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JULIA BENGTON has been enjoying a great stretch offensively for the Becker girls basketball team. See the team's story on page 13. (Submitted Photo).

Inside
CLEAR LAKE CITY
CL City Council accepted a \$25,000 donation from the Goerner family at Monday's meeting. See the story on page 4.

SCHOOL NEWS
Several eighth graders at Becker Middle School participated in a Distance Learning Challenge. See the article on page 2.

COUNTY NEWS
Sherburne County Board members met Tuesday to discuss vaccines, business relief and other items. See the story on page 3.



In The Meantime
BECKER DISCOVER COMMUNITY GUIDE
Staff at the Patriot are in the process of putting together an exciting, 60+ page community guide entitled, "Discover Becker". The guide will hit your mailboxes Feb. 27!
SPRING APPROACHES
Despite what that little rodent from Pennsylvania saw Tuesday morning, Spring is quickly approaching. We will be working on our Spring Home Guide as well as a Health & Fitness Section in the Patriot in the next coming weeks, so keep your eyes peeled!



News & Advertising Deadlines
NEWS DEADLINES
With the newspaper wrap up occurring Wednesday evening, all news items submitted to run that Saturday must reach our office by Wednesday morning by 11 a.m.
SPORTS DEADLINES
Coaches and assistants are expected to contact our sports writers by Wednesday morning, 11 a.m. at the latest to have their information included in that week's publication.
CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINES
Information for classifieds need to be submitted to our staff by noon Wednesday to be included in that week's publication of the PATRIOT.

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Park proposal draws large crowd to Elk Lake

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

Last Saturday morning, dozens of concerned citizens ventured onto the ice of Elk Lake to share their input about Sherburne County's proposal to establish a 430 acre regional park along the north shore of the lake located in Palmer Twp. The parcel of land is privately owned, but the current owners approached the county in 2019, noting their interest in establishing the park to honor the wishes of their late father who resided at the location for many years.

Sherburne County's current focus includes gathering input from taxpayers before the possible creation of a Master Plan, which will then be used to pursue grant funding for the acquisition and development of



COUNTY OFFICIALS. District #3 Commissioner Tim Dolan (left) was on hand Saturday morning to serve as the de facto greeter at the County's event, aimed at soliciting input regarding the possible addition of a park along the north shore of Elk Lake in Palmer Township. Residents can also share comments and concerns via the Sherburne County website (Patriot photo by Mark Kolbinger).

the parcel. Saturday's open house style event drew many homeowners who live along the shores of the lake, a 357 acre body of water situated on the border between Palmer and Clear Lake Twps. On the ice, county staff had set up several stations where people could view maps and look at photos of possible activities that

could be offered at the park. Participants had the opportunity to leave written feedback, as well as speak directly with the county staff members who were on hand. Commissioner Tim Dolan was present at the event the entire time, welcoming the attendees at the first station and listening intently to their insights and opinions.

From the event's location on the east-central part of the lake, people could look directly across the body of water to the proposed park location, which would encompass about one mile of the lake's 3.47 total miles of lakeshore.

Although Saturday's event was originally advertised with pre-registration requirements for groups of up to 12 citizens to tour the stations in 20 minute increments, the crowds were much larger and it ap-

peared most people stayed for longer periods of time to mingle with neighbors and discuss common concerns and ideas.

In listening to the many conversations, there was great diversity of opinion as to what should and should not happen at the site.

Some long-time property owners voiced complete opposition to the idea of a park because of the additional road traffic and noise it would generate. In addition, there were concerns of a huge increase in watercraft usage on the lake, which the DNR lists as being 357 acres in size. (Sherburne County is home to two Elk Lakes, as the other one near Zimmerman is ironically referred to as "Little Elk" despite being five acres larger than "Big Elk" near Palmer).

PARK to page 11

Schmidt investigates Esser 2 funding

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

Last Monday, the Becker School Board discussed the upcoming Esser Two funding. Esser Two funds are set to come out in February. The original Esser (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) One funds were a part of the funding that the school received last fall to help combat the COVID-19 situation. The second round of funding is set to be distributed in February, but Supt. Jeremy Schmidt was unsatisfied with the guidelines the school had been given, and with the amount of money the school was set to receive.



SUPERINTENDENT JEREMY SCHMIDT is working to discover the reason behind the disparity in Esser Funding to Becker Schools. (Submitted photo.)

Schmidt made an appointment with a couple of the financial officers of the Minnesota Dept. of Education (MDE) for Feb. 10 in order to understand better the vague and confusing

guidelines, and to know why his school is receiving significantly less money than schools in the cities, instead receiving about the same amount as much smaller schools than Becker. As a comparison, Schmidt stated that schools in the cities are receiving around \$2,700 per pupil, while Becker has been allotted \$86 per pupil.

Board member Mark Swanson encouraged citizens to email their representatives and the MDE about the issue, since hearing the voices of the citizens really does make

SCHMIDT to page 11

Nice Catch!



LISA SALTER OF BECKER reeled in a 31.5 inch walleye last week in Wright County. (Submitted Photo).

DELLWO OFFICIALLY CHARGED FOR STANDOFF

Submitted Article

Justin Michael Dellwo, the man who assaulted a woman and kept a community at bay for hours last week, was officially charged in court this week on three felony counts. Dellwo held Wright County deputies at bay for 17 hours last week as he hunkered down in his disabled vehicle near a school in Monticello. Dellwo is facing charges of brandishing a firearm (ammo), possessing a "machine gun" or "short-barreled shotgun," and fleeing police. On count one, Dellwo could face a maximum sentence of 15 years and a fine of \$30,000, or both. On count two, he faces a five year sentence and a \$10,000 fine, or both. For count three, he faces three years and one day, a



JUSTIN MICHAEL DELLWO held deputies and the community of Monticello at bay last week in a 17-hour standoff following an assault on his wife. (Submitted Photo).

\$5,000 fine, or both.
Crime Recap
Last January 26, 2021, at approximately 12:23

a.m., Deputy Tanner Dufresne was dispatched to Albertville on a report of a domestic assault involving a firearm. Dufresne had previously responded to a domestic assault by strangulation incident at that residence the day before (Jan. 25) at 8:06 p.m., in which Justin Michael Dellwo had assaulted and choked his wife. Dellwo fled from the residence after assaulting and strangling his wife during the earlier incident.

While responding to the second call, Dufresne learned from dispatch Dellwo had a gun to his head upon returning to the residence. Dispatch advised Dufresne that Dellwo again left the residence driving a 2004 Buick Rendezvous with Minnesota plate

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FARM FRIENDS is restoring this old barn in order to teach kids about agriculture. (Submitted photo.)

Becker City gets update on Farm Friends project

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

Jean Johnson, the chair of the Farm Friends Project, which has a goal of teaching kids about agri-

culture, gave a presentation to the Becker City Council last Tuesday as a guest speaker.

Johnson said 2020 was a productive year, as they

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Big Lake/Becker News

Toedter, Callahan nominated for ExCel Award

Submitted Article

The ExCel Award represents Excellence in Community, Education, and Leadership. It is a unique recognition program designed exclusively for Minnesota high school juniors who are active in school activities, who show leadership qualities, and who work voluntarily in their community.

Jazlyn Toedter and Carter Callahan were selected as the 2020-21 Becker High School ExCel Award nominees from BHS.

Toedter has played a leadership role on the girls' tennis and girls' lacrosse team with All Conference and All Conference Academic awards, choir, academic leadership as an Honor Roll student, National Honor



JAZLYN TOEDTER. (Submitted Photo).

Society; student leadership as a part of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Breakfast SHOUT, and Building Better Bulldogs. She has also played a significant role as a student and worship team leader at her church.

Callahan has played a



CARTER CALLAHAN. (Submitted Photo).

leadership role on the football team and as a team captain on the basketball team, choir, academic leadership as an Honor Roll student, multiple student of the month selections; student leadership as a peer tutor and a member of Building Better Bulldogs.

Carter has also played a significant role within his church and as a youth basketball and football coach.

Jazlyn and Carter's applications have been submitted to the Minnesota State High School League and the State ExCEL Award recipients will be selected by an independent panel of judges from schools throughout Minnesota. Award recipients will be announced via the League website on Feb. 1, 2021 with each recipient being recognized on 45TV during the broadcast of the 2021 winter tournaments.

Congratulations to Jazlyn and Carter on being selected as the Becker High School ExCel Award recipients for 2020-21!

Distance Learning Reading Challenge

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

Eighth graders at Becker Middle School participated in a Distance Learning Reading Challenge from the middle of November until classes switched back to a hybrid model last week.

During the challenge, English teachers Cameron Smith and Mark Kolbinger encouraged their students to read books and have discussions about them with their parents or guardians. Each teacher recognized a class champion, and an overall award was also given to the student who read the most pages during the 64 day contest.

Kaitlynn Finney earned top honors in Kolbinger's class, as well as the entire grade level, for reading an

amazing 32,743 pages during the contest.

Holly Burthwick earned top honors in Smith's class with her 12,896 pages of reading during the same period. Each winner received a gift card to Barnes and Noble for her efforts.

All together, 79 students participated in the challenge with a total of 170,738 pages read between the two classes. For every 100 pages each student read, they were able to put their name into a drawing for additional Barnes and Noble gift cards.

Students who read a minimum of 5,000 pages were also recognized for their efforts in building their reading fluency levels and showing excellence during the challenge.

These students were recognized by Principal Chan-



READING CHAMPIONS. Becker eighth graders Kaitlynn Finney (L) and Holly Burthwick won top honors in the Distance Learning Reading Challenge. (Submitted Photo).

tel Boyer with a certificate recognizing their achievement. 5,000 page club students included the two class champions, as well as Cora Bellefeuille, Aydan Starry,

Madeline Mlenek, Natalie Yuker, Kaylee Smith, Allie Barringer, Kaylee Waters and Mya Blomquist.

Coborn's partners with California Walnut Board

Submitted Article

Coborn's, Inc., in partnership with the California Walnut Board, will be promoting heart-smart initiatives during a month-long Eat Heart Smart campaign in February.

American Heart Month, a federally designated event, is an ideal time to remind Americans to focus on their hearts and encourage them to get their families, friends and communities involved. Dietitians from Coborn's Inc. will be promoting healthy heart activities for both guests and employees.

Programs planned include a Wear Red Day Feb.

5 by staff promoting American Heart Month. Store locations will promote American Heart Month by offering guests heart smart food displays featuring walnuts, whole grain products, lower sodium sauces and 100 percent fruit cups.

Program elements sponsored by the California Walnut Board include radio, television, and digital advertisements; E-commerce promotions, in-store audio ads, shelf signage, header cards, as well as recipes, retail circulars, videos and content for social media, and circular dietitian tips. Coborn's thanks the California Walnut Board for their partnership

in their support to publicize heart health and promote the American Heart Association.

"Although our dietitians promote heart-healthy foods all year long, February, also American Heart Month, is a time to really highlight and bring attention to simple lifestyle changes such as what we eat that can help prevent heart disease," said Emily Parent, Registered Dietitian at Coborn's. "Our 'Dietitian's Choice' shelf-tag program calls out all better-for-you foods that our team of registered dietitians recommend; all of which are lower in added sugar, have fiber and are lower in so-

dium—which we know are great for those looking to choose foods that are heart-healthy."

Heart disease can lead to heart attack, stroke, heart failure and death. Coborn's maintains its commitment to being guest focused by providing quality customer service through heart-healthy products and education. Providing resources to drive a strong commitment to wellbeing for both guests and employees remains a priority at Coborn's.

For more information, visit Coborn's Dietitian's Corner, California Walnut Board or American Heart Association.

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Correction: BL Joint Meeting

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

In the Jan. 30 article covering the Big Lake joint community annual meeting, it was stated that Big Lake Twp. residents made over \$900 million in taxable income. This statement was not accurate. It was meant to say that Big Lake Twp. residents had over \$900 million in taxable property market value.

NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY IS QUICKLY EVOLVING

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

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

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County News

Vaccine, business relief headline Sherburne County agenda

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

The Sherburne County Board met Tuesday morning and heard from staff about ongoing efforts in COVID-19 mitigation.

HSS Director Amanda Larson detailed the county's ongoing role in vaccinating residents while trying to keep abreast of all of the changes in priority status coming from the State of Minnesota.

New guidelines provide for entities to distribute 90% of their initial shots of the two dose series within 72 hours and 100% must be used within a seven day window. If the provider, in this case Sherburne Public Health, doesn't meet that threshold, then their next week's allocation can be lowered or rescinded completely.

Larson noted that the county has administered 99% of the vaccines they have been allocated, while still holding onto the vaccine needed to provide the second shot of the two dose series.

The county has significant vaccination clinics scheduled for Feb. 9 and 16 to give those second doses to individuals within priority 1A, mostly first responders and health care workers.

Last week, as Larson and her staff felt they were getting close to finishing offering the shot to everyone within that first priority group, the state threw another curveball and added Personal Care Attendants to the list. The Minnesota Dept. of Health provided Sherburne County with a list of 900 individuals that could qualify under that new designation, requir-

ing Larson and staff to sort through the names. By eliminating duplicate entries and people who were already vaccinated, staff culled the list to 300 individuals who would qualify, all of whom were offered vaccinations this week.

Ages 65+

Another area where the landscape continues to shift is in the vaccination of individuals ages 65 and over. Just two weeks ago, the state launched nine pilot sites and struggled to find the most efficient registration system. It began with a first come, first serve website that encountered difficulties as thousands of Minnesotans tried to simultaneously sign up, causing the site to crash. Last week, it moved to a lottery system and this week, the program was reduced to just two sites, as county public health agencies and primary health care providers are now taking the lead in trying to distribute the doses to this group.

Sherburne County staff again pivoted and were able to provide appointments this week to 100 residents who met this criteria. In the weeks ahead, it is expected that the county will be able to increase this allocation.

Larson noted that the most expeditious way for individuals ages 65 and up to signal interest in receiving the vaccine from the county is to sign up on the website. There, residents will find a COVID-19 Vaccine Interest Form to submit, indicating their desire to come to the government center for the shot. Interested parties will be contacted as doses become available and people are already flooding the site with requests. As of Monday

this week, there were 179 requests logged in the system. By Tuesday mid-day, that number grew to 1,129.

In response to a query from commissioners about serving those individuals without internet access, it was noted that a paper

the rules they lay out for us."

Business Relief

Assistant Administrator Dan Weber was again before the board to provide an update on business relief efforts, as well as to introduce a pair of new opportu-



registration form is being looked at as a possibility.

Most weeks, the county is not notified until late Friday, usually after business hours, regarding how many doses it will have for the next week. This makes scheduling a very fast paced exercise at the start of the following week.

Despite the constant change, the commissioners lauded the efforts of the county staff members to keep the vaccine flowing.

"You folks are doing a fabulous job, it's like we are in a 15 round fight and they [State of MN] keep changing the rules between rounds," commented Felix Schmiesing. "In Sherburne County, we're playing by

nities for business owners.

In the latest round of legislation, Sherburne County was allocated \$1.877 million in funds from the state to mitigate the business losses caused by the latest closure orders from Gov. Tim Walz.

At that time, the county set guidelines focused on actual losses incurred in November and December of 2020, as well as a cap of \$10,000 per business in an effort to help as many as possible. This resulted in 89 grants being approved for a total award of \$637,000.

