



# Monthly Newsletter

www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com

April 2015

Serving the communities of Chisago City, Lindstrom, Center City, Shafer and Taylors Falls

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

April 8: **Board Meeting 9:00am**  
Chamber Office & Information Center  
30525 Linden Street, Lindstrom

April 9: **Chamber Member Luncheon**  
Time: 11:30am  
Speaker: **Ed Eichten**  
Topic: **Eichten's Solar Farm**  
Caterer: **Meredee's Bistro**  
Location: **Chisago Lakes Library**  
11754 302<sup>nd</sup> St, Chisago City

## Quote for the Month

A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer,  
it sings because it has a song.  
Maya Angelou



## CHISAGO LAKES LIONS

### 'Cadillac Dinner'



Where: Winehaven  
10020 Deer Garden Lane, Chisago City

When: Saturday, April 25, 2015

Time: Social Hour 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00 pm

Ticket Price: \$145 per couple

Entrée Choice: Roast Beef or Chicken

For Reservations call:

Linda Lindgren .....651-257-5332  
Gary Gerke .....651-257-5679  
Brad Mattson .....651-257-6270  
Jeff Vitali .....651-257-6600 or  
651-253-8416

Over \$3000 Value in Raffle Prizes and \$4450  
in Cash Prizes! Winners need not be present to win.



## What's Happening This Month

April	4	Festival Theatre 'John Gorka Concert'
April	5	HAPPY EASTER!
April	8-12	Picket Fence Gals Sale
April	9	Chamber Luncheon
April	9	Elevate Builders 'Cookies & Canvas'
April	9	FutureWalk 'Listening Session'
April	11-12	Winehaven 'New Vintage Days'
April	13	Gammelgarden 'Swedish Language Class'
April	14	doTERRA Essential Oil Class
April	16	The Refuge Network '2015 Gala'
April	17	Festival Theatre 'Jacks Back Door Café'
April	18	LAYSB 'Free Shredding Event'
April	20-30	Recycled Wardrobes Sale
April	21	East Central MN 'Job Fair'
April	21	Friends of Allemansratt Meeting
April	23	Coffee & Conversation with Joe Thimm
April	23	Festival Theatre 'Jay Ungar & Molly Mason'
April	25	Festival Theatre 'Once Upon a River'
April	25	Eichten's '5 Course Wine Dinner'
April	25	Up North Gallery 'Tiny Wish Book Sign'
April	25	Up North Gallery 'Trygve Svard'
April	25	Lion's Cadillac Dinner
April	30	LAYSB 'LEI Packaging Tour'

## **2015 Board of Directors**

### **Officers:**

President: John Renaker, Northwoods Roasterie  
President-Elect: John Unruh, Unruh Family Financial  
Treasurer: Cory Lindgren, Lindgren & Associates  
Secretary: Erin Thorvaldson, Generations Real Estate Group

### **Directors:**

Bob Gustafson, Farmers Insurance Group  
Renee Dabill, Renee Lynn Photography  
Matt Silver, Chisago County Press  
Josh Soderlund, Soderlund's Wood Mill  
Laura Haseltine, Victory Lane Oil Change  
Executive Director: Tangi Schaapveld  
Office Manager: Laurie Doughty

### ***How to contact us:***

Chisago Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 283 – 30525 Linden St.  
Lindstrom, MN 55045  
Phone: 651-257-1177  
Email: [clacc@frontiernet.net](mailto:clacc@frontiernet.net)  
Web: [www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com](http://www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com)



A Note from the  
Chamber Board:

**Josh Soderlund**

Every year I am impressed by Minnesota, how can a state go through so much change and survive? Life begins, life flourishes, life fades, and life eventually dies only to be restarted the next year. It is a beautiful thing, but as I write, I look out at the brown lifeless ground and I wonder, will life return? Of course the question is a resounding yes, but the battle wages, will my negativity win? I am sure this is a battle that all of us know well. We all can look out and see problems. Sometime they are ours, but most often we attributed them to others. So, I want to take a moment and fight back. I want to take some time to be grateful for the wonderful people that make this community work. Is there a better weapon in the fight for our attitudes than gratitude?

