



Monthly Newsletter

www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com

December 2016

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- December 1: **Board Meeting 9:00am**
Chamber Office & Information Center
30525 Linden Street, Lindstrom
- December 8: **Annual Meeting & Holiday Gala**
Location/Time: **Winehaven Winery**
10020 Deer Garden Lane, Chisago City
6:00-7:30pm Social Hour & Fun
7:30-8:30pm Business Meeting,
Community Awards & Prize
Winners Revealed

A Special Invitation

\$30/person RSVP by Friday, Dec. 2 to the Chamber

**Check out the new
Chamber website!**



Please review your business listing and let us know of any changes/corrections. We ask that you be patient as we learn to navigate this new site. The Community website is scheduled to be rolled out very soon!

Lighting Festivals

December 2: CENTER CITY 5-9PM
Bonfire and Marshmallows (5-6pm Printing Express),
Cookie Decorating & Pictures with Santa (6-7pm Fire Hall)
Movie "Elf" (7pm Fire Hall). Drawings for gifts/gift cards.

December 3: LINDSTROM 4:30-6:30pm
Tree Lighting, Santa and Mrs. Claus, Brass Band
Ensemble, Santa Lucia Singers, Christmas Carnival &
Crafts by Trinity Lutheran Church, Brats, Hot Dogs,
Northwoods Coffee, Hot Chocolate. Located by Chamber
Office.

December 4: CHISAGO CITY - 4:30-6pm
Sleigh Rides, Tree Lighting, Refreshments, Music, Santa
and His Elves & More! Please bring a donation for either:
Anonymous Santa - toy or Food Shelf - nonperishable food
donation. Bring your letter to Santa with a self-addressed
envelope. All this fun takes place at 10656 Railroad Ave



DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

- | | | |
|----------|--------|---|
| December | 2 | Center City Lighting Festival |
| December | 2-3 | Santa Pictures - Renee Lynn Photography |
| December | 2-3 | Eichten's Christmas Open House |
| December | 3 | Lindstrom Lighting Festival |
| December | 3 | Bazaar & Bake Sale-CL Lutheran Church |
| December | 3 | Demolition Saturday - LAYSB |
| December | 3-4 | Holiday Cheer - WineHaven Winery |
| December | 4 | Chisago City Lighting Festival |
| December | 4-5 | Women's Race Camp - Wild Mountain |
| December | 5-24 | Christmas Sale-Recycled Wardrobes |
| December | 7-11 | Picket Fence Gals Sale |
| December | 8 | Chamber Annual Meeting/Holiday Gala |
| December | 8 | Ladies Night Out - Mueller's Jewelers |
| December | 9 | Christmas Party - Northwoods Roasterie |
| December | 9 | Open House - Security State Bank |
| December | 9 & 11 | Unexpected Company Concert |
| December | 10 | Santa at Brink's Market |
| December | 10 | Sankta Lucia Program - CL Lutheran |
| December | 11 | Lucia Dagen - Gammelgarden Museum |
| December | 13 | Family Law Clinic - The Refuge |
| December | 14 | Blood Drive - Brink's Market |
| December | 15-16 | Anonymous Santa Store Open |
| December | 17 | Living Nativity - Methodist Church |
| December | 25 | Community Christmas Meal - FUMC |
| December | 26-30 | Christmas Race Camps - Wild Mountain |
| December | 30 | Men's Race Camp - Wild Mountain |
| December | 31 | Night Moves - Wild Mountain |

2016 Board of Directors

Officers:

President: John Renaker, Northwoods Roasterie
President Elect: Josh Soderlund, Soderlund's Wood Mill
Treasurer: Cory Lindgren, Lindgren & Associates
Secretary: Erin Thorvaldson, Generations Real Estate Group

Directors:

Bob Gustafson, Chisago City Mayor
Matt Silver, Chisago County Press
Laura Haseltine, Elevate Builders/Victory Lane Quick Oil Change
Greg Paine, Edward Jones
Marlys Dunne, MultiSource Manufacturing
Susan Clayton, Alan Honn Glass & Al's Saloon

Executive Director: Wendy Redland
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:

Wendy Redland
Executive Director
Chisago Lakes Chamber

HAPPY DECEMBER CHISAGO LAKES!

