

**Oklee Precipitation
By Einar Kvasager**

	Rain	Snow
May 26	0.02	
May 28	0.04	
May 29	Trace	
May 31	Trace	
June 1	Trace	
Total in.	0.06	0.00

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

Vol. 106, Number 42

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, June 6, 2018



Mike Swenson and family celebrated his retirement after a long, successful teaching career. Family members with him included: (Seated) Kaylynn Wold, his mother Joyce, and Andy. (Standing) Tom Wold, Paul, Mike, Adam holding Aubrey, and Landon.

A new chapter for Mike Swenson

By: Aiydin Lancto and Hannah Riendeau

Mr. Mike Swenson is retiring from Red Lake County Central this year. He has been teaching at Oklee Public School which became RLCC for 44 years beginning in 1974. He attended Northland Community College in Thief River Falls and Bemidji State University earning

a Bachelor's of Science degree in English and Mass Communications along with a variety of other courses from various colleges. He did his student teaching in Thief River Falls where his mentor Everett Marshall "made teaching so much fun."

Swenson chose this career because he wanted a challenge and loved reading, so he found a way to make it his career. When he began, he taught 9th, 11th grade English with double sections. He eventually taught 7th-11th grade English. He also taught Composition I and II, American Literature and English Literature for College in the High School. Students have been able to earn up to 12 college credits because of these courses. He has also taught fifth and sixth grade reading, civics for six years, special ed, TV journalism, and speech.

He stayed in education for many years because he said if you find a job that you look forward to go to, it is not a job. He loved working with the students and teachers in Oklee. "It was phenomenal."

Swenson commented, "I have had many students contact me years after they had graduated to thank me for preparing them for college. I have had people go into professional theater such as Charity Wicks, Pam Parenteau Daly and those who followed after me by teaching English such as Kelly Hofstad and others."

Regarding highlights of teaching Swenson said, "It is so much fun when a student who struggled finally understands a new concept. I have watched so many students go out to make a life for themselves."

During his time teaching there have been many changes including the advances in technology. When he began teaching, calculator batteries lasted three hours and cost eight dollars. The first computer he had was a 40 meg machine and cost \$2500. Swenson said, "The computer was so much faster. Instead of retyping every worksheet and test to put on a mimeograph machine... one could save the worksheet on a computer and have a new printout every year." He

commented that today's phone is a computer, camera, and camcorder.

For new teachers, Swenson said he prepared for a lot of paperwork and ask for help. Shortcuts make correcting go by a lot faster. "You will be lucky to be ahead by one day." He learned from experience to back up his grade book by continuing to use the old grade book.

When asked what he will miss Swenson commented, "I will miss theater, working with the students. I will miss those moments when the light pops in a student's head when they understand a concept. I will miss working with the unbelievable staff of teachers and paras. I will not miss the hours and hours of paperwork!"

While teaching, Swenson was a member of the RLCCCEA, MEA, NEA, and Kramer Brown including being president of the RLCCCEA for 27 years as well as other offices and committee chairs. He was a member of Kramer Brown for 12 years and the Chairman for three. Swenson was also a member of the State Governing Board of Education Minnesota.

Mike Swenson has three sons: Paul, Adam, and Andy. Paul is married to Anne and has one son named Luke. Adam has three children: Blaine, Mason, and Aubrey. His mother Joyce still lives on the family farm. He has one sister named Kaylynn who is married to Tom Wold.

In his free time Swenson enjoys reading, writing, hunting, and fishing. Now he looks forward to spending more time with his grandchildren. His retirement plans are to do some traveling, go fishing and hunting more. He stated that he will not miss all of the correcting and paperwork!

Swenson concluded, "I will miss working with the students. This is a job that the results do not show sometimes for years. I especially will miss theater—the vision I see when I read a script to develop the plan to make it a reality."

Thank you Mr. Swenson for all that we have learned from you and the confidence you brought to those in theater. Have a great retirement and best wishes from RLCC.



English teacher Michael Swenson and Science teacher Shelley Steva are retiring from RLCC at the end of the 2017-18 school year. They were recognized at the Kramer Brown Recognition Dinner. Alongside these teachers is Vice President of the RLCC Education Association, Roberta Aakhus.

