

Oklee Precipitation
By Einar Kvasager

	Rain	Snow
Nov. 4		2.00
Nov. 5		2.00
Nov. 7	Trace	
Nov. 9		1.00
Total in.	0.00	5.00

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

www.TriCoCanary.com

Vol. 106, Number 13

Wednesday, November 15, 2017



Pictured is the RLCC Elementary Honors Choir who sang, “Because of You” under the direction of Krista Bernstein, for the Veteran’s Day Program. The RLCC Elementary Music Dept. would like to thank the Plummer American Legion for their generous donation. This will aid in the continued efforts to purchase a new Clavinova.

Calendar of Events
Wed, Nov. 15:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Nov. 16:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Nov. 17:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Nov. 18:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Nov. 19:
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Nov. 20:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Nov. 21:
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards
-LSS Sr. Evening Meal 5:00 p.m.
Wed, Nov. 22:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Nov. 23:
Happy Thanksgiving!!
-Café Closed in Oklee – No Senior Meal.
Fri, Nov. 24:
- Café Closed in Oklee – No Senior Meal.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Nov. 25:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Nov. 26:
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Nov. 27:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Nov. 28:
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards
Wed, Nov. 29:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Nov. 30:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Dec. 1:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Dec. 2:
-Santa Claus Day in Oklee at the Hall.
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Dec. 3:
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Dec. 4:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Dec. 5:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards
Wed, Dec. 6:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Dec. 7:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.

Trump Administration Appoints Joe Martin to Serve as State Executive Director for USDA’s Farm Service Agency in Minnesota

The Trump Administration recently appointed Joe Martin as the new State Executive Director (SED) for the USDA Minnesota Farm Service Agency (FSA). Martin joined the Minnesota FSA team on Monday, November 13.

Martin is a graduate of the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. He has nearly 20 years of experience working within the non-profit, government and private sectors of agriculture, including time with the Minnesota and American Farm Bureau Federations. He has also served as an appointed assistant commissioner at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and worked as an independent agriculture consultant. Martin is a lifelong Minnesotan, raised on a farm in Central Minnesota. He now lives in rural LeSueur County where his family farms and where he and his wife, Staci, run a small cattle operation.

The Farm Service Agency serves farmers, ranchers and agricultural partners through the delivery of effective, efficient agricultural programs. The agency offers farmers a strong safety net through the administration of farm commodity and disaster programs. FSA continues to conserve natural resources and also provides credit to agricultural producers who are unable to receive private, commercial credit, including special emphasis on beginning, underserved and women farmers and ranchers.

Under the direction of Secretary Sonny Perdue, the USDA will always be facts-based and data-driven, with a decision-making mindset that is customer-focused. Secretary Perdue leads the USDA with four guiding principles: to maximize the ability of American agriculture to create jobs, sell foods and fiber, and feed and clothe the world; to prioritize customer service for the taxpayers; to ensure that our food supply is safe and secure; and to maintain good stewardship of the natural resources that provide us with our miraculous bounty. And understanding that we live in a global economy where trade is of top importance, Secretary Perdue has pledged to be an unapologetic advocate for American agriculture.

As SED, Martin will use his leadership experience to oversee FSA programs in a customer-focused manner to ensure a safe, affordable, abundant and nutritious food supply for consumers.



Matt Vettleson wearing his Rebels football jersey with his dad Alan wearing his Bobcat Jersey.

Like Father, Like Son

By Chris Longtin

Alan Vettleson, a 1980 graduate from Oklee High School, was a captain of the football team. Now 38 years later Matthew Vettleson, Alan’s son, plays football and also has become a football captain his senior year.

At the time when Alan played football, Oklee’s mascot was the Bobcats and their colors were orange and black. The players were able to keep their jerseys. Alan played football for four years under Coach Dale Svaren. He played offensive guard and defensive tackle. He was a team captain his senior year and was all conference. Alan also was a wrestler.

Matt will graduate in 2018 from Red Lake County Central in Oklee. Matt has played football since fifth grade for the Red Lake County Rebels’ head coach Brian Remick. He played running back on offense and linebacker on defense. Matt was all conference honorable mention last year. He also plays basketball and baseball.

Alan always watches Matt’s games and is proud they both attended the same school and played on the same football field. Alan encouraged Matt to appreciate the offensive line because they create the holes for the running backs and may not get much credit for the plays they make.

Playing football goes back to the third generation. Matt’s maternal grandfather Carl Nygaard Jr. also played football. He played for Red Lake Falls High School. Matt’s family still owns his grandpa’s letterman’s sweater. Another thing Matt and his grandfather have in common is that Matt plays the trumpet just like his grandfather did.

Matt and Alan both raise beef cattle on their family farm. Alan has been raising beef cattle as a lifelong profession. Both are very proud to be home town boys. After graduation Matt plans to attend college and major in Animal Science with a minor in Agri-Business.



The American Legion Auxiliary Frank Lund Post # 159 served a nice variety of treats to everyone at the Halloween Party in Oklee on October 31st. Pictured is from l to r: Mary Lynn Bachand, Carol Bachand, Janell Walstad, Shirley Dessellier, Barb Melby and Lavonne Brown.



The Oklee Community Hall was filled with bingo players at the annual American Legion Auxiliary “Bingo Bake” held every year the opening weekend of deer hunting.



Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Interim SAM Christy Klemz
Wed, Nov. 15: 6:00 p.m.
Chime Choir. 7:00 p.m.
Confirmation at Zion.
Thu, Nov. 16: 7:00 p.m.
Parish Board meeting.
Sun, Nov. 19: 9:00 a.m.
Worship at Zion. 9:00 a.m.
SS at Salem. 10:15 a.m. SS
at Zion. 10:30 a.m. Worship at
Salem. 6:00 p.m. Thanksgiving
Ecumenical Service at Zion.
Mon, Nov. 20: 9:00 a.m.
Quilting at Zion.
Wed, Nov. 22: No Chime
Choir. No Confirmation at Zion.

**CATHOLIC PARISHES
OF OKLEE, GRYGLA &
GOODRIDGE**
Fr. Adam Hamness
Sun, Nov. 19: 7:30 a.m.
Confessions 8:00 a.m. Mass at
St. Francis Xavier, Oklee; 10:00
a.m. St. Ann Parish, Goodridge;
11:45 a.m. St. Clement Parish,
Grygla.

**BROOKS – RED LAKE
FALLS**
CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bob Schreiner
Sat, Nov. 18: 5:30 p.m. RLF
Sun, Nov. 19: 8:00 a.m.
Brooks. 10:00 a.m. RLF.

**IMMANUEL–EBENEZER
LUTHERAN PARISH
ELCA**
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Sun, Nov. 19: 9:00 a.m.
Worship at Immanuel.
10:15 a.m. Sunday School at
Immanuel. 10:30 a.m.
Worship at Ebenezer.
Wed, Nov. 22: 7:00 p.m.
Thanksgiving Worship at
Ebenezer.

