



PATRIOT OFFICE

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14054 Bank Street,
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The Patriot is the official newspaper for Clear Lake, Clearwater, Orrick, Palmer & Santiago Townships, City of Becker, Becker Township and Becker School District #726, City of Big Lake and Big Lake School District #727. The Patriot is also the legal newspaper for the Sherburne County financials.

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COSTUMED KIDS SHOW UP AT SHERBURNE HISTORY CENTER

By Don Bellach,
Contributing Writer

As they walked into the Sherburne History Center on Sat., Oct. 25, 2025, museum visitors were greeted by Curator Maureen (Mo) Galvin for the Kids' Costume Party.

Children were dressed as Scooby Doo and Daphne, a unicorn, a duck, police officers, and princesses. There was even a whole family of pumpkins.

The event ran from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. and featured snacks and refreshments, crafts, games, and activities for the whole family. Best of all, there was candy given away by the center. Attendees were asked to bring a non-perishable item to donate to the Becker Food Shelf.

Programs Coordinator Emma Hoard hoped 50-70 people would come for the event. She later confirmed that 73 guests had shown up. Hoard supervised all the activities and was busy all afternoon handing out candy and prizes for kids who completed the Halloween Ghost Hunt. The Ghost Hunt carried children to every corner of the History Center looking for ghosts. Kids were instructed to find 12 mischievous ghosts who had gotten loose and were lurking throughout the center.

Hoard explained that



THE DESSELLIER FAMILY dressed as pumpkins. Collin, Luci, Erica, Gavin, Kenadee, Hazel, and Ava. (Patriot Photo by Don Bellach)

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to page 4**

Promenade with Abe: 50 years of square dance calling

By Penny Leuthard,
Contributing Writer

Calling out square dance steps is something Abe (Harvey) Maier loves to do. So much so that this year he celebrated his 50th year as a square dance caller and teacher.

Maier, who recently turned 90, and his wife Carol learned how to square dance in 195 after friends of theirs pushed them to try it. They were hooked. Just a few months later Maier, who is known for his singing voice, began calling as well.

He was so enthusiastic about square dancing Maier began teaching it. In 1976, with the help of square dance friends, Abe hosted lessons through community education in the evenings at Clearview Elementary in Clear Lake. After the students graduated, they de-

cided to form a local square dance club. It was named County Line Squares because the members were from Sherburne, Stearns and Wright Counties.

Maier has held square dance lessons every year since he began calling, and at his busiest, he was teaching weekly classes for four different clubs, all while traveling to events and festivals throughout Minnesota and neighboring states. His children were among the students in his first classes.

"Square dancing shaped more than just our family's free times," said Maier's daughter Marlene Miller. "It helped us build lasting friendships and develop life skills that have served us well both in our careers and personal lives."

With his height and top hat, Maier is instantly recognizable. When he

grew out his beard, his likeness to Abraham Lincoln became apparent, and his nickname was born. People started calling him Abe, and after he was gifted a top hat by one of the dancers, the resemblance was undeniable. A long-tailed coat and bow tie today completes his signature look.

Maier is the club caller for County Line Squares, which became Minnesota's largest square dance club, with members from across the region—including Clearwater, Becker, Big Lake, Annandale, Monti-



**ABE
to page 4**



WITH HIS VIBRANT SINGING VOICE square dance calling comes natural to Abe Maier. (Submitted Photo).

Main Street Family Services expands to Big Lake

By Andrew Diemand,
Contributing Writer

Liberty Elementary School in Big Lake has officially welcomed a new addition to its Community Education office—just in time for the busy school year and the fast-approaching holiday season, a time that can be especially challenging for many local families.

Spurred by the success of their first location in Elk River—and supported by a \$263,000 grant from the Sauer Foundation, a local nonprofit that invests in at-risk children—Main Street Family Services has opened its second Family Resource



SHARI LEY, FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER COORDINATOR will be heading up the FRC location in Big Lake. (Submitted Photo).

Center (FRC) in Big Lake as of September this year.

The new center aims

to provide practical help, hope, and a sense of community to families facing difficult times.

"We've already seen families walk in feeling overwhelmed—and walk out with hope," said Shari Ley, Coordinator for the Main Street Family Resource Center.

With a mission "to create a future where every family flourishes and every child experiences a safe, loving, and nurturing home," the Main Street FRC offers a wide range of free programs and support. Families can access parenting classes, support groups, and emergency supplies, such as household goods

and food. The center also connects families to financial assistance, community events, and partnerships with other local service organizations.

Though programs through the FRC are free, they do welcome community support. Ley invites all to think of it as an investment into the future of one's community.

"When families are supported, children grow up safer, healthier, and more connected to their community," Ley said.

To help sustain and grow these programs, Main Street Family Services will be hosting its first annual fundraiser at 6 p.m. on Fri-

day, November 14, at the Rockwoods Event Center in Otsego.

"Our goal is to raise \$75,000," said Ley. "That money will go directly towards programs that uplift children, empower parents, and create safe, nurturing environments for everyone in our community."

While coming to a close, October is recognized nationally as both Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Bullying Prevention Month—two causes that underscore the need for safe, supportive spaces for families and chil-

**MAIN STREET
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Pleasant Chores

Last weekend was adventurous as part of my “to-do” list funneled down to Thursday, Friday and Saturday appointments and excursions that made these “chores” (unexpectedly) rather pleasant.

Let me explain.

Some of my chores included changing my drivers license to my new address and we all know how slow and tedious that task can be when showing up at the DMV or government center. Surprisingly the experience was uneventful and the person helping me was quite pleasant and accommodating.

Cross that off my list.

Another chore was bringing my Jeep in to Discount Tire to get new tires put on. Again, the wait wasn’t tortuous and the people working there were first-class and amiable.

Scratch that off my list.

The most undesirable chore I had looming was replacing my tire carrier on my Jeep. But that too had a pleasant outcome.

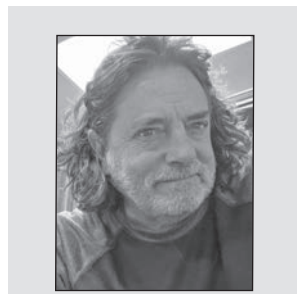
A few years ago I took my roof rack off my Jeep and also my tire and tire carrier from the back to lighten the load. So when I moved from my house to an apartment five years ago I inadvertently must have discarded the tire carrier and hardware while I had the spare stowed in the back cargo area.

Well, fast forward to today (last weekend actually) and I decided I wanted to get that spare tire out of the cargo area and back on my tailgate. So I ordered a new tire carrier and little did I know but it didn’t come with the bolts I needed to attach it to the tailgate.

So I looked up the supposed bolt size needed and headed to 3 Son’s Hardware in Big Lake to get the items. An employee found what I was looking for and sold me the new hardware. I returned home, anxious to start my project when I realized the bolts were not fitting the threaded holes. Ugh.

I returned to 3 Son’s and explained my dilemma and a young man working there took time out of his day to come outside to my Jeep and assess the situation. We tried numerous bolt sizes to get a proper fit but he explained he thought the threaded holes may be stripped or rusted out. He suggested I go to Home Depot or Menards to see if they could help me with a thread repair tool he did not have in store.

So I ventured to Home Depot in Monticello and headed for the nuts and bolts area of the store. Immediately, an older gentleman approached and asked if he could help. I told him my story and the situation I was



By Bill Morgan, Editor/Writer

in and he graciously searched for something I could use. I told him the original bolt size I was supposed to use didn’t work and he seemed perplexed but was very helpful in his way.

After several attempts at finding what I needed, the man suggested I visit Napa Auto Parts and see what they could do for me.

So, I ventured to Napa in Monticello and when I entered the store, I noticed two young men (late teens, early 20’s) working behind the counter. Since I was the only one in the store, they (Daniel and Andre) jumped up to the counter and asked what I needed.

I again explained the dilemma and these two youngsters went out of their way to work with me to find the right part for my situation. I was impressed. They spent an enormous amount of time in the back room searching for the hardware I needed. I was at the store for probably two hours and these boys never tired of helping this old man out.

One of them, Daniel, went in and out of the store on numerous occasions trying to ensure I had the proper bolts to hold my 35” all terrain tire. At one point I apologized for taking up so much of their time but they just told me, “Are you kidding? It’s been so slow here we are glad we have something to do.”

I even joked with them that when I get home and attach the tire carrier, maybe they could stop by and help lift that huge tire to the carrier for final mounting.

Daniel said “Are you kidding? We could help you mount the carrier and tire right here in the parking lot.”

I was thrilled to have such good-natured and chivalrous service from a store I rarely visit and from two young men who were eager to help. I was so grateful to them for their generous spirit and offered to give them a tip on my purchase but they politely declined.

Daniel said, “I just love working on cars.”

What a weekend. My faith in decent humanity skyrocketed with the experiences that made my chores both favorable and rewarding.

Scratch, scratch.

School Referendum: What’s at Stake?

As the superintendent for Big Lake Schools, I want to share some perspective on the upcoming referendum. My goal is not to tell you how to vote, but to help you understand what is at stake.

Question 1: Operating Levy to Support Educational Needs

The first question, the operating levy, would directly support day-to-day learning and staffing. The goal is to stabilize and preserve our core educational programs, such as: Maintaining small class sizes; Retaining quality teachers and staff; Keeping curriculum and materials up-to-date.

