



www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com

Monthly Newsletter

December 2017

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events

December 7: **Board Meeting 9:00am**
Chamber Office & Information Center
30525 Linden Street, Lindstrom

[A Special Invitation](#)

\$30/person RSVP by Friday, Dec. 1 to the Chamber

Chisago Lakes Chamber Annual Meeting & Holiday Gala

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Come Celebrate 2017 With Us!

Winehaven Winery

10020 Deer Garden Lane, Chisago City

5:00-6:30pm

Socializing & Fundraising Games

6:30pm

Enjoy a Buffet Dinner by Eichten's

Top Round Roast Beef with Gravy, Vegetable Medley

Garlic Mashed Red Potatoes, Salad, Dinner Roll

Dessert by Brink's Market

7:30pm

Annual Meeting & Year in Review

Community Awards

Raffle Winners Revealed!

Beverages Provided by:

Lindgren Tax & Accounting • WineHaven • Northwoods Roasterie

Reservations Required • RSVP by December 1st • 651-257-1177

\$30/person • Pre-Payment Appreciated

Chisago Lakes Chamber • PO Box 283 Lindstrom, MN 55045



December

What's Happening This Month

- | | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| December | 1 | Center City Lighting Festival |
| December | 1 | Wild Cat Club Begins – Wild Mountain |
| December | 1-2 | Barn Sale – Pleasant Valley Orchard |
| December | 1-2 | Santa Pictures – Renee Lynn Photography |
| December | 2 | Christmas Bazaar – CL Lutheran Church |
| December | 2 | Lindstrom Lighting Festival |
| December | 2 | Holiday Boutique – CC Fire Auxiliary |
| December | 2 | Christmas Open House – Eichten's |
| December | 2 | Scout/4H Day – Wild Mountain |
| December | 2-3 | Holiday Cheer - Winehaven |
| December | 3 | Chisago City Lighting Festival |
| December | 4 & 11 | Revii Meeting |
| December | 5 | Holiday Essential Oils – Vitalize! Centre |
| December | 6 | Girls Night Out – Mueller's Jewelers |
| December | 6-10 | Picket Fence Gals Sale |
| December | 7 | Santa Story Time – Ojiketa Regional Park |
| December | 7 | Snowflake Wine Glass – Vitalize! Centre |
| December | 8 | Open House – Security State Bank |
| December | 8 | Apple Day Celebration – MidWestOne Bank |
| December | 8 & 10 | Unexpected Company Concert |
| December | 9 | Sankta Lucia – CL Lutheran Church |
| December | 9 | Santa Visit - Brinks |
| December | 9 | Kid Sitting – Trinity Lutheran Church |
| December | 10 | Lucia Dagen – Gammelgarden Museum |
| December | 11 | North Pole Workshop – Community Ed |
| December | 12 | Lutefisk & Swedish Meatballs – Point Pleasant Height |
| December | 12 | doTERRA Essential Oils Make & Take Class |
| December | 12 | Christmas Tree Plaque – Vitalize! Centre |
| December | 13 | American Red Cross - Brinks |
| December | 14 | Holiday Party – Room for Growing |
| December | 14 | Art Shoe – Community Ed |
| December | 14 | Snowman Plaque – Vitalize! Centre |
| December | 15 | Christmas Party – Northwoods Roasterie |
| December | 16 | Live Nativity – United Methodist Church |
| December | 22 | Open House – US Bank |
| December | 22-23 | Starlight Tubing – Wild Mountain |
| December | 23 | Women's Race Camp – Wild Mountain |
| December | 25 | Christmas Dinner – Methodist Church |
| December | 26-29 | Christmas Race Camps – Wild Mountain |
| December | 29 | Men's Race Camps – Wild Mountain |
| December | 31 | New Years Eve Party – Wild Mountain |



2017 Board of Directors

Officers:

President: Josh Soderlund, Soderlund's Wood Mill
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Elevate Builders/Victory Lane Quick Oil Change

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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:

Cory Lindgren
Lindgren Tax & Accounting

2017 is coming to a close. It's been an exciting year for the chamber as we have continued to gain new members and open up awareness about our great community through all of our chamber events and the ABC Committee.