**GOODRIDGE AREA
LUTHERAN PARISH
ELCA**
Bethany–Ekelund–Faith
Pastor Kristen
Ostercamp
Wed, Nov. 15: Release
Time.
Sun, Nov. 19: Note time
change: 8:30 a.m. Faith, 9:45
a.m. SS; 9:45 Ekelund, 11:00
SS, 11:00 a.m. Bethany, 9:45
a.m. SS. Ekelund Fish Fry &
Bazaar following service.
Wed, Nov. 22: No Release
Time.

**CLEARWATER
LUTHERAN PARISH**
Mt. Olive – Nazareth
Oak Park – St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wed, Nov. 15: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday School. 7:00 p.m.
Oak Park Ladies Aid.
Sat, Nov. 18: 9:00 a.m.
Mt. Olive.
Sun, Nov. 19: 8:00 a.m. St.
Petri; 8:30 a.m. SS at Nazareth,
9:45 a.m. Nazareth; 9:45 a.m.
Oak Park SS, 11:00 a.m. Oak
Park.
Wed, Nov. 22: Thanksgiving
Service: 5:00 p.m. Mt. Olive.
7:00 p.m. Oak Park.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg,
Youth Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.
com
Wed, Nov. 15: 6:00 p.m.
Alpha.
Thu, Nov. 16: 12:00 p.m.
Rotary.
Fri, Nov. 17: Release
Times. 6:00 p.m. Holy Yoga.
Sat, Nov. 18: 9:00 a.m.
Holy Yoga.
Sun, Nov. 19: 9:30 a.m.
Worship. 10:40 p.m. Sunday
School.
Tue, Nov. 21: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible study. 10:00 a.m.
Quilting. 6:30 p.m. Bible Study.
Wed, Nov. 22: 6:00 p.m.
Alpha. 6:30 p.m. Awana.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson,
Lay Minister
Wed, Nov. 15: 2:00 p.m.
Sand Valley WELCA. 7:00 p.m.
Parish Board meeting at Lund.
No Confirmation.
Sun, Nov. 19: No Morning
Services. 9:00 a.m. Sand Valley
Sunday School. Thanksgiving
Service at Bethany at 5:00 p.m.
Potluck to follow.
Wed, Nov. 22: No
Confirmation.

**BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston**
Seth Johnson,
Interim Pastor
Sun, Nov. 19: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School. 10:30 a.m.
Worship.

DEADLINE

FOR NEWS AND ADS IS FRIDAYS AT 12:00 NOON.
CONTACT THE OKLEE HERALD AT 218-796-5181

Centennial Recipe Corner

Tender Venison Stew – Crock-pot Scott Lambert

venison chunks
1 onion, coarsely chopped
8 potatoes, cut in fourths
1 can mushrooms, drained
1 can beef broth
10 carrots, sliced thick
flour to thicken

Marinade for Venison:

1 can beef broth
1 Tbsp worcestershire sauce
1 Tbsp A1 steak sauce
splash of vermouth (Martini Rossi Red)
splash of wine vinegar
1/2 tsp cumin
1/4 tsp thyme
1 Tbsp garlic salt (Lawry's)
1/2 tsp black pepper

Let venison set in marinade for a least 4 hours and
as long as 24 hours. Dump meat and marinade in
crock pot. In a separate kettle, boil beef broth, adding
flour to desired consistency. Add to crock pot onion,
mushrooms, carrots and potatoes. Cook on low for 6 to
8 hours.



KURTIS ELLEFSON
RED LAKE COUNTY
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER
218-689-8587
1-888-LINKVET
Email: kellefsoncvso@hotmail.com

City of Oklee Services and Useful Information

Leaves, Branches & Grass Clippings

We pick up every Thursday:
Boxed or bagged leaves and grass clippings, 50# or 32 gallon bags, no
55 gallon cans will be emptied. Branches cut to 8 feet maximum, please
do no put on the roads or alleys, always next to the roads and alleys.
Please refrain from blowing leaves and grass clippings into the street.

Sump Pumps

Sump pumps should not be hooked into the Sanitary Sewer System.
The sump water should be piped into the Storm Sewer System or above
ground. Our permit allows us to only pump a certain amount of water to
the ponds, this is why we do not want sump pump connections into the
Sanitary Sewer System.

Phosphors

Due to Phosphorus Management rules, the use of cleaning products with
a lower PH is recommended.

Burning

Burning leaves between September 15th and December 1st is permitted.
Burning only permitted during daylight hours. NO burning on the streets.
All fires shall be attended at all times by a person of suitable age.

Garbage

Pickup day is Monday except on Holidays, it is usually posted on the
City Notice board and various businesses around the City if there is a
change to the pick up day. Garbage is picked up from the street from the
first Monday in November to the first Monday in May, this can change
due to weather.

If you have any Questions, please feel free to call the City Office
218-796-5183

Happy
65th
Birthday
Rick
Myrum

Plummer Residents

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the Thanksgiving
Day Holiday, garbage will
be picked up in the
afternoon on
Wednesday,
November
22nd.



Red Lake Falls Library News

On-line patrons are
reminded that they can visit
www.nwrlib.org/rlf.htm at any
time, where they can create
their own patron accounts to
browse, request and renew
materials all from their home
computers.

With the Thanksgiving
holiday coming up next week,
patrons are asked to take note
of closings on both Thursday
& Friday, November 23 & 24.
Regular hours will resume on
Saturday, November 25, open
10 am until 2 pm.

Upcoming programs to mark
on your calendars include a
pre-Christmas open house on
RLF's "Santa Day," Saturday,
December 2, which will include

Oklee Senior Site Dining

November 20 – 24

Call 796-5666 to order
a meal.

If you are over the age of
60 and would like to eat with
other seniors at the Senior Site,
please call the Café at 796-5666
to reserve your meal. A \$4.00
per meal donation is suggested.

Monday: Grilled chicken,
hash browns, vegetable, and
dessert.

Tuesday: Evening meal:
Turkey, mashed potatoes,
gravy, stuffing, corn, and
dessert.

Wednesday: BBQ on
bun, fried potatoes w/onions,
vegetable, and dessert.

Thursday: Closed.

Friday: Closed.

Deadline:
Friday's at noon!

Oklee Lumber will
be closed on Saturday,
November 18th.

refreshments, holiday movies
& popcorn in the kids' room,
and a DIY perfume-making
program for teens and adults.
Patrons can make & take a
sample of cologne or perfume
made with fragrance oils and
other ingredients. All supplies
will be provided at no cost and
the activity will be available
throughout open hours that
day.

One week later, on
Friday, December 8 at 2:00
pm, Minnesota writer &
published Christian fiction
author Michelle Griep will
be in the RLF Library to
present "Victorian Christmas
Traditions" and talk about her
new book, "12 Days at Bleakly
Manor." Copies of the book will
be available for sale & signing
by Ms. Griep, and she will
provide a sample of Victorian
Christmas treats as well. Her
books can be requested through
the web catalog at nwrlib.org.