We are asking for more local funding because state support isn’t keeping up with student needs. While “historic school funding” made headlines in 2024, this legislation came with 65 new school mandates, many of which were unfunded or underfunded. In addition, state funding has not kept pace with inflation for 20+ years. As a result, schools are left to do more with less, putting a huge strain on budgets.

If question one doesn’t pass, Big Lake Schools will have to face budget reductions that will directly impact the student experience. This may mean: Larger class sizes; Outdated curricular resources; Challenges in recruiting and retaining teachers and support staff; Overall reduction in student supports and opportunities.

Because of the current state funding situation, many neighboring districts have already faced significant disruptive reductions. Thanks to careful fiscal management we have been able to avoid this fate thus far. However, without additional local funding, we will not be able to hold off much longer.

Question 2: Building Bond

Question 2, which can only pass if question 1 also passes, would support facility needs: Classroom updates for Special Education and Career and Technical Education (CTE); Multipurpose space for school and community use; Stadium field and track replacement; A new on-campus home for the Big Lake Community Food Shelf.

You can find details on the projects and the needs they address online at biglakeschools.org/strong-schools, but I want to discuss two key points:

For the safety of our students, our aging track requires full replacement no matter what. While we have done all we can to maintain it, it is 10+ years beyond its life expectancy and large below-surface cracks are beyond repair. In addition, the current field’s raised crown, suitable for



By Supt. Tim Truebenbach

football and standard practice for drainage, creates safety concerns now that soccer and lacrosse were added to our athletic programs. If we complete the two projects together, we can avoid costly rework. If Question 2 does not pass, the district would need to use lease-levy authority to complete projects. While the monthly tax impact may be similar, the amount of work the district could complete for that cost would be limited to the track and field.

Why would the food shelf move onto school grounds?

City Hall recently acquired land for a new location, and state law prevents the City from taking on debt for purposes that don’t directly serve city operations. This means the Big Lake Community Food Shelf must relocate by summer of 2027.

Our partnership plan would allow the food shelf to continue operations, make services more accessible to frequent users, many of whom are under 18, and provide opportunities for our students to engage in service-learning. The Food Shelf would be a valued school partner, but would remain self-contained and independently operated. It would have a separate entrance, controlled access, and clear separation from student activity areas.

Vote on or before Nov. 4. Your voice will directly shape the future of our schools and community.

For full details, including voting information, full proposals, and FAQs, visit biglakeschools.org/strong-schools. Please submit any questions to our online form as we welcome your feedback.

November 3rd Voting: Independence Elementary STEM, Door J, 8:30am-7:15pm;

November 4th Voting: Saron Lutheran Church, 7am-8pm (All residents at combined polling place).

Thank you for your time, your feedback, and your engagement.

Sincerely,
Tim Truebenbach,
Superintendent
Big Lake Schools

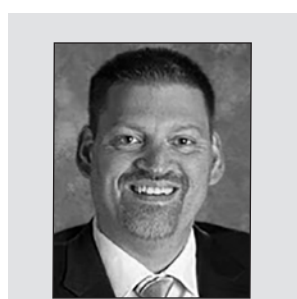


Becker Public Schools: Ensuring Stability and Excellence for Students

Becker Public Schools continues to take pride in providing exceptional opportunities for students while maintaining responsible financial stewardship. Over the past several years, the district has carefully managed its budget to preserve quality programming, retain staff and meet the needs of our nearly 3,000 students, without the large-scale cuts and large class sizes seen in many neighboring districts.

On Tuesday, November 4, 2025, Becker School District residents will vote for a school board member to fill the vacancy of Troy Berning’s position and we will be voting on an operating levy referendum of \$200 per pupil, which would generate approximately \$643,000 annually. For the average Becker home valued at about \$395,000, the cost would be about \$9 per month.

If approved, the levy would allow the district to maintain continuity and stability by keeping current staffing levels and programs intact; protect valued programs such as academics,



By Supt. Jeremy Schmidt

arts, athletics, student services, and extracurriculars; prepare for uncertainty amid rising costs and state/federal mandates, including READ Act, Paid Family & Medical Leave, expanded unemployment insurance, and more.

According to Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Schmidt. “The proposal is about preserving what we already have and being ready for the future. We have worked hard to maintain financial balance and keep our opportunities strong for students.”

Like many districts throughout Minnesota, Becker faces rising costs from inflation and unfunded

mandates. State education funding has not kept up with school district expenses, while new requirements such as the READ Act literacy initiative to employee leave policies adds pressure to local budgets.

The ballot question represents the lowest dollar amount per pupil of any Minnesota school district ballot question this year, which is an indicator that the school board considers the balance of impact on the taxpayer and student learning opportunities. The school board also understands the goal is not to expand programming, but to maintain high quality instruction, smaller class sizes, and student support services for our thriving community.

Voters can learn more and estimate their property’s impact using the tax calculator available on the Becker Public Schools website www.becker.k12.mn.us. Polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm on Tuesday, November 4 at the Becker Community Center.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TO THE EDITOR:

Big Lake School District Referendums: Two ‘No’ votes and the school district won’t lose a dime! Why? When a levy expires, those taxes end. Any extension or increase of a levy is a property tax increase. If you own the average valued home in the district, these are the facts: If Question 1 passes (a 90% per pupil increase (WOW!) operating levy for 10 years) you will pay \$3,220 in new taxes. If Question 2 (Building Bonds for a multi-purpose addition) passes, you will pay \$8,660 in new taxes. Two ‘Yes’ votes and you will pay \$11,880 in new taxes. We have not underfunded our schools, as our operating levy has an annual rate of inflation increase. Also, did you know that in January 2024 the Big Lake School Board renewed the current operating levy for 10 more years (over \$21.2 million of local tax payer money) without bringing it to the district residents for a vote? We give and they take! You can’t make this stuff up! If you own a home or rent (your rent money helps pay these taxes), get to Saron Church on November 4th and vote ‘No’ and ‘No.’ Tell your neighbors.

Timothy Myers,
Big Lake

TO THE EDITOR:

While my county and township taxes have increased 40% over the past decade, my Becker school taxes have increased nearly 110%. According to a study of statewide levies by Minneapolis School Voices, Becker is funded at 265% of what is considered adequate for our school population. (<https://www.mpls-schoolsvoices.news/posts/mn-school-funding-inequities-data-viz>). The data from the 2018-2019 school year shows only two districts in the state more adequately funded, and Becker has assessed two additional levies since then. What do we have to show for it? Just 37% of our high schoolers meet math standards and 47% meet reading. Those numbers are below the state averages of 45.2% and 49.6%. (https://rc.education.mn.gov/#mySchool/orgId--10726020000_p--3) District leaders need to reevaluate how they spend our money before we give them more. Annandale school district is funded at 125% adequacy. Their test scores? 44% of students meet math standards and 74.8% meet reading. There can be student success without outrageous overspending, or we should have something to show for that spending. Minnetonka students, one of the districts with higher adequacy of funding, meet math standards at 61.7% and reading at 77.3%. The board should spend wisely according to their goal of fiscal responsibility before we allow more levies, renewable without voter approval, to pile up.

Rebecca Mix
St Cloud, MN

TO THE EDITOR:

An off year election is coming up November 4th, did you know this? No Presidential or Representative contest this year to get everyone out and vote, only one item is on the ballot and it’s the same Big Lake School District questions that failed last year!! Last year there were (three) Levy questions. The first passed 4,005 to 3,671. The next two soundly failed. The second question in 2024 asked for an additional \$400 per pupil, failed 3,420 to 4,265. This year the school district is asking for \$640 per pupil for the same thing! The third question in 2024 asked for a bond of \$29 million to build an additional gymnasium, and that failed 3,354 to 3,913. This year the school district is asking for \$36 million again for the same thing. And just like before, enrollment is DOWN, so we don’t need an additional gym. The district is hoping to slide this by, betting that the majority of voters will stay home, but they will make sure that their teachers and staff vote to pass these needless property tax increasing measures! So vote early, or vote on Election Day, but vote NO.

Bret R. Collier
Big Lake, MN

TO THE EDITOR:

Shutdown Standoff: A Tough Choice for Democrats. Since the government shut down, the ripple effects have reached far beyond Washington. Families are waiting on paychecks, small businesses are missing contracts, and millions who depend on federal support are left wondering what happens next. SNAP funding, the backbone of food security for many, is set to run dry by November 1 if Congress doesn’t act. Democrats now face a Sophie’s Choice: accept the Republicans’ “clean” short-term funding bill to reopen government, or hold out to extend ACA subsidies and reverse this summer’s Medicaid cuts from the Big Beautiful Bill. Either choice carries pain for families who rely on both affordable care and food assistance. There is a SNAP contingency reserve, but USDA says it can’t use it during a shutdown. The law only allows those funds to supplement an existing appropriation — not replace one that doesn’t exist. Meanwhile, misinformation floods the field. Even official-looking sources can rush or slant facts. The Hatch Act was meant to keep federal work apolitical, but today even gov statements demand verification. When truth becomes a tug-of-war, our best defense is calm curiosity. If we stop looking closer, someone else decides what’s “true” for us.

