



**WATERING RE-STRIC-TIONS** for Becker are being enforced due to the dry conditions. See our story on page 10 for the city regulations. (Submitted Photo).

**INSIDE**

**Becker News**  
Baseball for adults is back for the summer. The Bandits, Buzzards and Lakers have been playing games since early June. For the youngsters, registration for the late summer baseball season is currently open!  
*See stories on page 12.*

**Big Lake News**  
Big Lake's Farmer's Market is bustling with activity! And Mother Nature has been very cooperative!  
*See story on front page and look for a story on Becker's Farmer's Market in next week's issue of the Patriot.*

**Clearwater/ Clear Lake News**  
Residents along Nixon Lake near Clearwater have been dealing with a massive bog that has parked itself on the lake's boat landing and beach.  
*See photo on page 1 and Penny Leuthard's story in next week's Patriot.*



**UPCOMING**

**Becker's Famer's Market**  
Next week, be sure to check out our story on how the Becker Farmer's Market is growing in 2020. *The Market is open on Fridays from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.*

**Touching Editorial by Monica Parrish**  
Contributing Writer Monica Parrish shares a deeply personal story next week, asking the question, "Why are we here?"  
*See how she found the answer to that question from 30 years ago.*

**Summer Fun**  
Writer Penny Leuthard will have a story next week on a disc golf course in the Clear Lake/Clearwater area. Be sure to check back after the fourth!

**NEWS & ADVERTISING DEADLINES**

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

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

**Classifieds Deadlines**  
Information for classifieds need to be submitted to our staff by noon Wednesday to be included in that week's publication of the Patriot.

**CONTACT US**

**Legals/Classifieds**  
Call 763-275-0275  
or email Kathy at  
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**AN EXCAVATOR TAKES A CHOMP** out of a piece of the bog that floated into Nixon Lake's boat landing and beach near Clearwater on Tuesday. See complete story and more photos in next week's Patriot. (Photo by Penny Leuthard)

**Farmers, crafters, fun and food all a part of Big Lake Farmer's Market**

By Bill Morgan,  
Staff Writer

Big Lake's Farmer's Market is open weekly on Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the parking lot at Lakeside Park. The market features many vendors who set up tents on a weekly basis and some vendors who come off and on.

Big Lake Recreation and Communication Co-ordinator Corrie Scott has been pleased with the weekly event that first commenced June 3.

"We've typically seen 20-25 booths each week including the food booths," Scott said. "The weather has been pretty good so far for the season."

Scott recruits talented musicians to provide entertainment during the event and last week's featured artist was Minneapolis' Ira Hayes, a guitarist who plays cover songs and some originals. His voice is eerily similar to Neil Young and Wednesday he brought his girlfriend, Amera Abdel-rehem, who provided harmony, backup and played percussion. Their style is described as Americana Rock.

Clara Sandberg of Maple Grove had a booth that featured vegetables, plants and flowers. Noah



**CLARA SANDBERG** of Maple Grove checked out some wood cutouts from Noah Archuleta of Big Lake (L) at a recent Big Lake Farmer's Market event. (Photos by Bill Morgan).

Archuleta of Big Lake had his wood carvings and signs on display under a canopy in the hot sun.

Along the south side of the parking lot was a mini donut booth and a lemonade stand. There was also a food truck called Gouda Food that had food items created with gouda cheese.

Oak Park Farm had bins of produce along with a farm called Compost Guy. LV Garden had vegetables and produce and Grace's Goodies had a table full of breads, pies and cookies.

Bright Haven Farm

was selling plants and flowers and Lisa Hauer of St. Cloud at Succulent Queen had thickened, fleshy, and engorged plants planted in hand-crafted pots.

Hennums had homemade salsa and Svihel Farms had a plethora of items including vegetables, berries and honey. Matt's Mushrooms and More of Monticello had fresh, quality wild mushrooms and syrup.

Workers at the String & Things booth had unique

**MARKET to page 8**

**Schmidt's Sign Work Seen Around The Area**

By Penny Leuthard,  
Contributing Writer

Steve Schmidt from Schmidt Sign & Design in Becker has had a long career in sign making, which he spent improving his skills and expanding his knowledge to become the successful businessperson he is today.



because his sister lived in the area and he could stay with her. Looking over potential programs, anybody and sign lettering and design both caught his interest. He chose lettering. Schmidt's first job in the sign business was making paper banners for a company in St. Paul in the early 1980s. A few jobs later, he found him-

A teenager, his mom wanted him to continue his education and attend a post-secondary institution. He settled on Detroit Lakes (now called Minnesota State Community and Technical College) mainly



**SCHMIDT HAS CREATED NUMEROUS SIGNS** around the local area, including one for Pebble Creek Golf Club. (Submitted Photo)

self in California for a year before coming back

**SCHMIDT to page 10**

**Welcome to your new hometown newspaper, PATRIOT**

By Bill Morgan,  
Staff Writer

Welcome, readers, to the first edition of the Patriot.

For some, it will be a continuation of what they've been receiving for over 26 years in the Citizen and the Citizen-Tribune.

For others, it will be a return to some communities wanting to get community

news back in their hands. The Patriot will have a fresh look, fresh goals and

a fresh outlook.

Each week, these pages will be filled with accurate, honest and complete news coverage for the communities surrounding Clearwater, Clear Lake, Becker and Big Lake. Our writers will bring you entertaining and compelling features

about you and your neighbors; photo galleries of local events; and a comprehensive sports section dedicated to local athletics and school activities.

Each week, the Patriot will be distributed in neighborhoods via the U.S. mail and are expected to be

**PATRIOT to page 10**

**BIG LAKE FREEDOM FESTIVAL CANCELLED, FIREWORKS MOVED TO 10 P.M.**

Submitted Article

Over the past several months, a dedicated group of individuals from Big Lake have worked collaboratively with the mutual goal of bringing several events together for a Freedom Festival at Lakeside Park July 2. Through the planning process, all involved were aware that the event may be altered or cancelled due to COVID19.

In the interest of following the executive orders issued by Gov. Tim Walz, and with the safety of the residents and guest's forefront, the collective decision was made Tuesday to cancel all events scheduled to

take place at Lakeside Park July 2.

However, the Freedom Festival fireworks display will proceed as planned in celebration of Independence Day. The fireworks display will be launched from Big Lake High School at 10 p.m. and should be visible throughout Big Lake.

Thanks go out to the following generous donors who made this display possible; Options Inc, Lupulin Brewing, Lake Liquors, Minnco Credit Union, Riverwood Bank, Big Lake Becker Knights of Columbus, Comprehensive Services, and all those who donated to the GoFundMe campaign.

**INDEX**

Editorial/News  
- Pages 1-12

Church Directory  
- Page 9

Announcements  
- Page 5

Columns/Opinions  
- Page 4

Legals/Judicial  
- Pages 5-6

Classifieds  
- Page 7

Employment  
- Pages 11

Sports/Activities  
- Pages 12

Real Estate  
- Page 10

**INSERTS**

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# Community News

## U of M Extension taking applications for Master Gardener program

Submitted Article

Do you have an active interest in gardening? Do you have a desire to share your gardening interest with others?

Are you willing to learn more about gardening and other horticultural topics?

Are you able to communicate with groups of people?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you have the qualities we look for in the Extension Master Gardener Program.

In 2019, 2,408 certified Extension Master Gardeners volunteered across the state of Minnesota con-

tributing over 140,000 volunteer hours and reached over 195,000 Minnesota residents. These volunteers are extremely dedicated and put in time and effort towards continuing education. If you believe that you have the skills and passion it takes to be an Extension Master Gardener, applications open in early July.

The process of becoming an Extension Master Gardener begins with a core course which can be taken online or in person. The core course takes approximately 50 hours to complete at cost of \$320. Financial assistance is available on a case-by-case basis. You can talk to your local program coordinator

if this is a barrier to your ability to join the program. We are happy to work with you to find a solution that works for all of us.

Extension Master Gardeners work hard to give back to their communities each year. As a first-year Extension Master Gardener you will put in 50 hours of volunteer time. Each year after that the required amount is just 25 hours. Many volunteers far exceed this number, because they are excited and passionate about the program. Your local program coordinator and fellow volunteers will help you discover volunteer opportunities in your county. These opportunities may be tailored to your spe-

cific areas of interests.

If you are interested in becoming an Extension Master Gardener or learning more about the program, please contact your local program coordinator. The applications are now available, and we look forward to welcoming new volunteers in 2021. All applications must be submitted no later than October 1, 2020. Residents of Wright County can contact Adam Austing at (763) 682-7381 or email [aausting@umn.edu](mailto:aausting@umn.edu) to discuss local opportunities.

## Great Ways to Take the Fun to the Backyard

StatePoint

If you've been spending a lot of time indoors lately, you may be ready to get outside for some fresh air. Here's how to make your backyard the center of family fun.

- Set up an outdoor theater: There's no need to spend the day indoors, even if your family wants to binge watch favorite shows. Whether you're viewing a movie, video chatting with friends or looking at a slideshow of old family photos, a portable projector can quickly transform the backyard into a home theater. Those from Casio are particularly versatile, offering speedy set-up and the ability to transition from daytime to nighttime viewing.
- Be sure to get comfy: Your home theater will get more use if it offers the same amenities as the living room. Luckily, these days, it's easy to find weather-resistant furniture as comfortable as your favorite couch.
- Make music: Host a socially distanced block party with your neighbors and offer to provide the music. All you need is a portable keyboard to set the tone. Not only do Casio keyboards have the ability to hook up to a laptop or tablet so you can play any song from your library, if you put the keyboard on Dance Music Mode, you can add beats, sounds or filters to anything you want.
- Get ready, get set, go: Keep everyone busy and active with a decathlon. Feature all-age friendly events like a potato sack race, Frisbee toss, long jump and more. Whether you keep score or play just for the fun of the game, you can make a day of it -- and add a little gravitas -- by including opening and closing ceremonies.

With the right tools and ideas, the backyard can become your go-to destination for relaxation, entertainment, competition and fun.

## Suspect Arrested for Possession of Methamphetamine

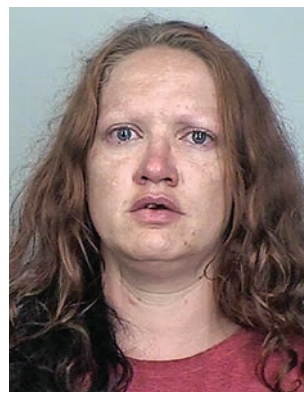
Submitted Article

Last Wednesday (June 24) at approximately 12:29 a.m., Officer Tyler Hecht of the Big Lake PD stopped a vehicle for having a broken rear taillight. Officer Hecht made contact with the male driver and female passenger, Ashley Benson (Age 32 - Eden Prairie). The vehicle was registered to Benson.

Officer Hecht could smell the odor of burnt marijuana emitting from the vehicle and observed a torch lighter in the backseat area, behind the center console.

