

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

www.TriCoCanary.com

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\$1.00



Wayne Benbo turns over the reins of his ice saw business to Jordan Gunafson.

Making Time To Fish: Wayne Benbo Sells His Ice Saw Business

Courtesy of McIntosh Times

Recently long time local business owner Wayne Benbo of Fish's Folding Ice Saw sold his business to Jordan Gunafson who will continue and expand the legacy of fine, hand-crafted ice saws into the future. The business will operate under the name Icesaw LLC.

It all started when Wayne spent the winter of 1985 - 1986 developing a better and more efficient way to open up the ice for spear fishing for himself, never planning on going into business.

Spending his time off from farming during that winter he would draw designs, send his plans to a metal fabrication shop, where they would cut and return an unsharpened blade, he would then experiment in his barn with it and test it out on his pond out back. He lost count of the number of designs that he tried, but by the end of the winter, he had perfected the blade.

There are over 20 steps to make one Ice Saw, the saws are made 100 percent in the U.S.A, specifically, Winger, Minnesota, and the saws come in 42-and 28-inch sizes. Once the tool is made, its operation is pretty simple. Aim the pointed tip of the saw at a 45-degree angle and break a hole into the ice.

Then stand the saw straight up and, holding it by the wooden handle, saw into the ice. Rotate the handle to turn the path of the cut. Wayne said the 42-inchers can cut a 2½-by-4-foot hole through 10 inches of ice and have the chunk out of the hole and on the surface in 2½ minutes.

Since the blades tenation and development, Wayne has made and sold tens of thousands of the distinctive blue blades, starting with a call from L & M Fleet in Grand Rapids, the first to stock the Ice Saw.

The saws are now in many retail outlets around Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota, North Dakota and Iowa, distributed by Cannon Tackle. Locations where you can purchase an Ice Saw include Burgraff's Ace Hardware, Sheel's, L & M Fleet and many smaller shops and on the Internet at www.icesaw.com.

The Ice Saws have made it around the world. Wayne has sold to folks in Canada, Norway, Russia, Greenland and Australia.

The most loyal customers for the Ice Saw is Minnesota darkhouse spearing sportsmen, though the saws are used for more than ice fishing including scientist in Norway using his

saws to collect ice samples, research in Antarctica, and a California University using the saw to collect and study ice in the Sierra Nevada's. The Ice Saws are also used for snow carving, ice sculpting, diving, trapping, and search and rescue.

As Wayne is having some sight issues as he gets older, he made the decision to sell the business and Jordan is passionate about the industry, has a young family and actually worked for Wayne about 12 years ago helping assemble the Ice Saws.

Jordan, a young entrepreneur, who is a partner in another spear fishing business, Northern Spiked Darkhouse Spearing, has plans to continue the quality brand, promote the shorter Ice Saw, expand into different products such as Ice Saw cases and has partnered with Belle River to develop a line of spears and chisels branded with the Ice Saw brand.

Wayne will continue with Jordan until this spring, but may have time next winter to do some darkhouse spearing of his own, the hobby that started this journey yet something Wayne hasn't been able to do making Ice Saws for those that enjoy the sport as much as he does.

Mille Lacs, Upper Red lake winter season walleye regulations announced

Ice anglers on Mille Lacs and Upper Red lakes can harvest walleye on both lakes this winter season.

A four-walleye bag limit, with only one walleye longer than 17 inches allowed, went into effect on Upper Red Lake on Monday, Nov. 1.

Effective Wednesday, Dec. 1, through Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022, winter anglers on Mille Lacs may keep one walleye between 21-23 inches or one fish longer than 28 inches.

The new regulation on Upper Red increases the possession limit from the three-fish

limit that was in place during the 2020-2021 winter season and 2021 open water season, when mature walleye were lower in abundance. Results of this fall's walleye population assessment showed a wide range of sizes with an abundance of mature spawning walleye, which allowed the more generous bag limit while also creating conditions that are favorable for the survival of upcoming walleye year classes.

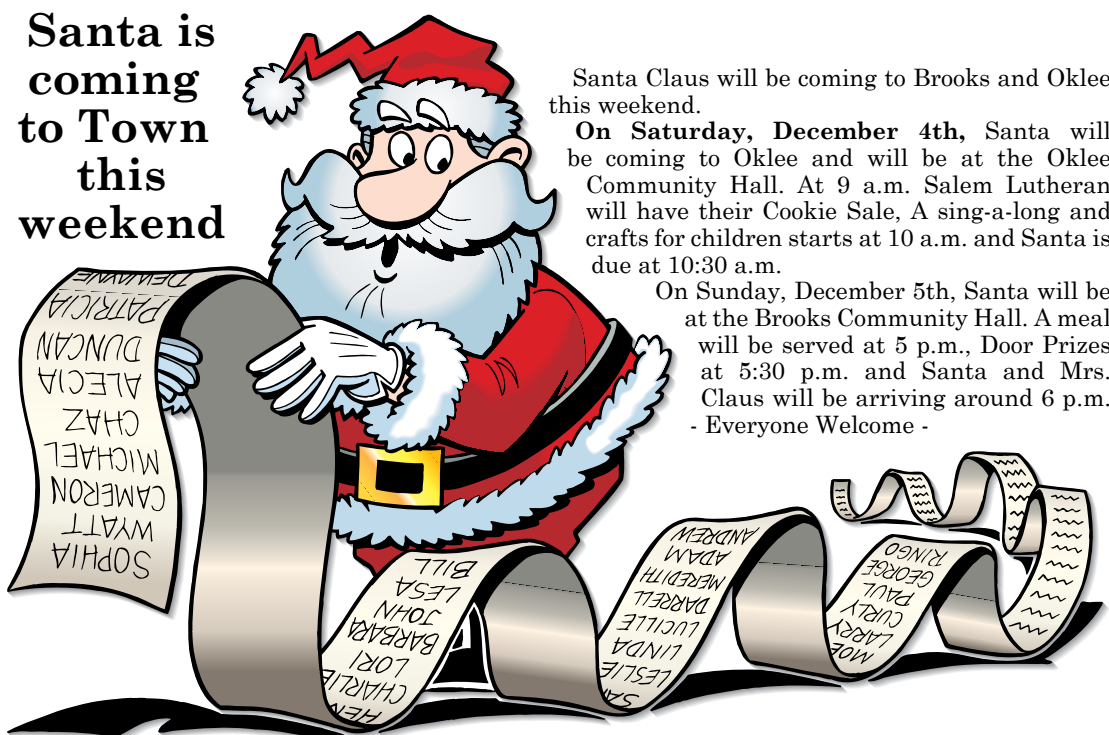
This is the sixth consecutive year of winter walleye harvest on Mille Lacs, where winter regulations are set after com-

pletion of the annual fall netting assessment. Results from 2021 showed that the walleye population has declined from recent years but remains above population lows seen from 2012 to 2016.

Mille Lacs Lake winter regulations also reduce the possession limit for cisco (tullibee) from 10 to five and forbid the harvest of burbot (eelpout).

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resource's website offers regulation Information on both lakes - Upper Red Lake and Mille Lacs Lake.

Santa is coming to Town this weekend



Santa Claus will be coming to Brooks and Oklee this weekend.

On Saturday, December 4th, Santa will be coming to Oklee and will be at the Oklee Community Hall. At 9 a.m. Salem Lutheran will have their Cookie Sale, A sing-a-long and crafts for children starts at 10 a.m. and Santa is due at 10:30 a.m.

On Sunday, December 5th, Santa will be at the Brooks Community Hall. A meal will be served at 5 p.m., Door Prizes at 5:30 p.m. and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be arriving around 6 p.m. - Everyone Welcome -



Katie Lorensen is scheduled to take over as president of Alerus Financial Corporation.

As of January 1, 2022, Katie Lorensen, originally from Oklee, daughter of Bob & Pam O'Neill, and 1998 Oklee High School graduate, is scheduled to become the new president and chief executive officer.

Katie joined Alerus as chief financial officer in December 2017. Katie is a seasoned executive with extensive experience overseeing financial service organizations, most recently serving as CFO at MidWestOne Financial Group, Inc.

Katie's "once-in-a-career" opportunity came in 2018, a year after joining Alerus, when she began spearheading the lengthy process for Alerus' filing of a registration for a proposed initial public offering and Alerus began trading on NASDAQ in mid-September 2019.

On September 22nd, Alerus Financial Corporation announced that its Board of Directors appointed Katie A. Lorensen, the Company's current Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, as the Company's next President

and Chief Executive Officer, effective January 1, 2022.

Ms. Lorensen will also join the Company's Board of Directors upon assuming her new role. Randy L. Newman will transition to the role of Executive Chairman of the Board to ensure a seamless leadership transfer.

"Katie is a proven leader and seasoned executive with a deep understanding and passion for our business," said Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer Randy Newman. "Since Katie joined Alerus in 2017, she has been an indispensable strategic partner to me, our leadership team, and the Board of Directors. Katie brings relentless focus to executing our strategic plan and building our business, by attracting, retaining, and developing employees and growing the Company. She has a proven track record of leadership, successfully integrating acquisitions and aligning resources for growth. The Company is well-positioned for continued success, and I have full confidence that

Katie will continue to advance our Company."

