

Monthly Newsletter

www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com

March 2015

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events

March 11: **Board Meeting 9:00am**

Chamber Office & Information Center

30525 Linden Street, Lindstrom

March 12: Chamber Member Luncheon

Time: 11:30am

Speaker: George McMahon, County Commissioner

Topic: State of the County
Location: Chisago Lakes Library

11754 302nd St, Chisago City

Welcome New Members!

LEI Packaging

www.LEIPackaging.com 651-257-1338

Living Fully Balanced

www.LivingFullyBalanced.com 612-702-9848

Scandia Electric

www.Scandia Electric.com 651-257-4225



The 2015 Home & Business Expo was held February 21- 22. Even with the extremely cold wind chill warnings people came out to enjoy great

entertainment & informative seminars. Thank you to the businesses that donated prizes for the hourly drawings.

Thank You to all volunteers that helped throughout the weekend and to the participating businesses & organizations. Booths were very well done with some fantastic displays. Thank you for making this show exceptional every year!

Congratulations to our Grand Casino Hinckley weekend package winner – Corey Larsen Bauer!

MAY YOUR POCKETS BE
HEAVY AND YOUR HEART BE LIGHT,
MAY GOOD LUCK PURSUE YOU
EACH MORNING AND NIGHT.
HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY!



What's Happening This Month

March 5 Edward Jones 'Coffee Club'

March 7-8 WineHaven 'Cabin Fever Days'

March 8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

March 9-19 Recycled Wardrobes 'Go Green Sale'

March 10 Refuge Network 'Family Law Clinic'

March 10 doTERRA Essential Oils Class

March 11-15 Picket Fence Gals Sale

March 12 Parmly 'Artists Reception'

March 14 American Legion 'Spring Bingo'

March 14-15 Wild Mountain 'Thrasher Camp'

March 17-19 Renee Lynn Photo 'Bunny Pictures

March 19 Women's Health Conference

March 19 Festival Theatre 'Preview Night'

March 21 U of M Extension 'Spring Bonanza'

March 21 Methodist Church 'Italian Dinner'

March 21 Wild Mountain 'Monster Slush Fest'

March 23 CL Schools 'Parent University'

March 24 CL Library 'Pinterest Class'

March 26 CL Schools 'Coffee & Conversation'

March 26 Women's Health Conference

March 27 Center City Fire 'Ham Bingo'

March 28 Methodist Church 'Easter Carnival'

March 28 Chisago City 'Easter Egg Hunt'

March 31 All Is Wellness 'Couples Massage 101'

2015 Board of Directors

Officers:

President: John Renaker, Northwoods Roasterie

President-Elect: John Unruh, MN College Funding Strategies

Treasurer: Cory Lindgren, Lindgren & Associates

Secretary: Erin Thorvaldson, Edina Realty

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 Katie Johnson, Anvil & Company

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

Web: www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com



A Note from the Chamber Board:

Matt Silver

Now that the Home and Garden show and the Celebration of the Lakes are over, that can only mean one thing. Spring is here. Well maybe it doesn't look like it, but green grass is just around the corner. We had a very successful winter at the Chamber. The new look "old look" Celebration of the Lakes was a huge success. Bringing back the snowmobile radar runs was much needed. Yes there were grumblings about the balloons or lack of them, but I think the public understood that it was becoming a money drain when they rarely ever flew. The snowmobiles brought out huge crowds and really made the event pop again. The Home Show was a little down in numbers this year, but we are in the process of "re-branding" the show to attract more of everything; people, vendors, entertainment, you name it.

Spring signifies one thing for the Chisago Lakes businesses. Hope. There is a feeling of hope, a feeling of optimism, a feeling of progress, that hasn't been here in a long while. Was it a rough winter for businesses? Yes, worse for some than others. But there is something in the air. It just feels like we are on the verge. On the verge of breaking out. Breaking out of the economic rut most of us have endured. On the verge of exploding as a business community. On the verge of finally transforming into what we envision. Will we hear from the na-sayers and the "Debbie-downers" who will tell us it's never going to be good? Of course, they have their place in this world. But I offer you this advice. If you choose to move forward, be positive, then surround yourself with people like yourself. And for the downers that breed negativity, simply walk away. It's that easy. Just like I have been writing about the Future Walk -"We WILL succeed, but we have to WANT to succeed.