Oklee Memorial Day program

The Oklee Memorial Day program was held on May 28, 2018 at the Red Lake County Central High School in the gymnasium. Erin (Melby) and Simone Crawford were providing the prelude music as everyone came in and got seated.

The American Legion Color Guard from Post 159, presented the colors. Chaplain Don Stenberg gave the Invocation. The audience was asked to sing "My Country Tis Of Thee" and were accompanied by Erin Crawford.

Commander Rick Dulka of Post 159 addressed the audience and read a letter he had received about the history of some of the men whose names are read every year. It was a touching letter and Dulka asked for the community to continue bringing the histories of the men who served in the wars. A book for this history will be created and it is important to keep the memories and history, to not allow it to be lost in the future.

Commander Rick Dulka also honored the writer of the letter he read, stating that this person had been a member of the American Legion longer

than Dulka has been alive. He then announce the writer's name and gave recognition to Elmer Hanson.

Special music was presented by Sydney Melby and Clifton Crawford. Sydney play her guitar and sang with Clifton.

Jan Dulka read a description to the audience explaining the significance of the Missing Man Table setting in front of the stage. The table is set up in a specific style and each item at and around the table has a specific meaning. The table, set for one, is small, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner, alone against his or her suppressors. The tablecloth is white, symbolic of the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms. The single red rose in the vase signifies the blood they may have shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved United States of America. This rose also reminds us of the family and friends of our missing comrades who keep the faith, while awaiting their return. On the back of the chair is a POW/ MIA flag. The flag is a powerful reminder that the remains of some 78,000 Americans are

unaccounted for from World War II, 8,100 from the Korean War, 1,800 from the Vietnam War, 120 from the Cold War and one from the Gulf War. A slice of lemon on the plate reminds us of their bitter fate. The salt sprinkled on the plate reminds us of the countless fallen tears of families as they wait. The glass is inverted. They cannot toast with us this night. The Missing Man Table is a very solemn event.

Allison Aakhus, also performed a patriotic song at the Oklee Memorial Day program.

The Honorary Roll Call was read by Vincent Dessellier, Elmer Hanson, Jan Dulka, Rick Dulka, John Lessard and Barb Melby.

Commander Rick Dulka also reminded people to please let him know if a name is missing or spelled incorrectly. And to please send in their histories so it is not lost forever.

The American Legion Color Guard retired the colors and a shadow taps was played by Noah Hanson and Gunner Sandeen, where one plays and the other is the shadow, playing a note behind as if an echo. Very solemn and beautifully done.



Oklee's Memorial Day Program was held at RLCC High School. Pictured is Auxiliary member Barb Melby, Legion members John Lessard, Vincent Dessellier, Jan Dulka, Elmer Hanson, and Don Stenberg.



Sydney Melby and Clifton Crawford provided special music at the Memorial Day Program in Oklee.



Commander Rick Dulka of the American Legion Frank Lund Post #159 talked about the history of the veterans who were lost in the past and the importance of collecting the histories for future generations.

East Grand Forks Resident Seeks First Term Representing House District 1B

Brent Lindstrom of East Grand Forks has been formally nominated for the District 1B seat in the Minnesota House of Representatives, and has received the endorsement of the District 1B delegates at the DFL Senate District 1 Endorsing Convention in Thief River Falls on Tuesday, May 29.

A retired veteran of the United States Air Force with

21 years of active duty service, Lindstrom said of the endorsement, "I feel it's my duty to continue to serve my country by seeking this office, so I'm honored and humbled to have received the DFL endorsement." He went on to thank the delegates: "I look forward to continuing to earn your support and to serving all the residents of this district in



Brent Lindstrom the Minnesota House of Representatives."

District 1B includes all of Polk and Red Lake Counties, and most of Pennington County.

The Lake Bronson, MN native has lived in East Grand Forks since 2004. He is a graduate of the University of North Dakota, and is founder and past president of the Grand Cities Lacrosse Association. Lindstrom is currently employed by New Flyer of America in Crookston and is a member of the Communication Workers of America, Local 7304.

Brent is married to Constance Lindstrom, a senior bio-fuels analyst for Christianson, PLLP, an ag-focused accounting and consulting business based in West Central Minnesota. Brent and Constance have three adult sons. For more information on Mr. Lindstrom, please visit www.brentlindstrom.org.

