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PATRIOT



CAROL BRUNN AND PAT THROLSON cut a ribbon Tuesday to officially open the new Becker Area Senior Center location in the Becker Community Center, with representatives of the BASC, the Chamber of Commerce, Becker City, Becker Schools, and more in attendance. See the story on page 7. (Submitted photo.)

Inside
CLEARWATER
Gloria Grubbs of Clearwater is still quite active as a 72-year-old. See the story on page 2.

CLEAR LAKE
The Clear Lake City Council set their budget workshop date. See the story on page 4.

COUNTY NEWS
Grant funds are once again available for businesses recovering from COVID-19. Read about it on page 7.

PATRIOT

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

We are now in Palmer!

PATRIOT

News & Advertising Deadlines

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

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

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

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PATRIOT

POSTAL PATRON

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• VOL. 2 • NO. 7 SAT., AUG. 14, 2021

Block Party coming Aug. 21



ADULTS & KIDS TRIED TO PROTECT THEMSELVES from getting too wet at last year's Big Lake Block Party. This year they again will have a chance to toss balloons at each other sponsored by The Wave Youth Center during the last hour at the Aug 21st event at McPete's. Join them from 10-2 pm. (Submitted Photos).

Submitted Article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by the Big Lake Chamber of Commerce).

"We want to encourage every family to attend our Big Lake Block Party," said Committee Chair and Gold Sponsor Dr. Kristi McAlpin from Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital.

"You can bowl, play mini-golf, Jenga, Bingo, Plinko, toss games and pick a prize from fish bowl from 10-2 p.m. Saturday, Aug 21 at any one of our Platinum Sponsors,

McPete's Entertainment Center."

A balloonist from Funtime Functions will provide a unique balloon for every child. Big Lake Ambassadors will offer face painting. Ambulance, police and classic vehicles will be available. Evolution Tae Kwon Do and Starz Dance Studio will provide entertainment. The Wave Youth Center will provide water balloon dodgeball from 1-2 p.m. so youth are encouraged to dress appropriately.

The first 100 youths will receive a backpack from our Silver Sponsor Guardian Garments and

filled with great items. Youth can also register to win 12 bikes and two sets of a scooter & a skateboard!

"Our Platinum Sponsor Coborn's will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, fixings and ice cream for a small fee," said McAlpin.

Big Lake Spud Fest is also a Platinum Sponsor.

Other Gold Sponsors include Big Lake Police Dept., Cargill, Cherrywood Advanced Living, Connexus Energy, Kwik Trip, Liberty Bank, Minnco Credit Union and Sherburne State Bank.

Additional Silver Sponsors are Lupulin Brewing, Old National Bank and Xcel Energy.

Bronze Sponsors include Becker Spine, Big Lake Lions, DATA Success, Friends of Big Lake Library, Michelle Backlund, CPA, Minnesota Limited, Park Dental and The Bank of Elk River.

Bike Sponsors include Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital, Big Lake "Do It Best" Lumber, Big Lake Police Dept., Big Lake Spud Fest, Cargill, CentraCare Health,

BLOCK PARTY to page 9

Ebensteiner in as Becker's new finance director

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

Mark Ebensteiner, Becker's new finance director, gave his first presentation to council during Tuesday's meeting. Ebensteiner was hired to replace Connie Robinson after she accepted a job with Metro-Bus in St. Cloud.

Ebensteiner updated council on the city's finances for the second quarter of the year. He noted that the BCC's (Becker Community Center) revenue was trending upwards after the hard year they had in 2020, and again noted Pebble Creek is also doing better. The general fund is right where staff wanted it to be, and the city is slightly under budget for expendi-



MARK EBENSTEINER was recently hired as Becker's new finance director. (Photo by Katherine Cantin.)

tures.

After his report, Ebensteiner was appointed to the Fire and Relief Board, another position Robinson held before she left.

Alcohol Compliance Failure

BECKER to page 9

63 YEARS WITH THE LEGION... WOW!



DONALD FIERECK (L) of Clear Lake received a plaque for 63 continuous years of membership with the Clear Lake Legion. Legion member and good friend of Fiereck, Lonnie Suckert, made the presentation at Don's home recently. (Submitted Photo)

Clearwater Heritage Days was fun for all

By Penny Leuthard, Contributing Writer

Clearwater's two-day Heritage Days celebration was back last weekend and met with enthusiasm by the community.

The fun started Friday with the always popular Lions Club Heritage Dinner at Lions Park. Joah's Ark petting zoo was also there to entertain the kids with pony rides and all kinds of animals to feed and pet.

The parade, featuring over 40 entries, kicked off at 5 p.m., led by the Wright Co. Sheriff and Clearwater American Legion Color Guard. This year's grand marshal was Jim Eich, and Bud Schindelle and Wendy



Johnson reigned as senior king and queen.

After the parade, attendees headed back to Lions Park for music and the beer garden.

A little rain didn't detract the fun on Saturday, which began in the morning with a car show at Rejoice Lutheran Church. The Clearwater Fire Dept. held an open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Clearwater Corners hosted their bean bag tournament.

The Clearwater Legion Riders' Annual Homeless Veteran's Run began at 10:30 a.m. After the riders

returned, a silent auction was held from 4 to 6:15 p.m. followed by a live auction at 6:30 and a gun and cash prize raffle at 7 p.m. A pulled pork dinner was offered from 4 p.m. until gone.

The celebration concluded with a street dance featuring Radio Nation that was also sponsored and funded by the Clearwater Legion. All proceeds from the Homeless Veteran's Run and Fundraiser will be used for veteran causes.

See more photos of the event elsewhere in this week's Patriot.

TWO-YEAR-OLD AVA WALTZING from Clearwater giggles as a goat from Joah's Ark searches her for snacks during Clearwater's Heritage Days celebration. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)

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Clear Lake/Clearwater News

Grubbs still adventuring at 72

By Penny Leuthard,
Contributing Writer

While most people are starting to slow down when they turn 40, 72-year-old Becker resident Gloria Grubbs' life started gearing up.

"The best year of my life was the year I turned 40," she said.

Grubbs was working at a restaurant in Plymouth when a customer she was waiting on asked if she wanted to meet professional wrestler Buck 'Rock n' Roll' Zumhofe. She ended up meeting not only Zumhofe, but another professional wrestler, Billy Robinson, 'the man with 1,001 moves,' who asked for her phone number. They began dating.

Robinson moved in with Grubbs, and she attended his wrestling matches all over Minnesota, after which they'd head to the local bars. During this time, she was introduced to many other well-known wrestlers of the day, including Mike 'Mad Dog' Bell, Larry 'The Ax' Hennig, 'Mr. Perfect' Curt Hennig, and 'The Claw' Baron Von Raschke.

One day at the Monti Gym, where she'd gone to learn to swim, she saw a notice about a body building competition in Hinckley that was being held in two weeks.

Not one to turn down a challenge, Grubbs decided she wanted to try it and spent the next two weeks training; she had grown up on a farm and knew hard work. She took second place her first time out.

After that she was hooked and began competing in body building competitions across the Midwest. The City of St. Michael, where she was living, sponsored her to attend competitions in Arizona and Utah.

Grubbs took a trophy at every competition she entered, including first place at



GLORIA GRUBBS, now 72, found adventure as a body builder in the late 80's and early 90's. Inset: Grubbs has taken home a trophy at every competition she entered, concluding her five-year body building career with over 60 trophies (Submitted Photo.)

Minnesota State three years in a row. Not wanting to go pro, she ended her five-year body building career with over 60 trophies.

During this time, Robinson taught her how to downhill ski and she went tandem skydiving for the first time (she jumped a second time two years ago with her granddaughter Morgan).

Looking for more new challenges, Grubbs modeled as a mannequin in the Bloomington Mall after seeing an advertisement for it and deciding she wanted to try it. She had a blast. She also modeled as a pregnant woman for a maternity store.

Eventually Grubbs and Robinson went their separate

ways, and in 1993 she met her current husband, Jim Grubbs. Jim was an over-the-road trucker and taught her how to drive so they could run as a team. During the next five years they drove through every state except for Alaska and Hawaii. They then sold the

two oldest granddaughters, Morgan and Miranda, on a spur of the moment trip to Las Vegas, where they attended a Chippendales show, rode the High Roller Ferris wheel, and bungee jumped off the Stratosphere Tower.

"I was scared because it was so windy, but I didn't want them to know," said Grubbs. "I told them afterward."

They also rented a limo for four hours and pretended they were movie stars, drinking champagne and listening to music.

Life hasn't all been a grand adventure for Grubbs, however. Her father died from severe burn complications when she was 10, and her sister Bonnie was killed in a murder/suicide by her estranged husband in 2002.

Then on April 6, 2020, Grubbs woke up feeling great, but within two hours her left leg had begun swelling. She was rushed to the emergency room in Princeton and from there an ambulance took her to Fairview South in Edina.

Her intestines had twisted and cut off circulation to her leg, causing four blood clots. She was close to death and doctors weren't sure they could save her leg. It took numerous surgeries during the next three weeks to remove dead tissue, but they succeeded.

"It's the worst pain I've ever had," said Grubbs. "I'll never forget it. But the hardest part was that no one could visit me in the hospital due to COVID."

It was a month before she was able to leave the hospital, and she required home care for another three months.

Grubbs hasn't let her near death experience slow her down. She's planning more adventures, including taking all five of her grandchildren on a road trip and skydiving with her youngest granddaughter Karlee. She turned 72 in July, and to celebrate she's thinking about getting her first tattoo.

truck and drove dump truck together for a couple of years.

Grubbs returned to waitressing at Perkins in Monticello, eventually ending up at the Clearwater America Legion in 2016, where she works to this day.

Never one to turn down new adventures, Grubbs took her oldest granddaughter Miranda on vacation to Mazatlán, Mexico, when she was in her 60's. They went parasailing, ziplining, and snorkeling, and attended a bull fight. Grubbs has only one fear — water — so it took a lot of courage for her to snorkel. She even wore a lifejacket.

In 2012 she went on a cruise to the Bahamas with eight of her friends, where they swam with the dolphins and went deep sea fishing.

"I was terrified," she admitted, "but it was fun."

In 2019 Grubbs took her

St. Cloud schools forms ski team, hires AD

Submitted article

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

St. Cloud Area School District announces that Apollo and Tech High Schools will form a co-op Nordic ski team for the 21-22 school year. Along with other district co-op teams, the team will be known as the St. Cloud Crush. The cooperative agreement between Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools and the District for Nordic Ski has been dissolved by mutual agreement as the programs commit to growing their respective teams.

St. Cloud Crush co-op teams are being organized to maintain healthy, thriving activities at both high schools and to be competitive in conference level activities while still offering three levels of teams so that students are safe and successful when competing.



ERIC RUSKA was hired as the new activities director at Tech High School in St. Cloud, August 9. (Submitted Photo.)

New Tech HS Activities Director

St. Cloud Area School District announced that Eric Ruska will join the district on August 9 as Activities Director at Tech High School. Ruska brings over 20 years of experience as a science teacher and head coach for multiple sports in the Osseo School District.

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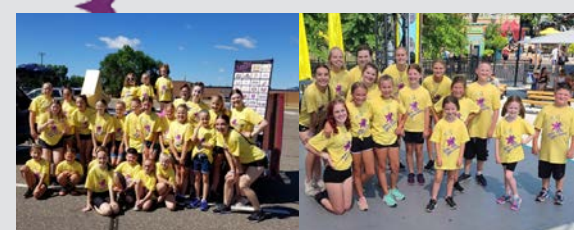


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Clear Lake/Clearwater News

Dassel man arrested in Clearwater area burglary and theft

By Penny Leuthard,
Contributing Writer

Letting his dog outside the morning of August 1, Grant Marquette noticed the garage door to his shed was open. Investigating further, he discovered the door was heavily damaged and his Bobcat Tool Cat tractor, which had resided in the shed, was gone. In its place was a green Ford Ranger he'd never seen before.

Deputies from the Wright Co. Sheriff's office responded to the scene. Following tracks leading out of the shed that were left by the missing tractor, deputies discovered and apprehended 53-year-old Bryan Lee Sauer still on the tractor in a field approximately a mile away from Marquette's 160th St., Clearwater residence. He appeared to be under the influence of a controlled substance and was in possession of meth-



WRIGHT CO. DEPUTIES apprehend crime suspect Bryan Sauer near Clearwater. (Submitted photo.)

amphetamine.

"He thought he was being chased by the DEA (U.S. Dept. of Justice's Drug Enforcement Administration)," said Marquette. "He stole the truck, drove it through the door of my shed, then tried to barricade himself in to hide."

In his efforts to conceal himself, Sauer attempted to fix the door he'd driven

through and blocked the windows so no light could get in. He then rummaged through Marquette's belongings and smoked meth.

"The police did such a good job with their investigation and apprehension of Sauer," said Marquette. "It was like a movie; they came out with the guy in handcuffs. They really went the extra mile."

What concerns Marquette even more than the theft and burglary is that his security system failed to alert him even though it was armed at the time of the crimes.

After speaking with the company, he was left with the impression that they have no policy or protocol for after an incident occurs. He is now pressing for a policy to change that, so others won't have to go through what he's been through.

Sauer, who is from Dassel, was arrested on charges of motor vehicle theft, fifth-degree possession of a controlled substance, third-degree burglary, and first-degree criminal damage to property. He was charged August 2. As the case is pending with the state, further details were not yet available.

LETTERS from page 5

pm. Presenters will be (1) Minnesota Education, an affiliate of the National Education Association which advocates for the teaching of Critical Race Theory in K-12 schools; and (2) Out-Front MN, a LGBTQ advocacy group. It is important that we know the influences that our school board is receiving as it decides what actions to take. This special session will be helpful in providing us with that information. To access the meeting, go to <https://www.becker.k12.mn.us/home/school-board>, scroll down to "Meetings available via Zoom," and click on the link to join the webinar on August 18 at 5:30 pm. If you are unable to join the live stream, a recorded session will eventually be available under "Recorded Meetings" at that web address. Any questions or comments, or a request that other points of view also be live streamed and recorded can be directed to the school board members, listed on the school board website.

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CLEAR LAKE FAMILY ENJOYS 5 GENERATION GET TOGETHER. Lifelong Sherburne County resident Katherine (Katie) Hemmelgarn enjoyed spending time with her family recently. This is Katie's 98th summer in the area! Five generations were together for their recent family visit. Pictured: (left to right) Kenneth Walter Hemmelgarn, Katherine 'Katie' Frances (Kampa) Hemmelgarn, Amelia Joy Szenay, Kaitlin Adeline Clyne Szenay, Kimberly Joy (Hemmelgarn) Clyne. (Submitted photo.)