Vanessa Davenport
Big Lake, MN

Becker JV swim M8 Championships

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

The Becker JV swimming and diving team had a great performance at the conference championships, scoring many ribbon winners and some JV Champions.

“This is a fun end of the season meet where the JV girls can have more opportunities to swim and a final chance for them to get a section time,” Coach Tina Tamm said. “We had a bunch of personal best times and walked away with a bunch of ribbons.”

Placing at the meet:

200 Medley relay - sixth place - Elle Aho, Kayleigh Duke, Kylar Graning, Macy Maksimenko; **200 Free** - Alannah Awalt (third), Astrid Faul (fourth) and Kayleigh Duke (seventh); **200 IM** - fifth place - Maddy Lewis; **50 free** - Josie Reckelberg (second) and Lily Lamp (seventh); **Diving** - Violet Johnson in fourth, Kami Marquardt in fifth and Abri Lyon in seventh; **100 free** - Lily Lamp (sixth); **200**



THE BECKER JV SWIMMING TEAM had a super successful conference championship meet. (Submitted Photo.)

free relay - fourth place - Lily Lamp, Elle Aho, Hazel Kortmansky, Macy Maksimenko and eighth place - Rosie McChesney, Ava Oeding, Madison Seiler, Emmy Anderson; **100 backstrk e** - fourth place - Astrid Faul;

100 breaststroke - Maddy Lewis (fifth), Kylar Graning (sixth) and Kayleigh Duke (eighth); **0 free relay** - third place - Kylar Graning, Kayleigh Duke, Addison Kasper, Astrid Faul.

Winning the title of JV



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Quite an achievement!

KENNA HENNESSEY hit a milestone on Thursday, September 25th at Becker's volleyball game. Kenna has officially reached 1,000 career digs! This is the first time this has happened in Becker Volleyball history. Kenna has been a part of Varsity since her freshman year, she is currently in her junior year. This also means that she has the school record for most digs for a career (and counting). We are so proud of Kenna! (Submitted Photo.)

By Bill Morgan, Editor

Great job to the Big Lake Hornet swimmers and divers who competed at JV Championships Friday evening at Becker.

Team highlights include:

- **24 Personal Best Times** – After an already amazing meet this past Tuesday where several girls dropped;
- **200 Medley Relay:** Second place - Alexis Magda, Evelyn Schwartz, Greta Schwartz, and Adelyn Fox;
- **0 Free:** Fifth place - Greta Schwartz;
- **200 IM:** First place – Adelyn Fox, second place - Greta Schwartz;
- **50 FR:** First place - Scarlet Wagner;
- **Diving:** Sixth place – Sophia Petrie, eighth place - Zoey Fisher;
- **100 FL:** Seventh place - Kaitlyn Cassavant;
- **100 FR:** Third place -S carlet Wagner;
- **500 FR:** Sixth place – Elise Warnke;
- **200 FR Relay:** First plcae – Scarlet Wagner, Piper Hanson, Greta Schwartz, and Adelyn Fox; seventh place - Elise Warnke, Grace Coyer, Evelyn Schwartz, and Vanessa Potter;
- **100 BK:** Third place - Piper Hanson, Fifth place - Elise Warnke;
- **100 BR:** Second place - Adelyn Fox, seventh place - Evelyn Schwartz;
- **400 FR Relay:** Fourth place - Scarlet Wagner, Elise Warnke, Piper Hanson, and Alexis Magda.

Vs. JV bury
The Big Lake Girls Swim and Dive team showcased an outstanding performance and immense team spirit during their recent home meet Tues., Oct. 21, when they hosted the Math & Science Academy from Woodbury. Big Lake dominated the competition with a decisive score of 106 to 68.

This wasn't just a win on the scoreboard — it was a successful event marked by numerous personal best times achieved by Big Lake's dedicated athletes across various events in their final home meet.

Also, the team had the pleasure of being pictured alongside one of their most admired officials, Nathan Overby. Nathan, whose daughter, Sophomore Charlotte Overby, is a valued member of the Hornet team, exemplifies the strong familial ties and passion for swimming within Big Lake's community.

Overby's appreciation for the team's spirit was evident when, following the meet, Nathan personally nominated Big Lake Swim and Dive for a well-deserved community spirit award. This special recognition stems from the team's exemplary display of friendly competition and their heartwarming initiative to host a dual team 'buddy swim' at the conclusion of the meet. This act of sportsmanship and camaraderie truly embodies the positive values Big Lake strives to instill.

Up Next
The team's season continues with a high-stakes Varsity Sectional Championships on Thurs., Nov. 6.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Becker Area Senior Center (BASC)
Open Mon. - Fri. 5am-5pm.
Becker Community Center:
763-200-4271. Planning meeting 3rd Wed. @ 1pm.

Becker American Legion Auxiliary
Auxiliary meetings from November to February are suspended. We will meet again in March of 2025. Contacts are Paula Hinds 763.691.4405 cell and Nellie Simpson 763.482.0619.

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. (320) 247-4732 or email beckeraagroupmn@gmail.com

Becker Lions Club
Meetings are held the second Mon. each month at 7pm at Becker City Park's Shelter.

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. Andrew Lee (763) 482-9177.

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

Big Lake Senior Center
The Big Lake Senior Club meets Tues., 1-4pm, Big Lake City Hall, 160 Lake St. North.
For more information, call: 763-309-1010 or 612-219-1614.

Big Lake American Legion Post #147
Meets the first Thurs. of the month @ 7 pm. Tribune Building, 29 Lake St.

Big Lake OPEN AA Meetings
Mon., 7pm at Saron Lutheran Church, Big Lake. Big Book Study, Handicap Accessible. Questions? Contact: Rob, (763) 218-5328.

The Big Lake American Legion Auxiliary
Meets the first Tues. Mar.-Dec., at 6:30pm. Tribune Building, 29 Lake St. Kathy at (763) 263-6093 for information.

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

Big Lake Community Food Shelf
The Big Lake Community Food Shelf hours of service are Mon. & Thurs. 5:30-7:30pm & Wed. 9-11am. www.blcfs.org.

The Big Lake Lions
Looking for community minded people to join our organization. If interested send a note to P.O. Box 128, Big Lake, MN 55309 or (763) 263-2218.

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

Big Lake Women of Today
Hold a monthly general meeting at Senior Activity Center located in the Big Lake City Office Building on the 3rd Thurs. of the month @ 7pm. www.biglakewomenoftoday.webs.com.

Clear Lake Legion
Meets the second Tues. of the month at 4180 105th Ave., Clear Lake. The Legion will meet at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. Bud Stimmler at (320) 761-5793.

Clear Lake Lions
Meets the first & third Tues. of the month at Palmer Twp. Hall at 7 p.m. New members are always welcome. www.clearlakelionsmn.org.

Clearwater American Legion Post 323 & Auxiliary
Meets the second Thurs. of the month. Auxiliary 6:30 p.m., S.A.L. at 7 p.m., Legion at 7:30 p.m. at Clearwater Legion, Clearwater.

Clearwater/Clear Lake Food Shelf
Open Mon. 5:30-7 p.m., Tues., 9-11 a.m. & 6-8 p.m., Wed., 3-5 p.m. in the brown Lions Community Building beneath the water tower in Clearwater. Servicing residents of Clearwater and Clear Lake.

Clearwater Lions Club
Meets second Tues. of the month at 8 p.m. Clearwater Pavilion. www.clearwaterlionsmn.com

SNAKE RIVER FREE CHURCH
Fall Sale Sat., Nov. 8, 10am-noon. 5 mi. N of Hwy. 10 on Co. Rd. 11, 1.5 mi. E on Co. Rd. 5, 3/4 mi. N on 180th St. (8940 180th Ave. SE). For more info, email maryerickson41@yahoo.com

Farm Friends Barn
The Farm Friends Barn Board of Directors meet the 4th Monday of every month from April thru December at the Barn at 10782 27th Ave SE in Becker. During the months of January thru March the meetings are held at Becker City Hall. All Board Meetings start at 3pm.

Rejoice Lutheran
Rejoice Lutheran Young at Heart, Clearwater for ages 55+ held the 3rd Thursday each month at 10:30 am. 320-558-6851.

Knights of Columbus
130th Year Festival Sunday, July 13 in Duellm. Open at 11 a.m.

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ABE

from page 1

cello, Maple Lake, Milaca, Buffalo, Elk River, Otsego, and beyond.

He calls wherever there's square dancing. Clearwater's Heritage Days celebration wouldn't be the same without Maier; it's tradition. He's been the caller for the square dancing exhibition held at the event each year since its inception.

Along with clubs and festivals, Maier calls at special events such as conventions, senior communities, weddings, anniversaries, camps, and other social gatherings. Often attendees have never square danced before, yet Maier is always able to make it approachable and fun. His kind demeanor and ability to break complex moves into simple steps is always appreciated.

"Square dancers range in age from 7 to 80," said Maier. "It's an activity that keeps both the mind and body active."

Maier has no plans for retirement.

"I'll do this as long as my voice and mind keep working," he said. "Calling is like a puzzle. You're resolving a formation and need to plan where the dancers are going to end up."

As Abe celebrates 50 years of calling, 66 years of marriage, and 90 years of life, his legacy isn't just in the steps he calls—he's built, the joy he spreads, and the partnership with his wife that has helped keep square dancing alive and thriving through generations.