I want to thank the members of our chamber, the past and present board members, as well as past executive directors for all that you do for our great community. As a senior member of the board my term on the board is finally coming to a close after over 10 years serving on the chamber board. In addition to myself, our senior board member Matt Silver's term also expires this year. It's been a pleasure for both of us to serve our community and the chamber over the years, and you will definitely see us around at chamber events and other community events still being actively involved.

Our annual gala will take place on December 14th at Winehaven. If you haven't come to this event in the past you have been missing out on some great food, wine, and community. It's a great time for members of our community to connect and recognize those businesses that

have excelled in certain areas, as well as to talk about how the year has been for you. Additionally there will be some great prizes to be won.

Also, some of you are aware the Celebration of the Lakes Event has now been re-named Celebrate Chisago Lakes - Winter Blast. This event has really been expanded over the past couple years as community events have been added throughout the Chisago Lakes Communities. We hope to see you at the new and improved event on January 25-28.

Visit the chamber website for a list of all the events.

Lastly, as the serving treasure for 9 of the 10 years I have been involved on the chamber board I want to reiterate that our community and chamber would not be what it is today without your financial support and involvement in all that the chamber does. Our chamber has gone through many changes during this period and I am sure it will continue to experience positive changes going forward. I hope your support for our chamber continues in the coming years, not only financially but also through community involvement because you are what makes Chisago Lakes one of America's Best Communities!

Lighting Festivals

Get out and enjoy tree lightings, Santa, music, hayrides, food, caroling and more!

December 1: CENTER CITY

'Lighting up the Season' Grand lighting/Santa Parade, activities following the parade and continuing through the weekend.

December 2: LINDSTROM

Carolers, tree lighting, bon fire, s'mores, food, beverages, & more!

December 3: CHISAGO CITY 4:30-6PM

Wagon rides, tree lighting, refreshments, music, Santa and his elves & more! We will be collecting for Anonymous Santa and Local Food Shelf.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

30828 Irene Ave, Lindstrom

651-257-4306 www.LindstromMethodist.org



Living Nativity

Saturday, December 16 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!

Need directions to your financial destination?



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PICKET FENCE GALS SALE



DECEMBER 6-10

Wednesday 3-7pm

Thursday-Saturday 9am-6pm

Sunday 11am-5pm

A large Victorian 2-story house filled with affordable, ever-changing items. Find antiques & vintage items, painted furniture, garden items, home & cabin décor, re-purposed items, textiles and so much more! Downtown Lindstrom.

www.PicketFenceGals.net 651-334-1444

CENTER CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY



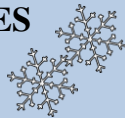
Holiday Boutique

Bake Sale & Vendor Event
Saturday, December 2 9am-2pm

All proceeds will be donated to a Chisago Lakes area family in need.

CELEBRATE CHISAGO LAKES 'WINTER BLAST'

January 25-28



Winter in Minnesota is ever changing, with the past two years being too mild to hold events on the frozen lakes. But, with other opportunities for fun in the winter, we are rebranding the festival and bringing you new activities to enjoy through Celebrate Chisago Lakes~Winter Blast! Here is a peek at the events for the weekend: Downtown Diva Night will start it off on Thursday night, The Rotary's Casino Night is joining the Friday night line up with music, food, gambling and plenty of fun in Frankie's showroom. The Chili Cook Off is returning on Saturday with many other fantastic family activities at Ojiketa Regional Park. Sled Dogs, Kid's Craft and games, story time, food, snowshoeing and skiing. And ice permitting, the Radar Run and Kids Pro Ice will be back on the lake for fun at crazy speeds! [Sponsorship Form](#)

POINT PLEASANT HEIGHTS

28600 Fairway Lane, Chisago City
651-257-4035

LUTEFISK & SWEDISH MEATBALL DINNER

Tuesday, December 12, 2017 12 Noon

Cost is \$14.00 per person. Limited seating available.
Please call 651-257-4035 to make your reservation.



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

Blandin Community Leadership Program Seeks New Participants

As part of its commitment to strengthening rural communities, Blandin Foundation is making its Blandin Community Leadership Program (BCLP) available to residents from Chisago Lakes. All those interested in the future of Chisago Lakes are invited to apply to participate in this nationally recognized program. Deadline to apply is Monday, January 8, 2018. Applications can be accessed and completed online at: leadership.blandinfoundation.org (Under Current and Upcoming Leadership Training, click on your community).