Matt Silver

TRIO WOLF CREEK SCHOOL

10363 liberty Lane, Chisago City 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 Please consider being an employer our community. 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 30th. Martha Airhart at 651-213-2095 mairhart@wolfcreekhs.org Space is limited.

UP NORTH FINE ART GALLERY

13025 Lake Blvd, Lindstrom www.GustafsGalleries.com 651-257-1821



Winter framing sale is extended through March 14. Take 45% off your second framing order when you bring in two or take 15% off one order.

Winter hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm Sunday 12-3pm

Evenings by appointment

EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA JOB FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, April 21, 2015 12:30pm – 4:30pm AFRC – Cambridge Community Center

February 11th Board Meeting Highlights

Secretary's Report:

January minutes reviewed and accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report reviewed and accepted.

Committee Reports:

• Celebration of the Lakes

Event was great and well received by the community. Radar run, vintage sled display and Kids Pro Ice were very popular. Sled dogs were unable to run due to lack of snow.

• Home & Garden Expo

Currently 74 vendors registered. Soderlund's Wood Mill will be doing chainsaw carvings at the entrance. Entertainment and seminars lined up.

• FutureWalk

Have passed the 100 Listeners mark and have great momentum. Have listened to various community groups.

New Business:

• Open Board Seat

Katie Johnson-Novalany has joined the Chamber board.

Executive Director's Report:

Among items reported to the board were:

- Membership update
- Website hits
- Many requesting the weekly Newsflash which leads us to look into a way to streamline information.

If you have information you would like in the monthly newsletter or weekly newsflash email us at clacc@frontiernet.net. Deadline for inclusion is:

Newsflash – Week Prior of Event/Special Newsletter – 20th of the Month Prior



30365 Neal Ave, Lindstrom 6419 Main Street, North Branch www.facebook.com/RecycledWardrobes

'GO GREEN - SAVE GREEN!' March 9-19

All clothing with green on it is \$1.99 and 'stuff' with green in it is 35% off! Sale applies to both locations. 'Like' our Facebook page to be kept up on sale details and incoming merchandise. Recycled Wardrobes offers a fashionable selection of gently used clothing, home furnishings, toys, collectibles and more!



CHISAGO GRANDSTAY HOTEL & SUITES 29579 Sportsman Drive, Chisago City

www.facebook.com/chisagograndstay

1st Anniversary

As a thank you to our neighbors for your support, and in honor of our first anniversary, we are extending a special rate to residents of the 8 cities of the Swedish Circle: Almelund, Center City, Chisago City, Lindstrom, North Branch, Scandia, Shafer and Taylors Falls. On Sunday and Monday nights from now until June 1, 2015, any room in the hotel is yours for \$75 with your local ID. This rate applies to our Standard King and Queen rooms as well as King Executives and even King Suites and King Whirlpool Suites! Curious about the new hotel in town but haven't had a chance to check it out? Get a break from cabin fever and enjoy our pool and spa. Relax in our luxurious guest rooms and let us make you breakfast.

As we enter our second year of operation, we look forward to continued success and wish to let our community know how greatly we appreciate your support. Thank you from all of us at the Chisago City GrandStay Hotel & Suites.

As always, for questions or reservations, please call our guest attendants at 651-213-3400.

EDWARD JONES, GREG PAINE

10681 Railroad Ave, Chisago City 651-257-6397 www.EdwardJones.com



'Coffee Club' Thursday, March 5 9:30am

Discussing current events, the economy and investing in an informal setting with Greg Paine and Guest Speaker Tom Parnell, Vice President-JP Morgan. Meeting at Northwoods Roasterie 12710 N. 1st Ave, Lindstrom. Coffee & pastries on us. Feel free to bring a friend. RSVP to 651-257-6397.

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

651-257-5240

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
MARCH 8TH



SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR Spring A

February Luncheon Meeting



James Burns – Small Business Growth Alliance

February's Chamber luncheon was held at **Chisago Lakes Library** with **China Panda** catering a great meal. Thank you **Northwoods Roasterie** for providing delicious coffee.