It would shock most of us to know how drastically different our lives would be without our neighbors sacrifices on our behalf. If you take the opportunity to look I believe you will notice a subtle irony in their lives. They have a secret which seems to unlock new levels of adventure and passion. It seems so foreign and unobtainable. Their passions seem to produce life rather than spend it. I am

reminded of a great historical figure and psychologist Victor Frankl who lived in the horror and suffering of the concentration camps of Nazi Germany and dealt with death and the taking of life more intimately than I can possibly imagine. He was a man who witnessed not only the death of the physical body, but also the removal of dignity, the removal of things that make us human. What's amazing is that in all that death he happened upon this secret and he writes about it so beautifully,

"Don't aim at success. The more you aim at it and make it a target, the more you are going to miss it. For success, like happiness, cannot be pursued; it must ensue, and it only does so as the side effect of one's personal dedication to a cause greater than oneself or as the by-product of one's surrender to a person other than oneself."

All of us fight for significance and this leads us to do great things. We climb mountains, travel to obscure places, obtain advanced degrees, run marathons and contribute vast amounts to our economy. But I can only wonder what would happen if we could see the thrill of the summit that is a messy person's life and climb. Or see injustice as a race worth all of our training and never fear not finishing. I am thankful to be a part of a community that has so many good teachers. Seriously, thank you for being a part of this awesome community I look forward to the future and what it will bring!

One last note, have your voice heard and attend a Future Walk Listening session!

God Bless,  
Josh Soderlund



**CHISAGO GRANDSTAY HOTEL & SUITES**  
29579 Sportsman Drive, Chisago City  
[www.facebook.com/chisagograndstay](http://www.facebook.com/chisagograndstay)

Family coming into town to celebrate Easter? Send them to the GrandStay Hotel & Suites in Chisago City for a comfortable and relaxing stay. A complimentary hot breakfast is served daily and our heated indoor pool and hot tub are a perfect way to end each day.

Call 651-213-3400 for pricing, availability and reservations.

## **NORTHWOODS ROASTERIE**



12710 N. First Ave, Lindstrom

### **Coffee and Pie Night**

Every Friday Night! 5-9pm

Come enjoy coffee and fresh baked pies!

[www.NorthwoodsRoasterie.com](http://www.NorthwoodsRoasterie.com) 651-257-5240

## March 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Highlights

### Secretary's Report:

February minutes reviewed and accepted as written.

### Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report reviewed and accepted.

### Committee Reports:

#### • **Home & Garden Expo**

Numbers were down for booths and visitors. Attendance was approximately 1,850. There has been discussion about moving to one day and moving the date out a few more weeks.

#### • **FutureWalk**

There has been success meeting with organizations on nights of their meetings. Listening sessions have taken place at the Lions, Lindstrom Fire Department and the Rotary Club will be soon.

### New Business:

#### • **Rotary Golf Tournament**

Need Chamber representation at the Rotary Golf Tournament. Chamber will sponsor ½ of a team.

#### • **Lions Cadillac Dinner**

Would like Chamber representation at this event.

### Old Business:

#### • **ABC Grant**

Need Chamber representation at the Rotary Golf Tournament. Chamber will sponsor ½ of a team.

#### • **Lions Cadillac Dinner**

It would be nice to have the Chamber represented at this April 25 event.

### Executive Director's Report:

Among items reported to the board were:

- Membership update
- Website hits

If you have information you would like in the monthly newsletter or weekly newflash email us at [clacc@frontiernet.net](mailto:clacc@frontiernet.net). Deadline for inclusion is:

**Newflash – Week Prior of Event/Special**

**Newsletter – 20<sup>th</sup> of the Month Prior**

### **NATURE RICH/FUEL DIRECT**

Gus Gulbranson 651-246-9027

[www.655077.NatureRich.net](http://www.655077.NatureRich.net)



#### **Nature Rich/Fuel Direct Informational Briefing**

Every Monday in April 7-8pm

World class health products and fuel additive. Come hear about our products and their benefits. Held at the Chamber office 30525 Linden Street, Lindstrom.