Just yesterday we were golfing, paddling, fishing and waving in parades.

Now, we are getting ready for winter; that time when our community wears a beautiful blanket of snow and when icy mornings sparkle. Don't let the cold keep you indoors; bundle up, walk down main streets, hike and ski the parks, enjoy the (soon to be) frozen lakes, grab a cup of cocoa with a friend and catch up during the lighting festivals throughout the community.

December also brings celebrations with family, friends, coworkers and neighbors.

- ♦ Are you decorating your home or business? *Shop Local* for décor for inside and out.
- ♦ Are you sharing a meal with friends and family? *Shop Local* for food and drink or enjoy a great area restaurant.
- ♦ Need a hostess gift? *Shop Local* for fun items to bless the hostess.
- ♦ Gift list a mile long? *Shop Local* for all the wonderful people you wish to give to this year.

You get the idea. *Shop Local* and you will be delighted with all that Chisago Lakes has to offer and share your finds with others so they can enjoy *Shopping Local* too. For ideas, visit the Chamber website and peruse the Holiday Gift Guide printed by the Chisago County Press. Great ideas abound.

As 2016 comes to a close, the Chisago Lakes Chamber thanks each of you for your involvement in and commitment to this excellent community. We are excited to embrace new businesses and continue to support those who are wonderful mainstays in our community. We are honored to continue to travel through the America's Best Communities Competition as a finalist together and are excited for all the positive opportunities it is bringing to Chisago Lakes.

As we close the year we invite you all to join us for a wonderful evening of community, food and fun at the Chamber Annual Meeting and Holiday Gala on December 8th. This is our time to say thank you for partnering with us and a time to celebrate a great year together.

Many thanks for a blessed 2016.
We are excited for a wonderful 2017!

CELEBRATION OF THE LAKES

January 27-29



Celebration of the Lakes, a wonderful family oriented community event is a signature event for the Chamber. Many organizations, such as the Lions Club, local park boards, and area Churches/youth groups benefit and add to the selection of activities. We are getting ready for a great event with many activities going on. Enjoy the radar run, Kids Pro Ice and the Lions ice fishing tournament to name a few. Some new events include snowshoeing, skiing and fat tire biking along with great Celebration of the Arts activities. Your sponsorship helps make all this possible and helps your business gain positive, community minded publicity. [COL Sponsorship Form](#)

EICHEN'S MARKET & CAFÉ

16440 Lake Blvd, Center City
www.SpecialtyCheese.com 651-257-1566

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE **Friday & Saturday, December 2nd & 3rd**

- ♦ Gift Boxes – 15% Discount
- ♦ Samples with Recipes
 - ♦ Christmas Tea & Cookies
 - ♦ Drawings
 - ♦ Restaurant Specials

www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com

WILD MOUNTAIN / TF RECREATION

37200 Wild Mountain Rd, Taylors Falls

651-465-6315 www.wildmountain.com



2016-2017 SKI & SNOWBOARD SEASON IS NOW OPEN!

Check out the *Daily Snow Report*

- * Ski Challenge Begins: December 7 7:30pm
- * Home School Days: December 1, 13, 15
- * Wild Cat Club 11 week Session: Starts December 2
- * Scout/4H Days: December 3
- * Snow Board Demos: December 3, 4, 11
- * Men's Race Camp: Friday, December 30
- * Women's Race Camps: Sat-Sun, December 4-5
- * Friends & Family Fun Days: December 18, 27, 29
- * Christmas Race Camps: December 26-30
- * Night Moves -Late Night Session: December 31
- * Now Hiring! Come & join the fun as a Wild Mountain Team Member! WildMountain.com/employment

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

30828 Irene Ave, Lindstrom

651-257-4306 www.LindstromMethodist.org



Living Nativity

Saturday, December 17 6-8pm

Performances at 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30

Hear the story of the birth of Jesus! This outdoor Living Nativity is complete with live animals, actors, carolers and fires to warm up by. Afterwards, join us inside for hot cocoa, coffee and cookies!

NORTHWOODS CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Christmas Party

Friday, December 9 7-10pm

Join us for a night with Santa and Mrs. Claus!
Ugly Sweater Contest.