Chamber Announcements: The **FutureWalk** is going strong and has now listened to over 100 residents. Next session is February 17 at 1 and 7pm at the library. Visit www.FutureWalkChisago.com to learn more about the initiative, see schedule of events or register for a session. The **Celebration of the Lakes** had great weather and enough ice to host the event on North Center Lake. Thank you to all the sponsors and volunteers that made the event run smoothly. The **Home & Business Expo** will be February 21 & 22. Registration is still open. This is a great way to meet potential customers.

Member Announcements: Gary Gerke announced that March is Food Shelf Month and the Lions Club will be running food drives in the area. Penny Ott, Lindstrom Antique Mall told about their sale going on through Monday. Picket Fence Gals-Lora Rafftery is their new marketing person. Erin Thorvaldson made the announcement of her new brokerage firm, Generations Real Estate Group. Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau representative Matt Howard introduced himself as the 'face of the agency' and informed members of the good things LAYSB is doing for area youth. Jamie Nelson from Community Partnership with Youth & Families asked for volunteers to donate 1 hour of their time to help area youth. They have a Bowl-O-Rama fundraiser coming up to help support their programs.

Guest speaker was **James Burns** with **Small Business Growth Alliance. James** shared the changes coming this year in credit card processing and the liability involved for businesses. He talked about the EMV Chips that began as a joint effort between Europay, MasterCard and Visa to ensure the security and global operability of chip-based cards. Smart card technology provides extra authentication for transactions, helping to reduce the use of counterfeit, lost/stolen cards at retail POS. Liability is shifting to the business owner. For most this means upgrading current terminals to accept EMV Smart Chip Cards. If not upgraded, liability in the event of a chargeback and any associated fees automatically fall upon the merchant.

- **First United Methodist Church** 30828 Irene Ave, Lindstrom

651.257.4306 www.LindstromMethodist.org

PASTA di FUMC

Saturday, March 21 Seating 5:00-7:00pm

Home Made Authentic-Italian Style Dinner includes Salad, Spaghetti, Chicken Alfredo, Garlic Bread, Dessert & Beverage. Gluten free and vegetarian options are available. Suggested donation/\$10. Pre-sale tickets are available but not required. Proceeds help fund youth going to summer church camp.

Supplemental funding provided by Thrivent Financial and members of First United Methodist Church.



EASTER CARNIVAL

Saturday, March 28 10-11:30am



Children will enjoy Games, Arts & Crafts, Face Painting, Cake Walk, Prizes and Entertainment with *Magical Mia!* Bring your camera for great photo ops! Event is free to the public. A free will offering will be taken.

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St. Bridget of Sweden All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry

Fridays during Lent March 6, 13, 20, 27 5-7pm

Enjoy delicious pub battered cod and baked fish!

French fries, coleslaw, dinner roll, beverage & dessert!

(Meatless spaghetti also available)

Adults/\$10, Seniors/\$8, Children/\$5,

Kids 5 & under/free

www.StBridgetofSweden.org

651-257-2474

ALL IS WELLNESS STUDIO

12710 Lake Blvd, Lindstrom 651-247-6919 www.AllisWellnessCenter.com

'Couples Massage 101 Class'

Tuesday, March 31 6:30-8:30pm

Focusing on scalp, neck, arms, hands and back. \$60 per couple, water and snacks provided. Space limited. Instructor: Jackie Briggs, call 651-247-6919.

'Couples Massage'

It doesn't have to be Valentine's Day to treat you and your sweetie to the gift of relaxation! Call any of our massage therapists to schedule! Jackie at 651-247-6919 Teresa at 651-470-0518 or Vicki 651-276-087.

Featured Business - March 2015



LEI PACKAGING

29720 Lofton Ave Chisago City www.LEIPackaging.com 651-257-1338



LEI Packaging is a recycled paper, pulp product manufacturer specializing in egg cartons and containers. We pride ourselves in taking care of our employees, customers and environment.