Benson stated the male was driving because she had a revoked drivers license, and they were coming back from the cities. Benson stated the vehicle had been in storage for the last six months and they were on their way to sell it. Benson showed several signs of nervousness while speaking to Officer Hecht and became more nervous when asked if anything illegal was in the vehicle.

The vehicle was searched. A black case was found in the glove box on



ASHLEY BENSON, 32 of Eden Prairie was arrested in Big Lake last week. (Sherburne County Jail Booking Photo).

the passenger side. Inside the black case was a zip lock baggie with a substance that field tested positive for methamphetamine and weighed .3 grams. Also found in the black case was a glass pipe with burnt residue and a rubber hose coming off the end of it.

Benson was arrested and booked into the Sherburne County jail. Benson was charged by criminal complaint with: Felony 5th degree possession of a controlled substance.

## I-94 lane and ramp changes between Rogers and Maple Grove

Submitted Article

For those planning holiday travel, be aware of lane and ramp changes on eastbound I-94 between Rogers and Maple Grove. Motorists on eastbound I-94 that plan to exit in Maple Grove need to plan ahead and make sure they are in the correct lane in Rogers.

Eastbound lanes between Hwy. 101 in Rogers and the I-94/494/694 interchange in Maple Grove are separated. Three lanes are available. Motorists need to decide which lane to take before Hwy. 101. The left two lanes have no off access to local roads until the I-94/494/694 interchange. The right lane provides local access to exits at Hwy. 610, Maple Grove Pkwy., or Weaver Lake Rd. A barrier separates the access lane from the two through lanes.

This lane configuration means motorists have three lanes of traffic on both eastbound and westbound I-94.

The lane shifts are in place through November.

### Ramps closed at Maple Grove Parkway

Ramps to and from Maple Grove Pkwy. and eastbound I-94 are closed through Sun., July 26. Here's the detour for the ramp closures:



- **Maple Grove Pkwy. to eastbound I-94 detour:** Maple Grove Pkwy. to 93rd Ave. to Elm Creek Blvd. to Weaver Lake Rd. to eastbound I-94;
- **Eastbound I-94 to Maple Grove Pkwy. detour:** Eastbound I-94 to eastbound Hwy 610 to Maple Grove Pkwy.

**Co. Rd. 101**  
Beginning Mon., July 6, Co. Rd. 101 is reduced to a single lane between Rush

Creek and the I-94 overpass through Fri, July 10 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Motorists should watch for a flag person controlling traffic on both ends of the lane closure.

- Slow down when approaching every work zone, then navigate with care and caution;
- Stay alert; work zones constantly change;
- Watch for workers and slow moving equipment;
- Obey posted speed limits. Fine for a violation in a work zone is \$300;
- Minimize distractions behind the wheel;
- Be patient; expect delays, especially during peak travel times.

Road work continues to be a critical service. MnDOT is committed to protecting the health, safety and well-being of its employees, contractors and all Minnesotans. Crews continue to follow the guidance of state and federal health officials to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

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# PATRIOT NEWSPAPER



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Sales Manager

**Bill Morgan**  
Publisher/  
Editor

**Kathy Nelson**  
Office  
Manager

**Chris Meyer**  
Accounting

**Mary Nehring**  
Advertising  
Sales

These team members are excited to continue to serve the local communities and keep you connected with news, sports, announcements, and local events.

The Patriot newspaper (formerly Sherburne County Citizen-Tribune) has new ownership and expanded coverage combining 4+ communities to provide a more full-service medium to avid readers in Becker, Big Lake Clear Lake, Clearwater and surrounding areas.

You have our support and best wishes!



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# Editorial/Opinion

## Believing Is Important

With the start of this new newspaper, this will be my third venture into owning a business since I first took a job as a busboy at the Knights of Columbus in Crystal back in the late 70s.

I previously owned an in-line skate business in Big Lake called *Sports Direct* and I also ventured out on my own in the late 1990s as a graphic design business called *Imagine Design*.

Both ventures allowed me to “get my feet wet” in business planning, managing, inventory control, sales, advertising and marketing.

I always felt pleased about having the opportunity to run things my own way, work my own hours and be accountable for all decisions. But it was also very scary not knowing if — week-by-week — I could pay the bills and keep my dreams afloat.

Being a sole owner of a business can also be rather lonely. No one to bounce ideas off or ask if an idea was worth pursuing. No one to share your ups and downs with or keep the ship steered in the right direction.

Having business partners this time around is glorious. Now, I can focus my mind on the parts of business I know I am good at and let others do the other parts I’m not. We (shareholders) all have our own areas of expertise which to me, makes this business venture an exciting one.



By Bill Morgan,  
Staff Writer

Carol, Chris, Kathy and I have over 40 years of newspaper experience to throw in the mix to make this a success. Carol is a master salesperson and has a drive to help businesses prosper. Mary Nehring is our employee and she continues to do her usual amazing job tracking down leads and landing clients. Kathy has years of experience as a Realtor and is a real people person. Her skills in learning new things and adapting to change are remarkable and bode well for our new endeavor.

Chris is the money man and will be in charge of the books and finances. He has a great mind for operational procedures and works hard to implement cost-effective processes. He is a quick thinker and has an optimism that is important for business startups like us.

And then there’s me, the creative part of the business, who will write, edit, photo-

graph, design and lay out the newspaper to send to our printer.

And maybe take out the garbage once in a while. It’s gonna be a challenge. No doubt. But we still believe small communities like Becker, Big Lake, Clear Lake and Clearwater want and use a local newspaper and want it to be part of their lives. We still believe local news on a printed page is better than gossip on a social media site. We still believe reaching 16,000+ people via the U.S. Mail is a more cost-effective way for businesses to advertise than some of the other advertising medias.

And the best part yet, we all believe in ourselves and in our readers and their devotion and loyalty to their local newspaper. Where else are you gonna see your child or grandchild in all their glory on a football field, soccer pitch or auditorium stage? Where else you gonna

The *St. Cloud Times*? Nope.

The *StarTribune*? Not a chance.

The *Elk River Star News* or the *Monticello Times*? Not likely.

It’ll all happening right here at the *Patriot*. And we want to take you along for the ride. Thanks for taking the time to read us.

## Deadline To File Frontier Claim Nearing

I am urging current or former Frontier Communication customers who are eligible to receive rebates and bill credits for inadequate services to apply before the July 20 deadline.

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ordered rebates and bill credits to Frontier customers to compensate them for service quality and reliability problems. The Minnesota Department of Commerce indicates information regarding the settlement and claims for refunds or credits was distributed in Frontier bills and by direct mail last April.

The Department of Commerce indicates only a fraction of Frontier’s 75,000 reported customers have filed claims to this point, so let’s hope many people who are eligible for refunds or credits apply before the deadline arrives. If you have been a customer of Frontier, it could be well worth your time to take a few minutes to see if you qualify.

Applications for refund or bill credit are



By Rep. 15B  
Shane Mekeland

available online at [frontier.com/forms/minnesota-bill-credit](http://frontier.com/forms/minnesota-bill-credit).

The settlement resulted in the following categories for which a former or current Frontier customer may claim a refund or bill credit:

- Telephone was out of service and not restored within 24 hours;
- Incorrect billing for service related to vacation rate;
- Late fees charged for phone service despite bill being paid on or before due date;
- Frontier did not cancel telephone service upon request, resulting in additional charges;

- Charged to receive a paper bill for telephone service;
- Charged for three-way calling without subscribing to the service;
- Wrongly charged for directory assistance or 411 calls;
- Charged an early termination fee on or after Jan. 1, 2016, without having signed an agreement;
- Inappropriately charged fees to reconnect telephone service;
- Telephone disconnected without proper notice;
- Refusal to install local telephone service;
- Inability to use the telephone due to static, cross talk, or other notice;
- Installation delay of more than three business days for primary local service line;
- Same trouble on the same line within 30 days;
- Frontier missed a repair appointment for telephone service;
- Customer service representation claimed no trouble report exists from an earlier call regarding the same phone issue.

## Online school seniors from across the state recognized in virtual ceremony

# Local students among Minnesota Connections Academy’s Class of 2020

### Submitted Article

More than 320 graduating seniors from all over Minnesota recently received their high school diplomas as members of Minnesota Connections Academy’s Class of 2020. Each year the public online school celebrates this academic milestone by hosting an in-person commencement ceremony. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the school recognized the graduates with a virtual celebration.

The following students from Sherburne County are among Minnesota Connections Academy’s Class of 2020\*:

- James Hines, Becker;
- Venessa Dalmeida, Big Lake;
- Amber Moore, Big Lake;
- Stephanie Henriquez Paz, Clear Lake;
- Davis Johnson, Zimmerman;
- Jeffery York, Zimmerman.

“Each year we look forward to bringing together our graduates and families from all over the state to celebrate this important achievement,” said Minnesota Connections Academy’s Principal Melissa Gould. “While so much is different for this year’s graduates, the one thing that remains constant is the pride we have for the

hard work, determination and focus that each of these

Class of 2020 plan to attend a two or four-year college/

with honors (3.6 GPA or better). Overall, the Class of 2020 has received more than \$700,000 in college scholarships and awards.

During the virtual ceremony, Minnesota Connections Academy graduating senior Abigail Thelen of Eden Prairie spoke to her fellow graduates and challenged them, as they move forward, to build and maintain meaningful relationships. Abigail plans to attend the University of Northwestern and majoring in engineering.

Minnesota Connections Academy provides students statewide with a high-quality, personalized online education. The online school combines cer-

tified teachers, a proven curriculum, as well as technology tools, and community experiences—online and in person—to create a supportive environment for those who want an individualized approach to education.

Enrollment for the 2020-21 school year is currently open, and the school is offering virtual information sessions for families interested in learning more. For a complete schedule of events and to RSVP, visit <http://www.MinnesotaConnectionsAcademy.com/Events>.



students demonstrated to reach this academic milestone.”

The Class of 2020 is the 12th graduating class for the state’s leading provider of high-quality, tuition-free virtual education for students in grades K-12. Many of Minnesota Connections Academy’s

university including the University of Minnesota, Minnesota State University, Lake Superior College, Dakota County Technical College and Minneapolis College of Art and Design. Twelve of the graduates were members of the National Honor Society while more than 40 graduated

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# Libraries once again offering new services

By Penney Leuthard,  
Contributing Writer

Becker, Big Lake, and Clearwater libraries continue to offer new services for their patrons, now including streaming services and appointments available for browsing and computer use.

Great River Regional Library is ready with its first-ever streaming service, called “Hoopla.” Hoopla gives patrons the ability to check out a variety of videos and movies with no waiting. Library card holders can enjoy four downloads per month and can access the service using their library card.

The website [hoopla.com](http://hoopla.com) explains the service to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on a televisions, computer, tablet, or phone. With no waiting, titles can be streamed immediately, or downloaded for offline viewing later. Content can be accessed through the website or through the Hoopla app available in the Apple and/or Google Play store.