### **RECYCLED WARDROBES**

30365 Neal Ave, Lindstrom

651-257-8133

6419 Main, North Branch

651-674-7700



### **'ANNIVERSARY SALE' April 20-30**

We are celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> year Recycling effort mission: Keeping clothing out of waste stream to provide affordable fashion to families! For our Anniversary Specials, visit [www.facebook.com/RecycledWardrobes](http://www.facebook.com/RecycledWardrobes).

### **'ANNUAL PROM DRESS EVENT'**

Every prom dress at Recycled Wardrobes is only \$25! With your dress purchase receive discounts at Meredees, Hair Salons, Dry Cleaning and Flowers. Proceeds go to Karl Oskar Days-Lindstrom & Mid Summer Days-North Branch. Sale good at both locations through April 30.



### **TAM'S TRAVEL**

651-583-3640

[www.TamsTravel.com](http://www.TamsTravel.com)

### **APRIL GROUP COUPON!**

Book a group of 6 resort rooms or cruise cabins and receive a \$25 coupon for every room/cabin. Bookings must be made in the month of April, travel in the next year. This is a great deal for clubs, families and friends! Call Tammy at 651-583-3640 or email [tam@tamstravel.com](mailto:tam@tamstravel.com).

# **LAYSB News!**

244 N. Lake Street, Forest Lake

[www.YSBLakesArea.org](http://www.YSBLakesArea.org) 651-464-3685

### **FREE SHREDDING EVENT**

Saturday, April 18 9-11:30am

This is a great opportunity to get rid of old tax records & empty file cabinets of sensitive documents, while supporting LAYSB programs and services. Bring your documents to Security-Victor Agency 5357 Wyoming Trail, Wyoming. 'Shred Right' will shred your materials right in front of you as you enjoy a free cup of coffee and roll. \$10 will be donated by Security Victor to LAYSB for each bag/box shredded up to \$500. Your contributions to Lakes Area Service Bureau will also be gladly accepted.

## March Luncheon Meeting



Elaine Carlson & Tammy Stephens  
Eichten's Café & Market

George McMahon  
County Commissioner

March's Chamber luncheon was held at **Chisago Lakes Library**. Thank you **Eichten's Café & Market** for providing a great lunch. They have Ruben sandwiches for St. Patrick's Day and now have 'Build Your Own Burger' on their menu. They have 80 acres of their farm that has solar panels that will be up and running this summer. **Northwoods Roasterie** supplied us with their delicious coffee. Thank you **Grand Casino Hinckley** for our door prize drawings.

Chamber Announcements: New members were introduced and told us about their business. **J. Hempel Services-Andrew Fairbanks** introduced himself. They specialize in new construction, additions, kitchen and bathroom remodeling, decks and other indoor/outdoor solutions. **Lisa Bobyak**, owner of **Living Fully Balanced** is part of the **All Is Wellness Studio**. She is a wellness coach and holds a 'Connecting with the Coach' session every third Thursday from 6:30-7:30pm.

Member Announcements: **Jeff Vitali** gave several announcements. **Farmers Insurance** is celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> year in the community. They will be having a Cook Out later this summer to thank the community for their support. Speaking on behalf of the **Chisago Lakes Lions**, **Jeff** promoted the upcoming Cadillac Dinner on April 15 at **WineHaven**. As a board member of **Trio Wolf Creek Online High School**, **Jeff** gave some statistics about the school, such as, ages up to 21 can attend, 80% are high risk, Teachers are called Learning Managers. **Loretta Anderson** with **Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation** promoted the upcoming **Women's Health Conference** on March 19 & 26. **Tina Osfar-Family Pathways** gave an invite to their Wine Tasting Gala for **The Refuge Network** on April 16. **Clarissa Pike-Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau** announced their upcoming **TASTE Event** in July and promoted the **Youth Pages** sponsoring opportunities.