Get your Christmas shopping done early!
We have beans, mugs, maple syrup and Northwoods gear!

www.NorthwoodsRoasterie.com

651-257-5240



Gammelgården Museum



20880 Olinda Trail, Scandia

www.GammelGardenMuseum.org

651-433-5053

LUCIA DAGEN

Sunday, December 11 Services at: 6am & 8:30am

Welcome the Jul season with the celebration of Lucia. Follow the candles to the GammelKyrkan for a brief Swedish prayer service. (Dress warmly - this church dating to 1856 is candle-lit and has no heat.) Join us across the street at the Community Center for a full Lucia Fest Breakfast/program at 7:00am and 9:00am. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$5/children under 12. Meet Lucia and watch that the Gammelgården Tomte doesn't snatch your cookies! The Svensgarnas Dag Girls Choir presents their music program honoring Lucia and her ministry of bringing light into darkness. Lucia Dagen is a family tradition for all ages.
Elim Lutheran Church, 20971 Olinda Trail N, Scandia



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

HOLIDAY CHEER AT THE VINEYARD

Saturday, December 3 10:00am-5:00pm

Sunday, December 4 11:00am-5:00pm

Tis' the season to deck your wine racks for the upcoming holidays! We'll have several new wines to sample, freshly brewed mulled wine, special treats and plenty of holiday cheer! Reservations are not required.



30365 Neall Ave
Lindstrom
651-257-8133

6419 Main Street
North Branch
651-674-7700

Merry
Christmas

EVERYTHING CHRISTMAS SALE

December 5-10 30% Off

December 12-17 60% Off

December 19-24 90% Off

Plus Free toy & Free book
with Every purchase!

Christmas Blessings from
Recycled Wardrobes

www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com

CHISAGO LAKES CELEBRATION of the ARTS January 27-28-29 2017



Seeking artists and businesses located in Chisago City, Lindstrom, Center City, Shafer and Taylors Falls interested in community arts awareness, education and marketing.

Chisago Lakes Celebration of the Arts is a community-wide arts expo that will feature events and activities within all 5 communities during the entire weekend. This crawl style experience, focusing on diverse art forms and art resources in the area, is slated alongside the annual winter Celebration of the Lakes. For more information see FLYER.

Quote for the Month

“December, the ‘Friday’ of the months”



PICKET FENCE GALS SALE

DECEMBER 7-11

Wednesday 3-7pm

Thursday-Saturday 9am-6pm

Sunday 11am-5pm

A large Victorian 2-story house packed with unique and interesting treasures. Antiques & vintage items, painted furniture, garden items, home & cabin décor, re-purposed items, textiles and more! Downtown Lindstrom.

www.PicketFenceGals.net

651-334-1444

Anonymous Santa



Anonymous Santa Program helps families struggling financially by offering an opportunity for parents to select gifts in a Holiday Store set up December 15th & 16th at the Main Street Church in North Branch. Only new, non-violent toys and gifts are distributed along with mittens and hats, Christian books & videos, board games, sports balls and stocking stuffers.

Applications are due December 2 and available at www.AnonymousSanta.net.

Distribution Dates: December 15th & 16th

Main Street Church

6500 Main St, North Branch

Bright Ideas ...
Saturday 10 AM - 4 PM
Sunday 11 AM - 3 PM

Bright Ideas for Home, Garden & Family!

March 4-5, 2017

Remember to sign up for the Home & Business Expo. Chamber members receive \$80 off of booth registration.

This is a wonderful way to market to new and existing customers, showcasing your products and services.

[Home Show Registration Form](#)

SECURITY STATE BANK OF MARINE

Hwy 8 & Co Rd 14, Lindstrom

651-257-4141 TheMarineBank.com



*Holiday Open House
Wednesday, December 9*

Coffee, Cookies and Cider will be served. Stop in to pick up a calendar and gift. Bring a food donation for Second Harvest Heartland. Anonymous Santa donations accepted. Santa will be there at 4pm.



The Choral Company 'Unexpected Company'
Proudly presents their holiday concert.

Friday, December 9 7:30pm

FOREST HILLS CHURCH

1790 11th Street SE, Forest Lake

Sunday, December 11 3:00pm

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, CL HIGH SCHOOL

29400 Olinda Trail, Lindstrom

Merry
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY
New Year

www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com



HOMESPUN TREASURES II

Homespun Treasures II is a specialty gift shop comprised of more than 30 local artists and crafters that make unique handcrafted & repurposed treasures.