JOHNSON FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Thief River Falls • 218-681-4331
Red Lake Falls • 218-253-2128
Oklee • 218-796-5177

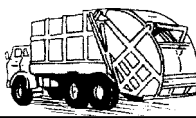


Funeral Pre-planning
Monuments

www.johnsonfuneralservice.com

NOTICE TO OKLEE RESIDENTS

Garbage Pickup will be
switched to street pickup
starting November 6th.



Red Lake County Commissioners Minutes

RED LAKE COUNTY Regular Meeting Held September 26, 2017

Pursuant to adjournment of its
regular meeting the Red Lake County
Board of Commissioners duly met
in regular session at the courthouse
in Red Lake Falls, MN on September
26, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. Chair Flage
was absent. Vice-Chair Sorensen
called the meeting to order. The
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Simpson moved and seconded
by Weiss to add to the agenda an
extension for the renewable energy
permit. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Relations Consultant
Jennifer Maleitzke and John Feely of
Enbridge Energy met with the board
to update on the Line 3 Replacement
Project. Maleitzke informed that the
last round of public hearings will
be starting later in the day in Thief
River Falls. There are 18 hearings
scheduled in 9 locations throughout
the state with the last hearing date
to be held on October 26, 2017 in St.
Cloud. An Administrative Law Judge
will preside at each hearing and ac-
cept public testimony and comment.
The judge will write a report and
submit it to the MPUC (MN Public
Utilities Commission). The MPUC
will make the final decision whether
to grant the permit to Enbridge.
Freely gave a detailed description of
the project. The county was asked
to provide a resolution in support of
the Line 3 Replacement project and
submit to Scott Ek at the MPUC in
St. Paul. Maleitzke commented that
the proposed construction start date
is October 2018 and completed by
fall of 2019.

County Sheriff Bernstein met with
the board to request approval of the
revised Emergency Operations Plan.
Bernstein informed that various
sections of the plan must be revised
on an annual basis. Commissioner
Lerohl moved, seconded by Weiss
and carried by unanimous vote to
approve **Resolution No. 09-02-17**
"Emergency Operations Plan Revi-
sion" of Red Lake County as follows:

Be It Resolved, that the Red
Lake County Board of Commis-
sioners has reviewed the county's
Emergency Operations Plan as
submitted for review by Mitch Bern-
stein, Red Lake County Emergency
Management Director;

Be It Resolved, that the Red
Lake County Board of Commis-
sioners has reviewed the Emergency
Operations Plan in accordance with
the Minnesota Division of Homeland
Security and Emergency Manage-
ment guidelines;

Be It Resolved, that the Em-
ergency Operations Plan for this ju-
risdiction adequately addresses the
reviewed planning requirements as
noted in the MNWALK document.

Commissioner Sorensen moved,
seconded by Lerohl and carried by
unanimous vote to enter into a grant
agreement with the MN Dept. of
Public Safety and approve the EMPG
grant agreement in the amount of
\$14,061.00 for calendar year 2017.
The Board Chair and County Auditor
are authorized to sign the documents
for the county. Documents are on file
at the County Sheriff's office.

Environmental Officer Kurt Casa-
van met with the board to inform
that Juhl Energy is requesting an
extension for completion of the Red
Lake Falls Community Hybrid Energy
Project. Casavan informed that
construction was to begin in October
2018, however all agreements are
not in place between the power com-
panies and the city for purchasing the
excess power generated. Commis-
sioner Weiss moved, seconded by
Simpson and carried by unanimous
vote to grant a 1-year extension to
Juhl Energy until October 2019.

Commissioner Lerohl moved,
seconded by Weiss and unanimously
carried to approve the minutes from
the regular board meeting held Sep-
tember 12, 2017.

Commissioner Weiss moved,
seconded by Simpson and carried
by unanimous vote to approve the
expenditures for the period as listed;

Revenue Fund:	\$30,689.27
Road & Bridge:	27,045.34
SS Collaborative:	250.00
Social Services:	300.00
Total:	\$58,284.61

The motion included the fol-
lowing added bills: \$184.59 to AT&T;
\$1,881.16 to the MN State Auditor;
\$9,874.43 to Prowest & Assoc.;
\$500.00 to the RLC Child Initiative,
and \$582.40 to R&L Ride Services.

The following Commissioner/
Committee reports were shared:
Commissioner Meeting/Report
Simpson: Attended a Joint
Ditch 31 meeting with Pennington
County in Thief River Falls on Sep-
tember 18th.

Weiss: None.

Lerohl: Attended a re-
tirement reception at UMC for Re-
gional Extension Director Debra
Zak. NW HRA meeting discussing
programs and re-election of officers.
Inter County Community Council
meeting discussing the Energy As-
sistance and Weatherization Pro-
grams. Attended the Joint Ditch
meeting with Pennington County.

Sorensen: Personnel Com-
mittee meeting to review the ap-
plications for the County Highway
Maintenance Supervisor position.

Auditor Schmitz presented a

request on behalf of the County
Highway Department for approval
of a Proposed Master Partnership
Agreement between MnDOT and the
county. The agreement provides a
framework for MnDOT and the
county to provide services and pay-
ment to each other. Commissioner
Lerohl moved, seconded by Weiss
and carried by unanimous vote to
approve **Resolution No. 09-03-17**
"Master Partnership Contract" as
follows:

Whereas, the MN Depart-
ment of Transportation wishes to
cooperate closely with local units
of government to coordinate the
delivery of transportation services
and maximize the efficient delivery
of such services at all levels of gov-
ernment; and

Whereas, MnDOT and local
governments are authorized by MN
Statutes sections 471.59, 174.02,
and 161.20 to undertake collabora-
tive efforts for the design, construc-
tion, maintenance and operation of
state and local roads; and

Whereas, the parties wish
to be able to respond quickly and
efficiently to such opportunities for
collaboration, and have determined
that having the ability to write "work
orders" against a master contract
would provide the greatest speed
and flexibility in responding to iden-
tified needs.

Therefore, be it resolved:

That Red Lake County enter into
a Master Partnership Contract with
the MnDOT, a copy of which was
before the Board.

That the proper County Officers
are authorized to execute such con-
tract, and any amendments thereto.

That the Red Lake County En-
gineer is authorized to negotiate
work order contracts pursuant to
the master contract, which work
order contracts may provide for
payment to/or from MnDOT, and that
the County Engineer may execute
such work order contracts on behalf
of Red Lake County without further
approval by this board.

The County Board Chair and
County Auditor are hereby author-
ized to sign the documents on
behalf of the county. A complete
copy of the documents are on file
at the County Highway Department
and the County Auditors Office.

Auditor Schmitz provided an-
other update regarding the State
Auditor issue over county audits.
The board reviewed a letter that
Kittson County will be submitting
to the State Auditor's Office on
the subject. There was discussion
about Red Lake County submitting
a similar letter. Commissioner So-
rensen moved, seconded by Lerohl
and carried by unanimous vote that
Auditor Schmitz draft a similar letter
and submit to the OSA.

Commissioner Sorensen in-
formed that there will be a FEMA
informational meeting at the Red
Lake Falls City Hall on October 26th
at 9:30 a.m.