A total of 43 applications were denied, mostly either because they were home based businesses

(which were not eligible for that round) or because the business could not demonstrate a loss in those months compared to 2019 numbers.

Because there are additional funds still available, Weber proposed two programs to expedite the remaining funds to businesses.

One would make home based businesses eligible, while the other would allow for businesses who did not receive CARES funding to now be eligible for the county program if they lost revenue in 2020.

For example, some businesses never applied for the original CARES Act funding and did not have losses in November and December of the last year. However, they may have suffered major losses, sometimes in the six figure range, for the entire year of 2020 and would now therefore be eligible for funds.

The commissioners quickly approved both programs, which will be open immediately and accept applications through Feb. 12. Interested businesses are encouraged to visit the county website to view the guidelines. Weber also noted that businesses whose applications were rejected because of failing to meet certain criteria will be automatically reviewed for eligibility in the new programs.

River Crossing

In transportation related news, the board was updated by Public Works Director Andrew Witter and several MnDOT staffers regarding ongoing studies looking at traffic congestion in and around the Northwest metro area.

Legislation passed in 2019 was the impetus be-

hind reviewing traffic plans and previous Mississippi River crossing studies, some of which date back to 1989.

Highways included in the current review include 101, 169, 610 and 10.

The current study is considered a fact finding investigation and will not include final recommendations for a river crossing. It will focus on clarifying the level of congestion on the roadways and developing concepts which may alleviate some of the issues.

A variety of data was shared with the board, including that in the past 20 years the area has seen a 30% increase in population and is expected to grow another 20% in the next similar time period.

Trip data, future road improvements and current levels and causes of congestion are all being studied as part of the current project.

Commissioners did note that three separate crossing studies are already underway, including the CMRP and the St. Cloud APO.

Schmiesing also pointed out past studies, such as the one in Clear Lake, which resulted in lawsuits and some property being purchased because of hardship. Yet, as a result, no crossing was pursued and the plan was never funded fully through construction.

As a group, the board encouraged MN DOT staff to not just continue doing studies, but to bring a plan to fruition that would decrease congestion on the roads.

Clear Lake accepts generous donation

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Clear Lake City Council met Monday evening and dealt with a rarity on the agenda, a \$25,000 donation to city to be used for whatever the council decides.

Marilyn Goenner Hicks, whose father was Roger Goenner, emailed the city that her family had recently sold some land in the area and she wanted to make the donation.

"I spent quite a few summers in Clear Lake with my grandparents and have lots of happy memories of McDonalds, the post office, the church, the ball field, and the lake," stated Hicks' email. "I would like to donate \$25,000 to Clear Lake to be used for whatever you think is needed."

Council happily approved a motion to accept the donation and will be working in the coming months to decide how to best use the funds. Mayor Tim Goenner pledged that the city will keep Hicks in the loop as to how the

money is spent.

Employees

Council met before the meeting to conduct employee reviews, which Mayor Goenner then reported on during the regular agenda. Goenner stated that the reviews went very well and he spoke glowingly about the working relationship between staff and council.

"It's very nice to have a council and staff that work together as well as we do," said the Mayor.

In addition, council also approved the pay equity report. This document will then be forwarded to the State of Minnesota which will review it and notify the municipality if there are any irregularities or any positions that need attention.

City Hall

Clerk Kari Mechtel presented a quote for the painting of some of the interior walls in City Hall. This was last done 16 years ago and the paint is starting to show wear and tear.

Council was pleased with the quote and then

discussed adding some additional color to the interior of the building. It was noted that the main areas of the building would be painted, while the smaller offices will be skipped since many contain file cabinets, etc. that hide many of the walls and would need to be moved for the painting.

Mechtelt said that the paint used for the project will be washable so that any spills or scuff marks can be cleaned up in the future, unlike the current wall coverings.

Public Works

Council heard from Public Works Director Dustin Luhnning that work on Well #3 is finishing up, and with the warmer weather forecast for this week there are plans to scrape the city streets to remove any left over ice and snow.

Snow removal on sidewalks was also discussed, as currently the compliance is good overall but there continue to be some isolated issues. The city does not own the proper equipment to do the snow

removal on sidewalks so enforcement would be an issue for properties that do not comply. Either it would need to be contracted out or additional equipment would need to be purchased.

No further action was taken on the issue.

In other business, the council:

- Accepted the Sheriff's Report, which included 42 calls for service in the last period;

- Decided to wait one additional month for any interested citizens to submit a letter of interest for filling the open council seat. The opening was advertised in the newspaper last month and will be shared on Facebook to try and generate more interest;

- Heard from Mechtel that at this point, the Lions Club has put all of its events on hold for the upcoming summer. If conditions change, they could apply for their special permits at any time.

The council will next meet on March 1st at 7 p.m.

DELLWO from page 1

CWR400.

Dufresne saw a vehicle driving west on Co. Rd. 37 as he was responding. Dufresne followed the vehicle and observed it pull over after turning onto Jason Ave. NE. Dufresne pulled behind the vehicle confirming it was the one reportedly driven by the defendant. Dufresne activated his squad car's emergency lights, stepped from his squad, and ordered the driver to turn off the vehicle.

Dellwo disobeyed the command and began fleeing from Dufresne, driving on Jason Ave. NE. Dufresne pursued the vehicle with his emergency lights and siren activated. Dellwo

continued to flee entering Monticello and turning onto Fenning Ave. Deputies deployed spike strips to disable defendant's vehicle during the pursuit. Dellwo's vehicle became disabled due to a combination of the deployment of the spikes and apparent mechanical difficulties and stalled out on Fenning Ave. S. of I-94.

Several deputies conducted a high risk stop of the defendant due to the presence of a firearm.

Dellwo refused to comply with commands or instructions and began trying to start his vehicle, which he was able to do after many attempts. He proceeded north on Fen-

ning Ave. and completed a U-turn after a short distance and began traveling south on Fenning Ave. Deputies deployed additional spike strips further disabling the vehicle causing the defendant to stop prior to reaching School Boulevard at a location adjacent to Eastview Education Center.

Deputies observed defendant in possession of a long gun inside the vehicle. A significant law enforcement presence converged on this location surrounding defendant in his vehicle and establishing a perimeter around the area by blocking access to nearby streets to protect the community and maintain the safety of the citizens living and traveling

nearby.

Law enforcement negotiated with defendant for a lengthy amount of time and were met with a continuous refusal to cooperate by Dellwo. Dellwo maintained this standoff with law enforcement for more than 17 hours, refusing to get out of his vehicle or cooperate in any way.

At approximately 6:00 p.m., members of the Wright County Emergency Response Team, in collaboration with law enforcement from Hennepin County and Sherburne County, deployed a chemical agent into defendant's vehicle forcing him to exit the vehicle. Dellwo refused to follow commands upon

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exiting the vehicle and was struck with a foam baton round debilitating him and effectuating his arrest.

Following defendant's arrest, the firearm he possessed was retrieved by law enforcement from the vehicle.

The firearm was a semi-automatic AR 15 type rifle that was loaded with a round in the chamber. The

length of the barrel on the rifle was 11.5 inches making it a 'short-barreled shotgun'.

Court records show defendant was convicted of Controlled Substance Crime in the Fifth-Degree (Possession) on March 5, 2020, in Court File 02-CR-17-5455, a crime of violence, making him ineligible to possess a firearm.

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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 (Acting), Kevin Drehmel (Youth) & Amy Drehmel (Dir. Of Ministry), 763-261-4202, 11951 Hancock St. Services: Sun. Worship/Children 10:30am, Wed. Youth Group 6:30pm. 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 9:30am.

Faith (Becker) Lutheran Church (ELCA)
Pastor: Yolanda Denson-Byers, 763-261-5751, 11755 Sherburne Ave. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30 am, Sun. School 10am.

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

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

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

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

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

• BIG LAKE

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

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

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

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

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

Hope Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Orrock
763-263-7990. www.hopeintherefuge.weebly.com.

IFLESIA AMOR VIVIENTE Living Love Church
Pastors: Juan & Patricia Aguayo, 763-607-5403, 21 Lake St N. Services: Sat. 6pm.

Lord of Glory Lutheran Church
Pastor: Marty Mably, 763-263-3090, 15550 190th Ave NW. Services: Sun. 8am & 10am.

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

Riverside Church
Online: www.myriversidechurch.com.

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

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

• SANTIAGO

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

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

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

Gethsemane Church (ELCA) - Ronneby
Pastor: Barbara Peterson, 320-983-5002, 14478 78th St. NE. Services: Sun. Worship 10am.

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

• CLEAR LAKE

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

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

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

• DUELM

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

• CLEARWATER

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

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

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

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

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

• SILVER CREEK

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

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

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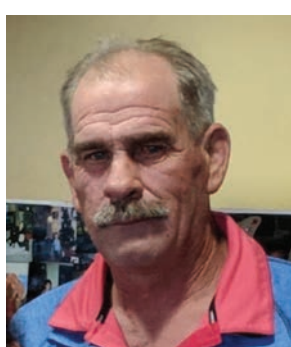


Obituaries

THOMAS R. HAPKE, AGE 62
BIG LAKE, MN
OCTOBER 7, 1958 – JANUARY 29, 2021

Thomas Richard Hapke was born on October 7, 1958 in Pipestone, Minnesota, the son of Wayne and Gladys (Vollmer) Hapke of rural Holland, Minnesota.

Tom was raised on the family farm in Holland. He graduated from Pipestone High School and moved to Big Lake Minnesota, where he started working for Nutrien Ag Solutions in Big Lake. He would work the next 26 years serving the area agriculture community. Tom enjoyed his work, had fun driving to the countryside to watch the crops grow. When Tom was not working he would often try and spend as much time as possible with his daughter Cheyenne, the light of his life. In his spare time, he would go pheasant hunting, bowling or could be found throwing beanbags. He had a witty sarcasm to his personality and was not the type of person that would hold back, he let you know



his honest opinion. He was a father and friend who was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone he met. His caring, friendly personality will be missed.

Tom passed away peacefully at Mercy Hospital after a brief illness on Friday, January 29, 2021. He was 62 years old. Tom is survived by his daughter, Cheyenne Backlund of Fargo, ND; brothers, John Hapke, Tim (Danielle) Hapke. He is preceded in death by his parents, Wayne and Gladys Hapke; brother, James "Jim" Hapke.

A Celebration of Tom's Life was Thurs, Feb 4, 2021 at McPete's Sports Bar & Lanes, 590 Humboldt Dr, Big Lake. Interment will take place at a later date in Tom's hometown of Holland, Minnesota.

Peterson-Grimsno Chapel
763-295-2918 www.peterson-grimsnochapel.com

Alpha
Do you have questions about faith, life, God & the church? Want a great place to explore the Christian faith for yourself? Alpha is an 11 week in-person or online experience which is designed to do just that in an open and caring environment.

Next session begins Mon., Jan. 18 @ 7pm at Riverside Church (20314 County Rd 14, Big Lake). Learn more & register at www.myriversidechurch.com/alpha.

The Alpha Marriage Course
The Marriage Course is a series of seven sessions, designed to help couples invest in their relationship & build a strong marriage. Nicky & Sila Lee, authors of The Marriage Book, developed The Marriage Course for couples looking for practical support to strengthen their relationship. The course is designed to help couples build strong foundations, learn to communicate more effectively & resolve differences well.

This 7-week course begins on Mon., Jan. 18 @ 7pm at Riverside Church (20314 County Rd 14, Big Lake). Learn more & register at www.myriversidechurch.com/marriagecourse

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Becker Lions Collecting Items To Recycle
Items are: eye glasses, hearing aids, cell phones & printer ink cartridges. Collection boxes are located at the Becker Community Center (entryway) & Insight Eye care.

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

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

website at www.beyondtheyellowribbon.org.

Big Eagle Lake raising funds with Gess What's Cookin'

Due to the extreme cold forecast for Saturday, February 6th, BELIA, the Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association, is postponing their 'Concessions on Ice' Fundraiser to Saturday, February 13th from 1-4 PM. The delicious food of 'Gess What's Cookin' of Big Lake will be catering our event and providing yummy pulled pork and hot dogs! Come on out and enjoy some hot food while you fish or snowmobile or just out enjoying the day. Big Eagle Lake is located north of Big Lake off of County Road 75. Look for a tall black and green flag on the ice to find us. This is going to be delicious!

Thank you for supporting Big Eagle Lake!

Big Lake American Legion Post #147
Meets the first Thurs. of the month @ 7 pm. Community Room by the Big Lake Police Station, 790 Minnesota Ave, Big Lake 55309. Please contact Commander Paul Seefeld 612-801-7731.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Clearwater AA/Alanon

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

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

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

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

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

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

DivorceCare
DivorceCare is a 13-week group designed to help those recovering from separation or divorce & face the challenges to move toward rebuilding their life. Next session begins Mon., Jan. 18, 6:30-8pm at Riverside Church (20314 CR 14, Big Lake).
For more information and to register for this session, visit www.myriversidechurch.com/divorcecare.

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

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

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

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

GriefShare
A 13 week group for those grieving the loss of a family member or friend. The support group contains messages & material each week to help walk you through recovering from your loss & looking forward to rebuilding your life. New sessions begin Thurs., Jan. 14 @ 1pm or Mon., Jan. 18 @ 6:30pm at Riverside Church (20314 CR 14, Big Lake).
For more information and to register for this session, visit www.myriversidechurch.com/griefshare.

Life Recovery Group
Life Recovery is a program built to foster & encourage healthy recovery from all of life's ugliness. Designed for

those who have experienced the effects of sin & separation from God in their lives. This may be drugs, alcohol, overeating, pornography, or any of the other numerous ways people experience disconnection from God. Join others in this warm environment where an intentional focus on Christ is foundational to recovery.

This 12-week group begins Mon., Jan. 18 @ 6:30pm at Riverside Church (20314 County Rd 14, Big Lake). Register for this session at www.myriversidechurch.com/liferecovery.

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

Mental Health Discussion Group
Meets Mon., 6-7 pm at Independent Lifestyles, 215 N. Benton Dr., Sauk Rapids. This free group provides support, education, & awareness about the disease. Independent Lifestyles at 320-529-9000.

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

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

Senate District 13 GOP Convention
Senate District 13 GOP Convention will be held Feb. 27, 9am on Zoom. Notification of and Password for the meeting will be emailed to all with known email addresses in SD13. Election of board will be at this meeting. People interested in positions or have questions sd13republicans@gmail.com or call Peter at 320-267-6677.

Snake River Free Mission Church Upcoming Events
Hymn sings are held every other month on the second Sun. at 4:30 pm. Next hymn sing is Sun., Feb. 14. Check Snake River Church Facebook page for updates.
5 mi. N of Hwy 10 on CR 11, 1.5 mi. E n CR4 & then L on 180th Ave (8940 180th Ave), Becker. Mary 612-219-8648.

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

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

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

ROBERT STAVRUM JR., AGE 50
CLEARWATER, MN
OCTOBER 13, 1970 – JANUARY 25, 2021

Robert Stavrum Jr. passed away at home on January 25, 2021 at age 50 after a long battle with a lung disease. He was born October 13, 1970 at St Cloud Hospital. He is survived by his parents Robert and Beverly (Niezgocki) Stavrum of St Cloud, sister Isabella of South Haven, daughter Makayla of Clearwater, and extended family. In lieu of flowers, a memorial



fund is set up for Makayla's education.