Guest speakers were **George McMahon-County Commissioner**, **Nancy Hoffman-HRA/EDA** and **Jerry Spetzman-Lake Improvement District**. **George** gave an update of the county, including bonding bill, new jail and reorganizing of the libraries that is being proposed. Chisago County HRA/EDA is 25 years old. **Nancy Hoffman** gave a recap of what has happened over these 25 years with, growth, employment/unemployment, wages, health care and the history of HRA/EDA. **Jerry Spetzman** gave a lot of information about area lakes including the monitoring of water quality, lake levels and lake inspections.

### CHISAGO LAKES AREA LIBRARY

11754 302<sup>nd</sup> Street, Chisago City, MN 55013

www.ecrlib.org 651-257-2817

### 'OLD MACDONALD HAD A BANJO'

Wednesday, April 1 10:30am

A program full of songs bursting out entertaining, educating, and involving the audience as musician, Paul Imholte, plays the part of Old MacDonald as he sings original and classic children's songs. Old MacDonald Had a Banjo is part of Once Upon a Reader, a statewide literacy initiative that celebrates the joy of stories, literacy and song. The event is sponsored by ECRL and funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



## doTERRA Essential Oils

### 'ESSENTIAL OIL CLASS'

Tuesday, April 14 6:30pm

A class to learn about doTERRA Essential Oils! The purpose of this class is to empower each of you to take care of your family's healthcare in ways you never thought possible. For more information call Trudy at 651-491-0962. Class is free and is held at the Chamber office 30525 Linden St, Lindstrom.

— Annual —



EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA

Job Fair



Tuesday, April 21, 2015 12:30-4:30pm

AFRC – Cambridge Community Center

## Featured Business – April 2015

### RECYCLED WARDROBES

30365 Neal Ave, Lindstrom  
6419 Main St, North Branch  
651-257-8133 or 651-674-7700



Since our original clothing drive and distribution in 1990, the mission of Recycled Wardrobes has never changed. We keep clothing out of the waste stream to provide AFFORDABLE options to families. It's our 22 year commitment!

When we realized the amount of clothes people threw away ending up in landfills, it didn't sit well with us. So, with support from county recycling organizations and local businesses, we led the way in developing clothes recycling solutions and education on keeping them out of the garbage while doing something good for others and the earth. Recycled Wardrobes has been environmentally friendly from the ground up.

Our Boutiques are designed for an affordable, fashionable experience where recycled items are made available in cleanliness, organization and dignity. This recycling effort purposefully supports the foundation of the community, provides local jobs and operates to have something to share. Every recycling program we create has an outreach attached to it. Serving in clothing recycling is one of the things that define us.

The task of clothing distribution is very personal. Our family has spent countless hours sorting, boxing and delivering free clothing blessings to homes, inner city outreaches, reservations, recovery facilities, mission groups, churches, even request by mail. Whether it's using clothes to bless others or proceeds to support active outreach, our patrons know that RW is vigorous in combining good business and good works.

The poorest families don't live here, but in places where resources are not easily found. We are thankful to have an opportunity to also provide for them. Acting locally and abroad is a responsible way Recycled Wardrobes exercises recycling with a personal touch.

You can keep clothing out to the waste stream through our recycling programs. Curbside is available with Croix Valley Pick-Up, Town & Country Disposal and Forest Lake Sanitation. You can also bring them to our Boutiques in Lindstrom & North Branch. Or you can conveniently use

one of our GREEN Recycled Wardrobes containers throughout the area hosted by other business owners that desire to contribute to the well being of local families first. Choosing a Recycled Wardrobes container keeps the clothing & the revenue in our community! Call us if you would like to switch to local!

Never throw your clothes away. Recycle them with us today! (tm) We look forward to your visit.

