

# OPPORTUNITY AWAITS

October 2019

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION DEDICATED TO HIGHLIGHTING BUSINESS ACTIVITY IN SHERBURNE COUNTY

## IN THE NEWS

### PRINCETON



City and County officials in September attended a groundbreaking for the Princeton segment of the **Great Northern Trail**. The trail will utilize the trackbed of the Milaca Line of the Great Northern Railway, which ran from Elk River to Milaca.



On the same chilly, rainy day as the Great Northern Trail groundbreaking, city officials also broke ground at the site of the new **Dairy Queen**.

Construction at the site (below) is progressing.



**Erdman Automation** recently completed the expansion of its large manufacturing facility, which added 45,000 square feet.

The company specializes in designing and constructing custom production lines and systems for the window and door, insulating glass and commercial glass industries. To learn more about Erdman, go to the company's web-site [here](#).

*Produced by Sherburne County  
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# IN THE NEWS

## ZIMMERMAN



Work continues toward the completion of **Ice House Village**, a 65-unit apartment complex on Fremont Avenue at Second Street East.

The building will allocate 20 percent of its units for tenants below the median income level, something that will help promote a balanced supply of housing unit types.



**Reliant Systems** is planning to open its new facility in the fall. City and company officials broke ground at the site in May (photo below).

The state-of-the-art 40,000-square-foot, fully integrated facility continues a growth trend for Reliant, which specializes in custom, easy to integrate OEM motion assemblies.



## BIG LAKE

Construction is proceeding on **The Crossings Phase II**, which will become 38 units of affordable rental units.

Duffy Development is building the two-building, town-home-style rental apartment complex. They will be located to the immediate west of the existing townhome-style apartment complex known as "The Crossing at Big Lake Station."



Construction is also underway on a "**Caribou Cabin**" store. Four other Minnesota cities are slated to have the new stores, which are small format locations with no interior seating, drive-thru windows and convenient walk-up windows.



The locations will also be the first to launch *Caribou Bou-sted®* beverages in Minnesota. The *Caribou Bou-sted®* collection includes flavor-infused beverages with caffeine derived from coffee beans. The assortment offers sparkling waters, crafted sodas and crafted juices.

**Lupulin Brewing** has recently completed its \$4 million brewery expansion in Sherburne County.

The expansion brings several new jobs to the community and allows Lupulin to produce over 20,000 barrels of beer annually to serve its growing Midwest distribution area.



Beginning Nov. 1st, Lupulin will be expanding again with an additional 4,000 square feet of space that will house its new sours program, Scribbled Lines, as well as adding roughly 2,000 square feet of additional tap-room and event space!"

# IN THE NEWS



## CLEAR LAKE

**O'Brothers Wine & Spirits** has opened a liquor store at U.S. Highway 10 and County Road 24. It's the third O'Brothers location along with stores in Montrose and Annandale.

The city of Clear Lake will receive \$1,355,004 from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority to construct a **new well and well house**.



## BECKER

A barn that used to sit on former farmland bought by Northern Metal has been moved to Becker as part of the **Farm Friends Barn** project. The barn now sits on land near the Sherburne History Center and will eventually be part of an agricultural education exhibit for kids. To learn more about the Farm Friends project, go to their website [here](#).

**Dollar General** has opened a store in Becker. The 9,100 square-foot store is located on First Street next door to Becker Furniture World.

The popular seasoned pretzels company, **Von Hanson's Snacks**, is expanding its warehouse and production facility in Becker.



## ELK RIVER

Local leaders this summer broke ground on a new **Multipurpose Facility**, which will be built on the site of the existing Elk River Arena and adjacent land.

The project kick-off highlighted the collaborative efforts of the city, ISD 728, local athletic associations, the local business community and senior citizens, all of whom provided guidance and support as Elk River City Council developed the Active Elk River project scope.

The Multipurpose Facility is the first of several projects that make up Active Elk River, a comprehensive plan to reinvest in the city's recreational facilities, major parks, and most significant outdoor/natural resources, made possible by the voters of Elk River. The new facility is anticipated to be completed by fall of 2020.



**Exquisite Stone**, a custom fabricator of premium stone surfaces, recently finished construction on two new buildings with 18,000 square feet that house a warehouse, shop and showroom.

*Produced by Sherburne County Administration*

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# COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Shop Local

## BIG LAKE WINTER FARMERS MARKET

November 16 • December 21  
January 18 • February 15  
March 21 • April 18

THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH  
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

BIG LAKE CITY HALL  
160 LAKE STREET N, BIG LAKE, MN

   
www.biglakemn.org  
Questions? Contact cscott@biglakemn.org or 612-297-6331



**Sherburne County** recently launched a Parks & Recreation Facebook page to highlight the open spaces in the county.

As the county looks to promote its parks and offer more programming for residents to utilize, the Facebook site will be a key piece in informing the public.

Earlier this year, **Gina Hugo** was hired as the County's Parks Coordinator. She brings more than 20 years of experience working with the Sherburne Soil & Water Conservation District.

Find the Facebook page at [facebook.com/SherCoParks](https://facebook.com/SherCoParks)



The community is encouraged to join MnDOT, the city of Elk River and Sherburne County for an informal project open house for the future **Highway 169** freeway project through Elk River.



The preliminary layout will be on display and will showcase the designs to be used at each of the four interchanges with aerial images in the background.

The open house is Tuesday, Oct. 29 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Elk River City Hall, Upper Town conference room, 13065 Orono Parkway.

The project team will be available to answer questions or concerns. Attendees will have an opportunity to review project layouts, view a noise analysis display and take home informational handouts. We value any input you can provide on this future project.

Work is scheduled to begin in fall 2022.

When complete in 2024, the estimated \$157 million Corridors of Commerce funded freeway project will increase capacity, reduce bottle necks, improve overall traffic flow, improve motorist and pedestrian accessibility and safety on three miles of Hwy 169 in Elk River.

## REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Sherburne County's Revolving Loan Fund provides businesses with secondary direct loans, loan guarantees and other financial assistance. Existing businesses with planned expansions and job creation or job retention within the County and new businesses that would relocate and bring new employment opportunities to the County would be eligible for the program.

Applications will be accepted for loan amounts ranging from \$25,000 up to \$100,000. Amounts available to applicants under this program are determined based on an evaluation of positive economic impact and the number of full-time (or full-time equivalent) non-seasonal jobs that the organization will maintain or create within Sherburne County.

For more information on the RLF, go [here](#).

The content in this newsletter is offered for informational purposes only and should not be considered an endorsement by Sherburne County of any business or agency.