

WHAT'S SHAKIN' at the Chamber!

Big Stone Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

Bi-monthly Newsletter

January 18, 2016

Calendar of Events

Thursday, January 21: Winter children's story time from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Ortonville Public Library; for preschool and up

Friday, January 22: Craft Class at 7 p.m. at Rolling Acres Boutique (see page 3 for details; only two class spaces left!)

Sunday, January 24: First English Lutheran Church's Annual Meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary

Monday, January 25: Mystery Book Club at 12 p.m. at the Ortonville Public Library

Friday, February 5: Chamber's Glow in the Dark Annual Celebration at VFW; social hour at 5:30 p.m. (see page 5 for details!)

Saturday, February 5—Friday, February 12: [Winterfest](#) in Ortonville (see page 3-4 for details!)

Saturday, February 13: [37th Annual Arctic Open Golf Tournament](#) in Clinton

Saturday, March 19—Sunday, March 20: 23rd Annual Sports & Leisure Show in Ortonville



Nominate a BSLA Communities in Contest!

Main streets are filled with small businesses that have the passion and the drive to sustain its town.

The Small Business Revolution on Main Street awards one community a \$500,000 makeover that includes "marketing services for small businesses in the community and revitalized public spaces, store fronts and more, designed to protect and reinvigorate the sense of community," according to the [Small Business Revolution website](#).

Nominate a Big Stone Lake area town by clicking [here](#); nomination period ends January 28!

Small towns fewer than 50,000 residents will be considered. Nominees will be judged on challenges faced by local businesses and the town itself, impact of the Small Business Revolution on Main Street award and the need for support.

Finalists will be selected by a panel of judges and will then be put to a public vote during National Small Business Week (May 1—7).





City of Ortonville Parks Plan!

The City of Ortonville is creating a parks plan, and they need your input!

The Ortonville Economic Development Authority applied for and was granted assistance from the National Parks Systems to create a Park Plan for the City of Ortonville. The Plan will provide a view of what the community wants the parks, trails and recreational future to be.

To do that, the EDA has set up a short survey, from which the answers will be used to help form the Park Plan.

Click [here](#) to take the survey. Please encourage others to do so as well.



More information about this process can be found on the Ortonville Parks website [here](#).

Board member resignations

It is with regret that the Big Stone Lake Area Chamber Board of Directors accepted the resignations of Sue Kulbeik as secretary in December and of Scott Conroy in January.

We thank them for their years serving on the Chamber Board!

Minnesota was Voted Best ...!

Minnesota received "Best Adventure Tourism Destination" at the 2015 Top Travel Ceremony held in Beijing, China!

Explore Minnesota has been committed to turning regional tourism resources and cultural characteristics into brand value, to expanding the visibility of Minnesota and to making Minnesota as a world class destination for China's tourists.

Explore Minnesota actively responded to market demand, by cooperation with major and online travel agencies in China in the past year.

Volunteers for Mobile Meals Needed!

If your business is looking to give back to the community, the Mobile Meals program needs more volunteers!

Meals are ready to be picked up at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday at Northridge. It takes 30 minutes to deliver meals in Ortonville and Big Stone City and return the insulated carriers.

Volunteers receive a free hot meal for volunteering each day. Volunteers take one week at a time but with enough volunteers, weeks could be split. Volunteers require a valid driver's license.

For more information about Mobile Meals or to volunteer, call Pam at 320-839-4185.



Winterfest will Heat Up Your February!

It's time to get out and enjoy our Midwest winter with Winterfest in Ortonville in February!

Winterfest will start February 6 and will run through February 12. Look for a full schedule of events to be finalized soon, but here is what's in store: Winterfest on Ice (ice skating), a Medallion hunt for prizes, sledding and a Valentine event!

Stay tuned to bigstonelake.com or [here](#) for upcoming details!

Get Your Craftiness On!

Show off your crafty side with a class at Rolling Acres Boutique January 22!

An etched snowman craft will be made in this class, which is at 7 p.m. at Rolling Acres Boutique in rural Beardsley.

Cost is \$33 and includes craft supplies, instruction, food and beverage.

Only two class spaces remain, so respond as soon as possible. Click [here](#) to RSVP or to find out more. Include a contact number in your RSVP email in case there is inclement weather and the class is canceled or rescheduled.



Love and Logic Giveaways!

The Ortonville Early Childhood Initiative will be giving away grocery gift cards for each week of Love and Logic for the Early Childhood Years attended!

Love and Logic is a five-week class that starts January 25 at 6 p.m. in the preschool room of the Ortonville school. Free supper will be at 5:30 p.m. Childcare will be provided.

Love and Logic offers simple ways to handle kids' tough behaviors, including giving effective choices, how to help kids learn from little mistakes now, how to phrase things so kids know we mean what we say and more.

A Grant to Get Outdoors!

Groups that will help people start hunting or fishing, or continue these pursuits, are encouraged to apply for grants from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources January 29.

Angler and Hunter Recruitment and Retention Grant awards will range from \$5,000 to \$50,000 out of a total \$175,000 available during the first round of this newly created grant program.

Eligible projects must have a purpose that supports angler or hunter recruitment and retention. Types of activities could include fishing and hunting educational programs, clinics, workshops, and camps, and funding for fishing and hunting equipment and transportation.

To learn more about the grant and how to apply, click [here](#).



Board of Directors

Katie Adelman, *Chamber Director*
Dustin Roggenbuck, *President*
Greg Peterson, *Vice President*

Board Members

Artie Arndt
Mark Berg
Sue Kaercher-Blake
Lisa Merritt
Karen Oakes
Steve Roggenbuck (charter member)
Mary Ann Ulrich (charter member)

Contact the Chamber

987 U.S. Highway 12
Ortonville, MN 56278
320-839-3284
chamber@bigstonelake.com

Find Out "What's Shakin'" at the Chamber

On KDIO Thursdays at 9:05 a.m.
bigstonelake.com
facebook.com/BSLACHamber
twitter.com/BSLACHamber

The background of the advertisement is a close-up photograph of a snowflake, showing intricate, branching patterns in shades of blue and white.

Lingonberry Lunches during Winterfest!

*Lunch includes:

- Choice of chicken salad on croissant or turkey sandwich on Kaiser roll
- Chips
- Dessert
- Beverage

*\$12 each or two for \$20

*Order your lunch by February 1; call 320-839-3284 or email chamber@bigstonelake.com

*Delivery will be February 10

Sponsored by

For more information, go to
www.bigstonelake.com or
call 320-839-3284



Find us on Facebook:
Big Stone Lake Area
Chamber of Commerce

The Big Stone Lake Area Chamber invites you and your staff to a

Glow in the Dark Party!

ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Friday, February 5, 2016

Social Hour at 5:30 p.m. | Brief Meeting at 6 p.m. | Meal to follow

Ortonville VFW | \$20 per person

Includes meal, silent auction, games & entertainment! | Wear something while!

RSVP to the Chamber by January 29!
Call 320-839-3284 or email chamber@bigstonelake.com!