

Hip Hip Hooray!

Orthopedic Open House

Sunday, August 29, 2010 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Explore surgical and non-surgical treatment options for hip, shoulder and knee pain at the Orthopedic Open House with Dr. Rajan Jhanjee, orthopedic surgeon at the Monticello Clinic. Learn about non-surgical treatments, minimally invasive options, joint replacement, joint reconstruction and the latest advances in orthopedic surgery.

A picnic lunch will be served.

If you're tired of living with joint pain, visit the Orthopedic Open House hosted by New River Medical Center and the Monticello Clinic on

Sunday, August 29, 2010 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
in the Monticello Clinic parking lot at 1001 Hart Boulevard in Monticello. For more information, call 763.271.2388.

Monticello
Clinic



The open house will be held in the Zimmer Mobile Learning Center, a mobile classroom complete with orthopedic implants, hands-on displays and educational demonstrations.

The Chamber Connection



Summer 2010

Volume 7, Issue 4

Summer Events: Freedom Days & Golf Tournament

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Special Points of Interest

- ♦ Freedom Days
- ♦ 14th Annual Golf Mixer
- ♦ Raffle
- ♦ New Office staff
- ♦ Member news

 ★ Summer seemed to officially start with Becker's **Freedom Days** week June 20th—June 27. **Saturday, June 26th** was the big day everyone waits for! The parade brought people downtown at 10 a.m. with crafters, food vendors, and activities ready to go! The Chamber had many crafters lined up along Hancock Street. Many interesting items including: jewelry, music, food items, purses, garden accessories, food, clothing, etc. Crafters were open from 9—3 p.m. We also had food booths with our famous "Walking Tacos" and beverages. It was a hungry and thirsty crowd! We survived the heat with some iced teas, Powerade, and water! We were busy all day! A HUGE thanks to the chamber board members and chamber members: Jody Buesgens (**All Star Embroidery**), Stan & Wanda Herkenhoff (**Edina Realty**), Carol Van Heel (**Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife**), Tony & Val Wruck (**Wruck Excavating**), Bill Wilts (**Xcel-Sherco**), State Rep. **Mary Kiffmeyer**, Senate Candidate **Dave Brown**, and for everyone involved in the day! We could not do it without you! THANKS! We worked with the Freedom Days committee this year to sell **Freedom Days buttons!** Your business could offer a discount or special to button holders during the week with **FREE** participation!! Watch for this offer again next year!



14th Annual Golf Mixer Pebble Creek Golf Course



The Becker Chamber of Commerce held it's on Thursday, July 22nd at **Pebble Creek**. It was a 9 hole scramble with 60 golfers participating. Registration began at 2 pm with a shotgun start at 3 pm. Many teams hoped to better their score by purchasing mulligans and footsticks. Raffle tickets were also available for sale for many prizes later in the evening.

The weather cooperated and the golfers began. A buffet dinner provided by T's was served on the Pebble Creek lawn area after the round was complete. Dinner included hamburger/chicken sandwich with all the fixin's, salads, bars, and beverages.

Lynette Brannan, **LB Productions** welcomed all the guests. Lynette who is a Chamber board member was also the chair of the golf event. Julie Brandt, President of the Chamber, thanked everyone for coming. She thanked the sponsors: **Grand Casino & Liberty Paper** as co-sponsors.

(Continued on p. 5)

From the Chair, Bruce Tyler

As I write this, it is Freedom Days eve. By the time you read this, it will be over and everyone will have had a wonderful time. The Becker Freedom Days celebration is a fantastic civic activity that all should be proud to participate.

This month, I want to write about federal hiring incentives. Employers have a new financial incentive to hire unemployed workers: the HIRE Act. That's shorthand for the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act.

Under the act, which was signed into law on March 18, 2010, employers can claim an exemption from their share of Social Security tax on wages paid to qualifying employees, effective for wages paid from March 19 to December 31. For each qualified employee who stays on board for at least 52 consecutive weeks, companies can claim a general business tax credit, known as "the new-hire retention credit," of 6.2 percent of wages paid during the 52-week period, up to a maximum credit of \$1,000.

Recently, the IRS provided employers with tips on complying with some of the law's finer points.

Do qualified employees need to step forward to make it possible for their employers to claim the payroll tax exemptions? Yes. To become qualified, employees must certify, by a signed affidavit, under penalties of perjury, that they have not been employed for more than 40 hours during the 60-day period ending on the date they started employment.