The service has become a reality thanks to GRRL’s generous donors, which have helped the li-

brary go above and beyond books to meet the needs of the community. GRRL’s Board of Trustees was also instrumental in making the

The schedule for computer use appointments is Monday, 1 to 4 p.m., Tuesday, 10 a.m. to noon, Wednesday 3 to 7 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Friday 3 to 6 p.m.

Three appointments will be allowed in at one time, one person per appointment with a one hour limit.

The Summer Reading Program continues at all GRRL locations through July 31. The Becker Library is inviting their young patrons and their families to come to the library and pick up a free, super-cool GRRL book bag filled with books and other summer fun goodies. Children age 0-6th grade will receive a cinch bag and teens, 7th grade and up, will receive a messenger bag.

The giveaway is a mid-summer incentive to get kids, babies, and teens to sign up for the Summer Reading Program. Existing participants are also eligible for the giveaway, which will be occurring Monday, July 6 to Saturday, July 11 during open hours.

**THE BECKER LIBRARY is offering a free bag like this messenger style filled with books and summer goodies to its patrons. (Submitted Photo)**

service happen. Learn more about Hoopla, GRRL’s new streaming service, at [grver.org/services](http://grver.org/services).

The Clearwater Library is excited to announce it’s their turn to begin opening their doors to their patrons for browsing and computer use through appointments. Starting this past week, browsing appointments are available in 30 minutes time slots during all curbside pickup.

**Patriot Office**  
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*The Patriot, under the continuation of the Citizen-Tribune, is the official legal newspaper for Becker School District #726, Big Lake School District # 727, 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.

**Patriot Staff**

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# Announcements

## BECKER SCHOOLS LUNCH

Becker Public Schools will sponsor the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) this summer. This program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and is administered in Minnesota by the Minnesota Department of Education, Food and Nutrition Service.

Service will occur on Tuesday's between 11:00am and 1:00pm at Door #3 of the High School and is free to any child 18 and under.

Dates of service are: July 7, July 14, July 21, July 28, August 4, August 11, August 18, and August 25. Each bag will contain 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches that meet the meal pattern requirements set by USDA. To participate in this program please contact Felicia Kittok: [fkittok@isd726.org](mailto:fkittok@isd726.org).

## BECKER MEALS ON WHEELS

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES / MEALS ON WHEELS

July 6-10

During this COVID-19 pandemic Mon-Fri meals are:

**"What's on the Menu - Frozen Meals"**

**Frozen meals are available for weekends.**

*1% milk is served with every meal. Menu subject to change. Call 763-856-4082 for more information. Suggested contribution for persons 60+ & volunteers is \$4.25 - \$8.*

## BECKER POLICE DEPARTMENT

### ACTIVITY REPORT

#### WEEK ENDING JUNE 28, 2020

**22-June:** 1 harassment, 2 record check, 1 miscellaneous public, 1 dumping complaint, 1 vulnerable adult intake, 1 found property, 1 trespass, 1 miscellaneous officer, 1 speed warning, 1 traffic complaint, 1 extra patrol, 1 no front plate warning, 1 security check, 1 equipment warning, 1 medical

**23-June:** 4 security check, 1 suspicious person, 1 open door, 1 welfare check, 1 medical, 1 domestic dispute, 5 record check, 3 juvenile concern, 1 public assist, 1 vehicle lockout, 1 dog complaint / Potentially Dangerous Dog, 1 hands free violation / Citation #184, 1 grass fire, 1 agency assist, 1 extra patrol

**24-June:** 1 security check, 1 fire alarm, 1 security check, 1 equipment warning, 3 record check,

3 speed warning, 1 no proof of insurance warning / speed Citation #185, 1 expired registration / failure to transfer registration warnings / hands free violation Citation #186, 1 traffic complaint, 1 theft, 2 expired registration warning, 1 domestic dispute, 1 speed / Citation #187, 1 fireworks complaint, 1 speed / Citation #188, 1 hands free violation warning, 1 suspicious vehicle, 1 speed / Citation #189

**25-June:** 2 expired registration warning, 5 security check, 2 equipment warning, 1 welfare check, 1 civil, 1 public assist, 1 found property, 1 agency assist, 1 theft, 4 record check, 1 fail to change address on Drivers License / Speed Citation #190, 1 speed / fail to change address on Drivers License / child restraint warnings, 1 traffic complaint, 2 speed warning, 1 drive without headlights warning, 2 suspicious vehicle, 1 expired drivers license warning

**26-June:** 11 speed warning, 1 failure to maintain lane of traffic / equipment warnings / open containers / possession of hypodermic needle, 1 welfare check, 1 security check, 1 medical, 1 domestic / strangulation, 1 theft, 2 dog complaint, 2 found property, 1 miscellaneous officer, 1 speed warning / driving after suspension Citation #192, 1 expired tabs / expired Drivers License warnings, 1 use of wireless device while driving Citation #193, 1 expired tabs warning / speed Citation #194, 1 equipment warning, 1 juvenile concern

**27-June:** 1 medical, 2 vehicle lockout, 3 security check, 1 alarm, 1 found animal, 1 juvenile concern, 2 speed warning, 2 welfare check, 1 public assist, 1 property damage, 1 civil, 1 suspicious vehicle

**28-June:** 1 welfare check, 1 security check, 2 medical, 1 expired registration warning, 1 fail to move over law / Citation #195, 1 found animal, 1 road hazard, 1 suspicious activity, 1 extra patrol, 1 speed warning, 1 juvenile concern, 1 fight, 1 mental health, 1 vehicle lockout, 1 alarm

**American Legion Ladies Auxiliary**  
Meeting 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.BECKERFREECHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.BECKERFREECHURCH.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 Pebble Creek Bar & Grill. 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.

**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](http://www.beyondtheyellowribbon.org).

**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 Church of St. Luke, 17545 Huber Ave. NW, Clearwater. 320-558-2124.

**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. Senior Lunch first Thurs. of the month at noon at 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](mailto:tjkolbinger@gmail.com).

**FREE - Advocates for Independence**  
1st & 3rd 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.

**Mental Health Discussion Group**  
Meets Mon., 6-7 pm at Independent Lifestyles, 215 N. Benton Dr., Sauk Rapids. This is a free group, everyone is welcome. Ricky 320-281-2025.

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

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

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

**Clear Lake Lioness**  
We are searching for & welcoming new members who are interested in serving our communities.

Meetings are the 4th Mon. of each month @ Nelson Brothers Restaurant in Clearwater. Dinner 6:30, meeting to follow.

We are in search of your fresh new ideas & energy. Sue: 320-743-3534 or Linda: 763-260-8858.

**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.

**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.** Our advisor not only helps people to achieve ownership, helps owners facing financial difficulty to maintain ownership & avoid foreclosure.

**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.

**GRRL Kicks off 2020 Summer Reading Program**  
Mon., June 1, - Fri., July 31. Registration begins Mon., June 1, through Beanstack app, [griver.beanstack.org](http://griver.beanstack.org) or during Curbside Pickup hours. Hours at [griver.org/locations](http://griver.org/locations). Each branch offers a unique assortment of SRP prizes! Further information at [www.griver.org/kids/summer-reading-program](http://www.griver.org/kids/summer-reading-program).

**GRRL Offers Streaming Service**  
Great River Regional Library (GRRL) is excited to announce its first-ever streaming service! The streaming service "Hoopla" is now available to access by using your library card. Learn more about GRRL's new streaming service at [griver.org/services](http://griver.org/services)

**Upcoming Events at the Becker Library**  
**Quarantine Trivia - July 13 & 27, 5:30-6:15 pm.** Ready to test your knowledge of history, pop culture, current events, & random useless facts? 3-round game of online trivia. Questions will be delivered via a Zoom meeting. Ages: Teen to Adult. 763-261-4454 to register.

**Clear Lake Lioness Sponsors Red Cross Blood Drive**

Clear Lake Lioness will host Red Cross Blood Drive Mon., July 13. St. Marcus Church, 8701 Main St., Clear Lake 12:30-5:30 pm.

Temperatures will be taken as you enter. Donors & workers required to wear masks, provided if you don't have one.

All blood donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies. Root beer floats to donors by Clear Lake Lioness. Judy (320) 743-2108 or [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) enter sponsor code: Clear Lake.

## Letter to Editor

### TO THE EDITOR:

Kudos to Xcel for their commitment to the increased use of renewable energy! However, Xcel's plans for a fracked gas plant is a real head-scratcher. While a win for the industry, it will prolong our dependence on fossil fuels— a flagrant disregard for public health and a misuse of public dollars.

To explain, Xcel recently submitted a proposal to the MN Public Utility Commission to spend \$3 billion to create 3,000 jobs to increase solar, storage, wind, and electrification efforts. In another PUC proposal, however, Xcel plans to build a fracked gas plant in Becker. At over a walling billion dollars to build, it will create only about 30 permanent jobs – at a cost of about \$34 million/ job. And with obsolescence expected in 15 years, we, the people, are on the hook for the abandoned infrastructure. And perhaps most egregious, Xcel must not care that fracked gas will fuel our climate crisis worse than coal.

We challenge whether Xcel is really committed to shifting to a renewable energy economy. To learn more, and what you can do to stop this fracked gas plant, attend Wright County Indivisible's July 13 @ 7 pm zoom meeting. Register at - [wrightcountyindivisible@gmail.com](mailto:wrightcountyindivisible@gmail.com).  
**Loir Cocking, Waverly, MN**  
**Renee Cardarelle, Annandale, MN**  
**Sue Hedtke, Monticello, MN**  
**Rose Thelen, Clearwater, MN**

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### TO THE EDITOR:

As a child, I pledged my allegiance to a flag. Staring up at those fifty white stars and thirteen stripes, I promised to devote myself to a cause, regardless of its effect. Unquestioning loyalty. Unwavering gratitude. America, I gave you my promise to stay true and abide by your laws. But somewhere along the way, my patriotism became worship; my loyalty became devotion; my pride, a refusal to think critically.

*Indivisible. Liberty. Justice for all.*

It's hypocritical, really, that a nation founded on equality for all, was built by colonization, massive genocide, sexism and slave labor. It's amazing the country made it this far, still believing, on paper, in those values... And it still has a long way to go.

For with every revolution, comes a new power. One that, however noble in intention, eventually becomes the same power that had to be overthrown in the first place. Therefore, to be American - if there is truly such a thing - is to be a person who knows that power corrupts. America means the person with all authority is questioned, unjust laws are thrown out, and the voices of the silenced are heard. For there is no perfect system, not even Capitalism. It is the people that make a system, not the other way around.

So, while we celebrate our independence, we must also recognize the ways in which we have continued benefiting from others' suffering. We must allow ourselves to feel the tension of this truth. Simultaneous gratitude and critique of what we have and why we have it.