Opening in 2013 on Small Business Saturday as a temporary pop-up shop, they were 10 vendors strong selling their creations. After being well received by the Lindstrom area, a decision was made to continue. Still growing and going strong three years later.

Marie Cromett is the owner/manager of the shop. Sherri Olson has joined assisting Marie this year. When Homespun was started, there was no budget and vendors pitched in to work and decorate the shop. Now 30+ vendors and growing with 7 of them working the shop and assisting. Most vendors did not want to work craft shows any longer and decided the storefront was the way to go.

Picking the name wasn't easy. Handcrafted/Homespun seemed good. The name Homespun Treasures II was chosen because Marie's friend Sandee had an occasional sale called Homespun Treasures Boutique in her home for years. Marie & Sandee were one day going to start a business together. Unfortunately, before this could happen, Sandee passed and in her honor, Homespun Treasures II was created.

Most everything in the shop is handcrafted and repurposed with a few antiques mixed in. It's a policy to not duplicate each other's work, so there are a wide variety of treasures to find. Vendors include: Jewelry, hand painted items, barn quilts, handmade soap, lotions, and candles, greeting cards, wool/alpaca goods, hand sewn items, home décor, hand knit and crocheted items, baskets, embroidery/needlework, beading, wood toys, carvings, and repurposed furniture. Homespun Treasures features Dixie Belle Chalk paint, stains and many specialty products for renewing furniture and décor with instructional classes held. Homespun Treasures hopes to continue bringing unique creations and specialty gifts for years to come.

Homespun Treasures II
12810 Lake Blvd Lindstrom 651-307-2243



First United Methodist Church

30828 Irene Ave, Lindstrom
651.257.4306 www.LindstromMethodist.org

Chisago Lakes Area Annual Community Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 25 Seating Noon-1:15pm

A tasty, hot meal served for those seeking a place to share a meal and enjoy a little Christmas Day fellowship. Homebound individuals may request a meal to be delivered. Individuals wishing to volunteer to help, or donate food/cash to support the event are invited to call Lois at 651-213-1036. The meal is free, but reservations are requested by Monday, December 19. To make a reservation, call the church at 257-4306. If after hours, please leave a message.



GUSTAF'S GALLERIES

13025 LAKE BLVD, LINDSTROM

651-257-1821 www.GustafsGalleries.com

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE!

Every Weekend through Christmas!

Enjoy homemade Swedish Almond Cake with Lingonberry Jam and Festive Christmas Glogg! Sale continues on Christmas ornaments.

MUELLER JEWELERS

11425 Brink Ave, Chisago City
651-213-1010 MuellerJewelers.com



"LADIES NIGHT OUT"

Thursday December 8th 6-9pm

Bring your friends and family. Enjoy Hors d'oeuvres and WineHaven wine. We are launching new lines of jewelry and are receiving new items daily for Christmas. Please come join us for a fun night out!!



www.TheRefugeNetwork.org 651-257-2890

Family Law Clinic

Tuesday, December 13 6-8pm

An attorney will present information on family law; custody, paternity, divorce, parenting time, child support. There may be opportunity to meet individually, following the presentation. Free and open to the public. For info call 1-800-338-7233. Trinity Lutheran Church 38460 Lincoln Trail, North Branch.

November 3rd Board Meeting Highlights

Secretary's Report:

October minutes reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report reviewed and accepted.

Committee Reports:

• **ABC Competition**

Teams are hard at work on projects.

• **Annual Meeting & Holiday Gala**

December 8 at WineHaven with Eichten's catering. Shared ideas for award winners and community ambassador.

• **Celebration of the Lakes**

Sponsorship letters will be going out. Activities are being confirmed and planned.

New Business:

• **2017 Board Members**

One position to be filled for 2017.

Old Business:

• **Fall Decorating**

58 business/68 bundles participated.

• **Trick or Treat on Main Street**

49 businesses participated.

• **Membership Dues/Sponsorship Levels**

Introductory letters mailed with dues/supporter levels.