Our pulp molding machine produces 50 to 70 million cartons per year. To reach those numbers we go through a lot of paper, about 1 ton every two hours. This is the very same paper you put curbside at your home weekly. The paper gets mixed with water and turned into a slurry. It is then sucked into molds, dried and pressed to make all varieties of products, in our case, egg cartons. Our customers produce eggs for retailers such as Kwik Trip and Walmart.

Paul and Katie Johnson live in Scandia with their three boys, Logan, Evan and Isaiah (LEI) and are proud to provide the area they live in with jobs and opportunity.

As we grow we will employ upwards of 50 people for a variety of different jobs and shifts. Shifts will be 24 hours a day - 7 days a week.



LEI PACKAGING

29720 Lofton Ave, Chisago City www.LEIPackaging.com 651-257-1338

CHISAGO LAKES LIONS

ChisagoLakesLions.com



Chisago Lakes Lions are now selling tickets for their annual **Cadillac Dinner** and raffle event. Event will be held on April 15th at Winehaven. Tickets are limited to 100 couples and they do sell out. Contact a local Lion today or email Jeff Vitali and jeffvitali@frontiernet.net to get tickets for this wonderful community event.

CENTER CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

335 Burns Ave, Center City 65-257-3864



HAM BINGO

Friday, March 27 7pm
Play to win an Easter Ham! Bingo cards \$.50/each or 3/\$1. Snacks will be available for purchase.

Parmly LifePointes

10720 282nd St, Chisago City www.Parmly.org 651-257-0575



ARTISTS RECEPTION

Thursday, March 12 5-7pm

The public, residents and staff are invited to welcome and view our newest artist's wall display and sale. Artist, Mary Jo Milbrandt chooses watercolors as her medium of choice. She enjoys painting woodland flowers, strutting roosters, peaceful landscapes and bold floral. For Mary, art is a journey filled with the passion for creating images that come from the heart and soul. She teaches and shares her excitement for art with people of all ages.

Light refreshments will be served. Enter through the *Vitalize!* Wellness Centre entrance, off 282nd Street in Chisago City, MN. The reception is free and open to all.

Women's Health Conference

Two FREE Programs

Thursday, March 19 & Thursday March 26 Hazelden CORK Center, Center City (Hwy 8 to 15245 Pleasant Valley Road, follow signs)

March 19th Move, Eat, Sleep, Breathe

5:30-7:00 pm Free Health Fair

7:00-8:00 pm Just Breathe – Diana Pierce

KARE 11 News Anchor & Reporter

March 26th Make Your Body Better

5:30-6:30 pm Free Health Fair 6:30-7:30 pm Fit For The Ages

Panel Discussion

7:45-8:45 pm Food As Medicine

Paula Rehder, MD & Nicole Linder, BSW

Sponsored by: Chisago County Public Health



Fairview Lakes Health Services, Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation,

St. Croix Regional Medical Center

Polk County Public Health



210 Washington St, St. Croix Falls, WI 715-483-3387 www.FestivalTheatre.org

'SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS' Preview Night at Festival Theatre Thursday, March 19 7:30pm

Festival Theatre invites the local business community to come in for a complimentary preview performance of 'Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs'

Festival Theatre would sincerely love to see the business community attend and take advantage of this free program. Preview Night is the final rehearsal and the cast and directors welcome the audience's feedback afterward. Then the attendees are asked to help promote the show by telling others, and sharing it on Facebook or other social media. Word of mouth is the best kind of promotion, and quite valuable to us!

Area business employers are asked to share this free offer with their staff and provide the box office with a list of those employees who will attend the performance by noon on Preview Day. Each employee is allowed to bring a guest for a \$5.00 preview ticket and the guest's name needs to be on the list as well.

THE REFUGE NETWORK

800-338-7233

www.TheRefugeNetwork.org



FAMILY LAW CLINIC

Tuesday, March 10 6-8pm

Custody • Paternity • Divorce • Parenting Time • Child Support

This event is free and open to the public. An attorney will present information on family law and there may be opportunity to meet individually, following the presentation. Clinic will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 38460 Lincoln Trail, North Branch



doTERRA Essential Oils

'ESSENTIAL OIL CLASS' Tuesday, March 10 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.



