



All-State

Six Lake Conference girls soccer players have been named to the 2020 Class AA All-State team.

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Cheer with beer

Excelsior Brewing is leading an initiative to support front-line workers and customers can spread cheer with beer.

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Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020

Mothers, daughters building community while giving back

Excelsior residents give back through local chapter of National Charity League

By **LYDIA CHRISTIANSON**
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The National Charity League is an organization, founded 95 years ago, which has local chapters around the country. Minnesota has two chapters, a West Lakes Chapter, founded in 2012, and a North Woods Chapter, according to Tina Richter, vice president of membership for the West Lakes Chapter.

The league is for mothers and their daughters in seventh to 12th-grade to engage in community service, leadership development and cultural enrichment. The local chapters choose national and local charities such as Second Harvest Heartland, the Prop Shop and Sharing and Caring Hands.

In the West Lakes Chapter, there are members from Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Chanhassen, Mound and Excelsior, where Richter lives.

Richter and her daughter, Emma, an eighth-grade

er at Minnetonka Middle School West, are in their second year in the chapter. She wanted her daughter to learn community service and how to help others.

“I really feel that it’s important to build empathy in kids while they’re still young and impressionable,” she said.

Then, Richter saw how the organization taught the girls about leadership skills and having roles such as president or chair positions. It allows the girls to be leaders in their group and gives them practice with speaking and organization, she said.

COVID-19's impact on the chapter

Before COVID-19, the chapter volunteered with the Special Olympics and worked closely with the athletes. Since the pandemic, the members were able to virtually cheer the athletes on during events. They also attended bingo

See **Charity**, Page 6



(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

West Lakes Chapter of the National Charity League Tina and Emma Richter making paracord bracelets.

Hopkins School Board appoints John Kuhl to vacant seat

Minnetonka man will serve the remainder of Chris LaTondresse's term

By **LYDIA CHRISTIANSON**
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The Hopkins School Board voted 6-0 to appoint John Kuhl to the vacant seat on the school board at the Dec. 22 special meeting. The appointment is for the remainder of Vice Chair Chris LaTondresse's term. The seat will be up for election in November 2021, along with two other seats.

The board interviewed



(SCREEN CAPTURE)

John Kuhl

15 candidates to replace LaTondresse, who was

See **Kuhl**, Page 7

Shorewood Council adopts 2021 budget and levy

Tax levy is an increase of 2% from 2020

By **LYDIA CHRISTIANSON**
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The Shorewood City Council voted 5-0 to adopt the 2021 general fund budget and tax levy at the Dec.

14 meeting.

Finance Director Joe Rigdon presented the information during the truth in taxation hearing Dec. 7 and the council meeting.

The total proposed property tax levy is \$5,973,743, an increase of 2% or \$117,132 from the

See **Levy**, Page 5

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