Executive Director's Report:

- 1 new member in October
- Planning for upcoming events
- ABC All Team meetings

CHISAGO COUNTY TECHNOLOGY TRAINING Opportunities for Business

SOCIAL MEDIA BREAKFAST

Tuesday, December 6

Registration 7:30am, 8-9:00am

North Branch Library 6355 379th St

Learn how local companies are using social media.

Register for FREE classes at chisagocounty.org

DEUTSCHLAND MEATS

12825 Lake Blvd, Lindstrom

651-257-1128 DeutschlandMeats.com

Deutschland Meats is now offering a Fast & Fresh lunch menu from 11am-2pm Tuesdays-Saturdays. You can pick up and go or free delivery within 5 miles with \$13 minimum. Check out their [December Menu](#).

Coming to the



Audubon Center of the North Woods

Experience Your Environment

Sandstone, MN



We are proud to announce that ACNW will host the Smithsonian's "Museum on Main Street" traveling exhibit **Water/Ways** from through January 1st, 2017. Sandstone is one of 6 small towns and Minnesota is one of 5 initial states chosen by the Smithsonian to participate in this new touring exhibit. The Sandstone area was represented in an application by ACNW in partnership with the North Woods & Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area.

In addition to the physical exhibit, this project invites connections between residents and visitors who celebrate shared heritage and a love of our waterways. Our goals are to celebrate our relationship with water and to strengthen community understanding of our regional water resources in a region where water is sometimes taken for granted. The exhibits will highlight personal stories and emphasize our common responsibility for and dependence on the safety of water, now and for future generations.

Corresponding events will help citizens of all ages better understand the history of the St. Croix Watershed. This project can help communities contemplate the kind of future we wish to have for generations to come. We are fortunate to live in a region where water is abundant. It is in our hands to cherish and protect it.

Visit www.Audubon-Center.org or call 320-245-2648 for more information or exhibit hours.

GUS GULBRANSON

651-246-9027

gus@healthyfuels.net

www.672127.myrevii.com



AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE SEMINAR

Monday, December 5 7-9pm

Revii is a company continually striving for excellence in all areas of health and home. Come to learn about Autoimmune Disease and how 'Gut Health' influences this. Watch an informational video followed by discussion. Held at the Chamber office 30525 Linden St, Lindstrom.

'A HEALTHY TRIO'

doTERRA™

Norwex®

Younique
makeup

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 9AM-NOON

COME & GO AS YOU PLEASE!

Chamber Office 30525 Linden St, Lindstrom

Shop for gifts with healthy options for yourself and those on your Christmas list! Experience natural solutions, shop and enjoy coffee, cider and cookies.

LAURIE DOUGHTY

doTERRA Wellness Advocate

MyDoterra.com/lauriedoughty 651-257-9083

doTERRA's pure essential oils are revolutionizing the way families manage their health.

Receive 15% off products on-hand (excluding diffusers)

DEANNAH MUHA

Norwex Independent Sales Consultant

DeannahMuha.Norwex.biz 651-274-9298

Norwex is the world's leader in microfiber technology. We have products that reduce chemicals in the home.

Receive 10% off purchase up to \$100

& 15% for purchases over \$100

LAURA HASELTINE

Younique Green Status Presenter

LaurasLashLove.com/ 651-245-5762

Younique's goal is to provide healthy, clean and pure cosmetics. Feel beautiful. Look beautiful. Be beautiful inside and out.

Receive 15% off products on-hand.

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

HO
HO
HO



Annual Holiday Open House

Santa Photos \$13

(or \$10 with toy donation for Anonymous Santa.)

Dec. 2nd & 3rd

Friday: 3pm-7pm

Saturday: 10am-4pm

Walk-in's or Appointments

ReneeLynnPhotography.com 651-257-9855



BRINK'S MARKET

11460 Brink Ave, Chisago City

www.BrinksMarket.com 651-257-1700

Santa is Coming!

Saturday, December 10 11am-1pm

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be stopping by Brink's Market. Make sure to bring your camera for this free event!

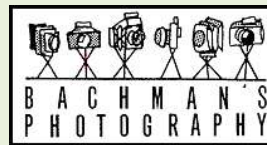


American
Red Cross

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, December 14 12-6pm

The bloodmobile will be set up in Brink's parking lot. To register to give a blood donation, contact American Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org



BACHMAN'S PHOTOGRAPHY

13000 Sylvan Ave, Lindstrom

651-257-9380

www.BachmansPhotography.com

DECEMBER SPECIAL

Need a gift for that special someone? Want Portraits of your own family? We are offering \$25.00 Gift Certificates for only \$20.00, no limit, so buy as many as you want for yourself or that special someone!