Be clothed,

**Mike & Deann Alsaker & Family**  
**Recycled Wardrobes since 1990**  
[www.facebook.com/RecycledWardrobes](http://www.facebook.com/RecycledWardrobes)

### TRIO WOLF CREEK SCHOOL

10363 liberty Lane, Chisago City  
[www.wolfcreek.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/](http://www.wolfcreek.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/)  
651-213-2095



### YOUTH JOB FAIR - MAY 14 1-4PM

Do you have jobs for youth this summer? There is a great opportunity coming up in May to find and hire youth from our community. Please consider being an employer participant in the **Youth Job Fair** sponsored by Wolf Creek High School and Central MN Jobs and Training. This event is being advertised in several ways and will draw excellent candidates for your business. To participate please email or call by **April 30<sup>th</sup>**. Martha Airhart at 651-213-2095 [mairhart@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:mairhart@wolfcreekhs.org) Space is limited.

### CHISAGO LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT

13750 LAKE BLVD, LINDSTROM 651-213-2000

### COFFEE AND CONVERSATION THURSDAY, APRIL 23 8-8:45AM

Join school Superintendent Joe Thimm and a board representative for Coffee and Conversation at The Swedish Inn, Lindstrom. This is an opportunity to ask questions and chat about the school district.

### EICHTEN'S MARKET & CAFÉ

16440 Lake Blvd, Center City  
[www.TheEichtensBistro.com](http://www.TheEichtensBistro.com)  
651-257-1566



### SPRING 5 COURSE WINE DINNER

Saturday, April 25 Seating at 6:30pm

Five Course meal featuring Wine & Cheese Reception followed by appetizer, salad, choice of entrée and dessert. Enjoy entertainment provided by 'The Harmony Valley Boys'. \$48.95/person. Limited seating, reservations recommended at 651-257-1566.

[www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com](http://www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com)



Gammelgården Museum

20880 Olinda Trail, Scandia

www.GammelGardenMuseum.org

651-433-5053

### Swedish Language Classes

Spring Classes: Mondays April 13-May 18

Fall Classes: Mondays September 14-November 16

Beginning Class 5-6pm, Intermediate Class 6-7pm and Advanced Class 7-8 Cost: Spring Session \$60; Fall Session \$80. Prices include materials. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 651-433-3792.



### PICKET FENCE GALS SALE

APRIL 8-12

Wednesday 3-7pm

Thursday-Saturday 9am-6pm

Sunday 11am-5pm

Every room in this historic house is packed with unique and interesting treasures. Downtown Lindstrom.

www.PicketFenceGals.net

651-334-1444



10020 Deer Garden Lane, Chisago City

www.WineHaven.com 651-257-1017

### NEW VINTAGE DAYS!

Saturday, April 11 10am-5pm

Sunday, April 12 11am-5pm

Be the first to try our new wines from the recent harvest! What a wonderful weekend to come out and see what is new at Winehaven!

### YOGA AT THE WINERY

Saturdays 10:15-11:15am

Come join us Saturday mornings for an hour of yoga with spectacular lake and vineyard views from our 2<sup>nd</sup> floor ballroom. The class is led by A.C.E. certified instructor, Deb Houle, who has over 30 years of experience teaching Yoga, Pilates and Group Fitness. Start your weekend right by engaging your mind, body and spirit during this unique experience. Following the class, explore your senses of taste, smell and communal health by enjoying 8 samples of Winehaven's unique selections of wine. Yoga class is \$10. Options wine tasting is an additional \$5.

### UP NORTH FINE ART GALLERY

13025 Lake Blvd, Lindstrom

www.GustafsGalleries.com

651-257-1821



**Saturday, April 25**

11am-1pm

Anja, Per Breiehagen,  
Photographer & Lori Evert,  
Author will be autographing  
their newest book **Tiny Wish**.