Private funeral services were held Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at the Daniel Funeral Home in Clearwater with burial taking place at St. Luke's Parish Cemetery in Clearwater. A public visitation was held on Monday, February 1, at the Daniel Funeral Home in Clearwater.



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FRI FEB 12TH AT 9AM - Selling Old Original Signs, Clocks, Thermometers, License Plates, and Other Advertising Items of All Sorts.

FRI FEB 12TH AT 4PM - Selling Old Original Signs, Clocks, Thermometers, Oil Cans, Oil Bottles, Displays, Watch Fobs, License Plate Toppers, Plus Much More.

SAT FEB 13TH AT 9AM - Selling Old Original Advertising Signs, Clocks, Thermometers, Pedal Cars, Pedal Tractor License Plate Toppers, Plus Much More.

QUESTIONS - Call Glenn Miller 715-299-2543 • Email Wisconsinjunk@yahoo.com

TERMS - Cash or Check. Credit Card 3% Buyers Premium

5 1/2% Sales Tax - Reg WI Auctioneer Tim Barnum #1284

Auction Conducted & Clerked by Millers Auction Co

#347-053 N8779 Hwy 95 Hixton WI 54635



Public Notices

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT LIEN FORECLOSURE SALE YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT,

1. Default has occurred in the conditions of the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions Trout Brook Homes, Sherburne County, Minnesota, by Nicholas Besonen and Jennifer Besonen, as fee owner(s) of the below-described property subject to said Declarations.
2. Pursuant to the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions Trout Brook Homes, filed in the Office of the County Recorder for Sherburne County on February 11, 2000 as Document No. 407904 and all amendments thereto, and Minnesota Statutes, a lien exists for unpaid assessments and fees incurred from January 1, 2019 to the date of this notice.
3. A previous action was instituted to recover a portion of this debt in Court File No. 71-CV-19-1643. That action has been discontinued and an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied in full.
4. The holder of the lien has complied with all conditions precedent to acceleration of the debt secured by the assessment lien and foreclosure of said lien, and all notice and other requirements of applicable statutes. As of the date of this notice the amount due, pursuant to the Association's Declarations and By-laws, is: \$2,902.85.
5. As of the date of this notice, the names of all parties that have been released from liability for the assessment lien are as follows: NONE.
6. Legal description of property: Lot 15, Block 1, Trott Brook Farms Third Addition
7. Physical address of property: 18160 Roosevelt Street NW, Elk River, Minnesota 55330
8. Tax parcel identification number: 75-646-0130
9. Pursuant to the provisions of the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions Trout Brook Homes, the lien will be foreclosed and the property will be sold by the Sheriff of Sherburne County, State of Minnesota, as follows: Date and time of sale: February 18, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Place of sale: Sherburne County Sheriff's Office, 13880 Business Center Drive NW, Suite 100, Elk River, Minnesota 55330
10. to pay the debt then secured by said lien, including any additional assessments and late fees that may become due through the date of sale, along with the costs, attorney's fees and disbursements allowed by law.
11. The time allowed by law for redemption by the mortgagor, or mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months after the date of said sale.
12. THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGORS, THE MORTGAGORS' PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.
13. Minnesota Statutes Section 582.04(b) provides, "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23." If this statute applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on: August 18, 2021.
14. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

Dated as of December 23, 2020
GREENSTEIN SELLERS, PLLC
By: /s/ Matthew S. Greenstein
Daniel B. Greenstein (#142104)
Matthew S. Greenstein (#392044)
825 Nicollet Mall, Suite 1648
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Telephone: (763) 285-4677
Attorneys for Trout Brook Home Association, Inc.
(Published in the Patriot: 01/02/21; 01/09/21; 01/16/21; 01/23/21; 01/30/21; 02/06/21.)

Probates

STATE OF MINNESOTA TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION 01-20-2021 Court File No. 71-PR-21-13 Estate of Timothy Leander Storkamp, Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR DESCENT OF PROPERTY

A Petition for Determination of Descent has been filed with this Court. The Petition represents that the Decedent died more than three years ago, leaving property in Minnesota and requests the probate of Decedent's last Will (if any), and the descent of such property be determined and assigned by this Court to the persons entitled to the property.

Any objections to the Petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and no objections are filed or raised, the Petition may be granted.

IT IS ORDERED and Notice is further given, that the Petition will be heard on 3/11/2021, at 2:10, by this Court at 13880 Business Ctr Dr., Elk River, Minnesota.

1. Notice shall be given to all interested persons (MINN. STAT. § 524.1-401) and persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-204.
2. Notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law and by mailing a copy of this Notice and Order at least 14 days prior to the hearing date.

Dated: 01/20/2021
/s/ Gina DeVilbissHendry
Court Administrator Deputy
Attorney for Petitioner
Chad M. Roggeman
Rajkowski Hansmeier Ltd.
11 7th Avenue N
PO Box 1433
Saint Cloud, MN 56302
Attorney License No: 028788X
Telephone: (320) 251-1055
FAX: (320) 251-5896
Email: croggeman@rajhan.com
(Published in the Patriot: 01/30/21; 02/06/21).

STATE OF MINNESOTA TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION 01-27-2021 Court File No. 71-PR-20-185 In Re: Stephen Ross Nixon, Decedent

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS GIVEN that an application for informal probate of the Decedent's will dated October 22nd, 2013 has been filed. The Application has been granted.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Terry Lynn Conn, 14342 91st Place North, Maple Grove, MN 55369 has been formally appointed as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as Personal Representative or may object to the appointment of the Personal Representative. Unless objections are filed with the Court pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-607 and the Court otherwise orders, the Personal Representative has full power to administer the Estate including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the probate of the will or appointment of the Personal Representative must be filed with this Court and will be heard by the Court after filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801 all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: 01/27/2021
/s/ Patricia A. Kuka
Court Administrator Registrar
Attorney for Applicant:
Meredith Boudrie (MN# 0386573)
Central Minnesota Law
141 East Broadway, Suite 7
P.O. Box 305
Monticello, Minnesota 55362
Telephone: (763) 312-6300
mboudrie@centralminnesotalaw.com
(Published in the Patriot: 02/06/21; 02/13/21).

STATE OF MINNESOTA TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION 01-13-2021 Court File No. 71-PR-20-150 Estate of Julia A. Waite a/k/a Julia Waite a/k/a Judy Waite, Decedent

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that an application for informal probate of the Decedent's Will, dated April 12, 2015, ("Will"), has been filed with the Registrar. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Registrar has informally appointed Gerald P. Waite, whose address is 13679 185th Avenue NW., Elk River, Minnesota, 55330, as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent.

Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed with the Court (pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the probate of the Will or appointment of the Personal Representative must be filed with this Court and will be heard by the Court after the filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

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

Dated: 01/13/2021
/s/ Patricia A. Kuka
Court Administrator Registrar
Gerald P. Waite
PRO SE
13679 185th Avenue NW
Elk River, MN 55330
Telephone: (763) 438-3217
Email: jpwaite@live.com
(Published in the Patriot: 02/06/21; 02/13/21).

Summons

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT SUMMONS

Case Type: Other Civil/Quiet Title
Court File No. 71-CV-20-1169
Morris R. Peterson and Patricia T. Peterson, husband and wife, Plaintiffs,

vs.
Walter F. Kuehlwein and Loyola F. Kuehlwein, husband and wife; and the unknown heirs, descendants, and devisees of Defendants Walter F. Kuehlwein and Loyola F. Kuehlwein, Defendants.

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

1. YOU ARE BEING SUED. The Plaintiffs have started a lawsuit against you.

The Plaintiffs' Complaint against you is on file in the office of the Court Administrator of the above-named Court. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court and there may be no Court File Number on this Summons.

2. YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 20 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You must give or mail to the person who signed this Summons a written response called an Answer within 20 days of the date on which you received this Summons. You must send a copy of your Answer to the person who signed this Summons located at:

Neaton & Puklich, PLLP
7975 Stone Creek Drive,
Suite 120
Chanhassen, MN 55317

3. YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiffs' Complaint. In your Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiffs should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.

4. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS. If you do not answer within 20 days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiffs everything asked for in the Complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the Complaint, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.

5. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, the Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

6. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION. The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an alternative dispute resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even if you expect to use alternative means of resolving this dispute.

7. THIS LAWSUIT MAY AFFECT OR BRING INTO QUESTION TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY located in the County of Sherburne, commonly known as 28110 14151 Street NW, Zimmerman, Sherburne County, Minnesota, and legally described as:
All that part of Government Lot 1, Section 31, Township 35, Range 26, Sherburne County, Minnesota described as follows:
Commencing at a point located on the South line of Government Lot 3, Section 31, Township 35, Range 26 and its intersection with the Easterly shore line of Elk Lake; thence East along said South line of Government Lot 3 a distance of 293.5 feet more or less to a point; thence North 39 degrees 55 minutes east a distance of 244.6 feet to an iron pipe; thence North 62 degrees 36 minutes East a distance of 40 feet to the point of beginning of this description; thence North 52 degrees 38 minutes East a distance of 40 feet to an iron pipe; thence North 34 degrees 46 minutes West a distance of 207.8 feet more or less to the Easterly shore line of said Elk Lake; thence Southwesterly along said shore line a distance of 68 feet more or less; thence South 41 degrees 45 minutes East a distance of 174.4 feet more or less to the point of beginning; and
All that part of Government Lot 3, Section 31, Township 35, Range 26 described as follows: Commencing at a point located on the South line of Government Lot 3, Section 31, Township 35, Range 26 and its intersection with the Easterly shore line of Elk Lake thence East along said South line of Government Lot 3 a distance of 293.6 feet more or less to a point; thence North 39 degrees 55 minutes East a distance of 244.6 feet to an iron pipe; thence North 62 degrees 38 minutes East a distance of 50 feet to the point of beginning of this description; thence North 62 degrees 38 minutes East 50 feet thence South 41 degrees 45 minutes East 100 feet more or less thence South 62 degrees 38 minutes West 56 feet more or less thence North 41 degrees 45 minutes West 136 feet to the point of beginning, Sherburne County, Minnesota. (referred to as the "Subject Property").

The purpose of this action is to obtain an Order for following relief:
1. Determining, adjudging, and decreeing that Plaintiffs are the owners in fee of the Subject Property, legally described in the above-cited New Legal Description.
2. Determining, adjudging, and decreeing that the Defendants, or anyone claiming through them, have no right, title, interest, estate or lien upon the above-described Subject Property.
3. For such other and further relief as is deemed just and equitable by the Court.

557.03 NOTICE OF NO PERSONAL CLAIM:
Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 557.03 you are hereby served with notice that no personal claim is made against you and that any Defendant upon whom this notice is served who unreasonably defends this action shall pay full costs to the Plaintiffs.

NEATON & PUKLICH, PLLP
Dated: November 3, 2020
/s/ Patrick J. Neaton (#77318)
7975 Stone Creek Drive, Suite 120
Chanhassen, MN 55317
(952) 258-8444
pat@neatonpuklich.com
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
(Published in the Patriot: 01/23/21; 01/30/21; 02/06/21.)

Assumed Names

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

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.
ASSUMED NAME: **Yahweh's Music Promotions**
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: **17328 117th Street SE Becker MN 55308 USA**
NAMEHOLDER(S):
Name: **Diane Zimmerman**
Address: **17328 117th Street SE Becker MN 55308 USA**
This certificate is an amendment of Certificate of Assumed Name
File Number: **59063**
Originally filed on: **12/31/1986**
Under the name: **Southern-Rock Promotions**

I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that

the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: **Diane Zimmerman, Owner**
MAILING ADDRESS: **None Provided**
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **Excluded**
Work Item **1203181500034**
Original File Number **59063**
STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
12/31/2020 11:59 PM
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State
(Published in the Patriot: 01/30/21; 02/06/21).

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

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.
ASSUMED NAME: **S.P Building And Remodeling**
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: **5230 Ruddy Duck Lane Big Lake MN 55309 United States**

NAMEHOLDER(S):
Name: **Seth Michael Paulson**
Address: **5230 Ruddy Duck Lane Big Lake MN 55309 United States**
By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.
SIGNED BY: **Seth Paulson**
MAILING ADDRESS: **None Provided**
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **Excluded**
Work Item **1209123600023**
Original File Number **1209123600023**
STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
01/10/2021 11:59 PM
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State
(Published in the Patriot: 01/30/21; 02/06/21).

Public School District Notices

Becker Public Schools Launches May 11 Referendum Campaign Website

BulldogsStrong.com provides information about the proposed plan to address critical needs

Becker, Minn. - Becker Public Schools announced today that the website [BulldogsStrong.com](https://www.bulldogsstrong.com) has launched to share details about the upcoming \$37.5 million bond referendum plan with a \$0 net tax increase to District resident above the current tax rate. This plan will address the District's most critical facility and educational-related needs across all sites.

For several years, our District has worked hard to identify, quantify, and prioritize our needs. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges, it remains clear that schools are the best places for students to learn and grow. As we look to our District's future, we want to ensure students are best prepared for life beyond our walls. Now, residents can find details about how the District plans to address these needs.

If approved by voters, this plan would address space and program needs, capacity needs, build a new transportation facility, complete various deferred maintenance and infrastructure needs, and other District-wide improvements - all for a \$0 net tax increase above the current tax rate. "The May referendum is a huge opportunity for our District," said Superintendent Jeremy Schmidt. "Our School Board has worked hard to use taxpayer money well through the refinancing of existing debt. We've also worked alongside our community members to take our long-range financial plan into consideration - positioning our District for a bright future."

The District encourages all community members to visit [BulldogsStrong.com](https://www.bulldogsstrong.com) for details about our needs, the proposed plan, voting information, and more. Early voting by absentee ballot begins Friday, March 26. Residents with questions or feedback are to visit <https://www.bulldogsstrong.com/connect> or reach out to Superintendent Jeremy Schmidt at jschmidt@isd726.org or 763-261-4502. (Published in the Patriot: 02/06/21).

City Notices

CITY OF CLEARWATER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A REZONING FOR 340 S WALNUT STREET, PARCEL 104-011-002020

Notice is hereby given that the Clearwater Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on February 16, 2021 remotely at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible, to consider a request by Morgan Nicka. The request is for a Rezoning from an L-1 (Light Industrial) to a C-4 (General Commercial) to allow a Herbalife Nutrition Club at 340 Walnut Street, (PID 104011002020). Legal description available at City Hall upon request.



All persons wishing to speak on this item will be heard. Contact: asmtythe@clearwatercity.com to get the meeting ID and password to join the Zoom meeting.

Comments may be submitted in writing prior to the meeting to: Deb Petty, Zoning Administrator via email: dpetty@clearwatercity.com or put in the drop box at the entrance to the city hall parking lot no later than 12:00 am on February 11th. /s/ Deb Petty, Zoning Administrator
Dated: February 3, 2021
(Published in the Patriot: 02/06/21).

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW AND TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 117-ZONING, ARTICLE VIII, SEC. 117-1127 (FENCES), OF THE CITY CODE WITH EMPHASIS ON PLASTIC WEBBING AS AN ALLOWABLE FENCE MATERIAL.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER, COUNTY OF WRIGHT AND STEARNS, STATE OF MINNESOTA, WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 16TH, 2021, AT 7:00 VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON THE CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 117-ZONING, ARTICLE VIII, SEC. 117-1127 (FENCES), OF THE CITY CODE, WITH EMPHASIS ON PLASTIC WEBBING AS AN ALLOWABLE FENCE MATERIAL.