Is the 60-day period continuous, and can it span 2009-10? Yes, and yes.

Board of Directors

Bruce Tyler , Chair Home Run Human Resources 763-263-2655	Ken Larson , Director Jubilee Foods 763-26	Tanya Danielson , Treasurer Sherburne State Bank 763-261-4200	Dawn Hammill , Director Anytime Fitness 763-262-2333
Chris Weise , Vice-Chair Connections, Etc. 763-262-4100	Lynette Brannan , Secretary LB Productions 763-262-9705	Cindy Shore , Director Xcel Energy-Sherco Plant 763-261-3117	

"Our Vision for the Becker Area Chamber of Commerce is organized to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the Becker Area so that its citizens and all areas of its business community shall prosper. All necessary means of promotion shall be provided and particular attention and emphasis shall be given to the economic, civil, commercial, industrial and educational interests of the area."

Ambassadors

Jody Buesgens All Star Embroidery 763-261-2566	Patti Mayer Magic Moments Photography 763-295-2727	Audrey Orton , Welcome Ambassador Mary Kay Cosmetics 320-743-2636
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Amy Chmielewski
American Family Insurance
763-261-5959

Would YOU be interested in helping with our mission to promote businesses and the chamber? Please call !

Chamber Office

Julie Brandt, President
Gaye Kirchoff, Administrative Assistant
PO Box 313
13612 First Street, Suite 2
Becker, MN 55308
Office: 763-262-2420
Fax: 763-262-2150
info@beckerchamber.org

"Our Mission is to promote a positive business environment, offering participation, encouragement and support to the Becker Area Businesses."

Digital mammography is here!



New River Medical Center's comprehensive care for breast health now offers digital mammography to provide women the latest diagnostic technology for breast cancer detection.

Self-schedule your screening mammogram

New River Medical Center makes it easy for women to screen for breast cancer by accepting self-referrals for screening mammograms; call 763.271.2288 to schedule your appointment. A physician's order isn't necessary to schedule a screening mammogram, but New River Medical Center does ask for the name of a physician who is to receive the radiologist report. If a screening mammogram shows an area of concern, New River Medical Center provides breast ultrasound, breast biopsy and diagnostic mammogram services close to home.

New River
MEDICAL CENTER

1013 Hart Boulevard • Monticello, MN 55362
www.newrivermedical.com • 763.295.2945



PO Box 313 | Becker, MN 55308

Does the exemption apply to wages paid to a qualified employee hired to replace an existing worker whose employment terminated? No, unless the existing worker terminated employment voluntarily or was terminated for cause.

Does the exemption apply to wages paid to an employee who was previously laid off and then rehired by the same or a related employer after a 60-day period? Yes. An employer may apply the payroll tax exemption if the rehired worker is otherwise a qualified employee.

If an employer lays off an employee because of lack of work and later, when work picks up, hires a new employee, can the payroll tax exemption apply to wages paid to the new employee? Yes, if the new employee is qualified.

Does the payroll tax exemption apply only if the employer previously laid off employees? No. It can apply to wages paid to any qualified employee.

If an employer hires a recent graduate who has been in school for some or all of the 60 days preceding the start of his/her employment, does the payroll tax exemption apply to wages paid to the employee? Yes, if the employee is a qualified employee. The exemption doesn't apply only to those who were previously employed or who were laid off.

This new act has real possibility to save some employers money, and we all know every little bit counts!

Bruce Tyler

Member Benefits

Bulk Permit Use: Chamber Members are able to use our Bulk Mailing Permit. A \$35 annual fee and a 200 mailing minimum is required. Please contact the Chamber Office for assistance.

Ceremonies & Events: Chamber Ambassadors are available for Ribbon Cutting events, Award Ceremonies or for an Open House. Ambassadors are the recruiting and retaining arm of the Chamber and are always willing to make a visit and take a photo at your special event.

Mailing Labels: Printed address labels are available to all Chamber Members at no cost.

Chamber Bucks \$\$: Promote yourself and other members with these!

Sponsorship and Volunteer Opportunities

E-mail Blasts: We can send an ad or promotion to all members for only \$10.

Member to Member Ads: Free 2x2 ads for specials directed toward Chamber Members are available for advertising in our newsletter and on our Specials Page of our website. These are run on a first come, first serve basis.

