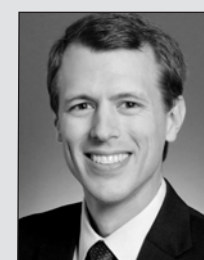
## Announcing my Re-Election Campaign

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

Last week, I announced my intention to run in the newly formed Senate District 27. A five-member panel of judges on Tuesday released maps that go into effect for the upcoming election.

After consulting with my family and supporters, I have decided to run for re-election in the newly drawn Senate District 27. Representing my constituents across Benton, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Sherburne, and Wright counties has been a tremendous honor. I look forward to continuing to be a strong conservative voice for my constituents both old and new.

It is critical our area is represented by someone committed to fighting for Constitutional values and conservative principles, and stand against big government bureaucracy in St. Paul. I am working hard to make sure our streets are safe, the fundamental right of parents to direct the upbringing of their children is respected, and that



By Sen.  
Andrew Mathews

overtaxed Minnesotans get more of their money back. Our work is not yet finished and therefore I ask for your support.

Additionally, thank you to my friend and colleague Mary Kiffmeyer for

her long record as a conservative champion and for her support of my re-election. I have learned a lot from her experience, and I wish her the best as she retires from the Senate.

I am in my second term at the Senate. I was first elected in 2016. I currently serve as the Chair of the Civil Law Committee. I live in Princeton with my wife, Elsa, and our son, Daniel. We are expecting our second child in July.

The newly drawn District 27 encompasses parts of Anoka, Mille Lacs, Isanti, and Sherburne counties.

## Letters To The Editor

### TO THE EDITOR:

I've been watching recent events in Minneapolis, especially the Kim Potter trial, and there's something I don't understand. It used to be that when the police arrested the bad guy, he went to jail and the police went back to work. Now, we put the cop in jail and the bad guys get a big settlement. Then we apologize for bothering him. Then we wring our hands and wonder why the country is in a mess and crime is rising. Heaven help us if that's the way we think.

Howard Osgood,  
Becker, MN

## Supporting our law enforcement officers

(Editor's Note: The following column was submitted by Sen. Mary Kiffmeyer.)

This session, Senate Republicans launched the C.O.P.S. Program, which stands for 'Creating Opportunities in Public Safety.' Minnesota's law enforcement officers are currently leaving the force in far higher numbers than they are applying to join. The C.O.P.S. Program will address this critical shortage through six different bills all focused on recruitment. And recently, a bill, SF-2848, from this initiative passed out of the Senate with bipartisan support.

This proposal would provide \$1 million in funding for the Department of Public Safety to develop and conduct an advertising campaign to elevate the law enforcement profession. This bill would also appropriate \$1 million in funding for the award-winning Pathways to Policing program, which supports non-traditional candidates for law enforcement who already earned an associate's degree in another discipline.

Everyday our officers tirelessly work to protect the security of others. And especially now, it is critical for our law enforcement officers to know that their sacrifices do not go unno-



By Sen.  
Mary Kiffmeyer

ticed and are appreciated. This bill will uplift current law enforcement and encourage others to pursue a career in this honorable profession.

This week, Senate Republicans also proposed a 'Parents' Bill of Rights' – a package of bills that would empower parents to be active partners in their child's education. During the pandemic, my local districts tried hard to do all they could for the kids. However, statewide, remote learning during this unprecedented time greatly negatively affected our children's education. This proposal would help address this by increasing school transparency, disclosure, and accountability to parents.

Parents have ultimate responsibility and play a central role in their child's education, and we must af-

firm this. The foundation of this initiative is to ensure state schools are not withholding information about a child's well-being or education. As part of this proposal, schools would be required to have a regular system for notifying families of school activities.

Since families know their own child's individual educational needs best, another bill in this proposal would allow families to open Educational Saving Accounts. This would help give families more flexibility to enhance their child's education or look to alternative school choices.

This week at the Senate, we also passed a \$2.73 billion proposal, SF-2677, to immediately pay off the state's \$1.2 billion in Unemployment Insurance debt. This bill would pay the accruing interest, replenish the trust fund, protect employees' benefits and help businesses survive.

### Contact me

As always, if have questions or concerns on any legislative topic, feel free to contact me any time. You can call me at 651-296-5655 or send me an email at sen.mary.kiffmeyer@senate.mn. It is a privilege to serve as your state senator.



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- **Letters to the Editors:** The PATRIOT welcomes letters to the editor. Addresses and telephone numbers are require for verification purposes. All letters must contain the original signature of the writer. E-mailed letters can be accepted. The deadline for all letters is noon Wednesday. **Limit letters to 200 words or less.** Letters will be printed at the discretion of the editor and are subject to editing for grammar, libel and brevity. Two letters per writer per subject each year.
- **Obituaries:** Obituaries are \$50 prepaid. The Editor reserves the right to edit lengthy obituaries.

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## Sports News

# Bulldog wrestlers roll over Hornets for State Tournament berth

By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

Last Friday, the Becker Bulldog wrestling team rolled to a 45-21 victory over the Big Lake Hornets in the Section 6AA finals to give Becker its second state wrestling tournament berth in school history. The only other appearance for Becker was in 2003, when veteran coach Brad Novak led his charges to St. Paul.

This season, first year coach Travis Holt took over the head coaching duties for a team that had high expectations with depth and experience across the weight classes, and the wrestlers didn’t disappoint in landing a spot in the State Class AA tournament to be held March 3 at the Xcel Energy Center.

“Friday night was a great evening for Becker wrestling,” Holt said after his team punched its ticket to state. “This team has had its focus on that event all season long. It was wonderful to watch how hard work and believing in the process has paid off.”

Tuesday, the MSHSL conducted a seeding meeting to place the top five teams in their respective spots in the bracket, followed by a random draw for the last three spots. Becker landed the #3 seed, meaning it will open state competition as a team on March 3 at 9 a.m. at the Xcel Energy Center with a contest against unseeded Thief River Falls.

If the Bulldogs win, their semifinal match will be at 1 p.m. against the winner of the #2 seed Kas-



*THE BECKER BULLDOG WRESTLING TEAM secured its second state tournament berth in school history with a Section Finals win over their rivals, the Big Lake Hornets. (Submitted photo.)*

son-Mantorville versus unseeded Mora match, while a loss in the opening round would put the Bulldogs in the consolation bracket (11 a.m. match).

The third place contest is scheduled for 5 p.m., while the finals are slated for 7 p.m. in the one day tournament.

This week, the Bulldogs wrestled in the individual portion of the section tournament Friday and Saturday in Monticello, as a number of Bulldogs were looking to secure their spot in the state individual wrestling tournament. Complete details will be covered in next week’s *Patriot*.

“Although we continue to chase individual section championships, that team title means a lot for this program and will continue to set high expectations and goals for future teams,” Holt said.

#### Hornets

In last Friday’s clash on the mat, there were few surprises as both teams know each other well, especially coming off the January 31

match in Becker where the Bulldogs won 8 of 14 individual matches and claimed the M8 Title with a 37-26 win.

This time, the results were even better for Becker, as they won nine weight classes en route to the convincing win.

Becker trailed 0-6 heading into the 120 pound match when Landen Kujawa scored a 20-5 technical fall to close the gap to 5-6.

The Hornets then won two in a row to claim an 18-5 lead, but Becker’s Ethan Anderson wrestled at 138 against Zack Smith and was able to pull off a first period fall for a big six points for the Bulldogs.

At 145, Owen Angell picked up a huge major decision for the Bulldogs at a weight class they had lost to the Hornets in the M8 championship match.

This set up a pair of rematches in the 152 and 160 pound weight classes and Becker won both, as Mason Doucette (fall) and Adam Jurek (decision) each

picked up victories to propel Becker to a 24-18 lead heading into the 170 pound match. There, the Hornets picked up a decision win by Johnathon Murphy to pull to within 24-21 of the Bulldogs. However, as was the case in the first match, Becker swept the top four weight classes to secure the spot at state.

Tyson Ricker scored a fall at 182 for Becker, while Dylan Weber had an 8-4 decision win. Dylan Kolby (220) and Bryce Kuschel (285) each pinned their opponents to seal the victory.

#### Spartans

Thursday night in the Section Quarterfinals, Becker hosted Rocori and downed the Spartans 47-12. Bennett Kujawa stared the Bulldogs with a decision win at 106 before Becker picked up three straight forfeit wins to push the its lead to 21-0. Drew May followed with a decision at 132 pounds, while teammate Ethan Anderson won a decision at 138 for a 27-0 Becker lead.

Starting at 152 pounds,

Becker reeled off four straight wins to secure the lead for good.

Mason Doucette (dec. 152), Adam Jurek (tech. Fall 160) and Ryan Nelson (fall 170) each picked up wins for Becker before a Dylan Weber forfeit win for the Bulldogs at 182. Rocori won the final three matches, but it was too late, as Becker moved onto the Semifinals to take on D-C-Litchfield.

#### Semis

In the win over Litchfield-D-C, Becker sent a message early as Kujawa (106) and Kaden Nicolas each pinned their opponent and the race to the finals was underway.

Landen Kujawa then scored a decision at 120 for the Bulldogs and a 15-0 lead before D-C-Litchfield finally broke the goose egg on the scoreboard with a decision win at 126.

From there, May scored a pin at 132 for Becker, followed by a 9-7 decision win at 138 for Ethan Anderson.

Owen Angell then wrestled like a man on a mission at 145 pounds, as he scored a first period fall for a 30-3 Becker lead, followed by Doucette pinning his man in just 30 seconds at 152 pounds.

Adam Jurek then bounced up a weight class to 170 and won a hard-fought 10-6 decision, while Dylan Kolby (220) and Bryce Kuschel (285) each scored decision wins to give Becker the final margin and a spot in the finals against Big Lake.

# Bulldog girls reinforce top ranking with win over Holy Angels

By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

Becker High School was the place to be last Saturday for high school hoops fans, as the top ranked Bulldogs hosted #2 Holy Angels in a battle of Class AAA basketball powers. And while the game itself didn’t disappoint, the Bulldogs almost made it look easy in the second half as they ran away with a 78-59 win that cemented Becker’s top ranking.

“This was a great game and there’s a good chance we’ll meet again in the near future,” Becker Coach Dan Baird said, referring to a possible rematch if both teams make the state tournament as expected.