Over 500 friends and neighbors came to meet them when they were at Gustaf's last November featuring their first book "The Christmas Wish". Anja, the kind and brave heroine, returns in a springtime adventure. When Anja wishes to be tiny to win a game of hide-and-seek, her wish comes true! Just a few inches tall, she must find her way home with the help of new animal friends. Extraordinary photo, realistic illustrations and enchanting text will leave readers wondering "Did that really happen?" • Call Gustaf's 651-257-1821 to reserve your signed copy of Tiny Wish.



**Saturday, April 25th**

**1:00 - 3:00pm**

Trygve Svard's presentation on the imported Ekelund Weavings will feature the history, weaving techniques and many interesting aspects about Sweden and the beautiful, versatile and functional runners and woven table weavings. Over the past six years, these handmade textiles from Sweden have become one of the top favorites at the Gallery. Twice a year Ekelund changes their products to include dozens of new seasonal designs, providing an artistic but economic way to decorate. There will be time for questions and he will have free gifts.



To register for a session

Call 651-257-1177 or

www.FutureWalkChisago.com

The Future Walk, an initiative of the Chisago Lakes Chamber and the Chisago Lakes Area Community Foundation. The Initiative's goal is to create the Chisago Lakes Area Future together, by listening to 1,000 residents of our communities, gathering stories, to build on our strengths and assets and plan for the next generation. We reached a milestone and have now listened to 300 residents! Here is our April schedule:

Thursday, April 2	Middle School Teachers 2:30 -3:10.
Thursday, April 9	Library Sessions-Open 2:00 & 7:00pm
Tuesday, April 14	Forever Young Group 1pm
	Community Education Building
Thursday, April 23	Lakeside Teachers 3:30pm
	Media Center
Thursday, April 30	Chisago Lakes PTO 6 or 7 pm



## HOLY WEEK AREA CHURCH SERVICES.

### CHISAGO LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1 Summit Ave, Center City 651-257-6300

Maundy Thursday: 7:30pm Worship  
 Good Friday: 7:30pm Worship  
 Easter Sunday: 8:30 & 10:45am Easter Services

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

30828 Irene Ave, Lindstrom 651-257-4306

Maundy Thursday: 7pm Communion Service  
 Good Friday: 7pm 'The Passion of the Christ Movie'  
 (not appropriate for children)  
 Easter Sunday: 7:45-8:30am Easter Breakfast  
 9:00 Easter Service

### LAKES FREE CHURCH

29620 Olinda Tr, Lindstrom 651-257-2677

Easter Sunday: 8-10:15am Easter Breakfast  
 7:30, 9 & 10:30am Easter Service

### ST. BRIDGET OF SWEDEN

13060 Lake Blvd, Lindstrom 651-257-2474

Maundy Thursday: 7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 Good Friday: 3 & 7pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
 Holy Saturday: 8pm Mass of the Vigil  
 Easter Sunday: 8 & 10am Mass

### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

13025 Newell Ave, Lindstrom 651-257-5129

Maundy Thursday: 11:30am Holy Communion/Luncheon  
 7pm Worship with Holy Communion  
 Good Friday: 10am Youth & Family Worship  
 7pm Meditation with Music/Prayers  
 Holy Saturday: 12-10pm Easter Prayer Vigil  
 Easter Sunday: 7:30, 10:30 & 9am Easter Service

### ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

28005 Old Towne Rd, Chisago City 651-257-2713

Maundy Thursday: 7pm Worship  
 Good Friday: 7pm Worship  
 Holy Saturday: 12-10pm Easter Prayer Vigil  
 Easter Sunday: 9-11am Easter Breakfast  
 8:30am Traditional Service  
 10:45am Contemporary Worship

## Karl Oskar House

APRIL 12 - SEPTEMBER 13



Tour this fictitious home of Karl & Kristina Oskar on Sundays from 1-4pm. KiChiSaga Park, Lindstrom.