CHISAGO LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1 Summit Ave, Center City 651-257-6300

Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale

Saturday, December 3 9am-3pm

In addition to a wide variety of handcrafted items from many crafters, you can purchase delightful home-baked goodies, including Scandinavian specialties prepared by the excellent bakers of Chisago Lake Lutheran. Lunch will be available throughout the day.

Sankta Lucia Program

Saturday, December 10 8:30am



Enjoy a cup of coffee or cider, pepparkakor, Christmas breads and cheese. At 9am Lucia and her court, complete with customs begin the morning's events. Sponsored and endorsed by Kichi Saga Swedish Club.

November Luncheon Meeting



BRYAN GAFFY

Fairview Lakes Health Services

November Chamber luncheon was held at **Chisago Lakes Library**. Catered by **Meredee's Bistro** with coffee provided by **Northwoods Roasterie**. Thank you to **Grand Casino Hinckley** and **Recycled Wardrobes** for prize drawings.

Chamber announcements: **Trick or Treat on Main Street** was a fun way to welcome residents into our businesses. The Chamber treated 270 kids, which is triple the amount of last year. Official **Membership Packets** have been sent out. Thank you to those that have already renewed. We invite you to the **Chamber Membership Open House** on Thursday, November 17 5-7pm at the **Lindstrom Office Center**. Bring a potential new member with to introduce them into the chamber community and utilize the 25% off membership for both yourself and the new member. Or come for the networking and light appetizers. The 2017 **Home and Business Expo** registration is open to chamber members. Take advantage of the \$80 savings and showcase your business at the show on March 4-5. The **Annual Meeting and Holiday Gala** will be in place of next month's luncheon on December 8. Will be at **Winehaven** and catered by **Eichten's**. **Shop Small Saturday** is November 26. Stop by the chamber and pick up some free promotional merchandise. Everyone is welcome to join the **ABC All Team Meeting** on Thursday, November 17 8:30-10:30am at the Library.

New Chamber member: **HisDesigns, Adrian Roth**.

Member announcements: **Gary Gerke & Raechel Cagle-Family Pathways** announced their upcoming food drive and needing teen toys for the **Anonymous Santa Program**. **Darlene Shafer-Ecumen Point Pleasant** promoted upcoming events. **Loretta Anderson-Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation** announced an upcoming program with resources addressing heroin and prescription drug abuse. **Laurie Doughty** promoted Children's Shop Day at **First United Methodist Church**. **Bill Mack** promoted Lindstrom's Lighting Festival on Dec. 3. **Marlys Dunne** shared the Energy Assessment they had completed.

Guest speaker, **Bryan Gaffy, Fairview Health Services**, gave a Fairview update. **James Hereford** is the new CEO as of December 12, 2016. Some of the 2016 services and advancements are: Urgent Care clinics, 24/7 scheduling, same day appointments and extended hours, medical information access and virtual care (coming soon). Pharmacy has a Fair Pharmacy Assistance Fund that gives one-time prescription help. **Fairview Health Services** has a community commitment through charity, education, workforce development, research, donations, and community health programs. They utilize volunteers from the community.

LAYSBS News!

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

Demolition Saturday Volunteers Needed

**We need your help to get our future home
ready for renovation!**

When: Saturday December 3rd 2016

Time: Starting at 8:00am until done

Where: 20 North Lake Street, Suite 103 – our future home

Who: Agency volunteers, staff, board members and community people are needed to help clean out our new space and get it ready for construction.

What: Spend an hour or two hauling debris and junk to the dumpster.
Help make our future home become a reality.

—> **Wear old clothes that can get dirty**

—> **Bring work gloves if you can**

—> **Come hungry! We will have donuts! & bagels**



Contact Clarissa Pike at 651-464-3685 for more information and to let us know if you will be coming. We want to make sure to have enough donuts & bagels!



LAYSBS is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Ensuring the Success of Youth for 40 years.