With the win, Becker hit the 20 win mark for the season, versus just four



*MAREN WESTIN, pictured here in action a year ago, showed off an incredible touch from beyond the three point line in the game against Holy Angels. (Patriot archive photo.)*

losses.

Holy Angels came into the game with a decided

height advantage, but the determination and grit of the Bulldogs, not to mention some amazing three-point shooting, led to the impressive win.

“We showed toughness by out-rebounding Holy Angels 39-33, and this was impressive as they had a significant height advantage,” Baird said.

The Bulldogs’ fundamentals were too much for the Stars, as Becker continually boxed out well and ended the game with a 28-16 advantage on the defensive glass.

Because of the height disparity, Becker was launching the ball all night from the outside and they were obviously in the zone, hitting an amazing 15 of 28 shots from beyond the arc.

The Bulldogs hit seven treys in the first half, in-

cluding four from Maren Westin, as the team built a 31-28 halftime lead. The second half brought another offensive explosion, as the Bulldogs pinned 47 points on their opponent, including another eight triples.

Westin was unstoppable all night, as she hit for 28 points on an unbelievable 8-for-10 performance from beyond the three-point line.

“Maren Westin put on a shooting display,” Baird said. “Many of her shots were bombs from NBA distance, as Holy Angels’ long arms forced us back a little.”

Holy Angels managed just a 3-for-14 performance from long range, while the Bulldogs also shared the ball better than their opponents, netting 21 assists to the Stars’ 11.

Becker had a total of four players in double figures, as Adeline Kent (19), Alexis Rose (15) and Dani Nuest (10) joined Westin in having fine offensive games.

Tuesday night, the Bulldogs were scheduled to face other state power in a game against Comor Park, but inclement weather forced a cancelation. Their final regular season game was set for Thursday night, as they hosted St. Francis in a Senior Night matchup. From there, the Bulldogs area headed to the Section playoffs.

Becker scoring: Nuest, 10 (seven rebounds); Westin, 28 (six rebounds); Ayla Brown, four (10 rebounds, six assists); Kent, 19; Rose, 15 (eight rebounds, seven assists); Liz Mackedanz, two.

# Bulldog boys drop two to Tigers

By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

The Becker Bulldog boys basketball team had its five game winning streak broken last Thursday with a 89-60 loss to St. Cloud Tech Tigers. The next night, Becker fought valiantly against #4 state ranked Princeton before falling to those Tigers in the last minutes of the game, 92-88.

In the loss to Tech, Becker fell behind early and found itself with a 23-40 deficit at halftime. The Bulldogs played better in the second half, but so did the Tigers, as they extended their lead and poured in 49 more points to secure the win.

Becker shot just 35% in the game, while Tech held the advantage in points off turnovers, 25-12.

Becker also had trouble getting its transition game into gear, while Tech poured in 27 points off the fast break.

Becker scoring: Alex

Weiss, nine; Nick Berglund, one; Julias Hendricks, six; Ryan Bengtson, five; Hayden Harmoning, 10; Eric Seavert, nine; Brady Paumen, 12; Carter Callahan, eight.

In Friday’s loss, the Bulldogs ran into the Mississippi 8 Conference champions who came into the game with a #4 state ranking and an 18-1 overall record. The Tigers proved their mettle in the first half as they poured in 55 points to take a 55-46 lead, but the Bulldogs stormed back in the opening minutes of the second half to put a scare into the Tigers.

“We had the lead most of the second half,” Becker Coach Josh Ihrke said. “They (Princeton) found a way to get a few key buckets late to get the win.”

Eric Seavert led the way for Becker, netting 24 points, while teammate Brady Paumen chipped in 19 and Julias Hendricks had 18.

Becker worked hard on the glass all night at it paid

off, as they out rebounded the Tigers, 33-27.

Princeton, however, won the turnover battle, committing just six to the Bulldogs’ 15.

Becker scoring: Seavert, 24; Paumen, 19; Hendricks, 18; Alex Weiss, eight; Ryan Bengtson, five; Hayden Harmoning, seven; Carter Callahan, seven.

#### Schedule

Tuesday night’s rematch with the Big Lake Hornets was postponed due to weather, but it is expected to be rescheduled. The Bulldogs had a Friday night home contest versus Monticello before ending the season on the road this Thursday with a trip to St. Francis.

*BECKER’S BRADY PAUMEN took aim on a free throw attempt in a recent game versus Cambridge. Paumen has been a steady contributor in both points and rebounds for the Bulldogs this season. (Submitted photo.)*



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## Dance teams finish 10th, 11th at state

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

The Becker Bulldog Dance Team had a great showing for their first time at the MSHSL state tournament last weekend in Minneapolis!

"We were so honored to have had the opportunity to represent the 4AA section at the MSHSL State Tournament for both Jazz & High Kick this year," said Assistant Coach Rhi Edwards-Liebermann. "It was a first for our program and an amazing experience that our team will cherish forever."

The team took 10th in Jazz and 11th in High Kick at the Target Center this past weekend.

To be surrounded by the best teams in the state was incredibly inspiring and we can't wait to start planning for next season," she continued. "Thank you to the coaches, parents, alumni, families, and community for supporting us throughout our journey this season!"

"While our team goal for the weekend was top eight, we are definitely proud of our final performances of the season," said Head Coach Fischer-Danzeisen. "The team looked comfortable in that arena and I'm hoping we can continue to earn trips to the Target Center."

Assistant Coach Autumn Martin added, "Our goal this year was to qualify for the state tournament.



BECKER STATE JAZZ TEAM at the MSHSL state tournament last weekend at Target Center. (Submitted Photo).



BECKER STATE HIGH KICK TEAM at the MSHSL state tournament last weekend at Target Center. (Submitted Photo).

The girls worked hard all season to be able to have their moment on that state floor. Watching them perform with passion for the sport and confidence in themselves, I couldn't be more proud as a coach."

Lastly, all of the team captains (Gabby Thelen, Stephanie Kluge, Amanda

Krenz, Ashley Matvick, and Wren Williams) reported how exciting it was to perform under the bright lights at the Target Center. Senior Captain Gabby Thelen told the coaching staff, "State was an experience that is hard to explain. After working so hard towards our goal and putting

years of energy into it, finally being able to achieve it is unlike anything I've felt before. It was an experience to last a lifetime and I'm so glad I was able to share those moments with my team."

## Woodpeckers

Once again, I found myself sitting outside in my small photo blind trying to capture a handful of images of birds in a winter/snowy setting. The temperatures were a balmy five below zero and I was starting to feel the cold penetrate my many layers of clothing.

I was fortunate enough

to have a few distinct species of woodpecker come to my feeding station and I was hoping to capture a couple images of these birds. But of course, my mind started to wonder, and I started to think about all the unique and interesting adaptations and behaviors of woodpeckers.



By Naturalist  
Stan Tekiela

Let's start with one of a woodpeckers more unique behaviors. You might not give this much thought but the way that woodpeckers land on a tree is unusual. When a woodpecker lands it is on a vertical surface, like the trunk of

the tree. All other birds land on horizontal surface, such as a branch with the aid of gravity. Woodpeckers land on the vertical surface of the tree by clinging to the tree as if gravity doesn't exist. They can do this because they have specialized feet. Their toes are different from most other birds. They have two toes pointing forward and two toes pointing backwards. Other birds have three toes forward and only one backwards. The second toe pointing backwards gives the woodpeckers a greater ability to cling to the side of trees, defying gravity.

Woodpeckers have extremely stiff tail feathers.

WOODPECKERS to page 10

## Becker Gymnasts represent Becker proudly at State

By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

Three Becker gymnasts competed at the MSHSL Class A State Tournament last weekend at the Roy Wilkins Auditorium in St. Paul and represented themselves, their team and entire community with pride.

"Overall, we couldn't have been prouder of our trio of state performers," Coach Kayla Kalinowski said. "We loved seeing Senior Riley Norberg close out her high school career at the state meet and look forward to seeing our Sophomores work hard this off-season."

Senior Riley Norberg was the highest finisher with an eighth place finish on the vault.

"She nailed a beautiful layout tsuk for a 9.5," Kalinowski said. "Riley had been working so hard all season to perfect this vault and it was so exciting to see her hit it at the state meet in her final vault ever of her high school career!"

Norberg also competed on the balance beam and had an unfortunate fall on her back handspring series to score an 8.85.

"Without the fall, Riley would have been right up there with the top gymnasts contending for a medal," Kalinowski said.

Sophomore Lauren Woelfel hit a clean beam set to finish in 11th place with a 9.125. "Lauren performed a very calm and confident routine and showed no signs of being a rookie to the state meet," Kalinowski said. "We look forward to Lauren building on that performance and returning to the state meet in the future."

The final Bulldog competition was Sophomore Emma Hennessey, who participated on the uneven bars.

"Emma overcame the most adversity at the state meet and showed how much she has grown as a gymnast

and leader this season," Kalinowski said.

According to the coach, during the uneven bar warm-up time, Emma's grip ripped. "While this may seem like nothing to most people, grips take weeks to break in to feel comfortable and make you confident with your swing on bars," Kalinowski



THE BECKER GYMNASTICS TEAM was well-represented at the State Class A Gymnastics Meet this year, as three individuals participated for the Bulldogs. Pictured, from left, Lauren Woelfel, Riley Norberg and Emma Hennessey. (Submitted photo.)

said. "Emma tried using one of her old pairs only to realize she just wasn't comfortable in them to complete her routine."

With no time left in the warm up rotation, Hennessey had to make a decision on what she was going to do for competition. That's where an assist from the Big Lake Hornets came in handy.

"Luckily, a gymnast from Big Lake realized that she had grips very similar to Emma's and wasn't using them," Kalinowski said. "Emma had two warm up turns during the three minute touch to even try the grips and ended up hitting a beautiful routine in the meet to score an 8.65 and a 29th place finish."

Overall, it was an extremely successful overall for Kalinowski and her team.

"We hope to return again next year with some more teammates on the state competition floor," the coach said.