10020 Deer Garden Lane, Chisago City www.WineHaven.com 651-257-1017

CABIN FEVER DAYS! SATURDAY, MARCH 7 10AM-5PM SUNDAY, MARCH 8 11AM-5PM

Got cabin fever? We have the cure! Come and taste some of our vintage selections that we will bring out of hibernation for this special event. This is the only event of the year where visitors can taste Winehaven's classics that have been aging in the cellar for years.

From 12-2pm on Saturday, Chef Carline Bengtsson will be signing copies of her new cookbook, *Carline's Cork & Fork!* It contains a wide range of recipes that are perfectly paired with Winehaven wines!



17TH **ANNUAL SPRING BONANZA** Saturday, March 21 8am-3:30pm

Classes sizes are limited and fill up fast. Pre-registration encouraged cost is \$10 for the entire day. Same day registration is \$15. Schedule for the Day:

	8-9am	Check-in
Walk-in registration for remaining class space		ss spaces
Garden Marketplace Opens		
	9-10:10am	Session I
	10:30-11:50am	Keynote
		Speaker
	11:50am-12:50pm	Lunch break
(Lunch can be pre-purchased for \$6)		\$6)
	12:50-2pm	Session 2
	2:20-3:30	Session 3
	More information at Chisago County Extension Office	



651-277-0151

Family Spring Bingo!

Brochure Registration

Saturday, March 14 7pm Chisago City Community Center

First Game is free then one bingo card/ 25ϕ or $3/50\phi$. \$1 Meat raffles, snacks and refreshments available from the scouts. Enjoy an evening with family and friends.

Sponsored by Chisago City American Legion Post 272

CHISAGO LAKES GOLF COURSE

12975 292nd Street, Lindstrom www.ChisagoLakesGolf.com 651-257-1484

New Restaurant Owners!

Chisago Lakes Golf Course is happy to announce that we have new Restaurant Owners. Taylor Jeans along with her Dad, Todd Jeans, will run the restaurant and on course food and beverage service at Chisago Lakes Golf Course.

Taylor worked at the golf course restaurant while in college and now has a degree in Hospitality from University of Wisconsin - Stout. Taylor's business knowledge, her experience at the golf course, and her passion for the food and service industry makes her the perfect fit for the restaurant and the golf course. You will see Taylor's Dad, Todd, around the restaurant as well. He mostly will handle the financial side of the business and expect to see him on the golf course as well

We are extremely excited to have Taylor and Todd here and can't wait to see what they are going to do. They plan to open on April 1st but will be prepared for an earlier opening if the course opens before



PICKET FENCE GALS SALE

MARCH 11-15 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.com

651-334-1444

NATURE RICH/FUEL DIRECT

Gus Gulbranson 651-246-9027 www.655077.NatureRich.net



Nature Rich/Fuel Direct Informational Briefing

Every Monday in March 7-8pm

World class health products and fuel additive. Come hear how we can make your body and car run at its best. Held at the Chamber office 30525 Linden Street, Lindstrom.



MARCH IS...

MINNESOTA FOOD SHARE MONTH

It's the largest donation matching event of the year for Chisago Lakes Area Food Shelf! The entire month is dedicated to raising funds for our food shelf so we can fill the empty cupboards of our neighbors and friends.



BACHMAN'S PHOTOGRAPHY

13000 Sylvan Ave, Lindstrom 651-257-9380

Guess the 'Official Ice Out Date'

Guess the correct "Official Ice Out" date for the Chisago Chain of Lakes and Win a \$25.00 Gift Certificate. To enter your guess, call 651-257-9380, Facebook us or email rich@bachmansphotography.com. If more than one person guesses the correct date we will draw for the winner, if no one guesses the correct date the guess that is closest without going past will be the winner. Good Luck!