"I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to succeed Randy and lead Alerus as we continue our path to positively impact our clients' financial potential," said Lorensen. "Together with the Alerus leadership team and our employees, I plan to continue building on the strong foundation already in place. I look forward to working with Randy in his role as Executive Chairman as we grow the Company by executing our strategic mission to deliver holistic advice, with unparalleled service, and engaging technology."

In Katie's spare time, she dedicates her time to her husband and three boys, whose sporting events keep her busy throughout the year.

<https://azbigmedia.com/business/katie-lorensen-will-take-over-as-ceo-of-alerus/>
<https://alerus.com/team/katie-lorensen/>
<https://tcbmag.com/notable/katie-lorensen/>

Social Security Scam Alert

News has been released from the Social Security office recently regarding scams.

It is really important to protect your information and to never let it out to anyone unless you are positive the person asking is legitimate.

The Social Security Administration will never threaten, scare, or pressure you to take an immediate action.

If you receive a call, text, or email that...

- Threatens to suspend your Social Security number, even if they have part or all of your Social Security number
- Warns of arrest of legal action

- Demands or requests immediate payment

- Requires payment by gift card, prepaid debit card, internet currency, or by mailing cash

- Pressures you for personal information

- Requests secrecy

- Threatens to seize your bank account

- Promises to increase your Social Security benefit

- Tries to gain your trust by providing fake "documentation," false "evidence," or the name of a real government official

...it is a SCAM!

Do not give scammers money or personal information – Ignore Them!

Calendar of Events

Wed, Dec. 1
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Dec. 2:
-Happy Thanksgiving!
Fri, Dec. 3:
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news
Sat, Dec. 4:
-**Santa Day in Oklee.**
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Dec. 5:
-Worship at the church – check inside for church times and places.
-**Santa Day in Brooks.**
Mon, Dec. 6:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.
Tue, Dec. 7:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.
Wed, Dec. 8:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Inter-County Nursing Service Visit us on Facebook

Numbers are still rising!

We continue to see high community transmission in our community.

From 11/7 - 11/14 there have been 67 cases in Pennington County and 25 cases in Red Lake County. We are also seeing a significant increase in hospitalization in our region, which is impacting hospital capacity, and we urge the community to take precautions.

It's important to continue to practice good hand washing and stay home and get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms. Masking is recommended indoors in public when you are in an area of high transmission.

It's also important to get your COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can. Vaccination is a simple, safe, and effective way of protecting people against COVID-19. Anyone age 5+ is now eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Please refer to our website or Facebook post or call our office at 218-681-0876 to find out more about COVID vaccine clinics.

November 25th - 29th: There are 51 new reported cases for Pennington County, 5 children under 5, 7 children under 12, 5 teens and 20's - 80's. 1 additional COVID related death has been reported, the individual was in their 80's.

There are 7 new reported cases for Red Lake County, 1 child under 13, 20's-30's, 50's and 70's.

November 24th: There are no new cases to report for Pennington and Red Lake County. We are aware that not all positive cases are being reported due to at home testing and those not getting tested. We continue to have high community transmission and hospital bed capacity in our region is concerning, please stay home and away from others if you

are sick and do what you can to prevent spread.

November 23rd: There are 9 new reported cases for Pennington County, 20's - 60's. There are 3 additional hospitalizations, they are in their 40's, 60's and 80's.

There are 3 new reported cases for Red Lake County, 1 child under 10, 1 teen, and 40's.

November 20-22: There are 30 new reported cases for Pennington County, 2 children under 12, 7 teens, and 20's - 70's.

There are 14 new reported cases for Red Lake County, 3 children under 10 and 30's - 80's. 1 additional case has been hospitalized, they are in their 40's.

Please take precautions whether you are vaccinated or not. Wear a mask in indoor public spaces, social distance, stay away from crowds, stay home if you are sick, wash your hands frequently and get vaccinated.

	Pennington	Red Lake
• Total # of confirmed cases	2507	711
• Total # of Hospitalizations	122	35
• # Currently in Hospital	7	2
• # of Active Cases in Isolation	73	16
• Deaths	29	11

Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Linda Molitor
Wed, Dec. 1: 7:00 p.m. Confirmation.
Sun, Dec. 5: 9:00 a.m. Zion. 9:00 a.m. SS at Salem. 10:00 a.m. SS at Zion. 10:30 a.m. Salem.
Tue, Dec. 7: 7:00 p.m. Zion Council meeting.
Wed, Dec. 8: 7:00 p.m. Confirmation.
Sermons are on GVTEL Channel 35 (10 am Sunday & 2 pm Tuesday), also on Facebook or YouTube.

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OKLEE, GRAYLA & GOODRIDGE
Fr. Adam Hammess
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. St. Francis - Oklee. 10:15 a.m. - Grayla. 12:00 p.m. - Goodridge.
Go to: <http://www.oggcatholic.org/> for service times.

BROOKS - RED LAKE FALLS CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bob Schreiner
Brooks - Red Lake Falls Catholic Parish
Fr. Bob Schreiner
Saturday: St. Joseph RLF 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Brooks Sunday 8:00 a.m. St. Joseph 10:00 a.m.

IMMANUEL-EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Wed, Dec. 1: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation at Immanuel.
Sun, Dec. 5: 9:00 a.m. Worship at Immanuel. 10:15 a.m. SS at Immanuel. 10:30 a.m. Worship at Ebenezer. Ebenezer Council.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH
Bethany-Ekelund-Faith Pastor Kristen Ostercamp
Wed, Dec. 1: 7:00 p.m. Advent Service at Bethany.
Sun, Dec. 5: 8:00 a.m. Ekelund - SS 9:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. Faith - SS 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m. Bethany - SS 10:00 a.m. 4 p.m. Faith Council. 7 p.m. Ekelund Council.
Mon, Dec. 6: Ekelund WELCA. 10 a.m. Rachel Circle.
Tue, Dec. 7: Faith WELCA.
Wed, Dec. 8: 7:00 p.m. Advent Service at Eklund.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive - Nazareth Oak Park - St. Petri Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wed, Dec. 1: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School. LYS at 7:00 p.m.
Sat, Dec. 4: Mt. Olive: 9:00 a.m.
Sun, Dec. 5: St. Petri: 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m. SS. Nazareth: 9:45 Worship, 8:30 a.m. SS. Oak Park: 11:00 a.m. Worship, 9:45 a.m. SS. 1:30 p.m. Oak Park Ladies Aid Christmas party.
Wed, Dec. 8: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School.
Find services and past sermons at www.facebook.com/clearwaterlutheranparish

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Jarred LeBon, Pastor
Tyler Stynsberg, Assoc. Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Wed, Dec. 1: 6:25 p.m. AWANA. 6:30 p.m. Youth Group.
Sun, Dec. 5: 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship.
Tue, Dec. 7: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Devotions.
Wed, Dec. 8: 6:25 p.m. AWANA. 6:30 p.m. Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Wed, Dec. 1: 7:00 p.m. Advent Service at Bethany.
Sun, Dec. 5: 9 a.m. Lund. 10:30 a.m. Sand Valley. No Confirmation. 5 p.m. Sand Valley Sunday School Program.
CDC safety guidelines for COVID-19 will be followed.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston
Seth Johnson, Interim Pastor
Sundays: 10:00 a.m.
Services will continue to be live-streamed on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/bethelfosston>) as an alternative to attending in person.

Oklee Senior Site Dining

December 6 - 10

No congregational meals served.
If you are over the age of 60 and you want a meal delivered to your home, call the Oklee Cafe 796-5666. Please call by Friday to order your meals from the menu below. If the cafe runs short, it will be Cook's Choice. A \$5.00 per meal donation is suggested.
Mon: 1/2 pizza burger on toast, turkey rice soup, milk, and dessert.
Tue: BBQ pork on bun, fries, coleslaw, milk, and dessert.
Wed: Chicken strip, tossed salad, cottage cheese, bread, milk, and dessert.
Thu: Cook's Choice, milk, and dessert.
Fri: 1/2 hot pork, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, milk, and dessert.

Christmas Cookie Sale

IT'S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL
Salem Church Christmas Cookie Sale Fundraiser

Cookies, lefse, doughnuts & other treats are available

Sat., December 4th
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Oklee Community Hall
during Santa Claus Day

Red Lake Falls Library

New adult nonfiction titles include "The Amur River: Between Russian and China" by Colin Thubron; "The Bird Way: A New Look at How Birds Talk, Work, Play, Parent and Think" by Jennifer Ackerman, the New York Times bestselling author of "The Genius of Birds"; "Carpenters: The Musical Legacy" by Mike Cidoni Lennox and Christ May; "The

Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times" by Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams; "Immune: A Journey into the Mysterious System That Keeps You Alive" by Philipp Dettmer; and "The Plant Hunter: A Scientist's Quest for Nature's Next Medicines" by Cassandra Leah Quave.



Santa is coming to the Oklee Community Hall Saturday, December 4th!