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BIG LAKE GYMNASTICS TEAM TAKES THIRD AT STATE

BIG LAKE'S LOLA VISCI, CHAMPION ON BARS AT STATE (WITH HER PARENTS AMY AND FRED)

BECKER GYMNASTS LAUREN WOELFEL (LEFT, 11TH ON BEAM AT STATE), RILEY NORBERG, (MIDDLE, 22ND ON BEAM AND EIGHTH ON VAULT AT STATE) AND EMMA HENNESSEY (RIGHT, 29TH ON BARS AT STATE)

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## Sports News

Lola Visci brings home first place on bars

## BL Gymnasts take third at state!

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

The Big Lake gymnastics team captured third place in Class A at the state last weekend with Lola Visci being crowned champion of the uneven bars with a 9.600 score.

Watertown-Mayer/Mound-Westonka took first place with a score of 145.750. Mankato West was second with a score of 145.600 and Big Lake third with a score of 145.000.

The rest of the field was, New London-Spicer (142.125), Worthington (141.950), Detroit Lakes (140.575), Mahtomedi (139.850) and Byron (137.725).

Big Lake scored 36.425 on vault, 35.100 on bars, 36.500 on beam and 36.975 on floor.

In the all-around, Visci finished fifth with a score of 37.2875 while teammate Britney Krumrei took third with a score of 37.5375.

Reagan Kelley of Watertown took first with a



BIG LAKE SOPHOMORE GYMNAST LOLA VISCI had the top score of 9.5750 on uneven bars at state last weekend. Above, she poses with her proud parents, Amy and Fred. (Submitted Photo).

score of 38.4250.

On floor, Krumrei finished fifth with a score of 9.4750. Allie Goracke took 16th with a score of 9.2500. Kennadie Ell took 30th with a score of 9.0875 and Visci took 38th with a score of 8.9875. First place was

captured by Anna Mielke of Watertown with a score of 9.6375.

On beam, Visci took sixth with a score of 9.3375. Ell was right behind her at seventh with a score of 9.3000. Krumrei took 13th with a score of

9.1500. Reagan Kelley of Watertown took first with a score of 9.7125.

On bars, Visci brought home the title with a 9.5750 score and she was followed by Krumrei in sixth with a score of 9.3625.

On vault, Krumrei captured fifth place with a score of 9.5500. Visci took 15th with a score of 9.3875.



THE 2022 BIG LAKE GYMNASTICS TEAM posed with their coaches and the third place trophy following competition at the state tournament in Minneapolis last weekend. Top, the girls from both Becker and Big Lake pose together after competition to demonstrate remarkable sportsmanship. (Submitted Photo).

## Hornet wrestlers fall to Becker in section finals

By Ken Francis,  
Contributing Writer

The Big Lake wrestling team reached the Section 6AA finals but lost in the championship round to Becker, 45-21 Friday at the Big Lake gym.

The Hornets started out well, winning four of the first five matches.

At 106, Ivan Lapointe defeated Bennett Kujawa, 9-4.

Cash Sixberry edged Kaden Nicolas, 8-7 at 113 before Becker's Landen Kujawa beat Cash Stortz by technical fall, 20-5.

At 126, reigning state champ Christian Noble pinned Drew May at 3:20, and Nolan Reiter pinned Ryan Boecker at 3:48 at 132 to give the Hornets an 18-5 lead.

But Big Lake won only one match the rest of the way, a 13-6 decision by Johnathon Murphy over Ryan Nelson at 170, and Becker went on to win the title.

The Hornets reached the

finals by beating Princeton, 58-12 in the quarterfinals and Annandale-Maple Lake in the semifinals, 56-22.

Against Princeton, the Hornets won 11 of 14 matches. Ivan Lapointe opened at 106 with a pin of Levi Thompson at 3:55.

At 113, Cash Sixberry won by injury default over Brenden Marstein.

Cash Stortz beat Timothy Kohl, 7-2 at 120 and Christian Noble pinned James Kohl at 2:39 to give the Hornets a 21-0 lead.

Princeton's Tyler Wells pinned Dallas Sibbet at 1:29 at 132 for the Tigers' first points of the match.

At 138, Nolan Reiter pinned Devon Bragg at 1:00.

Dillon Browen edged Ethan Ballweber, 3-2 at 145 before Princeton's Noah Vanderbeek took a 5-3 decision over Carson Gellerman at 152.

At 160, Tyler Dehmer pinned Parker Adkins at 1:21.

Johnathon Murphy pinned Riley Paetz-

nick-Huhtala at 0:53 at 170.

At 182, Brett Bordwell beat Bryce Haubenschild by major decision, 16-5.

Princeton's Kaden Olson got his team's final points with a 5-4 decision over Peter Duncombe, 5-4 at 195.

At 220, Rieley Mullen pinned Will Vrchota at 0:39 and Kane Lapointe closed out the match at 285 by pinning Kevin Boeke at 1:28.

Big Lake 56 Annandale/Maple Lake 22 results:

106: Ivan Lapointe (BL) pinned Cassen Brumm at 5:5.

113: Cash Sixberry (BL) pinned Xavier Jones at 1:55.

120: Noah Gindele (AN) over Cash Stortz major decision 11-3.

126: Christian Noble (BL) pinned Ayden Fitzgerald at 1:18.

132: Nolan Reiter (BL) over Mitchell Koss by major decision 10-2.

138: Zack Smith (BL) pinned Cole LaFave at 3:10.

145: Zach Pribyl (AN) pinned Dillon Browen at

5:22.

152: Dante Visci (BL) pinned Shay Mcclory at 1:32.

160: Tyler Dehmer (BL) pinned Jake Vassar at 3:01.

170: Johnathon Murphy (BL) beat Carson Cooper by major decision, 19-6.

182: Alex Klatt (AN) pinned Brett Bordwell at 3:41.

195: Peter Duncombe (BL) pinned Riley Hall at 3:51.

220: Nathan Klatt (AN) pinned Rieley Mullen at 0:52.

285: Kane Lapointe (BL) pinned James Meumissen at 1:43.

The Hornets are competing in the Section 6AA individual tournament this Friday and Saturday (Feb. 25 & 26). The top two finishers in each weight class qualify for the state meet.

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And to ALL the athletes for their hard work & dedication this season!

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## Local man attempting to break world snowmobiling record

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

Becker/Big Lake area resident Willie Ewing, owner of the Shock Shop in Becker, will be attempting to break the Guinness World Record March 8 for most miles driven on a snowmobile by a single rider in 24 hours. Ewing will be attempting this in order to raise money to send underprivileged kids to Bible Camp.

### Snowmobiling

Ewing was introduced to snowmobiling when he was only seven years old by his dad. His cousin, Darcy Ewing, was the one who really encouraged him to get into the hobby.

Darcy Ewing was a professional snowmobile racer, and was the one who originally had the idea to try for the world record. Unfortunately, he lost his life in a traffic accident (not snowmobile-related).

So Willie Ewing decided to go for the record instead. He will be driving a 2022 Arctic Cat Turbo 4-stroke Thundercat, which the Ewing family has named "ThunderOne." The sled was donated to the cause by Thomas Sno Sports in Ogilvie.

Ewing and his family and friends have been planning this ride for three years, and have come up with many precautions to make sure Ewing stays safe. First, Ewing has cut off his caffeine intake, so his tolerance will be way down, and the caffeine will hit that much harder when he needs it. Next, Ewing will be in constant radio contact with his crew, to make sure he is awake and doing well. Ewing's crew will also be walking the trail to make sure there is no wildlife or debris on the trail. A NASCAR-style pit crew will make sure Ewing's



**THE EWINGS.** Willie Ewing showed off the sleds which he will use to attempt to break the world record for number of miles driven on a snowmobile in 24 hours. He is pictured here with his wife, Rebecca, and daughter, Mariah. The sled he plans to use, a 2022 Arctic Cat Thundercat named ThunderOne, is pictured on the left. To the right is a backup machine, in case of mechanical failure. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

machine is good to go. Most of the time, Ewing will be driving over 100 mph, from March 8 at noon to March 9 at noon.

Ewing originally planned to ride at Grand Marias, but is looking at other options currently, as those who manage the trail were concerned that recent weather has made the track unsuitable for the long ride. The event will be open to the public to come watch.

"We are hoping to set the number [of miles run] high enough to where nobody will even want to attempt this record," Ewing stated.

### Bible Camp

Willie's wife, Rebecca Ewing, has volunteered with Living Word Bible Camp for many years, originally volunteering as a young adult, and then doing so again when her daughter was old enough to go.

The camp is held in week-long sessions for six weeks during the summer. All the staff are volunteers, in order to help keep the price down. This way, the camp is able to offer scholarships

to those students who would otherwise be unable to go.

The Ewings like that no kid is turned away due to inability to pay, so they are hoping to raise \$50,000 to donate to the camp in order to allow as many kids to attend as possible.

Rebecca Ewing stated the camp was formed and run by one family. They used to rent the space for the camp, but now, after fighting hard, have gotten a permanent location in Grand Rapids, on a beautiful setting on a lake.

Rebecca said that many parents are hesitant to send their kids away for the week-long camp, assuming their kids aren't ready to be away that long, but assures nervous parents that the kids have a blast.

"The kids don't want to go home at the end," she said. "It's the parents who miss their kids. It can be hard to be away from them!"

Activities include swimming, kickball, and other fun activities that keep the kids busy all day and leave them exhausted at night. They

don't even miss their electronics!

"It's a great camp with great teachings," Rebecca said. "And kids need as much hope as they can get these days."

### Sponsors

The Ewings wanted to thank the sponsors who have donated money or equipment to the cause (equipment used during the run will be sold after the fact to continue to raise money for the camp.)

Sponsors include: Thomas Sno Sports, Arctic Cat, The Shock Shop, FXR, Rox Speed FX, Arrow Components, Rugged Radios, and C-Tec 4.

Anyone interested in donating can visit [1Day4Kids.com](http://1Day4Kids.com).

## Becker grad, Rositas, breaks state deadlifting record

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

Max Rositas, a graduate of the Becker High School Class of 2021, recently broke the state powerlifting record, in the deadlift category.

Rositas said that he got into powerlifting when his friend encouraged him to give it a try, and he has been practicing the sport for the last two years. He has only been to two meets in the sport, the second, and most recent, meet taking place during the last week of January. Rositas competed in the 18/19 age category and broke the state record, landing him a place at the national competition.

The National Competition will take place July 8 in Las Vegas. Rositas says he is looking forward to training for the meet and improving his skills, and looking forward to training for next year's competition as well.