All interested persons may appear at the hearing and present their view orally by contacting: asmtythe@clearwatercity.com to get the meeting ID and password to join the Zoom meeting.

If you are unable to attend, but wish to comment, please send written comments to: Deb Petty, Zoning Administrator via email: dpetty@clearwatercity.com or put in the drop box at the entrance to the city hall parking lot no later than 12:00 am on February 11th. DATED THIS 3RD DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021
DEB PETTY
CITY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
CITY OF CLEARWATER
(Published in the Patriot: 02/06/21).

Public Notices

Sherburne County Notices

Sherburne County Board of Commissioners January 19, 2021 - County Board Meeting Minutes Call to Order

The Sherburne County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session on January 19, 2021, at the Sherburne County Government Center in the City of Elk River, MN. Call to order by the Chair was at 9:00am. Board Chair spoke in remembrance to those who lost their live to COVID-19, expressed feelings on how the pandemic has taken on our community, schools and public, and thanked our emergency and medical personnel for their efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of Regular Meeting Proposed Agenda
- Schmiesing/Fobbe unanimous to approve the Regular Proposed Meeting Agenda as amended with the addition of a Human Resources Overview Workshop.

Consent Agenda

- Dolan/Burandt unanimous to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
- Approved Special Meeting Minutes: December 29, 2020.
- Approved County Workshop Minutes: January 5, 2021.

Revised Amount for Award of Publication of Alternate Financial Statement. Auditor / Treasurer

Diane Arnold, County Auditor/Treasurer

- Approved and corrected the 1-05-2021 Bid Letter for 2021 publications, awarded to Elk River Star News 2021, for the publication award of bid for Alternate Financial statement publication, to the correct amount of \$16.00 per inch not the (\$3.70 per inch).
- Approved Regular Meeting Minutes: January 5, 2021

Resolution 011921-AD-2022 Establishing Salaries for County Elected Officials for 2021. Administration

Bruce Messelt, County Administrator

- Approved Resolution 011921-AD-2022 Establishing 2021 Salaries for Sherburne County’s Four Elected Officials; County Sheriff, County Attorney, Auditor-Treasurer, and Recorder. The resulting 2021 compensation levels are, thus, approved as follows:
 - o Sherburne County Sheriff \$169,141.40
 - o Sherburne County Attorney \$168,894.37
 - o Sherburne County Auditor-Treasurer \$125,355.45
 - o Sherburne County Recorder \$111,178.67

Letter of Engagement for Audit Services for 2020 Audit. Auditor / Treasurer

Diane Arnold, County Auditor/Treasurer

- Approved a Letter of Engagement with CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) for Audit Services for the 2020 Audit and authorize the County Auditor-Treasurer to execute on behalf of Sherburne County. (On file.)

Commissioner & Manual Warrants. Auditor / Treasurer

Approved Commissioner & Manual Warrants as follows:

- December 31, 2020 Commissioner Warrants \$510,663.06
- December 31, 2020 Commissioner Warrants, Forfeited Land Settlement \$246,551.54
- December 31, 2020 Manual Warrants \$4,892.38
- January 8, 2021 Commissioner Warrants Business Relief Grant \$60,310.00
- January 8, 2021 Commissioner Warrants \$1,952,743.50
- January 8, 2021 Manual Warrants \$8,910.56

Option 2 for Sound Panels for Drivers’ License Area. Auditor / Treasurer

Diane Arnold, County Auditor/Treasurer

- Approved Option Two for installation of sound panels within the Drivers’ License area, as presented by Diamond Acoustics, Inc. in the amount of \$2,750.00, and authorize the Auditor-Treasurer to sign proposal. (On file.)

12-31-20 HS OBO Warrants. Health & Human Services

Approved the payment of HHS OBO Warrants as follows:

- December 31, 2020 HHS OBO Warrants \$730.99

HHS 4th Quarter Donations. Health & Human Services

Emily Ehnes, Fiscal Supervisor

- Accepted HHS 4th Quarter Donations in the amount of \$10,843.

HHS IFS Admin Deb 1-7-21. Health & Human Services

Approved HHS IFS Admin Warrants as follows:

- January 7, 2021 HHS IFS Admin
- \$68,012.49

Appointment to Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee. Planning & Zoning

Gabrielle Holman, Environmental Specialist

- Approved to appoint Pat Arnold, representing County Commissioner District 4; Randy Linn, At Large Member; and, Fran Toth, representing County Commissioner District 1 to three year terms on the Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee for the term of 2021-2023.

Final Payment for 2020 Pavement Marking (CP 71-PM-020). Public Works

Andrew Witter, Public Works Department Head

- Authorized final contract payment with AAA Striping for project #CP 71-PM-020 for 2020 Pavement Marking in the amount of \$521.92.

Low Bidder for County Road 39 Reconstruction, CP 71-639-018. Public Works

Andrew Witter, Public Works Department Head

- Approved the Low Bidder, Helmin Construction Inc. with the bid of \$714,090.07, for the reconstruction of CR 39 from CSAH 4 to 269th Avenue in 2021. Project No. CP 71-639-018. Project construction dates will be contracted June 7, 2021 through July 30, 2021.

Resolution 011921-AD-2021 Supporting the Regional Park Designation Application to the Greater Minnesota Parks and Trails Commission. Public Works

Gina Hugo, Park Coordinator

- Approved Resolution 011921-AD-2021 supporting the regional park designation application to the Greater Minnesota Parks and Trails Commission. (On file.)

Donation from Granite Electronics to the Sheriff’s Office Reserve Unit. Sheriff

Joel Brott, Sherburne County Sheriff

- Approved the acceptance of a \$100.00 donation from Granite Electronics to the Sheriff’s Office Reserve Unit.

Announcements

- Bruce Messelt provided updates on the vaccination clinics, legislative session and bonding bills.

Open Forum

No one was present.

Regular Agenda

Farm Friends Barn Update. Administration

Jean Johnson

- Chairperson Jean Johnson and Gina Hugo provided an update the Board on recent Farm Friends Barn events and fundraising activities. They also introduced MaryJo Cobb as a new member of the Farm Friends Barn Board.

Preliminary and Final Simple Plat for TR Estates-Tedd Schulte. Planning & Zoning

Nancy Riddle, Planning & Zoning Administrator

- Schmiesing/Dolan unanimous to approve Preliminary and Final Simple Plat for “TR Estates” with (5) Conditions, as recommended by the Planning Advisory Commission and listed, which consists of (3) Lots: PID # 45-031-1300 and Legal Desc: SW 1-4 of NE 1-4, Subject to Easements (full legal on file). Sec 31, Twp 35, Rge 28, Santiago Township.

CONDITIONS:

1. Park dedication fees for 3 lots at \$800 per lot, totaling \$2,400. Park fees must be paid prior to the Public Works Dept signing the plat mylars.
2. An access permit is required from the Sherburne County Public Works Department for each lot.
3. The individuals who hold the driveway easement will need to sign off on the plat or consent as they are interest holders.
4. This property benefits from a ditch. A ditch re-apportionment will need to be recorded with the plat. The recording fee for this is \$46.00.
5. The plat shall be recorded in the Office of the County Recorder/ Register of Titles, subject to recording fees, within one year of County Board approval of Final Plat.

Application for Interim Use Permit (IUP) for Activity Requiring Rural Isolation-James & Kari Lorge. Planning & Zoning

Nancy Riddle, Planning & Zoning Administrator

- An Open Forum was held during this item and Jim Ferlack, Errol Peterson and Sylvia Stadden all of Elk River were present to speak of their concerns on the item.
- Dolan/Fobbe to approve the application request with a 4-1 vote for an Interim Use Permit (IUP) by James & Kari Lorge for Activity Requiring Rural Isolation, with 15 conditions and the Finds of Fact recommended by the Planning Commission. PID # 10-101-2401. Legal Desc: SE 1-4 of NW 1-4; and the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 (full legal on file). Section 1, Twp 33, Rge 27, Big Lake Township. 112.28 acres in the General Rural District.

CONDITIONS:

1. The location of events, parking or improvements to the property shall be consistent with the site plan included in the Board’s Packet.
2. There may be one non-illuminated sign totaling no more than 12 sq. ft. in size located on the property, but outside of the public right-of-way.
3. None of the existing structures on the property (house or accessory buildings) may be accessed by the public.
4. Adequate sanitary services shall be made available to anyone using this property at a minimum a portable toilet serviced by a licensed waste hauler will be located near the parking area. A copy of the service contract shall be provided to the County.
5. The applicant shall ensure all waste generated at the property is properly disposed of.
6. Days & hours of operation shall be dawn to dusk, 7 days a week.
7. There may be a maximum of 14 clients using the property at one time. If the applicant wishes to hold an event that exceeds 14 clients, they will need to either amend their permit or request a separate permit for an Occasional Special Event.
8. Prior to starting this operation, the applicant must provide Zoning Staff with a detailed safety plan that includes directives for emergency response personnel, (Big Lake Fire Department and Sherburne County Sheriff Office) who may be called on to serve this property.
9. No filling grading or excavating wetlands on this property is permitted without the proper permit from Sherburne County.
10. All obstacles constructed on site shall be removed should this Interim Use Permit expire or be revoked and returned to a natural state.
11. Excessive noise, glare, odors, traffic or other nuisances may be justification for the County to revoke or modify the terms of the Interim Use Permit.
12. The IUP is issued to James and Kari Lorge and shall expire with a change in ownership of the property.
13. The applicant shall maintain proper business liability insurance and provide a copy of the insurance records to the County annually.
14. The property owner shall permit the County to inspect the property during normal business hours.
15. No alcohol or firearms permitted on site.

FINDINGS:

1. That the Interim Use will not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other property in the immediate vicinity for the purposes already permitted, nor substantially diminish and impair property values within the immediate vicinity. Yes, the proposed use is not anticipated to diminish and impair values within the immediate area. All activities will take place several hundred feet from the nearest residential house.
2. That the establishment of the Interim Use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of surrounding vacant property for uses predominant in the area. Yes, the use will not impede normal development of this property or neighboring properties, the establishment of this business will not prevent adjoining landowners from developing their property for uses permitted in this zoning district like subdividing of lots and building homes.
3. That adequate utilities, access roads, drainage and other necessary facilities have been or are being provided. Yes, the use will not create a need of new utilities or access roads, the property size will allow adequate space for drainage and other necessary facilities.
4. That adequate measures have been or will be taken to provide sufficient off-street parking and loading space to serve the proposed use. Yes, the applicant has enough parking space to accommodate the proposed use.
5. That adequate measures have been or will be taken to prevent or control offensive odor, fumes, dust, noise and vibration, so that none of these will constitute a nuisance, and to control lighted signs and other lights in such a manner that no disturbance to neighboring properties will result. Yes, it is not anticipated to cause offensive odor, fumes, dust, noise and vibration to the immediate area.

Preliminary and Final Simple Plat for Highland Farms Third Addition-Headwater Homes LLC. Planning & Zoning

Nancy Riddle, Planning & Zoning Administrator

- Fobbe/Dolan unanimous approve Preliminary and Final Simple Plat for “Highland Farms Third Addition”, with the (2) Conditions as recommended by the Planning Advisory Commission and listed below, which consists of (2) Lots: PID # 01-537-0040 and Legal Desc: Highland Farms, Outlot D (full legal on file). Sec 33, Twp 35, Rge 26, Baldwin Township.

CONDITIONS:

1. Park dedication fees for 2 lots at \$800 per lot, totaling \$1,600. Park fees must be paid prior to the Public Works Dept signing the plat mylars.
2. The plat shall be recorded in the Office of the County Recorder/ Register of Titles, subject to recording fees, within one year of County Board approval of Final Plat.

Amending Zoning Ordinance-249-Section 16.2 Interim Use Permits, Subd 5.8, A.3, Conditions, “Contractor’s Yard”. Planning & Zoning

Nancy Riddle, Planning & Zoning Administrator

- Dolan/Schmiesing unanimous to amend Zoning Ordinance-249-Section 16.2 Interim Use Permits, Subd 5.8, A.3, Conditions, “Contractor’s Yard” to remove the set maximum for number of employees and number of vehicles and establish the maximum for employees and maximum number of vehicles through the Interim Use Permit.

Rum River Comprehensive Water Management Plan Joint Powers Agreement. Administration

Bruce Messelt, County Administrator

- Approved a Joint Powers Draft Agreement between the Counties of Aitkin, Benton, Crow Wing, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, and Sherburne each by and through its respective Board of Commissioners; and the Aitkin, Anoka, Benton, Crow Wing, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, and Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation Districts, each by and through its respective Board of Supervisors (collectively referred to as the SWCDs); and the Lower Rum River and Upper Rum River Watershed Management Organizations to collectively form the Rum River Watershed Implementation Partnership.

Commissioner Correspondence, Committee Reports, Upcoming Meetings, Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Fobbe - AMC Futures Meeting, Legislative Priorities Breakfast, Assisted with Vaccination Clinic at the Sherburne County Government Center, AMC Coffee & Conversation, MICA, Board of Soil & Water

Commissioner Dolan – Commissioner Dolan forgot his calendar at home and will report more at the next County Board Meeting.

Commissioner Burandt - BOA Applicant Meeting, Legislative Priorities Breakfast, Assisted with Vaccination Clinic at the Sherburne County Government Center

Commissioner Schmiesing – Legislative Priorities Breakfast, MICA, Metropolitan Emergency Services, AMC Board

Commissioner Danielowski - Unified Command, Legislative Priorities Breakfast, Assisted with Vaccination Clinic at the Sherburne County Government Center, MCIU (Gang Task), ATP 3, APO Board Meeting, Adjourn Regular Meeting, Open Community Health Board Meeting

Adjourn Community Healthy Board Meeting, Open Workshop Adjourn Workshop Meeting

HHS OBO Warrants		
12/31/20	591.95	OBO Venricor
	139.04	3 Payments less than 300
	730.99	Total

Commissioner Warrants		
12/31/20	200,278.83	General Revenue Fund
	84,924.76	Public Works Fund
	50.54	Human Service Fund
	48,207.97	Solid Waste Fund
	63,748.33	Jail Commissary Fund
	48,759.49	Justice Center Enterprise Fund
	57,774.14	Agency Collections
	6,919.00	Taxes & Penalties Fund
	510,663.06	Total

Commissioner Warrants – Forfeited Land Settlement 2020		
12/23/20	246,551.54	Forfeited Land Sale
	246,551.54	Total

Manual Warrants		
12/31/20	4,892.38	Agency Collections
	4,892.38	Total

Commissioner Warrants (2)		
1/7/21	67,787.49	Human Service Fund
	225.00	Agency Collections
	68,012.49	Total

Commissioner Warrants		
1/7/21	480.00	Databank IMX LLC
	1,456.09	Real Time Translations, Inc
	64,340.95	Sherburne County Auditor Treasurer
	950.00	U S Post Office
	785.45	7 Payments less than 300
	68,012.49	Total

Commissioner Warrants – Business Relief Grant		
1/8/21	60,310.00	General Revenue Fund
	60,310.00	Total

Commissioner Warrants		
1/8/21	1,520,427.32	General Revenue Fund
	255,038.08	Public Works Fund
	1,131.95	Human Service Fund
	562.41	Law Library Fund
	182.95	Solid Waste Fund
	11,200.22	Jail Commissary Fund
	6,385.27	Sherco Regional Rail Authority
	150,913.05	Justice Center Enterprise Fund
	6,902.25	Agency Collections
	1,952,743.50	Total

Manual Warrants		
1/8/21	8,910.56	Agency Collections
	8,910.56	Total

Raeanne Danielowski, Chairperson

Bruce Messelt, Administrator

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/06/21).