Ultimately, a community team of 24 people will be selected to take part in eight days of training – a five-day residential retreat scheduled for February 26-March 2, 2018 at Sugar Lake Lodge south of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and three follow-up workshops scheduled for April 17, 2018, June 26, 2018 and September 11, 2018. BCLP is underwritten by Blandin Foundation, which covers all costs for training, materials, food, lodging and tuition. [Information](#)

Happy New Year



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DECEMBER FEATURED BUSINESS LINDSTROM THRIFTY WHITE PHARMACY



Lindstrom Thrifty White Pharmacy, locally owned and family operated has been serving our community since 1995. Our recently remodeled pharmacy department has expanded to meet the growing needs of our customers. We strive to provide professional, friendly, prompt and convenient prescription processing. Our pharmacy staff includes 4 doctorates of pharmacy that are available to counsel you on your medication questions. Patient care is our top priority. We administer, and bill insurances for several vaccinations including flu shots. Local prescription delivery is also available for patients with limited mobility.

Lindstrom Thrifty White Pharmacy carries the largest Hallmark Card selection in the area. We have cards for every occasion. Currently, we have a large selection of Christmas boxed cards. We also have an extensive gift selection including Yankee Candle, Willow Tree Angels, Ty plush, Wild Berry Incense, Howard's jewelry, scarves and Natural Life. For premier chocolates we carry Russell Stover, Abdallah Candies, a MN company, and a large line of everyday candies and snacks.

We carry an extensive section of over the counter medications, vitamins, cosmetics, beauty products, school supplies, toys, games, puzzles, crafts, sewing items and household cleaning supplies. We pride ourselves on being the "Homecoming Headquarters" and obtaining every green and gold item possible for the CLHS events including a nice line of Wildcat clothing. We strive to provide service that meets the needs of our special customer requests. The entire Lindstrom Thrifty White staff would like to thank the local community for supporting our family business.

THRIFTY WHITE
651-257-4074

www.lindstromthriftywhite.com



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2017-2018 SKI & SNOWBOARD SEASON IS NOW OPEN!

Check out the *Daily Snow Report*

- * Wild Cat Club 11 week Session: Starts December 1
- * Scout/4H Day: December 2
- * Women's Race Camps: Sat-Sun, December 2-3
- * Home School Days: December 5, 12, 14
- * Friends & Family Fun Days: December 16, 17, 23
- * Wild Mountain Invitational: December 22 9am-3pm
- * Starlight Tubing: December 22-23 6-9pm
- * Christmas Race Camps: December 26-29
- * Night Moves -Late Night Session: December 29
- * Men's Race Camp: December 29 9am-3pm
- * New Years Eve Party: December 31 5-9pm
- * New Years Eve Party (21+): December 31 (9pm-12am)

This is the year you Get Hooked on Skiing or Snowboarding. If you've ever thought about learning or are considering introducing a friend or family member to skiing or snowboarding, you'll want to take advantage of Wild Mountain's 'Get Hooked on Skiing or Snowboarding'. When you complete your final Get Hooked lesson, you will receive a *FREE Wild Mountain Full Season Pass*, good for the remainder of the 2017-2018 season. You must complete all 3 Get Hooked lessons to be eligible for the free pass.

[Get Hooked Information.](#)



COMMUNITY EDUCATION
13289 St. Croix Ave, Lindstrom
651-213-2600

> **North Pole Workshop** - Monday, Dec. , 6-7:30pm
Children must have a parent or supervising adult with them at all times. Held at the Family Center. \$5/child

> **Art Show** - Thursday, December 14, 6:30-7:30pm
Real artists teaching young artists. Free admission, live music, open to the public. Artwork from all the after school art classes will be displayed alongside work from the professional artists. Held at Chisago Lakes Primary School.



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CHISAGO LAKES LIBRARY

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

NOVEMBER EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY!