"For my parents square dancing isn't just work or a hobby," said Miller. "It's a vibrant community. Over the years they made countless friends among the welcoming, kind, and enthusiastic square dancers. Square dancing is woven into our family identity—a source of joy, connections, and lifelong lessons."

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MAIN STREET

from page 1

dren. The Main Street Family Resource Center in Big Lake is committed to being a safe, welcoming space where families can access resources and receive the education and encouragement they need to thrive.

Community members are encouraged to visit, volunteer, or attend upcoming events to learn more about how they can support the work being done in Big Lake.

More information about programs, volunteer opportunities, and events can be found at mainstreetfamilyresources.org.

Bulldog VB season ends

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer

The Becker Bulldog volleyball team saw its season come with a section loss to the Annandale Cardinals.

Game scores for the match were 13-25, 9-25 and 17-25.

With the loss, the Bulldog season record stands at nine wins and 15 losses, as the young Bulldogs earned a great deal of experience that will undoubtedly lead to more success in the future.



Sherburne County park designated Lake Steward

By Ken Francis, Contributing Writer

Sherburne County's newest park, Two Inlets at Bde Hehaka - Omashkooz Zaaga'igaans Regional Park, has been given the Lake Steward Designation.

Last week the Sherburne County Board approved the designation of Lake Steward as presented by the Healthy Lakes Committee of the Brigg's Lake Chain Association during the commissioners' meeting.

The Lake Steward program, supported by Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Member organizations, is helping lakeshore owners reduce their impact on water quality by promoting and restoring natural shorelines.

Two Inlets spans nearly one mile of Big Elk Lake and has been transitioning to a shoreline characterized by a growing diversity of native plants and shrubs that provide habitat and water quality protection.

tection.

The Committee joined the Lake Steward program last year and has since been recruiting lake stewards to continue healthy lake practices and promote them through posted signs.

Well Testing

The board approved split sampling of groundwater monitoring wells at the Vonco closed landfill in Big Lake at a cost not to exceed \$11,200.

Solid waste landfills are required to sample and analyze groundwater monitoring wells during spring, summer and fall sampling events. The Solid Waste Management Ordinance and county landfill licenses allow the county to conduct split sampling at the same time as the licensee is sampling their monitoring wells.

Split sampling allows the county to analyze the same groundwater drawn from monitoring wells at a separate lab to verify results.

Transportation Grant

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HALLOWEEN

from page 1

she always receives comments from people who tell her they enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of many of the events hosted at the History Center. The center hosts 1-2 events per month and at least one event for every holiday. Collin Dessellier, who was visiting with his family, agreed with Hoard's assessment noting that events at the history center are often quieter, slower, and more family friendly than other community events. His wife, Erica, saw the Halloween party posted on Facebook, so they decided to dress their kids up as pumpkins and come to the History Center to enjoy the afternoon together.

Allyssa Driscoll saw the event on Facebook as well. She lives in the neighborhood surrounding the center and said that she attends events regularly.

"It's always good and fun and exciting," Driscoll said.

Hoard was happy to see that the event was well attended.



ALLYSSA DRISCOLL brought her family and their friends dressed for the event. Back row – Allyssa, Bella, Myla, and Aubrey. Front row – Kalani, EverLee, Kane, and Kendalynn. (Patriot Photo by Don Bellach)

tended. Attendees donated 33 items to the Becker Food Shelf. Her goal for every event is to try to show families who attend, the value of the center and all that it offers. Her hope is they become supporting members and tell others.

Hoard admitted that recently, the History Center has been facing challenges—a drop in their membership base and the retirement of Mike Brubaker, their former

Executive Director. Brubaker retired in August, so they look forward to hiring his replacement soon, someone who is able to lead staff well and comes with fundraising experience. Current staff are hoping that the new hire will allow them to be able to begin to show and exhibit more of the many items they have in storage at the center and show Sherburne County residents more of their shared history.

ing for SNAP recipients. The budgeted amount is \$14,096;

- Approved a five-year Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) grant agreement between the county and the MN Dept. of Health effective Nov. 1, 2025 through Oct. 31, 2030 in the amount of \$254,206 for the first budget period. A 10% local match is required;

- Approved the final payment of \$55,173.31 to Douglas-Kerr Underground, LLC for the 2024 construction of the Great Northern Trail Project through Zimmerman. The final contract amount was \$338,364.63;

- Approved the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Grant Agreement with MnDOT for funding on the Hwy. 169/Co. Rd. 4. LRIP provides, amongst other things, a portion of the construction funds for the project in the amount of \$3,978,364.55.

- Approved an agreement with Central Minnesota Jobs & Training Services, Inc. to administer and deliver Employment Services Train-

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF SHERBURNE
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
CASE TYPE: QUIET TITLE
SUMMONS
Court File No.: 71-CV-25-1733
Adam R. Kretsch
Plaintiff,
v.
C&K Associates LLC,
MX Estates,
John Doe, and Mary Roe
Defendants

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO C&K Associates, LLC, MX Estates, John Doe and Mary Roe.

1. YOU ARE BEING SUED. The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiff's Complaint against you is attached to this Summons. 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.

PLAINTIFF IS NOT SEEKING A PERSONAL MONEY JUDGMENT AGAINST ANY PARTY AND IS COMMENCING THIS ACTION TO QUIET TITLE TO PROPERTY AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED HEREIN.

2. YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 21 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You must give or mail to the person who signed this summons a **written response** called an Answer within 21 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:

Lutz Law Firm
120 South 6th Street,
Suite 1515
Minneapolis, MN 55402

3. YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's 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 21 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 Plaintiff 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. QUIET TITLE. This action involves, affects or brings into ques-

tion certain real property located at 13310 4th Avenue South, Zimmerman, MN 55398, legally described as follows:

Lot 10, Block 3, Marturano Meadows, Sherburne County, Minnesota (the "Property")

The object of this action is: (i) to determine that Defendants have no right, title, lien, estate or interest in the Property; (ii) and Adam R. Kretsch is the current fee simple owner of the Property; and (iii) to award Plaintiff such other further relief as the above-named Court deems just, fair and equitable.

Lutz Law Firm
Dated: September 15, 2025
/s/ David A. Lutz
David A. Lutz (#0286990)
120 South 6th Street, Suite 1515
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 424-2110
Attorney for Plaintiff
(Published in the *Patriot*: 10/18/25, 10/25/25, 11/01/25).

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF SHERBURNE
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 71-PR-38
In Re the Estate of
Gerald Raymond LeFavre, Decedent.

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on 2/11/2026, at 1:30 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 13880 Business Center Drive NW, Elk River,

CITY OF BIG LAKE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR ASSESSMENT OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS
PUBLISH NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Big Lake City Council will meet in the **City Council Chambers, 160 Lake Street North, Big Lake, Minnesota, at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2025**, to consider and possibly adopt the proposed assessment for street improvements in the following areas:

- Highline Drive - County Road 73 to County State Aid Highway 5
- Mitchell Ridge Drive - Pond View Lane to east cul-de-sac
- Pond View Lane - County Road 73 to Mitchell Ridge Drive
- Bluff Road - Highline Drive to Mitchell Ridge Drive

Description of Improvements:
Construction of drainage improvements, sidewalk repairs, concrete curb and gutter, base repairs, milling, bituminous pavement, and other miscellaneous work. Adoption of the proposed assessment against abutting property may occur at the hearing.

Assessment Terms:
The assessment is proposed to be payable in **equal annual installments over 10 years** and will bear interest at **4.00% per annum** from the date of adoption of the assessment resolution. The first installment shall include interest on the entire assessment from the date of adoption until December 31, 2025. Each subsequent installment will include one year of interest on all unpaid balances. Installments will be added to the property owner's property taxes.

Prepayment Option:
Any property owner may, prior to certification of the assessment to the county auditor, pay the full amount of the assessment (plus accrued interest) to the City Finance Director. No interest will be charged if the assessment is paid in full within 30 days of adoption. Thereafter, full payment may be made at any time, with accrued interest calculated to December of the year in which payment is made. Payments must be made before November 15 to avoid interest through the following year. Partial prepayments are also permitted prior to certification. If the assessment is not prepaid before **December 31**, the 4.00% interest rate will apply.

Assessment Roll:
The proposed assessment roll is on file and available for public inspection at the City Clerk's office. The total amount of the proposed assessment is \$1,100,000.

Objections and Appeals:
Written or oral objections will be considered at the hearing. No appeal may be taken as to the amount of any assessment adopted pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 429.061, Subd. 2, unless a written objection signed by the affected property owner is filed with the City Administrator prior to the hearing or presented at the hearing. An owner may appeal an assessment to District Court pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 429.081 by serving notice of appeal upon the Mayor or City Administrator within thirty (30) days after adoption of the assessment and filing such notice with the District Court within ten (10) days thereafter.

Deferral of Assessments:
Under City Code Section 730 and Minn. Stat. § 435.19435.19, the City Council may, at its discretion, defer the payment of assessments on homestead property owned by:

- Persons age 65 or older,
- Persons permanently and totally disabled, or
- Members of the National Guard or reserves ordered to active service, if payment would cause hardship. Applications for deferral must be filed with the City Finance Director within thirty (30) days of confirmation of the assessment.