Auditor Schmitz reviewed the
proposed 2018 budget for the Coun-
ty Revenue Fund, and a summary
of the overall county budget and
proposed tax levy. A proposed
levy must be adopted by Septem-
ber 30, 2017 and reported to the
MN Department of Revenue. The
certified tax levy will also be used
to provide information on the TNT
notices issued in November. Com-
missioner Weiss moved, seconded
by Lerohl and carried by unanimous
vote to approve the initial tax levy
at \$3,327,864.00 less \$418,427.00
State County Program Aid, resulting
in \$2,909,437.00 certified tax levy
(4.1% increase) for payable year
2018.

There being no further business
the meeting was adjourned until
October 10, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest:

Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

Chuck Flage, Chairman
Board of Commissioners
O34C

(U.S.P.S. 407-240)

Oklee Herald

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**Winner 1st place Best Feature
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ROR:** The Publisher shall not be liable
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is strictly limited to publication of the
advertisement in any subsequent issue
or the refund of
any monies paid
for the advertise-
ment.





MUSTANG STAMPED

RLCC Menus

November 20 – 24th Oklee

Monday: Breakfast: Bakery rolls, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken legs, baked potato, vegetable, fruit, dinner roll, pumpkin pie pudding, and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken quesadilla, lettuce salad, fresh vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: French toast, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Ham patty, cubed potatoes, vegetable, fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Thanksgiving - No School.

Friday: No School.

Plummer

Monday: Breakfast: Variety, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Creamy tomato soup, Ritz Bits crackers, salad, fruit, cornbread, and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Breakfast scramble pizza, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Quesadilla, sour cream, salsa, coleslaw, veggies, fruit, PB sandwich, and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Pork fritter, mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner roll, fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Thanksgiving - No School.

Friday: No School.

RLCC Sports Schedules

Rebel Boys

Basketball

Sat, Nov. 25: Jamboree in Clearbrook TBD.

Mon, Dec. 4: NCTC Tourney – TRF – TBD.

Tue, Dec. 5: NCTC Tourney – TRF – TBD.

Thu, Dec. 7: NCTC Tourney – TRF – TBD.

Thu, Dec. 14: BGMR at Plummer 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Dec. 15: Stephen-Argyle at Red Lake Falls 6:00 p.m.

Tue, Dec. 19: Climax-Fisher at Fisher 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Dec. 21: Waubun at Mahnomen 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Dec. 29: Goodridge-Grygla at Plummer 6:00 p.m.

Tue, Jan. 2: East Grand Forks at EGF 6:00 p.m.

Lady Mustang

Basketball

Thu, Nov. 30: Climax-Fisher at Fisher 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Dec. 1: Blackduck at Oklee 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Dec. 7: BGMR at BGMR 6:00 p.m.

Tue, Dec. 12: TBD at NCTC – TRF - TBD.

Thu, Dec. 14: TBD at NCTC – TRF - TBD.

Fri, Dec. 15: TBD at NCTC – TRF - TBD.

Mon, Dec. 18: Fosston at Oklee 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Dec. 21: Mahnomen at Plummer 6:00 p.m.

Tue, Jan. 2: Goodridge-Grygla at Goodridge 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Jan. 4: Red Lake at Oklee 6:00 p.m.

Sat, Jan. 6: Stephen-Argyle at Stephen 1:00 p.m.

Mustang Wrestling

Sat, Dec. 2: Fosston Tournament at Fosston 11:30 a.m.

Sat, Dec. 9: Crookston Tourney at Crookston 11:30 a.m.

Mon, Dec. 18: Crookston JV Tourney at Crookston 5:30 p.m.

Tue, Dec. 19: Crookston/Fosston Triangular at Crookston 5:00 p.m.

Thu, Jan. 4: Mayport/Roseau Tri at Roseau 5:00 p.m.

Fri, Jan. 5: Mahnomen/Waubun Dual Team at Mahnomen 4:00 p.m.

Tue, Jan. 16: Mahnomen LP Tri (Parents Night) at Oklee 5:00 p.m.

Fri, Jan. 19: Park Rapids/PHPPV at Oklee 2:00 p.m.

Sat, Jan. 20: TRF Tournament at TRF 9:30 a.m.

Sat, Jan. 27: Grafton Tourney at Grafton TBA.

Tue, Jan. 30: BGMR at BGMR 6:30 p.m.

Pillows Donated to Oklee Preschoolers

Thrivent Financial, along with Kate Moll and her mother Gerry LaVoi, generously made pillows for each of the preschool students to keep and to make rest time fun. According to Oklee preschool teacher Naomi Magnell, "They are a huge hit for the preschoolers with all the different fabric patterns. A big thanks for making these pillows again this year for our students!"

RLCC HS Fall Music Concert is Nov. 20

By Holly Johnsrud

Come and enjoy a musical evening when Red Lake County Central High School gives its Fall Music Concert at 7:00 pm on Monday, November 20. It will be at the gym in Oklee.

The choir has been working on a variety of folk songs. The junior high choir will be singing four songs and senior high choir will also sing four. Bands are performing traditional pieces as well as other music styles. The junior high band will play three songs and the senior high will have four songs.

The public is encouraged to come support the music students and hear them perform. One dollar donation will be accepted at the door and will help fund the cost of the annual music trip.

November 13-17 is American Education Week

By: Sydnie Gunderson

American Education Week will be November 13th-17th and is to celebrate the opportunity Americans are given to have public education and to honor the individuals who are making or have made a difference in making sure every child receives a quality education.

American Education Week started on December 4-10 in 1921 by the National Education Association. It was started during the World War I drafts and was created because 25 percent of the draftees were illiterate and they wanted to promote public support for education.

It takes many people to support and educate children. Please take this week to recognize and thank those who work with our students such as teachers, para professionals, administration, office staff, cooks, bus drivers, librarians, and custodians.

Attention RLCC Class of 2017 Scholarship Winners

A reminder to recipients of scholarships announced last spring: In order for you to be awarded money, you need to send a copy of your first semester grades and proof of registration for classes for second semester. Send to the organization who selected you for the scholarship. A list was given out last spring.

Scholarships that the Red Lake County Central School holds money for are: RLCC Community Service Scholarships, Red Lake Electric Scholarships, Tim and Donna Swenson Scholarships, Vincent and Shirley Dessellier Scholarships, and Lorna Wicks Scholarship. For these submit to: Bonnie Cote, RLCC High School, PO Box, 100, Oklee, MN.

We hope your first semester was a good one.

Brock Tvedt, Gavin Galkowski, and other junior high students helped rake leaves at a duplex in Plummer on Day of Caring.



Kate Moll and her mother Gerry LaVoi made colorful pillows for the preschool students. Pictured is the Wednesday School Readiness class along with student helper Sara Simon, teacher Naomi Magnell, Sue Smith, and Kate Moll.

Catapult Ninth Grade Competition at RLCC High School



Red Lake County Central ninth grade class takes part in demonstrating their catapults.