All area residents receiving Fair Premium List

Red Lake County is hosting the annual fair. It will be held in Oklee and the dates to mark on your calendar are June 22, 23, & 24 - Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

To make sure that all in the area are aware of the event, a premium list is being

mailed, through this issue of the Oklee Herald to all residents in the Oklee, Plummer, Brooks and Trail areas.

This copy of the Oklee Herald and the Red Lake County Fair Premium List serves two purposes. Get you enthused about your Fair and introduce you to the Oklee Herald, if you are not familiar with it. We would like to send the

Oklee Herald to each and every one of you, every week. See elsewhere for a limited time introductory offer of \$5 off a new regular subscription. For renewals, get \$2 off your renewal. And we are now ONLINE too! The "Tri-County Canary" is a supplement to each weekly paper that is a useful tool to be used when looking to buy and sell all kinds of products and services and also carries area news of interest. We hop you will enjoy the Complementary Oklee Herald and the Red Lake County Fair June 22, 23 & 24th.



Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH

Zion and Salem
Interim SAM Christy Klemz

Sun, June 10: 9:00 a.m. Zion, 10:30 a.m. Salem.

Tue, June 12: 6:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting at Salem, 7:00 p.m. Salem Council meeting.

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OKLEE, GRYGLA & GOODRIDGE

Fr. Adam Hamness

Sun, June 10: 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, June 9: 5:30 p.m. RLF
Sun, June 10: 8:00 a.m. Brooks. 10:00 a.m. RLF.

IMMANUEL-EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA

Pastor Jonathan Dodson

Sun, June 10: 9:00 a.m. Worship at Immanuel. 10:30 a.m. Worship at Ebenezer.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA

Bethany-Ekelund-Faith
Pastor Kristen Ostercamp

Sun, June 10: 8:30 a.m. Ekelund, lunch to follow; 9:45 a.m. Faith; 11:00 a.m. Bethany, Council meeting to follow services.

Mon, June 11: 7:00 p.m. Faith, Parish Board meeting.

Tue, June 12: 6:00 p.m. Shalom Circle.

Oklee Senior Site Dining

June 11 - 15

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: Chicken drummies with French fries, medley veg. and dessert.

Tuesday: Cold hand and cheese sandwich with tuna salad and dessert.

Wednesday: ½ Chef salad with cheezy medley soup and dessert.

Thursday: Chicken Alfredo with coleslaw, toast and dessert.

Friday: sm. Ham patty with stuffed baked potato, toast and dessert.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH

Mt. Olive - Nazareth
Oak Park - St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseeth

Sat, June 9: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive.

Sun, June 10: 8:00 a.m. St. Petri; Nazareth 9:45 a.m.; 11:00 a.m. Oak Park.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH

Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg,
Youth Pastor

www.newjourneyfosston.com

Sun, June 10: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

Tue, June 12: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study. 10:30 a.m. Quilting. 6:30 p.m. Bible Study.

Wed, June 13: 6:30 p.m. Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH

Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley

Dawn Hanson,
Lay Minister

Sun, June 10: 9:00 a.m. Lund. 10:30 a.m. Sand Valley.

Wed, June 13: 2:00 p.m. Lund WELCA

BETHEL ASSEMBLY

Fosston

Seth Johnson,
Interim Pastor

Sun, June 10: 10:00 a.m. Worship.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you have a subscription you can view online for free. If you just want to view ONLINE it is only \$25, no matter where you live! Give us a call!

218-487-5225

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PIONEER

www.TriCoCanary.com

FLAG DAY

When: June 14, 2018

Where: Oklee Area Veterans Park

What: Potluck at 5:30 p.m. and Flag burning to follow at 7:00 p.m. Public is welcome and encouraged to bring torn flags to burn.

DEADLINE

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



Jan Lee held a piano recital for these Goodridge pianists on May 22 at the Bethany Church in rural Thief River Falls. Photo Above, Jennah Henrickson earned gold cups for piano hymn and piano solo. Tiana Banasau earned a gold cup for hymn playing.

Photo left: pianists were back row: Trustin Wiseth, Chantel Grindeland, Jennah Henrickson, Mercedes Coan. Front row: Nora Philipp, Nora Phelps, Morgan Coan, Izabel Horning, Tiana Banasau

Grant (Free) Money is available for replacing Failing Septic Systems

Red Lake County Environmental Services currently has grant money available for failing septic systems. This money is for residential/family homes, not businesses.