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

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Clear Lake Council sets budget workshop

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

With Mayor Tim Goenner absent from the meeting last Wednesday, Acting Mayor Karen White wielded the gavel and expeditiously maneuvered the council through a light agenda.

Because several of the council members are relatively new to their positions, Clerk Kari Mechtel felt it would be prudent to start the work on the city's 2022 budget with a workshop meeting to familiarize all members with the process. This would give members sufficient time to understand the deadlines and mechanics that go into adopting their proposed expenditures for the coming year. With all members in agreement, August 16 at 6 p.m. was set for the workshop meeting, as the budget needs to have preliminary approval in September.

SCSO Patrol Captain Ryan Broich was present at the meeting to share the calls for service for the last reporting period, which numbered 47 in total. Security checks continued to be the top response category, followed by traffic stops.



ACTING MAYOR KAREN WHITE presided over the Clear Lake City Council meeting last Wednesday with the absence of Mayor Tim Goenner. (Photo courtesy of Clear Lake's website.)

Next, resident Mitchell Koenig appeared before council to ask for a refund for part of his sewer charges for the last month. Koenig stated that he was unaware that the sewer charges were based off his water usage, which had faced a steep climb in the previous month since his sand point lawn watering system had failed and he used city water for his lawn.

Several members of the council noted that there was past precedent to work with the homeowner in these situations by looking at the his-

torical system averages.

Members directed Mechtel to look at these averages and credit Koenig's account for the excess sewer charges for the past month, although he will still be responsible for the costs of the water used for sprinkling his lawn.

Public Works Director Dustin Luhning also reiterated to Koenig and the council that there is another option for residents via installation of an irrigation meter for city residences. By utilizing a separate meter for the lawn watering systems, residents are charged only for the water used in the process and they do not face charges for the sewer fee.

Luhning's report was next on the agenda and he noted that dating back to 1995, the city had been required to have a nitrate removal plan because of having one of the higher nitrate content wells in the area. However, that well has been retired and the city no longer uses the well for municipal water service. Annually, the MDH sends the city a letter regarding this well but Luhning stated it was immaterial at this time since the well is not in service.

Luhning next sought

and was given approval for the procurement of a Public Works vehicle that has been budgeted for purchase this year.

Over the past few months, a city-approved contractor has been working on replacing water meters for residents and the process is nearly complete with just 16 left to be installed. Luhning stated that the new meters boast a very accurate reading, while also greatly reducing the time needed to read meters and assess charges.

Mechtel was next on the agenda, as she presented the second quarter financial records, which were given unanimous approval.

As part of the council's consent agenda, they approved terminating the local emergency declaration in response to COVID-19. Council Member Kristin Brandt asked Mechtel and Luhning if they saw the need to do any further mitigation strategies at City Hall, but both employees reported being satisfied with how business is being conducted at this time.

With no further business coming before the council, White adjourned the meeting.

Palmer looking at maintenance on 95th ave

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Palmer Twp. Board met Monday evening with road maintenance, a Palmer Park update, and the possible acquisition of a parcel of land to be used for a residential compost facility, all being issues that highlighted the agenda.

In recent weeks, there has been a good deal of road shoveling finished with completion of that project scheduled in the near future.

The board also reviewed a previous bid for the seal coating project on 95th avenue, which came in at \$23,000. The board decided to try and complete that project, pending final cost verification, as well as reviewing a similar application that had been completed in Santiago Twp.

To prepare the roads for the upcoming winter, there will be more patching and some brush cutting completed this fall after Palmer Day.

Palmer Park

The supervisors discussed operations at Palmer Park and it was noted that someone has been driving a golf cart and four wheelers on the trails and causing some damage. Ganz reported that

he had spoken with the kids who were on the golf cart and is checking into possible age limits or ordinances that cover these types of vehicles. He will report back at the next meeting with any additional information.

The issue of dogs being in the park was again brought up, although if they are service animals there is little that can be done about the issue.

The board decided that Palmer Park pavilion rentals could continue through September, but the water will be shut off in October.

They also reviewed the tennis court bids from Dermco, which came in at \$82,000, and no further action was taken on the issue at this time.

When looking ahead to next summer, the board discussed the possibility of having music in the park as a possible event for area residents.

Compost Facility

The township continues to explore the establishment of a compost facility for residents in conjunction with Sherburne County. The location would be at the Whipper Pit and next steps will include looking at the value of the land and possible offers for

purchase.

Currently, some residents report bringing their leaves and brush all the way to the compost site in Becker and having a closer location would add a level of convenience.

Sheriff/Fire

Commander Bob Stangler presented this month's statistics for the Sheriff's Office, noting 123 calls for service, down slightly from the 163 calls in 2019 before the pandemic affected 63 calls in 2020.

Traffic stops continue to be a common occurrence in the township, while there were also 27 boating contacts with four citations being issued.

A resident noted that there had been another accident at the instruction of CSAHs 23 and 3, where a flashing stop sign had been added.

Chairman Mike Ganz inquired about the possibility of installing a dynamic speed sign to help control vehicle speeds through town and potential costs were discussed. More information will be collected on the possibility and it will be looked at in the future.

Captain Chad Koren was on hand to update the board

on last month's calls for the CLFD, which totaled 16, five of which were in Palmer. Three calls were for medical aid, while two fires were also noted.

In Other Business, the Board:

- Heard from Supervisor Steve Demeules about the recent efforts of the lake association in dealing with purple loosestrife that has been located in the bayou and the east side of Rush Lake, as well as their plans for Palmer Day (It was noted that help is still needed and volunteers are encouraged to contact the lake association or show up at the Annual Meeting to be held on August 21 at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall);
- Approved a liquor license for the new owners of Kinitski's;
- Heard an update from Demeules on the proposed Sherburne County parking ordinance which is being brought back to the planning commission;
- Learned that the proposed park concept on the shores of Elk Lake has been completed and a copy will be posted at Town Hall.

Fallen officer's procession recognized by Patriots

By Bill Morgan
Editor/Staff Writer
Reporter: Bill@PatriotNewsMN.com

Two weeks ago, a Red Lake Tribal Police Officer, Ryan Bialke, 37, was honored with a procession along roads that took him through Big Lake, Becker and Clear Lake along Hwy. 10. Bialke died of gunshot wounds, after responding to a call regarding a suicidal male with possible children present.

Officer Bialke was transported to the Red Lake Hospital, where he died. The suspect, who opened fire on officers and then fled into the woods, was apprehended shortly after and federal charges are pending.

On July 25, flags were asked to be lowered to half mast and dozens of people lined the streets to show



DOZENS OF BRICKYARD PATRONS IN CLEAR LAKE left the comfort of the bar/restaurant to pay tribute to a fallen officer whose procession was going through town. (Submitted Photo)

their support and respect for the fallen officer. Many patrons at Clear Lake's Brickyard Restaurant retreated from the establishment and stood in honor along the roadside. Tom Godlewski of Clear Lake was one of those paying tribute.

"For me, there were two important elements to the story," he said. "A police officer killed in the line of duty, leaving behind a wife, children, friends, relatives, fellow officers and a whole community."

"Secondly the honor

was shown to him by patrons and management of the Brickyard establishment."

Godlewski said it was about a half an hour before the caravan would pass through when he mentioned it to the management.

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"At which time the lady in charge said to me, 'about 10 minutes before the caravan passes through, come in and I will give you a mic to announce to the patrons'."

"This officer's service and sacrifice, and that of his family, and those who were able to respond from the Brickyard are the America I want to be a part of," said Godlewski.

The Red Lake Nation

Police Dept. shared a video on that Tuesday afternoon along with the caption, "escorting our brother in blue, our fallen officer, to Anoka County. Police Officers from agencies state wide have joined the Red Lake Nation in solidarity and honor of our fallen Police Officer."

An Empty Nest

A few months ago, our youngest daughter moved out of the house, and we officially became empty nesters. Has it bothered me? Actually, no.

I always thought it was going to be a hard transition for me once all my kids were gone. We spent a lot of time together, and I enjoyed spending that time with them. I couldn't imagine a house without chaos, with just my husband and me alone. It had been a long time since that was the case. What would we do without kids to take care of and to keep us busy? What would we talk about?

Who was I if I didn't have to be mom 24/7 anymore? What can I do that I couldn't do before? How do I structure and define my life?

Luckily for me, my kids eased me into an empty nest slowly. The three of them of are spaced apart, with three years between the oldest and middle child, and five years between the middle child and the youngest. Our oldest didn't move out until she graduated college. Our middle daughter moved out when she graduated high school to live in a dorm but moved back home in the summer. The youngest lived at home for two years after graduating



By Penny Leuthard,
Contributing Writer

high school.

As is the case with most teenagers, the older my kids got the more they prepared me for an empty nest by hiding in their rooms and staying at friends' houses. I started getting used to the quiet and them not being around.

I knew I would miss my youngest when she moved out. What I hadn't considered was that I would also miss her pets. Over half of our family pets were hers, so when she left, I not only lost her, but I also lost a cat, lizard, snake, fish, and snail as well. The cat and I had spent a lot of time together late at night when everyone else was asleep.

On the plus side, like many couples my husband and I have 'found' each other again without kids around all the time. We spend more

time together, we talk more. We focused on ourselves, and our relationship is better. At first it felt weird, and almost a little awkward. What did we have to talk about that wasn't child-related? What would happen when there were no kids around to act as a buffer between us? Turns out it's been great and has reminded me why we ended up together in the first place.

I used to say I should have been born 100 years ago so I could have had 10 children. Now, thinking about having more than three just makes me tired and I'm really glad there aren't seven more of them around. Don't get me wrong, I love my children, but three was enough.

My kids know this will always be their home, to just visit for a while or to move back to if times are tough. One has taken us up on that offer in the past and may again. She's discovered even working full time it's expensive and hard to live on your own.

So, do I actually have an empty nest syndrome? Not really, no. Family is always family, even when they don't all live under the same roof anymore.

2,800 because the plant is a long-time major employer and did so much good locally.

Major League Baseball and its teams are the beneficiaries of billions of dollars in taxpayer support, and the league has long benefitted from an exemption to federal anti-trust law and relaxed overtime rules. Americans should be able to count on MLB to, at a minimum, avoid being complicit in the offshoring of U.S. jobs to China.

Minnesota's Drought

With severe and worsening drought causing Upper Midwest cattle producers to run out of hay for their herds, I am pushing for federal action to help.

I urged Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to open up some Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land early for emergency haying this year. I've also teamed up with Republican Senator John Thune of South Dakota on bipartisan legislation to allow emergency haying on federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land during future droughts. Our bill, the CRP Flexibility Act would give the U.S. Department of Agriculture the tools to allow emergency haying on CRP land when certain conditions are met and in consultation with the state conservation experts. When severe droughts hit, the USDA should have the tools to allow farmers to access reserve land for haying and grazing. This will lessen the impact on the farm economy.

Public Housing

I vividly remember the tragic fire at the Cedar High Apartments in Min-

SMITH to page 10

Housing Leadership Award



By Rep.
Shane Mekeland

terms of housing affordability. I will continue supporting policies that incentivize affordable homes while pushing back against burdensome regulations that only make our situation worse.

Housing First Executive Director David Siegel said Minnesota's housing market

is on thin ice and reform is needed to increase housing affordability. He credited me and other legislators for working to address this issue.

"With inventory at an all-time low, affordability at its worst in decades and the widest homeownership gap in the country, Minnesota's housing market is at a pivot point," Siegel said. "These leaders recognize the need to legalize starter homes by addressing the way we zone and permit new housing. The Housing Leadership Award recognizes legislators who worked to promote housing affordability and homeownership during the 2021 legislative session and special session."

Letters To The Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

The Friends of the Becker Library would like to thank the following for their participation in contributing to the success of our recent book sale: the many who generously donated books and media materials, the Becker Library staff for assistance, the community center staff for their cooperation and use of space, the many volunteers preparing for the sale, setting up, and working during the sale, and especially all of you who attended the sale and purchased the books and media. Without all of you, our book sale would not have been a success. We were able to raise over \$1,000 for enhancing the library programs for our community this coming year. Thank you all. We hope to see you again at our Christmas sale in early December.

**Friends of the
Becker Library
Becker, MN**

TO THE EDITOR:

Great River Energy/Coal Creek Station/Connexus. In response to Mr. VanBuren's letter published 8/5/21, I agree with his suggestion but it appears that his letter was published too late as the *Star Tribune* published an article on 7/31/21 describing how Great River Energy (GRE) has approved the sale of Coal Creek, meaning that the plant will continue to operate, providing low cost, reliable base load power. (Even when the wind isn't blowing and the sun isn't shining) But this Tribune article also stated that GRE's largest member Connexus, voted against the deal. Connexus board

members would rather close Coal Creek and have its customers pay higher cost for less dependable electricity. This makes me question whether we have the correct people sitting on the Connexus board. These directors are elected for either a 3 or 4 year period, depending on the district, so next time you get a ballot in the mail, don't throw it out, find out what they actually stand for and vote accordingly.

**Bret R. Collier
Big Lake, MN**

TO THE EDITOR:

Giving credit where it's deserved: Proper credit often goes unnoticed where it is deserved. Our community is very fortunate to have Bartt Gevens and Josh Kuha creating and leading the way for recreational opportunities in Becker. I have had the privilege of serving on the Parks and Rec Committee for the last couple of years and admire the hard work Bartt and Josh have put in to our local parks and recreational activities. Among other projects, these two have been instrumental in remodeling the warming house at Kolbinger Park, rebuilding Carl E. Johnson park, installing a dog park, and putting the finishing touches on new pickleball courts, a basketball court, and a new splash pad. Please take the time to thank these men for their hard work and get out and enjoy these opportunities!

**Ben Johnson
Becker, MN**

TO THE EDITOR:

Earlier this year, the Minnesota Dept. of Education proposed revisions to the standards for teaching so-

cial studies in our K-12 classrooms. Those revisions would have drastically changed what would be taught about American history and civics. Thousands of Minnesotans opposed those revisions, submitted comments to MDE, and they were withdrawn -- an all-too-rare example of citizens' voices being heard. Let's do it again! We cannot rest on our laurels. A second draft has now been issued. The MDE webpage at: education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/stds/soc/ provides links to the revised standards and an e-mail address where you can send comments -- the deadline is 4 p.m., August 16, 2021. The Center for the American Experiment raised citizen awareness of the problems with the first draft. CAE has posted an analysis of the revised draft at: raiseourstandardsmn.com, which states "The theme of oppression, marginalization, group identity, and absent narratives drives the second draft standards and benchmarks. Students will learn that their self-concept centers around their racial/gender group identity, and that limiting oppression narratives, not facts, is the lens through which all social studies content should be viewed. This is Critical Race Theory in action, and it must be rooted out of the standards!"