- > **'Local Author Visit'** Tuesday, December 5 6:30-7:30pm
The community is invited to the library to meet Chisago Lakes author Heidi Barr and hear about her latest book, *Woodland Manitou*. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Chisago Lakes Area Library.
- > **'Santa Story Time'** Thursday, December 7 6-7pm
Santa himself along with the librarian will be reading everyone stories. Kids 10 and under are welcome to join us at Strom Hall at Ojiketa Regional Park. Enjoy cookies and crafts! 27500 Kirby Ave, Chisago City
- > **'Keep Talking and Nobody Explodes!'**
Saturday, December 9 12:30-2pm
Tweens and Teens! You are invited to a game day at the Chisago Lakes Area Library. We will be doing some logic based games including defusing a virtual bomb.
- > **'Toddler Storytime'** December 13 10:30-11am
Join us with your child, ages birth to 24 months for early literacy fun including stories, songs and more!
- > **'Early Explorers'** Monday, December 18 5-6pm
Come to the Chisago Lakes Area Library for stories and early STEM activities as we explore all things science! Program is best suited for ages 2-6. Caregivers are strongly encouraged to remain with their child during the program.

REVII/GUS GULBRANSON

651-246-9027

<http://672127.myrevii.com/>

Revii

'TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR HEALTH WITH NUTRITION' Weekly meetings: Mondays 7pm Chisago Lakes Chamber, 30525 Linden St, Lindstrom

We are looking for health minded people to join us in a journey to a healthier community. Special guest speakers on occasion. Free and open to the public.

Revii, a company whose goal is to remove toxins from your life and replace them with products to help improve quality of life. Questions, call Gus at 651-246-9027.



The Choral Company **'Unexpected Company'** proudly presents their holiday concert, "Come In! Come In!" Show will feature a wonderful mix of traditional holiday music, sacred choral works and a few pop culture songs too.

Friday, December 8 7:30pm

ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH
20971 Olinda Trail N, Scandia

Sunday, December 10 3:00pm

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, CL HIGH SCHOOL
29400 Olinda Trail, Lindstrom

Trinity Lutheran Church

13025 Newell Ave, Lindstrom

651-257-5129 tlclindstrom.org



KIDSITTING

Toddler – 5th Grade

Saturday, December 9 Noon-4 pm

Free-will offering benefiting Youth Summer Camps.
RSVP by December 7 to Trinity Lutheran Church,
651-257-5129.

EICHTEN'S MARKET & CAFÉ

16440 Lake Blvd, Center City

www.SpecialtyCheese.com 651-257-1566

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 2 10am-4pm

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



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'ESSENTIAL OILS FOR THE HOLIDAYS'

Tuesday, December 12 6:30pm

Come and learn how to stay healthy over the holidays. Then enjoy a Make & Take project. (\$10) Held at the Chamber office - 30525 Linden St., Lindstrom.

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 14th & 15th 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.

The Chamber is a drop off center. Gift Ideas include: Hats & Mittens-especially teen sizes, Doll outfits and accessories, Baby Walkers, Baby activity tables, Wooden Block sets, Lil' Woodzeez activity sets, Puzzles, Musical Instruments, Legos, Electric Razor, Spa/Salon Items, Hair Straighteners/Curlers, Shopkins, Trolls, LeapFrog toys, Little Live Pets, Melissa & Doug activity sets.

Applications are due December 1 and are available [HERE](http://www.AnonymousSanta.net) and at www.AnonymousSanta.net.

Distribution Dates: December 14th & 15th

Main Street Church

6500 Main St, North Branch



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 hot coffee! Sale continues on Christmas ornaments.



Vitalize! Wellness Centre

10720 282nd Street, Chisago City

Open Art Studio! 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 5-7:30

\$5 if you use our supplies, Free if you bring your own! Instructor Joy Tate will be there if you have any questions or need help with inspiration on your next project. No need to register; just stop in! Open studio through December.

Holiday Essential Oils! Tues, December 5 7-8:30pm

Learn about different essential oils: their benefits, wonderful smell and how to incorporate them in your life. Class includes a Make & Take project that you can give as a gift or keep for yourself. Members \$15, Non Members \$17 [Registration](#)

Snowflake Wine Glass! Thurs, December 7 5-7pm

Paint on a wine glass! Includes one glass, make it a set for an extra \$5. Members \$15, Non-Members \$20 [Registration](#)

Christmas Tree Plaque! Tues, December 12 6-8:30pm

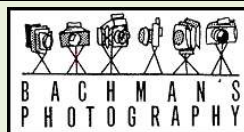
Try a mixed medium class! Create a small wooden plaque using repurposed materials such as buttons, beads and antique books. Personalize your plaques with different colors or sayings. Members \$15, Non Members \$20 [Registration](#)

Snowman Wood Plaque! Thurs, December 14 6-8:30pm

Make an adorable snowman painting on a piece of repurposed wood. Members \$15, Non Members \$20 [Registration](#)

Christmas Wreath! Tues, December 19 6-8:30pm

Make a Christmas Wreath decoration. Beginners welcome. Members \$15, Non Members \$20 [Registration](#)



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. Buy them for that person who has everything or for yourself as a Christmas treat!