In the past, it was just available for strictly low income households. In Red Lake County we have a sliding scale system in use. For example: If you show earnings of \$10,000 on your 2017 taxes you would qualify for 90% of your septic system to be paid. Earnings of \$50,000 would qualify for 50% to be paid on the system. Earnings of \$90,000 would qualify for approximately 10% of the septic system to be paid. These are all examples to give you an idea of what you might expect to receive based on your income.

Examples of failing septic systems would be: Septic tank is not water tight such as cracked, block tank etc., dumping into a ditch, creek, river or any surface outlet not below ground, also signs of septage (liquid) coming to the ground surface.

Please call for more information. You are not required to give your name if you just want to call and ask questions. We currently have a large pot of money available. We require a copy of your most recent taxes, for most that would be 2017, to determine which bracket you fall into.

We encourage you to call us and use this grant money. Call Kurt @ (o) 253-4121 or (c) 218-791-5776.

KURTIS ELLEFSON

RED LAKE COUNTY
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

218-689-8587
1-888-LINKVET

Email: kellefsoncvso@hotmail.com

Red Lake Falls Library News

The library is open on Tuesday from Noon until 7:00 pm, Wednesday from Noon until 7:00 pm, Thursday from Noon until 5:00 p.m.; Friday from Noon until 5:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 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 Summer Reading underway, kids can read for fun, but also sneak in a little learning by enjoying some bright & colorful new nonfiction titles such as "Building Squishy Circuits," a Makers-as-Innovators junior book by AnnMarie Thomas, et. al.; "Coral Reefs," an Explore My World title from

National Geographic Kids by Jill Esbaum; "Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover" by Markus Motum; "Dolphins: Voices in the Ocean" by Susan Casey; "The Flying Girl" by Margarita Engle, the story of how Aida de Acosta learned to fly an airship in 1903; "The Girl Who Drew Butterflies" by Joyce Sidman, about how Maria Merian's art changed science; and "Speediest! - 19 Very Fast Animals" by Steve Jenkins.

Upcoming SRP event next Wednesday, June 13 at 2:00 pm when the Agassiz Environmental Learning Center will present a program on Africa: learn to count in Swahili, create a thundering rain storm, and explore an African folk tale "The Greedy Zebra."

Sheriff's Report

On 05/29/18, Ronald Benjamin Bishop III (33) of Oklee was cited for misdemeanor maltreatment of animals. On 05/16/18, the Red Lake County Sheriff's Office, with assistance from the Pennington County Humane Society, executed a search warrant at Bishop's residence in Oklee. It was discovered that 4 adult dogs and 1 cat were subjected to living in inhumane conditions. It is alleged that Mr. Bishop had not been residing

at that home for some time, and the animals were left without adequate food and water. The kennel conditions were also unsanitary and exposed animals to risk of disease and injury. All of the animals were seized and taken to the Humane Society in Thief River Falls. Mr. Bishop will be summoned to appear in court in Red Lake Falls to face this criminal charge. The seized animals will be placed for adoption by the Pennington County Humane Society and Red Lake County will be asking for restitution from Mr. Bishop to pay for the costs associated with this investigation. Mitch Bernstein 06/01/18



Red Lake County Commissioners Minutes

RED LAKE COUNTY Regular Meeting Held May 8, 2018

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 May 8, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Chair Sorensen called the meeting to order. All members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Simpson and carried by unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Flage and carried by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the regular board meetings held on April 24, 2018.

Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Lerohl and carried by unanimous vote to approve a request for the Pathfinders Snowmobile Club, Resolution No. 05-01-18. The resolution authorizes the county to enter into an agreement with the Minnesota DNR to act as the trail sponsor/fiscal agent to receive funding on behalf of the club for maintenance of the Riverland Trail system. Auditor Schmitz is hereby authorized to sign the agreement for Red Lake County. A complete document is available at the County Auditor's office.

Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried by unanimous vote to approve the following expenditures for the period:

Vendor	Amount
Computer Professionals Unlimited, Inc	\$ 2,191.00
Davidson Construction	75,000.00
Garden Valley Telephone	3,139.51
IUOE Local 49 Health & Welfare Fund	13,710.00
MN Public Employers Ins. Program	25,673.04
Ottertail Power Company	3,265.49
Red Lake County Co-op	38,565.48
Stepp Mfg.	17,885.00
US Records Midwest LLC	2,994.91
53 Vendors less than \$20,000	21,724.89
TOTAL	\$204,149.32

The motion includes the following added bills: \$38.41 to Brent's (food for EMS meeting); \$52.20 to FS Solutions; \$640.00 to MnCC; \$900.00 to Office Enterprise Technology; \$19.62 expenses and \$70.00 per diem to Ron Weiss.

The following Commissioner/Committee reports were shared:

Commissioner Simpson:	Meeting/Report None.
Weiss:	Committee on Aging.

June WIC Schedule

Infants, children up to the age of 5, and women who are pregnant or breastfeeding may be eligible for the program. We are very interested in enrolling pregnant women in the program. We feel that the prenatal nutrition is a vital part of producing a healthy baby. Therefore, it is important to apply for WIC early in your pregnancy. We need no proof of pregnancy.

All potential clients must contact the WIC Program to schedule an appointment.

The following is the schedule of WIC Clinics for the month of June.

Thu, June 7 Red Lake Falls Community Center

Monday, June 11-15 Thief River Falls Redeemer Lutheran Church

For further information concerning the WIC program, call or write WIC Quin, PO Box 248, Newfolden, MN 56738, phone 1-800-223-1591, or e-mail at quinchs@wiktel.com.

Flage: County Emergency Services session on how to deal with protesters.

Lerohl: NW Regional Development discussing budget, expenditures, and a report on the Fosston Industrial Park. Attended a luncheon in Bemidji and met with representatives of Enbridge Energy.

Sorensen: NW apartments meeting in Crookston discussing financials and programs. Reported on information from MRCC on the counties affected by the pipeline litigation.

Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Simpson and carried by unanimous vote to appoint Commissioners Sorensen and Weiss on a committee to look into sharing a County Engineer with Norman County.

HR Director Lundeen presented an agreement from the Norman County HR office. The board reviewed a proposal from Norman County to provide County Engineering Services for Red Lake County on a temporary basis. Once approved by both counties, the agreement will become effective May 14, 2018 and cover a 6-month period through November 16, 2018. Red Lake County will reimburse Norman County at a rate of \$67.00 per hour for an average of 20 hours per week for the services of Jerilyn Swenson, Norman County Engineer. And, in addition, will reimburse Norman County for use of its county vehicle at the current IRS mileage rate. Norman County will invoice Red Lake County on a quarterly basis. Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Flage and carried by unanimous vote to approve the agreement with Norman County as presented. Chair Sorensen signed the agreement for Red Lake County.

The board reviewed separate Joint Ditch billings received from Pennington County and Polk County. Environmental Officer Casavan has reviewed and recommends payment. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Weiss and carried by unanimous vote to approve payment of \$8,223.51 to Pennington County, and \$3,411.98 to Polk County.

Auditor Schmitz informed that a new Joint Power Agreement has been drafted for the 29 counties that comprise the Mid-State Computer Collaborative, (MSCC). The purpose of the original agreement was to provide for the sharing of costs of computer software, hardware, and other technology, jointly negotiate with vendors for products and services, and to create an entity capable of owning technology and software licenses on behalf of all parties. Also, a new Master Agreement to provide professional computer services for the Mid-State Computer Collaborative by Computer Professionals Unlimited, Inc. (CPUI) was presented for review. Red Lake County utilizes the Real Estate Tax software system of CPUI. The master agreement with CPUI is for a 5-year period commencing January 1, 2019. Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve both agreements as presented. The Board Chair and County Auditor were authorized to sign the documents.

Joyce Paquin, County Recorder and Registrar of Titles informed by letter that she is in compliance with Minnesota Statute 357.182 sub. 3 as required by law for document recording.

The board acknowledged the Notice of Public Hearing on the NW Regional Development Commission CY 2019 budget.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned until May 22, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest:
Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

Dave Sorensen, Chair,
Board of Commissioners
O11C

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

Oklee Herald

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**Winner 1st place Best Single News or Feature Story, Minnesota Medical Association, 1992.