**Russ Armstrong
Becker, MN**

TO THE EDITOR:

The Becker school board has agreed to live stream the August 18, 2021, special session which will be held from 5:30-7:00

LETTERS to page 3

Setting the Standard for Community Policing

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

Minnesota's Sixth continues to set the standard for community policing.

Last week I had the opportunity to visit the St. Cloud Community Outpost with officers of the St. Cloud Police Department, their Chief Blair Anderson, and my friends State Representative Tama Theis and St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis.

Starting in 2017, members of the Greater St. Cloud Public Safety Foundation invested in a Community Outpost to help law enforcement engage and communicate with residents in their surrounding communities. The "COP House" now provides improved community-focused engagement efforts. A COP House is a residential home where nearby residents can receive critical services and build relationships with local law enforcement in that community. With improved police-citizen communication, officers can more effectively establish trust and build rapport with the citizens that they are sworn to protect.

Due to the success of this effort, I introduced the Community OutPost (COP) Outreach and Engagement Act which would make this effort a national federal pilot program. The work of this local initiative has reduced crime, brought the commu-



By Congressman
Tom Emmer

nity together, and shown what an investment in community policing can do to improve citizen and police relations.

During my visit, I learned about some of the programs they have been offering that are attended by hundreds of neighborhood kids, such as soccer, basketball, and hockey clinics. I also learned about CentraCare's efforts to provide quality health care directly in the community by renting a room at the COP House to conduct appointments.

Chief Anderson said it best: the COP House and the St. Cloud Police Department have, "already made huge deposits into the reservoir of trust. When stuff goes sideways, they aren't coming to burn stuff down. We're humanizing the badge," and these programs are at the forefront of that effort.

I'm proud to take Minnesota-inspired solutions to a national level. These concepts are transforming police-citi-

zen relationships and should be replicated in communities around the country.


Supporting Veterans

Recently, I stopped in to visit the County Veteran Service Officers (VSO's) in Wright County. VSOs are available to assist veterans and their families in many ways. Primarily, they help complete and file claims on veterans' behalf to the Veterans Administration.

These Service Officers are also able to offer advice as to what benefits are available from federal, state, county, and local resources. VSOs are often the first stop for veterans seeking help.

Additionally, my casework staff work closely with VSOs in all seven counties in Minnesota's Sixth District to help serve veterans. For example, when a veteran is experiencing long wait times for their claim to be processed by the Veterans Benefits Administration, my office can send a congressional inquiry to ensure they are being responsive to the veteran.

Casework is the backbone of constituent service for a federal office, and I am proud to say we have the best caseworkers in the business! If you or someone you know is struggling to navigate a federal agency, and need assistance, reach out to my office. My staff is always ready to assist you!



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- 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.
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 Director of Transportation at trisley@isd726.org

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Area News

BASC holds ribbon cutting at new BCC location

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

The Becker Area Senior Center (BASC) officially opened in their new location on Tuesday. The BASC is now located at the Becker Community Center (BCC), having previously resided at City Hall.

Carol Brunn, one of the BASC's leaders, said the organization was very happy with the new location. She said the BCC would be a big help going forward, through taking calls for the BASC, allowing the seniors to use the building's facilities, providing outdoor space, and providing possibilities for expansion.

"This is where we were meant to be," Brunn said.

Ribbon Cutting

The ribbon cutting ceremony was well-attended by senior center members, city council and staff representatives, Supt. Jeremy Schmidt from the Becker Schools, and members of the Becker Chamber of Commerce. After the ceremony, attendees drew lots to win door prizes and socialized over rootbeer floats.

The ribbon cutting was an important event for the Becker Chamber of Commerce, as well. It is the first ribbon cutting ceremony that was planned by the Chamber Ambassadors, according to chamber member Eric Hanson, Media Account Executive for Arvig.

"The Ambassadors reached out to the city and the other businesses," Hanson said. "We were able to bring everyone together."

Hanson said the Ambassadors were excited to hold another ribbon cutting later in the month, for Stars' Dance Studio, who recently



CAROL BRUNN AND PAT THROLSON cut the ribbon to officially open the new BASC location. (Submitted photo.)



THE BECKER AREA SENIOR CENTER (BASC) held its ribbon cutting ceremony August 10, with representatives of the BASC, the Chamber of Commerce, Becker City, Becker Schools, and more. (Submitted photo.)

upgraded their location. The ceremony will take place on the 31st.

Upcoming Senior Center Events

After the attendees settled down with their floats and prizes, Brunn took a moment to remind everyone of the many upcoming events the BASC will be hosting.

There will be a potluck lunch at the City Park August 17 featuring music by the Silver Sluggards band. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m., while the event officially be-

gins at 9 a.m.

August 20, there will be a "Lunch on the Run" event at Los Ortizes at 11:30 a.m.

A class on Dementia Caregiver Support by Tami Kolbinger will be held from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. August 25. Brunn said this was a phenomenal class she's taken before and highly recommends, as it vastly increases understanding of how to be the best possible caregiver and manage one's emotions in such a difficult situation.

Grant funds available to assist businesses recovery

Submitted article

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

Sherburne County Commissioners have approved a program that makes available grant money for businesses that have suffered losses from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sherburne County businesses can begin applying for those funds today. Eligible

businesses may receive a one-time grant of up to \$20,000.

The Small Business Recovery Fund is designed to assist businesses that can show a decrease in actual revenue (for existing businesses) or anticipated revenue (for newer businesses) of at least 20%.

Applicants who are approved to receive grant money will be required to conduct a 30-minute visit

with an industry expert with the County's Entrepreneur Lab program before receiving the grant funds.

For more information and to apply, go to www.co.Sherburne.mn.us and click on the news item "Small Business Recovery Fund" to find the link to the application.

The application window opens Aug. 9 and will close Aug. 31.

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Annandale gym owner guilty of filming in tanning booth

Submitted article

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

July 15, a jury in Wright County convicted Randall Roiger, 45, of Cokato of interference with privacy – a gross misdemeanor – for installing a camera in a tanning booth at Snap Fitness in Annandale.

The Wright County Sheriff's Office and Annandale Police Department were made aware of the camera in January 2019 when a 42-year-old woman noticed a concealed camera in the tanning booth. In the criminal complaint filed

with the Tenth Judicial District, Roiger claimed the camera was installed because he wanted to make sure the individuals had purchased tanning booth minutes and quit watching once it was confirmed or the people began to undress.

The Snap Fitness gym in Annandale remains open and still lists Roiger as the owner/general manager.

In January 2021, the woman who made the allegation against Roiger filed a civil lawsuit against him and Snap Fitness, a nationwide chain based in Chanhassen. She claims in the suit that Roiger watched her as she repeatedly re-

moved her clothing without knowing she was being watched. She is seeking at least \$50,000 in damages and claimed she was suffering both physically and emotionally from loss of dignity, fear of public bathrooms, embarrassment and feelings of paranoia.

The civil case is scheduled to be heard in March 2022. Wright County Attorney Brian Lutes said Friday his office is still investigating what sentence it will seek the court to impose on Roiger. Tenth District Court Judge Stephen Halsey is scheduled to deliver the sentence Aug. 6.



FIVE GENERATIONS. Front row: Standing, Deena, married to Andrew Woolhouse (great grandson of Loretta Rose) who is kneeling, Loretta Rose (95, great great grandma), Kingston (son of Victoria, great great grandson). Back row: Danielle (great granddaughter, Theresa's daughter), Tony Woolhouse (great grandson), Theresa (Matt's wife), Matt Woolhouse (grandson), Victoria Woolhouse (great granddaughter), Xander (great great grandson, held by his mom, Victoria), Wanda Woolhouse (daughter). (Submitted photo.)

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DNR warning boaters about low water issues

Submitted article

(Editor's Note: The following article was submitted by Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources.)

The abnormally dry to drought conditions occurring across Minnesota are creating challenging conditions for people trying to get their boats into or out of the water at public boat launches, according to the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR).

When water levels drop during extended dry periods, the concrete ramps at boat launches may no longer reach all the way into the water

and hazards such as prop-wash holes can become more problematic.

Prop-wash holes are caused by "power-loading" the boat onto the trailer instead of using the preferred method of cranking it on the trailer by winch. When water levels are low, people are more likely to back their trailer past the ramp's end and into a prop-wash hole if one is present.

"It can be pretty difficult to get a trailer unstuck from a hole like that," said Nancy Stewart, DNR water recreation consultant. "And just beyond the prop-wash hole,

there's often a mound of material that boats may get stuck on after launching, preventing them from getting to deeper water."

Extending ramps can help in some places, but not when shallow water persists beyond the boat ramp. Stewart offers the following tips for launching boats in low water conditions:

- Check the ramp, especially the firmness of the gravel at the ramp's end, and the water depth.
- Visit an alternative access site, or a different lake or river altogether, if water levels are too low to safely launch boats.

- Watch for obstructions in the lake, like large boulders or tree stumps.
- Expect delays at public boat launches and be patient with boaters who are having difficulty launching. Try to #BeGoodNatured and offer assistance.

Visit the DNR website for boat launching maps and information on power loading.

Cost of license plates doubles Aug. 1

Submitted article

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

There was a flurry of activity at the Minnesota State Legislature last month as some of the larger omnibus bills were approved in June's special session. With each of those bills passed, there is consequence to them. One of those will involve individuals who need to purchase license plates. Effective Aug. 1, the cost for Minnesota state-issued license plates will take a significant spike upward.

For decades, there has been money set aside by the Legislature to help keep the costs of plates down, but when money earmarked for the license plate fund at the state level came up \$8 million short, it was determined that the shortfall would be made up for by nearly doubling the price paid for plates when the old plates expire.

Currently, single plates like the type required on trailers are six dollars. That price will be increasing to \$13.50. Double plates – the type used on most passenger vehicles – are currently eight dollars and will be increasing to \$15.50.

The decision to raise

the price of license plates Aug. 1 has had a ripple effect. Those who needed to get new plates in July won't see the price increase. However, if they mail in their payment, if it is not processed by Aug. 1, it will not be accepted. For passenger car plates, the check will be cashed, but a notice will be sent out that an additional \$7.50 is needed before the plates will be issued. In addition, the billing statements sent out by the state for those who have expiring plates in August would typically be mailed in the final seven to 10 days of July. But, with the fee changes, they won't be mailed out until Aug. 2 and will reflect the new prices. They will be mailed Aug. 2, which could mean they won't show up until a week or more later than normal.

The drop box at the Wright County License Center will close at 4 p.m. Friday, July 30 to process all the requests it receives for those with plates that expire in July so they can be processed that day and not be subject to the new fees that begin Aug. 1. After Aug. 1, the wait begins before the bill for your new plates arrives in the mail.



LOCAL 4-HERS FROM SHOOTING STARS 4-H CLUB worked in the lunch stand on opening day at the Benton County Fair serving up burgers, fries, nachos, delicious pie and more. Pictured (front row): Kelly Pennie, Aubrey Schlueter, Grace Kampa, Emma Froelich, Korah Waters, Aubrie Pennie, (back row): Melissa Schlueter, Kim Kampa, Pam Froelich, Cheryl Forner, Janis Grundhoefer, Morgan Matvick, Olivia Hill, Katie Grundhoefer. Submitted photo. (Submitted photo.)

MILLENNIALS RELY ON PRINT FOR SAVINGS

Although some Millennials seem attached to their phones and mobile devices, they actually choose print newspapers and magazines as their main source of information when looking for coupons, promotions, and deals. Many rely on direct mail cards that come in the mail to get great offers at stores they like.

When looking for savings, print media continues to outdo what digital media can offer.

PATRIOT

Wright Co. seeking input on broadband service by Aug. 24

Submitted article

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

Wright County residents have begun receiving a mass mailing looking for public input of a broadband survey. The county has contracted with Design Nine of Blacksburg, Virginia to conduct a study to analyze the existing broadband assets in the county, use patterns and gaps in existing coverage. Following the broadband study, recommendations will be made to the county how to best address the areas of need and how to improve service.

A key component to Design Nine's data collection is a public survey regarding the current broadband connections of both residents and businesses. These surveys will provide detailed broadband usage and coverage data critical to creating a robust a study as possible.

The survey can be completed by mail or online and takes approximately five minutes. The deadline to return a paper survey is Tuesday, Aug. 24. The study will serve as a guide for the implementation of an improved broadband network. The Wright County Board of Commissioners has pledged American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds for this project and a comprehensive response to the survey will be critical to seeking out state and

federal funding – many of the programs require such studies to be conducted to access funding. The study will also serve as a detailed guide for engineering and communications construction firms that might be selected to design and construct a modernized network.

The study will provide a set of strategies to address the deficiencies in rural high-speed internet. Rural broadband has been a topic of discussion for years and has been identified as a statewide problem, but not much action has been taken due to the lack of tangible, quantifiable information and data dealing with the costs of development, testing and maintaining a high-speed broadband infrastructure. Even prior to COVID-19, the lack of adequate broadband access was a significant concern in agriculture, education, tourism and manufacturing, as well as emerging industries. The data gathered through this survey will provide the knowledge needed for county officials and stakeholders to make the best-informed decisions about the next steps needed to expand broadband access in Wright County.

To take the residential survey online, visit [Projects.DesignNine.com/survey/wright-residential](https://projects.designnine.com/survey/wright-residential). To take the business survey, visit [Projects.DesignNine.com/survey/wright-business](https://projects.designnine.com/survey/wright-business).

State courts modify mask guidance

Submitted Article

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

The Minnesota Judicial Branch today announced a modification to its guidance on face coverings in court facilities. District court judges may require face coverings in courtrooms and public spaces of court facilities.

Throughout the pandemic, the Judicial Branch has based its decisions for courthouse operations on the guidance of public health experts, the status of virus transmission in the state, and local conditions.

"Our top priority is to ensure access to justice while protecting the health and safety of our judges, staff, and all who may enter

a courthouse," said Chief Justice Lorie S. Gildea. "The new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the continuing spread of COVID-19 and variants, require us to take this precautionary step."

Under the new administrative order from Chief Justice Gildea, the chief judge of a judicial district may require face coverings to be worn in public spaces in courthouse facilities. In addition, a presiding judge, in consultation with the chief judge, may require individuals who participate in or attend an in-person proceeding to wear a face covering during the proceeding. These decisions will be made at the local level and can vary by county. For information about local requirements for face coverings in court facilities,

Minnesotans may contact their county courthouse.