"It's a sport that I enjoy, and I can improve a lot," said Rositas. He went on to state that he aims to land a spot on Team USA and compete internationally someday.

In the meantime, Rositas, fresh out of high school, is still living with his parents as he pursues an Associate's Degree in arts at St. Cloud Tech. He also works part time at the Jimmy John's in Monticello.



**MAX ROSITAS**, Becker High School graduate, recently broke the deadlifting record for Minnesota. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

### WOODPECKERS from page 8

The tail plays a crucial role in clinging to the side of a tree. The feet are only two legs of the tripod that the woodpecker needs to cling to a vertical surface. The tail is the third leg and is absolutely essential. They push so hard on the tail that the feathers often bend under the pressure.

The fact that woodpeckers excavate holes in trees is totally amazing. What is even more amazing is that they excavate these cavities with their face. Seriously, they use their beak, which would be comparable to our teeth, to chisel holes in trees. If you don't think this is amazing, I challenge you to pick up a piece of firewood and excavate a hole in it with any part of your own body.

Sure, excavating holes in trees is amazing but taking it one step further, they do this without suffering any brain injury (concussion). Studies shows that on average a woodpecker pecks or drums on the hard surface of a tree about 12,000 strikes per day. That's a lot of impacts for the brain to endure every day. So how do they accomplish this without damaging their brain? As are most things in nature, it's a combination of factors.

First, the brain of the woodpecker has a smooth surface which allows for more contact with the inside of the skull. This might seem counter intuitive but having a brain that sloshes

around the skull isn't good for high impacts. Woodpeckers have extraordinarily little space between the skull and brain, called the subdural space, and therefore don't have much cerebrospinal fluid, unlike our own skull and brain. Again, this helps to stabilize the brain within the skull.

The bill of the bird is located in a position that allows the maximum force from the impact to be concentrated just below the brain. Woodpeckers also have tongues so long that the tongue leaves the mouth of the bird and wraps around the outside of the skull helping to also cushion the brain.

The size of a woodpecker's brain is relatively small, and therefore doesn't have a lot of mass. Since the brain is lightweight, it doesn't build up enough force to cause damage to the brain upon impact. Woodpeckers also have a small cushion-like material between the bill and skull which helps to absorb each impact. All these things add up to a woodpecker who doesn't get a concussion when it bangs its face against a tree.

This is just the beginning of how different woodpeckers are from other birds. Anyway, this is why I find myself sitting in sub zero temperatures just to capture a few images of the amazing woodpeckers. Until next time...

Stan Tekiela is an author/naturalist and wildlife photographer who travels the U.S. to study and capture images and video of wildlife. He can be followed on [Instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com/stan.tekiela), [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/stan.tekiela), and [Twitter.com](https://twitter.com/stan.tekiela). He can be contacted via his web page at [www.NatureSmart.com](http://www.NatureSmart.com).



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# Public Notices

## Township Public Notices

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS 2022 Bituminous Overlays TOWN OF BIG LAKE, SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that SEALED Bid Proposal Packages will be received by the Township at the Township Hall until 10:00 AM on the 9th of March 2022.

The Major Quantities of Work are:

2221.509	SHOULDER BASE AGGREGATE CLASS 6B	TON	282
2232.504	MILL BITUMINOUS SURFACE	SQ YD	1298
2360.509	TYPE SP 9.5 WEARING COURSE MIXTURE (2,B) 1.5"	TON	11044
2574.507	TOPSOIL BORROW (P)	CU YD	1400
2575.508	HYDRAULIC MULCH MATRIX	POUND	6940

**Receipt of Bid Proposal:** Bids will be received at the Township Hall Located at **21960 CR 5, Big Lake, MN 55309 until 10:00 AM on the 9th of March 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 **21960 CR 5, Big Lake, MN 55309.**

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](mailto: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 9th, 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.

**Brenda Kimberly-Maas**, Township Clerk

**Town of Big Lake, Sherburne County, MN**

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/19/22; 02/26/22).

## DEADLINES

Notices &  
Legals  
Wednesdays  
At Noon  
Contact Kathy:  
**763-275-0275**  
or Email:

[legals.kathy@](mailto:legals.kathy@patriotnewsmn.com)

[patriotnewsmn.com](http://patriotnewsmn.com)

**PATRIOT**  
[WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM](http://WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM)

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS 2022 SEAL COAT FOR ORROCK TOWNSHIP SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bids for the construction of 2022 Seal Coat will be received online through QuestCDN vBid™ until Monday, March 21, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. local time. Immediately following expiration of the time for receiving Bids, representatives of Orrock Township will publicly view Bids at the Township Hall located at 26401 180th Street NW, Big Lake, MN 55309. The as-read online Bid results will be available at [www.questcdn.com](http://www.questcdn.com) following the Bid opening.

The Project includes the furnishing of all labor and materials for the construction complete in-place, of the following approximate quantities:

900	RDST	Rout and Seal Bituminous Pavement Cracks
245,000	S Y	Bituminous Seal Coat
70,000	GAL	Bituminous Material for Seal Coat

The provisions of MINN. STAT. 16C.285 Responsible Contractor are imposed as a requirement of this contract. All bidders and persons or companies providing a response/submission to the Advertisement for Bids of Orrock Township shall comply with the provisions of the statute.

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at [www.questcdn.com](http://www.questcdn.com). Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the website for a nonrefundable fee of \$45 by inputting Quest project #8089118 on the website's Project Search page.

The website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the website [www.questcdn.com](http://www.questcdn.com). Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from other sources.

Bids will only be accepted via the electronic bidding service through QuestCDN.

The Township Board reserves the right to reject any and all Bids and to waive any Bids received without explanation. No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days.

For all further requirements regarding Bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

DATED: January 26, 2022

BY THE ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

/s/ Chris Weber

Clerk

Orrock Township

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22).

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS 2022 STREET IMPROVEMENTS FOR ORROCK TOWNSHIP SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bids for the construction of 2022 Street Improvements will be received online through QuestCDN vBid™ until Monday, March 21, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. local time. Immediately following expiration of the time for receiving Bids, representatives of Orrock Township will publicly view Bids at the Township Hall located at 26401 180th Street NW, Big Lake, MN 55309. The as-read online Bid results will be available at [www.questcdn.com](http://www.questcdn.com) following the Bid opening.

The Project includes the furnishing of all labor and materials for the construction complete in-place, of the following approximate quantities:

200	TON	Aggregate Surfacing
700	TON	Type SP 4.75 Bit Mix for Tight Blade Lev
1,950	TON	Type SP 12.5 Wearing Course Mix (3,B)
100	C Y	Common Topsoil Borrow
1	ACRE	Seeding

The provisions of MINN. STAT. 16C.285 Responsible Contractor are imposed as a requirement of this contract. All bidders and persons or companies providing a response/submission to the Advertisement for Bids of Orrock Township shall comply with the provisions of the statute.

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at [www.questcdn.com](http://www.questcdn.com). Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the website for a nonrefundable fee of \$45 by inputting Quest project #8089119 on the website's Project Search page.

The website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the website [www.questcdn.com](http://www.questcdn.com). Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from other sources.

Bids will only be accepted via the electronic bidding service through QuestCDN.

The Township Board reserves the right to reject any and all Bids and to waive any Bids received without explanation. No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days.

For all further requirements regarding Bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

DATED: January 26, 2022

BY THE ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

/s/ Chris Weber

Clerk

Orrock Township

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22).

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Santiago Township, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, for the Annual Election of Town Officers. The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 8, 2022. In case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed until the third Tuesday of March.

The Election Poll hours will be from 10am-8pm, at which time the voters will elect:

- One Town Supervisor - 3 year term.
- One Clerk- 2 year term.

The Annual Meeting will start at 8:01pm to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law.

The Annual Election and Meeting will be held at the Santiago Town Hall 16943- 20th St. Santiago, Minnesota.

The Santiago Township Board of Canvass will immediately follow the adjournment of the Annual Meeting.

Dated – January 11, 2022

Kathy Woolard, Clerk  
Township of Santiago

The Clerk's Office, 16943- 20th St. Santiago, Minnesota, will be open Saturday, March 6, 2022- from 10am – 12pm for absentee voting.

Public accuracy testing to be March 6, 2022 – at 9:00 am at the town hall, 16943- 20th Street, Santiago, MN. 55377  
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22; 03/05/22).

### TOWN OF BECKER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Becker Township Planning Commission will hold its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2022 at Becker Town Hall, 12165 Hancock Street. The Planning Commission will hold the following public hearing:

**7:01 p.m. Xcel Energy, applicant, and various property owners along County Road 11, south of Highway 10.** Xcel Energy has applied for a conditional use permit to rebuild the existing 69 kV transmission line between Becker and Monticello. The existing alignment will be shifting to 3-5 feet outside the County Road 11 ROW and onto private property. Private properties impacted in Becker Township are:

#### Parcel Identification Owner

05-022-2100 Ewing Properties, LLC

05-022-2405 PETERSON, D & PETERSON LEGACY ACRES

05-022-3101 PETERSON, D & PETERSON LEGACY ACRES

05-022-3107 PETERSON, D & PETERSON LEGACY ACRES

05-022-3108 PETERSON LEGACY ACRES LP

05-022-3308 Warren and Gloria Olson  
05-406-0145 Tonetta Hardekopf  
05-406-0150 Tony & Michelle Lavrenz  
05-406-0160 Melanie D. Thuftedal and Mark S. Thuftedal  
05-406-0105 Kyle D. Erickson  
05-407-0140 Edwin P. and Regan M. Hillukka  
05-407-0230 Phil & Paula Hoglund  
05-422-0105 Ryan D. Proell  
05-422-0110 Ronald L. & Rochelle R. Kasper  
05-422-0115 Scott A. & Gayle L. Dahlke  
05-421-0105 Daniel Flynn & Kelly Holthaus  
05-421-0110 Gregory & Deborah C. Dahlheimer  
05-421-0115 Reid & Rebecca Brown  
05-421-0305 Michael D. & Natalie R. Walker  
05-421-0335 Jarryd C. & Casey A. Loyd  
05-421-0340 Christopher & Kimberly Lommel