**Brody Hed Becker, MN**

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Citizens Alliance Bank is seeking applicants for the following positions:

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**Operations Lead II - Howard Lake**  
**Credit Analyst I - Howard Lake**  
**Loan Administration Clerk I - Granite Falls**  
**Teller/Personal Banker I - Murdock**  
**Payment Services Specialist I - Clara City**

To view our job posting or [Apply Online](http://Apply Online) please visit:  
[citizensalliancebank.com/careers](http://citizensalliancebank.com/careers)



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**763-275-0275**



# Public Notices

## STATE OF MINNESOTA TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Filed: 6-17-2020  
Court File No. 71-PR-20-67  
Estate of  
Wanda Lynne Nelson a/k/a  
Wanda L. Nelson,  
Decedent

## NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS (INTESTATE)

Notice is given that an application for informal appointment of personal representative has been filed with the Registrar. No will has been presented for probate. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Registrar has informally appointed Tami Pautzke, whose address is 9642 County Road 23 SE, Becker, Minnesota, 55308, as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir 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 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: June 17, 2020 9:04 AM /s/ Patricia A. Kuka Registrar Attorney for Personal Representative Jan C. Larson Johnson, Larson & Peterson, P.A. 908 Commercial Drive Buffalo, MN 55313 Attorney License No: 17659X Telephone: (763) 682-4550 FAX: (763) 682-4465 Email: Jan.Larson@jplawmn.com (Published in the *Patriot*: 07/03/20).

## 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: **RCS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 8656 95th Avenue SE Clear Lake MN 55319 United States** NAMEHOLDER(S): Name: **Restoration & Construction Services, LLC** Address: **8656 95th Avenue SE Clear Lake MN 55319 United States**

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

*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: **Kent R Gustafson** MAILING ADDRESS: **None Provided** EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **kent@safeshieldconsulting.com** Work Item **1164321000024** Original File Number **1164321000024** STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FILED **06/22/2020 11:59 PM** /s/ Steve Simon Secretary of State (Published in the *Patriot*: 07/03/20; 07/11/20).

## Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Minnesota Limited Liability Company/Articles of Organization Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 322C

The individual(s) listed below who is (are each) 18 years of age or older, hereby adopt(s) the following Articles of Organization:

ARTICLE 1 - LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY NAME: **Patriot News MN, LLC** ARTICLE 2 - REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT(S), IF ANY AT THAT OFFICE: Address: **14054 Bank Street Becker MN United States** ARTICLE 3 - DURATION: **Per-**

petual  
ARTICLE 4 - ORGANIZERS: Name: **Kurt W. Porter** Address: **34354 County Road 3 PO Box 430 Crosslake MN 56442 United States**

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

*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: **Tammy Farber** MAILING ADDRESS: **None Provided** EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **accounting@patriotnewsmn.com** Work Item **1163728200022** Original File Number **1163728200022** STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FILED **06/17/2020 11:59 PM** /s/ Steve Simon Secretary of State (Published in the *Patriot*: 07/03/20; 07/11/20).

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

Notice is hereby given that the Becker Town Board will hold their monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2020 at Becker Town Hall, 12165 Hancock Street. The Town Board will hold public hearings regarding the following:  
**7:10 p.m. Building Code Ordinance** -Administrative procedure change related to buildings exempt from building permits no longer having a site plan review requirement.

Anyone interested in this item is encouraged to attend and comment at the Public Hearing. Anyone interested in these requests are encouraged to attend and comment at the Public Hearing. If remote attendance is desired due to the current Peacetime State of Emergency and Pandemic Declarations, please contact the Clerk prior to the public hearing and remote access will be made available. If you plan to attend in person, please notify the clerk prior to the meeting as social distancing protocols are being followed and limited in-person seating is available. If you are unable to attend please provide written comment to Lucinda Messman at PO Box 248, Becker, MN 55308 or by e-mail to clerk@beckertownship.org by 4:00 p.m. on July 20, 2020.

Thank you.  
Lucinda Messman,  
Becker Township Clerk  
(Published in the *Patriot*: 07/03/20).

# DEADLINES

**Notices & Legals  
WEDNESDAYS AT NOON  
CONTACT KATHY:  
763-275-0275 or  
EMAIL:  
legals.kathy  
@patriotnewsmn.com**

## SHERBURNE COUNTY SHERIFF'S ACTIVITY REPORT WEEK OF JUNE 22 - JUNE 28, 2020

### The following individuals have been booked into the Sherburne Co. Jail for the alleged offense(s):

Shawn Mario Nelson, 42 of Coon Rapids, MN 55429 - FEL 1st degree burglary, FEL 2nd degree assault, MSD domestic assault & MSD 4th degree damage to property. Brandon Allen Wirgau, 34 of Becker, MN 55308 - FEL domestic assault. Jeffrey Michael Greer, 49 of Lakeland, MN 55043 - FEL receiving stolen property and GM driving after cancellation - IPS. Ryan Robert Bjorstrom, 33 of Elk River, MN 55330 - MSD violation of a domestic abuse no contact order. Nicholas Gabe Peterson, 20 of Princeton, MN 55371 - FEL domestic assault & MSD domestic assault - 2 counts. Ashley Eilene Benson, 32 of Eden Prairie, MN 55344 - FEL 5th degree controlled substance. Jarrod Dewayne Miller, 42 of Minneapolis, MN 55407 - Hennepin Co. warrant. Jeffery Edward Braun, 36 of Kimbolton, OH 43749 - Sherburne Co. warrants. Amanda Joyce Carlson-Bodick, 36 of Anoka, MN 55303 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Clayton Robert Kessler, 18 - Dept. of Corrections warrant. Dontra Tevin Salmon, 29 of Coon Rapids, MN 55433 - Sherburne Co. warrants. Jacob Aaron Spence, 22 of Lonsdale, MN 55046 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Roderick Lamoryne Hamilton, 52 of Minneapolis, MN 55403 - Dakota Co. warrant. Anthony Fontaine Laws, 51 of St. Cloud, MN 56304 - Sherburne Co. warrant.

Citations Issued: 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 18 speed, 1 driver fails to stop for stop sign, 2 stop/stand/park where signs prohibit stop, 4 no proof of insurance, 1 uninsured vehicle - owner violation, 1 drive without valid license for vehicle class or type, 2 driving after suspension, 1 driving after revocation, 1 violate order for protection, 1 fleeing peace officer by means other than vehicle, 1 litter, 1 ATV - fail to renew registration, 1 forestry - open burning - prohibited materials.  
**Total: 36**

Calls for Service: 3 theft, 2 theft-mv-other, 5 drugs/narcotics, 3 disturbing the peace, 1 harassment, 1 property damage, 1 driving after revocation/

## WRIGHT COUNTY SHERIFF'S ACTIVITY REPORT PERIOD ENDING JUNE 29, 2020

**June 22:** Justin Hayward Trueblood, 42, of Brownton, was arrested in Scott Co. - Wright Co. warrants - violation of orders for protection. Michael Gerald Nieters, 49, of Aitkin, was arrested in Stearns Co. - Wright Co. warrant - 1st degree burglary violations. Jerry Joseph Blahut, 36, of Detroit Lakes, was arrested in Clay Co. - MN Dept. of Corrections apprehension & detention order - 2nd degree DWI violations. Wayne Mitchell Zitzloff, 28, of Champlin, was arrested in Buffalo - Wright Co. warrant - 5th degree possession of controlled substance violation. Ashley Marie Gieseke, 32, of St. Paul, was arrested in Montrose - the charge of driving after cancellation inimical to public safety. George Ogenche Obiri, 21, of St. Michael, was arrested in St. Michael - Wright Co. warrant - driving after revocation violations.

**June 23:** Harry Dell Anderson, 46, of South Haven, was arrested in Annandale - the charge of driving after cancellation inimical to public safety. Colten Vaughn Weber, 28, of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo - Wright Co. apprehension & detention order - 2nd degree DWI violations. Micah Jared Leonetti, 36, of Champlin, was arrested in Hennepin Co. - Wright Co. warrant - receiving stolen property violations. Brian Lee Hall, 39, of Long Prairie, was arrested in Benton Co. - Wright Co. warrant - 5th degree possession of controlled substance & Todd Co. warrant - driving after cancellation inimical to public safety. Lamina May Harris, 42, of Montrose, was arrested in Montrose - the charge of domestic assault. Derek Douglas Plante, 23, of Little Falls, was arrested in St. Michael - Morrison Co. warrant - 2nd degree assault & Stearns Co. warrant - 3rd degree assault.

**June 24:** Joseph Tyler Seneat, 34, of Rogers, was arrested in Sherburne Co. - Wright Co. court orders - violation of an order - protection & 3rd degree burglary violations. Nicholas Allan Styrbicky, 25, of Annandale, was arrested in Buffalo - Wright Co. apprehension & detention order - 4th degree DWI violations. Samuel Charles Skelton, 57, of St. Cloud, was arrested in Clearwater - the charge of driving after cancellation inimical to public safety. Victor Alfonso Giron, 35, of Monticello, was arrested in Buffalo - the charge of violation of harassment restraining order. Clayton Robert Kessler, 18, of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo - MN Dept. of Corrections warrant - parole violations.

**June 25:** Michael Gary Blizil, 34, of Annandale, was arrested in Corrina Twp. - the charge of domestic assault. Leticia Angelica Nunez, 25, of Maple Grove, was arrested in Anoka Co. - Wright Co. warrant - theft & MN Dept. of Corrections warrant - a parole violation. Joshua Mark Betker, 42, of Hutchinson, was arrested in McLeod Co. - Wright Co. warrant - stalking violations. Sean Alan Ostman, 52, of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo - Wright Co. warrant - driving after cancellation inimical to public safety violations. David Carl Waldo, 27, of Minneapolis, was arrested in Monticello - the charge of driving after cancellation inimical to public safety & Hennepin Co. warrant - 1st degree robbery.

**June 26:** Zachary Lynn Pointer, 27, of Maple Grove, was arrested in

suspension/cancellation, 2 crimes against administration of justice, 1 forgery/counterfeit, 1 trespass, 3 fraud complaint, 1 animal lost, 1 found person, 5 animal found, 3 property found, 1 abandoned vehicle, 1 accident - mv fatal, 4 accident - mv personal injury, 8 accident - mv property damage, 1 accident - mv property damage hit and run, 1 accident - vehicle v. animal, 2 animal complaint, 1 conservation, 1 dog complaint, 2 dog bite, 1 animal bite, 2 fire - other, 1 fire - vehicle, 2 fire - grass, 2 alarm - fire, 1 gas leak/smell, 1 alarm - carbon monoxide, 1 death, 23 medical, 4 mental case, 1 alarm - medical, 4 miscellaneous public, 8 domestic, 11 public assist, 32 agency assist, 14 alarm - security, 10 civil complaint, 77 officer initiated traffic stop, 15 traffic complaint, 1 garbage/littering, 7 suspicious person, 11 suspicious vehicle, 3 juvenile complaint, 21 security check, 26 extra patrol, 2 loud music complaint, 1 deliver message, 17 check the welfare, 5 boating complaint, 3 atv complaint, 3 shooting complaint, 1 repossession, 8 fireworks complaint, 3 parking complaint, 5 jail medical, 1 jail medical guard, 7 paper service, 9 suspicious activity, 3 hazardous road conditions, 31 miscellaneous officer, 4 background check, 1 warrant arrest, 20 transport, 1 jail incident, 2 911 hang up, 2 follow up, 7 vehicle lockout, 3 vehicle off road, 1 warrant attempt. **Total: 474**

**June 4th:** Patrick Hinkemeyer on 147th St NW in Blue Hill Township reported - theft of items from a garage, items taken: RIDGID Drill Power-set & Charger & Coleman 5 HP Air Compressor, value \$650.