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November 2nd Board Meeting Highlights

Secretary's Report:

October minutes reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report reviewed and accepted.

Committee Reports:

- **Fall Decorating:** November 17 is pick up day.
- **Trick or Treat on Main Street**
Many families visited our local businesses!

To Do's:

- Chamber Bylaws – still discussing revisions.
- Chamber Board Members for 2018-2020. Finalizing new board members.
- Gala Invite – will be mailed and emailed out this year.
- Budget Meeting – Tuesday, November 7 6:30am to review the budget for final numbers, approval by board will be in December.

Director's Report:

1. Director and Office Manager attended a regional Chamber luncheon hosted by Grand Casino Hinckley. Networked with other Chambers and shared information about Chisago Lakes events
2. Attended GPS 45:93 Annual Meeting featuring speakers from DEED, Area Workforce Panel and North Branch Community Development Director
3. Attended the Chisago County Economic Development Summit featuring speakers from: Maxfield Research & Consulting LLC regarding the County Housing Study, and Community Technology Advisors regarding Broadband
4. Accepted a grant from the Chisago Lakes Area Community Foundation on behalf of the Chisago Lakes Marketing and Tourism Team and the Chamber for minor adjustments/hosting of ChisagoLakes.org.

**Thank You to those Members
that have already sent in their
2018 Chamber Membership!**

Renewal deadline is January 15, 2018!

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!



Annual Holiday Open House

Santa Photos \$15

(or \$12 with toy or food
donation for Food Shelf.)

Dec. 1st & 2nd

Friday: 3pm-7pm

Saturday: 10am-3pm

Walk-in's or Appointments

ReneeLynnPhotography.com 651-257-9855



Gammelgården Museum



20880 Olinda Trail, Scandia

www.GammelGardenMuseum.org

651-433-5053

LUCIA DAGEN

Sunday, December 10 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 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. Lucia Dagen is a family tradition for all ages. **Elim Lutheran Church**, 20971 Olinda Trail N, Scandia

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October Membership Luncheon



Chamber Members

Senya Morque
Blandin Leadership Program

The November luncheon was held at Chisago Lakes Library. We enjoyed an early Thanksgiving feast catered by **Brink's Market** and coffee from **Northwoods Roasterie**. Thank you to the Chamber for the raffle prize.

Chamber announcements: Thank you to all the businesses who participated in Trick or Treat on MaIn Street. The weather was rough but families still enjoyed the night. There are still a few more ad spaces available on the Chisago Lakes Map. Morning Mentoring topic will be Shop Small Saturday. Pick up marketing supplies. The Annual Meeting and Holiday Gala will take the place of the December Luncheon. Plan to attend this great event at WineHaven Winery and celebrate the year with us. The Social Media Breakfast will be Nov. 29th at the North Branch Library. Chamber membership packets will arrive soon. New member is **The Lodges of Taylors Falls**.

Member announcements: **Paul Martin, Grandpa Cheesecake** reminded people to order for the holidays. **David Waldoch** explained Our Town-art displays at the Wyoming Art Center. **Leah Renter, Forest Lake Times** introduced herself. **Erin Thorvaldson, Generations Real Estate Group** informed about their Christmas Giving Tree and **First United Methodist Church's** Children's Shop Day. **Judy Erickson, Pleasant Valley Orchard** mentioned their Fall and Holiday Sales.

The **Blandin Foundation** is a private foundation based in Grand Rapids, Minnesota whose mission is to be a trusted partner and advocate who strengthens rural Minnesota communities. The Chisago Lakes community has been chosen through a grant process to attend the Blandin Community Leadership Training Program in the Spring. **Senya Morque**, who provides support to all Blandin Leadership programs, spoke about the training and how individuals can apply to attend. Blandin has criteria with which to choose the participants so they represent a cross-section of the community in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, occupation and community involvement. The training is designed for emerging and established community leaders who want to be more effective at developing and sustaining the health of their communities. The alumni in the room reiterated the value in attending the week long training program on both a personal and community level.