Sherburne County WARRANTS OR PUBLICATION Warrants Approved For Payment 1/06/2021		
<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
State Of Minnesota	2,017.00	
State Of Minnesota	2,105.00	
3 Payments less than 2000	4,788.56	
Final Total:	8,910.56	
(Published in the <i>Patriot</i> : 02/06/21).		

Sherburne County WARRANTS FOR PUBLICATION Warrants Approved For Payment 12/31/2020		
<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
4 Payments less than 2000	4,892.38	
Final Total:	4,892.3	
(Published in the <i>Patriot</i> : 02/06/21).		

Sherburne County WARRANTS FOR PUBLICATION Warrants Approved On 1/08/2021 For Payment 1/08/2021		
<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
Cohlab LLC	10,000.00	
KNSM Enterprises- Northern Lights Displ	10,000.00	
McDonald Pizza Ranch LLC	5,000.00	
Momentum Fitness Endeavor LLC	5,000.00	
Princeton Lodging Partners	10,000.00	
Pyramid Fitness Group LLC	5,000.00	
Southpaw Upholstery Corporation	5,310.00	
Thunder Blades	10,000.00	
Final Total:	60,310.00	
(Published in the <i>Patriot</i> : 02/06/21).		

Sherburne County WARRANTS FOR PUBLICATION Warrants Approved On 12/31/2020 For Payment 12/31/2020		
<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
Abrahamson/Carla	2,646.00	
Adani	3,035.00	
American Solutions For Business	18,821.63	
Anoka County	13,200.00	
Becker Collision & Glass Inc	14,819.57	
Edinger/Richard	2,609.36	
Galls, LLC	2,325.66	
Houston Engineering Inc	10,164.75	
Keefe Supply Company	11,022.88	
Laurene Baumgartner & MJS Dirt Works L	19,800.00	
Lee’s Commercial Weather Forecast Servi	2,728.50	
Marco Inc	5,142.00	
Maxima Supply	2,221.64	
MCCC LOCKBOX	15,479.00	
McGuire/Staci Lynn	2,867.04	
McMaster- Carr Supply Co	2,788.83	
MHSRC/Range	3,115.00	
Minnesota Elevator, Inc	5,181.00	
Minnesota Transportation Alliance	2,525.00	
MN Dept of Transportation	10,801.25	
New Look Contracting Inc	62,485.10	
Omnicare Inc	6,491.24	
Phoenix Supply	3,421.91	
Preferred Title	2,360.00	
Prophoenix	12,500.00	
Securus Technologies	22,512.62	
SGI	2,097.13	
Sherburne Co Swcd	34,321.50	
Sherburne Co Trail Assoc	27,405.64	
State Treasurer	29,923.50	
Summit Fire Protection	3,051.00	
Summit Food Service, LLC	45,131.97	
Tradewinds Electric LLC	24,291.00	
Treas City Of Big Lake	17,123.17	
126 Payments less than 2000	66,253.17	
Final Total:	510,663.06	
(Published in the <i>Patriot</i> : 02/06/21).		

Sherburne County WARRANTS FOR PUBLICATION Warrants Approved On 1/08/2021 For Payment 1/08/2021	
<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Assn of Minnesota Counties (AMC)	28,964.00
Bureau Of Criminal Apprehension	4,740.00
Carefree Cleaning LLC	3,932.00
Century Link	4,019.70
Connexus Energy	5,745.31
Dacotah Paper Co	3,139.83
Daikin Applied	2,232.75
Design Electrical Contractors Inc	2,636.27
Great River Regional Library	340,065.50
Greater St Cloud Development Corp	10,000.00
Insight Public Sector	4,545.00
InTech Software Solutions, Inc	13,850.00
Knife River	185,545.21
Mansfield Oil Co of Gainesville, Inc	8,879.94
Marco	8,372.09
MCIT	895,252.00
MENd Correctional Care, PLLC	197,108.31
Meyer Contracting, Inc	20,454.97
Micro Tel	3,028.00
Minnesota Inter- County Association (MIC	25,449.00
MN Assoc of Co Officers	2,130.00
Mn Dept Of Revenue	27,755.02
Mn Sheriff's Association	8,915.64
Prophoenix	10,300.00
Securus Technologies	6,655.22
Switchboard Advertising, LLC	2,500.00
The Wiley Law Office, PC	12,870.00
Tyler Investigative Services	2,509.00
USPS- POC (postage meter)/Quadiant	21,254.00
Windstream	2,021.81
WSB & Associates Inc	56,725.00
Zingtree LLC	3,600.00
60 Payments less than 2000	27,547.93
Final Total:	1,952,743.50
(Published in the <i>Patriot</i> : 02/06/21).	

Public Notices

Sherburne County Notices

Planning and Zoning Administration NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

The Sherburne County **PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION** will be a partially virtual meeting at **6:00 P.M February 18, 2021**, at the Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, Minnesota to hold a public hearing for all unincorporated areas of Sherburne County in which the County has zoning and land use authority, to consider the following application(s) and other planning and zoning related topics.

In response to COVID-19, Governor Waltz has declared a state of emergency. In response to the state of emergency, the only people that will be in attending the meeting in person will be the Planning Commission Chair, County staff and the applicant. Planning Advisory Commission members will participate by telephone or other electronic means. The applicants may also choose to also attend via phone or electronic means. The meeting will be broadcast live at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfnj5HDkSc48MnVx5_jK-g

We are discouraging in-person testimony, but if the public chooses to attend the meeting, we are continuing to practice social distancing and masks are required to be worn at all times in the building. Depending on the amount of people in attendance, you may be asked to wait in the hall outside the Board room until the hearing you are interested in begins.

Public comments may also be submitted in writing or heard via phone during the Public Hearing in one of the following manners that will conform with MDH and CDC guidelines to minimize gatherings:

- 1. You may submit written testimony by emailing Carrie Winter at carrie.winter@co.sherburne.mn.us by 11:00 a.m., February 18, 2021. Please provide your name and address.*
- 2. You may submit written testimony to the Sherburne County Planning & Zoning Office, Attn: Carrie Winter, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, Mn 55330, and the Planning & Zoning Office must receive those comments by February 18, 2021. Please provide your name and address.*
- 3. If you wish to make a comment during the public hearing, please call the Planning & Zoning Office at 763-765-4450 before 11:00 a.m. on February 18, 2021, to receive instructions.*
- 4. A copy of the staff report can be viewed approximately one week prior to the meeting at: <https://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/agendacenter>. If you have any further questions, please contact our office at 763-765-4450.*

Steve & Cindy Mockenhaupt: Request for Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Personal Storage Structure. PID # 35-408-0270. Legal Desc: Ann Lake Beach, Lot 14, Block 2 (full legal on file). Sec 15, Twp 34, Rge, 27, Orrock Township. .1 acres in the General Rural District and within the Recreational Development Shoreland District of Ann Lake.

Karl and Beth Virkus: Request for Preliminary and Final Simple Plat of “CRANBERRY HILL FARMS SECOND ADDITION” consisting of (2) lots. PID # 30-522-0105 and # 50-522-0115. Legal Desc: Cranberry Hill Farms, Lot 1, Block 1 and Cranberry Hill Farms, Lot 3, Block 1 (full legal on file). Sec 12, Twp 34, Rge 26, Livonia Township. 12.99 acres in the General Rural District.

Scott Lillestrand: Request for Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for

Personal Storage Structure. PID # 10-115- 2104. Legal Desc: The West Half of the Northeast Quarter (full legal on file). Sec 15, Twp 33, Rge 27, Big Lake Township. 20 acres in the General Rural District.

All T Trux & Tractors LLC (Property Owner, 1st Choice Properties LLC): Request Interim Use Permit (IUP) for Business Selling Vehicles, Boats, Farm Equipment & Auto Repair/Mechanical or Body. PID # 10-547-0105. Legal Desc: Spankys Corner Second Addition, Lot 1, Block 1 (full legal on file). Sec 24, Twp 33, Rge 28, Big Lake Township. 4.6 acres in the Natural Environment Shoreland District of Beulah Pond.

MC Development of Elk River LLC (Property Owner, RW Land Holdings LLC): Request for Preliminary and Final Simple Plat of “DEAN ANDERSON THIRD ADDITION” consisting of (1) lot. PID # 30-534-0010. Legal Desc: Dean Anderson Second Addition, Outlot A (full legal on file). Sec 27, Twp 34, Rge 26, Livonia Township. 8.13 acres in the General Rural District.

MC Development of Elk River LLC (Property Owner, RW Land Holdings LLC): Request Interim Use Permit (IUP) for Highway Planned Unit Development-Mini Storage. PID # 30-534-0010. Legal Desc: Dean Anderson Second Addition, Outlot A (full legal on file). Sec 27, Twp 34, Rge 26, Livonia Township. 8.13 acres in the General Rural District.

Amendment to the Sherburne County Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance: Request for an Amendment to the Sherburne County Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance to establish a definition of “Buildable Lot Area.”

Zoning Ordinance proposed amendments: Section 5 Definitions and Rules of Language Construction, Subd 2 Definitions, establish a definition of a Buildable Lot Area. Section 7 Agricultural District, Subd 6.2, establish Buildable Lot Area.

Subdivision Ordinance proposed amendment: Section 5 Definitions and Rules of Language Construction, Subd 2 Definitions, establish a definition of a Buildable Lot Area. Section 8, Subdivision, 5(B)(5); Section 10, subd. 5(C)(5); and Section 10.1, subd. 15(C)(5). Section 11, Subdivision. 4(A):

A complete copy of the Ordinance Amendment proposal is available for public viewing in the Planning and Zoning Department at the Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, MN Monday through Friday between office hours 8:00am to 4:30pm.

The hearing of these requests is not limited to those receiving copies of this notice, and if you know of any neighbor or affected property owner who for any reason has not received a copy, it would be appreciated if you would inform them of this hearing.

Recommendations made by the Sherburne County Planning Advisory Board may be subject to further action by the Township of Baldwin, the Township of Livonia or the Township of Big Lake, and the Sherburne County Board of Commissioners.

Recommendations that are forwarded to the County Board from this public hearing will be heard at the March 16, 2021 County Board of Commissioners Meeting at 9:00 AM in the County Board Room located at the Sherburne County Government Center.

Nancy Riddle, Zoning Administrator
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/06/21).

Sherburne County Board of Commissioners

January 19, 2021 - County Board Workshop Minutes

The Board Chair opened the County Board Workshop Meeting.

Broadband Feasibility Study Update. Administration

Dan Weber, Assistant County Administrator

- Reviewed the Broadband Feasibility Study and Discussed Potential Countywide Broadband Initiatives.

Driver’s License Office Staffing Needs for 2021 and Beyond. Auditor / Treasurer

Diane Arnold, County Auditor/Treasurer, Carmen Schommer

- Discussed and considered staffing needs for Driver’s License Division for 2021 and beyond.

Human Resources Department Update. Administration

Tammy Bigelow

- Risk Management Specialist Staci Hecht provided the Board with an update on the following:
 - Safety Overview
 - 2020 Highlights, COVID-19
 - Internal Process Information,
 - New Learning Management System
 - Communications Media Specialist Dave Unze provided the board with an update on the recruitment brochure for Sherburne County.
- Learning & Development/Recruitment Business Partner Doni Deters provided the Board with an update on
 - 2021 Supervisor Training & Diversity update,
 - Training: Leadership Essentials
 - Interviewing,
 - Diversity Initiative

Human Resource Coordinator Emily Scharber provided an update on the implementation of the DiSC Program. Which is a personality assessment program that County staff will utilize.

- Human Resource Director Tammy Bigelow provided overview of HR Metrics highlighting:
 - Employee Demographics
 - Retention
 - Health & Well-Being
 - 2021 HR Projects

Adjourn Workshop Meeting
Raeanne Danielowski, Chairperson
Bruce Messelt, Administrator
(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/06/21).

Sherburne County

WARRANTS FOR PUBLICATION

Warrants Approved On 12/31/2020 For Payment 12/31/2020

Vendor Name	Amount
City Of Princeton	17,175.66
City Of St Cloud	2,458.31
City Of Zimmerman	6,358.00
ISD 728 - Elk River Area School District	15,701.12
Treas Baldwin Township	3,437.65
Treas Becker Township	12,035.15
Treas Big Lake Township	21,893.24
Treas City Of Big Lake	16,865.29
Treas Ind School Dist 477	42,539.66
Treas Ind School Dist 727	73,002.32
Treas,Ind School Dist 726	26,415.46
Treas,Ind School Dist 742	5,317.28
7 Payments less than 2000	3,352.40
Final Total:	246,551.54

(Published in the *Patriot*: 02/06/21).

Letters To Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

The January 30th editorial page was a lot of hyperbole & conflating of issues beginning with contributing writer Penny Leuthard commentary on censorship. As I see her commentary there are two central themes. The first is misrepresenting what censorship is and is not. Cable news outlets & social media companies have a bias, and it is to the individual to seek a more complete story. The prohibiting of or the suppression of opposing views across the whole social media and news spectrum is censorship. When news outlets & social media channels select content, they are creating viewership. In short, it is a money grab, not censorship.

The second Equal Opportunity Laws, the EEOC essentially supports the 1964 Civil Rights Act. A decision to support a specific politician and policies is a choice. In broad terms this choice differs from your choice of religious beliefs, protected by the 1964 Civil Rights Act. If your reputation does not reflect an organization’s mission, vision or work culture they can choose not to employ you. Please do not conflate the two, its disingenuous & dismissive of marginalized groups.

John Polenik
Clear Lake, MN

TO THE EDITOR:

Donald Trump told 30,573 lies and misrepresentations of facts during his 4-year presidency. (*The Washington Post*) This unprecedented “decay of truth” is poisonous to democracy. The treasonous lie that the election was stolen from him (it wasn’t), that he won (he didn’t), attempted to question the fact that more U.S. Citizens voted for President Joe Biden than him.

And on January 6, 2021 he not only repeated that lie, but said to a crowd of supporters “if you don’t fight like hell, you’re not going to have a country anymore”. That mob attacked the U.S. Capitol, and five people died. He incited domestic terrorism to mount a coup and must be held accountable. Facts, and evidence, and reality matter.

In 1923, Adolf Hitler led a failed coup. He was treated leniently. Germany moved on. A decade later, he was a dictator, and the worst disaster in the history of the civilized world ensued. In 2021, when the president of the United States leads a failed coup, we must not move on.