9:00 Salem ELCW Cookie Sale
10:00 Sing-A-Long with Sidney Melby
10:30 Santa Claus arrives
Treat bags
Arts & Crafts with Jenna Bergeron
Coloring Contest for kids - prizes given for 1st & 2nd place in 3 different age groups.
Coloring pages available at E & J Grocery.
Turn in at E & J Grocery before December 4th or bring to Santa Day!
Random prize drawings
Coffee, apple cider & goodies

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO BROOKS

Sunday, December 5th
Starting at 4:30pm
Brooks Community Center
Everyone is invited
Meal at 5pm
Door Prizes at 5:30pm
Santa Claus & Mrs. Santa Claus arriving at 6pm

Bagley Community Theater Presents "Church Basement Ladies" this Weekend

The cast and crew of "Church Basement Ladies" is ready to serve up an extra-large dose of laughter this weekend as they welcome audiences to the Bagley High School Theater this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. All tickets are \$10 and will be sold only at the door. If you attend, you will be sure to take a trip down memory lane as the church basement ladies (and their pastor) take you back to 1964 to the East Cornucopia Lutheran Church of the Prairie where everyone is busy preparing for the holiday lute-fisk and lefse dinner.

This setting is actually based on the churches across Northern Minnesota where families live, worship, and work together in small communities, and everyone knows everyone. The now iconic characters were created by Jim Stowell and Jessica Zuehlke and inspired by the book Growing Up Lutheran by Janet Letnes Martin and Suzann Nelson. The musical comedy tells the story of the women of the church and their generational relationships which are both humorous and heartfelt. The production first opened in Plymouth, Minnesota in 2005 and ran for nearly ten years, then spun off to several other plays with the same characters.

Characters include the matriarch of the kitchen, Vivian Snustad, Mavis Gilmerson, a woman with a can-do attitude, and Karin Engleson, the stylish yet hard-working mother of Signe, a young college student. These women run the church kitchen, preparing meals for Christmas, funerals, fundraisers, and weddings.

Red Lake County 4-H Coat Closet Clothing Drive

In conjunction with the Red Lake County Coat Closet, Red Lake County 4-H is doing a clothing drive of new or gently used winter outerwear that will be donated to the county coat closet to be used with families in need of warm outerwear. 4-H is accepting donations of NEW or gently used Adult and Youth outerwear, including:

- Warm Mittens & Gloves
- Boots
- Snowpants
- Warm coats

Sudoku Solution

1	9	5	4	8	2	6	7	3
3	8	2	9	7	6	4	5	1
6	4	7	3	5	1	2	8	9
7	1	3	8	6	9	5	4	2
2	6	4	5	1	3	8	9	7
9	5	8	2	4	7	1	3	6
4	2	9	1	3	5	7	6	8
8	7	1	6	9	4	3	2	5
5	3	6	7	2	8	9	1	4

Notice

The Red Lake County Board of Commissioners is seeking persons interested in being appointed to serve as a county representative on the Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers for a 3-year term commencing January 10, 2022. Interested individuals may submit their names to: County Board of Commissioners, PO Box 367, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750. Submissions deadline is 10:00 a.m. on December 14, 2021.

037C

KURTIS ELLEFSON
RED LAKE COUNTY
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

218-689-8587
1-888-LINKVET

Email: kellefsoncvso@hotmail.com

MDA celebrates 35 years of sharing ag stories with students

Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom's AgMag turns 35.

For 35 years, a free, agricultural education magazine has been sharing the stories of real farmers from across the state and the food, fuel, and fiber they grow with Minnesota students to help them learn more about the world of agriculture.

AgMag started 1986 with sixth-grade audiences in mind, but it has grown over the years, both in its publication and its digital presence, said Keri Sidle, education specialist for Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom (MAITC), which makes the magazine available to classrooms around the state.

"The past two years have really shown a need for educational resources about agriculture to meet teachers and classrooms where they are," she said. "AgMag has responded and now for the first time, we have fall and spring editions tailored to every elementary grade level."

The publication also recently unveiled a new website which makes access to the

magazine content easier, said Sue Knott, MAITC education specialist.

"We want teachers to be able to use AgMag in the way that makes the most sense for their classroom, whether in print or digital," she said. "They also work well together, with complementary content and interactive lessons."

Each edition includes information about the plants and animals that farmers produce, along with a glossary to help kids learn more about the world of agriculture. The magazine is based on Minnesota academic standards and National Ag Literacy Outcomes.

Last year, more than 41,000 students learned about agriculture through their classroom AgMag subscriptions.

The best part is any educator or agriculture advocate can subscribe to receive AgMag! Sign up online to receive AgMag, or read AgMag online.

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**Winner of Honorable Mention for General Excellence, Minnesota Newspaper Ass'n., 1962.
**Winner 1st place Typographic Excellence, Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1971.
**Winner 1st place Best Feature Story, Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1981.
**Winner 1st place Best Single News or Feature Story, Minnesota Medical Association, 1992.

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Oklee Centennial Cookbook Recipe Corner - From page 291

Swedish Rice Pudding Kaylee Saga

1-1/2 cups white rice
1 quart water
1 tsp salt
1-1/2 quarts milk
3/4 cup margarine
1-1/2 cups sugar
3 eggs, beaten
1 cup cream
1 tsp vanilla

Add rice to 1 quart water with salt and boil until almost tender, drain if any water is left. Add milk, margarine and sugar to rice and boil for 1/2 hour or until done, stirring constantly. Mix together beaten eggs, cream and vanilla. Add the egg mixture to your rice, let this come to a boil and remove from heat. Serve warm or cold.





MUSTANG STAMPEDE

RLCC Menus

NOTICE: Food shortages are nationwide, and our school district is also experiencing unavailable items or last-minute food replacements from our food distributors. Menus are subject to change, but we will do our best to notify you via social media/bulletin if/when there are menu changes. We appreciate your patience and understanding! We look forward to serving all of our students nutritious meals.

RLCC School District.

December 6 - 10

Oklee

Monday: Breakfast: Ham & cheese croissant, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Cheesy bread w/dipping sauce, lettuce salad, fresh vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Coffee cake, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken pot pie on biscuits, vegetables, yogurt, donut holes, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: French toast w/syrup, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** cheese lasagna roll-ups, bread sticks, vegetables, string cheese, fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Apple strudel, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Pulled pork on bun, baked beans, chips, fruit, and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, rice vegetable, Gold Fish, fruit, and milk.

Plummer

Monday: Breakfast: Pancake/sausage on a stick, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Meatballs, au gratin potatoes, green beans, fruit, and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Strawberry bagel, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Un-crustables, yogurt, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Toast w/PB&J, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Manicotti, garlic toast, salad, fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Hamburger w/bun, baked beans, corn, fruit, and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Cook's Choice, fruit, and milk.



RLCC Sports Schedules

Schedules subject to changes - please check the school web site at <https://www.rlcc2906.org/>

RLCC Girls

Basketball

Thu, Dec 2: JH - 4:30PM Fertile-Beltrami @ Fertile.

Fri, Dec. 3: JV - 6:00PM Clearbrook-Gonvick @ Oklee. Varsity - 7:15PM Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears @ Oklee.

Mon, Dec 6: JV - 6:00PM Bagley @ Bagley High School. Varsity - 7:15PM Bagley @ Bagley High School.

RLC Rebel Boys

Basketball

Thu, Dec 2: C Game 5:00PM Thief River Falls @ Red Lake Falls High School.

JV Game - 6:00PM Thief River Falls @ Red Lake Falls High School. Varsity Game: 7:30PM Thief River Falls @ Red Lake Falls High School.

Mon, Dec 6: JH Game - 4:30PM Goodridge-Grygla @ Plummer.

C Game - 5:00PM Goodridge-Grygla @ Oklee. JV Game - 6:00PM Goodridge-Grygla @ Oklee.

Varsity - 7:30PM Goodridge-Grygla @ Oklee.

College in the High School courses offered at RLCC

By Lily Hagar

Red Lake County Central High School is now offering up to 15 college credits cumulatively from the University of Minnesota Crookston's College in the High School program. RLCCHS not only offers Precalculus courses with Mr. Paskvan but now also offers Composition and Literature courses with Mrs. Bobbi Aakhus. English courses through the College in the High School had been offered by Mr. Michael Swenson until he retired in 2018.

Mr. Paskvan has been teaching Precalculus for many years after at RLCC. He became interested in pursuing his Masters of Science, in Mathematics when he started at Red Lake County Central because he knew it would be a good opportunity for him as well as students. a. He says that he got interested in teaching college. He thinks it's a great experience just to understand what a college course would look like. Precalculus is a year-long class so you need to be prepared to have a fast class schedule.

Mrs. Aakhus became interested in teaching in the College in High School program when she started taking Masters' courses through a grant offered by the Minnesota 18 Online program through the Northwest Service Co-op; "At the time, the courses were offered for free at Minnesota State University, Moorhead through an online program. I decided to take a chance and found that I loved the rigor of the classes. I brought many great ideas back to my classroom. Eventually, I decided to earn my Master's Degree and graduated in May with a Masters of Curriculum and Instruction with an English Emphasis." Aakhus applied to the University of Minnesota, Crookston

to become an instructor and was approved to teach College in the High School this fall. She teaches Composition 1 and 2, American Literature, and World Literature which students can take over a two-year span.