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Bella Russillo is setting up her catapult for the accuracy test.



Faith Hanson used metal and welded it to make her catapult.

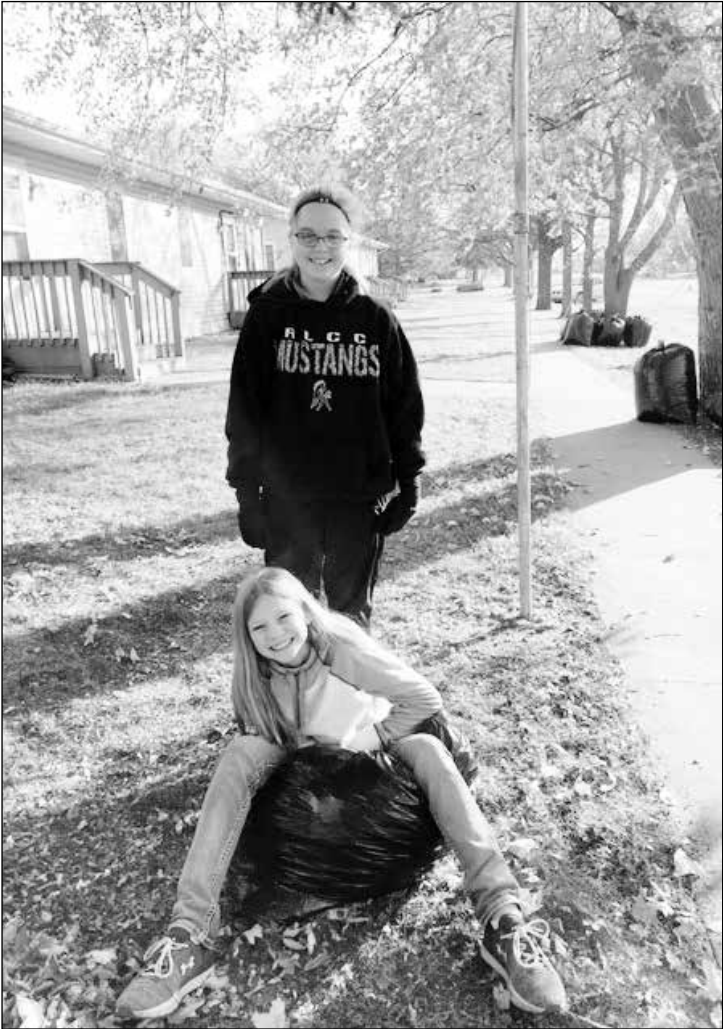


Red Lake County Central students and staff at the 13th annual Day of Caring.

~~~~~ More RLCC Day of Caring Photos ~~~~~



Cleaning windows at the Brooks Post Office (Left) Kaleb Fougner, Brett Anderson, Karena Melby, and Molly Smith.



Clowie Magnell and Payton Rystad in Plummer during Day of Caring on October 18



Senior High RLCC students raking and bagging leaves in Oklee for Day of Caring.



Mr. Swanson's advisory group returning to the school after raking yards and washing windows for Day of Caring in Oklee.



Andrew Fish and Austin Jensen help along with Mrs. Tvedt at a house in Oklee during the school's annual Day of Caring.



Raking up some leaves on Day of Caring in Plummer were Cael Nelson, Isaiah Stordahl, and Mrs. Helen Johnson.

**Oklee Herald Office Hours**

|                     |                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| This weeks hours:   |                               |
| <b>Wed, Nov. 15</b> | <b>Closed.</b>                |
| <b>Thu, Nov. 16</b> | <b>Closed.</b>                |
| <b>Fri, Nov. 17</b> | <b>9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</b> |
| <b>Mon, Nov. 20</b> | <b>9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</b> |

Oklee Office Phone: 796-5181  
 Gonvick Office Phone: 218-487-5225  
 Or by email at either:  
[okleeherald@gmail.com](mailto:okleeherald@gmail.com) • [richards@gvtel.com](mailto:richards@gvtel.com)

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 Or call David Ste. Marie, Red Lake Falls, 218-698-4279; Mike Spurgin, Red Lake Falls, 218-465-4648 or Leo Olson, Oklee, 218-796-5656.

O43-43C (2x/mo.)

**Youth Hunters bag their deer!**



Clowie Magnell shot her first deer on Friday evening, November 10, 2017.



Jennifer Johnson's 1st deer taken during Minnesota youth hunt 2017. Jennifer shot buck in Garnes Township with one shot, she was hunting on her grandpa Charlie's land and with her grandpa Byron's 243 rifle.



Oklee Herald Early Files

**Seventy Years Ago**  
**November 13, 1947**  
A little Norwegian girl in the first grade at the Oklee School is proving to her classmates that she, too, can speak their language and learn their lessons. She is Olive Kolstoe, 8 years old, who left Norway last May 14<sup>th</sup>. She traveled with her mother and arrived in NYC and then took the train to Minneapolis where they were met by her father, Soren Kolstoe.

An "unusually good" health record has been recorded here following administration of Mantoux tests for tuberculosis among pupils in the Oklee Public Schools this week. Out of the approx. 400 tests made, four pupils indicated positive reactions and was questionable.

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Engebretson of Garnes are the parents of a daughter born Tuesday, November 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Levrune Berget are the parents of a son born Friday, November 7 in a Thief River Falls hospital.

**Sixty Years Ago**  
**November 14, 1957**  
Red Lake County Sheriff Carl Kankel played a hunch and it almost cost him his life. Because of numerous burglaries in the area, including two in Oklee last week, Kankel was maintaining all-night surveillance of towns in the county. He had parked his car near the Plummer Elevator when he heard noises back of his car. As he opened his door and was about to stepped out a bullet whizzed past his head and shattered the ventilation window of the automobile, spewing glass in his face and eyes.

Lyla Rustan, a graduate of Oklee High School with the class of 1950, recently acquired a position with the US Mission to the United Nations in New York City.

Bud Bjornaraa, former outstanding high school football player at Oklee High School was commended by Marv Helling, UND football coach for his play as a member of the UND freshman football team this fall.

**Fifty Years Ago**  
**November 9, 1967**  
Four juveniles are in custody pending a hearing in Red Lake

Falls on November 16<sup>th</sup> in connection with the burning of school buildings in Brooks and Plummer on Halloween night. All four boys are from Plummer.

In Plummer classrooms are being set up in the Community Hall for students and in Brooks, 90 elementary students began attending classes Wednesday morning in the basement of St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Also in the headlines, "Civic Club Would Abolish Halloween," when a resolution was passed by the Oklee Community Club at is regular session Tuesday night at the Corner Café. Copies of the resolution will be sent to state and federal government officials.

**Forty Years Ago**  
**November 17, 1977**  
The storm that struck the Tri-County area last week will long be remembered. Activity came to a virtual standstill as did the Soo Line train. It was stalled west of Gonvick for two days while crews worked to clear the track and get the train wheels back on the track.

The Mother-Daughter Banquet Friday evening at Zion Lutheran Church should indeed be termed a huge success with nearly 200 people gathered around lovely decorated tables with fall centerpieces.

Mark Kirkpatrick of Oklee has been named co-captain for the University of Minnesota – Crookston Football team for the 1978 season.

Several neighbors joined to finish the field work on Lee Nielson's farm after lee was injured and hospitalized. Helping were Bob Morris, Darrel Nielson, Earl Strand, Wilmar Sevigny, Russell Sebenaler, Les Foldoe, Harvey Gagner, Time Erickson, Steve Foldoe, Joe Nichols and Ernest Cardinal.

**Thirty Years Ago**  
**November 18, 1987**  
A surprise birthday supper was held for Mavis Brekke at Third Base on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Pat Larson served a beautifully decorated and candle lite cake which was a gift from Marie and George Weaver.

Ronnie Hamm was pictured

in the paper with a 10 point buck he shot on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Kindergarteners pictured this week in the Oklee Herald were Corey Larson, Christopher Lessard, April Koralewski, and Heidi Vettleson.

Diane Jensen received the Scholarship for Outstanding Students from funds contributed by UMC Alumni Association. She is the daughter of Bonnie & Alvin Jensen of Oklee.

Bergit Swenson of Oklee drives school bus for 30 years said headline of a story about her. She started by filling in for her husband Earl so he could go hunting in the fall of 1958.

**Twenty Years Ago**  
**November 19, 1997**  
Cam Waters, a blues song artist came to Oklee School as the Artist in Residence.

North Tri County Conference All Conference members from RLCC are Mark Lorensen, Tyler Nelson, Brandon Tougas, and Nick Waldal. Honorable Mention were Quinn Bishop and TJ Larson.

Named to the All State Academic Team from RLCC Volleyball team were Charity Wicks, Frances Hilgeman, Elizabeth Munt and Angie Chervestad.