If a county in which a courthouse is located mandates the use of face coverings in county-owned buildings, the district court in that county will require the use of face coverings consistent with the county's decision. Individuals may choose to wear face coverings in any court facility. Judges may direct people to remove face coverings as necessary to conduct court hearings.

The administrative order does not make any changes to the types of in-person court proceedings currently taking place. For more information, see the Judicial Branch COVID-19 webpage.



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Area News

BECKER from page 1

A public hearing was held in regards to the recent alcohol compliance failure by Jubilee Liquors. A compliance check was conducted with all Becker businesses holding liquor licenses on June 23. No other business failed the check.

This is the store's third compliance failure within

the last three years. In accordance with city ordinance, the store must pay \$2,000 and have their license suspended for seven days. If Jubilee Liquors fails another compliance check, their license will be revoked for a period of time determined by the city council.

Police Chief Brent

Baloun reported that the owners were "devastated" by the negligence of the employee who got caught selling alcohol to a minor, and that the employee has since been fired.

No one spoke at the public hearing.

Committee Reports

The Planning Commission held a hearing on

driveway compliance as it related to the case of one particular homeowner. They determined that the city's ordinance on the matter was unclear, and allowed the homeowner to keep their driveway. They will be working to clarify the ordinance in question for future situations.

The Golf Committee

reported talking about the budget. This year has seen Pebble Creek making more money than last year, even given the intense popularity of the course during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Joint Planning approved several variance requests.

In Other Business,

council:

- Approved a noise exemption application for a movie in the park event, a screening of Trolls World Tour, which will be hosted by the BCC in Pleasant Valley Park August 28 at 9 p.m.;
- Wished Mayor Tracy Bertram a happy birthday.

BLOCK PARTY from page 1

Cherrywood Advanced Living, Connexus Energy, Kwik Trip, Liberty Bank, Minnco Credit Union, MN Senator Mary Kiffmeyer, Sherburne State Bank and State Farm-Cory Laugen Insurance.

Community Sponsors are Big Lake American Legion Auxiliary, Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, Monticello Times/Shopper and Patriot News.

Registration fee is just \$5 per youth three years old and older and adults. Families can save time in the registration line by prepaying on the August Events Calendar at biglakechamber.com.

"We invite everyone to come out and bring their kids, grandkids, neighbor kids," said McAlpin. "It's going to be a great day!"



A YOUTH TRIES TOSSING THE BALL IN THE FISH BOWL at the Big Lake Area Veterinary Hospital booth last year. Join this year's Big Lake Block Party on August 21st from 10-2 pm at McPete's.

A YOUNG GIRL (RIGHT) WAS EXCITED TO WIN A BIKE sponsored by Minnco Credit Union staff at last year's Big Lake Block Party. 14 bikes, scooters and skateboards will be given away at this year's Block Party August 21st from 10-2 pm at McPete's



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More Fun From Clearwater Heritage Days



THE CLEARWATER LEGION COLOR GUARD led the Heritage Days parade with the U.S. and Legion flags. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)



COBORN'S MASCOT MOO BELL waves from their oversized, motorized shopping cart, a familiar and popular sight from previous parades. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)



THREE-YEAR-OLD KALINA BRENNY from Clear Lake was excited to feed the goat at Joah's Ark before the Heritage Days parade last Friday. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)

THIS YEAR'S SENIOR KING AND QUEEN (LEFT), Bud Schindelle and Wendy Johnson, waved to the crowds from a convertible courtesy of Interstate Automotive. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)

MEMBERS OF THE SILVER BULLET SADDLE CLUB (RIGHT) brought up the rear of the parade on their beautifully groomed horses. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)



Becker Area
Chamber of
COMMERCE

Annual Golf Tournament
August 19, 3pm
Pebble Creek Golf Club
Starz Dance Studio
Ribbon Cutting
August 31, 5pm



Big Lake Block Party
August 21, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
McPete's Sports Bar & Grill
Annual Golf Scramble
September 9, 10 a.m.
Monticello Country Club



Music in the Park
August 19, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Sportsman Park, Clearwater
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August 20-22,
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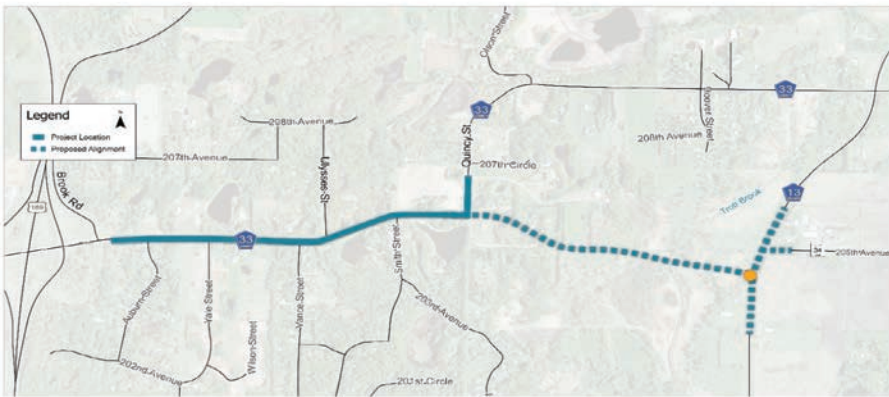
If you would like more information on any of these events or if you would like to become a member of these organizations please reach out to them:

<p>Amity Felton 763-262-2420 Chamber@BeckerChamber.org</p>	<p>Gloria VandeBrake 763-263-7800 Info@BigLakeChamber.com</p>	<p>Glenna Soenneker 320-267-4361 GSoenneker@GMail.com</p>
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SHERBURNE COUNTY

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

CSAH 33 (205th AVE) FROM AUBURN ST to CSAH 13 (Twin Lakes Road)



Sherburne County is preparing for the reconstruction of County State Aid Highway 33 (CSAH 33) between Auburn Street and Twin Lakes Road NW (CSAH 13). The county is currently developing the preliminary design for this segment of CSAH 33, including a 0.9-mile segment of existing alignment and a 0.8-mile segment of new alignment.

This section of CSAH 33 is anticipated to be fully reconstructed in 2023. The project intends to increase safety for drivers and pedestrians and improve traffic flow.

Area residents and adjacent property owners are invited to view an Online Public Open House website to learn more and share your thoughts.

Please note, comment period is open from Saturday, August 14th to Saturday, September 4th

<https://csah-33-reconstruction-project-srfconsulting.hub.arcgis.com/>

The Online Public Open House will provide information on the project and its proposed improvements, and it will provide an opportunity for the public to provide input and comments on the project.

For more information, contact David Roedel, PE, Deputy Sherburne County Engineering 763-765-3352 (Published in the Patriot: 08/14/21; 08/21/21).



Sports / Area News

The Common Tern

Every now and then I meet a true wildlife superhero. You know, the kind of person who has dedicated their life to understanding and protecting wildlife. And even after many decades they are still interested in learning more and doing the hard work that it takes to protect an endangered species. Recently I met such a superhero/biologist while doing some research for this story. Although it wasn't obvious, I think I caught a glimpse of this superhero cape tucked under his collar when we met up last week.

Fred Strand, formerly from the Wisconsin DNR, has studied the not so common, Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) since the late 1980's. He is now contracted by Wisconsin DNR and volunteers for the Minnesota DNR to monitor and manage habitat for the only Common Tern colonies in the Great Lakes area.

The common names of birds are often problematic in that the common name often doesn't help to identify the species or indicate their abundance. Take the Common Tern for example. The name would imply that it is a "common" bird, when in fact in the northland, this bird is anything but common. In states like Wisconsin, the Common Tern is listed as an endangered species while in Minnesota it is listed as threatened. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lists the Common Tern as a species of Special Concern.

The Common Tern is found circumpolar, which means it is found around the globe in northern temperate and subarctic regions of Europe, Asia, and North America. Populations have been declining especially in the Great Lakes where it is estimated that less than 10,000 pairs are breeding. The population in North America has fallen by more than 70 percent in the last 40 to 50 years.

The reasons for these declines are multifold. Loss of nesting habitat is a big one. The Common Tern is a



By Stan Tekiela
Naturalist

colony nesting species that resides on small islands in large bodies of water. Often these nesting colonies are



turbed by boaters, kayakers and other human activity including beach combing and dog walking. Believe it or not another problem is vegetation. If the vegetation becomes too thick on the island the birds will move out. Predators such as rats, raccoons and skunks are another problem. Another big issue are gulls, which also have similar nesting requirements, and are larger and simply push out the terns. In addition, the gulls often prey on the smaller Common Tern and especially their newly hatched chicks.

Tiny metal bands are placed on the legs of young terns just after hatching which allows researchers to track the birds that are captured later in life. Common Terns are long-lived birds with the average age of an adult being about 10 years. You might have seen recently in the news that an adult Common Tern was recaptured near Ashland

Wisconsin and was found to be nearly 27 years old. The oldest known Common Tern is 28 years and 11 months.

Common Terns are extremely long-distance migrators. Through a partnership with the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth, Minnesota, the biologists are using geolocators to track the tern migration. So far, the research shows that about 70% of the Common Terns that nest in the Great Lakes region overwinter along the coast of Peru in South America, which means they travel nearly 10,000 miles roundtrip each year. And you thought you had a tough commute to work!

It is important to understand that the terns don't nest during the winter while they are in Peru. They rest during winter and fly all the way back to the tiny islands in the Great Lakes region to nest again next year. At this point it should be painfully obvious that protecting the nesting habitat of these elegant birds is extremely important and the work that Fred is doing is mission critical.

Standing with Fred, on a small island, surrounded by nesting Common Terns, he explained the importance of the work taking place here. It is very clear that these birds are just trying to do what we all are trying to do... have a good life and raise a few children. It seems obvious to me that we need a lot more wildlife Superheroes like Fred. Until next time...

Stan Tekiela is an author/naturalist and wildlife photographer who travels the U.S. to study and photograph wildlife. He can be followed on Facebook.com, Twitter.com, and Instagram.com. He can be contacted via his web page at NatureSmart.com.



BECKER RESIDENT THATCHER HANDEL celebrated his 2nd birthday on Saturday, July 31st. He was blessed to be able to spend this special day with his mom (Toni Handel), grandma (Becky Kulkay), great grandma (Sharon Woolhouse), and great great grandma (Gladys Bitzer). (Submitted photo.)



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Wright Co. hosts 9th annual disabled vets waterfowl hunt

Submitted article

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

On Saturday, October 2, the Wright County Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting its Ninth Annual Disabled Veterans Waterfowl Hunt. The event is a chance to give back to those veterans who have put their lives on the line for the freedoms we enjoy.

The event will be held at Robert Ney Memorial Park Reserve and will include a morning waterfowl hunt followed by a

luncheon, a dog demonstration and trap shooting at the Hasty/Silver Creek Sportsmen's Club. The hunt will be limited to eight participants – who must live in Minnesota and provide proof that they are a disabled veteran. All who qualify are encouraged to apply. The deadline for applications is Friday, Sept. 10 and will be limited to eight participants, who will be selected in a lottery of applicants.

For more information, call the Parks & Rec Department at (763) 682-7325 or fill out an online application at www.co.Wright.mn.us/FormCenter/Parks-Forms-19/2021-Disabled-Veteran-Waterfowl-Hunt-86.

The event is sponsored by Wright County Veteran Services, the Wright County Parks & Recreation Department, Pheasants Forever, Four Points Retriever Club, the North American Hunting Retriever Association and the Hasty/Silver Creek Sportsmen's Club.

SMITH from page 5

neapolis the day before Thanksgiving in 2019, when fast-moving flames engulfed the upper floors of that high rise killing five people. That tragedy inspired a recent Senate hearing that I chaired to explore what we need to do to prevent future tragedies and keep families safe.

At the hearing, we heard from experts that a key factor in those deaths was the building's lack of fire sprinklers. There are over 21,000 public housing units across Minnesota. Units built before 1992 are not required to have a sprinkler system, and we know this could mean life or death if there's a fire.

Far too many people are living in unsafe housing. They are often elderly and disabled, and they deserve a safe, decent place

to live. That's why I continue to press for my bill, the Public Housing Fire Safety Act. The bill, which has bipartisan support in the House, provides funding for local public housing authorities to retrofit their buildings with fire sprinkler systems to make them safer for all residents. At the same time, I am pushing for fire sprinkler funding in the major budget package now being debated in Washington. President Biden has proposed dedicating \$40 billion over 10 years to make public housing improvements – including sprinklers – so these structures are safe and fit to live in.

The Old Creamery Cafe

SAT., AUG. 21 PARADE @ 12:30 P.M. IN RICE
TRACTOR PULL FROM 2-6 P.M.
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WANTED: IN-HOME CARE-GIVER for my elderly husband in our Big Lake home. Must be able to help with physical therapy. Training provided. Call (763) 355-2886.

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DESKTOPS AND LAPTOP REPAIR. On-site or drop off. Computer cleanup - upgrades. Big Lake, 763-263-7070.

Garage Sale

GARAGE & PARTIAL ESTATE SALE, It's a GREAT ONE! Canning jars, lots of sewing items, many kitchen supplies, bedding, toys, dolls, books, mens items, magtag ringer washer in mint condition, & some furniture. Aug. 19-21, 9am-?. 21011 Co. Rd. 81 NW, Big Lake.



Becker Public Library
Library Hours:
Current
Mon 2-7pm
Tue 10am-5pm
Wed 10am-5pm
Thur 2-7pm
Fri 2-5pm
Sat 10am-1pm

Clearwater Public Library
Library Hours:
Current
Mon 1-4pm
Tue 10am-1pm/3-6pm
Wed 3-8pm
Thur 10am-1pm
Fri 3-6pm
Sat 10-1pm

Becker Area Senior Center (BASC) Upcoming Events

BASC at Becker Community Center (BCC)
Mon., Aug. 16: 5am - Coffee's on 10am - Cribbage
Tues., Aug. 17: 9am - **City Park All Day** 11:30am - Potluck Birthday Lunch & music by Silver Sluggards Band
Wed., Aug. 18: 5am - Coffee's on
Thurs., Aug. 19: 9am - Coffee, cards, visiting 9-10am - ARRP Zoom program on our big TV: Home Fit-safe at Home
Fri., Aug. 20: Open All Day
5am - Coffee's on
11:30am - Lunch on the Run - Los Ortizes Restaurant

BASC Senior Center Mystery Trip Thurs., Sept. 9th:
It is like none we have done before! No hints, but fun for all! Minimal walking involved. \$35 which includes bus transportation & activity ticket. Pay for your lunch on way home. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUG 27 FIRM.** Call Community Ed (763) 261-4506 to register or BASC for form. Payment to Becker Community Education. Maximum 50 people.