Debra Carlson
Clear Lake, MN

TO THE EDITOR:

In response to Ms. Mosher’s letter to the editor of the *Patriot*:

While Mr. Trump may have done some good, it is not difficult to say that his good deeds do not excuse statements that were discriminatory, egregious, inflammatory, intimidating, hateful, etc. If you think it is the democrats that are mudslinging, it is Mr. Trump himself that is doing the slinging against the citizens of America. Many of us were not willing to overlook his allegation that President Obama wasn’t born in the U.S., that Senator McCain was not a hero because he got caught, that he made fun of human disabilities, that Mexico was going to pay for the border wall, that you can grab a woman by the p**** and get away with it (it was just locker room talk they said. Mr. Trump is in 70’s. He’s still engaged in locker room talk? Immaturity comes to mind); the election was a fraud, the list is long. And then there

is January 6, 2021. And after 4 years of his lies, please don’t tell us that his words “if you don’t fight for your country, you won’t have a country” didn’t imply what they should do. We are not naïve. It is more than unrealistic to think we have to respect a person of this demeanor. These comments were the tip of the iceberg. And you, Ms. Mosher, want us to overlook them? Sorry, no can do.

If you cannot accept the fact that he lost the election, do not blame the democrats for your inability to do so. It’s too bad you feel ashamed to call yourself a Minnesotan. It is a beautiful State, filled with beautiful people who have integrity, values, morals, honesty, and the freedom to vote for whom we choose. I think most of us respect the office of the president, but we are not compelled to respect a president who engages in such undesirable behavior.

Judy Benson
Becker, MN

TO THE EDITOR:

In response to Penny Leuthard’s January 28th guest column on censorship, I agree with the author that censorship is not a partisan issue. We all need to be vigilant in protecting our first amendment rights. I disagree that we should be extremely concerned by the recent decisions of social media platforms to enforce their terms of service. Facebook and Twitter are not the government. They are private businesses that have their own free speech rights, they do not have the ability or desire to enforce censorship. We are free to use other services.

Her complaint that former Trump employees and supporters are having a hard time finding jobs due to censorship is also misinformed. Laws preventing employment discrimination prohibit decisions based on race, color, religion, national origin, or gender only. Employers are free to consider past employment, public statements, and job performance. Words and behaviors carry consequences.

This is not China. We have strong support of freedom of speech, sometimes to a fault. The politically motivated and proven lies that prevented us from dealing with a deadly pandemic and a deadly insurrection need to be dealt with. We need accountability for the damage caused by those lies to move on.

Ron Thiessen
Clear Lake, MN

TO THE EDITOR:

I just want to comment on the last two weeks letters, Mary Jo Mosher’s concerning Trump and the great things he has done for us and our country. Receiving only hate and harassment for his effort. I can only say I really appreciated reading her letters.

The censorship editorial by Penny Leuthard was really excellent. We haven’t turned our TV on for months. Last fall with COVID and the election the mainstream news was all lies. It got so I couldn’t look at the newscasters stupid faces.

And the new socially correct prime time shows were no better. So we just shut our TV off. Think I’ll take Penny’s advice and try watching a foreign newscast.

Two other excellent letters about the Northstar waste and the Baby Killers. How in a civilized country did it ever get to be legal to kill babies ??

Vern Smith
Becker MN

WE’RE HIRING!

Citizens Alliance Bank is seeking applicants for the following positions:

Loan Servicing Specialist - Howard Lake
RE Loan Processing Specialist - Howard Lake
Teller I - Granite Falls
Human Resource Lead - Clara City
Operations Analyst - Clara City
Cash Management Specialist II - Clara City
Credit Analyst II - Clara City
Branch Admin Support Spec - Clara City

To view our job posting or [Apply Online](#) please visit:

citizensalliancebank.com/careers



Citizens Alliance Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer including Veterans & Individuals with Disabilities



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Editorials/Opinions

Embracing Winter

No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn. The holidays are well behind us, but winter is far from over. This is the time of year when winter weather may begin to wear us down.

I stumbled across some interesting facts while re-researching the season of winter. For example, snowflakes come in a variety of sizes. You can hear thundersnow when the conditions are right. The earth is closest to the sun during winter.

Winter is often defined by meteorologists as three calendar months with the lowest average temperatures. In Minnesota, it seems winter lasts far longer than three months.

Winter allows perennial plants to take a much needed period of rest before coming to life in the spring. Several people I know start growing plants indoors in March or April in anticipation of the gardening season.

This winter, we were blessed with a string of days featuring beautiful prime ice (also called hoar frost), which brought joy to several otherwise bleak days. My mom always inspired me to take note of the beauty all around us in every season.

Growing up on a dairy farm, the weather played a huge role every day. My 31 year old son Alex still milks cows and grows crops with my brother Russell on my parents' farm. We thank the Lord when the rain falls after the crops are planted and when the rain pauses for the freshly cut hay to dry. Anyone who works outside for a living is grateful when winter weather is moderate. Nice weather makes daily outdoor chores less brutal and equipment functions much better when temperatures remain above zero.

I have fond memories of growing up on the farm and our dad pulling us behind the Allis Chalmers tractor with a car hood (hillbilly sled). Dad also flooded the



By Mary Nehring,
Contributing Writer

pond in the pasture so we could ice skate after school. We would ice skate until our feet were numb and then go in the house where mom would serve up hot chocolate and a snack.

There are many fun things to do during the winter in central Minnesota. For example, Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge offers walking, hiking, cross country skiing and snowshoeing until

are a blessing as we anticipate the arrival of spring. Longer days offer people more of an opportunity to exercise outdoors after work.

Many of my nieces and nephews are doing outdoor activities several days a week with their young children. It is so fun to see and great exercise. They enjoy outdoor campfires, boot hockey, ice fishing, sledding, cross country/downhill skiing, pulling the kids on sleds behind snowmobiles and making ice and snow forts.

The kids (age 4 and up) also enjoy downhill skiing. The last time I went downhill skiing (as a teenager), I almost ran in to the lodge at Powder Ridge.

Another fun activity I have always considered attending is the St. Paul Winter Carnival (celebrating its 135th year). They are



WINTER FUN ON GULL RIVER. Many of my nieces and nephews enjoy outdoor activities during Minnesota winters. Pictured at the Porter home on Gull River near Brainerd: William, Isla and Ingrid Porter (parents Kate and Kurt) and Emilia and Jack Murray (parents Andrew and Abby). The kids are blessed with many acres to go cross country skiing and a plethora of other outdoor activities year round. Submitted photo.

February 28th. Most of the refuge is open unless it is marked closed. After Feb. 28th, people must stay on the trails (or Wildlife Drive, once it opens).

Ice fishing is a popular winter activity in Minnesota. This year, I have even heard restaurants are offering food delivery to people in fish houses in some places.

Added daylight hours

featuring a drive thru snow and ice sculpture park at the MN State Fairgrounds. The event runs through February 8th.

I am making an effort to stay positive in the closing weeks of winter and get some exercise outdoors despite the cold.

Friends And Neighbors



By Mary Kiffmeyer
State Senator

ing compliance with family child care health and safety licensing standards.

Providers who have been in the field for ten years with no issues should not be treated in the same way that first-timers are. With this risk-based model for monitoring compliance, licensing sanctions will be also be based on potential risk. My goal with this bill is to create a child-centered, family-friendly, and fair model to reward good behavior while creating barriers for those who violate the rules for health and safety of the children.

Minnesota seniors and their vaccine availability is having a very rocky rollout, especially for those who are most vulnerable to the virus. Every week there is a complicated new plan, system, lottery, or who-knows-what to get vaccines

administered, but those who need it most are often being shut out. This inconsistency is frustrating at best, and life-threatening at worst for these seniors – it does not make sense to say we are prioritizing seniors while redistributing and re-routing vaccines to younger healthier people.

I am confused about why the governor continues to build a new public sector distribution system when the infrastructure for private distribution is and has always been in place. Local clinics, pharmacies, and hospitals are run by highly knowledgeable and experienced people who know their community, the people within it, and what they need. We need to use the resources we already have, that people already know how to use.

This, my friends, is universal healthcare in action. Government-run healthcare is not the answer to our problems, but the beginning of problems we know follow in the footsteps of socialism.

Please reach out to me with your thoughts, questions, or concerns. Hearing from you is how I shape my actions here at the Capitol. Please call, email, stop by, or we can meet in district at a social distance!

Becker City Administrator's Blog

Hello and thank you for visiting the City Administrator's Blog!

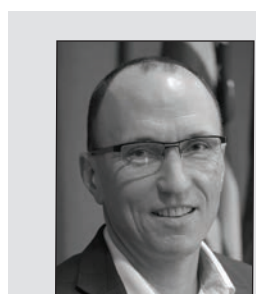
Today, I would like to talk about Xcel Energy's Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan 2020 2034 (IRP), Docket Number 19-368. I also want to encourage you to support the IRP by submitting comments on or before February 11, 2021 to the Public Utilities Commission.

Xcel Energy's plan to transform the way electricity is delivered to consumers is groundbreaking, including closing coal power plants early, expanding wind and solar power generation, continuing to use carbon-free nuclear power while ensuring reliability by building a natural gas combined cycle power plant in Becker.

Using efficient natural gas will be a cornerstone of reducing carbon emissions and delivering reliable and cost-effective electricity for homes and business. The Becker natural gas plant is the path forward to 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050.

Here's why you should support the IRP and the Becker natural gas plant:

- The natural gas plant in Becker will be a key asset to deliver affordable, efficient electricity when wind and solar production is low and when electric demand is greater than what renewable energy can provide.
- The natural gas plant in Becker will have about 80% lower carbon emissions annually than the current Sherco coal plants because of the smaller size of the plant and significantly lower emissions



By Greg Prusinske
Becker City Administrator

from gas compared to coal.

- Natural gas is the transition resource we all need as carbon-free generation and long-term power storage technology continues to develop.
- With today's technology, natural gas and nuclear are the best ways to cost-effectively provide power when renewables aren't available.

- The Becker natural gas plant will ensure grid stability, electric service reliability and will take advantage of the region's existing transmission system which was built around the Sherco generating plant thereby saving rate payers the cost to build new infrastructure. Natural gas plays a crucial role in stabilizing the power grid and integrating the high levels of renewable energy coming on-line and being proposed.
- The newly transformed Sherco site will continue to be the foundation for additional economic development activities across the state and help deliver new jobs and capital investment to the area that has hosted the region's largest power plant for decades.
- The IRP proposes a diverse energy mix which will reduce carbon emis-

sions, protect reliability, and keep electricity costs affordable and limit dependence on a single fuel source.

- The IRP calls for continuing expansion of renewables, as a robust mix of energy sources ensures competitive and reliable electric service.
- The IRP, which includes the natural gas plant, will provide an insurance policy against events like the 2019 Polar Vortex which vividly demonstrates that renewable "droughts" are possible and can last significantly longer than the few hours of storage that current or foreseeable battery storage technologies can economically provide.

The Integrated Resource Plan will use innovation and technology to reduce carbon emissions. In addition to being a critical economic driver and delivering reliable electricity, the Becker natural gas plant will continue to support the region as a competitive business environment.

Xcel Energy continues to lead the way on clean energy! This plan to reduce carbon emissions by more than 80% by 2030 is a pathway to a world we can all live in!

Please support the Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan and the Becker Natural Gas Plant by this link <https://mn.gov/puc/consumers/speak-up/> and refer to Docket Number 19-368 to submit your comments of support.

Thank you for your ongoing support!


ATTENTION!

Letters to the editor and editorials are an important part of the **PATRIOT Newspaper**. Our readers share a wide range of perspectives on current issues.

Letters that are well-written, have a clear opinion and responsive to current events are more likely to be chosen for publication. The **PATRIOT** also seeks to publish letters from a range of readers of diverse backgrounds.

The **PATRIOT** does not discriminate due to age, sexual orientation, race or political affiliation. The columns from political parties are unsolicited and do not necessarily reflect the **PATRIOT'S** views.

Columns are typically written by **PATRIOT** staffers and/or seated politicians who have stakes in the communities of the **PATRIOT** readership.



PATRIOT

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Business Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8:00 am to 5:00 pm • Friday OFF

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

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

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EDITOR from page 8

TO THE EDITOR:

A long time ago, in a land far away, there lived a group of knights endowed with a unique calling. Servants to the King of this world, they were given the task of creating peace within the various lands. For centuries, a bitter war had been fought in one of the King's kingdoms between two noble families. Both believed that they alone were the spokespeople for the King, that they were the sole and rightful rulers of the kingdom and that by their leadership, the land would overflow with prosperity and safety for all. To both families, the other side was the enemy - complicit in causing the divide. The knights, however, had been advised by the King, before sending them out, to continue loving and serving the people of this kingdom as he had done for them: regardless of their name or family allegiance. And so they did...at least for a while until, one day, the knights began to quarrel amongst themselves.

After this fissure, knights could be found in both families, misplacing their allegiance to the King with allegiance to one of the two noble lines. At first, some of the knights tried remaining separate from the families, but eventually, different moral issues became championed and the knights were enticed to pick a side, each family promising the possession of righteousness and truth.

Gifted with the magical ability of Listening and the task of Peacemaking, maybe they could have restored balance to the world. But lo', the knights were led astray, believing that their family was righteous and the other utterly evil, beyond redemption - ironically, a lie stemming from neither family, but the ruler of a far-away world, wishing for the kingdoms to destroy themselves. If only the knights had remained loyal to the King by continuing to serve everyone, regardless of their allegiance.

**Brody Hed
Becker MN**

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Announcements

Sherburne County Recorder Vital Statistics Marriage Application Report January 2021

Richard Joseph Peterson and Teresa Ann Jaakkola of Clear Lake.
Cody Nathan Thien of Elk River and Erin Elizabeth Bozich of Rogers.
Janet Marie Kmecik and Steven Richard Hopkes of Zimmerman.
Abigail Frances Stanley and Daniel Patrick Turner Jr of Big Lake. Darryl
Owen Waletzko and Theresa Marie Walker of Big Lake. Chloe Rae Mad-
sen and Cameron Clifton Cox of Becker. Shanell Dee Scully of Otsego
and Jordan Michael Hofseth of Robbinsdale. Joshua Randall Vanwagner
and Kaitlyn Ann Kalusche of Saint Cloud. Steven Lewis Tschida and
Stephanie Ann Lomsak-Shore of Zimmerman. Dillon James Paumen and
Brianna Marie Laduke of Big Lake. Becky Marie Lassila and Steven
William Ernst of Princeton. Austin Ray Sherrill and Beri Adlai Engracia
Islas of Princeton. Cynthia Lizbeth Macedonio of Albertville and Andrew
Dylan Lemmermann Nelson of Anoka. Ryan Keith Olson and Sarah Beth
Trehey of Zimmerman. Abraham Michael Williams of Elk River and
Taylor Julia Fournier of Andover. Carter Christopher Miller and Hailey
Yvonne Morrison-Erickson of Elk River. Satkar Kc and Xeroxa Joshi of
Saint Cloud. Natasha Michele Mcallister and Derek Rolf Neumann of
Big Lake. Amanda Mae Golden and Jerett Frederick Spiess of Big Lake.
Sopunn Chea Poch and Serey Sok of Otsego. Jordan Patrick Backhaus
and Elizabeth Marie Sexton of Elk River. Cody Richard Schyma and
Paige Michaela Bursch of Big Lake. Tully Daniel Boushek and Saman-
tha Marie Moore of Elk River. Jeffrey Allen Bowman of Princeton and
Kalee Sue Kitzman of Big Lake. Zachary Jordan Sautler and Jill Lee
Marcinkowski of Elk River. Siblingud and Jeanette Patricia Siblingud
of Zimmerman. Jessie Duane Hudson and Johannah Gabriel Banie of Big
Lake. Cindy Yang and Savuth Van of Elk River. Angel Lynn Jaschke and
Nicholas Ryan Hillebrand of Elk River. Gabriel Christopher Huebner
Soriano and Samantha Lynn Hanson of Monticello. Nunti N/A Sinambela
and Samuel John Bell of Avon. Ryan Daniel Weber of Saint Michael and
Alexis Michaela Roisin MacCarthur of Elk River.