Oklee Mayor Isaac Melby signed the official proclamation declaring November 17 – 21 as American Education Week in Oklee.

**Ten Years Ago**  
**November 14, 2007**  
Wonderful smells of beef stew filled the air at the Community Hall in Oklee where a Hunter's Stew dinner was held to benefit the Oklee Veteran's Memorial.

The annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service will be held at Zion Lutheran Church on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ray Lund has been dreaming of coming back to Gully for the past four years. He wanted to have lunch in the Gully Café and spend some time visiting with friends and his dream finally came true.

Stephanie Smith and Kayla Olson played the piano at the Senior's evening meal on October 30<sup>th</sup>.



Oklee had a very Happy Halloween! All the kids at the Halloween Party in Oklee had a great time playing the games and winning treats to fill their buckets and bags.



Senior Site News & Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

After a cool week, we are suppose to see warmer temperatures this week. It seems the weather can not decide what it should be.

Yesterday I had a surprise when Don texted me and said I had a wild goose in my yard. It was strolling by the honey house. It sat down by a garden awhile, then walked south a short distance. I quit watching it as I left for the funeral. When I returned from the funeral he was sitting next to my driveway. When he saw me, he meadered to the north side and surveyed my north lawn. The last I heard he had stopped in the north side of the honey house. I didn't see anything of him this morning. I guess he forgot to go south for the winter.

I'm sure everyone has heard a FREE Thanksgiving dinner will be served at St. Francis Xavier Church on Thanksgiving Day. The only requirement if you plan to attended the dinner is to sign up by the 19th. You can sign up at Security State Bank, D & R Grocery or the Oklee Cafe. It is important to sign up as

they need to know who much food to prepare. This is open to everyone but you must sign up.

Veteran's Day was observed at the School on the 10th of November. It was a wonderful way to show your appreciation for the service men and women who keep our nation safe. The musice department from the school provided the music, and two students had readings. The American Legion Advanced the Colors. Rick Dulka was the Emcee. The guest speaker was Steve Stone. Taps as played to end the program. I was aa very effective way to honor our service men and women.

The funeral for Alan Woods was well attended. I was able to attend and visit with many people who I haven't seen for awhile. Alan had not bee well for a long time.

The Senior Site had a "Cake & Coffee" party in honor of the Veteran's Day on Thursday. We held it in the Cafe as the Site get crowded and Teresa is so kind to let us use the Cafe.

**Dates to Remember**  
**Nov. 16:** Site Council

meeting at 10:00 a.m.

**Nov. 17:** Birthday Meal.

**Nov. 18:** AARP Drivers Class at RLCC Library.

**Nov.21:**ThanksgivingMeal at 5:00 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Words of Wisdom**  
Out of respect and appreciation for the efforts of the family members who prepared the meal, never dress casually for Thanksgiving dinner. That means jackets and ties for the mean and male teenagers. Now take a second helping while you praise the cooks.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Joke Time**  
A woman as George Burns, "Is it true you still go out with young women?"  
George said, "Yes, it's true."  
She said, "Is it true you still smoke 15 to 20 cigars a day?"  
George said, "Yes, it's true."  
She said, "It is true you still take a few drinks everyday?"  
"Yes," George repeated, "it's true."  
"Well," she said, "What does your doctor say about all this?"  
Burns said, "He's dead."

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

It was a cold week last week. Much colder than usual and the coats felt really great. Along with the wind it seemed way colder than we are used to in november. This week is said to be a bit better and maybe we can get those left over chores done without the bitter cold to stop us. Hunting seems to be very fruitful. Though I see people driving around to find out where the deer are, and when I go to the store or town I see deer eating in fields during the day and many of them. It used to be the deer hid during hunting season, but these days the deer are pretty unscathed by hunters in the area. I have seen a lot of deer eating in the fields.

Good luck to all the deer hunters.

Brianna and Kyle Wanner, James, Andrew, and Felicity of Bismarck, North Dakota, Colton and Jaime Determan, Kaydence and Camden, of Detroit Lakes, MN, Brad Determan and Maisie and Aubrey of Thief River Falls,

Jess and Heidi Determan, Emma and Elizabeth, and Mikayla, of Brooks, and Aaron and Meg Determan of Brooks, all joined in a family Thanksgiving celebration at the Cindy and Del Determan home this past weekend. Cindy and Del also got good news from the tests this past week so there was a lot to be thankful for.

Cindy also went to see AJ Parenteau at the Hospice Care in Fosston. He had many visitors and among them were his children Steve and Vicki, Mike, Alicia Baker, Jason and Darby, Wyatt and Anders, Leroy Mercil and many others were there to watch the game with Aurel. He even was accommodated with a special viewing room so everyone could watch the game with him. Harold brought the pickles. What a football party they had too, the Vikes won.

Diane Gagner hostessed a Mary Kay party on Sunday. Everyone got a facial, and were introduced to new products.

Tiffany Malwitz, Barb Novak, Carol Chaput, Dana Berberich, Brenda Gagner, were all attended to by Stephanie Koralewski who is a Mary Kay consultant. There were lots of goodies served by Dianne, and superb coffee.

Ian Ellenson of Warroad grandson to Jerome and Barb Novak got his deer the first day of hunting season. Congratulations to him.

Thanksgiving is just a short time off, and in a blink of an eye, we will be eating that big tom turkey. I hope you day will be filled with friends and family, but if you should need to have a turkey dinner and you don't want to eat alone, call 218-253-2188. Call by November 19th. At that number you sign up for a free turkey dinner at St. Joes in Brooks and they also deliver. Going to eat out with someone else is a great way to celebrate the holiday and makes for good fellowship. Make the call.

Have a great week.

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

Plummer Sportsman's Club had their rifle raffle drawings and met at the Plummer Legion Saturday night. They gave away ten rifles for the drawings. Three were from Plummer.