Thank You to our 2017 Chamber Supporters!

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US BANK

651-257-9074 USBank.com



Matthew Struve DDS • Priya Shaffer DDS

12245 Lindstrom Lane, Lindstrom 55045
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Friday	8:30am-5pm	8:30am-6pm
Saturday	9am-12pm	9am-12pm



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SECURITY STATE BANK
Hwy8 & Co. Rd. 14, Lindstrom
651-257-4141

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Friday, December 8th 4-7pm

Serving coffee, cookies & cider. Stop in to pick up a calendar and gift! Anonymous Santa donations accepted. Santa will be there at 4pm.



MIDWESTONE BANK

11151 Lake Blvd, Chisago City
651-257-6561



APPLE DAY CELEBRATION

Friday, December 8th

Join us for delicious apples, hot cider, coffee and fresh baked cookies. We have a Hat & Mitten Drive, benefitting Family Pathways. Collecting donations through 12/16/17.

GENERATIONS REAL ESTATE GROUP

11183 Lake Blvd, Ste 103, Chisago City
GenerationsRealEstateGroup.com
651-257-3465



'CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE'

Do you have a Christmas need or maybe know a family or individual that has a Christmas need? Stop by our office or complete [this link](#) with the needed information. All information is kept COMPLETELY confidential. If you'd like to help out with giving, contact us and we'll let you know what kind of items need to be purchased along with when the items need to be delivered to our office.

NORTHWOODS ROASTERIE

12710 N. First Ave, Lindstrom

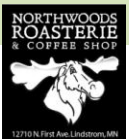
Christmas Party

Friday, December 15 7-10pm

Santa & Mrs. Claus, Ugly Sweater Contest, Holiday Photo Booth, Custom Caricatures, Coffee and Christmas Drinks.

www.NorthwoodsRoasterie.com

651-257-5240



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

Bright Ideas for Home, Garden & Family!
March 3-4, 2018

You are invited to be an exhibitor at the 2018 Home & Business Expo. This event is a great way to reach new customers and is well promoted and advertised. Chamber members receive \$80 off of booth registration. Registration is now open to Chamber members. Non profit registration will open soon. [Registration Form](#)



First United Methodist Church

30828 Irene Ave, Lindstrom
651.257.4306 www.LindstromMethodist.org

CHISAGO LAKES AREA ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Monday, December 25 Seating Noon-1:15pm

A tasty, hot meal served to 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, or donate food/cash are invited to call Lois at 651-213-1036. The meal is free, but reservations are requested by December 18. To make a reservation, call the church at 257-4306. If after hours, please leave a message.

ROOM FOR GROWING

11125 Lake Blvd, Chisago City
651-257-2441



Annual Holiday Party
Thursday, December 14
6:30-7:30pm



You are invited to join us for a fun filled family event! Enjoy cookie decorating, crafts & games and pictures with Santa.

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



"GIRLS NIGHT OUT"

Wednesday, December 6th 6-9pm

Ladies, bring your girlfriends and family for a fun night of hors d'oeuvres, WineHaven wine and laughter.

Try on some of the gorgeous pieces in the new lines of jewelry we are receiving daily! Fill out a Wish List that will make shopping easier for your significant other.

So, get out, grab your friends and join us for an evening of just plain girl's fun!



BRINK'S MARKET

11460 Brink Ave, Chisago City
www.BrinksMarket.com 651-257-1700

Santa is Coming!

Saturday, December 9 11am-1pm

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



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, December 13 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

GRANDPA CHEESECAKE

12710 Lake Blvd, Lindstrom 651-257-6199
facebook.com/grandpacheesecake

What better dessert for the holidays than cheesecake! Whether you are hosting or a guest, Grandpa Cheesecake can make you the hit of the party. Be sure to get your Christmas order in. We are located within the Lindstrom Sweet Shoppe.

We can help get your information out to the community! Share your events/happenings with us.

- > Visit the new community website ChisagoLakes.org and share an event on the calendar.
- > To include your information in our weekly newsflash or monthly newsletter, email clacc@frontiernet.net.