**June 19th:** Christopher Ott & Grant Ebensteiner reported a burglary at Friday's Laundromat on Main Street NW in Zimmerman. Andrea Steiskal on 165th Ave SE in Becker Twp. reported the theft of political sign overnight, value \$10.

**June 20th:** Holiday Gas Station on 165th Ave SE in Becker Twp. reported gas drive off in the amount of \$36.05. Isha Sheriff reported the theft of license plate from her vehicle while parked near River Rd SE & 99th St SE in Clear Lake Twp.

Hennepin Co. - Wright Co. warrant - violation of an order for protection. Anne Kaia Nelson, 44, of Minneapolis, was arrested in Hennepin Co. - Wright Co. warrant - 5th degree possession of controlled substance violation. Ryan Taylor Kelly, 42, of Montrose, was arrested in Monticello - the charge of 5th degree possession of controlled substance. Michael Robert Durbin, 55, of Annandale, was arrested in Corrina Twp. - the charge of domestic assault. Luke James Gibson, 42, of Elk River, was arrested in Monticello - the charge of 3rd degree DWI. Nathan Jon Wobbrock, 42, of St. Cloud, was arrested in Stearns Co. - Wright Co. warrant - 5th degree possession of controlled substance violation. Camren Richard Junker-Schultz, 25, of Lester Prairie, was arrested in Delano - the charge of 3rd degree DWI.

**June 27:** Jon Gerald Wick, 37, of Albertville, was arrested in Albertville - the charge of 3rd degree DWI refusal to test. Dirk Anton Martinez, 40, of St. Michael, was arrested in St. Michael - the charge of domestic assault. Jesse Allan Bobendrier, 38, of St. Michael, was arrested in St. Michael - MN Dept. of Corrections warrant - a parole violation.

**June 28:** Steven James Meyer, 50, of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo - the charges of negligent storage of firearms & disorderly conduct. April Ann Roberge, 47, of Delano, was arrested in Delano - the charge of domestic assault. Meghan Rae Boltz, 21, of Dassel, was arrested in Corrina Twp. - the charge of 3rd degree DWI. Bo Allen Bieniek, 22, of St. Cloud, was arrested in Southside Twp. - the charge of 3rd degree DWI. Timothy James Meyers, 27, of St. Paul, was arrested in Monticello - the charge of theft. Brandon Willard Boxell Muehring, 34, of Maple Lake, was arrested in Corrina Twp.. Nicollet Co. warrant - driving after revocation. Evette Ann Anderson, 45, of Otsego, was arrested in Otsego - the charges of 1st degree burglary, violation of harassment restraining order, interference with 911 call & domestic assault & Wright Co. warrant - violation of harassment restraining order. Jennifer Lee Davis, 41, of Sauk Rapids, was arrested in Clearwater - the charge of possession of counterfeit currency. Timothy John Dishneau, 51, of Albertville, was arrested in Albertville - the charge of domestic assault by strangulation. Eugene Birris, 20, no permanent address, was arrested in Silver Creek Twp. - the charges of fleeing law enforcement & criminal vehicular operation.

**June 29:** Frederick William Radiske, 45, of Bethel, was arrested in Hennepin Co. - Wright Co. warrant - 2nd degree burglary violations. Reese Allan Hooper, 33, of South Haven, was arrested in Stearns Co. - Wright Co. warrant - domestic assault violations.

There were 19 property damage accidents, 1 personal injury accidents, 1 hit & run accidents & 4 car deer accidents.

There were 4 arrests - DWI, 3 underage consumption arrests, no school bus stop arm violations & 103 tickets - miscellaneous traffic violations reported this week.

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## Campus News

### Campus News

**Jacob Ivan Sampson** of Big Lake has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the Spring Semester of the 2019-20 academic year. Sampson, a senior computer engineering major, was named to the Dean's List for the College of Engineering.

Local students named to Second Semester Dean's Honor List at Concordia College. The following students from Becker: **Justing Kringler**, Sophomore of Becker High School, his parents are Jeremy & Jennifer Kringler; **Ryan Sommerdorf**, Junior of Becker High School; **Sadie Ziegler**, Junior of Becker High School. The following students from Big Lake: **Allison Bahe**, Senior of Big Lake High School; **Caitlin Eisenschenk**, Junior of Big Lake High School; **Danielle Ginther**, Junior of Big Lake High School, her parents are Thomas Ginther of Rochester & Maria Burnham of Big Lake; **Gabrielle Lommel**, Senior of Big Lake High School, her parents are Kelly & Michelle Lommel; and **Sydney Wertish**, Sophomore of Big Lake High School.

The University of Minnesota Duluth has announced its Dean's List for Sping Semester 2020. Students on the Dean's List have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. The following students from Becker: **Qadry K. Fakhreddine**, Junior, UMD-Swnson College of Science & Engineering, Biology B S; **Rayna T. Good**, Senior, UMD-Swenson College of Science & Engineering,

Biology B S; **Chase D. Heinen**, Senior, UMD-Swenson College of Science & Engineering, Physics B S; **Emily M. Murphy**, Freshman, Education & Human Service Pro, Pre Teaching Spanish; **Ryan A. Nohner**, Senior, UMD-Swenson College of Science & Engineering, Civil Engineering B S C E; **Austin J Seavert**, Sophomore, UMD-Swenson College of Science & Engineering, Stats & Actuarial Science B S; **Ms Allison M Zimmer**, Junior, Education & Human Service Pro, Unified Early Child Study B A Sc. The following students from Clear Lake: **Miss Danae E. Brezinkai**, Junior, School of Fine Arts, Graphic Design B F A; **Macy E. Eigen**, Juniorm Education & Human Service Pro, Psychology B A Sc; **Mr Jordan A. Gruenes**, Junior, UMD-Swnson College of Science & Engineering, Pre Chemical Engineering; **Alyssa Heuring**, Senior, Education & Human Service Pro, Social Work B S W; **Ms Mikayla G Hiltner**, Senior, Education & Human Service Pro, Integr Elem & Spec Ed B A Sc; **Logan G. Lahr**, Senior, UMD-Swenson Collegeof Science & Engineering, Mechanicl Engineering B S M E; **Megan R. Nelson**, Sophomore, Education & Human Service Pro, Pre Communication Sci/Disorder; **Jonathan D. Novak**, Junior, UMD-Swenson College of Science & Engineering, Mechanical Engineering B S M E; and **Miss Ellie M. Schwartz**, Junior, Education & Human Service Pro, Pre Social Work.

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# Big Lake News

## Avalon Estates in early development with City of Big Lake

By Bill Morgan,  
Staff Writer

Last Wednesday's Big Lake City Council meeting featured a PUD concept plan review for Avalon Estates, 2020 streets and utilities projects, organizational structure amendments, a COVID-19 preparedness plan and monthly department reports.

Also, two people used open forum to express themselves in regards to the recent BLM protest.

### Avalon Estates

Consultant Planner, Kevin Shay presented a PUD concept plan for Avalon Estates to develop residential structures on 57 acres of property west of Highland Ave.

Shay said the planning commission reviewed the concept plan at their regularly-scheduled meeting June 17 and provided general feedback to the applicant (Knaeble, Shannon & Anderson Trust) regarding the layout of the development, the park areas, the proposed uses and the number of units.

Shay said the existing land is currently vacant agricultural land with zero structures on the site. The parcel lies directly south of Blacks Lake and west of Big Lake.

The application for a residential development will include patio twin homes, quad townhouses and an apartment building. It is proposed to include 106 units broken down into 32 patio homes, 32 quad townhouses and 42 apartment units.

Shay says the parcel is currently zoned agricultural by the city with a shore land overlay from multiple lakes. The applicant is requesting a rezoning to assign PUD zoning for the site.

James Bedell of the DNR had two concerns in the concept plan, including a variance is needed if the apartment complex is to be a

three-story structure since the City of Big Lake has a shore land ordinance saying structures cannot exceed a height of 25 feet and the three-story building may not meet that restriction.

Also, Bedell said the alignment of Highland Ave. in the southeast portion of the development puts the road in the shore impact zone. This zone is most sensitive for maintaining water quality. Bedell and the DNR recommends minimizing the roadway as much as possible out of the shore impact zone.

Shay said the applicant will take all comments under advisement as they prepare a formal submittal.

### 2020 Street Projects

Layne Otteson, city engineer and public works director, said street and utility work was to be included with the 2020 Street Improvement Project ST 2020-1.

However, since that project has been delayed, the work needs to take place this year so it doesn't continue to negatively impact operations and maintenance of streets, sewer collection, and water distribution systems.

Otteson says the substandard condition of several manholes and catch basins are liabilities and can cause thousands of dollars of damage to snow plow equipment. Otteson provided council with an engineering report that reviews and combines the various needs across the city into one project to save money and reduce risk exposure.

Otteson says the streets are 20 to 30 years old. Multiple streets have begun to have localized deterioration. The size of the repairs needed is beyond public works capabilities and budget. These repairs will prolong street life and prepare for future sealcoat maintenance. Spot patching will be dependent



BECCA RESNLOW was one of two speakers during open forum last Wednesday in Big Lake. (Photo by Bill Morgan).

upon available budget.

The streets identified by Otteson include:

- Euclid Ave;
- Lakeshore Dr & Hiawatha Ave;
- Highline Drive;
- Kilbirmie Dr and Sterling Dr area.

Concrete curbing, catch basins and manholes need to be repaired throughout the city as they are hazards to the public and city snow plow equipment. Staff has identified specific infrastructure that should be repaired so that snow plows and private property is not damaged. There are also several sinkholes next to catch basins requiring structure repair and pavement patching. A culvert pipe at Brom Lane and Tarrytown Road has heaved and needs adjustment to drain properly.

Otteson says this work is beyond public works' capabilities.

This work will be funded with Street Maintenance Capital Improvement Fund 196.

Otteson says a segment

of sidewalk adjacent along Minnesota Ave. is missing. This is adjacent to Independence Elementary School and provides access to the Co. Rd. 43 bike path. Otteson says the school has been very supportive of improving sidewalks along Minnesota Ave. The accesses to McDowall Park trail system are non-compliant. This project will upgrade three access points on state aid routes to meet ADA requirements.

Otteson says a 12" trunk watermain on Co. Rd. 81 has been out of service for over a year. This is a large pipe providing redundant water service to the western most neighborhoods of the city. Otteson says it is critical to get this back on line.

The break is located in a wet, low spot which is expensive to repair due to pipe size, county road and dewatering. Otteson stressed this should be top priority for the city.