Monthly Member Meeting: The second Wednesday of the month is reserved for our Chamber Luncheon. It is held at various locations within the community from 12-1pm. Attendance is limited to members or by invitation. An RSVP to the Chamber Office is required.

Newsletter Inserts: Preprinted flyers can be added for \$20 each newsletter. Business Card Ads run 12 months for \$72.

Website Advertising: Free advertising on our website under the specials tab is available on a first come, first serve basis. Banners can be placed on the homepage for \$10/month or on any inside page for \$5/month with a link set up to your website. Banners must be 175x60 pixels and excludes design. Contact the Chamber Office if interested. These also run on a first come, first serve basis.

Welcome Kits: Welcome Kits are available for you to place your business advertisement in. These kits are distributed to new residents from both the Chamber Office and City Hall.

Notary Services available at NO cost to members.

Raffle drawing : Sept. 24th @ 1:30 p.m.

Cash prizes: \$500 \$200 \$100(2) \$50(3)

Standard room with 2 meal buffets

Summer Fun pack: duffle bag, grill set, water tumbler

1 Month chiropractic care

Becker Spiritwear basket

Bio-feedback session

3 month membership to fitness center

Gift cards -\$50 gift cards (3)

Tickets are only \$1 ! Purchase at the chamber office!

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 Fax (763) 261-2415
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 www.sherburnestatebank.com
 PO Box 428 Becker, MN 55308

CONNEXUS ENERGY
 Your Community Energy Partner
 Kenneth Fiereck Assistant Secretary/Treasury
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Member "Focus" - Keeler Gunsmithing (New member 2010)

My name is Chris Keeler and I am Keeler's Gunsmithing LLC. I have been tinkering with firearms for a large portion of my life and while watching late night TV working as a paramedic a few years ago I saw a show following a student through a Gunsmithing program. The next day I decided I needed a plan "B" and going to school to learn the fine points of gunsmithing and all the skills one just doesn't pick up working on friends and family guns was the path I wanted to take. I completed the two year Advanced Gunsmithing Diploma program at Pine Technical College in Pine City, which is one of about seven Gunsmithing programs in the country, in the spring of 2008 and shortly after opened my own business. Being a gunsmith truly makes a person a "jack of all trades". I can do anything from the simple disassemble and cleaning to full custom work, which includes skills such as welding, machining, woodwork, and metal finishing. There really is no telling what will come through the door next, it can be a new gun needing a scope mounted, a competition gun needing an action job, a family heirloom being restored, or a priceless antique that needs to be preserved. I also have a Federal Firearms Licence which allows me to be a firearms dealer, so if you are in the market for a gun, give me a call; I can usually save you a little money over the big box stores, and the personal service can't be beat. My hours vary by the day as I still can't seem to leave the ambulance behind and I serve the Becker community as a fire-fighter, so it's best to call and set up an appointment.

Check out more at my website: www.keelersgunsmithing.com

Thanks and shoot straight,

Chris Keeler



Member News:

- *Starz Dance Studio Open House Aug. 26th & Sept. 2 5:30—7:30 pm.
- *Great River Spine & Sport is collecting school supplies for local families in need.
- *Did you know there is a **Farmer's Market** in downtown Becker every Saturday from 9am -1pm ? Contact Kristin for more info. 763-458-8037
- *New River Medical is having an Orthopedic Open House Sunday August 29th. See insert.
- *Sherburne History Center welcomes Mike Brubaker as Executive Director on September 7th. The "Autumn Lights" fundraiser for the SHC is September 10th from 5- 8:30 pm.
- *Imagine décor & more had an Open House ! Stop in and say Hi to Julie!
- *Amy Chmielewski American Family Insurance Agency was "Agency of the month" in June.

Do you have news you want to share? Let us know and we will get the word out!

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Did you know that the Becker Chamber now takes credit cards?

We have teamed up with First Data/DPS/Chris Fett to get great rates! You can too! There have already been a few members switch from their current processor. Compare for yourself!

Give Chris a call at 612-812-8806 for more information.
Watch for more details!

Cory Whiting has resigned as chamber board member. Cory has been very active on the chamber board for a number of years. She chaired many events and helped the chamber enormously. Thanks for everything Cory! Her replacement is Dawn Hammill from Anytime Fitness. She will fulfill Cory's position until the end of her term. We are looking forward to working her!