CHISAGO CITY ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

'Baseball Caps & Bonnets' Saturday, March 28th 2pm at Paradise Park

Decorate your Easter bonnets and baseball caps for Chisago City's 8th Annual Easter Egg Hunt! The hunt held rain, shine or even snow so dress appropriately. Each of three different age group areas will have its own 'golden egg' for a basket filled with goodies. A prize will be awarded for the best decorated Easter Bonnet and Baseball Cap so design your best at home and wear it on Saturday. There will also be games face painting and the Easter Bunny will be present for a great photo opportunity! Please bring a



donation for the local food shelf. Also collecting items for 'Birthday Boxes'-cake mix, frosting, 24 cupcake liners, sprinkles, candles, birthday napkins, birthday plates and a \$5-\$10 small gift for a child.

Monday, March 23 6-8pm Chisago Lakes High School PAC



Raising kids in ways that reduces shame, fosters maturity and helps them to become "life ready" adults is the subject of a new book, GIST - The Essence of Raising Life-Ready Kids. In this evening seminar, Timothy Johanson and licensed authors, Dr. psychologist Michael Anderson share their ideas with



parents looking for fresh, healthy ideas to the parent/child dynamic. Free. Child-care will be provided. Pre-registration recommended. Books available to at Community Education Building or Taylors Falls Elementary for \$12.

CHISAGO LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT

13750 LAKE BLVD, LINDSTROM 651-213-2000

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Join school Superintendent Joe Thimm and a board representative for Coffee and Conversation on the dates and locations below, from 8:00-8:45 am. This is an opportunity to ask questions and chat about the school district.

- Thursday, March 26 Wagon Wheel Restaurant
- Thursday, April 23 Location to be determined

MOUNTAIN / TF RECREATION

37200 Wild Mountain Rd, Taylors Falls 651-465-6315 www.wildmountain.com



SKIING, SNOWBOARDING & SNOW TUBING OPEN!

- * Night Moves/Late Night Sessions: Saturday, March 14
- * Music in the Nest: Saturday, March 14
- * Friends & Family Fun Days: Sat-Sun, March 14-15
- * Thrasher Camp: Sat-Sun, March 14-15
- ♦ Scout and 4H Days: Sunday, March 15
- * Home School Day: Thursday, March 19
- Monster Slush Fest: Saturday, March 21
- ♦ Wild Kids Rock the Front Stage: Saturday, March 21



We are proud to announce our <u>spring season pass sale</u>.

If you don't currently have a

season pass you can purchase next year's pass, add \$50 and ski/ride the rest of this season for only \$50! These are the best rates you will see for our 2014-2015 season passes! Offer ends April 6, 2015. A Season Pass holder receives great benefits even off the slopes! Your pass instantly qualifies you for discounts on lift tickets, hotels, entertainment and more!

CHISAGO LAKES LIBRARY

11754 302nd St, Chisago City 651-257-2817 www.ecrl.lib.mn.us



TUESDAY, MARCH 24 5:30PM

Learn about the Pinterest Craze! Create a profile and learn how to use this popular 'internet bulletin board' app. Attendees will create a simple craft from the site after the computer based session.

Space is limited for those without their own laptop or devices. Sign up at the front desk.



Easter Mini's



Session Options

\$90 2 5x7 & 8 wallets

\$110 4x10 deskart print

130 10 image bunnybook 2 5x7 & 8 wallets

\$145 3 accordion books 2 5x7 & 8 wallets

\$140 3 digital images





HARMONY IN THE PARK WEDNESDAYS 7PM

Summer is just around the corner and the Lindstrom Park Commission is making plans for the fun-filled 2015 Harmony in the Park concert series! These FREE concerts run June 10 - August 12 at the Lions Park. Festivities begin at 6:30pm with the food and community events and the concerts follow at 7pm.

This community harmony is very important to our small town and depends on local businesses for support. Please take a moment to consider your level of Sponsorship:

Corporate \$500.00 Business \$200.00 Supporting \$100.00 Family/Individual \$25.00

Sponsors will be acknowledged on banners, press releases, posters, flyers, concert schedule cards and with a verbal announcement at each concert.

All sponsorships can be dropped off at City Hall Monday-Friday 8am-4pm or mailed to City of Lindstrom, 13292 Sylvan Ave, Lindstrom ATTN: Rusty Johnson. Any questions call Rusty at 651-257-8974 during evening hours.

LAYSB News!