#### Parcel location

S22, T33, R28 - N 1-2 OF NW 1-4 SUBJ TO EASEMENT

DESC AS PARCEL 26 SHERB CTY ROW PLAT 51

S22, T33, R28 - S 1-2 OF NW 1-4 SUBJ TO EASEMENT

DESC AS PARCEL 25 SHERB CTY ROW PLAT 51

S22, T33, R28 - N 1-2 OF N 1-2 OF SW 1-4 SUBJ TO EASEMENT DESC AS PARCEL 22 SHERB CTY ROW PLAT 51

S22, T33, R28 - S 1-2 OF N 1-2 OF SW 1-4 EX E 625 FT & S 1-2 OF SW 1-4 EX S 1280 FT & EX E 545 FT. SUBJ TO EASEMENT DESC AS PARCEL 21 SHERB CTY ROW PLAT 51

S22, T33, R28 - S 1280 FT OF S 1-2 OF SW 1-4 LYING E OF CENTER LINE OF CSAH NO 11 EX S 525 FT & E 545 FT OF S 1-2 OF SW 1-4. SUBJ TO EASEMENT DESC AS PARCEL 20 SHERB CTY ROW PLAT 51

16501 166th St. Big Lake, MN 55309  
16703 169th Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
16708 169th Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
16870 169th Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
16881 169th Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17012 170th St. SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17045 170th St SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17104 172nd Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17122 172nd Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17152 172nd Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17190 172nd Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17224 172nd Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17256 172nd Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17159 173rd Ave SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17454 County Rd 50 SE Big Lake, MN 55309  
17540 County Rd 50 SE Big Lake, MN 55309

Anyone interested in this request is encouraged to attend in person or via zoom and comment at the Public Hearing. If you have questions regarding the request please contact Lucinda Messman at Becker Township Hall, 12165 Hancock Street, Becker, MN, 763-261-5301. If you are unable to attend please provide written comment to Lucinda Messman at P.O. Box 248, Becker, MN 55308 or by email to [lucinda@beckertownship.org](mailto:lucinda@beckertownship.org) by 4:00 p.m., March 14, 2022.

Lucinda Messman

Clerk, Becker Township

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22).

### BIG LAKE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

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

The Annual Town Meeting will commence at 6:00PM on Tuesday, March 08, 2022. The meeting will be held at the Big Lake Township town hall – 21960 County Road 5, Big Lake, MN 55309 (Big Lake Township's Lions Park).

The purpose of the meeting is to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law and for the electorate to set 2023 Big Lake Township tax levies.

In case of severe weather, the Annual Meeting may be postponed until Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 6:00PM.

/s/ Brenda Kimberly-Maas

Clerk, Town of Big Lake

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22).

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS PALMER TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Palmer Township, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022. In case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed until the third Tuesday in March.

The Election Poll hours will be open from 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. March 8, 2022, at which time the voters will elect:

**One Supervisor to fill the office for a three-year term currently being held by Michael Ganz.**

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

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

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

The Board of Canvass will meet following the Annual Meeting.

Amy Bragelman

Palmer Township Clerk

February 15, 2022

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22; 03/05/22).

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

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Clear Lake Township, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8th, 2022 at the Clear Lake Township Hall at: 7938 116th St. SE, Clear Lake, MN. In case of inclement weather, the election and meeting may be postponed until Tuesday, March 15th, 2022. The election polls will be open on Tuesday, March 8th from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm at which time the voters will elect:

Supervisor C (3-year term),

The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:05 pm to conduct all necessary business as required by law. The Board of Canvas Meeting will be meeting March 8th, 2022 at Clear Lake Town Hall at: 7938 116th St. SE, Clear Lake, MN Following the Annual Meeting. Nancy Betzler

Clear Lake Township Clerk

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/19/22; 02/26/22).

### Lynden Township Stearns County, State of Minnesota

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Lynden Township, County of Stearns, State of Minnesota, the annual election of town officers and the annual meeting will be held Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at the Lynden Township Town Hall, 21367 Co. Rd. 44, Clearwater, MN 55320. In the case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed until the third Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

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

The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:15 p.m. to conduct all necessary business as prescribed by law. Social Distancing and masks or face shields will be required.

The Board of Canvass will meet on March 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to certify the official election results.

Jenny Schmidt

Lynden Township Clerk

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/19/22; 02/26/22).

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS BECKER TOWNSHIP, SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The Citizens of the Township of Becker, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, who are qualified to vote at General Elections, are hereby notified that the Annual Township Election and Meeting for said Township will be held at the American Legion Post 193, 12155 Hancock St., Becker, MN on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, for the following purposes:

To elect Town Supervisor Seat Three for a term of three (3) years

Election poll hours will be **10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.** on said day. In case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed until the third Tuesday, March 15, 2022. If inclement weather also postpones the election and meeting on the third Tuesday, the Town Board shall set a date within the following thirty days.

The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:01 p.m. to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law. The Annual Meeting will be held at the Becker Township Hall, 12165 Hancock Street (next door to the American Legion).

The Board of Canvass will meet on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, immediately following the annual meeting.

The Township office will be open on Saturday, March 5, 2022 from 10:00 to Noon for absentee voting.

Accuracy Testing will take place on Saturday, March 5, 2022 at 11:00 am.

February 16, 2022

Lucinda Messman, Clerk

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/19/22; 02/26/22).

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of the Town of Orrock, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 7:00 PM at the Orrock Town Hall, 26401 – 180th St. NW, Big Lake, MN 55309

In case of severe weather, which warrants the closing of schools in Big Lake, the meeting may be postponed until Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 7:00 PM.

/s/ Chris Weber

Orrock Township Clerk

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/19/22; 02/26/22).

**ANNOUNCE YOUR FREE EVENT!**

**Deadline is  
Wednesday by Noon**  
**Email your event listing to**  
**[legals.kathy@patriotnewsmn.com](mailto:legals.kathy@patriotnewsmn.com)**

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# Public Notices

## City Public Notices

### CITY COUNCIL CITY OF CLEARWATER ORDINANCE NO. 2022-02

#### AMENDING PART I, CHAPTER 31, ARTICLE II – SALES AND USE TAX, EXCISE TAX OF THE CLEARWATER CITY CODE

THE CITY OF CLEARWATER HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

**City Code Section 31-19, Definitions is hereby amended as follows:**

Act means Laws of Minn. 2008, chapter 366, article 7, §19, *subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 2011, First Special Session chapter 7, article 4, section 8, and further amended by Laws 2013, chapter 143, article 8, section 49.*

**City Code Section 31-20, Authority is hereby amended as follows:**

The Minnesota Legislature has, by the Act, authorized the city to impose a one-half percent sales and use tax and an excise tax of \$20.00 per motor vehicle. *The proceeds of the taxes authorized by the Act shall be used to pay for the costs of improvements to the Sportsman Park/Ballfields, Riverside Park, Lions Park/Pavilion, Cedar South Park also known as Eldorado Park, and Spring Street Park; improvements to and extension of the River County Bike Trail; acquisition, and construction, improvement, and development of regional parks, bicycle trails, park land, open space, and of a pedestrian walkways, as described in the city improvement plan adopted by the city council by resolution on December 12, 2006, and walkway over Interstate 94 and State Highway 24; and the acquisition of land and construction of buildings for a community and recreation center. The total amount of revenues from the taxes used to fund these projects is \$12,000,000 plus any associated bond costs.*

**Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and summary publication, which is hereby authorized by the City Council.

ADOPTED THIS 14th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Andrea Lawrence Wheeler, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Annita M. Smythe, City Administrator

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22).

### City of Clearwater Public Hearing Notice Wellhead Protection Plan Amendment

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Clearwater City Council will conduct a Public Hearing during the regular City Council meeting on Monday, March 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Clearwater City Hall, 605 County Rd 75, Clearwater, Minnesota, to discuss amendments to the city's Wellhead Protection Plan.

The city is in the process of developing a Wellhead Protection Plan amendment for its drinking water supply wells as required in the Minnesota Wellhead Protection Rule (part 4720.5350, subparts 1-3). A copy of this document is available at City Hall for your review. Consistent with the Wellhead Protection Rule (part 4720.5350, subpart 4), this Public Hearing has been scheduled to discuss issues and address all comments related to the document.

If you wish to address the City Council regarding the proposed amendment, please plan to attend the Public Hearing, or you may submit your written comments prior to the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to [asmmythe@clearwatercity.com](mailto:asmmythe@clearwatercity.com) or mailed to PO Box 9, Clearwater, MN 55320.

Annita M. Smythe

City Administrator

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22; 03/05/22).

### Public Hearing Clear Lake City Council Monday, March 7, 2022 7:00 P.M. Clear Lake City Hall

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Clear Lake City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday March 7, 2022, at 7 P.M. at the Clear Lake City Hall, 7684 1st Ave West, for the purpose of rezoning of the presented preliminary plat for the Arnolds First Addition

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Clear Lake City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday March 7, 2022, shortly after the first public hearing at the Clear Lake City Hall, 7684 1st Ave West, for the purpose of discussing/reviewing and approval of the preliminary plat for the Arnolds First Addition

Dated this 14th day of February, 2022.

By /s/ Kari Koren, City Clerk/Treasurer

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22).



## Big Lake Police Department - Calls for Service – Jail Bookings Feb. 14, 2022 - Feb. 20, 2022

**Call for Service Summary:** Total Calls for Service for Week: 191; 2022 Calls for Service: 1,139; Traffic Stops/Enforcement: 55; Citations: 26; Arrests: 4; Medical Emergency Calls: 10; Mental Health/Check Welfare: 6; Civil Mediation (Child Custody-Property): 6

**BLPD Arrests:** Aaron Wherley – (Age 40 – Big Lake, MN) – DWI; Sydnee Moser – (Age 31 – Big Lake, MN) – Domestic; Scott Paulson – (Age 53 – Zimmerman, MN) – Warrant; Justin Anderson – (Age 43 – Anoka, MN) – Warrant

**Sun, Feb. 20, 2022:** 100 blk Eagle Lk Rd N – Vehicle off Road – Vehicle stuck on a snowbank next to a business driveway. A tow assisted the vehicle. The driver's license was revoked. A citation was issued; Lagoon Ave – Traffic Complaint – Vehicles speeding. An officer monitored the area for conduct; Pleasant Ave – Suspicious Activity – Shadows of people behind a residence. Officers checked. No problems found; Mitchell Rd – Hit and Run – Vehicle struck while parked in a driveway. Investigation ongoing; Station St – Domestic Disturbance – Officers mediated a verbal domestic; Station St – 911 Hang Up – Call from a building phone. No problems located; Lake St/Norwood Dr – Traffic Stop – Contact for registration violation. Revoked driver, odor of marijuana, no insurance, open bottle, drug paraphernalia. Vehicle towed. Citation issued; Powell St – Domestic Disturbance – Officers mediated a domestic and parties separated; Oregon Ave – Fraud – Report taken of credit card/online account fraud; Station St – Suspicious Vehicle – Vehicle parked in a lot with the driver's door open and no one around. The officer contacted the owner. No issues; Independence/Harrison – Traffic Stop – Contact for license issue. Revoked driver and no insurance. Citation issued; City Wide – Parking – Officers enforced winter parking. Eleven citations issued.