WELCOME

We have a new Administrative Assistant:
Gaye Kirchoff

Gaye started at the chamber on July 26th. She comes with a lot of experience in bookkeeping and computer skills. Glad to have you!

Carrie Olson has left the chamber staff to pursue other interests! Good Luck!
Thanks for a great year Carrie!

-Julie

Monthly Meetings

The Becker Chamber Member meetings are usually held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at various locations. We meet at noon, enjoy lunch, networking, and often a tour or speaker.

July's meeting was held at the Sherburne History Center with State Representative Mary Kiffmeyer speaking. Catered by D's Pizza.

August's meeting "Back to School" luncheon will be held August 25th at the High School. Catered by Godfather's Pizza. Meet Dr. Stephen Malone and the new staff. Sherburne State Bank is sponsoring the teachers meals. Have you signed up yet?

September's meeting will be held Sept. 15th at Faith Lutheran Church. "Workplace Wellness" including speaker and fitness/wellness information.

Extreme Networking

The Extreme Networking meeting has been cancelled until further notice due to low attendance and busy schedules!

Are you still interested in getting together ? Let me know! Would you like to get a Becker group together in the a.m.?



River Clean-up September 11th

Goodie bags are being made for the 50 volunteers for this project. If you would like to contribute, please drop off items at the chamber office or the city office.

Coupons, Brochures, etc..

The chamber office will always welcome items to use in teachers bags, new residents bags, tourist info, giveaways, etc.

We can help you advertise!

"October Harvest Fest"

October 16th

Mark your calendars for our annual chili/salsa contest AND MORE!

Details coming!

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Julie Brandt President

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Carrie Olson Administrative Asst.

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Nite to Unite	4 City Council 5 pm	5	6	7
8	9 EDA Mtg 5:30 pm Fire Board 5:30pm	10 Board mtg. 10am	11 Lommel Photography "Business After Hours" 5- 7 pm	12 Becker Furn. World Charity Golf	13	14
15	16	17 City Council 5 pm	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 "Back to School" Chamber Meeting	26	27	28
29	30 Planning Commission 7 pm	31				

September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6 Labor Day	7 School Starts! City Council 5 pm	8	9	10 Sherb. Hist. Ctr. "Autumn Lights"	11 River Clean-Up
12	13 EDA 5:30 pm	14 Board Mtg 10am	15 Chamber Meet- ing @ Faith	16	17	18
19	20	21 City council 5 pm	22	23 First Day of Autumn !	24 RAFFLE DRAWING 1:30pm @ T's	25
26	27 Planning Comm. 7 pm	28	29 Park & Rec 7 pm	30		

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RAFFLE TICKETS



The Becker Chamber fundraising raffle drawing has been postponed until September 24th.

So you can still buy tickets! Or sell them!

See back page for prize listing!

Wruck Excavating



Golf continued

Hole sponsorship included: **Great River Spine & Sport, Direct Processing Solutions, Windstream Communications, Becker Furniture World, New River Medical and XCel-Sherco plant.** The Hole-in-One contests sponsored by **Sherburne State Bank (\$10,000)** and **Pebble Creek (\$500)** did not see any winners. Other sponsors included: **Huse Orthodontics** (Contest Hole), **NIX Bar & Grill** (cart sponsor), **CentraCare Clinic & CentraCare Pharmacy** (water bottle sponsorship) and **Direct Processing Solutions/Henry Embroidery** (towel sponsorship).

Thanks was also extended to all the businesses that donated prizes for the event. Raffle prizes were awarded throughout the evening. The volunteers that helped with registration and throughout the day were also acknowledged. A big thank you to Lynette for all of her work in coordinating this event!!

The winners of the putting contest, scratch off game, and other winners were announced:

Men's Long Drive winner: Michael Colton Women's Long Drive: Tracy Bertram

Men's Closest to the Pin: Rob Young Women's Closest: was a raffle item drawing

1st place: XCel-Sherco-Jared Graham/John Osatruk/Scott Lewison/Dave Lien

2nd Place: Becker Furniture World- Phil Knutson/Keith Walkin/Matt Kobow/Wade Lewandowski

3rd place: Huse Orthodontics -Jason Huse/Mike Griffith/Eric Stine/Joe Gruenes

At the end of the day, a good round of golf, fun, great food, a few laughs. What more could you ask for?!

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