We can help get your information out to the community! Please share your events/happenings with us so we can include in the monthly newsletter or weekly newflash. Please allow us time to receive the information to include. Email the Chamber at clacc@frontiernet.net. Deadline for inclusion is:

Newsflash – Week Prior of Event/Special

Newsletter – 20th of the Month Prior

www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com

AMERICA'S BEST COMMUNITIES UPDATE



Chisago Lakes is closing in on the 3rd quarter of the America's Best Communities Competition with continued energy and excitement.

- Maps, brochures and signage are in the works for the Chisago Lakes Water Trail, along with a new trailhead.
- Visit the new portion of the Swedish Immigrant Trail and enjoy the beautiful bridges.
- Next steps are being reviewed after The Blue Zone Rally and another Walk Your City campaign is being planned.
- The Chisago Lakes Community Website is ready to go live this month. Window decals and city banners are being created with the Chisago Lakes logo.
- Wifi hotspots are scheduled for installation in the community. Video conferencing equipment is installed at the Chisago Lakes Library & County HRA/EDA office.
- Space is being rented in the Lindstrom Office Center to begin a Higher Education site to connect students with higher education options.
- Numerous businesses are utilizing the savings available through the Chisago Clean Energy Hub to update lighting and install solar. Sign up for your free business assessment at www.chisago.cleanenergyhub.us
- A Housing team is assembled and reviewing housing options in Chisago Lakes and ways to fill voids.

Everyone is invited to join All Team meetings on the 4th Thursday from 8:30-10:30 at the Chisago Lakes Library

MN Chamber Update

Voters demand progress at Legislature

By Doug Loon

Change swept the nation as America woke up to a President Donald Trump in his upset victory over Hillary Clinton. Change propelled the shakeup in MN's political landscape, too, as Minnesotans affirmed their support for divided government. The Legislature is now firmly Republican. The executive branch remains Democrat under Governor Mark Dayton.

Voters were also crystal clear about their expectations that the governor and Legislature will govern – that they will work together to develop, debate and pass solutions to our state's most pressing problems. No stalemates. No stagnation. Our policymakers must use the experience of the last 2 years to build a record of progress that all Minnesotans will be proud of. The MN Chamber and our local partners are ready to do our part.

The election offers some key takeaways:

- Personal economics were on Minnesotans minds – especially health care, but also economic growth and wage growth. Everyone wants to be part of a growing economy.
- Good candidates and hard work produce solid results.
- The House and Senate are mirroring each other in the state's political landscape. Democrats are being elected primarily in

the urban core and are increasingly liberal; Republicans hail in primarily the outer ring suburbs and regional centers.

- Republicans are making substantive gains in the suburbs that we have not seen for years.

The Senate now stands at 34 Republicans and 33 Democrats, according to unofficial results. Two races are within the vote totals that trigger automatic recounts. Margins in the House are larger with 76 Republicans and 57 Democrats elected. In addition, one House seat remains unresolved; a special election is scheduled for February 14 for District 32B.

The MN Chamber and our partners are ready to present, discuss and help pass solutions that will accelerate the development and growth of our statewide economy. Our annual Minnesota Business Benchmarks provides an excellent springboard for our legislative agenda. Our top priorities for 2017 are:

- Reduce business taxes that undermine growth, entrepreneurship and expansion of Minnesota businesses.
- Pass long-term, comprehensive transportation package that increases investment in the state's multimodal infrastructure.
- Allow flexibility in workplace regulations and oppose one-size-fits-all mandates; pass statewide pre-emption of local labor mandates.
- Provide employers with more options and greater flexibility in providing health care coverage for employees.

The election provides the political landscape for the 2017 Legislature. The budget forecast will set the financial parameters. The 2016 Legislature adjourned with a \$729 million surplus for FY 2016/17 which will likely change in the December 2 report.

We are most effective at the Capitol when we build relationships and elect legislators who understand business issues. That's why the Minnesota Chamber works year-round to recruit and elect pro-business leaders regardless of political affiliation. We're pleased with our results. Our Leadership Fund PAC was victorious in 70 of 77 House contests and 32 of 39 in Senate contests.

The 2017 Legislature convenes January 4. The election results are shaping our 2017 proposals. Now, policymakers and business leaders must work collectively to adopt them. That way we will be ready for the future – ready for change and ready to grow.

Doug Loon is president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce: www.mnchamber.com.



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