**Sat., Feb. 19, 2022:** Sterling Dr – Harassment – Officers investigated verbal harassment between parties; Hwy 10/County 81 – DWI – Vehicle in the ditch. Caller believed driver was impaired. Officers responded and conducted a DWI investigation. The driver was arrested for DWI. Booked into Sherburne County Jail; Pond View Dr – Juvenile Complaint – Report of disorderly juvenile. Officers mediated.; Rose Dr – Found Property – Officer attempted to contact the owner. Item brought to the PD for safe keeping; 168th St/Hwy 10 – Warrant Arrest – Vehicle registration showed the owner had a warrant. A traffic stop was conducted. The owner was contacted. The warrant was confirmed. The party was booked into Sherburne Jail; City Wide – Parking – Officers enforced winter parking. Six citations issued; Hwy 10/County 17 – Traffic Stop – Vehicle stopped for

registration and equipment. Odor of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia in view. A search produced substance and drug paraphernalia. Citation issued.

**Fri., Feb. 18, 2022:** Lake St S/Pleasant Ave – Traffic Stop – Vehicle stopped for equipment. Odor of marijuana. A search produced substance and paraphernalia. Citation issued; Euclid Ave – Trespassing – Officer requested to have a party leave a property. The officer assisted in getting the party gas for their vehicle and the party left; County 43/Hwy 10 – Vehicle Crash – Report of a vehicle crash with no injuries. Information exchanged and report completed; Martin Ave – Abandoned Vehicle



– A business called on a damaged vehicle that was parked for several days in their lot. An officer assisted contacting the owner to have the vehicle moved; Aberdeen Way – Agency Assist – Officer assisted Sherburne Deputies on a warrant attempt; Leighton Dr – Agency Assist – Officer assisted Sherburne Deputies with a warrant attempt; Mitchell Rd – Agency Assist – Officer assisted Sherburne Deputies with a warrant attempt; Hwy 10/Lakeshore Dr – Traffic Stop – Vehicle stopped for equipment. Driver was revoked. Citation issued.

**Thurs., Feb. 17, 2022:** Lake St N – Public Assist – Request for an officer to help with a key that would not unlock the door to the house. The officer found damage that prevented the key from working; Helen Way – Civil Standby – Officer requested to standby while party obtained property; High School – Community Policing – Officers assisted sending-off the girls' gymnastics team; Fern St – Agency Assist – Officer requested to accompany Sherburne Health and Human Services on a home visit; Leighton Dr – Property Damage – Report taken of damage to property; Kilbirnie Rd – Animal Call – Dog barking. Contact made at residence to correct issue; Hwy 10/Lake St – Vehicle

Crash – Crash with injury. Officers assisted State Patrol.

**Wed., Feb. 16, 2022:** Independence Dr – Fire Call – Smoke alarm sounding. Officers assisted in changing battery; Lakeshore Dr – Lift Assist – Officers called to lift a party that fell into the snow; Adams St – Burglary – Party reported property was taken from his residence while he was away for several months. Prior contact showed the party was evicted several months prior; Harrison Dr – Drug Complaint – Report of marijuana smell from a residence.

**Tues., Feb. 15, 2022:** Pond View Cir – Juvenile Complaint – Officers taking a runaway report when juvenile was located; County 81/204th Ave – Animal Call – Dog running loose in the road. Officer checked the area; Helen Way – Domestic Assault – Officers dispatched to a domestic disturbance. An individual was assaulted. Suspect was arrested and booked into Sherburne Jail for Domestic Assault; Park Ave – Agency Assist – Request to contact party regarding a gas drive-off in Iowa; Hwy 25 – Agency Assist – Officers assisted Sherburne Deputies with a party braking into a house. The party was detained. An ambulance was requested to transport the party for possible medical emergency; County 17/Hwy 10 – Agency Assist – Officers assisted Sherburne Deputies on a possible injury crash. Two vehicles in the ditch to pull out. No injuries. One party transported home; Lee St – Agency Assist – Accompanied a Sherburne Deputy on a civil process; Jefferson Blvd – Traffic Stop – Vehicle stopped for registration violation. Driver was revoked. Citation issued.

**Mon., Feb. 14, 2022:** Minnesota Ave – Vehicle Crash – Two vehicle crash. Information gathered; Station St – Domestic Disturbance – Officers mediated a verbal domestic. Parties separated; Mount Curve Ave – Harassment – Officer took a report of harassment; Driftwood Cir – Littering – Party in a vehicle throwing small books onto driveways. Unable to locate; Powell St/Glenwood Ave – Domestic Disturbance – Officers mediated a verbal domestic with a juvenile that exited a vehicle; 198th Ave – Fire Call – Fire alarm. False alarm from a sensor that tripped; 100 blk Eagle Lk Rd N – Fraud – Report taken of fraud through a Facebook Marketplace sale. Investigation ongoing; Hill St – Harassment – Report taken of harassment. Discussed options; Station St – Juvenile Complaint – Juvenile did not want to go to school. Handled by phone; Eagle Lk Rd S – Trespass – Request for officers to have a party leave a residence. Officers assisted in getting the party to a safe location.

### CITY COUNCIL CITY OF CLEARWATER ORDINANCE 2022-03 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTERS 22 AND 26 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING POSSESSION AND DISCHARGE OF WEAPONS ON CITY PROPERTY

The City Council of the City of Clearwater ordains as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 22 of the City Code is amended by adding a new Article III titled "Discharge of Weapons on City Property" as follows:

ARTICLE III. - WEAPONS DISCHARGE ON CITY PROPERTY

**Sec. 22-32. - Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Public property* means any city park, right-of-way, or any other real property owned by the City of Clearwater.

*Right-of-way* means land acquired by reservation or dedication intended for public use, and intended to be occupied or which is occupied by a street, trail, railroad, utility lines, oil or gas pipeline, water line, sanitary sewer, storm sewer or other similar uses.

*Weapon* means any device from which shot or a projectile of any type can be discharged by means of an explosive, gas or compressed air or otherwise propelled, including, but not limited to, firearms, bb guns, bows and arrows, slings, spring guns, pistols, semiautomatic military-style assault weapon, or any other device capable of injuring or killing a human being.

**Sec. 22-33. - General discharge prohibition.**

Except as provided in Section 22-34, no person shall fire or discharge, or cause to be fired or discharged, any weapon on any public property within the corporate limits of the city.

**Sec. 22-34. - Exceptions.**

Excepted from the provisions of Section 22-33 shall be the following:

- (1) Discharge of any firearms by duly authorized peace officers or military authorities.
- (2) Discharge of a firearm when done in lawful defense of their person or property or family.
- (3) Discharge of a bow and arrow on a recognized archery range or discharge of a bow and arrow under a program supervised by school or public officials.
- (4) Discharge of a firearm at a publicly owned or managed shooting range.
- (5) Discharge of a firearm pursuant to state or federal law authorizing such discharge.

Section 2. Section 26-19 of the City Code is amended by adding the double-underlined language and deleting the stricken language to the definition of "weapon" as follows:

Weapon means any device from which shot or a projectile of any type can be discharged by means of an explosive, gas or compressed air or otherwise propelled, including, but not limited to, firearms, bb guns, bows and arrows, slings, and spring guns, pistols, semiautomatic military-style assault weapon, or any other device capable of injuring or killing a human being.

Section 3. Section 26-26(6) of the City Code is amended by adding the double-underlined language and deleting the stricken language to the definition of "weapon" as follows:

**Sec. 26-22. - Protection of natural resources and wildlife.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- (1) Kill, trap, hunt, pursue or in any manner disturb or cause to be disturbed any species of wildlife within a park, except that fishing by angling only may be permitted in designated areas.
- (2) Shoot any weapon into a park from beyond park boundaries.
- (3) Bring a dog, cat, or other pet into a park unless caged or kept on a leash not more than six feet in length, or tether any animal to a tree or other plant.
- (4) Except as otherwise authorized by law, permit a dog, cat or other pet to enter a nature center area, refuge area, picnic area, park building, or other unauthorized area within a park or any park where their presence is prohibited.
- (5) Permit a dog, cat, or other pet to disturb, harass, or interfere with any park visitor or a park visitor's property.
- (6) Possess any weapon within a park, except for a as follows:
  - (a) A bow and arrow to be used for bowfishing, if the arrows must be are attached to the bow with a tethered line and broadheads must have barbs for bowfishing, as regulated by the DNR and otherwise comply with all applicable bowfishing regulations.
  - (b) Possession of any weapons by duly authorized peace officers or military authorities.
  - (c) Possession of a firearm at a publicly owned or managed shooting range.
  - (d) Possession of a firearm pursuant to a valid permit to carry under Minnesota Statutes, Section 62A.714.
  - (e) Possession of a firearm pursuant to state or federal law authorizing such possession.
- (7) Release within a park any plant, chemical or other agent potentially harmful to the vegetation or wildlife of the park.
- (8) Remove any animal, living or dead, from a park, and any animal so removed or taken contrary to the provisions of this article or laws of the state shall be considered contraband and subject to seizure and confiscation.
- (9) Injure, destroy, or remove any tree, flower, shrub, plant, rock, soil or mineral in a park.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

ADOPTED THIS 14th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Andrea Lawrence Wheeler, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Annita M. Smythe, City Administrator

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/26/22).