210 Washington St, St. Croix Falls, WI  
 715-483-3387 [www.FestivalTheatre.org](http://www.FestivalTheatre.org)

### ◆ 'John Gorka' - Saturday, April 4 7:30pm

An international folk music artist with a devoted following and numerous collaborations with fellow entertainers. Listen to his "Gorka-esque" sound and lyrical insight that has earned him generations of devoted fans and a career that's found him gracing the stages of PBS' Austin City Limits, NPR's Mountain Stage & venues worldwide. \$26/advance, \$31/door

### ◆ 'Jacks Back Door Café' - Friday, April 17 7:30pm

Stories collected from residents of our communities and have been fictionalized in this original work of theatre. Stories which unfold through home town talk at the community coffee hub of "Jack's Back Door Café." In the process we get a look at relationships, community, the importance of "spirit" and the tenuous line that we draw between our lives, the lives of animals, and the life of the world around us. \$10

### ◆ 'Jay Ungar & Molly Mason' - Thurs, April 23 7:30pm

Jay Ungar & Molly Mason are musicians of enormous talent. Their love for music is infectious, and their expertise is superlative. With violin, mandolin, guitar, banjo, piano and their beautiful vocals the two delight audiences wherever they go. \$26/advance, \$31/day of show

### ◆ 'Once Upon A River' - Saturday, April 25 7:30pm

Earth Day at Festival Theatre means Dan Chouinard and special guest musician Prudence Johnson take the stage for music and stories celebrating our most constant neighbor, the St. Croix River. \$21/advance \$26/door

2015

*Gala* family **PATHWAYS**

Thursday, April 16 5:30-8:30pm

WineHaven Winery

10020 Deer Garden Lane, Chisago City

Enjoy an evening out while benefitting The Refuge Network. Choose from Chicken with Basil Pesto Cream Sauce, Tender Roast Beef Bordelaise or Butternut Squash Ravioli. \$85/person. RSVP to Family Pathways at 651-674-8040 or [mail@familypathways.org](mailto:mail@familypathways.org) by April 6.



## Karl Oskar Days July 8-12

Don't forget to get your requests in for running promotions or selling buttons during the Karl Oskar Days Celebration. The button contest voting ends April 18 all promotions and advertising will be finalized then. Contact Scotti at [kodbuttons@gmail.com](mailto:kodbuttons@gmail.com) with any requests or questions.

[www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com](http://www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com)

## ELEVATE BUILDERS

31108 Algonquin Trail, Chisago City  
651-245-4809 [www.ElevateBuildersMN.com](http://www.ElevateBuildersMN.com)



**COOKIES &  
CANVAS EVENT**  
Thursday, April 9  
5:30-7:30pm

Kids 5-12 are invited to come enjoy a fun evening of painting! Space is limited so sign up soon to reserve your spot and canvas! Cost is only \$20. [Register Here](#)  
Sponsored by Elevate Builders and Victory Lane Quick Oil Change.

## ALLEMANSRATT WILDERNESS PARK



31316 N. Olinda Trail, Lindstrom

Friends of Allemansrätt Wilderness Park Meeting,  
Tuesday, April 21 at 7pm Chamber Office 30525 Linden  
St, Lindstrom Questions call Rich at 651-257-9380.

## MN Chamber Update

### Let's Put Brakes on Minnesota Spending

The recent budget forecast sets the stage for Governor Dayton and the Legislature to adopt a budget for the next two years. The good news is that Minnesota has a growing surplus. That's not surprising given the fact that the 2013 Legislature raised permanent taxes by more than \$2 billion to solve a much smaller two-year shortfall. A good share of these increases fell disproportionately on Minnesota businesses.

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and our local partners recommend a balanced approach that will best position Minnesota for a strong economic future. The projected surplus is an excellent opportunity to reduce uncompetitive business taxes and to invest in key infrastructure needs of transportation and education/workforce.

The governor's supplemental budget will frame the budget debate. His current recommendations fall far short of what our economy needs to change and grow. He makes no progress in improving Minnesota's business competitiveness, but instead supports using virtually all of the nearly \$2 billion surplus on new and permanent spending.