According to UMC's website, students must have achieved junior status in their high school and have a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.00 in order to register for classes and earn UMN Crookston course credit in the CIHS Program. College in the High School students must maintain a minimum UMN Crookston G.P.A of 2.0 each term to continue enrollment at UMC. In order to take Precalculus, students must have a grade of a C- in Algebra 2.

RLCC also offers Online College in the High School which is another benefit to students for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. In order to qualify for OCHS, sophomore students must have an MCA score of 850 or an Accuplacer Reading test score of 250 for their first semester. If successful, students must earn a 3.4 grade point average and an Accuplacer Reading score in their second semester. In order for juniors to qualify, they must have a 3.0 GPA, their MCA score must be 1047, their Accuplacer Reading test score of 250, or an ACT reading score of 21.

One of the students that are in the college classes is Remy Rathasack. He says that some of the benefits are it's easier to learn and understand because it's a self-learning pace. His favorite part of college in high school is being able to get college credits while being a high school student. He said it is important to join for the opportunity to get into the workforce faster and still have college experience.

Time for a children's vision checkup?

As the routine of a school year settles in, families may direct their focus to factors that have nothing to do with school supplies or enrolling youngsters in extracurricular activities. For example, the weeks after families settle into a new school year routine can be a great time to have students' vision checked.

According to Prevent Blindness, the oldest eye health and safety nonprofit organization in the United States, common vision problems in children include amblyopia (lazy eye), strabismus (crossed eyes), and refractive errors like myopia, astigmatism and hyperopia.

A recent study titled "Children's Vision and Eye Health: A Snapshot of Current National Issues, 2nd Edition," points out that vision has a critical role in children's physical, cognitive and social development. Furthermore, visual functioning is a strong predictor of academic performance in school-age children, according to the study. In fact, without early detection and treatment, uncorrected vision disorders can interfere with learning and impair children's development.

Parents and educators are urged to be aware of symptoms of common eye disorders in children, which include the following.

- Rubs eyes a lot.
 - Closes or covers one eye to read or see.
 - Tilts head or thrusts forward.
 - Has trouble reading or doing other close-up work.
 - Holds objects close to eyes to see.
 - Complains things are blurry or hard to see.
 - Squints eyes or frowns.
- All children, and especially those who are having issues with their eyes, should visit with an eye professional annually to have their vision checked. In addition, parents can rely on Prevent Blindness in conjunction with Children's Vision Massachusetts and School Health for a new web resource to assess their kids' digital screen time use. Tips are available at <https://preventblindness.org/childrens-screen-time-tips/>.

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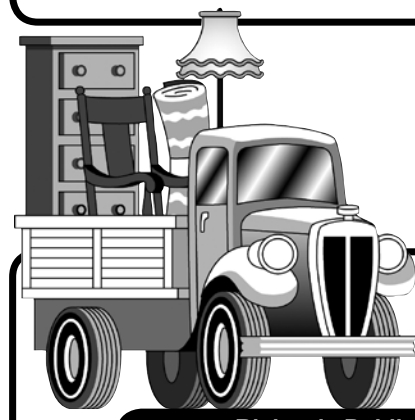
Oklee Herald

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Award Winners: Blane Schmitz, Jed Duden, Tyler Eskeli, and Damon Ferguson.

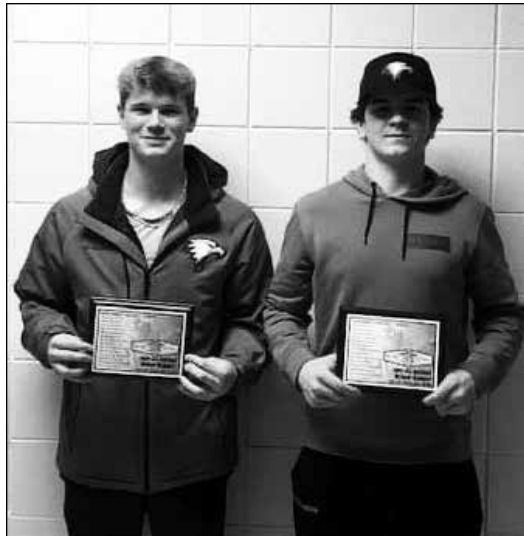
RLC Rebels host Awards Banquet

By Kelly Melin and Mustang Staff

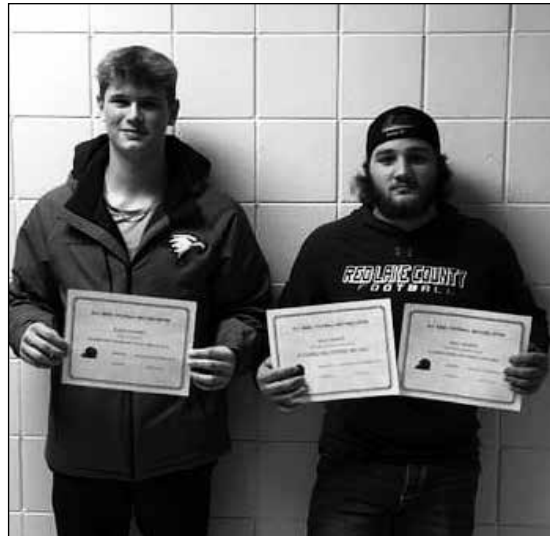
Red Lake County Rebels held their Award's Banquet on Tuesday, November 23 at Lafayette High School in Red Lake Falls. Receiving awards were Jed Duden, Most Improved, Tyler Eskeli, Rebel Pride, Damon Ferguson Coach's Award, Blane Schmitz, MVP, Defensive Points Leader, and Hardest Worker. Receiving All District was Blane Schmitz and Brock Seeger. Receiving Honorable Mention was Jed Duden, Jackson Hoefer, and Paul DeHate. Players breaking Rebel Records include; Longest Kick-off Return: Blane Schmitz 94 yards; Most Fumble Recoveries in a Season: Paul DeHate 6; Most Fumble Recoveries in a Career: Paul DeHate 12.



Honorable Mention All Section: Jed Duden, Jackson Hoefer, and Paul DeHate.



(197) All Section: Blane Schmitz and Brock Seeger



(195) Record Breakers Blane Schmitz and Paul DeHate

RLCC High School Honors October Students of the Month



Mr. Baril (center) with October Students of the Month, Jacob Cater (left) and Jennifer Johnson (right).

Red Lake County Central recently honored their October Students of the month. Kory Barilnominated Jacob Cater, an 8th Grader, and Jennifer Johnson a 10th grader for their positive attitudes and great leadership within the classroom and learning community.

Mr. Baril announced in front of the student body, "I nominated Jacob Cater for the 7th-9th SOM for his excellent effort and work in class. Jacob has done very good work last year and this year so far in my classes. He participates in class and even checked in every day while he was in quarantine. He stays on top of his work and gets along with his classmates

as well."

Jacob's parents are Jason and Paula Cater. He has two brothers, Adam, and Zach. When asked about his favorite things about RLCC, he stated; "My favorite thing about RLCC would be the teachers. I am in Multi-Media. My favorite class is probably history. My favorite teachers are Mrs. Aakhus, Mr. Baril, and Mr. Paul Nelson."

When asked about Jennifer Johnson's award, Mr. Baril elaborated, "I nominated Jennifer Johnson for the 10th-12th SOM for her great personality and work ethic. She always walks around with a smile and has a contagious positive attitude. She also does excellent

in the classroom and is one of our 10th graders in our OCHS program. Her efforts carry over to the volleyball/basketball court as well."

Jennifer Johnson's parents are Catherine Johnson and J.J. Johnson. Ethan Johnson, her brother, is an 8th Grader at Red Lake County Central. Jennifer is thankful for all the opportunities offered at RLCC. Her favorite class is OCHS and her favorite teachers are Mr. Paul Nelson, Mrs. Kate Moll, and Mr. Paskvan. Jennifer is a member of the Minnesota Honor Society and participates in Volleyball and Basketball.

Tips on eating through the holidays

The holidays can be a stressful time for those concerned about weight gain. Many people feel guilty when they overindulge. However, how do you say no to your co-worker's sugar cookies or a second helping of Grandma's special stuffing? Take a deep breath. You can make it through the holidays, indulgences and all, with a little planning and self-care. "Holidays are a time for celebrations, not guilt," shared Laura Slaathaug, clinical dietitian at RiverView Health. "We tend to celebrate by having an abundance of food on the table, which can lead to overeating. If this does happen, the most important thing is to have compassion toward yourself." Moderation is key with our favorite holiday foods. As long you aren't repeatedly over consuming treats, a few indulgences won't wreck your longterm health. **Better Days Ahead** The best thing to do after overindulging is to get back on track as soon as you can. To help regain normal eating, Slaathaug recommends slowing down as you eat and making sure you taste each bite of food. She stresses the importance of tuning in to your body to recognize feelings of hunger and fullness. "It's OK to leave food on your plate or save some for leftovers," she stated.