BASC Senior Center/Community Education trip to John Philip Sousa Memorial Band Concert, Sat., Sept. 18, Hear all the stirring, patriotic music & marches, rags & period music of the gay nineties. Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center, \$30 which includes show ticket & bus transportation. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUG 27 FIRM.** 35 maximum. Call Community Ed (763) 261-4506 to register.

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

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Oak Park, MN
320-968-7864

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QUALIFIED INSTALLERS NEEDED
TO INSTALL CARPET, LVT & LAMINATE. PLEASE CALL RAY'S CARPET AT 763-263-2058.

Hospitality Employment

GRANDSTAY HOTEL IN BECKER looking for front desk team members. FT & PT. Great opportunity for growth and benefits. Stop by for application or call 763-262-7700.



Big Lake Public Library
Library Hours:
Current
Mon 1-6pm
Tue 10am-2pm
Wed 1-7pm
Thur 2-6pm
Fri 10am-5pm
Sat 10am-1pm



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Cash paid.





RSVP / The Volunteer Bridge
Adult Tutor with Metro North Adult Basic Education
Work either one-on-one or in small groups with adults working. Many adults are working towards obtaining their GED, Adult Diploma, or learning new skills. Offer support in the areas of reading, writing, math, science, or social studies. Some adults are learning English as a second language, so assisting in language learning is common.
Youth Volunteer at The Wave Youth Center
Assist in providing a safe and welcoming place that meets the needs of youth in the Big Lake community. Volunteers work with youth to offer mentoring, assist youth, and help develop necessary skills for the youth to grow. Volunteers are needed in the afternoon Monday through Thursday. Even the smallest act of kindness can send ripples throughout the whole community!
Family and Resource Friend with Safe Families for Children
Be a friend to a single mother by going for walks, getting coffee, being a mentor to a parent, and assist in providing parenting skills and coaching. Oftentimes parents deal with social isolation and simply need someone to talk and share with. Could help with picking up/dropping off groceries for the parents, assist in lawn care for the family, or could prepare and provide a meal for the family.

If you are interested in volunteering in these or other opportunities, please contact:
RSVP Volunteer Program
763-635-4505
heather.brooks@ci.stcloud.mn.us
SherburneUnitedWay.org/Volunteer

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

Car Seat Distribution Classes

Monday, August 23, 2021, 6-7:30pm. Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive NW, Elk River. If eligible, residents of Sherburne County can receive a car seat for a \$20 suggested donation. Call to find out income guidelines (families who are on WIC or children on medical assistance are automatically eligible). Call for an appointment or more information, 763-765-4112 or 1-800-433-5239.

First Steps Central MN Personal Nurses

Benton, Sherburne, Stearns and Wright County have a team of Personal Nurses who connect with families that are pregnant or recently had a baby. Our Nurses offer support and information to be the best parent you can be, have a safe, loving home for you and your baby, connect to resources in your community to get things needed for your baby, and find ways to continue your education and develop job skills. The program is at no cost to you. Call 763-276-0441 or visit www.firststepscentralmn.org for more information.

HIV testing

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

Immunization/ Covid-19 Vaccine Tuesdays

Sherburne County Public Health is offering free Covid-19 Vaccine, and offering free or low cost immunizations for children 18 years of age or younger and uninsured or underinsured adults 19 years and older in Minnesota who meet eligibility guidelines on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for an appointment or more information, 763-765-4000 or 1-800-433-5239.

Outreach in St. Cloud

The Sherburne County Wellness bus will be in St. Cloud at Cash-Wise (East) on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from 9:30-3pm. HHS staff will answer questions about public assistance programs and assist Sherburne County residents in applying for, or maintaining, benefits. Need Help with Food, Child Care, Medical Assistance, Housing, Utility Disconnects, Evictions? Come see us, no appointment necessary!

WIC (Women, Infants & Children): is for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, recently had a baby, infants and children to their 5th birthday. WIC provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, healthy foods and referrals to health services/community resources. The service is free, and you or your children may be eligible. For more information, please call 763-765-4116 or 1-800-433-5239, or check out the website <http://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/hhs/wic.php>. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in the administration of its programs. WIC is an equal opportunity provider.



Announcements

Game Time

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to water quality. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = A)

A. 18 3 23 19 11
Clue: H2O

B. 25 24 8 23 3 12 22 8 3 8 23
Clue: Polluting substance

C. 9 3 25 23 19 11 22 3
Clue: Microorganisms

D. 2 22 5 23 19 11
Clue: Removes impurities

Answers: A. water B. community C. bacteria D. filter

This Week's Calendar Events:

Sun. - Aug. 8, 2021:

- Check the Chip Day
- National Roller Coaster Day (World Roller Coaster Day)
- National Relaxation Day
- Moon Phase: First Quarter

Mon. - Aug. 9, 2021:

- National Airborne Day
- National Tell a Joke Day
- Canada: Yukon Discovery Day

Tues. - Aug. 10, 2021:

- National Nonprofit Day
- Black Cat Appreciation Day
- Indonesia: Independence Day

Wed. - Aug. 11, 2021:

- Serendipity Day

Thurs. - Aug. 12, 2021:

- World Photography Day
- National Potato Day

Fri. - Aug. 13, 2021:

- National Radio Day
- Anniversary: Voyager 2

Sat. - Aug. 14, 2021:

- National Senior Citizen's Day
- International Day of Remembrance & Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism History

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Did you know that newspapers are the preferred choice for affluent audiences to get information?

Participants of a recent study were asked which media platforms they remembered seeing ads in in the past month and how they reacted to them. Despite all the attention that digital media receives, wealthy participants were far more likely to use printed newspapers than any other media channel. This was followed only by online newspapers.

PATRIOT

Becker Area Announcements

Becker American Legion Auxiliary
Meetings are held the second Tues. of every month at the Becker Legion Hall (Old Fire Hall), 7pm. Paula Hinds, President (763) 262-6679.

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

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

Becker All School Reunion
Thurs., Sept. 9, 2021, 11am, Pebble Creek golf Course. For more information call Audrey Orton (320) 743-2636.

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

Becker Evangelical Ministries
Every Wed., 6-7:30pm at Becker Middle School. GYM 45 - growing young men. HIS KIDZ - K-3rd grade. G.I.R.L.S. GROUP - 4th & 5th grade girls.

Becker Free Church (763) 261-4125 or register online at WWW.BECK-ERFREECHURCH.ORG (under Youth Connection click "Event Registration").

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Big Lake Area Announcements

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

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

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

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

Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
The Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meets at 6:30pm on the third

Mon., of each month in the Community Room adjacent to the Big Lake Police Dept. & the Big Lake Library.

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

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

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

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

The Lions Club (LC) of Big Lake Lioness
The Lions Club [LC] of Big Lake Lioness is busy getting ready to resume our business meetings in Sept. Along with starting business again, we'll be gathering items for our Annual Garage Sale to be held on Sat., Sept. 18, Lions Park on Co. Rd. 5 in Big Lake. Sale will go from 8am - 2pm with lots of items of interest. You'll find gardening items, clothing, household items, tools, shoes, books & much more. So, mark your calendar & come early for the best items.

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

Big Lake Senior Center
The Big Lake Senior Club meets Tues., 1-4pm, Big Lake City Hall, 160 Lake St. North. We would love to have you join us for card games & conversation. Darlene (763) 263-7134 for information.

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

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

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

Red Cross Bloodmobile
Sept. the Lioness will be hosting the Red Cross Bloodmobile at Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church in Big Lake from 12 - 6pm. Everyday blood donors help patients of all ages: accident & burn victims, heart surgery & organ transplant patients, & those battling cancer. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. One blood donation may help up to three lives. Those, who wish to donate much needed blood can do so at www.redcross.org.

Clear Lake / Clearwater Area Announcements

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

Clearwater AA/Al-Anon
Meeting is at 7pm. 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, 7pm at Rejoice Lutheran Church, 1155 CR 75, Clearwater. (612) 801-7317.

Clearwater Area Friends of the Library
Clearwater Area Friend of the Library are currently accepting donations of gently used books, DVDs & CDs for their used bookstore located in the Clearwater Library. Donations are tax deductible & can be dropped off at the Clearwater Library.
Textbooks, dictionaries, encyclopedias, outdated medical books, mazines, & moldy books cannot be accepted. All proceeds from the sale of used books are used to support the programs, services & equipment of the Clearwater Library.

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

Clearwater/Clear Lake Food Shelf
Open Mon. 5:30-7pm, Tues. 9-11am & 6-8pm, Wed. 3-5pm & 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 7pm, Wed. night at Clearwater United Methodist Church, 405 Main St. Clearwater. (612) 607-4484.

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

Palmer Day Volunteer's Needed
This year's Palmer Day is slated to be Sat., Sept. 11, 2021. Palmer Day has been held the Sat. after Labor Day every year the past 21 years with a parade, great food & beer for sale & more at the Park, proceeds are donated to local, non-profit organizations.
Volunteers are needed to keep it going. Email Nancy Lorentz if interested or more info @ nancylorentz@gmail.com.

Tri-County Alliance Church VBS 2021 Sports Camp
"God's Team", Aug. 15-18, 5:30-8pm. Family meal 5:30pm, activities 6pm, new games & sports each night, ages 4 years-entering 6th grade.
TCA Church, 8464 160th St. NW, Clearwater, MN 55320, (320) 558-2750, www.tcachurch.com

Young @ Heart
Starting in July the Community Young@Heart will meet on the third Thurs. of every month at Rejoice Lutheran Church, 1155 Co. Rd. 75, Clearwater, MN. Join us: 10:30 to meet & greet old & new friends, 11:30 lunch (suggested donation), 12pm program.
We are looking for volunteers to share music or a program. Contact Linda (320) 295-1117 or email: agre5628@aol.com.

Miscellaneous Organization Announcements

Community Worship Gathering
Wed., Aug. 18, 6-7pm at Sherburne County Fairgrounds in Elk River. Hosted by Elk River area churches.

FREE - Advocates for Independence
First & third Wed. of the month 2-4pm 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 - The Saint Cloud Area Parkinson's Disease
(PD) Support Group invites you to "Coffee & Conversation" the last Wed. monthly at 10am 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.

Home Stretch
Home Stretch will be offered Sat., Aug. 21, 2021 & Sat., Aug. 28, 2021 from 9am-1pm. Must attend both mornings by ZOOM. (Class fee of \$30.00 per household)
To register, contact Lori at Wright County Community Action (WCCA) 763-898-7551 or by email to therwig@wccaweb.com.

Local Heroes Days
Thurs., Fri. and Sat., Aug. 19-21, 2021, 10am to 4 pm daily. Monticello RV Center, 3880 Chelsea Road W, Monticello.
For more information or to participate in this event contact: Scott Kunz (763) 567-0673, LocalHeroesDays@gmail.com or visit website: LocalHeroes-Days.com

Mental Health Discussion Group
Meets Mon., 6-7pm 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 1-2:30pm 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. 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.

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

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• BECKER

Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS)

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

Becker Baptist Church

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

Becker Evangelical Free Church

Pastors: Patrick Drury (Senior), Chris Salvevold (Youth), 763-261-4125, Becker High School, Office: 11373 150th Ave SE. Services: Sun. Worship/Teaching/Fellowship 10am.

Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church

Father: Mike Kellogg, 763-447-3339, 12100 Sherburne Ave. Services: Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. Mass 9:30am.

Faith (Becker) Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Pastor: Yolanda Denson-Byers, 763-261-5751, 11755 Sherburne Ave. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30 am, Sun. School 10am.

Oakwood Community Church Assemblies of God

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

Snake River Free Church

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

Becker Christian Center & Abundant Grace Church

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

Beacon House of Prayer

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

Free Grace United

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

• BIG LAKE

Acts Seventh-Day Adventists Community Church

Pastor: Bill Nixon, 763-263-2287, 20455 187th Ave Nw. Services: Sat. Worship 9am, Sat. Sabbath School 10:15am.

Bethany Bible Church

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

Bridgeview Assembly of God

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

SVEA Hill Covenant Church

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

Cornerstone Baptist Church

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

Hope Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Orrock

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

IFLESIA AMOR VIVIENTE

Living Love Church

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

Lord of Glory Lutheran Church

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

Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church

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

Riverside Church

Online: www.myriversidechurch.com, 763-263-2410, 2014 County Road

14. Services: Sun 8:45am, 10:30am & 12:05pm.

Saron Lutheran Church

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

• SANTIAGO

South Santiago Lutheran Church ELCA

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

Our Savior's Lutheran Church E.L.S. & Princeton Evangelical School

Pastor: Timothy Zenda, 763-662-2570, 18977 17th St. Services: Sun. School/Bible Class 10:30am, Divine Worship 9am.

Glendorado Lutheran (ELCA)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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

Gethsemane Church (ELCA) - Ronneby

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

Glendorado Evangelical Country Church

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

• CLEAR LAKE

Living Waters Church

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

Trinity Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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

St. Marcus Catholic Church

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

• DUELM

St. Lawrence Church

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

• CLEARWATER

Clearwater United Methodist Church

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

Freedom Bible Church

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

Rejoice Lutheran Church - ELCA

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

Church of St. Luke

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

Tri-County Alliance Church

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

• SILVER CREEK

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Silver Creek Community Church

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

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Obituaries

Donald "Larry" Sewall, Age 77 Big Lake, MN April 8, 1944 – August 3, 2021

Donald "Larry" Sewall, age 77, passed away Tuesday, August 3, 2021, at the St. Cloud Hospital. An informal gathering will be held August 16, 2021, from 4:00-8:00 PM and a memorial service August 17, 2021, at 11:00 AM, at Williams Dingmann Funeral Home, Big Lake, MN. There will be a gathering one hour prior to the memorial service. Burial will be at Ft. Snelling at a later date.

Donald "Larry" Sewall was born April 8, 1944, in Minneapolis to Donald Leone and Grace Victoria (Wagoner) Sewall. Larry married Jean Vanderhyde on Nov. 24, 1962. He proudly served our country in the U.S. Army and 31 years as a police officer, with the St. Louis Park Police Department, protecting and serving the community, and retired as a police lieutenant in 1998. Larry loved and was

so proud of his family. He enjoyed getting together with friends, boating, sitting around the campfire and playing his guitar, long road trips on his



motorcycle, and two favorites: the Black Hills, SD, and Busch Gardens with Jean. Larry stayed physically active, weightlifting, waterskiing, playing racquetball, and tennis. He loved writing poetry, making birdhouses, and taking

care of the beautiful property at the cabin on the lake. Two of his greatest accomplishments in retirement was winning 1st place in the St. Cloud Men's Tennis Doubles Tournament in 2009 and publishing a book of his poems, A Long Journey Home, The Lost Collection of Religious and Beautiful Poems.