Water services on Mount Curve have been freezing in certain years since 2012 when

the city rebuilt the street and installed storm sewer. Insulating the services in the street pavement area should significantly reduce service freeze ups. This work will be funded with the Water Capital Improvement Fund 399.

The estimated cost associated with the improvements is approximately \$171,000. Otteson says the construction costs will be closely watched by staff to stay within budget. All engineering, inspection and administration will be performed by city staff.

### New Job Descriptions

City Administrator Clay Wilfahrt asked council to approve job description updates for community development director, city engineer/utilities manager, and the streets and parks superintendent.

In January of 2020, the city underwent some significant organizational changes. Wilfahrt says in large part, these changes are going very well, however staff has identified a change that would be more beneficial for the organization as a whole.

Wilfahrt says part of the initial reorganization was to combine the public works director and city engineer position. Over the initial six months of this change, the demands on that position have become overwhelming. Between developments requiring engineering work, and duties in public works like the parking kiosk, the city engineer's time has been spread very thin. The city has been required to hire consultant engineers on some projects as a result, and not all of the engineering goals are being completed as a result. This is not a problem of employee performance, but rather of workload. Staff has worked with the personnel committee to discuss options and develop a proposed solution.

The change will have the city engineer/utilities man-

ager move down one pay grade, but the community development director will move up one pay step. This will not have a short term impact on the budget, and long term it will have a slight payroll savings.

### COVID 19

#### Preparedness Plan

Wilfahrt said the governor's executive order requires that the city adopt a COVID-19 plan for workplace safety and to reduce the spread of the disease.

Wilfahrt attached a draft of the plan for council to review.

Wilfahrt said the city attorney made some edits which will be included in the final version of the plan that was available at the meeting. The provisions in this plan are largely required by the Governor's executive order, and having the plan is mandated as well.

### Department Reports

Deb Wegeleben gave a finance report, while Greg Zurbey reported on the liquor store.

Hanna Klimmek concluded with a report on community development.

### Open Forum

Terry Dickinson and Becca Renslow, supporters of Black Lives Matters and the recent protest, spoke to council during open forum. Dickinson wanted to know who and how many council members attended the BLM protest — which Mayor Mike Wallen said "none." She began asking questions but was told council is not to conduct an exchange with guests during open forum.

Renslow told council she was interested in looking for funding opportunities to help with social work, domestic assault problems and drug issues.

### MARKET from page 1

jewelry items made from guitar strings. They are out of St. Cloud. Noah's Lawn & Garden Decor featured birdhouses and carvings at modest prices.

Zouy Cards promoted 3-D, pop-up greeting cards and Great Harvest Bread had a booth of delectable loaves, cookies and scones.

Tina Peterson of the BLPD "manned" the police booth where she answered any questions citizens had and greeted newcomers.

Mavki Produce of Foreston, MN was selling salsa, chalk boards, zucchini, and hand-made cutting boards.

Jackie Wisherd and her husband Dale of Big Lake were selling unique birdhouses, stands and custom-painted lawn items. Many of their birdhouses were painted in color schemes according to local sports teams like the Vikings, Twins and Wild.

Trudy of Trudy's Homemade Favorites sold breads, beets, pickles and jam at her booth and Becky's Bars & Potions had a table promoting Young Living Oils.

Another well visited booth was Specialty Jams that sold apple butter, strawberries, beets, salsa, relish and pickles.

Big Lake's Farmer's Market is a treat for residents of Big Lake and the variety of goods is outstanding. Don't miss out!

### Next Week

See our article on the Becker Farmer's Market in next week's Patriot.



IRA HAYES (R) and his girlfriend singer, Amera Abdelrehem (L) entertained the crowds at last week's Big Lake Farmer's Market. (Photos by Bill Morgan).



TRUDY OF TRUDY'S HOMEMADE FAVORITES (L) helped a customer at the Big Lake Farmer's Market last week. (Photos by Bill Morgan).



MINNCO CREDIT UNION held a ribbon-cutting ceremony last Friday to announce their official opening of their new business in Big Lake. On hand were dozens of employees, city personnel and chamber members to assist in the cutting. Front row, left to right: Hanna Klimmek, Community Development Director (City), Corrie Scott, Recreation & Communications Coordinator (City), Doug Hallstrom, Minnco Credit Union CEO, Yvonne Blum, Minnco Credit Union Branch Manager, Deb Wegeleben, Finance Director (City) and Rose Johnson, Council Member. Back row, left to right: Clay Wilfahrt, City Administrator, Scott Zettervall, Council Member, Mike Wallen, Mayor, Paul Knier, Council Member, Joel Scharf, Chief of Police and Matt Hayen, Deputy Chief of Police. (Photo by Bill Morgan).



AFTER HOURS. (Left to right) Kevin Thompson, DATASuccess; retiring Big Lake Schools Superintendent Steve Westerberg; Big Lake Chamber Executive Director Gloria Vande Brake; Dr. Scott Schulz, Great River Spine & Sport; Tim Suchy, Edward Jones; Dan McElwee, St. Croix Valley Insurance; and Becky Jacobs, Northstar Technology Solutions. Later, Donna Clarksean of Old National Bank joined the group. (Photo by Bill Morgan).

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# Summer Planning

## Get equipped for your best camping trip yet

StatePoint

Camping is always a great time, but especially when you're well-equipped. Here's what to take along with you on your next overnight into the great outdoors:

- See better: Visibility is everything on the trail. So if you're leaving the campsite for a hike or trek, it's important to prep for a safe transition from day to night in the event you don't make it back before nightfall. During the day, wear polarized sunglasses to reduce glare and offer UV protection. Then, before the sun goes down, break out a lightweight headlamp to illuminate your way.
- Support your trek: You can support your active outdoor activities with wearable tech. Whether you plan to hike, rock climb or canoe, the innovative design of Casio PRO TREK watches offer a range of features making them a good choice. The PRTB50 Series adds Bluetooth capabilities that enable data communication with a smartphone running the PRO TREK Connected app for the ultimate in ease of use, while the Quad Sen-



sor system packs a compass, altitude/barometer and temperature measurements, along with an accelerometer tracking step count, into a compact configuration.

- Campfire entertainment: Put a fresh spin on the traditional campfire sing-along by bringing along a portable keyboard. With a Casiotone keyboard, you can simply

filter.

- Great meals: Speaking of the campfire, you only need a few simple tools to cook right over the open flame. With a portable grate, you can create a makeshift grill for burgers, hot dogs and other barbecue favorites. Or simplify even further by wrapping foods in aluminum foil and baking them directly in the flames. Remember, cooking under the stars doesn't need to be boring, so be sure to bring your favorite herbs, spices and hot sauces to enhance that wood-fired flavor.
- Better sleep: To get recharged for another day of outdoor activity, make sure you have the right equipment for comfortable sleep. Place an air mattress under your sleeping bag for an additional layer between you and the hard ground. Many models these days have built-in pumps for quick set-up. As for the sleeping bag itself, be sure to check the temperature rating and ensure it matches the overnight weather forecast for your trip.

From sunrise to sunset, you can make sure every aspect of your camping trip is well-equipped to be the best one yet.

g r a b the carrying handle, pop in six AA batteries and make music any time, anywhere. A Dance Music Mode feature divides the keyboard into different instrument sections like drums, bass and more. By playing different combinations of keys, you can create and instantly remix dance music using 50 built-in styles, as well as familiar effects like stutter and

## Great online content can let you 'visit' a museum this summer

StatePoint

If you are looking for new things to this summer do while staying home or social distancing, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian has you covered.

The museum has lots of free content available for both adults and kids, including digital learning tools for students of all ages and online versions of many of its most popular exhibitions. Access to this content is through the museum's website: AmericanIndian.si.edu.

### For Students

Native Knowledge 360° (NK360°) is the museum's national education initiative to inspire and promote improvement of teaching and learning about American Indians. NK360° provides educational materials and teacher training that incorporate Native narratives, more comprehensive histories and accurate information to enlighten and inform teaching and learning about Native America. The initiative's website has digital lessons for K-12 students, teacher guides, videos and websites. Several lessons are also available in Spanish.

### Online Exhibitions

Many of the museum's most popular exhibitions are available to explore online. "Americans" shows how American Indians have been part of the nation's iden-

tity since before the country began. Visitors can click on some familiar images and learn why images of American Indians are everywhere in our country.

The bilingual exhibition "The Great Inka Road: Engineering an Empire" examines why the Inka Road



was built more than 500 years ago, and how its construction—without the use of metal or iron, the wheel or stock animals to pull heavy loads—stands as one of the greatest engineering feats.

The exhibition "Infinity of Nations: Art and History in the Collections of the National Museum of the American Indian," which features some 700 works of Native art from throughout North, Central and South America, demonstrates the breadth of the museum's collection and highlights the historic importance of many of these iconic objects.

"Developing Stories: Native Photographers in the

Field" is the museum's newest exhibition. It features the work of two Native photo-journalists who are using photography to break down stereotypes and portray stories that show the diversity and complexity of their contemporary lives.

### Explore the Collections

Through its online search, visitors to the museum's website can learn more about the history of the museum's holdings, which have their foundation in the collection largely assembled by George Gustav Heye, beginning in 1897. The collection currently contains more than 800,000 items from across the entire Western Hemisphere. And for more from the collections, visit the museum's new Google Arts & Culture website.

The museum's online store offers an array of books for adults and kids, cards, CDs and DVDs. The best part? Your purchase helps to continue the museum's important work.

You can also get more content from the museum by following it on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Thanks to great online exhibitions, educational materials, and yes, even shopping, you can spend this summer "visiting" an amazing museum from wherever you are.

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**Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS)**  
David M. Johnson, Pastor 763-262-7782. Sunday Worship 9 am, Sunday School, Education Hour 10:30 am, Wed. J.U.M.P. 6pm. Hwy 10, turn onto Edgewood Street (near Hwy 25 N exit), 1/4 mile on left.

**Becker Baptist Church** 763-261-4202. Pastor Rob Olsen, Associate Pastor Nathan Bucher, Youth Pastor Kevin Drechsel. Co-ordinator of Visitation & Ministry to Seniors Jo Moyer, Director of Ministry to Children & Families Amy Drechsel

11951 Hancock Street, Becker, MN  
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Wednesday youth service live online at 2:00 pm  
Children's storytime online Tuesdays & Thursdays at 2:00 pm  
Visit our website more information: www.beckerbaptist.org

**Becker Evangelical Free Church** Located at Becker High School. Patrick Drury, Senior Pastor 763-261-4125. Chris Salvevold, Pastor of Youth Ministries. www.beckerfreechurch.org. Office: 11373 150th Ave SE. Sunday Worship: Becker High School, Worship/Teaching/Fellowship for all ages 10am Sunday school for ages birth-adult during school year. Wed night kids ministries ages K-5. His Kids for K-3 boys & girls, Gym 45 for 4th & 5th grade boys & G.I.R.L.S. Group for 4th & 5th grade girls. ELEVATE for 6-12th grade students.