Tri River Pioneers met on Monday night at seven at the museum. The Holiday Train was discussed. It will be December 12<sup>th</sup>, a Tuesday, at 6:25 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Inter County will start serving at 4:30 p.m., along with coffee, hot beverage, and cookies. There will be drop sites for the food shelf at the hall and museum, also. There will be sleigh rides, caroling, Santa, the museum open for touring and socializing. Mark your calendars. You may want to come a little early to get a good parking place.

On Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup>, several classmates from the class of 1960 got together at "Biff's" restaurant in Thief River Falls for dinner. They

were JoAnn (Hanson) Lehman and Maynard, Lorna Jesme, Anna DeHate, Ray Vigstol, Judy Klasen, John Skjerven, Leonard Novak and Wes Myhre. They had a great time!

Brandie DeHate, age sixteen, got two deer the same day. She was hunting with her family.

One thing for sure is that it was a very cold day for opening deer hunting. It was 72° last year on that date, which set a record.

On Tuesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> at Valley Home a birthday cake was served by the staff for Shirley Baune, who was 89 years old. The residents were served and also present were Sandy Greenwald and Bob Baune. Also Arlene Jesme, Rose, Lorna Jesme, and Lorette Hesse, all of Thief River Falls, And Peggy Hesse. Jim and Jan Baune came later when the pizza was served. Also Duane and Reinette Walter, Mike and Sandy Greenwald, Kelly Baune

and her mom and Bob Baune. They had a very nice time.

Our priest from Brooks and Red Lake Falls, Father Bob Shriner, left with several other parishioners on a pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal for seven days. This is where the Blessed Mother Mary appeared to shepherds in 1917. So, it is the 100 year anniversary and will be very special.

We got our pews at St. Joseph's Church put in. They were from St. Lawrence's in Mentor and are quite nice. We had mass in the basement for a few Sundays. The carpet was also replaced.

Well, winter came with a blast. Though, some areas got way more snow than us, it got cold fast. It's soup and stew weather. And jigsaw puzzle time. Don't forget the friends and loved ones in the nursing homes. They need a visit from time to time.

Stay warm and be good!

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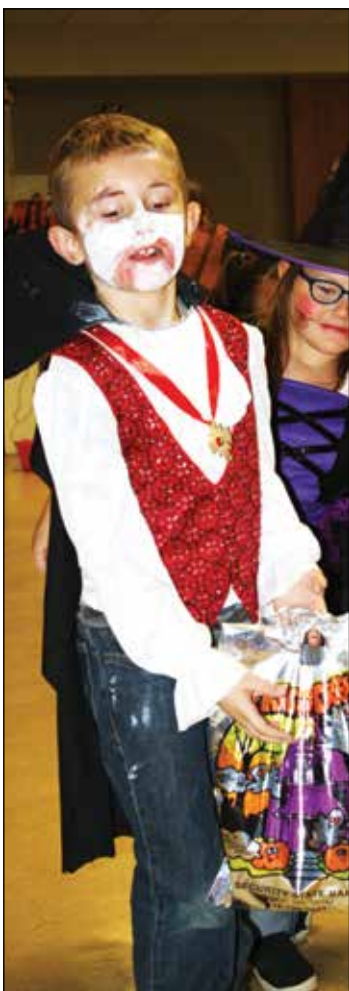
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**Service Starts November 6!**



Harley Bernier guessed the closest number of candies in the jar for the guessing game. All the children coming into the Oklee Community Hall had the opportunity to make a guess. Congratulations to Harley!



This table unfortunately got missed. Another beautiful table from the Festival of Tables in Brooks raising funds for cancer research for the American Cancer Society.

## Who's Dat?



### Who's Dat

This week's photo is of three youngsters from Oklee. Last week's photo was from Halloween. From Left to Right: Rosetta & Cassidy Hruby, Jenny & Jade Person, Angie & Billie Jo Gryskiewicz, Christina & Cameron Parsley, Krista & Julia Bernstein, Marcella & Sydney Melby, Patti & Bryce Bergerson, DeAnn & Kylie Brekke, Danni & Seth Paradis, Pam & Marie Johnson, Karen & Katie Olson, Everyone has a photo or two that would be great for this column. Please share them with our readers.

If you email a photo, please scan at 300 dpi (high quality) if you can. You can email to [okleeherald@gmail.com](mailto:okleeherald@gmail.com).

If you mail a photo to the Oklee Herald office, please enclose a self address 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 we will scan your photo while you wait.



## Welcome to the family

### Cynthia Omokaro, MD

Family Medicine with Obstetrics

Essentia Health-Fosston Clinic  
Essentia Health-Bagley Clinic  
Essentia Health-Oklee Clinic

Dr. Cynthia Omokaro, a family medicine physician, has joined the Essentia Health-Fosston Clinic. She will also care for patients at Essentia Health's clinics in Bagley and Oklee.

Dr. Omokaro will care for patients of all ages, and will also offer comprehensive obstetrics services for women who are pregnant. "I was drawn to this opportunity because it gives me a chance to practice a full-spectrum of family medicine in a rural setting," says Dr. Omokaro.

Dr. Omokaro earned a medical degree at Albany Medical College in Albany, NY. She completed a residency in family medicine at MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center in Baltimore, MD.

Dr. Omokaro is especially interested in preventative care and chronic disease management. "Working in family medicine gives me an opportunity to care for a diverse population, incorporate patient education and use all my skills to provide the best possible care," she says.

To make an appointment with Dr. Omokaro in Fosston, call 218.435.1212, in Bagley, call 218.694.6281, and in Oklee, call 218.796.4525.

To see her full profile, go to [EssentiaHealth.org](http://EssentiaHealth.org) and click on "Find a Medical Professional."



"I look forward to caring for patients in this area and becoming a part of the community."

- Dr. Cynthia Omokaro



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## News and Views

Eli Gindele - U of M Extension Educator - Red Lake, Polk and Clearwater Counties  
[egindele@umn.edu](mailto:egindele@umn.edu) Cell 218-280-1129 - McIntosh office: 218-563-2465  
Red Lake Falls office: 218-253-2897 - Bagley office: 218-694-6151

## Should I reduce the Bt trait acreage in the 2018 corn crop to cut production costs?

By: Bruce Potter, Extension IPM and Ken Ostlie, Extension entomologist

The economics of 2017 corn production have challenged many farmers with minimizing losses per acre. One area that some farmers have targeted for reducing costs is hybrid selection. Planting corn hybrids without Bt protection for European corn borer (ECB), corn rootworm or both will greatly reduce seed costs. However, if not careful, farmers could inadvertently reduce crop revenues if they select hybrids without considering yield potential or insect populations in their fields.

Yield potential is the first thing to consider when selecting a corn hybrid. Bt traits only protect the yield potential of a hybrid; yield benefits only occur when targeted insects are above economic levels. When insect pressure is low, any potential yield gains from with newer, trait-protected hybrids have to be balanced against their higher costs. Switching to less-expensive seed only makes sense when yields are comparable or when seed cost savings exceed any reduced yield potential plus prospective insect losses that may occur. Complicating the decision is one important consideration - the limited availability of high-yielding non-Bt or single Bt trait corn hybrids for much of Minnesota.

In many 2017 fields, planting corn without a Bt trait in 2017 will work out just fine but take stock of your insect risk!