/s/ Deb Wegeleben, Finance Director
City of Big Lake
(Published in the *Patriot*: 10/25/25, 11/01/25.)

CITY OF BIG LAKE, MINNESOTA
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02

The Big Lake City Council is amended to amend City Code Chapter 210 (Council and Public Meetings), Section 210.04 (Meetings) of the Big Lake Municipal Code to change the meeting date schedule of the Big Lake City Council to the third Wednesday of each month beginning January 1, 2026. Workshops will begin at 5:00 p.m. and Regular Council Meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. A printed copy of the Ordinance is available for inspection during regular office hours in the office of the City Clerk. Adopted by the Big Lake City Council this 22nd day of October, 2025.

/s/ Gina Wolbeck, City Clerk
Big Lake City
(Published in the *Patriot*: 11/01/25.)

NOTICE OF EXACT LOCATION(S) OF COUNTING CENTER(S)
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 727
BIG LAKE, MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the election judges shall count the ballots cast at the special election that has been called and will be held in and for Independent School District No. 727 (Big Lake), Minnesota, on Tuesday, November 4, 2025 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the following location:

Combined Polling Place:
Saron Lutheran Church
311 Lake Street S
Big Lake, Minnesota 55309

Absentee Ballots:
Saron Lutheran Church
311 Lake Street S
Big Lake, Minnesota 55309

Dated: November 1, 2025
BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
/s/ Lenette Brown, Clerk
(Published in the *Patriot*: 11/01/25.)

Co-Head Election Judge Tom Hanson
Co-Head Election Judge Su Johnson
Jan Anderson, Linda Delorenzo,
Deb Johnson, Brad Johnson, Carol Johnson, Bob Kjellberg, Nancy Kjellberg, Deb Lindboe, Nathan Marcks, Sue Stang, Anna Thompson, Nikole Williams, Kim Johnson. Alternates: Lonnie Francis, Gretchen Martin, Paula Bieniek, Yvette Chuba, Ketti Green

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE –
ASSESSMENT OF UNPAID SEWER/WATER UTILITIES
HEARING DATE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2025
AT 6 P.M.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council for the City of Clear Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota, will meet at 7684 1ST Ave West in said city for the purpose of considering the certification of unpaid sewer/water utilities to the 2026 property taxes.

The public is urged to attend this hearing and all persons desiring to be heard with reference to the Assessments for unpaid Sewer/Water Utilities will be heard.

/s/ Ryan McCann - City Clerk
City of Clear Lake, MN
(Published in the *Patriot*: 11/01/25.)

CITY OF CLEARWATER
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City of Clearwater will conduct a Special Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. The special election ballot includes a school board seat for School District 742 and a State Senate seat for Senate District 29

The hours of voting in the City of Clearwater will be from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The polling place for City of Clearwater residents is at the Lions Park Pavilion Building located at 1100 County Road 75 NW.

For additional information or questions, contact City Hall during regular business hours at 320-558-2428.

/s/ Annita M. Smythe, City Administrator
(Published in the *Patriot*: 11/01/25.)

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

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

I. CALL TO ORDER
The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 727, Big Lake Schools, was called to order on October 22, 2025.

II. ROLL CALL
All Board members were present.

III. APPROVE AGENDA
A motion passed to approve the agenda.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. OPEN FORUM
No participants

VI. CONSENT AGENDA
A motion passed to approve the following:
A. PREVIOUS MINUTES
B. CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS
C. CREDIT CARD REPORT
D. PERSONNEL

VII. DONATIONS
A motion passed to approve the donations.

VIII. MSHSL FOUNDATION RESOLUTIONS
A motion passed to approve the following two resolutions:
RESOLUTION OF GOVERNING BOARD SUPPORTING FORM A APPLICATION TO MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE FOUNDATION
RESOLUTION OF SCHOOL BOARD/ GOVERNING BOARD SUPPORTING FORM B APPLICATION TO MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE FOUNDATION

IX. BOYS SWIM/DIVE CO-OP
A motion passed to approve the following resolution:
RESOLUTION INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 727 BIG LAKE SCHOOLS Application for Cooperative Sponsorship GIRLS WRESTLING
All board members are in favor of Big Lake Schools full intent and commitment for a girls team dual wrestling when approved by the MSHSL Board of Directors at which time more information would be brought to the board for formal approval.

XI. FINANCIAL REPORT
A motion passed to approve the financial report as presented.

XII. DATA PRESENTATION
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Minda Anderson, presented a data update.

XIII. 2025 POOL HVAC IMPROVEMENTS BID PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL
A motion passed to approve the bid from KNB Contracting for the following:
Base Bid \$1,599,000.00
Alternate No. 1 Replace Doors and Hardware \$31,000.00
Alternate No. 2 Pipe Joint System \$52,000.00
Total \$1,682,000.00

XIV. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE/ REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

XV. SCHOOL BOARD STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

XVI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

XVII. ADJOURNMENT
A motion passed to adjourn the meeting.
(Published in the *Patriot* 11/01/25.)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE ISSUANCE OF SENIOR LIVING REVENUE NOTES AND ADOPTION OF A HOUSING PROGRAM RELATED THERETO PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 462C

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing shall be conducted by the City Council of the City of Becker, Minnesota (the "City") on a housing program (the "Program") and the proposal that the City issue two tax-exempt senior living revenue notes, Senior Living Revenue Note, Series 2025A (Engel Haus Expansion Project) and Senior Living Refunding Revenue Note, Series 2025B (Engel Haus Expansion Project), in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$0,000,000 (the "Notes") on behalf of Engel Haus, LLC, a Minnesota limited liability company (the "Borrower"), pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 462C, as amended (the "Act").

The Notes will be issued by the City at the request of Guardian Angels of Elk River, Inc., a Minnesota nonprofit corporation, on behalf of the Borrower. The proceeds of the Notes will be loaned to the Borrower to provide financing for (i) the construction of an 86-unit independent living facility (the "Independent Living Facility") to be located at 5103 Kassel Ave. NE in the City of Albertville, Minnesota, (ii) the improvement of the adjacent existing 63-unit assisted living community located at 5101 Kassel Ave. NE in the City of Albertville, Minnesota (the "Assisted Living Facility"; together with the Independent Living Facility, the "Facilities"); (iii) the refunding of the City of Otsego Refunding Revenue Bonds (Evans Park, Inc. Project), Series 2017A, the proceeds of which were used to finance or refinance the Assisted Living Facility; and (iv) the payment of costs of issuing the Notes. The Borrower will be the initial owner and operator of the Facilities.

The Notes or other obligations, as and when issued, will not constitute a charge, lien, or encumbrance upon any property of the City, except the revenues of the City derived from the Facilities pursuant to a loan agreement with the Borrower (the "Loan Agreement"). Such Notes or obligations will not be a charge against the City's general credit or taxing powers, but will be payable from sums to be paid by the Borrower pursuant to the Loan Agreement.

The hearing will be held at City Hall, 12060 Sherburne Avenue in the City on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 5:00 P.M. At said time and place the City Council shall give all parties who appear or submit written comments an opportunity to express their views with respect to the proposal. Copies of the Program are available at the offices of the City.

The Facilities involve assistance for housing and, accordingly, the issuance of the Notes is not a business subsidy, within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes, Sections 116J.01 to 116J.09, as amended. Dated: November 1, 2025.

City of Becker
/s/ Greg Lerud,
City Administrator
(Published in the *Patriot*: 11/01/25.)



FRANK KOLBINGER'S FOUR SURVIVING DAUGHTERS were on hand Saturday for the dedication ceremony at their father's namesake park in Becker. A new flagpole was donated by the Becker Lions Club. Pictured are Judy Haus, Kay Nelson, Fran Seele and Pam Scherber. (Submitted Photo).

Frank Kolbinger's daughters dedicate plaque and flagpole

Submitted Article

Saturday afternoon, a plaque dedication ceremony was held at Frank Kolbinger Jr. Veterans Memorial Park.

His four surviving daughters and their families were on hand to unveil the plaque, which contains his photo and a narrative of his incredible life including details on how he earned his Purple Heart medal.

Future visitors to the park will now be able to read the story about one of Becker's World War II Veterans.

The National Anthem was played as the women hoisted Old Glory for the first time on the new flagpole, which was donated by the Becker Lions Club.

Dozens of community members, including many area Scouts and their Scoutmasters, showed up for the patriotic ceremony.

The occasion also kicked off a local campaign to have a new potential post office in the Becker community named after Kolbinger, who served as the Postmaster of 55308 throughout most of the 1800's and 1900's.



JUDY HAUS, KAY NELSON, FRAN SEELEY AND PAM SCHERBER unveiled a plaque that is now situated at Frank Kolbinger Jr. Veterans Memorial Park, detailing their father's amazing story during his service in World War II. (Submitted Photo).

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Santiago Lions host annual Trunk Or Treat event

By Mary Nehring,
Contributing Writer

Santiago Lions had a great turnout for their annual Trunk or Treat event held Sat., Oct. 25, despite the dreary day of weather.

Lions members graciously shared their “trunks” and treats with local children. Miniature donkeys were on hand and the children enjoyed petting and visiting with the animals.

A fantastic time was had by all.



THIS YOUNGSTER, Caillen Pappenfus, waltzed around the event in her spider or cat or bat outfit while gathering Halloween candy. (Submitted Photo).