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OTC

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We offer Home Improvement Loans with low interest rates, affordable payments and fast, personal service.

Come see us.



MUSTANG STAMPEDE

Summer Rec

RLCC Oklee Summer Rec Schedule for June 11 – 15

Monday, June 11
1:00 – 2:00 Basketball for all ages in Oklee gym.
2:00 – 3:30 Softball/Baseball practice. Cadets & Softball practice at softball fields, Pee-Wees behind the school.
3:30 – 4:30 Elementary Basketball Skills in Oklee gym.
6:00 – 7:00 T-Ball Practice for ages 3-6 behind Oklee School.

Tuesday, June 12
10:00 PeeWee tournament at Fosston.
1:00 – 2:00 Mites Baseball practice for ages 7-8 behind Oklee School.
1:00 – 2:00 Kickball in Oklee gym.
2:00 – 3:30 Cadet and Softball practice.
3:30 – 4:30 Elementary Basketball Skills.

Wednesday, June 13
Kloster League at Clearbrook. Leave Oklee school at 8:00, returns around 3:00.

Thursday, June 14
10:00 Cadet Baseball tournament at Fosston.
10:00 Girls Softball at Red Lake Falls.
1:00 – 2:00 Football for all ages behind Oklee School.
2:00 – 3:00 Game of choice.
3:00 – 4:00 Elementary Basketball Skills.

Friday, June 15
1:00 – 2:00 Elementary Basketball skills after swimming.

Fourth Quarter Report Cards

Report cards for the high school will be mailed by June 7th. Watch for them in the mail. Have a good summer students and parents.

Upcoming Town Hall Meetings

Sen. Mark Johnson & Rep. Deb Kiel Invite Area Residents to Upcoming Town Hall Meetings

Crookston, MINN—Senator Mark Johnson, R-East Grand Forks, and Representative Deb Kiel, R-Crookston, have announced five upcoming town hall meetings in June. Rep. Steve Green, R-Fosston, will also be taking part in the Fosston Town Hall. The lawmakers will review the successes of the 2018 legislative session and answer questions. The meetings are open to the public, and residents of Northwest Minnesota are encouraged to attend.

Here are the details:
Fosston Town Hall
Who: Rep. Kiel, Rep. Green and Sen. Johnson
When: Monday, June 18, 2018
Time: 8:30-10:00 am
Location: Civic Center, Glass Room, 215 1st Street East, Fosston, MN

Red Lake Falls Town Hall
Who: Rep. Kiel and Sen. Johnson
When: Monday, June 18, 2018
Time: 11:30 am-1:00 pm
Location: City Hall, Basement Hearing Room, 108 2nd Street SW, Red Lake Falls, MN

East Grand Forks Town Hall
Who: Rep. Kiel and Sen. Johnson
When: Monday, June 18, 2018
Time: 5:00-6:30 pm
Location: City Hall, Council Chambers, 600 DeMers Avenue, East Grand Forks, MN

Fertile Town Hall
Who: Rep. Kiel and Sen. Johnson
When: Tuesday, June 19, 2018
Time: 8:30-10:00 am
Location: City Hall, Auditorium, 101 South Mill Street, Fertile, MN

Crookston Town Hall
Who: Rep. Kiel and Sen. Johnson
When: Tuesday, June 19, 2018
Time: 11:30 am-1:00 pm
Location: City Hall, Council Chamber, 124 North Broadway, Crookston, MN

For more information, or if you have questions, you can contact their offices. Sen. Johnson can be reached at 651-296-5782, and Rep. Kiel can be reached at 651-296-5091.

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

The Tri River Pioneers Sponsored A Tractor Coloring Contest

The Pioneers are very interested in keeping the history of agriculture alive. We would like to thank the classes at Red Lake County Central for taking the time to participate in our contest. A special thank you to Angel Bergeson for helping to conduct the contest! Congratulations to the winners from the Tri River Pioneers!



3rd grade winners 1st Sarah Vettleson, 2nd Lexus Waldal



4th grade winners 1st Kendra Mornville, 2nd Kassidy Torgerson



5th grade winners 1st Oliver Russillo, 2nd Payton Lancto



6th grade winners 1st Keira Mornville, 2nd Belle Mornville

Red Lake County Fair News

U of M Soybean Program

Attention soybean producers: Come learn about managing Minnesota's #1 yield-limiting soybean pathogen

What causes an estimated 90,000,000 bushel yield loss of soybean in the North Central U.S. each year? What can cause an eye-popping 30% yield loss without above-ground symptoms? What can move any way that soil moves? What can invade a soybean plant and cause more severe brown stem rot and sudden death syndrome symptoms? The answer to each question is the same: the soybean cyst nematode (SCN).