**European corn borer**  
Compared to pre-Bt levels, European corn borer (ECB) populations are generally very low in Minnesota (Figures 2 & 3) and much of the Midwest. They have been effectively suppressed for nearly 20 years. However, the risk of ECB infestations may be locally higher in areas where significant acreages of corn without Bt corn borer trait(s) were planted in 2016 and preceding years. Reports of damage in 2016 non-Bt corn demonstrate ECBs are still around and may be increasing in some areas. A temporary increase in non-Bt corn acreage should not dramatically increase the risk of damage and planting corn without Bt corn borer protection should be relatively low risk. The risk of economic damage likely increases as the proportion of local fields planted to non-Bt increase, particularly when the reduction in Bt has occurred for several years. Risk of yield loss from ECB can be reduced if you scout fields and apply a labeled insecticide where needed. Early and late-planted fields will most attractive to egg-laying 1st and 2nd generation moths, respectively. These fields should be receiving scouting emphasis when planted to a hybrid without an above ground Bt trait. Where the univoltine strain of ECB occurs, scouting should focus on fields nearest pollination when the flight is underway, typically mid-July to early August.

Notes on European corn borer, scouting and aerial insecticides:  
Larvae are susceptible to insecticides for 10-14 days during each generation. This limited window means your scouting efforts must be timed well.

As corn grows, successive generations appear lower in the corn canopy; insecticide effectiveness declines with greater canopy interception by leaves above the larvae. Percent control for well-timed applications declines from 85% (1st generation) to 70% (univoltine) to 50% (2nd generation). Expect control to be noticeably lower than Bt traits (>99.5%).

Bt corn should also receive some scouting attention late season. While ECB resistance to Bt -lepidoptera traits has not been detected yet, the effectiveness of several above ground traits has declined in some corn earworm, western bean cutworm and fall armyworm populations. Look for excessive leaf feeding from first-generation corn borers in earlier planted fields, stalk and ear tunneling in later silking fields from univoltine and second-generation corn borers, ear feeding from corn earworm and western bean cutworm, and late-whorl and ear feeding from fall armyworm.

**Corn rootworm**  
Corn rootworm populations in MN have declined because of overwintering mortality (2013-2014), and heavier spring rainfall that locally reduced larval survival in 2014-2016. Overall, in non-rotated 2016 corn, lodging damage from corn rootworms remained lower than during the most recent peak years of 2009-2013. In rootworm research areas, western corn rootworm populations have been building since the cold winter and wet spring of 2013-14. Resistance to several Bt proteins has been documented in Minnesota western corn rootworm populations and resistance the Cry3Bb1 protein appears to be widespread. In both research and commercial non-rotated corn fields, single Bt trait and non Bt-RW hybrids are most likely to show high (> 1 beetle/plant) western corn rootworm beetles (Figure 4) populations. Even those Bt fields with pyramided traits might experience rootworm damage when populations are very high. Northern corn rootworm beetles (Figure 5), including the extended diapause biotype, appear to be increasing in some areas and scattered reports of extended diapause problems have re-surfaced after a 10-year absence.

*Do not assume that you do not have a potential 2017 rootworm problem simply because your corn did not lodge in 2015 or 16.* Weather in 2016 was very forgiving, allowing ample opportunity for root re-growth, and root feeding was relatively early in corn development, allowing opportunity for brace root growth in absence of corn rootworm pressure. Corn rootworm population survival was excellent where spring rainfall was reduced and the mild, long, lingering fall was ideal for egg laying.

Despite these cautionary notes, there is minimal risk for economic damage from western corn rootworms in 2017 rotated corn in Minnesota. Bt-RW resistance has not yet been documented in northern corn rootworm and with the widespread adoption of Bt-RW hybrids, extended diapause issues have been suppressed. Some reports of economic

damage in rotated non-Bt RW corn this year and the more numerous observations of northern corn rootworms this fall should be a warning not to ignore the northwesterns. Rotated corn may still be at risk from extended diapause northern corn rootworm.

Unless fields were scouted for corn rootworms in 2016 (corn after corn) or 2015 (rotated corn), some situations should be carefully pondered. Fields with hybrids maturing late for the area, fields with portions replanted or where crop development was delayed by flooded soils this spring, corn fields with late-season weed populations or adjacent to weedy soybeans, or soybean fields with heavy volunteer corn persisting late in the season face elevated risk from corn rootworms in 2017.

Non Bt-RW hybrids will do well in fields where you have monitored western corn rootworm beetle populations and know that they were below threshold (0.75 -1.0 beetles/plant or 4 beetles/trap/day) in 2016 and/or northern corn rootworm populations were also low in 2015 corn. Fields where you know or suspect economic beetle populations exist may benefit from an at-plant insecticide, a hybrid with a Bt-RW pyramid (two different Bt RW proteins), and in the worst case scenario both. However, University studies typically do not reveal economic payoff for insecticides layered over working Bt traits, especially with pyramided rootworm traits.

Notes on rootworm insecticide performance and application:

Soil insecticides do not perform as well as Bt traits in root protection (expect 60% control or less compared to >98% for working Bt pyramids).

In Bt resistance situations, soil insecticides do not make up for failing traits.

Performance of insecticides, whether seed treatments, liquids or granules declines with pressure. As pressure increases, seed treatments fail at lower pressure than soil insecticides. Liquids generally protect roots less than granules.

There are no effective rescue options for larvae when it comes to rootworm damage detected post-emergence.

If applying soil insecticides, make sure your planter is calibrated and delivering the rate you expect.

If applying granules, apply in-furrow (IF) or replace banders every 3-4 years.

If applying liquids, make sure liquids are placed IF. Follow label directions if mixing with or injecting into a liquid fertilizer. Do not use a 2 X 2 placement.

**When moving away from Bt traits to reduce costs, keep in mind three important considerations:**

Bt traits are a form of insurance. Moving away from Bt traits means that you are assuming the risk of insect attack and its management.

Risk is generally low right now for European corn borer and corn rootworms but risk is not gone.

You can either choose to ignore that risk (and your fields) or minimize that risk through active management (scouting + insecticides).