Only in Minnesota: a weekly feature from the Grygla Eagle

Everything you'll ever need to know about Minnesota from A To Z Do you know your MN ABCs? While there are plenty of things to know about the Land of 10,000 Lakes, these 26 facts are the most important. They will give people all they need to start dreaming about visiting or living in our wonderful state and might even surprise a few residents! **Apples:** Minnesota has some of the best apples, thanks to the University of Minnesota and their invention, the honeycrisp apple. You can even pick them yourself, along with a wide variety of other fruits and vegetables at many local farms. **Boats:** We have the highest rate of boats per capita in fact. There is one recreational boat for every six Minnesota residents. **Canoeing:** We are also home to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, the most visited wilderness in the country, and the best place for canoe voyaging around. **Duck, Duck, Gray Duck:** In MN, we play duck, duck, gray duck. Because gray ducks blend in way more than geese. **Eagles:** You can find beautiful eagles almost anywhere in Minnesota, but particularly at the National Eagle Center in Wabasha. **Fortune 500s:** The Twin Cities' suburbs are packed with fortune 500s that have produced some of the nation's favorite technology and products. **Golf:** Beautiful golf courses

Slaathaug also recommends physical activity to help curb some of the holiday weight gain or alleviate the feeling of heaviness and bloating that accompanies a large meal or overindulgence. "Keep in mind that having a healthy mindset is one of the most important parts of trying to eat healthy. A varied diet comes from a variety of food, both high calorie and low calorie, and not from eating only a couple of food groups. Be sure to supplement your favorites with a variety of fruit and vegetable side dishes that can add color and nutritional value to your plate." **Ways a Registered Dietitian Can Help** Other than weight issues (overweight or underweight), Slaathaug can help you with a variety of topics, including

- You have diabetes, cardiovascular problems, or high blood pressure and need help safely changing your eating plan without compromising taste or nutrition. November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. Besides seeing patients one-on-one, Slaathaug also runs RiverView's Monthly Type 2 Diabetes Support Group. Currently, virtual meetings take place on the third Wednesday of every month. Sessions are free and open to anyone with diabetes or their family members.

- You are thinking of having or have had gastric bypass surgery and now must develop an eating plan for your new needs.
- You have digestive problems and need assistance creating a diet that won't aggravate your condition.
- You're pregnant, trying to get pregnant, or breastfeeding and need to determine the healthiest diet for you and your baby.
- You or your child has issues with food and eating healthfully. Slaathaug assists patients dealing with eating disorders like anorexia and bulimia.
- You're caring for an aging parent or family member and need help determining how to care for them and their changing taste buds.
- You want to eat smarter. Slaathaug can help you sort through misinformation, learn how to read labels at the supermarket, discover that healthy cooking is inexpensive, eat out without ruining your eating plan, and give you tips on resisting workplace temptations.
- You want to improve your performance in sports. Slaathaug can help you set goals to achieve results — whether you're running a marathon, skiing, or jogging with your dog.

If you have concerns about nutrition, call 281.9595 to schedule an appointment with Slaathaug

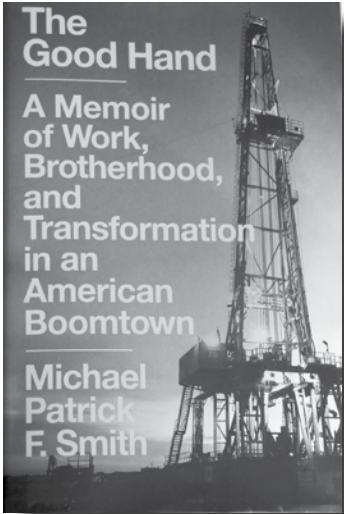
Writers & Writing by Michael Tidemann

Tidemann started his journalism career at the Bismarck Tribune in 1978 and began college teaching career as a graduate teaching assistant at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion in 1977. He has worked at newspapers in Iowa and the Dakotas and his work has appeared in Overdrive, Writer's Journal, the San Diego Union-Tribune and Snowmobile. (Michael Tidemann writes from Estherville, Iowa. His author page is amazon.com/author/michaeltidemann.)



The Good Hand tells the making of a man

One early morning in February 1979, I stood atop a water truck in the oil patch in North Dakota's Theodore Roosevelt National Park North Unit, servicing a workover rig. Neon-green Northern Lights danced across the horizon. Later that morning, butte tops floated in a mauve morning fog sea. It was so beautiful I forgot it was 40 below. That gives me a vague idea of what Michael Patrick F. Smith encountered in writing his memoir, The Good Hand: A Memoir of Work, Brotherhood, and Transformation in an American Boomtown. Smith left the relative ease of Manhattan to find work in the oil patch near Williston, N.D. What he found was homelessness, astronomical rent, danger, near-starvation and, ultimately, work that made him into the sort of man he never thought he could become. Smith threads his enthralling narrative with segments of the history of oil exploration and his own abusive childhood. Most interesting, though, is the huge culture shock he faced in finding big city life in a booming oil town on the North Dakota prairie.



The Good Hand Michael Patrick F. Smith Viking ISBN 978-1-9848-8151-9 \$39

I'm afraid I'll be humiliated. Because I will be humiliated. I feel like the kid I used to be, the skinny asthmatic in the army jacket, who, after a week of being bedridden by his wheezing lungs, was forced to return to school to face the cruelty of his classmates." In time, though, that all changes. "The work, for the first time, is in my hands. It is in my blood and my bones, the sinew and muscle of my chest and arms. I am an extension of the work itself, a tool, a vessel born to complete a task, and I feel simple like goodness." Brutally frank, Smith pulls no punches in telling the story of life in the oil patch man camps. This is not a book for the squeamish. However, anyone who has faced hard work and hard people head-on will relate to his book. Smith masterfully paints the oil patch workers across the canvas of North Dakota's ruggedly beautiful landscape. It's a great book. (Michael Tidemann writes from Estherville, Iowa. His author page is amazon.com/author/michaeltidemann.)



PEOPLE FACT:

THESE INDIVIDUALS HELP BUSINESSES AND PEOPLE WITH FINANCIAL MATTERS AND MAKE SURE ACCOUNTS ARE IN GOOD STANDING.

ANSWER: CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Finance

SPANISH: Finanzas

ITALIAN: Finanza

FRENCH: Finance

GERMAN: Finanzen

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10. The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	6	7	14
2		8	15
3	4		16
6	15	24	

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

NFAILNACI NPRALEN

ANSWER: Financial planner

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

• 1818: ILLINOIS BECOMES THE 21ST STATE IN THE UNITED STATES.

• 1910: MODERN NEON LIGHTING IS FIRST DEMONSTRATED IN PARIS.

• 1967: DR. CHRISTIAAN BARNARD PERFORMS THE WORLD'S FIRST SUCCESSFUL HUMAN HEART TRANSPLANT.

NEW WORD

CALCULATE

determine the amount of something

Did You Know?

A DEGREE IN BUSINESS CAN LEAD TO CAREERS IN FINANCE, MARKETING, OPERATIONS, MANAGEMENT, AND ACCOUNTING.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CREDIT CARD MACHINE



Who's Dat?

Who's Dat? This week's photo is of group of children from a local school. Last weeks picture was of some of Vi (Berry) & Orrin

Melby children. They had 10 children. They were raised in Oklee and two of the three still live in Oklee. These three were Bob Melby, Carolyn Rystad and

Becky Svaren. Bob & Becky are twins. Everyone has a photo or two that would be great for this column. Please share them

with our readers as it is one of most popular columns of the Oklee Herald. I am always in need of more photos - please send or bring some more of your great old photos. School days, church events, sports, etc. If you email a photo, please scan at 300 dpi (high quality) if you can. You can email to okleeherald@gmail.com.

If you mail a photo to the Oklee Herald office, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope so the photos can be returned. Mail them to: Oklee Herald, PO Box 9, Oklee MN 56742 Or stop by the office and I will scan your photo while you wait.



There's SNOW PLACE like home for the holidays!

THANKS FOR SHOPPING YOUR HOMETOWN!



Red Lake County 2020 Financial Statement

— RED LAKE FALLS, MINNESOTA —

SUMMARY OF RED LAKE COUNTY'S STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020					
Functions/Programs	Program Revenues			Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Fees, Charges, Expenses	Fines and Other	Operating Grants and Contributions		
Governmental activities					
General government	\$1,898,662	\$155,997	\$77,109	\$ -	\$(1,665,556)
Public safety	1,597,940	173,412	858,509	-	(566,019)
Highways and streets	3,852,832	312,578	1,534,545	2,840,827	835,118
Sanitation	305,190	22,769	85,298	-	(197,123)
Human services	1,369,606	235,023	913,917	-	(220,666)
Health	118,957	-	-	-	(118,957)
Culture and recreation	88,783	-	52,478	-	(36,305)
Conservation of natural resources	354,267	99,229	181,190	9,964	(63,884)
Economic development	17,460	11,484	-	-	(5,976)
Total governmental activities	\$9,603,697	\$1,010,492	\$3,703,046	\$2,850,791	\$(2,039,368)
General revenues					
Property taxes				\$	2,922,278
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs					643,470
Payments in lieu of taxes					16,151
Investment earnings					82,925
Miscellaneous					27,931
Total general revenues				\$	3,692,755
Change in net position				\$	1,653,387
Net position - January 1					53,432,163
Net position - December 31				\$	55,085,550

A SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS December 31, 2020					
	General Fund	Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund	Social Services Special Revenue Fund	Nonmajor Ditch Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Assets					
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 1,629,439	\$ 598,648	\$ 1,963,110	\$ 883,229	\$ 5,074,426
Cash with fiscal agent	8,466	-	-	-	8,466
Investments	73,678	106,589	-	-	180,267
Taxes receivable - prior	27,244	7,550	4,921	-	39,715
Special assessments receivable - prior	-	-	-	497	497
Accounts receivable	6,378	3,735	-	-	10,113
Accrued interest receivable	20,980	-	-	-	20,980
Due from other funds	44,463	8,978	-	-	53,441
Due from other governments	25,339	10,010,494	115,995	30,017	10,181,845
Inventories	-	333,662	-	-	333,662
Special assessments - noncurrent	10,099	-	-	-	10,099
Total Assets	\$ 1,846,086	\$ 11,069,656	\$ 2,084,026	\$ 913,743	\$ 15,913,511
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable	\$ 9,226	\$ 70,792	\$ 12,377	\$ 908	\$ 93,303
Salaries payable	78,351	34,511	34,937	-	147,799
Due to other funds	8,978	-	-	44,463	53,441
Due to other governments	33	197,218	10,944	12,699	220,894
Total Liabilities	\$ 96,588	\$ 302,521	\$ 58,258	\$ 58,070	\$ 515,437
Deferred Inflows of Resources					
Taxes	\$ 17,943	\$ 4,972	\$ 3,241	\$ -	\$ 26,156
Special assessments	10,099	-	-	497	10,596
County State Aid Highway Allotment	-	9,993,919	-	-	9,993,919
Total Deferred Inflows	\$ 28,042	\$ 9,998,891	\$ 3,271	\$ 497	\$ 10,030,671
Fund Balances					
Non-spendable	\$ -	\$ 333,662	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 333,662
Restricted	452,687	-	-	855,176	1,307,863
Committed	1,268,769	434,582	632,731	-	2,336,082
Assigned	-	-	1,389,796	-	1,389,796
Total Fund Balances	\$ 1,721,456	\$ 768,244	\$ 2,022,527	\$ 855,176	\$ 5,367,403
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$ 1,846,086	\$ 11,069,656	\$ 2,084,026	\$ 913,743	\$ 15,913,511

RED LAKE COUNTY, RED LAKE FALLS, MINNESOTA A SUMMARY OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2020				
	Social Welfare Private Purpose Trust Fund	Custodial Funds (Statement 5)	Total Fiduciary Funds	
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	\$9,446	178,553	187,999	
Due from other governments	-	23,972	23,972	
Accounts receivable	-	252,145	261,591	
Total Assets	9,446	252,154	261,591	
Liabilities				
Due to other governments	-	116,192	116,192	
Due to others	-	4,619	4,619	
Total Liabilities	-	120,811	120,811	
Net Position				
Restricted for				
Individuals, organization, other governments	9,446	131,334	140,780	

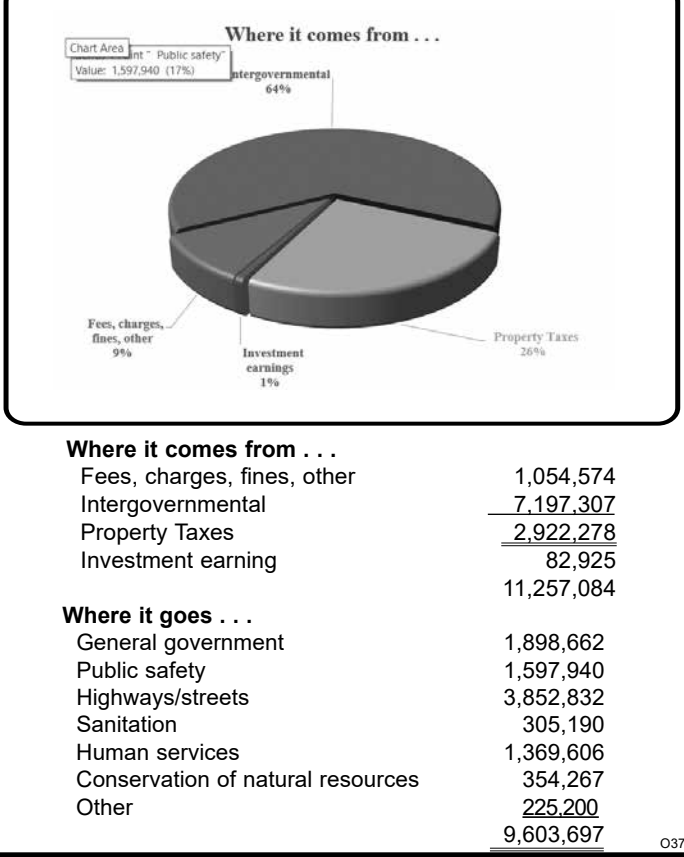
The following is a list of recipients for Red Lake County expenditures totaling \$5,000.00 or more during 2020. The list does not include salaries to county employees nor do it include individuals who receive federal, state, or county human services.	Geo-Comm Corporation 7,840.00 Glenn A. Struthers 8,000.00 H & L Mesabi 34,209.80 Hartford Life 10,482.66 Hoffman, Philipp, & Martell, PLLC 9,880.00 Houston Engineering, Inc. 5,409.70 IBM Corporation 12,099.64 Independent Testing Technologies, Inc. 20,155.00 Inter County Nursing Service. 91,366.99 Inter-County Community Council Inc 10,000.00 Internal Revenue Service 649,951.08 ISD #2906 – Backpack Program 12,000.00 IUOE Local 49 5,040.00 IUOE Local No.49 Health & Welfare Fund 181,860.00 Jenelle's Daycare 6,000.00 Joe DiMaggio's 10,000.00 John Hancock USA 7,850.00 Katie's Kennels 5,000.00 Kristy's Kiddie Kove 8,000.00 Kruse Backhoe Service LLC 27,910.66Kvien Document Imaging, Inc. 10,612.50 Lafayette High School 10,225.00 Landman Publishing, LLC 10,180.00 Larson Helicopters, LLC 15,694.00 Law Enforcement Labor Services Inc 5,252.39 Leah's Little Tykes 6,345.00 Les's Sanitation 19,750.00 M & R Signs Co Inc 9,721.73 Mactek Systems Inc 17,552.00 Mayo Clinic 5,040.00 Memories Café 10,000.00 Midstates Equipment & Supply47,113.20 Minnesota Counties Computer Coop..... 19,319.50 Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust..... 116,866.00 Minnesota Department of Transportation 6,786.55Minnesota Public Employees Ins. Prog PEIP 363,653.50 Minnesota Secretary of State, 19,929.63 Minnesota State Retirement System 17,128.83 Mn Commissioner of Revenue122,987.38 Mn Department of Revenue... 77,742.05 Moore Engineering, Inc. 130,789.72 Nationwide Retire Solutions Serv Center 49,612.20 Next Chapter Technology, Inc. 6,705.00 Norman Co. Social Services .. 73,042.59 North Homes Children & Family Services..... 13,783.85 Northern Garage Door, LLC... 20,291.00 Northwest Electric Inc..... 38,410.00 Northwest Regional Development 14,753.32 Northwest Regional Library 26,732.00 NW Mn HRA 29,813.32 Office of MNIT Services 10,800.00 Oklee Café 5,000.00 Oklee Locker LLC..... 10,000.00 Oklee Moonlighters..... 6,468.76 Oklee Quilting Supply Inc..... 5,000.00	Oklee Volunteer Ambulance ... 17,500.00 Olena's Massage 10,000.00 Otertail Power Company 39,541.99 Pathfinders 40,800.91 Pitney Bowes, Inc. 15,000.00 Plummer American Legion 10,085.00 Plummer Fire Department..... 5,000.00 Pomp's Tire Service, Inc. 7,539.47Power House Fitness Center & Yoga Studio..... 10,000.00 Powerplan 19,012.92 Premier Signs 5,040.00 Prowest & Associates Inc..... 14,519.22 Public Employees Retirement Association 533,097.65 Quill 9,483.50 RDO Equipment Co..... 10,807.97 ReadiTech IT Solutions 48,177.17 Red Lake Co Soil & Water District 139,105.49 Red Lake County Auditor 73,137.24 Red Lake County Child Init/Family Collab 14,628.00 Red Lake County Committee on Aging 8,435.00 Red Lake County Co-op 92,350.27 Red Lake County Environmental Office 6,531.38 Red Lake County Fair Board. 10,000.00 Red Lake County Highway Department 61,056.92 Red Lake County Park Board.. 6,693.78 Red Lake County Sheriff Office80,879.17 Red Lake County Social Services..... 7,771.16 Red Lake Falls Ambulance 79,000.00 Red Lake Falls American Legion 10,085.00 Red Lake Falls Lions Club 10,000.00 Red Lake Falls Sportsman's Club 7,000.00 Red Lake Falls Utilities Dept... 6,724.90 Red Lake Watershed District318,168.57 Revenue 1,206,947.00 Richards Publishing 8,438.99 Riley Brothers Construction... 969,541.30 RJ Zavoral & Sons 640,179.25 RLCC Boosters 5,000.00
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A SUMMARY OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020					
	General Fund	Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund	Social Services Special Revenue Fund	Nonmajor Ditch Special Revenue Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues					
Taxes	\$2,029,974	\$ 555,222	\$ 338,458	\$ -	\$ 2,923,654
Special assessments	9,787	-	-	90,875	100,662
Licenses and permits	40	-	-	-	40
Intergovernmental	1,630,457	5,926,725	987,662	-	8,544,844
Charges for services	300,676	227,065	119,042	49,870	696,653
Investment earnings	72,648	10,277	-	-	82,925
Miscellaneous	137,418	85,513	115,981	-	338,912
Total Revenues	\$ 4,181,000	\$ 6,804,802	\$ 1,561,143	140,745	\$12,687,690
Expenditures					
Current					
General government	\$ 1,936,262	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,936,262
Public safety	1,549,473	-	-	-	1,549,473
Highways and streets	-	7,385,521	-	-	7,385,521
Sanitation	303,521	-	-	-	303,521
Human services	54,637	-	1,315,178	-	1,369,815
Health	118,957	-	-	-	118,957
Culture and recreation	88,783	-	-	-	88,783
Conservation of natural resources	244,600	-	-	109,667	354,267
Economic development	17,460	-	-	-	17,460
Debt service					
Principal	4,033	4,033	4,034	-	12,100
Capital outlay					
General government	12,018	-	-	-	12,018
Public safety	113,585	-	-	-	113,585
Highways and streets	-	45,076	-	-	45,076
Human services	-	-	18,217	-	18,217
Sanitation	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,443,329	\$ 7,434,630	\$ 1,337,429	\$ 109,667	\$ 13,325,055
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ (262,329)	\$ (629,828)	\$ 223,714	\$ 31,078	\$ (637,365)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Transfers in	\$ 64,006	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64,006
Transfers out	-	-	(64,006)	-	(64,006)
Proceeds from the issuance of debt	12,018	12,018	12,019	-	36,055
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 76,024	\$ 12,018	\$ (51,987)	\$ -	\$ 36,055
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ (186,305)	\$ (617,810)	\$ 171,727	\$ 31,078	\$ (601,310)
Fund Balance - January 1	1,907,761	1,280,354	1,850,800	824,098	5,131,581
Increase (decrease) in inventories	-	105,700	-	-	105,700
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 1,721,456	\$ 768,244	\$ 2,022,527	\$ 855,176	\$ 5,367,403