Becker Area Senior Center (BASC) Upcoming Events

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



Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney



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TRUCKING: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Semi/Tri-Dump/Tandem/Lowboy & Side Dump Drivers	BRIDGE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Operations Mgr.•Carpenter/Laborer/Welder	GRADING: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Excavator Operator•Utility Operator

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This Weeks Calendar Events:

- Sun. - Feb. 7, 2021:**
- Super Bowl LV
 - National Burn Awareness Week (2/7-2/13)
 - Ballet Introduced to the US: Anniversary, 1827
- Mon. - Feb. 8, 2021:**
- Boy Scouts of America Annivernary Day
- Tues. - Feb. 9, 2021:**
- National Pizza Day
 - Safer Internet Day
 - World Ag Expo (CANCELED) (2/9-2/11)
- Wed. - Feb. 10, 2021:**
- All The News That's Fit To Print: Anniversary, 1897
- Thurs. - Feb. 11, 2021:**
- Moon Phase: New Moon
- Fri. - Feb. 12, 2021:**
- Great Backyard Bird Count (2/12-2/15)
 - Chinese New Year (Year of the Ox)
 - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday (1809)
 - Westminster Dog Show at Madison Square Garden (2/7-2/13)
- Sat. - Feb. 13, 2021:**
- Anniversary of the First Public School (Est. 1635)

Game Time

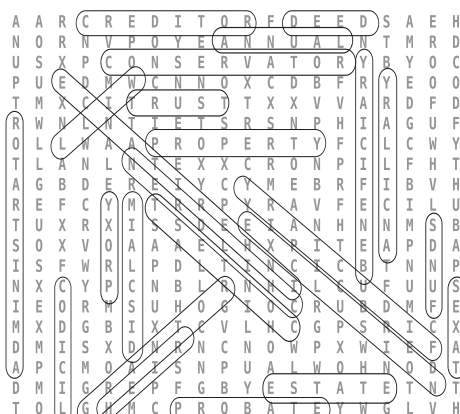
ESTATE PLAN WORD SEARCH

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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

ADMINISTRATOR
ANCILLARY
ANNUAL
BENEFICIARY
CHILDREN
CODICIL
CONSERVATOR
CONTEST
CREDITOR
DEED
DISCLAIM
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EXCLUSION
FIDUCIARY
FUNDS
GRANTOR
HEIR
INHERITANCE
PROBATE
PROPERTY
PROXY
TAKES
TRUST
WILL



Area News

PARK from page 1

Many residents cited the current rural feel to the lake, which has a maximum depth of just nine feet of water and according to the locals doesn't currently see a great deal of boat traffic. Adding a large, regional park with many visitors was something they felt would disturb the current, quiet environment enjoyed by the locals.

One individual offered that he had done research and he found that when parks were established, taxes usually went up on neighboring parcels, but home values went down.

Several residents, however, were less opposed to the concept of the park and cited what could happen to the lake and water quality if a developer were to build single family homes on the property and offer deeded lake access to dozens of homeowners. However, these individuals still felt that there should be some strict rules and guidelines for the development of the area, focusing on preserving as much of the natural landscape as possible.

Another neighbor offered the opinion that the land should be offered up for sale and then developed for agriculture, including the idea of establishing rice paddies for Hmong farmers in the lowland swamp areas.

One area of apparent agreement

among the many residents seemed to be an opposition to the county offering camping access at the park. Trash, noise and other unruly behavior were all cited as reasons why a park should not welcome overnight guests.

Several taxpayers noted the apparently negative side effects afflicting the Ann Lake campground area near Orrock as a reason for prohibiting camping at the park.

The potential for perimeter fencing around the park was discussed by several area homeowners, with one county staffer noting that many public spaces instead have buffer zones of between 50 and 100 feet of undeveloped land. This type of undisturbed area, as well as ample signage, was cited as the preferred method to discourage visitors from venturing off the county owned property.

Saturday was the first of several opportunities for the public to offer input on the proposal, as residents are also encouraged to go to the Sherburne County website to offer their concerns and ideas.

Updates on the county's continuing efforts at gathering input and potential next steps will also be communicated via the website.



NEIGHBORS. Trevor Tuorila, left, discussed the map of the proposed park with Steve Kustermann. Both men own homes and property parcels which abut the proposed park, and came to gather information and voice concerns about some of the impacts its development could have on adjoining landowners (Patriot photo by Mark Kolbinger).



Sherb. Co. Extends COVID Business Relief Program

Submitted Article

Sherburne County Commissioners on Tuesday extended the application period for the County's 2021 COVID-19 Business Relief Program.

The extended application period runs from Feb. 3 through Feb. 12 for businesses that suffered losses due to COVID-19.

The second application period will allow businesses additional time to apply and will make grant funds available to some businesses that previously were not eligible, namely certain home-based businesses.

For businesses that didn't apply for the previous round of grant funding and want to apply for this round, go to www.co.sherburne.mn.us and click on the news item "COVID-19 grant funding" to find the link to the application.

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SCHMIDT from page 1

an impact. The MDE can be emailed at MDE-ContactUs@state.mn.us.

Student's report

One student council member gave the student's report to the school board.

Secondary students have transitioned back to a hybrid model, with Group A students attending on Monday and Tuesday, Group B students attending on Wednesday and Thursday, and all students attending from a distance on Friday.

The student council will be writing a newspaper article on how the different activity groups have adapted to comply with COVID-19.

The National Honor Society is collecting cans for "OutFront Minnesota."

Student council is making plans for an Arbor Day event, and to promote seat-belt safety.

Most high school sports are back with masking regulations.

Superintendent's Report

Minnesota School Board Association Officer's workshops are taking place throughout February. All board members are invited to attend, if they choose.

Around 200 school staff members have received their COVID-19 vaccines. Supt. Schmidt stated he was glad some of his staff were able to get

the vaccinations as the state switches to a lottery system to distribute vaccinations going forward.

COVID-19 numbers are continuing to drop, with statistics showing the statewide infection rate at 3.2%. An infection rate under five percent indicates that the community transmission is under control. Staff is being



screened for the disease once every other week.

Upcoming Bond Referendum

Supt. Schmidt presented the "Playbook" for the upcoming referendum, covering improvements to the school campus and buildings as outlined by a poll sent out to residents last fall. The goal of the board is to have the referendum pass, and then to refinance existing school board debt in order to pay for the improvements without the need to raise taxes. Schmidt went over the reasoning behind the items on the referendum. The board will be planning some public meetings where citizens

may voice their opinions on the bond referendum. The voting will take place May 11.

Spring Break

The board discussed whether or not to bring back spring break. The reasoning behind not having a spring break was that families tended to have their own spring breaks that didn't match up with the school calendar, keeping students out of school for a longer period of time. The board therefore decided to give the students and staff a couple of long weekends during the spring trimester instead, so when families inevitably decided to take their vacation when it worked for them, there was less worry about students being out of school for an extended period of time.

However, board member Aaron Jurek thought it would be prudent to re-address the issue in order to hear the opinions of the two new board members. All the board members seemed inclined to stick to the current system of having a couple of long weekends. The board approved the calendar as it was presented, but could always revisit the topic if they felt a need to do so.

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BECKER from page 1

worked on restoring an old barn just outside the city. Johnson and her team of volunteers used reclaimed pieces from other barns in the area to do the project, and she hopes that this summer the group will be able to start offering classes.

Johnson was also happy to report that all the work had been done through donations, and that the group is committed to not taking out any loans. Currently, the group is raising funds to restore the milk house.

There is a possibility to hold events in the barn next fall and winter, such as a Santa visit, a Halloween event, and possibly a square dance.

"There have been some people out there maybe using this as a photo opportunity," Johnson said with an accusatory glance at board member Becky Olmscheid. "Which is perfectly fine, Becky, but I have not seen the photos yet!"

The board members laughed and confessed they were all excited to see the project coming together.

Sherburne County Attorney's Report

Kathleen Heaney, Sherburne County Attorney, gave her annual presentation to the board members. She went over the numbers for misdemeanors, felonies, and other crimes handled by the Sherburne County Attorney's Office, totaling 456

cases coming from Becker in 2020. In the last year, the number of cases filed went up by 14%.

Currently, Heaney's office is working through backlog after COVID-19 related shutdowns. Currently, business is being handled via Zoom, but the process is much slower than it normally would be, when handled in-person.

Heaney finished her presentation by stating how much she enjoyed working with the City of Becker and the Becker Police, and that she is glad Chief Brent Baloun decided to stay in Becker.

Committee Reports

The board members went on to give their committee reports for the month.

Rick Hendrickson said the budget committee went over the audit for the golf course, finding no discrepancies. The Becker Community Center was hit fairly hard last year, but they continue to do their best to shore up numbers now that restrictions are lifting.

Robin Dingmann reported that the Parks and Rec Committee reviewed the 2020 projects, including the Carl E. Johnson playground, the dog park, and new signage. The committee proceeded then to look ahead to 2021 projects,

including a new basketball court, pickleball court, and splash pad. The Senior Center project is progressing, though slowly for now. Finally, Dingmann noted that the warming house at Kolbinger Park was open and skate rentals were available.

Becky Olmscheid, on the Fire Board, stated that the BFD received 509 calls in total for 2020, and there would be a new fire truck arriving in just a few weeks.

Hendrickson reported that the planning commission had been discussing zoning amendments regarding building heights. They also were discussing where the city should allow a "race track" to be placed, so that language could be set in the code in case of that eventuality.

Mike Doering said the Golf Committee reported that the Pebble Creek restaurant had been closed for 135 days in 2020 due to COVID-19, causing a loss of nearly \$250,000. Currently, the Golf Committee is working on pond restoration, deck expansion, and expanding the clubhouse for the new golf simulators.

Consent Agenda

With no more regular business, the board went on to approve the consent agenda, including accepting a donation from the Lions Club for the Snuffy's Landing project, approving the hiring and termination report, and entering into an agreement with Shoes for Crews, which provides footwear to city workers.

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Sports News

Lady Bulldogs keep cruising to victory

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Becker girls basketball team continues to live up to its top ranking in Class AAA, picking up a pair of victories in the last week over Mississippi 8 Conference foes.

Last Friday, the Bulldogs used a used a big first half to take a 55-19 lead before cruising to a 78-36 victory over Cambridge-Isanti.

Balanced scoring was again the theme for the Bulldogs, as four girls ended up in double figures.

Leading the way was Senior Julia Bengtson, as the Eastern Illinois commit



JULIA BENGTON has been enjoying a great stretch offensively for the Becker girls basketball team (Submitted Photo).

poured in 22 points in just 23 minutes of play. She also grabbed five rebounds, had four steals and dished out four assists in a tremendous all around game.

Maren Westin was also on fire in the game, scoring 15 points on 8-for-12 shooting from the floor. Adeline Kent chipped in 14 points and five assists, while Courtney Nuest hit for 10.

Becker played in the passing lanes all night, collecting a total of 16 steals in the game.

At Saints

Tuesday night, Becker traveled to St. Francis and absolutely dominated the

game, defeating the Saints 91-21.

Coach Dan Baird prefers to play an uptempo style with a lot of pressing, but only played the full court game for about the first four minutes of the game as Becker raced to a 52-7 halftime lead.

Becker again shot over 50% for the game, whereas the Saints were held under 25%, shooting just nine-of-40 for the contest.

In fact, Becker dominated every statistical category including transition points (50 to two), points off turnovers (49 to four), and points in the paint (58 to 10).

Becker forced 36 turnovers and only committed 11. A paltry nine free throw attempts were taken in the entire game by the two teams combined.

Leading Becker in scoring was Courtney Nuest, as she had a great night scoring 18 points in a 10-for-14 performance from the field. Teammate Bengtson was right behind with 16 points and an incredible eight steals for the Bulldogs.

Megan Gamble and Adeline Kent also reached double figures in scoring, as they each collected 13 points.

Additional scoring for

Becker: Maren Westin 9, Alayna Lindquist 5, Dani Nuest 3, Jackie Yoerg 7, Ayla Brown 5, Evelyn Krest 2.

Becker was scheduled to host Chisago Lakes on Thursday night before heading to North Branch for a Monday evening contest.

Bulldogs down Bluejackets, fall to Saints

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

Last Thursday, the Becker boys basketball team flipped the script on their usual game plan and used a punishing defense to defeat the Cambridge-Isanti Bluejackets, 68-54.

While it had been the offense that was carrying the team in its earliest victories, Becker showed its mettle on the defensive end to pick up the Mississippi 8 Conference victory.

The Bulldogs raced to a 41-16 halftime lead and then held on for the win behind a balanced scoring attack.

Becker was able to maneuver into the lane with ease, while forcing the Bluejackets to settle for jump shots, where they hit just 38% for the game. Becker finished with 40 points in the paint, while C-I had but 20.

Brady Paumen led the team in scoring with 14 points, followed closely by Alex Weiss with 13 and Nick Berglund with 10. Weiss played his best game of the year for the Bulldogs, being active on the offensive boards where he picked up four offensive rebounds.

Eric Seavert added nine points and six assists for Becker, while Hayden Harmoning chipped in eight points.

Neither team made it to the free throw line often, as they each earned 10 shots from the stripe, with Becker converting eight points to the Bluejackets' four.

In the battle of turnovers, the Bulldogs came out on top, committing just 18 to C-I's 24. This led to a 22-13 Bulldog advantage in points off of turnovers.

Rounding out the scoring for Becker were Tristan Pickwall (1), Ryan Bengtson (3), Nick Knute (4), and Landen Goebel (6).

Saints

In Tuesday night's loss to the Saints, Becker fell behind in the first half 42-35 and couldn't recover before the game ended with the Saints on top 79-71.

St. Francis used a 15-for-18 night at the free throw line to come out on top of the Bulldogs, who suffered just their second defeat of the season. Becker went 8-for-11 at the free throw line.

Nick Knute had a monster game for Becker, as he hit nine three-pointers total, including four in the first half, en route to scoring 33 points for the Bulldogs. As a team, Becker hit 13 shots from long range compared to just seven for the Saints. However, St. Francis used an advantage from inside the arc to put the game out of reach.

Brady Paumen chipped in 14 points for Becker, as he was aggressive all night and went 7-for-8 from the free throw line. Eric Seavert added 12 points for Becker, while Alex Weiss had seven. Hayden Harmoning (3) and Nick Berglund (2) rounded out the scoring for Becker.

The team is in for a busy part of the schedule, as they traveled to Chisago Lakes Thursday night for another conference game before hosting the North Branch Vikings in a Monday evening contest. Tuesday, the teams travels to Annandale to take on the Cardinals in one of the team's toughest non-conference match ups of the season.



Becker gymnasts show consistency in early meets

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Becker gymnastics team showed a great deal of consistency in its first two meets of the season, scoring a little over 126 points in both contests. While it wasn't quite enough in the season opening loss January 22 at North Branch, it was enough to pick up the win January 26 versus Chisago Lakes. They then followed that up with a huge win in their home opener over Maple Lake.

Vikings

In the opener against the North Branch Vikings, Becker had a good opening match despite falling 126.125 to 131.175.