## Becker Police Department Activity Report Week of Feb. 14th – Feb. 20th

**14-Feb:** 3 extra patrol, 1 open door, 1 Winter Parking / Admin Citation #3833, 1 Winter Parking / Admin Citation #3834, 1 Winter Parking / Admin Citation #3835, 1 equipment / expired tabs warning, 1 hit and run, 3 speed warning, 4 record check, 1 Permit to Purchase, 4 juvenile concern, 1 fraud complaint, 1 speed Citation #082, 1 speed / stop sign warnings, 1 expired registration Citation #083, 1 miscellaneous public, 1 speed Citation #084

**15-Feb:** 1 alarm, 1 public assist, 1 driving after revocation Citation #085, 3 speed warning, 1 speed Citation #086, 1 speed Citation #087, 1 miscellaneous officer, 1 harassment complaint, 1 public safety, 1 hit and run accident, 1 juvenile concern, 1 record check, 1 agency assist, 1 speed Citation #088, 1 turn signal warning, 1 extra patrol

**16-Feb:** 1 expired registration warning, 1 security check, 3 extra patrol, 5 record check, 1 medical, 1 dog complaint, 1 criminal sexual conduct, 1 expired registration / expired Drivers License warnings, 1 stop sign warning, 1 equipment warning / no proof of insurance Citation #089, 1 fail to display registration warning

**17-Feb:** 1 alarm, 2 extra patrol, 1 vehicle lockout, 1 speed warning, 1 Recreational vehicle permit, 1 permit to purchase, 1 theft, 1 agency assist, 1 speed Citation #090

**18-Feb:** 1 Winter Parking violation / Admin Citation #3836, 1 Winter Parking violation / Admin Citation #3837, 1 medical alarm, 2 record check, 1 expired registration warning, 1 suspicious activity, 1 agency assist, 1 expired registration warning / no proof of insurance Citation #091

**19-Feb:** 1 possession of drug paraphernalia Citation 092, 1 traffic complaint, 1 speed warning, 1 speed Citation #093

**20-Feb:** 2 suspicious vehicle, 1 speed Citation #094, 1 extra patrol, 1 speed citation #095, 1 Winter Parking violation / Admin Citation #3885, 1 security check, 1 speed Citation #096, 1 found property, 2 agency assist, 2 speed warning



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# St. Cloud Airport launches new paid parking system

Submitted article

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

On March 1, 2022 the St. Cloud Regional Airport launches its new paid parking system for on-premise parking in both the paved and gravel overflow parking lots. The cost for long-term on-premises parking is five dollars per 24-hour period.

The change is intended to shift some of the St. Cloud Regional Airport operating expenses from City of St. Cloud property taxes to user fees for those who make use of the Airport facilities.

“We also expect this user fee to help manage capacity in the parking lots during peak travel periods,” said Airport Authority Board Chair Brian Myres.

“This will ensure space is available for those who need it,” continued Myres.

Short term parking will continue to be free at the St. Cloud Regional Airport for up to two hours for meeters and greeters.

“Short term users can park in any of the available spots in both the paved and gravel overflow parking lots,” said Airport Executive Director Bill Towle.

“We still want people to be able to assist those they are bringing to the Airport for a flight, as well as be able to come inside and greet people arriving at the Airport,” said Towle.

The paid parking system is a Pay by Plate parking kiosk, meaning the license plate is the proof of payment. There will be two convenient kiosks: one located outside the terminal building and the other inside the terminal. Pay kiosks, or stations, will be credit card only. Don't forget to remember the license plate number when leaving the vehicle!

The kiosks are easy to use touch screens that

prompt users through the process. Enter the license plate number. Select payment method. Choose length of stay. Users can enter their cell phone numbers to receive an electronic receipt or print a receipt for records. No need to place a receipt on the vehicle dashboard.

The Airport will also be utilizing the Parkmobile parking app, which will allow customers to use their mobile device to pay instead of needing to use a pay kiosk, making the experience even smoother.

Parkmobile is also being used by the City of St. Cloud for parking in ramps and downtown streets, so many customers may already have the app on their mobile device. Parkmobile is easy to use and has great information on their website at *Parkmobile.io*.

Go to the St. Cloud Regional Airport web site at *www.StCloudAirport.com* for additional information.

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REDISTRICTING from page 1

netonka. Previously, those were part of the Third District.

**Shane Mekeland**

The most significant change to the legislative maps in central Minnesota was having most of Benton County, including Foley, Rice, and Gilman go to District 10B. The area was part of Shane Mekeland's 15B.

Mekeland's new district — now titled HD27A — is entirely in Sherburne County.

“I announce that I'm officially running for reelection in what will become House District 27A(currently 15B),” said Mekeland in a statement this week. “While the district has changed a lot, I'm more than honored to earn your support to represent the people of the new HD27A.”

Mekeland is in his second term in the House, he was first elected in 2018. He currently serves on the Climate and Energy Finance and Policy, Higher Education Finance and Policy and Local Government Division committees. Mekeland lives in Clear Lake and is a business owner.

**Andrew Mathews**

Feb. 18 Senator Andrew Mathews (R-Princeton) announced his intention to run in the newly formed Senate District 27.

“After consulting with my family and supporters, I have decided to run for re-election in the newly drawn Senate District 27,” Mathews said. “Representing my constituents across Benton, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Sherburne, and Wright counties has been a tremendous honor. I look forward to continuing to be a strong conservative voice for my constituents both old and new.”

“It is critical our area is represented by someone committed to fighting for Constitutional values and conservative principles, and stand against big government bureaucracy in St. Paul. I am working hard to make sure our streets are safe, the fundamental right of parents to direct the upbringing of their children is respected, and that overtaxed Minnesotans get more of their money back. Our work is not yet finished and therefore I ask for your support.”

“Additionally, thank you to my friend and col-

league Mary Kiffmeyer for her long record as a conservative champion and for her support of my re-election. I have learned a lot from her experience, and I wish her the best as she retires from the Senate.”

Mathews is in his second term at the Senate, he was first elected in 2016. He currently serves as the Chair of the Civil Law Committee. Mathews lives in Princeton with his wife, Elsa, and their son Daniel. They are expecting their second child in July. The newly drawn District 27 encompasses parts of Anoka, Mille Lacs, Isanti, and Sherburne counties.

**Mary Kiffmeyer**

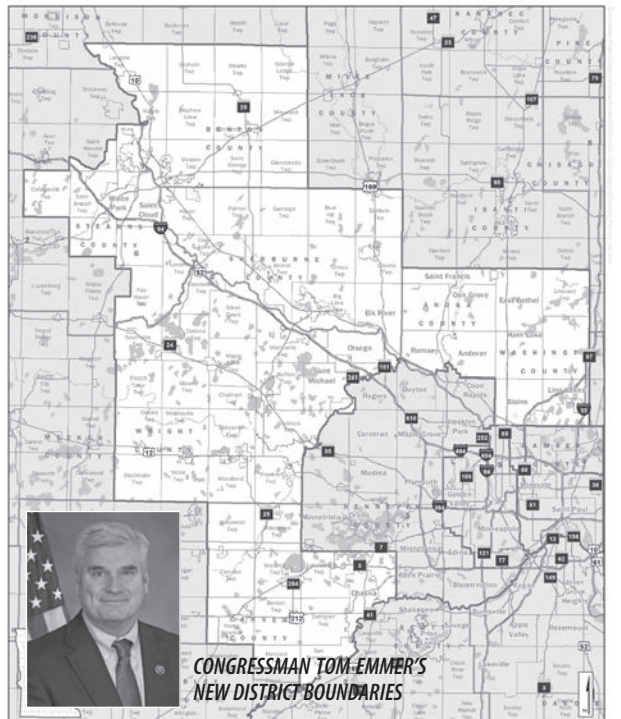
Feb. 17, Minnesota State Senator Mary Kiffmeyer (R-Big Lake) announced she will retire from the State Senate at the end of the year and endorsed fellow Senator Andrew Mathews' (R-Princeton) candidacy for the newly drawn Senate District 27.

“It has been an honor to be in the legislature and represent my constituents and neighbors,” she said. “I worked every day to support the district,” Kiffmeyer said. “I focused on meeting the needs of the region by fighting for millions of dollars to expand I-94, Hwy. 10 and 169, and protecting the state's elections by increasing transparency and integrity in the voting process. My focus was always on helping make Minnesota a great place to live, work, and raise a family. “

“I want to thank the people of my district for their support. I found immense joy in serving and working for them, in fact, it's the people of the district I will miss the most. I also want to thank my husband, Ralph, my children, and grandchildren for their support and encouragement over the years. I could not have done this without them.”

Kiffmeyer was elected to the Senate in 2012 after serving in the house from 2009-2011. She previously served as Secretary of the State from 1999-2006. In her time as Secretary, Minnesota had the highest voter turnout in the nation.

“I've been serving in government for more than 20 years. And it brings me so much joy to meet new people, hear their concerns, and solve problems together,” she continued. “I plan to stay in-



volved in the state's political process to support Republicans at every level. That's why I'm endorsing my friend and colleague Senator Andrew Mathews for the newly formed Senate District 27. Andrew is a fantastic Senator and will serve the district well with his conservative values, his care for his constituents, and his incredible work ethic.”

**Jim Newberger**

Speculation has arisen as to whether former State Representative Jim Newberger will run for office following a retirement from the political realm when he lost a bid to unseat Amy Klobuchar as a U.S. Senator. He issued a statement last Saturday that he is indeed seeking the Republican endorsement for the newly formed Senate District 10.

The new district covers portions of Benton, Morrison, Kanabec, Crow Wing, Mille Lacs, Isanti and Aitkin Counties.

Jim and his wife, Michele, are empty-nesters and have been planning to move further north for over a year. They will be moving into the new district in April. Jim looks forward to bringing solid conservative values to St. Paul on behalf of the new district.

Newberger firmly supports the state's current state legislators, Rep. Shane Mekeland and State Sen., Andrew Mathews.

“They are doing a great job and deserve our support,” he said.

Jim has lived in the Becker area since 1998.

“Becker is the perfect place to raise a family,” he says. “Moving here in 1998 was one of the best decisions Michele and I have ever made. Thank you, Becker community, for all you have done for us in the past 23 years! May God richly bless you in the years to come!”

**Blake Paulson**

Blake Paulson, a 2018 Becker Graduate, has also decided to throw his hat in the ring and run for the newly-formed House District 10B which includes Benton, Kanabec, Isanti, Mille Lacs, and Morrison counties. This is an open seat meaning there is no incumbent.