Larry's loving memory will be cherished by his wife of 58 years, Jean; daughters and son, Debra (Randy) Rosario, Nelson (Dianne) Sewall, and Heather (Randy) Larsson; and grandchildren, Zac, Doug, Kirsten, Kelsey, Sabrina, and Nicole. He was preceded in death by his parents, and sister, Patricia Nicholas.

Obituary, Guest Book, and Video Tribute available online: www.williamsdingmann.com

Inez L. Jacobson, Age 87 Big Lake, MN

Preceded by husband Harvey; son Darwin; and granddaughter Melissa. Survived by children Diane Jacobson, Daniel (Susan) Jacobson, Debbie Bee, and Denise (Randy) Johnson; 7 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, other relatives & friends.

Inez loved her flowers and shopping. She had many hobbies and loved to craft. Some of her hobbies included crocheting, doing macrame, making valences, jig-sawing,

and making wooden clocks. Inez was a faithful Christian and loved the church.

Funeral service will be held at 11AM on Friday, August 13, 2021, at **Resurrection Lutheran Church**, 9300 Jason Ave NE, Monticello with visitation 1 hour prior to service at church. Interment Fairview Cemetery, Mound.

Memorials preferred to Resurrection Lutheran Church.



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Public Notices

Probates

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF SHERBURNE
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No.: 71-PR-21-100
In Re: Estate of Daniel E. Gengler, Decedent.

NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that an Application for Informal Appointment of Personal Representative was filed with the Registrar. The Registrar accepted the application and appointed Patricia Parsons, whose address is 10451 Greenbrier Rd, #312, Minnetonka, Minnesota 55305, to serve as the personal representative of the decedent's estate.

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

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

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

Dated: 08/09/2021
/s/ Patricia A. Kuka
Court Administrator
Chris Tymchuck (MN# 389101)
SchindelSegal, PLLC
5901 Cedar Lake Road Minneapolis, MN 55416
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
(Published in the *Patriot*: 08/08/14/21; 08/21/21).

Summons

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF SHERBURNE
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
CASE TYPE: 14 OTHER CIVIL

Quiet Title Action
Court File No.: 71-CV-21-764

SUMMONS
Becky L. Gaul,
Plaintiff,

vs.
Ethel M. Person, her heirs,
Successors and assigns, and all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest, or lien in the real estate described in the Complaint herein,

Defendant.
THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO DEFENDANT ABOVE-NAMED.

1. **YOU ARE BEING SUED.**
The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiffs Complaint against you is on file in the office of the Court Administrator of the above-named Court. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court and there may be no court file number on this Summons.

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

Jan C. Larson
Johnson, Larson & Peterson, P.A.
908 Commercial Drive
Buffalo, MN 55313

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

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

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

rights or you may lose the case.

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

7. **THIS LAWSUIT MAY AFFECT OR BRING INTO QUESTION TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY** located in Sherburne County, State of Minnesota, legally described as follows:

That part of Lot 7, Block 1, Suburban Acres Addition to Big Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota that lies Southerly of the Southerly line of the North 84 feet of Lot 7, Block 1, Suburban Acres Addition to Big Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota.

Except:
That part lying Southerly of a line described as beginning at a point on the West line thereof a distance of 1.00 foot North of the Southwest corner of said Lot 7, Block 1, Suburban Acres Addition to Big Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota; thence Easterly to terminate at a point on the East line of said Lot 7 a distance of 3.00 feet North of the Southeast corner of said Lot 7.

The object of this action is to procure a judgment that the Plaintiff is the owner in fee simple absolute, as joint tenants, of said real estate, and that the Defendant, and each of them, have no right, title, estate, interest, or lien herein or thereon, or in any part thereof.

Dated: July 26, 2021
JOHNSON, LARSON & PETERSON, P.A.
/s/ Jan C. Larson, I.D. No. 17659X
Attorney for Plaintiff
908 Commercial Drive
Buffalo, MN 55313
Phone: 763-682-4550
Fax: 763-682-4465
E-mail: Jan.Larson@jplawmn.com

(Published in the *Patriot*: 08/07/21; 08/14/21; 08/21/21).

Order to Show Cause

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF SHERBURNE
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
Court File No. 71-CV-21-420

In the Matter of the Petition of: Energy City Solutions, Inc., concerning Certificate of Title No. 10013 issued for land in Sherburne County, Minnesota, legally described as:
See attached **Exhibit A** ("Property").

TO:
GRANT A. VANSTEEN-WYK, ANTHONY VELISHEK, CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE, LLC AND MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., ALL OCCUPANTS OF THE PROPERTY, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, INTEREST OR LIE UPON THE REAL ESTATE LISTED IN THE CAPTION

A Petition and Report of Examiner of Titles are filed in the above entitled case, brought under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 508 or 508A. You were identified in the Petition or the Report of Examiner of Titles as a party who may have an interest in the above-described land affected by the Order below. If you object to entry of the Order, you must show cause, if there is any, why this Court should not enter the Order. To object to entry of the Order, you must file an Answer, and pay the filing fee or an order waiving the filing fee, or send a letter to the Examiner of Titles at the address shown below by September 10, 2021 ("the deadline"). No response or action is required if you have no objection to the Order. If you do not file an Answer or send a letter to the Examiner of Titles, the Order may issue with no further notice to you.

ORDER:

That the Registrar of Titles, upon the filing with her of a certified copy of this Order, cancel Certificate of Title No. 10013 and enter a new Certificate of Title for the land therein described in favor of Anthony Velishek, 1641 Hiawatha Avenue, Big Lake, Minnesota 55309, subject to the memorial of Document No. 58182, but free from all other memorials now appearing on the present Certificate of Title, the last of which is Document No. 59290, and free also from the memorial of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that a copy of this Order to Show Cause and a copy of the Petition be served:

(a) at least 21 days before the deadline upon the above-named parties residing in this State in the manner provided by law for the service of Summons in a civil action;

(b) at least 21 days before the deadline upon each of the above-named nonresidents and foreign corporations, partnerships, or associations that cannot be found for service in the state by personal service out-of-state, or in the alternative, by two weeks published notice of the Order to Show Cause and by sending a copy of this Order and the Petition at least 24 days before the deadline by first class mail to the non-resident's or foreign entity's out-of-state

post office address; and
(c) upon each of the above-named parties who cannot be found by two weeks published notice of the Order to Show Cause and by sending a copy of this Order and the Petition at least 24 days before the deadline by first class mail to the last known address of the party and by sending another copy of this Order and the Petition at least 24 days before the deadline by first class mail to the address of such party as stated on the Certificate of Title if an address is so stated.

Dated: July 23, 2021
BY THE COURT

/s/ Brianne J. Buccicone
Judge of District Court

APPROVED:
Sherburne County
Examiner of Titles

By: /s/ David J. Meyers, Examiner
THIS INSTRUMENT WAS DRAFTED BY:

RINKE NOONAN - DJM/aap
1015 West St. Germain Street,
Suite 300
P.O. Box 1497
St. Cloud, MN 56302-1497
(320) 251-6700
(File No. 16602-0542)

A RESPONSE IS NOT REQUIRED AT SAID TIME EXCEPT TO OBJECT TO THE ENTRY OF THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED ORDER.

EXHIBIT A

Lot 1, Block 5, Lane J Thomas Lake View Addition, Township of Big Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the registrar of Titles in and for Sherburne County, Minnesota.

Reserving to the State of Minnesota minerals and mineral rights.

AND
All that part of Government Lot 3, Section 13, Township 33, Range 28, Sherburne County, Minnesota that lies Southeasterly of the Southeasterly line of Hiawatha Avenue as laid out in the duly recorded plat of Lane J Thomas Lake View Addition, said Sherburne County; that lies Southwesterly of the Southeasterly extension of the Northeasterly line of Lot 1, Block 5 of said plat; and that lies Northeasterly of the Southeasterly extension of the Southwesterly line of said Lot 1.
(Published in the *Patriot*: 08/14/21; 08/21/21).

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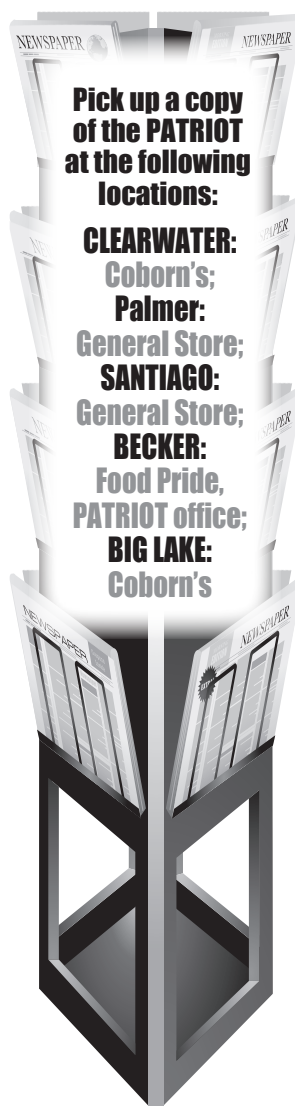
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Public Notices

Minnesota Department of Commerce Public Notices

MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCOPING MEETING In the Matter of the Application of Xcel Energy for a Site Permit and Two Route Permits for the up to 460 Megawatt Sherco Solar Energy Generating System and Associated 345 Kilovolt Transmission Lines in Sherburne County, Minnesota

PUC Docket Numbers: E-002/GS-21-191 (Site Permit), E-002/TL-21-190 (Route Permit for East 345 kV Transmission Line), E-002/TL-21-189 (Route Permit for West 345 kV Transmission Line)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) and Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) will hold public information and environmental assessment scoping meetings on the application of Xcel Energy for a site permit and two route permits for the construction of an up to 460-megawatt solar energy generating system and two 345-kilovolt transmission lines. The purpose of the public meetings is to inform the public about the proposed project, the state's permitting process, and to obtain public input on the project.

Project Description

As proposed, the solar project area would consist of an East Block and a West Block located on approximately 3,479 acres of land adjacent to the Xcel Energy Sherburne County ("Sherco") Generating Plant in Sherburne County, Minnesota. The solar facility would connect to the electrical grid at the existing Sherburne County Substation by a new 1.7-mile single circuit 345 kilovolt transmission line for the East Block and a new 3.2-mile single circuit 345 kilovolt transmission line for the West Block. The primary components of the solar facility would include bifacial photovoltaic panels affixed to a linear ground-mounted single-axis tracking system, solar inverters, an electrical collection system (aboveground/belowground hybrid or all belowground), access roads, security fencing, two electric collector step-up substations, an operation and maintenance facility, 11 storm-water drainage basins, and 12 weather stations.

In-Person Meeting

Date: August 31, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Becker High School – Entrance Door #1 – Teaching and Learning Center Room
12000 Hancock Street, Becker, Minnesota 55308
Link to Google Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/mtmFL27gmhZ5ZhPd8>

- Public meetings start on time. For in-person meetings, arrive a few minutes early so you have time to pick up materials and find a seat.
- Citizens will have the opportunity to offer oral and written comments into the record. Staff from the Commission, the Department, and Xcel Energy will be available to answer questions about the project and the review process.
- The same information will be presented at each meeting.
- Each meeting will last until everyone at the meeting has had an opportunity to speak.
- Comments received at the meeting and during the comment period will be used to develop the scope of the environmental assessment for this project.

To find out if a meeting is canceled due to bad weather or other call 1-855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit mn.gov/puc.

Remote-Access Meeting

Date: September 1, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Telephone: 1-866-609-6127
Internet (Video Only – No Audio): mnnesota.webex.com
Conference ID: 8453387
Event Number: 1463280765 Password: [ytUb5QmMK22](https://bit.ly/3jwFUVv)

- To listen to the remote-access meeting and provide verbal comments, follow the directions above to access the meeting over the telephone. You must join the meeting by telephone if you are interested in listening to the meeting or providing verbal comments.
- To view the speaker presentations during the remote-access meeting, follow the directions above to access the meeting over the internet. You must join the meeting over the internet if you are interested in viewing the speaker presentations.
- If you wish to listen to the meeting while watching the presentations, you must join the hearing by both telephone and internet.
- Additional information and instructions are available at: <https://mn.gov/puc/newsroom/webex/>

Written Comment Period

Written comments will be accepted through September 15, 2021, by 4:30 p.m. Please include the docket numbers in all communications. Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

Please focus your comments on information that will help answer

the following questions:

- What potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project should be considered in the environmental assessment?
- Are there any methods to minimize, mitigate, or avoid potential impacts of the proposed project?
- Are there any unique characteristics of the proposed project site that should be considered?

Comments may be submitted via:

Online: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/#comment>
Email: bill.storm@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: Bill Storm
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
St. Paul, MN 55101
Fax: 651-539-0109

Important. Comments will be made available to the public via the Commission's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The Commission does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

Review Process

The Commission must approve a site permit and two route permits before the project can be constructed. The permit application will be reviewed using the alternative review process (Minn. R. 7850.2800 to 7850.3900). The relevant Minnesota statute and rules may be viewed at: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov>.

Environmental Review. The Department is tasked with preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for the site and route permit application on behalf of the Commission. The EA will evaluate the human and environmental impacts of the proposed project, identify measures that could reasonably be implemented to avoid or minimize impacts identified.

Public Hearing. After the EA is complete, a public hearing will be held near the project area. The hearing will be presided over by an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak, provide written comments, and ask questions of the applicant and staff. Upon completion of the public hearing process, the Commission will make a final decision on whether to issue permits for the project.

Additional Information

Filing Requirements. Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are required to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants, and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: mn.gov/puc, select eDockets and follow the prompts.

Full Case Record. See all documents filed in this matter via the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select eDockets, enter the year (21) and the docket number (191, 190, or 189), and select Search.

Subscribe to the Docket. To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>, select Subscribe to Dockets and follow the prompts.

Project Mailing List. Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate or change your mailing preference. Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246 with the docket number (21-191, 21-190, or 21-189), your name, mailing address, and email address.