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SANTIAGO ROYALTY. Tim, Casey and Lucia Tvrdik are pictured at Santiago Lions annual Trunk or Treat event held at Santiago Park Saturday, October 25th. (Submitted Photo).

Becker boys CC off to state

By Maria Moore,
Contributing Writer

Last week, the Becker boys' cross country team traveled to St. Cloud Apollo to race against 10 other Section 5AA teams.

The team crushed the competition with a final score of 43.

Tanner Felton ran an amazing final 400 meters, which secured him the section crown as the overall champion. Tanner joins the Becker legends that came before him, including Jesse Babler (1997), Ben Hubbard (1995), Charlene Hubbard (1983) and Jackie Hubbard (192 a nd191).

Alex Swanson (16:22) took sixth place with Parker Spindler (16:30) right behind him in seventh.

“These guys set the bar high for themselves and each other, and they continue to competitively support and challenge each



THE BECKER BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY TEAM held up their 1st place conference trophy. (Submitted Photo).

other,” said Coach Dustin Weege.

The following runners included Evan Hubbard (17:09), Brandt Hemmelgarn (17:23), Holden Hubbard (17:59), and Mason Tschida (18:30).

The Bulldogs were grateful for the supporters and the alternates (Weston Denne, Cooper Pany, and Carson Schuste) for coming to cheer them on and

keep them going. This was a season of “never-befores” with both the Becker girls and the boys cross country team holding the title in the same season.

Both teams are ready to thrive at the state meet, which is being held Nov. 1 at the UofM's Les Bolestad Golf course in Falcon Heights.

Becker girls CC takes 1st in conference

By Maria Moore,
Contributing Writer

The Becker girls' cross country team achieved a great feat by taking first place in the Mississippi 8 Conference Championship, which they haven't won since 2022.

The Bulldogs performed exceptionally, with all conference going out to all seven of the varsity runners and all conference honorable mention to the eighth runner.

The meet was held at The Ponds Golf Course in St. Francis. The top finisher for the Bulldogs was Alyse Denne, who came in fifth overall. Katelyn Brower followed close behind in ninth. Sydnee Bull took 12th, Anna Wynia took 13th, Evy Malisheski took 14th, Savannah Cunningham took 16th, and Laney Hodel took 18th. All these girls secured the top 18 fin-



THE BECKER GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY TEAM held up their first-place conference title trophy for a photo. (Submitted Photo).

ishes to claim All-Conference recognition.

Aysa Johnson took 26th place, which earned her All-Conference Honorable Mention.

The Becker JV girls also captured the team title.

The impressive streak continued for the girls on Thur., Oct. 23, when they claimed the Section 5AA Championship at St. Cloud Apollo High School. The team placed all seven runners in the top 14.

Alyse Denne took fifth, Anna Wynia took eighth, Katelyn Brower took ninth, Sydnee Bull took 10th, Evy Malisheski took 12th, Laney Hodel took 13th, and Savannah Cunningham took 14th.

The Bulldogs will now focus their energy on the state cross-country meet held in St. Paul on Nov. 1.



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Installation commences at BCC



CONSTRUCTION CREWS began installation of the Post Office boxes behind the Becker Community Center. Keys for the boxes were also distributed and boxes should have been ready to use by earlier this week. (Submitted Photo by Scott Boerner).

LET'S TALK TURKEY!



PATRIOT READERS:

Enter the *Patriot* Merchant's annual Thanksgiving drawing! Drawings will be held Monday Nov. 10 and winners' names will be published in our Saturday, Nov. 15 issue of the *Patriot*. **WINNERS:** Stop at the store where your name was drawn, pick up a certificate and present it to Bill's Family Foods, Big Lake Coborn's or Clearwater Coborn's Grocery for your turkey, up to 12 pounds! Costs for Turkeys over 12 pounds are the responsibility of the customer.

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- 1.) Clip the coupons below and take them to each participating business.
- 2.) All drawings will be held:

MONDAY NOON, NOVEMBER, 10

Winners will be listed in the *Patriot* Nov. 15.

- 3.) Winners of turkeys are to report to the business in which their name was drawn to receive their certificate. Certificates are then to be redeemed by Dec. 6, 2025.

Big Lake certificates are to be redeemed at Big Lake Coborn's. Clearwater certificates are to be redeemed at Clearwater Coborn's. Becker and Clear Lake certificates are to be redeemed at Bill's Family Foods.



Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

PATRIOT
WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM
14054 Bank St., Becker

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

BECKER MERCHANTS



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PATRIOT
WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM
14054 Bank St., Becker

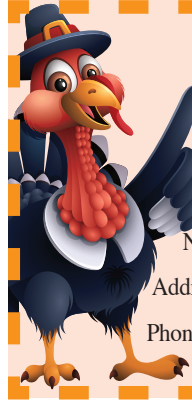
Name _____

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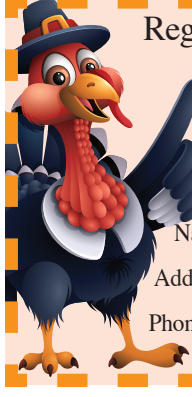
Los Osetes
MEXICAN RESTAURANT
14068 Bank St., Becker

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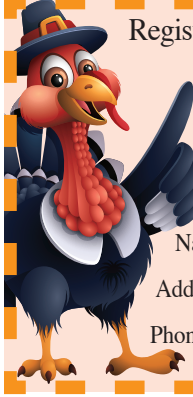
COUNTRY LUMBER
INCORPORATED
14095 132nd St. SE, Becker

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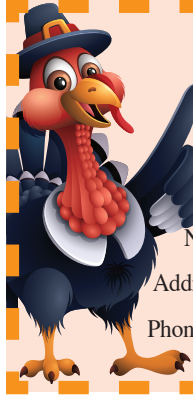
AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE
Amy Chmielewski Agency Inc.
13612 1st St Ste 1, Becker
(763) 261-5959

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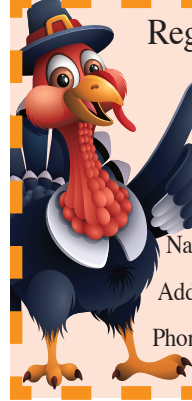
Rebecca's CAFE
13788 1st St, Becker

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

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Register for 1 of 5 FREE Turkeys!

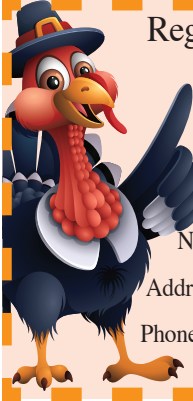
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Name _____

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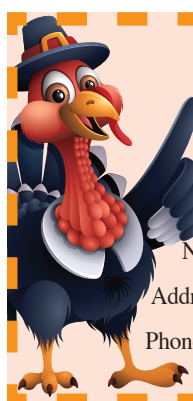
STRUCTURAL BUILDINGS
12926 1st St, Becker

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Address _____

Phone _____

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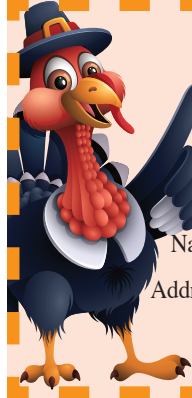
NATIONAL REALTY GUILD
12390 Sherburne Ave., Becker

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10



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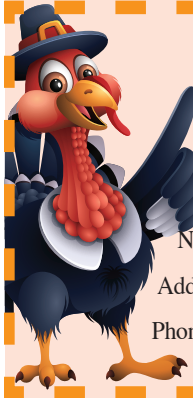
BECK'S PUB
13934 1st St, Becker

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10



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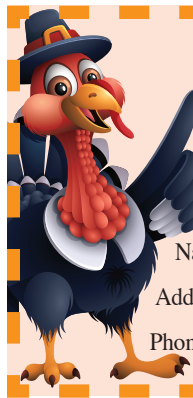
True Value
13350 1st St, Becker

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

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Three Ladies LAUNDRY
13904 1st St, Becker

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Address _____

Phone _____

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Address _____

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OBITUARIES

Debra Kay Ross, 67 Monticello, MN June 14, 1958 - October 14, 2025

Debra Kay Ross, age 67 of Monticello, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Tuesday, October 14, 2025. She was born in St. Cloud on June 14, 1958 to James (Fahsl) and Dorothy (Gehrke).

Deb was a 1976 graduate from St. Cloud Tech and was a member of the Granite's Drumline. She dedicatedly worked for Hoglund Bus Company for 35 years until her retirement.

Deb had a passion for baking, and enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, especially her grandsons. She was a constant source of support for her family and friends, always showing up in person or with a thoughtful phone call. Her kind heart and generosity will be dearly missed by all.

She is preceded in death by her father, James Fahsl; and in-laws, Edward and Margaret Ross.



Deb is survived by her loving daughter, Nikki (Brandon) Christiansen; grandsons, Crosby and Kade; mother, Dorothy (Walter) Burton; siblings, Diane (Tim) Miller, Allan (Marsha) Fahsl, Donna (Russ) Dreier-Sullivan; and many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Visitation was Monday, October 20, 2025 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Peterson-Grimsom Funeral Chapel, Monticello, MN. Funeral services were held Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 11:00 a.m., with visitation one hour prior, at Alleluia Lutheran Church, St. Michael, MN. There will be a luncheon provided after the service. Burial at Clear Lake Cemetery, Clear Lake, MN.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Peterson-Grimsom Funeral Chapel of Monticello, MN. 763-295-2918. www.peterson-grimsomchapel.com.