The budget debate can be dizzying in the exchange of numbers. But all Minnesotans should pay attention to these telltale figures:

- Minnesota's general fund is projected to have a surplus of \$1.869 billion for the two years beginning July 1, 2015 – and

another \$3 billion for the following two years.

- The surplus is above and beyond a 4.5 percent increase, or \$1.8 billion, in spending that is assumed under current law.
- Dayton proposes to use \$178 million, or less than 9% of the surplus for tax relief targeted at individuals and is actually increasing taxes by \$47 million on various business taxpayers.

It begs the question: How much money is enough to fund state government?

Minnesota ranks among the top in the nation on many quality-of-life measures. However, taxes on all businesses-small, medium and large-rank among the highest in the nation. The budget debate must not ignore realities of globalization, competitiveness and changing demographics-all of which will have great impacts on MN's economy and the state treasury.

Our challenge is to meet the dual tests of aging population and globalization simultaneously. We can't simply increase spending and the taxes that go with that while expecting the world economy to look the other way. Over the next decade fewer people will be sharing the bill for an aging population and businesses will increasingly compete in a global marketplace. We cannot sustain higher permanent spending, putting greater pressure on taxpayers.

Instead, we urge policymakers to adopt a balanced budget solution to best position MN for a strong future. First priority should be to lower uncompetitive taxes, allowing taxpayers to invest their own money in their families, their businesses and their employees. Secondly, Minnesota should invest a portion of general fund resources in key infrastructure needs.

We need to reduce taxes and figure new ways to deliver important public services. Transportation and workforce are the most immediate and greatest opportunities. Transportation financing deserves to receive consideration the general fund. In early childhood, as just one example, we get greater bang for the buck if the state funds scholarships for low-income children of all ages, rather than providing pre-K for all four year olds.

This is only the beginning of rethinking how we spend our state dollars; health care is perhaps our greatest challenge. But we can make a great start by putting both transportation and education/workforce on new, 21st century funding plans that are sustainable while making our state more competitive. We can settle for nothing less to ensure a growing economy.

*Bill Blazar is interim president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. For more information visit [www.mnChamber.com](http://www.mnChamber.com).*



Minnesota Chamber of Commerce  
The Voice of Business

# Exclusive Tour at LEI Packaging



Did you know that in the US, we use 69 million tons of paper each year?  
Or that more than 5,000 products can be made from recycled paper?  
Are you interested in learning more about how you can help the environment by recycling?

## Join Us!

This event is sponsored by:

**When:** Thursday, April 30, 2015  
**Time:** 5:30pm (approximately 1 hour)  
**Cost:** FREE!

**Where:** 29720 Lofton Ave, Chisago City, MN 55013  
*Less than 10 miles away from Forest Lake!*

**What:** Join us for a one-time only tour at LEI Packaging!  
Get a sneak peak at what goes into making packages out of  
recycled material & learn what you can do to help by recycling!

**LEI is only the 3rd business of its kind in the United States.**



This is open to the public for anyone 10 years & older! Registration is required.  
Please submit a registration form no later than Friday, April 24, 2015. Parents are welcome to join!

For more information contact Jenna Jones, LAYSB's Youth Enrichment Manager, at  
651.464.3685 or by email: Jenna.Jones@ysblakesarea.org

Mail to: LAYSB, Attn: Jenna, 244 N. Lake St., Forest Lake, MN 55025 OR Fax to: 651-464-3687

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address (parent) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alt Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Special health concerns (allergy, disability, or special need we should be aware of): \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to allow my child/dependent to participate in LEI Packaging Tour. I agree to allow LAYSB to take, develop and publish pictures of my child/dependent for use in promoting its organization and program.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*This box is for statistical purpose only. This information helps keep our programs free or reduced cost.*

Does your family qualify for free/reduced lunches? Yes No

Does your family receive government assistance? Yes No. If yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Annual household income: \_\_\_\_\_ Number in household: \_\_\_\_\_

Female head of household: Yes No Ethnicity/Race: \_\_\_\_\_

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