SUMMARY OF RED LAKE COUNTY'S STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2020		
Governmental Activities		
Cash and pooled investments	\$5,074,426	147,799
Cash with fiscal agent	8,466	220,894
Investments	180,267	
Taxes receivable - prior	39,715	
Special assessments receivable - prior	497	
Accounts receivable	10,113	
Accrued interest receivable	20,980	
Due from other governments	10,181,845	
Inventories	333,662	
Special assessments - noncurrent	10,099	
Capital assets		
Non-depreciable	1,373,366	
Depreciable - net of accumulated depreciation	41,546,655	
Total Assets	\$58,780,091	
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Related to other post-employment benefits	\$22,904	
Related to pensions	610,247	
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$633,151	
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable	93,303	
Salaries payable		147,799
Due to other governments		220,894
Long-Term Liabilities		
Due within one year		194,375
Due in more than one year		122,201
Other post-employment benefits		227,327
Net pension liability		2,752,191
Total Liabilities		\$3,757,090
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Related to other post-employment benefits		4,571
Related to pensions		\$566,031
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		571,062
Net Position		
Net investment in capital assets		\$42,896,066
Amounts restricted for		
General government		72,930
Public safety		3,525
Highways and streets		10,470,553
Conservation of natural resources		1,122,562
Economic development		68,249
Unrestricted amounts		451,665
Total Net Position		\$55,085,550

RED LAKE COUNTY • RED LAKE FALLS, MINNESOTA Summary Financial Statement YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020		
The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of financial information concerning Red Lake County for interested citizens. Questions about this report should be directed to the Red Lake County Auditor at 218-253-2598. A full and complete copy of the County Financial Statement is available upon request by calling 218-253-2598, or by writing to the Red Lake County Auditor, P.O. Box 367, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.		
Office	Name	Term Expires
Commissioners		
1 st District	Anthony Flage **	January 2023
2 nd District	Ron Weiss	January 2025
3 rd District	Delane Dudycha	January 2023
4 th District	Allen Remick *	January 2023
5 th District	Tony Gerardy(1)	January 2025
*Chair	**Vice-Chair	
Officers		
Elected:		
Attorney	Mike Lacoursiere	January 2023
Auditor	Robert Schmitz	January 2023
Recorder	Joyce Paquin	January 2023
Sheriff	Mitch Bernstein	January 2023
Treasurer	Nick Knott	January 2023
Appointed:		
Assessor	Michelle Nelson (2)	December 2020
Medical Examiner	Dr. Mary Ann Sens (3)	June 2024
Highway Engineer	Erik Hove	May 2023
Veterans Service Officer	Kurtis Ellefson	December 2023
Environmental Services Officer	Kurt Casavan	Indefinite
Social Services Board		
Chair	Ron Weiss	January 2025
Vice Chair	Allen Remick	January 2023
Secretary	Anthony Flage	January 2023
Member	Delane Dudycha	January 2023
Member	Tony Gerardy	January 2025
Director	Kristi Nelson	Indefinite

1-Newly elected January 2020. Replaced Charles Simpson.	
2-Appointed May 4, 2020. Replaced Nancy Amberson.	
3-Reappointed to a 4-year term commencing July 2020.	



Oklee Herald Early Files

Eighty Years Ago

December 4, 1941

The annual Red Cross roll call was completed last week. The roll call chairman was Mrs. A.N. Ries. She was assisted by Mrs. Andy Knutson and Mrs. James Walker. There were 81 members signed and donations were given, bringing receipts in Oklee to \$84.65.

A number of local young men spent the weekend in the Bigfork country which they found that the mild weather has impeded work in the woods. The men included Eldon and Ernest Walker, Frank and Charley Boucher, George Vigen, Ole Gunstenson and Arnold Person.

From Weekly News Analysis: Drive of British Troops into Libya forces Axis to fight on two fronts; Helping Nazis: Aliens from occupied countries, largely Poles, had been recruited outside Germany and put into the factories, with Storm Trooper managers.

The entire school attended the movies at Oak Theatre Tuesday morning when the county AAA presented "The River" and "Green Acres," under the direction of Mrs. Andy Knutson.

Seventy Years Ago

November 29, 1951

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Merle Skatvold on November 28th in Minneapolis.

Benny Shetterly, who is stationed at Norfolk, VA spent Friday and Saturday with his family.

A son weighing 4 pounds 14 ounces was born to Mr. and Mrs. Willard Bergeron at St. Francis Hospital. The child was named Duane Joseph.

A large crowd of neighbors and relatives gathered at the Charles Pregel home Friday evening at a housewarming party.

Hunting season is finally over and things are getting back to normal again. Most of the hunters got to use their tags and will have something to talk about until next hunting season.

Sixty Years Ago

December 7, 1961

Arlan Fore, Oklee High School junior and member of the Bobcat football team, was honored Tuesday by receiving two awards from the National Sports News Service. He received the 1961 National "1,000 Yard" club and the National 100 point" club.

The Jolly Neighbor Home-maker's club entertained their husbands at a dinner party at a cafe on Tuesday evening.

Glenn Tasa attended the county commissioners convention in Minneapolis from Wednesday to Friday.

A son was born Monday, December 4th to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Vettleson of Trail. The infant weighed 7 pounds, 14.5 ounces.

Elizabeth Bachand, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Onezime Bachand of Brooks, is a member of the chorus of the College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN.

The Oklee Bobcats were defeated in the first game of the season by Mentor 52-39. The Trojans made use of the home court advantage and shot 42% for the whole game.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rustan and children were Wednesday evening visitors at the Ole Hofstad home to help Ione Hofstad

celebrate her birthday.

Fifty Years Ago

December 1, 1971

Only one filing has been made in the village election coming up on December 7th. Positions open this year are mayor and one council person.

Mike Radniecki of Redwood Falls spent the weekend at the home of his parents.

A large number from here went to Thief River Falls on Sunday evening to help Mr. and Mrs. Sam Genereux celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary.

The Harry Carlson's of Sundal celebrated their 52nd anniversary the day before Thanksgiving at the Norma Carlson home. Callers were Mr. and Mrs. Herb Samson and Mrs. Howard Flateland.

Neil Vigstol, Shari and Scott of Omaha, NE arrived here Wednesday evening to spend Thanksgiving holidays at the home of his parents, the Nels Vigstols.

Recent visitors at the Jorgen Otfelie home were Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Mostrom, Ernest Mostrom and Randy, Mrs. John Flaagen and John Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Harlow Berg and Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Asp, Mrs. Clara Bjerklie and family and Raymond Otfelie.

Forty Years Ago

December 3, 1981

From the Senior Site News - Tillie Berget was guest at our table on November 23rd. We all sang her the birthday song as she had just turned 87.

Olaf Stolaas celebrated his birthday on November 21st and many came over to have a birthday luncheon with him.

The family of Willie and Nora Delage came on Thanksgiving Day to help the celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary.

A baby shower was held at the Nazareth Dinning Hall on Sunday afternoon for Mrs. Gary Halvorson and baby Katie.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman T. Nelson, St. Paul, announced the engagement of their daughter Pamela to Mark David Lee, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Lee of Oklee.