Department of Commerce Website: <https://apps.commerce.state.mn.us/eera/web/project/14335>

Site Permit Application. Print copies of the site and route permit application are available for viewing at the Great River Regional Library – Becker, 11500 Sherburne Avenue, Becker, MN 55308

Project Contacts

Public Utilities Commission

Scott Ek, Energy Facilities Planner, scott.ek@state.mn.us or 651-201-2255

Mike Kaluzniak, Public Advisor, publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us or 651-201-2257

Department of Commerce

Bill Storm, Environmental Review Manager, bill.storm@state.mn.us or 651-539-1844

Sherco Solar

William Risse, National Grid Renewables, wrisse@nationalgridrenewables.com or 952-300-9476

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in this meeting, please contact the Commission at 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 at least one week in advance of the hearings. To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance. (Published in the *Patriot*: 08/14/21).

City Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

BIDS DUE: Notice is hereby given that Online Bids will be received by the Administrator until 1:00 PM, Tuesday, August 17th, 2021, via Quest CDN for furnishing all labor and material for the construction of the Becker Golf Clubhouse addition.

BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Construction of an addition to the Pebble Creek Golf Club, to accommodate golf simulators, approximately 900 square feet, including a two-hour occupancy separation wall, door, and fire curtains.

BID OPENING: The bid opening will be conducted via Microsoft Teams, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud: Becker Golf Clubhouse Bid Opening Tuesday, August 17th, 2021, 12:50 PM-2:00 PM (CDT)

Please join the Teams meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone: <https://bit.ly/3jwFUVv>

You can also dial in using your phone:

United States: 763-200-4239

Extension: 4112

Any person monitoring the meeting remotely may be responsible for any documented costs. Message and data rates may apply.

BID METHOD: Only bids from a General Contractor will be considered.

For this project, bids will ONLY be received electronically. Contractors submitting an electronic bid will be charged an additional \$30 at the time of bid submission via the online electronic bid service QuestCDN.com.

To access the electronic Bid Worksheet, download the project document and click the online bidding button at the top of the advertisement. Prospective bidders must be on the plan holders list through Quest CDN for bids to be accepted. Bids shall be completed according to the Bidding Requirements prepared by Mahler & Associates Architecture, dated 2/21-6/21.

Bid security in the amount of five (5) percent of the Bid must accompany each Bid in accordance with the instructions to the Bidders.

A Contractor responding to these Bidding Documents must submit to the City/Owner a signed statement under oath by an owner or officer verifying compliance with each of the minimum criteria in Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.285, subdivision 3. All bids received shall be accompanied by a cash deposit, cashier's check, bid bond or certified check, payable to the City of Becker for not less than five (5) percent of the amount of bid.

TYPE OF BIDS: All contracts for construction will be direct contracts with the City of Becker. The City of Becker will award a contract to a General Contractor.

The Owner may use any combination of the base bid and alternates to determine the low bid.

DOCUMENTS: The Bidding Documents may be seen at the Becker City Hall, 12060 Sherburne Avenue, Becker, MN 55308, Tel: 763-200-4239

For assistance and free membership registration, contact Quest CDN at Tel: 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com.

REJECTION: The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive bidding irregularities and informalities therein and to award the bid in the best interest of the City of Becker. (Published in the *Patriot*: 07/31/21; 08/07/21; 08/14/21).

CITY OF BECKER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City of Becker Planning Commission will hold their monthly meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 30, 2021, at the Becker City Hall, 12060 Sherburne Avenue. The Planning Commission will hold the following public hearing at this meeting:

Approximately 6:00 p.m.: Public Hearing for a Variance Application for a 6-foot-tall fence on a property located in the City of Becker. Applicant and owner, Brian and Deborah Zachman, have submitted an application for a height variance for the property located at 13202 Brenda Blvd SE and identified as PID #60-407-0140 for a 6-foot-tall fence on the above-described property in the City of Becker.

Anyone interested in this issue is encouraged to attend and comment at the Public Hearing. If you are unable to attend, please provide written comment to Mary Roe at P.O. Box 250, Becker, MN 55308 or by e-mail to mroe@ci.becker.mn.us by 4:30 p.m. August 30, 2021.

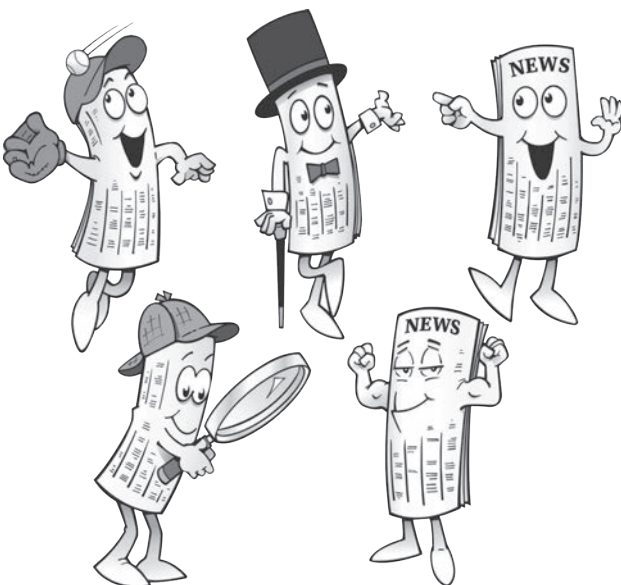
(Published in the *Patriot*: 08/14/21).

Clearwater Planning Commission Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Clearwater Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at the regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The Public Hearing is to consider amendments to Chapter 117 – Zoning of the Clearwater City Code.

A copy of the proposed ordinance amendments can be obtained by contacting the City Hall at 320-558-2428.

Annita M. Smythe
City Administrator
(Published in the *Patriot*: 08/14/21).



Sherburne County Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

**CP 71-681-021 CR 81 AT 206th Street-Surcharge
SHERBURNE COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

NOTICE is hereby given that SEALED Bid Proposal Packages will be received by the Sherburne County Engineer at the office of the undersigned until **1:00 PM on Wednesday, September 8, 2021** for the following project:

The Major Quantities of Work are:

CLEARING	ACRE	1
GEOTEXTILE FGABRIC TYPE 5	SY	8,250
SELECT GRANULAR BORROW (LV)	CY	33,500

Receipt of Bid Proposal: Bids will be received at the Public Works Office, located at the Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive Suite 100, Elk River MN 55330 until **1:00 PM, Wednesday, September 8, 2021.**

Bid Opening: Proposals will be opened by the County Engineer after the hour set for receiving bids at the Sherburne County Government Center. The bid opening is open to the public and will be held in the Maple Room A conference room at the Sherburne County Government Center: 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River MN 55330. As a courtesy to our bidders, the bid opening may be attended via online through WebEx. Information for accessing the bid opening via WebEx will be provided in the bid proposal package.

Plans & specifications may be examined at the office of the Sherburne County Highway Engineer, 13880 Business Center Drive Suite 100, Elk River MN 55330, or at <http://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/publicworks/index.php> & follow the Construction Projects & Bids (eGram) link. A user ID & password is required to download the Plans & Specifications. Contact Public Works at 763-765-3300 to obtain.

The cost to download the Plans & Specifications is free.

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

TO SUBMIT A BID-A Bid Proposal Package shall be purchased. The cost to obtain the Bid Proposal Package is \$10.00. Requests are made to the Sherburne County Engineer, 13880 Business Center Drive Suite 100, Elk River MN 55330. Failure to purchase bid proposal package from Sherburne County is a basis for rejection of the bid.

Requests must be accompanied by check, draft, or money order, payable to the Sherburne County Public Works. Bids must be accompanied by a **Certified Check or Bidder's** Bond made payable to the Sherburne County Treasurer as a proposal guarantee for at least 5% of the amount of the bid.

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

The County Board will consider award of the contract at the September 21, 2021, County Board Meeting contingent upon County Engineer & County Attorney review. It is the County's intent to begin construction the **first part October 2021.**

The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids & waive informalities. Dated at Elk River Minnesota, this 10th day of August 2021.

Signed: /s/ Bruce Messelt, Sherburne County, Minnesota

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sherburne County has designated its official website at <http://www.co.sherburne.mn.us/publicworks/index.php>. Official publication of bids, requests for Information, and requests for proposals will be done on the official website as an alternative means to disseminate solicitations of transportation construction and maintenance projects. (Published in the *Patriot*: 08/14/21; 08/21/21; 08/28/21).

Township Public Notices

CALL FOR SEALED BIDS WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE (SNOW/ICE CONTROL) TOWN OF BIG LAKE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, the Town of Big Lake Board of Supervisors, Sherburne County, Minnesota, is seeking sealed bids, for Winter Road Maintenance (snow and ice control) for approximately 83 miles of paved roads, Bailey Station Cemetery, and town hall parking lot.

The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, and contract with multiple vendors, as the interests of the Town appear best served.

Sealed bids must be received in the Big Lake Township Hall no later than 9:00AM on Wednesday, August 25, 2021. The Big Lake Town Board will consider received bids during the August 25, 2021 regular meeting. Meeting commences at 6:00PM.

Bid forms and information available online at:
www.biglaketownship.com/2021/WinterMaint_RFSB
For more information call 763-263-8111 or email info@biglaketownship.com.

/s/ Brenda Kimberly-Maas

Town Clerk

(Published in the *Patriot*: 08/07/21; 08/14/21).

TLID Public Notices

THREE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (TLID) Annual Meeting August 21, 2021

10:00 AM

Palmer Township Hall

The Three Lake Improvement District [TLID] will hold its annual meeting at 10:00 AM on Saturday August 21, 2021 at the Palmer Township Hall. All property owners on Rush, Julia, Briggs and the Bayou, as members of the TLID, are invited to attend. The meeting agenda will include the discussion and adoption of 2022 projects, approval of the 2022 budget, election of TLID directors and any other business that may come before the TLID. (Published in the *Patriot*: 08/07/21; 08/14/21).

DEADLINES

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

PATRIOT

WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM

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Police & Sheriff Reports

Big Lake Police Department Calls for Service – Jail Bookings Aug. 2, 2021 – Aug. 8, 2021

Call for Service Summary: Total Calls for Service for Week: 249; 2021 Calls for Service: 6,818; Traffic Stops/Enforcement: 81; Citations: 16; Arrests: 4; Medical Emergency Calls: 4; Mental Health/Check Welfare: 9; Civil Mediation (Child Custody-Property): 7

BLPD Arrests: Candace Dik – (Age 39 – St. Cloud, MN) – Felony 5th Degree Controlled Substance Gross Misdemeanor Warrant; Gregory Parent – (Age 34 – Big Lake, MN) – Misdemeanor 4th Degree DWI; Anthony Cole – (Age 44 – Big Lake, MN) – Felony Warrant; Eleanor Winningham – (Age 49 – Big Lake, MN) – GM 3rd Degree DWI

Sun., Aug. 8, 2021: Hwy 10/Lake St. S. – Vehicle Crash with Injuries; 5000 Blk Mitchell Rd. – Disturbance – Officers dispatched mediate a verbal disturbance; Ormsbee St./Forest Rd. – Revoked Driver – Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked; 300 Blk Fern St. – Marijuana in a Vehicle – Officer stopped vehicle for a traffic violation, could smell burning marijuana, driver issued summons for Marijuana Possession.

Sat., Aug. 7, 2021: 15000 Blk Hwy 10 - Felony Narcotic and GM Warrant Arrest – Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, Felony Narcotics located and GM Warrant, booked into jail; Hwy 10/Powell St. – Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked; 5600 Loon Dr. - Juvenile Complaint - Report of disorderly juveniles, mediated by officers; Justice Pl./Harrison Dr. – Revoked Driver - issued summons for Driving While Revoked; 300 Blk Monroe St. - Theft - Report of property theft, investigation ongoing; 300 Blk Lake St. S. – Vandalism – Report of damage done to vehicle; 300 Blk Pleasant Ave. - Juvenile Complaint - Report of disorderly juvenile, mediated by officers; Hwy 10/Euclid Ave. - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked; Eagle Lake Rd./Forest Rd. - DWI - Driver stopped for a traffic violation and found to be under the influence of alcohol. Arrested, see bookings for charges. **Fri., Aug. 6, 2021:** Hwy 25/CR 11 - Revoked Driver

- Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked; Traverse Ln./Engle Wood Dr. - Juvenile Complaint - Report of disorderly juveniles, mediated by officers; Hwy 10/165th Ave. - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked; 100 Blk Euclid Ave. - Loud Noise - Report of loud music, warned for noise ordinance; 100 Blk Mount Curve Ave. - Warrant Arrest - Suspect located on an outstanding arrest warrant, booked into jail; 100 Blk Henry Rd. - Harassment - Officers investigated verbal harassment between parties; 5000 Blk Edinburgh Way - Harassment - Officers investigated harassment via text message/phone calls; Lake St. S./Monroe St. - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked; **Thurs., Aug. 5, 2021:** Highline Dr./Sterling Dr. - Vehicle Crash - Report of a vehicle crash with no injuries, report completed; 107 Henry Rd. - Disturbance - Officers dispatched mediate a verbal disturbance; 200 Jefferson Blvd - Fraud - Officers investigating fraud complaint.

Wed., Aug. 4, 2021: 100 Blk Hillside St. - Fraud - Officers investigating fraud complaint; 700 Blk Eagle Lake Rd. S. - Juvenile Complaint - Report of disorderly juvenile, mediated by officers.

Tues., Aug. 3, 2021: 100 Blk Jefferson Blvd. - DWI - Driver stopped for a traffic violation and found to be under the influence of alcohol. Arrested, see bookings for charges; 700 Blk Rose Dr. - Theft - Report of property theft, investigation ongoing; 700 Blk Rose Dr. - Theft - Report of property theft, investigation ongoing; 480 Fern St. - Fraud - Officers investigating fraud complaint.

Mon., Aug. 2, 2021: 800 Blk Harrison Dr. - Juvenile Complaint - Report of disorderly juvenile, mediated by officers; 40 Blk Lake St. S. - Disturbance - Officers dispatched mediate a verbal disturbance; 16000 Blk 197th Ave. - Vehicle Crash - Report of a vehicle crash with no injuries, report completed; Glenwood Ave./CR 43 - Revoked Driver - Driver stopped by officer for traffic violation, issued summons for Driving While Revoked.