**Church of Mary of the Visitation**  
Father Mike Kellogg, 763-447-3339, 12100 Sherburne Ave, Becker, 440 Lake St N, Big Lake. Mass: Sat: 5pm, Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:30 am. Mass Location Rotation: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday of the month, all Masses will be at Becker location. 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month, all Masses will be at Big Lake location.

**Faith (Becker) Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
Pastor Yolanda Denson-Byers, 11755 Sherburne Ave, Becker. Sundays Worship at 9:30 am (Holy Communion on 1st & 3rd Sundays) Nursery provided Sunday school at 10:00 am, Refreshments & fellowship at 10:30 am. Wednesday 5:15 5th & 6th Grade "Grapple", 6:30 7th - 9th grade confirmation, 7:30 Youth Group. Bible Study: Wednesday 9:30 am. 763-261-5751.

**Oakwood Community Church Assemblies of God** Senior Pastor Gerry Bass & Sarah www.oakwoodccbecker.org. Services: Sunday Adult Bible Study Class 9:00 am, Children's Sunday School Class 9:00am, Worship Service 10:00 am. Children's Church 10:45 am, Wednesday Night: Royal Rangers & Missionettes (Nursery-6th grade) 7-8:30 pm, Youth Group (7th to 12th grade) 7-8:30 pm, Adult Bible Study 7-8:30 pm. Location: 13140 1st St., Becker (in SW corner of Becker Furniture World) 763-220-6004.

**Snake River Free Mission Church** Sunday Worship & Sunday School 10:30 am. Hymn Sing Second Sunday every other month 4:30 pm. Pastor Steve Johnston. 5mi N of Hwy 10 on Cty Rd 11, then 1.5 mi E on Cty Rd 4, 3/4 mi. N on 180th St. 612-219-8648.

**Becker Christian Center & Abundant Grace Church** Ken Hanson, Pastor 763-262-2177, 15455 59th St SE, Becker, 6 mi N Junction 23 & 16, Praise & Worship 9:30 am Sunday; Wednesday 7 pm all family growth fellowship.

**Beacon House of Prayer** 12264 Pleasant Ave. Becker. Worship Thursday 6:30 pm. Pastors Brian & Linda Holmes. 763-263-3771.

**Maranatha Baptist Church** Pastor Glenn McCarver. Sunday School 10 am, Worship 11 am. Wednesday Prayer Service 7 pm. 763-262-1571.

**Free Grace United** Kevin Wilson, 763-245-0001. Meets Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Pebble Creek Golf Course, 14000 Clubhouse Ln, Becker.

**• BIG LAKE**

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

**Bethany Bible Church** 511 Eagle Lake Road, Big Lake, 763-263-2167, Sunday school: 9 am, Worship 10 am.

**Bridgeview Assembly of God** Pastor Steve Royalty, Service Times: 763-263-6274, 10 am Sunday morning, 6:30 pm Wednesday evening, www.bridgeviewchurch.org

**Community Covenant Church (SYEA)** Pastor Dan Mutter, 763-263-6322, Cty. Rd. 15, 6 miles north of Hwy. 10 Worship, 10:30 am, nursej provided.

**Cornerstone Baptist Church** Pastor Gordon Langdon, 763-263-7878, 15300 Co. Rd. 35, Hwy. 10E, N. on Co. Rd. 15, N. on Co. Rd. 35, 1/2 mi. on left.

**Hope Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Orrock** Pastor Steve Seiffert, www.hopeintherefuge.weebly.com, 612-788-4349 or 763-263-7990 (LM) 8 mi. N. of Big Lake or 7 mi. W. of Zimmerman or 12 mi. NE of Becker Cty. Rd. 4.

**IFLESIA AMOR VIVIENTE**  
**Living Love Church** 221 Lake St N, Big Lake, Saturday 6 pm. 763-607-5403, Juan & Patricia Aguayo-Pastores, juan.aguayo@amorriviente.com.

**Lord of Glory Lutheran Church** 4 miles E of Big Lake, off Hwy 10 & CR 15, 763-263-3090, Pastor Marty Mabry, Sundays: 8 & 10:30 am Worship.

**Riverside Church** Phone: 763-263-2410; Hwy 25 & Cty Rd 14, Big Lake. Schedule: 8:45 am, 10:30 am & 12:05 pm. Info @ www.MyRiversideChurch.com

**Saron Lutheran Church** 311 Lake St. S (Hwy 25), Big Lake, 763-263-2209, www.saron.org. Pastor Kyle Sidlo, Worship Sundays, 8:45 am, Contemporary 10:30 am, Sunday School 10:30 am.

**• SANTIAGO**

**South Santiago Lutheran Church ELCA** Angela LaMoore, Pastor, Hollie Holt-Woehl, Pastor, 14675- 37th St, Clear Lake, MN 55319, 763-662-2048. Sunday Worship at 8 am & 10 am. Kingdom Kids at 9 am on Sunday. Confirmation (7-9) on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm, with worship at 7:30p.m.

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church E.L.S. & Princeton Evangelical School** Timothy Zenda, Pastor. (3 mi E of Cty 11, Santiago on Cty Rd 3). Sunday: Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30 am, Divine Worship 9 am. Holy Communion on 1st & 3rd Sunday.

**Glendorado Lutheran (ELCA), Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA).** Pastor Shari Routh 920-573-0193. Church office 763-662-2241. Sun day Good Shepherd Worship 9 am, Glendorado Worship 10:30 am.

**Gethsemane Church (ELCA) Ronneby.** Pastor Barbara Peterson 320-983-5002. Sunday Worship 10 am.

**Glendorado Evangelical Country Church** Pas-

tor Sam Alfano. Sunday School 9:30 am; Worship Service 10:30 am, 3rd Sunday of each mo. 6 pm Singspiration Public Invited. Wed. Awana & Bible Study 7-8 pm for all ages.

**• CLEAR LAKE**

**Living Waters Church** Pastor Mark Stahl 320-292-0250. Sunday morning worship at 10 am (Children's Church provided). Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30 pm (Fellowship Meal at 5:30 pm). 7830 Church St. P.O. Box 26, Clear Lake. lwchurchus@outlook.com web: www.livingwaters.us

**Trinity Lutheran Church Missouri Synod** George Sagissor III, Pastor 320-743-2919. Sunday Worship 8:45 am; Sunday School 9:45 am, Adult Bible Class.

**St. Marcus Catholic Church** Fr. Joseph Backowski 320-743-2481. Mass: Saturdays 5 pm. (year-round) Sunday: Jan -Jun 8 am, July -Dec 10 am; Confessions: Saturday 4:15 pm. 8701 Main Avenue, P.O. Box 237, Clear Lake, MN 55319.

**• DUELM**

**St. Lawrence Church** Father Joseph Backowski. Mass: Jan - June, Sunday 10 am, July - Dec 8 am. Reconciliation: 7:15 am when Mass begins at 8 am & will follow after Mass at 10 am. 320-968-7502 or 320-743-2481. St.Lawrence@victorrecc.net

**• CLEARWATER**

**Clearwater United Methodist Church** 405 Main St, Clearwater 320-558-2581. Pastor Ken Felska. Sunday Traditional Worship 8:30 am forministry.com/usmnumetccumcc.

**Freedom Bible Church** Old Clearwater Post Office. 605 Lime St 9:30 am & 6 pm Sundays -Bible Study; 10:45 am Sundays - Worship Service; 7 pm Wednesday - Bible Study.

**Rejoice Lutheran Church - ELCA** 1155 Cty Rd 75, Clearwater. Pastor: Jim Bump 320-558-6851. Wednesday night Worship 7:30 pm. Sunday Worship at 9:30 am, 10:30 am Fellowship. Sunday School, Adult Ed, Cappuccino Bible Study (Jr. & Sr. High) www.rejoicelutheran-church.org

**Church of St. Luke** 17545 Huber Ave. NW Clearwater. Fr. Dennis Backer, Pastor 320-558-2124 Weekend Mass 5pm Sat 8 & 10 am Sunday Weekday Mass: Tuesday - Friday 8 am; Sat 9 am. Reconciliation avail 45 min prior to all Masses. Holy Days as announced. churchof-stlukes.com

**Tri-County Alliance Church** 8464 160th St NW Clearwater (Cty Rd 104 & Hwy 24) 320-558-2750 Pastor David Fogal Sunday School 9 am Worship Service 10:30 am Wednesday Bible Adventure (kids) 6-7:30 pm Wednesday Youth (Gr. 6-8) 6-7:40 pm Wednesday Youth (Gr. 9-12) 7:20-9 pm. teachurch.com

**• MAPLE LAKE**

**Silver Creek Community Church** Pastor Zach Pryor. 4282 114th St. NW, Maple Lake, 55358 (Co. Rds. 8 & 143 in Silver Creek) Ph. 320-963-3957. www.silvercreekcommunitychurch.com. Sunday Worship 9 am, 10 am Fellowship, 10:30 am Sunday School. Tuesday 5 pm Bible study @ In Hot Water. Wednesday 9 am Bible study @ Irish Blessings, 6:15 Youth Group supper/meeting.

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# Becker News

**SCHMIDT from page 1**

to Minnesota, where he worked for a couple more sign companies.

He opened his first business in Elk River in 1988, where he spent 10 years immersing himself in the community, becoming a member of the Chamber of Commerce and creating numerous signs for the city, including the ones used for their annual parade.

Life suddenly changed drastically for Schmidt in 2002 when he became a cancer survivor. His story is a bit different than most. Going to urgent care immediately after noticing blood in his urine, his cancer was discovered on a Tuesday, and by Thursday the doctors had already taken care of it. He's had no recurrences.

"Instead of chasing the almighty buck I started doing things a little differently after I became a cancer survivor," he said. "It's been 18 years now; my niece reminds me of it every year because I missed her wedding."

Taking life a little easier, he changed careers and began working at resorts in Ely and Crane Lake. He didn't give up sign making completely, however, and continued taking on projects as a side job.

With sign making still in



**STEVE SCHMIDT** stands by the sign he hand lettered onto Norm Johnson's truck. (Submitted Photo)

his blood, in 2014 he moved back to his hometown, Becker, and opened Schmidt Sign & Design, which he continues to operate today.

Most of his work is local, although a couple of years ago he received a call from a resort owner he had worked for, asking him to create the graphics for the volunteer fire department's new fire boat.

His craft can be seen around the area, including City of Becker vehicles, Pebble Creek Golf Course, H2O Pro Company truck, Norm's Farm Market, Peterson Potato Farm, and recently, Rebecca's Café on Hwy. 10.

Schmidt offers both design of and creation of signs,

mostly vinyl. Although rare today, he also offers hand let-

tering which he recently used for the design he painted on a vintage truck for Norm's Farm Market.

"I had done their truck 35 years ago," said Schmidt. "Norm's boys restored it and he told them they couldn't use vinyl on it. I hadn't hand lettered a sign for probably 20 years but I still have my brushes, so I found a piece of glass and practiced for a couple weeks first."