US BANK

1493 Lake Lane, Chisago City
651-257-9074



CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Friday, December 22 10am-4pm

Good Friend, Good Cheer.

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Please join us for our open house. Visit with employees and enjoy Swedish Treats!



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

HOLIDAY CHEER AT THE VINEYARD

Saturday, December 2 10:00am-5:00pm
Sunday, December 3 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.

CHISAGO LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1 Summit Ave, Center City 651-257-6300

Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale

Saturday, December 2 9am-3pm

Unique crafters, bake sale, breakfast rolls, coffee, sloppy joe lunch and antiques. Raffle for a beautiful quilt, grocery and gas cards, B&B Tea and more items. (total value over \$800).

Sankta Lucia Program

Saturday, December 9 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.

Remember...



Pleasant Valley Orchard

17325 Pleasant Valley Rd, Shafer
651-257-9159 PleasantValleyOrchard.com



DECEMBER BARN SALE

December 1 & 2 10am-4pm

Annual Christmas Barn Sale! Unique, one-of-a kind items, sales on gourmet foods and of course our yummy pies and caramel apples. Great hostess gifts and a chance to stock up on your favorite apples and treats!

Almelund Mercantile

15790 Maple Lane, Almelund
651-583-3696 AlmelundMercantile.com



Christmas Sale 2017!

December 1, 2, 3 & December 8, 9, 10

20% off all antiques/collectibles (unless marked firm, final or already on sale'). Enjoy holiday treats, locally roasted coffee, and door prizes.

Winter hours: Friday 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10:30-5



BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON

Chisago Lakes is in the process of becoming a Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Community, which is a comprehensive program that creates awareness for the purpose of connecting Service members and their families with community support, training, services and resources. Want to get involved in helping get this going? Plan to attend a meeting on January 8th or call the Chamber, 651-257-1177.
[Jan. 8 Meeting Info](#) [Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Flyer](#)

MN Chamber Update

Business Benchmarks:

If we lead from ahead, we will stay there

By Doug Loon

Minnesota has the tools to lead the nation in economic change and growth with tremendous workforce and innovation strengths, according to our annual Minnesota Business Benchmarks. Yet the state lags in many key economic indicators, partly due to self-imposed headwinds.

Those are the chief takeaways of the third annual report produced by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and our local Chamber Federation partners. Click [here](#) for the full Business Benchmarks report.

Positioning Minnesota for a prosperous future requires preventive maintenance borne from awareness and informed conversation on our state's economic strengths and challenges

To be certain, it's tough to evaluate Minnesota's economy by following the state's disparate performance in national business rankings. How can we be CNBC's third best state for business, yet 47th in the Small Business Policy Index.

That makes the clarity of our Business Benchmarks especially timely and valuable. By aggregating objective data measuring Minnesota's health and competitiveness against other states, we can build on our strengths and mitigate notable threats.

Among the key findings:

- Minnesota continues to shine in innovation. This success should be used as a catalyst to close the gap with other states on entrepreneurship and start-up activity.
- Our workforce continues to be one of MN's greatest assets. Working to close the achievement gap and keeping an open door to incoming talent will continue to fuel economic growth.
- Minnesota's tax environment threatens our other competitive advantages. Working to lower rates and simplify the tax structure will make other elements of our business climate even more inviting to grow jobs and our economy for the long term.
- Minnesota's affordable cost of living helps recruit and retain talent. Reining in other everyday business costs will help employers maintain a healthy bottom line and compete into the future.

Business Benchmarks provides an excellent springboard for our legislative agenda to grow our state's economy. We encourage policymakers and business leaders to use the report to spark meaningful conversations on how to improve Minnesota's position in key business and economic climate rankings.

Minnesota is a homegrown economy built on innovation. Home to 17 Fortune 500 companies and the largest privately held company in the nation. Almost all started & succeeded here. That's a big deal, and we cannot stand on our laurels. We need public policies that encourage continued change & growth of businesses of all sizes.

Business Benchmarks helps set a course for adopting policies that propel the state's economy forward & sustain our cherished quality of life. We look to policymakers in St. Paul to understand our statewide business climate, support policies that facilitate change, encourage job growth and remove barriers to long-term economic success. If we lead from ahead, we will remain there.

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



Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
The Voice of Business