Sherburne County Sheriff's Activity Report Week of 08/02/2021 - 08/08/2021

The following individuals have been booked into the Sherburne County Jail for the alleged offense(s): Vanessa Reyes, 36 of No Permanent Address - MSD domestic assault. Timothy Allen Smith, 45 of Saint Paul, MN 55130 - FEL 5th degree drugs, MSD 4th degree DWI & driving after revocation. Raymond Lee Schaaf, 29 of Deer River, MN 56636 - MSD domestic abuse no contact order violation, false information, & Itasca Co. warrant. David Edward Jansen, 20 of Zimmerman, MN 55398 - FEL burglary, FEL 1st degree criminal damage to property, GM 5th degree criminal sexual conduct & MSD 5th degree assault. Candace Kay Dik, 39 of Saint Paul, MN 55106 - FEL 5th degree drugs, MSD driving after cancellation, & Washington Co. warrant. Jolene Rose Schlichting, 42 of Brooklyn Center, MN 55430 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Raymond James Bennett, 41 of Coon Rapids, MN 55433 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Benny Michael Wiggins, 40 of Elk River, MN 55330 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Tatum Lamae Loehrer, 21 of Saint Cloud, MN 56304 - Sherburne Co. warrants. Anthony James DeMarco, 29 of Minneapolis, MN 55413 – Dept. of Corrections warrant. Major Dashawn Jaromnes, 22 of Saint Joseph, MN 56374 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Angelica Marie Henry-Schmidt, 20 of Waite Park, MN 56387 - Sherburne Co. & Washington Co. warrants. Anthony Allen Cole, 44 of Big Lake, MN 55309 on Sherburne Co. & Wright Co. warrants. Nathaniel Spears, Jr., 27 of Albany, MN 56307 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Richard Allan Thompson, 35 of Zimmerman, MN 55398 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Laurie Ann Carey, 57 of Brainerd, MN 56401 - Sherburne Co. warrant. Andrew Joseph Ballweber, 28 of Stacy, MN 55079 - Sherburne Co. warrant. **Citations Issued:** 1 drugs - possess/sale small amount of marijuana - no remuneration, 1 motor vehicle registration - operate vehicle with expired registration, 1 traffic - duty to drive with due care - speed greater than reasonable, 24 traffic - speeding - exceed limit, 4 traffic - speeding - exceed limit - 65 mph on freeways and expressways, 9 traffic - speeding - exceed limit 55 mph where appropriate, 1 traffic regulation - failure to stop at stop signs or stop lines at entrance to through highway, 1 wireless communications device - access video content, images, games, software applications, 2 traffic regulation - seat belt

required - driver and passengers must use, 2 traffic regulation - vehicle registration/permit/plates required, 6 traffic regulation - driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle, 1 DWI - fourth degree driving while impaired; described, 1 driver's license - driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type, 1 traffic-driver's license-driving after revocation, 1 harassment; restraining order - violate restraining order. **Total: 56**

Calls for Service: 1 burglary, 5 theft, 1 theft – motor vehicle, 1 assault, 1 drugs/narcotics, 2 DWI, 4 disturbing the peace, 9 harassment, 1 obscenity, 2 property damage, 2 criminal sexual conduct, 1 crimes against administration of justice, 2 trespass, 4 fraud

complaint, 1 animal lost, 1 property lost, 3 animal found, 1 property found, 1 abandoned vehicle, 5 accident – mv personal injury, accident – mv property damage, accident – mv property damage hit & run, 3 accident – vehicle v. animal, 4 animal complaint, 4 conservation, 2 dog complaint, 2 dog bite, 1 animal bite, 1 fire – other, 1 fire – grass, 3 alarm – fire, 1 gas leak/smell, 2 alarm – carbon monoxide, 21 medical, 6 mental case, 2 alarm – medical, 1 miscellaneous public, 3 domestic, 7 public assist, 31

agency assist, 11 alarm – security, 18 civil complaint, 190 officer initiated traffic stop, 13 traffic complaint, 2 garbage/littering, 3 suspicious person, 7 suspicious vehicle, 5 juvenile complaint, 1 attempt to locate, 16 security check, 9 extra patrol, 16 check the welfare, 1 burning complaint, 1 boating complaint, 2 ATV complaint, 4 shooting complaint, 2 repossession, 4 parking complaint, 8 jail medical, 1 jail medical guard, 34 paper service, 1 recovered stolen property, 18 suspicious activity, 1 hazardous road conditions, 1 hazardous materials, 29 miscellaneous officer, 6 background check, 4 warrant arrest, 1 funeral escort, 34 transport, 6 911 hang up, 4 court book & release, 1 follow up, 1 kennel inspection, 2 public lift assist, 1 UAV deployment, 4 vehicle lockout, 1 warrant attempt. **Total: 613**

July 28th: Tony Steinke on 101st Street NW in Livonia Twp. reported the theft of license plate tabs.

July 30th: Elk River Muffler & Brake on Main St in Zimmerman reported the theft of 20-30 brake rotors valued at an estimated \$70.



Interested in being a sponsor for the Cop's Corner?
Contact Carol at the Patriot at 763.275.0275.
Team up with your police dept.
for a better, safer community

“ASK A TROOPER” by Sgt. Jesse Grabow of the Minnesota State Patrol

Question: In reference to the Interstate, is it true that one out of five miles is straight so airplanes can land on there if needed?

Answer: No, this is a myth that is so widespread that it is difficult to dispel. The myth typically states the requirement came from President Dwight D. Eisenhower or the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956. However, no legislation, regulation, or policy has ever imposed such a requirement. Airplanes do land on Interstates in an emergency, but the highways are not designed for that purpose.

According to the United States Department of Transportation – Federal Highway Administration, the Interstate System was first described in a Bureau of Public Roads report to Congress, Toll Roads and Free Roads, in 1939. It was authorized for designation by the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1944, with the initial designations in 1947 and completed in 1955 under the 40,000 mile limitation imposed by the 1944 Act. President Eisenhower didn't conceive the Interstate System, but his support led to enactment of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956, which established the program for funding and building it.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on Twitter @MSPPIO_NW or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).



Becker Police Department Activity Report Week of Aug. 2nd – Aug. 8th

2-Aug: 1 speed Citation #353 / possession of small amount of marijuana Citation #354, 3 security check, 1 suspicious vehicle, 1 equipment warning, 5 speed warning, 1 medical, 4 recreational vehicle permit, 1 open door, 1 expired tabs Citation #355, 1 driving conduct warning, 1 lift assist, 1 fail to display registration warning, 1 extra patrol, 1 speed / expired registration warnings, 1 Speed Citation #356, 1 suspicious activity, 1 Driving after Suspension Citation #357, 1 drive wrong way warning

3-Aug: 1 equipment warning / no proof of insurance Citation #358, 1 curfew Citation #359, 3 speed warning, 1 public assist, 1 domestic assault Citation #360, 1 expired registration warning, 1 recreational vehicle permit, 1 traffic complaint, 1 extra patrol, 3 security check, 1 juvenile concern, 1 driving conduct / equipment warnings

4-Aug: 2 extra patrol, 1 security check, 1 driving conduct warning / No MN Drivers license Citation #361, 1 mental health, 1 speed warning, 1 expired registration / expired drivers license / no insurance, 1 medical, 1 recreational vehicle permit, 1 traffic complaint, 1 miscellaneous officer, 1 domestic dispute

5-Aug: 4 speed warning, 1 equipment / speed warnings, 1 agency assist, 1 vehicle lockout, 1 road hazard, 1 expired registration warning, 1 expired registration warning / stop sign / driving after suspension Citation

#362, 1 recreational vehicle permit, 1 follow-up, 1 civil, 1 security check, 1 suspicious activity, 1 suspicious vehicle

6-Aug: 1 curfew Admin Citation 2356 / Curfew Admin Citation 2537, 4 speed warning, 2 miscellaneous public, 1 following too closely warning, 2 road hazard, 1 recreational vehicle permit, 1 public safety, 1 traffic complaint, 1 miscellaneous officer, 1 suspicious activity, 2 equipment warning, 1 public assist, 1 civil, 1 Specialty vehicle - no permit Admin Citation #3876, 1 speed / fail to display registration warning, 2 suspicious person, 1 extra patrol, 3 security check, 1 driving conduct warning

7-Aug: 4 security check, 1 speed / equipment warning, 1 welfare check, 1 agency assist, 1 vehicle lockout, 1 fail to move over for emergency vehicle warning, 3 speed warning, 1 welfare check / mental health, 1 miscellaneous officer, 1 alarm

8-Aug: 1 security check, 2 speed warning, 1 drive wrong way warning, 1 stop sign warning, 1 vehicle lockout, 1 suspicious vehicle, 1 road hazard, 1 Probation Violation, 1 agency assist, 1 repossession info, 1 medical, 1 civil, 1 suspicious activity, 1 fireworks complaint



To Protect & Serve



Wright County Sheriff's Activity Report Period Ending Aug. 9, 2021

Aug. 2: Felici Amanda-Jo Boecker, 26, of North St. Paul, was arrested in Ramsey Co. - Wright Co. warrant - theft violations. Francis Kollie, 21, of Brooklyn Park, was arrested in Hennepin Co. - Wright Co. warrant - theft violations. Jeffrey Thomas Perin, 50, of Howard Lake, was arrested in Howard Lake - Wright Co. warrant - careless driving violations. Anthony Todd Robert Barton, 29, of Annandale, was arrested in Annandale - Wright Co. warrant - domestic assault violations. Casey Edward Klein, 35, of Champlin, was arrested in Otsego - charge of 3rd degree DWI. Jason Daniel Guggenberger, 40, of Buffalo, was arrested in Albertville - charge of 5th degree possession of controlled substance & Wright Co. warrant - 5th degree possession of controlled substance violation. David John Bemboom, 37, of Sauk Rapids, was arrested in Silver Creek Twp. - charge of 5th degree possession of controlled substance.

Aug. 3: Nancy Karen Otteson, 67, of Monticello, was arrested in Monticello - Wright Co. warrant - violation of harassment restraining order. David James Potratz, 36, of St. Cloud, was arrested in Stearns Co. - Wright Co. warrant - receiving stolen property violations. Ryan Patrick Connors, 56, of Delano, was arrested in Delano - Hennepin Co. warrant - 3rd degree DWI. Derek Doren Kuchenmeister, 44, of Montrose, was arrested in Sherburne Co. - Wright Co. warrants - identity theft, receiving stolen property, domestic assault, 5th degree possession of controlled substance, violation of no contact order, driving after revocation & theft, Carver Co. warrant - false information to law enforcement & McLeod Co. warrant - contempt of court. Xzorn Steven-Anthony Larson, 28, of Minneapolis, was arrested in Buffalo - Wright Co. warrant - 3rd degree DWI violations.

Aug. 4: Carl Gregory Paumen, 36, of Otsego, was arrested in Otsego - charge of reckless discharge of firearm. David Robert Penner, 35, of New Brighton, was arrested in Monticello - charge of domestic assault. Blake Evan Bryan, 27, of South Haven, was arrested in South Haven - charge of 3rd degree burglary. Mark Andrew Boedigheimer, 55, of St. Michael, was arrested in St. Michael - Wright Co. apprehension & detention order - 3rd degree DWI violations. Sarah Jean Pinke, 43, of Monticello, was arrested in Buffalo - Wright Co. apprehension & detention order - 5th degree possession of controlled substance violation. Jamie Glen Fry, 30, of Delano, was arrested in Rockford - charge of driving after cancellation inimical to public safety.

Aug. 5: Brandon Marquis Jones, 25, of Minneapolis, was arrested in Buffalo - Wright Co. warrant - 5th degree possession of controlled substance & Ramsey Co. warrant - fleeing law enforcement. Vincent James Tran, 22, of Otsego, was arrested in Otsego - charges of domestic assault & violation of an order - protection. Kory Steven Loveland, 44, of Otsego, was arrested in Buffalo - Hennepin Co. warrant - trespassing. Dustin John Schlagel, 38, of Maple Lake, was arrested in Maple Lake - charges of 5th degree possession of controlled substance & introduction of contraband into jail & MN Dept. of Corrections apprehension & detention order - weapons violations. Jeremy Cromwell Phyle, 40, of Annandale, was arrested in Otsego - Wright Co. warrant - terrorististic

threat violations. Nicholas Lewis Williams, 26, no permanent address, was arrested in Clearwater - charges of disorderly conduct, trespassing & fugitive from justice. Lauren Nicole Auger-Newsome, 28, of Pine City, was arrested in Hennepin Co. - Wright Co. & Rice Co. warrants - theft. Anthony Allen Thulien, 21, of Mound, was arrested in McLeod Co. - Wright Co. warrant - obstruction of legal process violations. Cory Allen Parson, 38, of Howard Lake, was arrested in Howard Lake - charges of 1st degree burglary & domestic assault. Clayton Florian Buchberger, 40, of Albertville, was arrested in Albertville - Wright Co. warrant - domestic assault violations. Brook Marie Best, 41, of Maple Lake, was arrested in Annandale - charges of 5th degree possession of controlled substance & driving after cancellation inimical to public safety. Caneish Lynn Fitch, 26, of Hutchinson, was arrested in McLeod Co. - Wright Co. warrant - violation of harassment restraining order.

Aug. 6: Tyrone Lavalle Hubbard, 48, of Buffalo, was arrested in Dakot Co. - Wright Co. warrant - theft by check violations. Christopher David Brehm, 44, no permanent address, was arrested in Hennepin Co. - Wright Co. warrants - theft & driving after revocation violations.

Andrew Michael Dmytruk, 27, of Dayton, was arrested in Buffalo - charge of 5th degree possession of controlled substance. Kristie Lauren - Wright Co. warrant - 5th degree possession of controlled substance violation.

Aug. 7: Brian Todd Haugen, 53, of Monticello, was arrested in Monticello - charge of domestic assault. Tracy James Taylor, 60, of Elk River, was arrested in St. Michael - charge of driving after cancellation inimical to public safety.

Aug. 8: Thomas Lyle Reinking, 25, of West Fargo, ND, was arrested in Otsego - charge of 3rd degree DWI. Amber Christine Wieber, 36, of Lakeshore, was arrested in Corrin Twp. - charge of 5th degree possession of controlled substance. Paul Andrew Karels, 56, of Big Lake, was arrested in Otsego, - Wright Co. warrant - violation of harassment restraining order. Veronic Reed, 27, of Becker, was arrested in Monticello - Wright Co. apprehension & detention order - DWI violations.

Aug. 9: Chaunte Jimic Brown, 25, of St. Cloud, was arrested in Buffalo - Wright Co. warrant - false information to law enforcement violations. Roc Davenier Adams, 21, of Minneapolis, was arrested in Delano - charges of 1st degree & 3rd degree burglary & tampering with motor vehicle. Keon Elijah Pruitt, 18, of Minneapolis, was arrested in Delano - charge of 1st degree burglary, & Hennepin Co. warrant - 1st degree burglary, theft, financial transaction card fraud, & weapons violation.

There were 0 property damage accidents, 5 personal injury accidents, 7 hit & run accidents & 2 car deer accidents.

There were 6 arrests - DWI, 2 underage consumption arrests, 0 school bus stop arm violations & 84 tickets - miscellaneous traffic violations reported this week.