Schmidt is currently creating the new door sign for the Patriot's offices. Contact him for sign and design needs at 218-235-0444.



**ONE OF SCHMIDT'S** completed projects, the Crane Lake Fire Dept.'s new fire and rescue boat. (Submitted Photo)

## NO MEAT RAFFLE FRI., JULY 3

*Have a safe & happy 4th of July!*

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## City of Becker's watering restrictions in force

By Bill Morgan,  
Staff Writer

Due to the dry conditions, the City of Becker's wells need your help.

The Water Dept. is reminding its citizens of the city's watering regulations that have been in place since Memorial Day and will run until Labor Day.

No watering is allowed between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### Odd/Even Watering Days

Residents with an address ending in an odd number such as 1, 3, 5, etc. shall sprinkle or irrigate only on odd numbered calendar days. Addresses ending with an even number may

only irrigate on even numbered calendar days.

Violation of this ordinance will result in fines.

Residents are encouraged to see the city website([www.ci.becker.mn.us/](http://www.ci.becker.mn.us/)) or contact the water department at 763-262-4331 or [water@ci.becker.mn.us](mailto:water@ci.becker.mn.us) for more information.

Heavy water usage, due to lawn irrigation, causes drastic increases in well run time. Increased well run time could result in well failure and watering bans. Please check ones irrigation system and make sure one is in compliance with city watering regulations.

## Community Center opens its doors: Fitness classes now being offered!

By Bill Morgan,  
Staff Writer

The Becker Community Center is excited to be open again!

The BCC's group fitness classes will be held in the great outdoors with a maximum capacity of 19 participants. At Kolbinger or City Park Shelters, there will be a maximum capacity of nine participants. The BCC group fitness schedule will be posted weekly.

Classes will be "reservation only". Call the BCC (763-200-4271) up to 24 - hours in advance to reserve your spot in each class.

Review the fitness class guidelines on the BCC website prior to class.[www.beckercommunitycenter.com](http://www.beckercommunitycenter.com). If no reservations are made by 30-minutes prior to class time, the class will be cancelled.

The BCC opened their facility at 5 a.m., June 10. The community center is an ongoing partnership between the staff and its members/guests. This partnership is more important than ever to assure they are providing a healthy and safe environment for everyone. As they work on reopening and welcoming everyone back to their facility, staff asks everyone to be aware of

changes that have been made to the operation of the facility to better accommodate for the guidelines for reopening.

### Fitness

Most fitness equipment has been relocated to the gym. This has allowed staff to provide better spacing between equipment as well as the ability to increase capacity limits. As the BCC progresses, staff will look at adding more equipment to the space.

Space is limited to 20 people at one time, so call in advance to make a reservation. Reservations are for one-hour time slots. Reservations can be made 72 hours in advance

for members, and 24 hours in advance for nonmembers.

Participants are asked to come dressed and ready to workout. Locker room space is limited to allow for social distancing, so staff would like to try and keep that space available for pool users.

Staff asks members to make sure to wipe down equipment before and after use. Members are also asked to bring their own water bottle.

### Aquatics

Summer open swim hours (with a lifeguard on duty) are:

- Monday – Friday: Noon – 7:45 p.m.;

- Saturdays: Noon – 5:45 p.m.;

Summer lap swim hours - (18 years + ) are:

- Monday – Friday: 5 a.m. – Noon;
- Saturdays: 8 a.m. – Noon

All swimmers must shower with soap and water prior to swimming. Pool is limited to 60 swimmers.

Spa is limited to three people. The sauna is closed. No hot swim and aqua classes will be offered at this time.

Staff is currently working on outlining a schedule and offerings for swim lessons.

### Other News

Facility hours of operation are:

- Monday – Friday 5 a.m. – 8 p.m. ;
- Saturdays – 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sundays - Closed.  
Food is not allowed to be brought into the facility.

Currently, staff are not proving the following:

- Rentals for birthday parties;
- Teddy Bear Junction;
- Rock climbing.

### Library

The Library access is by appointment only. Call 763-261-4454 to schedule an appointment.

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**PATRIOT from page 1**

dropped at a few sites locally for pick up.

Online, the *Patriot* can be found at [patriot-newsnn.com](http://patriot-newsnn.com), and through our presence on Facebook and Twitter (@Patriot-NewsMN).

Remember, any great free local community newspaper is only as good as its readership and its advertisers. And that's where you (our businesses and readers) come in. Each week, the staff of the *Patriot* promises to publish a community-friendly newspaper that brings the local news to you.

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Thank you for picking up this inaugural edition and reading it. We hope you enjoy this weekly and look forward to bringing you many more in the years to come.

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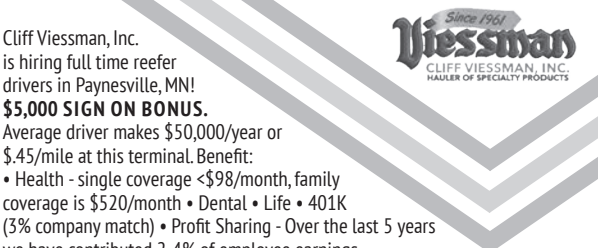
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# Sports News

## Buzzards crush Outlaws, 11-0

By Mark Kolbinger,  
Contributing Writer

After months of doubt about the ability to play their season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the defending state champion Becker Buzzards baseball team traveled to Kensington Sunday to open their season and came away with an 11-0 win in five innings.

The Buzzards sprinted out of the gate and plated a pair of runs in the top of the first inning as Steve Newman and Rich Petty drew walks and thanks to a wild pitch and a Jason Wald sacrifice fly, the visitors had the early lead.

The outlaws put a couple of runners on base in their half of the inning, but Buzzard ace Jason Pfingsten struck out two batters to end the threat. The righthander earned the win by going four innings, scattering five hits and striking out an incredible 10 batters in his limited work.

The Buzzards made it 3-0 in the second when new Buzzard, Chico Schroeder, reached on a single and pinch runner Ryan Williams scored on a Jon Kern single.

The game opened up in the top of the third when the Buzzards were able to plate four runs. The big hits were a Schroeder double and a single off the bat of Nick Allerson.

The scoring continued for Becker as Todd Klaers walked to lead off the fourth and Wald followed with a double to put runners on second and third for Matt Koester, who singled to score both runners.

The final runs of the game would come in the top of



the fifth when Brian Kolbinger walked and Allerson singled to reach base. After advancing on a fielder's choice, both runners scored on a Newman single. Kolbinger came in to close out the game with a scoreless bottom of the fifth.

"Due to COVID-19 and orders from the state, our season got off to a bit of a late start," said Manager Jason Baune, back for his fourth season at the helm after taking over the team.

"However, we still have 10 games on the schedule which should be enough to prepare us for the state tournament in mid-August."

The home schedule starts for the Buzzards at the Becker Athletic Complex July 11 when they will host both the Vermdale Geezers (noon) and the Fergus Falls Riverdogs (2 p.m.). Other home games include a July 19 doubleheader against the Alexandria Classic Clippers at 2 p.m. and August 9 when the Morris Brewers come to town for a doubleheader at 2 p.m.

"With the current Covid-19 situation, it is important to know that we will be following some new protocols," added Baune. "Fans will be asked to stay six feet apart from anyone not in their family and we will not have concessions available at the ballpark either."

Other state mandated precautions include the elimination of sunflower seeds or any spitting by players, no high fives or other types of unnecessary conduct. The end of the game handshake is now replaced with a tip of the cap between teams.

Several central Minnesota area amateur baseball games have been canceled in the past week due to concerns of potential Covid exposure by team members, but as of now no confirmed reports have been verified.



THE BUZZARDS pose for a team photo last year. (Submitted Photo).

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## Late Summer Baseball Season Opens

By Bill Morgan,  
Staff Writer

Registration for the late summer baseball season is officially open as of June 13!

Members of the Becker Youth Baseball Association (BYBA) sent out a survey for feedback on organizing a late summer season based on the latest COVID-19 guidelines. Based on the feedback, The BYBA has opened registration for their late summer season. Parents can register their child through the normal process at [www.beckerbaseball.org](http://www.beckerbaseball.org).

**Season Details**  
This is a new season with a separate registration. Parents will need to sign up for this season regardless if one has signed up for the normal season or not. The BYBA is in the process of sending out the refunds for that season.

The new summer season began June 15 and runs through August 16. BYBA organized teams the week of June 15 to start this season.

Games begin July 6 and will run for six weeks.

Coaches are picking teams with help from the board so if one is a coach and have a team organized, the BYBA will honor that team.

There is no volunteer requirement for the league, but there will be opportu-

nities to help organize and prepare for the season so the BYBA would appreciate anyone's help.

The board will handle registration for the team including insurance, provide equipment and assist coaches with fields for games and practices.

All teams will play in the Gopher State League. There are several levels of play available for the teams to play so the board will work with the coach to pick the appropriate level.

### About BYBA

The Becker Baseball program provides a competitive baseball opportunity with intensive skill development and a high level of competition. The program strides to promote confidence and teamwork while competing with other teams in and around the area.

Youth baseball is managed by a volunteer board, the Becker Baseball Diamond Club. This group is affiliated with the Becker Youth Sports Association (BYSA), a not-for-profit organization that supports youth sports in our community. The Becker Youth Baseball Association meets monthly throughout the year. The board of directors is listed on their website at [www.beckerbaseball.org](http://www.beckerbaseball.org).



## Bandits go 1-1

By Bill Morgan,  
Staff Writer

The Becker Bandits baseball team split two games this week, winning at Clear Lake and falling on the road at Albertville.

**Becker 7, Clear Lake 2**  
Matthew Moe went 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs to lead the visitors June 21.

Weston Schug picked up the win on the mound, going five innings, giving up zero hits, two runs, two walks while striking out five. Dalton Fouquette finished things up by going two innings, giving up two hits, two walks and striking out four.

Fouquette was 2-for-4 on offense with a stolen base and two RBIs. Matt Krenz went 1-for-2 with an RBI and Schug was 1-for-3 with two stolen bags.

Kreeden Blomquist went 1-for-4 with a double, Connor Rolf went 1-for-2 with a walk and Zach Wenner went 1-for-3 with a walk.

### Villains 8, Bandits 2

The Bandits fell to the Albertville Villains by six last Wednesday in Albertville. With the loss, the Bandits fell to 2-1 on season.

Moe took the loss as he tossed six innings, giving up one walk, six hits and four runs.

Joe Dolan went 1-for-4 with a double and an RBI. Hunter Stulz was 1-for-3 with a double, two stolen bases and an RBI. Rolf was 1-for-3.

Moe was also 1-for-3 while Krenz was 1-for-4 and Fouquette 1-for-4 with a two-bagger.

Peyton Bigaouette came on in relief of Moe and pitched two innings, garnering three strikeouts while giving up four hits, one walk and four runs.

### Up Next

The Bandits played Monday at Monticello Polecats and Wednesday at Rogers Red Devils (full report on games in next week's Patriot).

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