Karen D. Kiffmeyer, 69 Clear Lake, MN January 2, 1956 – October 25, 2025

Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 a.m. Thursday, October 30, 2025 at St. Marcus Catholic Church in Clear Lake for Karen D. Kiffmeyer, age 69, of St. Cloud who died Saturday after a courageous battle with ALS at Quiet Oaks Hospice House in St. Cloud.

Rev. Jeremy Ploof will officiate and burial will be in the parish cemetery. Visitation will be from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Wednesday and one hour prior to the services on Thursday at the church in Clear Lake. Parish prayers will be at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday at the church. Arrangements were entrusted to Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home in Clear Lake.

Karen was born January 2, 1956 in St. Cloud to Virgil and Audrey (Gibson) Imholte. She married Richard Kiffmeyer on March 31, 1978 at St. Marcus Catholic Church in Clear Lake. Karen worked as a Medical Lab Technician for St. Cloud Medical Group for over 40 years and lived in the Clear Lake area all of her life. She volunteered for RSVP and the local food shelf. Karen



enjoyed sewing, quilting, biking, kayaking and playing the accordion. Her most cherished time was with family and friends, front porch sitting and attending her grandchildren's events. Karen was happy, caring, positive, loving, determined and strong.

Survivors include her husband of 47 years, Richard of St. Cloud; daughters, Terra (Jason) Olson of Clear Lake, Breann (Andrew) Goenner of Clear Lake, Krista (Jason) Gleason of St. Cloud; sisters and brother, Kathy (Ed) Ploof of St. Cloud, Ken (Rita) Imholte of Clear Lake, Karla (John) Koenig of Rice, Karyl (Bill) Schepers of Sauk Rapids, Kristy (Mitch) Lynch of Clear Lake and seven grandchildren, Leah, Devin, Adde-lynn, Nolan, Calvin, Clara and Colton. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials are preferred to ALS Association, CentraCare Hospice or Quiet Oaks Hospice House.

Obituary, Guest Book, and video tribute available online: www.williamsdingmann.com.

Eugene "Gene" Adrian Loch, 82 Becker, MN January 20, 1943 - October 23, 2025

Eugene "Gene" Adrian Loch of Becker, Minnesota, passed away on October 23, 2025, at 4:40 a.m. at The Good Shepherd Community in Sauk Rapids, MN. He was born on January 20, 1943, to the late Helen and Joseph Loch. He spent the last three years of his life residing at Good Shepherd Community. A heartfelt thank you goes out to his care team, who treated him with kindness and compassion until the very end.

Gene grew up in Maple Lake, MN, and attended St. Cloud University before joining the service in 1966. On March 1, 1976, he married Stephanie (Timmerman) Loch of Richfield, MN. This March would have marked their 50th anniversary. He is survived by Stephanie and their son, Todd Timmerman; his daughter-in-law, Sheila; and grandchildren, Nikki and Tye Timmerman.

Gene's friends will remember his humor, good nature, and passion for sports. He worked at the Pebble Creek Golf Course Pro Shop for nine



years and was on the green whenever possible. He rarely missed a home high school football game and watched the Twins religiously.

He was a gifted storyteller, a life-long dog lover, and the only reason his granddaughter passed Algebra. Gene's family remembers him for his kindness, compassion, unwavering patience, and fierce loyalty to those he cared for.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, November 26 at Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church in Becker, MN. Visitation begins at 10:30 a.m. with Mass to follow. Rev. Michael Kellogg will officiate.

Eugene is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Ronald and Donald Loch; and sister, Monica.

His memory will live on with his family and amongst the stars and moon, and further.

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

Peter R. Blomquist, 86 Spooner, WI Dec. 31st, 1939 - October 17, 2025

Peter R. Blomquist, age 86, a resident of Spooner, Wisconsin, died on Friday, October 17, 2025.

Peter was born Dec. 31st, 1939 to Vernon and Mae Blomquist. Pete had one brother and two sisters. He went to many schools, as his family moved often. He worked as a carpenter for Nelson Bros. Construction and then worked on his own a carpenter and remodeler.

Then many years as an over the road truck driver. He was united in marriage to his wife Darlene on June 7, 1958, and enjoyed over 67 years together.

Peter is survived by his



wife Darlene, sons Daniel (Kim) Blomquist of Bend, Oregon, Darin (Cindy Andrea) Blomquist of Spooner, Wisconsin, Douglas (Lisa)

Blomquist of Big Lake, Minnesota, Dustin (Rene) Blomquist of Rice Lake, Wisconsin, daughter in law Carolyn Blomquist, 12 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, and 1 great- great grandchild.

Peter is preceded in death by his parents and son David.

Saturday, November 1st, there will be a private burial at Snake River cemetery and a celebration of life following at Becker City Park from 1 to 5 p.m.

Mary Jane Hansmann, 76 Becker, MN Died October 28, 2025

Mary Jane Hansmann (Wiwerski), age 76 of Becker unexpectedly passed away on October 28th at the St. Cloud Hospital.

A celebration of life will be held at Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church in



Becker Wed., Nov. 5, 2025.

Visitation 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. followed by a service.

AAH coming to Becker



THE STAFF AT CURRENT ACCESSIBILITY SOLUTIONS is eagerly awaiting their Artisans After Hours event. (Submitted Photo.)

By Mark Kolbinger,
Contributing Writer

An Artisans After Hours event is coming to the Current Accessibility Solutions (CAS) building in Becker on Nov. 5 from 4 to 7 p.m.

In addition to numerous area vendors offering their goods for sale, there will also be a unique raffle to support Bri's Lodge, a local nonprofit that helps individuals cope with loss and grief. The event has become a hit with local residents, and is part of Current Accessibility Solutions' commitment to community and family.

"We invite everyone to come to our event which will help support the local community in a variety of ways," says CEO Heather Smith. "It's part of our commitment to families and a great way to showcase some amazing area artisans."

Smith also found a tasty way to incorporate another local charitable cause into the mix, as the committed volunteers from Mike + You = Cure will be on hand selling walking tacos, cookies and pop. Another addition to this year's lineup is Amazon #1 Best Selling Author Melody Vachal, who will be in attendance selling autographed copies of her book, *Still, I Rise*, which is loaded with advice, tips and motivations for individuals who are caregivers or are experiencing grief and healing.

"We are so excited to learn from her and purchase

her book," Smith adds. "We also have Klean Home Living which is a safe and all natural body care line of products including detergents and more."

Senior Citizens and individuals with disabilities are being invited to come to the event one hour early, at 3 p.m., and there will be assistance available to help those with limited mobility. CAS will also have plenty of information available to anyone who wants to stop by and learn about what services the company offers.

"We are serving our community by helping individuals with all disabilities live as independently as possible," Smith says, while noting that she started the company after her experiences growing up with a disabled parent. "Being disabled is not always a curse, but a different way of life. Finding the beauty in imperfection is what brings vibrance to color."

Smith adds that all of her employees either have a disability or have cared for one or worked in the medical field.

"Disability touches everyone's life whether they know it or not," Smith says. "The AAH event is just another way to give back to all those people out there that need a little bit of joy in their lives. Our moto is Faith & Patience, because without those, it is very easy to get lost in this great big world."

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Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

PATRIOT
WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM
14054 Bank St., Becker

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

CLEARWATER CORNERS
720 Co. Rd. 75 NW, Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

**505 PINE ST., CLEARWATER
AMERICAN LEGION**
LICENSE 00399

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

Hillstone's LOUNGE
945 ST. Hwy. 24, Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

Oodles of Doodles Pet Spa
505 No. Walnut St., Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 of 10 FREE Turkeys!

PartsCity AUTO PARTS
845 Hwy. 24, Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 of 3 FREE Turkeys!

CLEARWATER + ANIMAL HOSPITAL +
WELLNESS CARE & SURGERY
615 Clearwater Shopping Center, Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 of 3 FREE Turkeys!

TOM'S AUTO REPAIR
900 St. Hwy. 24, Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10



Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

COBORN'S
705 Co. Rd. 75 NW, Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

Three Ladies LAUNDRY
540 Co. Rd. 75, Clearwater, MN

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

LAKE CENTRAL BANK
700 St. Hwy. 24, Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 of 2 FREE Turkeys!

CW FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC
935 Clearwater Center, Clearwater

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10



CLEAR LAKE/PALMER AREA MERCHANTS

Register for 1 of 2 FREE Turkeys!

RALPHIE'S Minnoco
(FORMERLY CLEAR LAKE AMOCO)
5988 Front Street
Clear Lake, MN 55319

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

BRIGGS LAKE GENERAL STORE
EST. 1941
PALMER, MN
4258 105th Ave., Clear Lake

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

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Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

PATRIOT
WWW.PATRIOTNEWSMN.COM
14054 Bank St., Becker

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

O'Brother's Wine & Spirits
7890 Front St., Clear Lake

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 of 2 FREE Turkeys!

ROYAL Renovations
8523 1st Ave. E.,
Clear Lake, MN 55319

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 of 3 FREE Turkeys!