"With this being the first meet of the season and only two and a half weeks of practice, we went into this meet knowing we still had some work to do on endurance and getting our routines up to the difficulty level that we want," said Coach Kayla Kalinowski. "Overall, there were some ups and downs along the way but we were

happy to get those first meet jitters out of the way and continue to improve as the season progresses."

The Bulldogs were operating at less than full strength in the meet, as two lineup regulars were dealing with minor injuries and did not compete. This led to many new gymnasts stepping up and competing at the varsity level for the first time.

"One gymnast that really showed us her mental toughness and ability to lead by example was 7th grader, Chloe Spear," said Kalinowski. "In her very first varsity meet, she competed all-around and put up some great scores to start the season."

Kalinowski also credited Riley Norberg with being a leader for the team, as she is working to regain her state-qualifying form from a year ago.

Becker scores and place finishes: Vault- Riley Norberg 8.95 (2nd), Tessa Maruska 8.45 (3rd), Sarah Woelfel 8.4 (5th); Bars: Sarah Woelfel 7.675 (3rd), Lauren Woelfel 7.4 (4th),

Chloe Spear 7.15 (T5th); Beam: Riley Norberg 8.0 (3rd), Lauren Woelfel 7.775 (T5th); Floor: Riley Norberg and Chloe Spear 8.5 (T3rd).

Wildcats

In their second meet of the season last Tuesday, Becker came out on top over the Wildcats by a score of 126.85 to 121.15.

"There were many things that we improved upon at this meet," said Kalinowski. "We had been working on paying more attention to details during this meet, and the gymnasts really seemed to dial in on the improvements we worked on in practice."

Kalinowski pointed out that the gymnasts are still trying to figure out how to handle not being in their usual beginning of the season form. Staying healthy while still trying to push their routines has been a difficult mix to master during the early part of the season.

"A few highlights from this meet were Riley Norberg's vault and floor, Lauren Woelfel's beam, Chloe Spear's floor, and Lauren

Biegler stepping up as a 7th grader and starting off our beam rotation," added the coach.

Becker scores and place finishes: Vault- Riley Norberg 9.25 (1st), Lauren Woelfel 8.375 (2nd), Sarah Woelfel 8.35 (4th); Bars: Sarah Woelfel 7.575 (2nd), Theresa Johnson 7.225 (3rd), Lauren Woelfel 7.225 (4th), Justine Vilmo 6.825 (5th); Beam: Lauren Woelfel 8.65 (1st), Riley Norberg 8.1 (3rd); Floor: Riley Norberg 8.775 (1st), Chloe Spear 8.375 (2nd), Sarah Woelfel 7.7 (4th), Tessa Maruska 7.675 (5th); All Around: Riley Norberg 32.35 (1st), Lauren Woelfel 31.525 (2nd), Sarah Woelfel 31.075 (3rd).

Irish

Tuesday night, Becker hosted Maple Lake and completely dominated the Irish, winning 134.275 to 126.45.

"The hard work in the gym these past few weeks is finally starting to all come together and it is showing in their scores," said Kalinowski. "We are excited as a coaching staff with the prog-

ress these girls have made, but we are still excited for the future as we know there is still so much more room to improve."

Kalinowski said that Riley Norberg had a great meet and helped lead the team to a season high school, while the coaching staff was also happy that Cassie Larson was able to finally make her debut, as an injury had delayed her season.

"Chloe Spear didn't let her age show as the 7th grader put together some beautiful routines to place in the top 3 on a few events," added Kalinowski.

Becker scores- Vault: Riley Norberg 9.425 (1), Sarah Woelfel 8.85 (2), Tessa Maruska 8.75 (3); Bars: Riley Norberg 8.45 (1), Sarah Woelfel 7.95 (2), Lauren Woelfel (3); Beam: Lauren Woelfel 8.9 (1), Riley Norberg 8.8 (2), Chloe Spear 8.4 (4); Floor: Riley Norberg 8.8 (1), Chloe Spear 8.7 (2), Sarah Woelfel 8.35; All Around: Riley Norberg 35.45 (1), Lauren Woelfel 32.3 (2).

Off to Illinois!

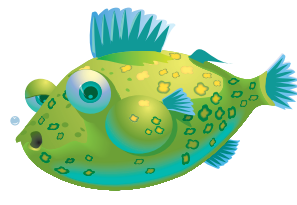


Skylar Kipka (front, middle) signed a National Letter of Intent to play Women's Lacrosse at North Central College in Naperville, IL next year! Becker High School staff are proud of all that Skylar has accomplished as a Becker Bulldog so far. "We look forward to watching her play lacrosse this spring and wish her the best of luck next year," said AD Dave Niemi. (Submitted Photo).

Reel fun...



EMMA BORREGO MOLINA, FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM SPAIN hosted by Morgan du'Monceaux, has been enjoying the great outdoors in Minnesota. She was quite nervous to drive on the ice while ice fishing recently on Eagle Lake, but very much enjoyed the experience of ice fishing. Emma said she looks forward to getting out again and enjoying the Minnesota tradition of ice fishing. Top photo: Emma is pictured with her host Morgan du'Monceaux and Amanda Van Allen. Inset photo: Emma and Morgan are pleased with the sunfish they caught. (Submitted Photo).



CWFD completes "MnFIRE Aware" training

Submitted Article

The Clearwater Fire Dept. joined a growing list of Minnesota fire departments becoming "MnFIRE Aware" of their occupational health risks Jan. 20.

The in-depth training, taught by firefighters and other health experts, gave Clearwater firefighters actionable tips on how to protect themselves from cancer, which is one of the three problems most commonly experienced by those

in the fire service, other than cardiac and emotional trauma issues.

The training class was hosted by the Minnesota Firefighter Initiative (MnFIRE), the statewide advocacy organization that equips firefighters and the people who care about them with resources to address the growing health crisis in the Minnesota fire service. MnFIRE recently received a \$400,000 grant from the Fire Service Advisory Committee (FSAC) to train

all Minnesota firefighters to become "MnFIRE Aware" of their occupational health risks by June 30, 2021. The Clearwater Fire Dept. joins a list of more than 8,000 firefighters who have already received the training statewide.

"By participating in this important training, Clearwater proved that the health of their hometown heroes is a priority," says George Esbensen, MnFIRE president. "There's a health crisis in the Minnesota fire service and it's

more important than ever that firefighters across the state are aware of their heightened risk for cardiac, emotional trauma and cancer issues."

More and more Minnesota firefighters are tragically losing their lives due to occupational health issues. In addition to cancer and cardiac-related deaths, four to six active Minnesota firefighters die from suicide each year.

In addition to conducting MnFIRE Aware Trainings both in person and online at

no cost to departments, MnFIRE offers a confidential, toll-free helpline (888-784-6634) for firefighters in crisis. The nonprofit is also spearheading a legislative initiative to improve access to care for firefighters in need of treatment for cancer, cardiac and emotional trauma issues - the Hometown Heroes Assistance Program, which is planned to be introduced during the 2021 legislative session.

Learn more at *MN-FireInitiative.com*.

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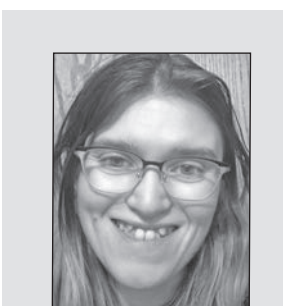
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Kirill The Thrill



*By Mariah Holland
Contributing Writer*

(Editor's Note: Mariah Holland has joined the Patriot as a contributing columnist for 2021. Her writings will appear on a monthly basis.)

Kirill Kaprizov — or “Kirill the Thrill” as his teammates have affectionately nicknamed him — has been all Wild fans can talk about these days. His nickname is sure to stick as the season moves along and his play continues. He’s shown how truly talented he is and now that the Wild are more than 10 games into the season, it’s time to do a little check in with how Kaprizov is doing.

By looking at his play, you’d never guess he was a rookie playing his very first season in the NHL. He’s very composed and doesn’t seem to show any nerves when he’s on the ice. He always looks like he’s either deep in concentration looking for that next play, or just having a good time.

Speaking of that next play, one of Kaprizov’s greatest skills is his ability to read the situation and find the open ice or the open player. He’s even good at using himself as a decoy by carrying the puck around the offensive zone waiting for the perfect shot to open up or one of his teammates to have found an empty spot in front of the net.

Creating open spaces is just one of his many talents. He’s easily one of the fastest, if not, the fastest skater on the Wild roster. He can go end-to-end multiple times in the same play and not seem winded or worn down. I, personally have not seen a player with this kind of talent since the days when Marian Gaborik first played for the Wild.

Kaprizov’s energy level is nonstop, his feet are always moving and he’s seldom standing still. When he’s watching for the puck and might be able to stop for a second, his feet are doing cross-overs and just continuously moving. He’s always ready to catch a pass and be on the move up the ice.

Kaprizov is also probably one of the most versatile players on the Wild lineup. He can play with just about any combination Wild Head Coach Dean Evason can put together. Originally he started out on the top line with Zach Parise as his wing partner and Nick Bjugstad as his center. A few games in Evason juggled the lines a bit and Kaprizov was still paired with Parise but had Victor Rask as center.

Once again things went well with that combination but the lines were juggled again. Their power play has struggled off and on all season but the last few games there were flutters of hope including their third game of four against the Colorado Avalanche. Kaprizov managed to score on the power play from none other than line-mate Parise and also newcomer Gerry Mayhew. Kaprizov and Fiala are dynamic on the power play they just have to find their groove and they’ll start scoring goals.

After their 2-1 loss against the Avalanche on Tuesday night, Kaprizov was sitting on top of the rookie standings, just one point ahead of second place and averaging just shy of one point per game. If he can keep it up he’ll have nearly 50 points at the end of the season which would be even more than Gaborik in his rookie season with the Wild.

There’s still plenty of time left for Kaprizov to really unleash his talent and I can’t wait to see what he has in store for us this season and his hopeful run for rookie of the year as well as maybe a Stanley Cup for the Wild. My goals may be a little farfetched but I’ve definitely become a Kaprizov fan.



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Hornet gymnasts top Chisago Lakes

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

The Big Lake Hornet girls gymnastics team won their first meet of the year in their second competition, knocking off Chisago Lakes, 139.625 to 127.475.

The Hornet JV squad also won, 128.25 to 111.8.

Vault

Grace Kluk took first place with a score of 9.175. She was followed by Lola Visci in second (9.05), Allie Goracke in third (9.0) and Ava Heinen in fourth (8.825).

Bars

On bars, Visci captured first place with a 9.225 score followed by Kluk in second (8.7), Britney Krumrei (8.025) and Sam Merten (7.9).

Beam

Krumrei took first on beam with a 9.225 score. She was followed by Autumn Grunewald in second (8.925).

Floor

Visci scored an 8.9 to take first place on floor. Kennadie Ell was second with an 8.775 and Amber Grunewald third with an 8.7.

All Around

Visci won the all-around with a combined score of

35.625. Kluk was second with a score of 34.4.

JV individual results

On vault, Kennadie E. took first with an 8.7 followed by Sam Merten (second, 8.25) and Hannah Horvath third (8.2).

On bars, Ava Eastman tied for first with Autumn G. (7.7) and Kennadie E. took third with a 7.6.

On beam, Ava Heinen captured first (8.3) followed by Katie Goracke, Sam Merten and Hannah Horvath (tied for second, 8.1).

On floor, Autumn G. took first (8.15) followed by Ava H.

in second (8.1) and Katie G. in third (8.0).

Hannah H. captured first in the all-around with a 30.7

Combined Varsity/JV All Around:

Kennadie E. (first, 33.45), Ava H. second (32.325) and Sam M. with a 32.05.

“The girls made a lot of progress since our first meet against Cambridge,” said Co-Coach Lanny Goldsmith. “We improved our varsity team score by more than seven points.”

Varsity is now 1-1 and JV is 2-0 on the season.

2021 Wright County Fair in limbo amid COVID-19 protocols

Submitted Article

Last year, the Wright County Fair was cancelled for the first time since World War II (when the County Fairgrounds were being used as a German prisoner of war camp) due to COVID-19. Organizers held out hope entering last summer that it could come off as planned, but once the Minnesota State Fair was officially canceled in late-May, Wright County followed suit shortly thereafter.

At its meeting Monday night, the Wright County Fair Board began discussing the

possibility of the fair being canceled again in 2021 and weighing the options of how to proceed.

Mike Kaczmarek, who represents the Wright County Board of Commissioners on the Fair Board as a non-voting member said the current COVID-19 protocols for the size of allowable gatherings would not make the County Fair possible unless the current restrictions are lifted.

“They just don’t know if they can have it yet,” Kaczmarek said. “With the current restrictions that are still in place, you can’t have more than 250 people per venue at an outdoor event. If that remains the case, they won’t have the fair again this year.”

“They can’t foresee what the situation is going to be in July. Nobody can. They have agreements in place to roll over last year’s contracts to

this year, but they aren’t any closer now to knowing as they were a couple of months ago or even last August. We just are waiting, watching and hoping like everyone else.”

2020 was supposed to be the 150th Wright County Fair. Because it wasn’t the 150th annual County Fair, when the decision was made to pull the plug on the 2020 fair, the 150th celebration was pushed back to 2021.

There hasn’t been any discussion yet about the potential of canceling the fair again because, with the vaccination process beginning to combat the pandemic, there is reason for optimism that things can improve. However, there remain concerns that, if there are still COVID-19 restrictions lingering into the summer, attendance at the fair might be down.

As of now, the plan is to have the 150th Wright

County Fair July 21-25, 2021. But, until the state lifts the restrictions or allows for large gatherings beyond the current number of 250, the County Fair remains in a state of limbo for 2021.

“You’re always hopeful that things will get better and that we can return to having events like the County Fair,” Kaczmarek said. “But, as of right now, we don’t have any answers that are positive that we will be able to have it. If you can only have 250 people at a venue, there would be no reason to have the fair this year. We hope that will change because we’re still six months away, but, for right now, we’re still waiting and hoping the situation will change.”

Sports teams buzzing

*By Bill Morgan, Staff Writer
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The Big Lake Hornets sports teams’ seasons are in full swing. Below are captures of their games in the past week.

Girls BB

The Hornets improved to 4-2 with wins over Monticello (56-23 on Jan. 22) and North Branch (66-36 on Jan. 29) while losing to Becker (93-39 on Jan. 26) and Cambridge-Isanti (55-45 on Feb. 2).

Boys BB

The Hornet boys also went 2-2 this past week, beating Monticello (66-50 on Jan. 22) and North Branch (88-86 on Jan. 29) while losing to Becker (83-78 on Jan. 26) and Cambridge-Isanti (64-41 on Feb. 2). In the North Branch game, Jack Iverson scored a school record 47 points in the win.

Hockey

The Becker/Big Lake Hockey squad dropped to 1-4 on the season with a loss to North Branch (8-2 on Jan. 21), a loss to Pine City (6-3 on Jan. 28) and a loss to Princeton (4-2 on Jan. 30).

Dance

The Big Lake varsity dance team participated in a six-team meet (Becker, Chisago Lakes, Monticello, St. Francis, North Branch) at North Branch Jan. 23. No results were reported by press time. They followed that up with a meet two days later at Monticello where the same teams competed. No results were reported by press time. Monday, Feb. 1 the same teams gathered at Big Lake for their third competition in two weeks. No results were reported by press time.

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