244 N. Lake Street, Forest Lake www.YSBLakesArea.org 651-464-3685

Help support LAYSB! Become a Youth Page Sponsor. This newspaper page is published three times each year and includes information about LAYSB programs, services, events, youth leadership opportunities and teen success stories. The Youth Page is featured in Forest Lake Times, Chisago County Press and North Branch Post Review.

Advertising sponsorships are needed. This is a great way to show your support for LAYSB, Kids, community and benefit your business!

To become a sponsor call Clarissa Pike at 651-464-3685.

'ON BEHALF OF YOUTH' & "JAMES TRUDEAU LAW ENFORCEMENT'

Do you know someone who is a great role model for youth? Someone who demonstrates a passion for the well-being of youth? Or do you know a youth who is making a difference in their community? Or do you know a law enforcement officer that has gone above and beyond his or her job duties to connect with and make a difference in the lives of youth?

If any of those statements are true, we want to hear from you! Nomination deadline is Monday, March 16, 2015.

On Behalf of Youth Award

James Trudeau Law Enforcement Award

Karl Oskar Days July 8-12

If your business is interested in selling buttons or running a sales promotion during the Karl Oskar Day celebration please email kodbuttons@gmail.com by **April 1st**. Buttons will go on sale starting May 22nd. Also look in the Chisago County Press and online at the City of Lindstrom website the week of March 16th to vote for your favorite buttons.

MN Chamber Update

Minnesota needs thorough – and predictable – environmental review system

Clean air and water contribute significantly to Minnesotans' quality of life. That's why Minnesota businesses place a high priority on protecting our environment.

At the same time, we regularly hear concerns about the cost, time and uncertainty in the environmental review and permitting system before state agencies. Business owners and managers become frustrated when a process that takes months in other states and countries can extend for years in Minnesota. Seeking additional efficiencies and

transparency in the process remains one of the Minnesota Chamber's top legislative initiatives.

We've made notable strides in the past four years working with Governor Dayton and the Legislature. For example:

- We shortened the environmental permitting timetable to better reflect the actual average time of processing. Permits not requiring a public comment period now have a goal to be completed within 90 days, and those requiring a public comment period within 150 days.
- We partnered with and assisted the regulatory agencies to make more of their permits readily available online through "epermitting."
- We succeeded in shortening appeals of environmental review documents by eliminating a stop before the District Court. In other words, like permits, the appeals go directly to the Minnesota Court of Appeals.
- We were instrumental in the development of Business One Stop in the Department of Employment and Economic Development to help businesses navigate the process when projects require multiple permits from multiple agencies.

Businesses have benefited from these changes. Just as important, the local governments, especially cities, are also among the immediate beneficiaries of our efforts. The permits they need to upgrade their municipal wastewater treatment plants will now be processed with a goal of 150 days. Managing wastewater and storm water is important not only to a community's health, but it can be a key factor in attracting new businesses and residents.

Make no mistake, MN's environmental review and permitting system should be second to none. At the same time, we seek a process that enables MN to compete in the global economy. As Governor Dayton has said, our permitting needs to be completed "at the speed of commerce." Businesses of all sizes/types and local governments need a variety of permits from state agencies if they wish to start/locate and/or expand in MN. The current process is cumbersome, costly and lacks certainty. That's why streamlining our systems has been a priority of the MN Chamber for the last decade. As noted, we have made progress, but there's more work to do.

The 2015 session should bring our next step forward. Among our priorities is further streamlining the processing of Tier 1 permits – for example, permits for sewer extension, individual storm water and construction storm water, and general permits where one permit covers multiple facilities with similar operations. We support decreasing the timeline for these permits, which do not require public hearings, from 90-45 days. We also are working with local governments to require legislative approval of state agency rules that have a substantial economic impact and require peer review of rules that have significant impact on businesses and local governments.

The challenges facing Minnesota companies are more than a frustration; they present a threat to the state's economic vitality. Companies routinely compare all costs and regulatory requirements against other states and nations when exploring additional investments. We must take steps to level the playing field if we are to facilitate a changing and growing economy.

Bill Blazar is interim president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. For more information visit www.mnChamber.com.



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