“As someone who has grown up in and worked hard to further our conservative values in Central Minnesota, I am excited to be running to represent the people I know and love from this area down in St. Paul,” said Paulson. “I look forward to being a champion for conservatism and also someone that the people of this district can trust to fight for them. I want to be an example to other young conservatives and show that it is time to stand up and fight for our future. It is time for a new, young perspective in St. Paul, that will be the peoples' voice, not the voice of lobbyists and political leadership.”

Blake has a website in accordance with his run and that can be found at: *blakepaulsonmn.com*.

# Wright Co. Sheriff's office bids farewell to 35-year employee

Submitted article

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

In an emotional ceremony at the Feb. 22 Wright County Board of Commissioners meeting, family and work colleagues honored Captain Annette Habisch-Peterson with a retirement plaque after more than 35 years of service to the citizens of Wright County in her work with the Wright County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Sean Deringer said Habisch-Peterson has been an integral part of the Sheriff's Office since 1988 and a valued asset to the office as well as the county's residents.

“Annette has certainly shared my vision,” Deringer said. “I've always said it comes down to how we treat people. I have very much appreciated Annette's role in the Command Staff and certainly our conversations as we have worked our way forward. I'm going to truly miss her.”



CAPTAIN ANNETTE HABISCH-PETERSON is embraced by Sheriff Sean Deringer during a ceremony to honor her years of service. (Photo taken from online video.)

Deringer pointed out that Habisch-Peterson is the last current member of the Sheriff's Office that was hired by legendary Wright County Sheriff Darrell Wolff, who served 26 years as sheriff (1963-89) before dying in office July 26, 1989.

Habisch-Peterson has served many roles in the

Sheriff's Office, including as a patrol deputy, in the narcotics division, an investigator, a detective in the Criminal Investigations Division (CID), a CID sergeant, communications dispatch sergeant, administrative lieutenant and, since 2016, the CID captain. She began her law enforcement career as a Sher-

iff's Office Explorer in 1984 when she came to the Wright County Sheriff's Office, she was one of just two women working in the department. She has worn many hats, having worked as a matron, worked in the county jail, worked in dispatch, been a member of the Wright County Honor Guard and a member of the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association.

Habisch-Peterson thanked her family – parents, husband and three children – for their unwavering support and encouragement throughout her professional life and understanding that at times work had to take precedence over family events. She thanked members of her extended family for giving their unconditional support to her and law enforcement.

Habisch-Peterson has appreciated the versatility she has experienced during her law enforcement career, because she has seen some horrific crime scenes over the years that made her question

how long she could withstand the mental and emotional strain that is inherent with the job as the first to respond to crime scenes nobody wants to see or remember. At times when her emotional bucket seemed to be at its limit, a new empty employment bucket was there to take its place.

“As soon as my buckets got full, there was always an opportunity to change,” Habisch-Peterson said. “It was really a blessed career. To the rest of my work family – I've always said I have a blood family and a badge family. My badge family is a bond I will miss the most.

“The last six years serving as a captain in our criminal division has been amazing,” Habisch-Peterson added. “To see the dedication, perseverance and compassion these detectives, narcotics agents, SROs, forensics folks, crime scene deputies, evidence techs and our victim advocate in action every day is inspiring. That's what makes coming

to work every day worth it. I can never say that I just hated coming to work because I didn't. I knew that I would have this support system in place at work and we all went through it together. I'm going to miss the routine of coming to work every day. I'm going to miss my badge family the most. I will continue to pray that everybody working at the Sheriff's Office is going to go home.”

The county board thanked Habisch-Peterson for her service to the county, including two commissioners that worked with her at one point in their careers – Christine Husom and Mike Kaczmarek. On behalf of all of Wright County, we owe a debt of gratitude to Captain Habisch-Peterson for her dedication, excellence, work ethic and commitment to the residents of Wright County.

The plaque presentation ceremony can be viewed on the county's YouTube channel.

EMMER from page 5

more for routine costs like weed-killing chemicals, crop seeds, fertilizer, equipment repairs and seasonal labor. Even higher commodity prices aren't making up the difference. To make matters worse, as farmers are forced to charge more for their goods, costs will inevitably be passed on to consumers who will be forced to pay more at the grocery store.

While these conditions are deeply frustrating, I want to ensure that farmers in the Sixth District have every tool at their disposal to weather these challenging times:

**Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) for 2021 Losses.**

Provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather or by attacks by animals

Deadline: March 1, 2022.

**Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) – General Signup.**

Helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland

Deadline: March 11, 2022.

**Agriculture Risk Cov-**

**erage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) Programs.**

Provides future protections against market fluctuations

Deadline: March 15, 2022.

**Second Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) for Farm Loans.**

Permits a second DSA for COVID-19 and a second DSA for natural disaster for those who had an initial COVID-19 DSA

Deadline: May 1, 2022

**Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) – Grassland Signup.**

Helps landowners and operators protect grassland, including rangeland and pastureland and certain other

lands, while maintain the areas as working grazing lands.

Deadline: May 13, 2022.

Reach out to your local USDA Service Center to learn more about all available programs, and programs that have local or state level deadlines.

**Farm Loan Flexibilities**

To assist with loan-making activities that are critical for annual operation and family living expenses, term investments for equipment and livestock, emergency needs, and cash flow, the USDA's Farm Service Agency expanded flexibilities to help producers with credit options, including:

- Where not legally prohibited, FSA will accept FAX'd or scanned signatures from customers and lenders;
- FSA will follow the most current state or local guidance for use of online or virtual notary services.

FSA is currently relaxing the loan-making process and adding flexibilities for servicing direct and guaranteed loans to provide credit to producers in need.

Additionally, USDA has temporarily suspended non-judicial foreclosures, debt offsets or wage garnishments, and referring foreclosures to the Department of Justice. USDA is working with the U.S. Attorney's

Office to stop judicial foreclosures and evictions on accounts that were previously referred to the Department of Justice.

USDA extended deadlines for producers to respond to loan servicing actions, including loan deferral consideration for financially distressed and delinquent borrowers. In addition, for the Guaranteed Loan program, flexibilities have been made available to lenders to assist in servicing their customers.



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## • BECKER

### Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS)

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

### Becker Baptist Church

Pastors: Nathan Bucher (Senior), Kevin Drehmel (Youth) & Amy Drehmel (Dir. of Child/Fam. Ministry), 763-261-4202, 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 Orrick

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

### IFLESIA AMOR VIVIENTE Living Love Church

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

### Lord of Glory Lutheran Church

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

### Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church

Father: Mike Kellogg, 763-447-3339, 440 Lake St N. Services: Sat. Mass 5pm; Sun. 8:30am & 10:30am. Masses held on 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month (Masses held on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays in Becker).

### Riverside Church

Online: www.myrcc.church, 763-263-2410, 20314 County Road 14. Services: Sun 8:45am, 10:30am & 12:05pm.

### Saron Lutheran Church

Pastor: Kyle Sidlo, 763-263-2209, 311 Lake St. S. Services: Sun. Worship

9:30am, indoors or livestream.

## • SANTIAGO

### South Santiago Lutheran Church ELCA

Pastor: Daryl Thul, 763-662-2048, 14675 37th St. Services: Sun. 8am in Sanctuary Worship, 10am in Sanctuary. Audio broadcast in parking lot for both services.

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

### Glendorado Lutheran (ELCA)

### Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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

### Gethsemane Church (ELCA) - Ronneby

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

### Glendorado Evangelical Country Church

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

## • CLEAR LAKE

### Living Waters Church

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

### Trinity Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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

### SHED Church - Non-Denomination in Palmer

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

### St. Marcus Catholic Church

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

## • DUELM

### St. Lawrence Church

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

## • CLEARWATER

### Clearwater United Methodist Church

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

### Freedom Bible Church

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

### Rejoice Lutheran Church - ELCA

Pastor: Jim Bump, 320-558-6851, 1155 County Road 75. Services: Sun. School that begins in Worship 9:30am. Livestream worship at Rejoice's Youtube Channel, https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsJGuBda4orT9TWYi5vmGw

### Church of St. Luke

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

### Tri-County Alliance Church

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

## • SILVER CREEK

### Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

### Silver Creek Community Church

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

## Obituaries

**Mary Lucille Robinson, Age 76**  
Formerly of Big Lake, MN

Beloved Mom, Grandma, Great-Grandma & Sister



elyn Wahl; sister Esther (Jerry) Romeika; and many cousins, other relatives & friends.

Mary was a NASCAR and Minnesota Twins fan, she loved music and the theater, and her dogs, but above all, she treasured the time spent with her family and grandchildren and was a proud new great-grandma. She enjoyed her job in the bakery department at Coborn's, where she could use her creativity to help design cakes and other baked goods and set up display cases.

A Celebration of Life to honor Mary will be held on Tuesday, 3/1/22 at 7pm with visitation from 4-7pm at the Peterson-Grimsmo Funeral Chapel, 250 E. Broadway, Monticello. www.peterson-grimsmochapel.com.



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The City of Kerkhoven, MN, Public Works Department, is seeking a full-time Public Works Supervisor starting immediately. A complete job description and benefits package is available upon request.

Minimum requirements: Possess a MN Class D Water Operator's and Class C Sewer Operator's License and able to obtain a Class B Driver's License within 6 months of employment. Have a valid MN Class D Driver's License and a satisfactory driving record. All applicants will be required to have a physical and are subject to a drug test. **Starting wages \$53,830-\$71,780 per year/DOQ**, plus excellent benefits. This is a non-union position.

TO APPLY: All applicants must complete and submit an application for employment packet. Application forms can be obtained at City Hall Monday-Thursdays from 8am-5pm and Fridays 8am-noon or by calling 320-264-2581 or by email: [kerkhovenclerk@gmail.com](mailto:kerkhovenclerk@gmail.com). Application deadline Noon on March 11, 2022.

Submit completed applications in drop box or by mail to: City of Kerkhoven, 208 N 10th St, PO Box 116, Kerkhoven, MN 56252. The City of Kerkhoven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**CITY OF KERKHOVEN**  
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520 Co. Rd. 9, PO Box 78, Holloway, MN 56249  
or email: [kbonk@west-con.com](mailto:kbonk@west-con.com)

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