Thirty Years Ago

December 4, 1991

Dixie Koskela and Cherly Greenwald, senior members of the Red Lake County Central Mustang volleyball team were named to the Academic All-State team

A black 12-foot screened satellite dish went up behind the Red Lake County Courthouse recently for the purpose of lining to points around the globe. County department will now be able to attend meeting in the Cities without leaving the county.

A large group of our Brooks community joined together Sunday evening and dedicated the new Crib Scene in Brooks with Mayor Clarence Gagner leading the group in song and Pat Larson read a prayer.

This week marked the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Kim and Rhonda Vettleson are parents of a baby girl named Cassandra who was born on November 12.

Eric Kolstoe was chosen for the All State Academic football team.

Twenty Years Ago

November 29, 2001

The Brooks Cheese Factory, a landmark well known

in Northwestern Minnesota. In fact around here, Brooks and cheese seemed to be one word. But Saturday afternoon, November 17th, the fire was lit and seventy years of history went up in smoke. The Fire Dept's from Oklee & Plummer were standing by, as were the present owners, Aurel & Marc Parenteau. The last time the plant actually made cheese was in 1979.

Eighteen-year old Megan Halvorson is recuperating, safe and sound, in the Northwestern Medical Center in Thief River Falls. Ten miles north of Gully, she apparently fell asleep at the wheel, wandered across the highway and left the road, sailed across the Clearwater river, landing on the opposite side, close to the bridge and hidden for hours before she was found. She was on her way home for Thanksgiving.

Ordean Sundrud, president of the Vernes Lutheran Church, recently presented a plaque of recognition to Morris & Eleanora Hendrickson for the assistance with the project completed on the east side of the church.

A potluck hunter's dinner was enjoyed by members of the Joe and Helen Fisher's family at their home.

Ten Years Ago

November 30, 2011

For American Education Week at RLCC, the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 159, hosted a tea for the faculty and staff.

Jacob Rath is a student teacher at the Plummer Elementary school and is teaching 2nd grade. He is originally from Strathcona, but now live in Plummer with his wife Kari and the two year old child.

The RLCC Senior High bands and choirs did a wonderful job at the RLCC Fall Band and Choir Concert held on November 15th.

Pictured in the paper was the four Senior Volleyball players from RLCC: Madison Berns, Michaela Casavan, Brooks Magnell and Michelle Olson.

Sammy Walton was the lucky winner of the RLCC Red Ribbon Week Grand Prize of a one night stay at the Seven Clans Casino and it included 6 water-park passes.

The City of Trail was one of seven towns to have their post offices close on Friday, November 18th. The others are Steen, Silver Creek, Taopi, Kenneth, Clements and Holland, MN. Cindy Pontarelli has been the Postal Clerk and Harold Sweno is the mail route delivery driver.

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Threats to pets that roam outdoors

Domesticated pets may have evolved from wild animals, but it has been some time since dogs were needed to hunt like wolves or domesticated cats had to survive like wild leopards or tigers.

While pets can enjoy time outdoors, it's important to avoid leaving them to their own devices for too long. The online health resource Healthcare for Pets says responsible pet ownership necessitates certain precautions to keep pets safe when they venture out of the home.

The following is a list of potential dangers that can affect pets outdoors.

Pesticides and poisons: Pet owners may use pet-friendly products in and around their homes. However, there's no guarantee that your neighbors do the same.

Weather: A fur coat does not offer complete protection from conditions like extreme weather. Pets can experience hypothermia or heat stroke if they are exposed to extreme weather for prolonged periods of time.

Automobiles: Dogs and cats that wander can be struck by vehicles and/or ingest po-

Senior Site News & Other Things

By Volunteers Jo Lambert & Bonny Cote

Thanksgiving has come and gone and the next holiday is Christmas. It will come fast as it is only 3-1/2 weeks from this date.

The Oklee Senior Site does have some interesting gifts of homemade items. If you are looking for table runners, quilts, mittens, hats, casserole carriers, jewelry, floral arrangements, etc., give us a call or stop by and see what we have to offer. Call 218-796-5149 or call Jo Lambert at 218-796-4527. The shop is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday and Friday. Other dates are by appointment.

Update on Father Hamness: He has had a trach put in and is off the ventilator. He is breathing on his own and they have started reducing his sedation and lowering other medication as well. He still has a long recovery ahead of him, but it is good he is making process.

Unfortunately, we have were told the our great post officer person, Mae Knowles's husband Mel has passed away on November 25. Our sympathies go out to Mae and her family.

There will be no Senior Site meeting this month. We

will have our next meeting in January on the 20th. More on that later in the month.

Activities: The regular activities have started up this week. Most of the seniors in our area have been vaccinated and feel they want to come back to the site for activities. Just remember, if you don't feel good to stay home.

Tuesdays: Rummikub will be held at 2 p.m. Fun tile game. Need 2 to four players.

Wednesdays: 1:30 p.m. the Card Players will be back and any card game is welcome.

Thursdays: Bingo at 2:00 p.m. Come play, visit and win some prizes.

Senior Meals: If you want to order a Senior Meal call the Oklee Cafe at 796-5666. Teresa is asking that Seniors call in their order for the week as soon as possible so she can order appropriately. So call in by Friday for the menu in this weeks paper, you will get a Cook's Choice meal instead.

Congregate Meals: If you want to eat in (congregate meal), please call the Cafe and arrange for your meal to be served in the cafe. We still do not have enough volunteers

Brooks - Terrebonne News

By Barb Novak 218-698-4296 novakbl@gvtel.com

The turkeys are safe now for another year. Happy Thanksgiving to all. I hope you found plenty to be thankful for. I know we did and are thankful everyday, for our blessings.

The weather has been very conducive for traveling and it has been nice for going out and getting fresh air. This week being so close to December 1st sounds like temps at least in the thirties and maybe one day in the forties, is very nice for outdoors work. Get that outdoor Christmas display finished.

Cindy and Del Determan held their Christmas celebration early this year because Brianna and Kyle are expecting a baby on December 25th, so traveling later on would be difficult to say the least, they are expecting their fifth child. So Kyle and Brianna traveled from Bismarck, North Dakota with their children James, Andrew, Felicity, and Jacinta

to Grandma's house. Jess and Heidi Determan brought their children Emma, Elizabeth, and Mickala, and Colton Determan, and Jamie, and Kaydence, also attended. And Brad Determan came to help celebrate. They had Christmas on Saturday opening the presents first, then they had their Christmas meal and played smear in the afternoon. It was a fun time and everyone had a little of Christmas early.

The Santa helpers are asked to come to the Community hall on Tuesday to fill candy bags and decorate the hall for Santa Claus day on Sunday the 5th. Everyone should thank them for their selfless help.

Prayer Warriors have their work cut out for extra prayers. Dianne Gagner's sister Arleen Berry is in critical condition in the hospital. We are asking also for continued prayer for Father Adam Hamness of the

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe

218-465-4402

The Plummer Snowmobile Club had their 25th Annual Membership and Landowner Appreciation night on November 20th. There was social hour at 6, and they ate at seven. For the adults, meatballs or chicken breast. For the kids, a chicken strip basket. A raffle and door prizes followed the meal.

Ashley Sorvig and kids visited Arnie and Barb Schmitz over the weekend.

Brodie Traxler visited his dad Bob over the weekend. Also he visited his grandma Anne. Marcie Kloety of Thief River Falls, visited her grandma Bunny DuChamp.

Phillip Zimpel of New York Mills visited family briefly on Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

Nancy and Tom Bray hosted Thanksgiving dinner. Their son Kevin was home.

Anna DeHate had Thanksgiving dinner at Bernie and Jill DeHate's. Jill's mom was there also.

Anne Traxler had Thanksgiving dinner at her daughter Nancy and Al Olson's. She got a call in the eveing from her daughter Karen who lives in South Carolina.

Jim and Debbie DuChamp hosted a Thanksgiving dinner. Chriss & Bobbie DuChamp and family came. Also, many of the Vettleson's came including Shirley Vettleston of Thief River Falls. They had a large number of relatives that came. They enjoyed playing cards.

On Thanksgiving Day, Alice Jobe went to Roseau to her niece Kari's. She and her husband Greg Pulczynski put on the dinner. Those coming were Loren Kukowski and son

for dining in our site.

Grandkids!!

A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool. "That's interesting," she said, "How do you make babies?" "It's simple," replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'"

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, "62." He was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

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St. Francis Xavier parish in Oklee who is still fighting the covid 19 virus.

Rebecca Novak of Mankato visited with the Jerome Novak's over the Thanksgiving holiday. The Novaks celebrated Thanksgiving on Saturday with the turkey and the trimmings. She also helped with putting up the Christmas tree which is done usually after Thanksgiving. Becky came on Thanksgiving day, and went back to Mankato on Sunday to help with the Kiwanis Christmas party for kids in Mankato.

That is all the news I could get this week, so I wish you a great week with this fine weather. Be good because Santa Claus is coming to town, on Sunday December 5th. Opens at 4:30 pm, lunch at 5:00 pm. and the big guy comes at 6:00 pm. Would like to see everybody come and enjoy the festivities.

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