SANTIAGO CountryStore
2080 165th Ave SE,
Santiago, MN 55377

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

BAR & BRICKYARD GRILL
8475 Main Ave, Clear Lake

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

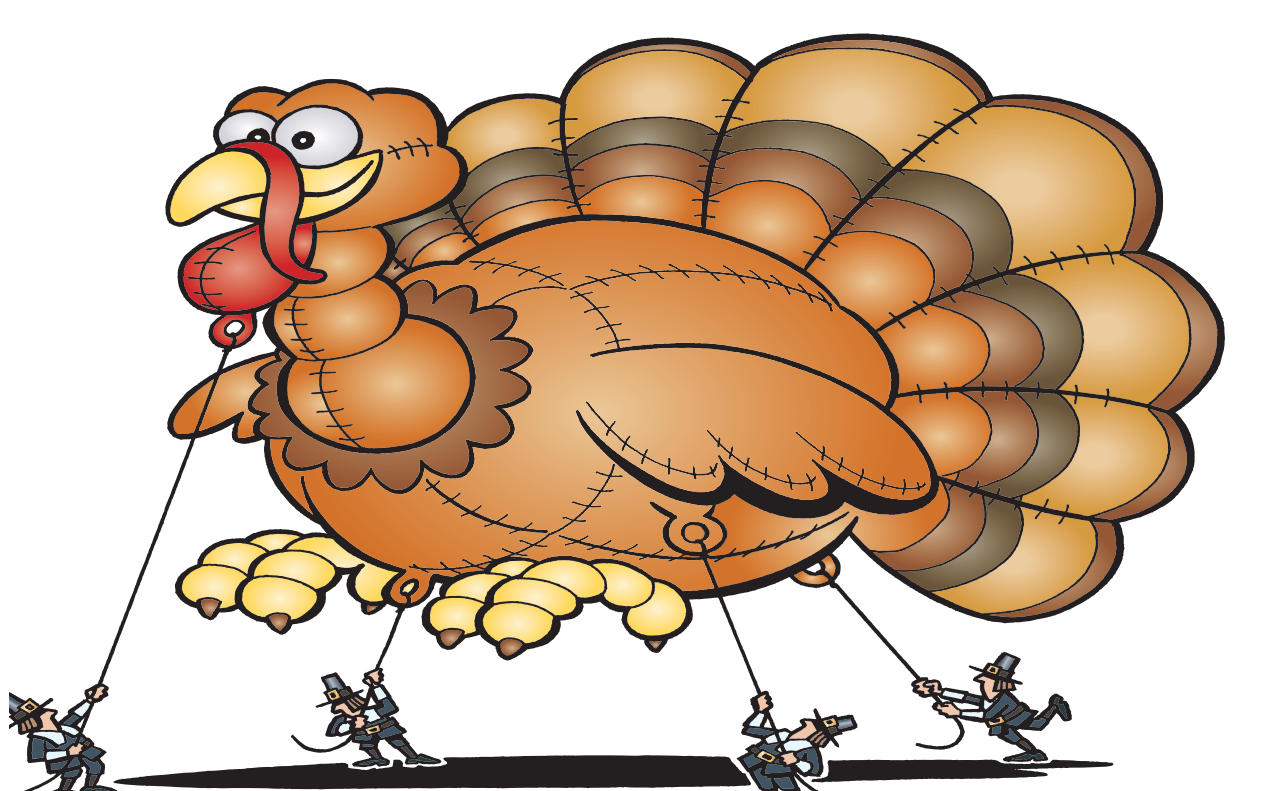
No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10

Register for 1 FREE Turkey!

CENTRA SOTA COOPERATIVE
2168 165th Avenue,
Santiago, MN 55377

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

No purchase necessary. Drawing Nov. 10



LUTEFISK, HAM & MEATBALL DINNER
Saturday Nov. 22, 3-7pm
\$25 - ages 13 & up for Lutefisk, Ham & Meatballs;
\$20 - ages 13 & up for Ham & Meatballs only;
\$15 - ages 6-12
 Scandinavian menu: Lutefisk, Ham, Meatballs, Potatoes, Rutabagas, Vegetables, Herring, Coleslaw, Cranberries, Lefse, Rolls, Pie & Milk or Coffee.
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To honor area veterans
VETERANS TRIBUTE
Wednesday, November 5
7:00 p.m.
(6:00 p.m. displays and resources)
Presenter: Kathy Friedrich
 Army nurse Gulf War Veteran.
 Founder and Executive Director, Gateway Meadows
 Equine-Assisted Services.
 Serving those who serve others
 And featuring:
 Big Lake American Legion Post 147
 The Big Lake High School Chamber Singers
Saron Lutheran Church
 311 Lake St S
 Big Lake

KELLER LAKE COMMONS
 ASSISTED LIVING
 Keller Lake Commons in Big Lake, now an Assisted Living Community offering full apartments ranging from 644 to 956 square feet. Cable is included in rents for private pay and housing support (formerly known as GRH) renters. Accepting EW and CADL. For more information please contact Nicole Gilder, Housing Director at 763-263-2363 or check us out online at www.kellerlakecommons.com

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 Perform receptionist duties, greet the public, screen and direct telephone calls. Word processing, basic bookkeeping, provide clerical support for HRA staff.
WAGE RANGE
 Hiring range: \$22.33 - \$30.01, depending upon qualifications.
BENEFITS
 Generous monthly benefit plan contribution of \$875/month toward health, dental, vision, life, Short-term and Long-term Disability, Hospital, Critical Care, Accident Insurance and 7.5% Employer contribution into a Retirement Plan. 4 weeks annual PTO.
REQUIREMENTS
 High school diploma and one-year clerical experience or an equivalent combination of training and experience.
EMPLOYMENT VARIABLES
 Applicants subject to criminal background and credit checks. Typical schedule is 30-32 hours/week; Some evenings may be required. Some travel within the county may be required.
DEADLINE: 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 12, 2025
 To apply visit: <http://www.co.stevens.mn.us>. ADA accommodations available. Stevens County HRA is an EOE.

Vendor Booths • Specials
Ladies EVENT
SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER
2pm-5pm | Located at Loch Jewelers
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 LochJewelers.com /lochjewelers @lochjewelers /lochjewelers

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Liberty Paper Player of the Game
 By Bill Morgan, Editor
 Thatcher Jurek, senior offensive lineman, was named "Player of the Week" for his outstanding game in Becker's 33-0 victory over Detroit Lakes.
 Line coach Troy Robinson said, "Thatcher has been our starting guard for two years. Each week he has played an important role in the success of our offense. He is a great lifter and worked hard to get ready for his senior year. Thatcher is one of the best drive blockers and pull blockers I have coached."
SENIOR OL THATCHER JUREK was named "Player of the Week" for his outstanding performance in Becker's game against Detroit Lakes. (Submitted Photo).

GET READY FOR HUNTING
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Liberty Paper Player of the Game
 By Bill Morgan, Editor
 Dalton Weisz, junior defensive back, was named Player of the Week for his outstanding play in Becker's playoff victory over Princeton on Saturday afternoon.
 Dalton has started in all nine games. Coach Bengtson said, "Dalton can play many defensive positions. He has a high football IQ, always lining up correctly. Dalton isn't very big but he is a very sure tackler and he plays big."
JUNIOR DB DALTON WEISZ was named "Player of the Week" for his outstanding performance in Becker's game against Princeton. (Submitted Photo).

Bulldogs skin Tigers, 14-7

By Bill Morgan, Editor

In an evenly-played contest, the #2-seeded Becker Bulldog football team prevailed last Friday with a fourth quarter TD to topple #3-seeded Princeton in the first round of the Class 4A, Section 8 - semifinal at Dwight Lundeen Stadium.

The defeat continued a trend for the Tigers in their meetings with the Bulldogs as they've now lost eight in a row. Princeton's loss dropped their record down to 3-7 and ended their season. As for Becker, they now have a winning record of 5-4 and will continue on in their quest for a state title.

Friday's game saw both team's defenses dominate and caused a scoreless tie after the first quarter. In the second, QB Tristan Kowalkowski scored on a 25 yard run to put the Bulldogs up on their home field.

The Tigers didn't back down and they eventually scored just before halftime to knot the game at 14.

The third period was identical to the first as both teams squandered chances at scores or had the defenses stiffen to turn the ball over. The Becker defense caused three fumble recoveries and one interception while the Tigers had one fumble recovery and one interception.

In the fourth, with the game on the line, Kowalkowski found Tarver Schendzielos from 27 yards out to pull ahead and put a dagger in the Tiger's hopes. Becker held on and as the horn sounded, the team erupted in jubilation with the win.

Kowalkowski finished six-for-15 for 68 yards through the air and had the one throwing TD. Sawyer Brown attempted two passes and completed both for 57 yards.

On the ground, Isaiah Boyer had 10 rushes for 50 yards including a 15 yard sprint. Nathan Weiss had 25 yards on eight carries.

Receiving, Schendzielos finished with two catches for 45 yards and the one score. Boyer had three

WR TARVER SCHENDZIELOS scored the winning touchdown for Becker when he reeled in a 27 yard pass from Tristan Kowalkowski late in the fourth quarter of Becker's win over Princeton, 14-7. (Submitted Photo by Anne Koste).