In 2018 University of Minnesota Extension aims to increase awareness about the importance of soil sampling to

SCN management through a Minnesota Soybean Research & Promotion Council-sponsored SCN sampling and education program.

This program will pay for laboratory analysis of soil samples. Participating soybean producers will learn: 1) whether or not a field is infested with SCN, 2) an estimate of how many SCN eggs are in their sample, and 3) research-based management recommendations based on their sample egg count.

If you'd like to learn more about SCN or this free sampling program come visit with University of Minnesota Extension's Angie Peltier at 10 AM on June 23 to the Red Lake County Fair's school gym.

Miss Thief River Falls/ Miss River Fest Pageant

The Miss Thief River Falls/ Miss River Fest pageant will be held on Tuesday, July 17th, 2018 as a kick off to the Pennington County Fair. It is open to young women of Northwest Minnesota ages 17-25 and provides over \$10,000 in scholarships and prizes.

If you're interested in participating or would like more information, please email Shelby Sorvig at sorvigshelby@gmail.com to receive an information packet.

There will also be an informational open house for the Miss Thief River Falls/ Miss River Fest pageant to be held on Wednesday May 30 at 6-7:30pm at the Evergreen Restaurant in Thief River Falls. Directors will be on hand to answer any questions that potential contestants may have.

RLCC-Oklee Site Summer Hours:

Starting June 4th summer hours at the high school site will be from 7:00 AM-3:30 PM Monday-Thursday. If you are needing anything call ahead to make sure someone is in the office. With vacations and summer activities, hours do sometimes vary.



American Legion Color Guard advancing the colors.

Over 8,000 Student Athletes To Participate In 2018 Minnesota State High School Clay Target League Trap Shooting Championship June 11th-19th

Alexandria, MN – Over nine days, 8,163 student athletes representing 308 Minnesota high school teams will compete for individual and team achievements in Novice, Junior Varsity, and Varsity classifications at the 2018 Trap Shooting Championship, June 11-19th at the Alexandria Shooting Park in Alexandria, Minnesota.

“Just seven years ago the Championship took just one day for 200 athletes” said Jim Sable, President of the MNSHSCTL. “Now over 30,000 students, parents, coaches, and spectators are drawn to Alexandria for nine days. It's amazing to think that the League is not only one of the largest sports in Minnesota, but the MNSHSCTL Trap Shooting Championship is also the largest shooting event in the world.”

The 2018 Trap Shooting Championship is also the team-qualifying event for the 2018 Clay Target State Tournament presented by the Minnesota State High School League. In addition to the students who had the top 100

averages during the regular season competition, 40 teams will qualify at the Trap Shooting Championship to compete for the ultimate recognition as MSHSL State Champions on June 22, 2018 at the Minneapolis Gun Club in Prior Lake, Minnesota.

The Minnesota State High School League was the first and is the only state high school interscholastic athletic association in America to provide support and recognition for a high school trap shooting state tournament.

Generous supporters for the Trap Shooting Championship include: Alexandria Technical & Community College, Army, Dream It Do It Minnesota, Cabela's Outdoor Fund, Federal Premium Ammunition, Friends Of NRA, HybridLight, Joe's Sporting Goods, Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, Mark Zauhar, National Wild Turkey Federation, Outdoor News, Runnings, SCHEELS, Sportsman's Guide, and Walker's. Over 60 exhibitors will be in attendance offering many outdoor products and services.

This year nearly 12,000 student athletes representing 349 high school teams participated in the 2018 spring season. They were coached and supported by over 4,000 volunteers.

The Minnesota State High School Clay Target League is an affiliate of the USA High School Clay Target League, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The League is an independent provider of shooting sports as an extracurricular co-ed and adaptive activity for high schools and students in grades 6 through 12. The organization's priorities are safety, fun, and marksmanship – in that order. Each student is required to pass a comprehensive firearm safety education course prior to participation.

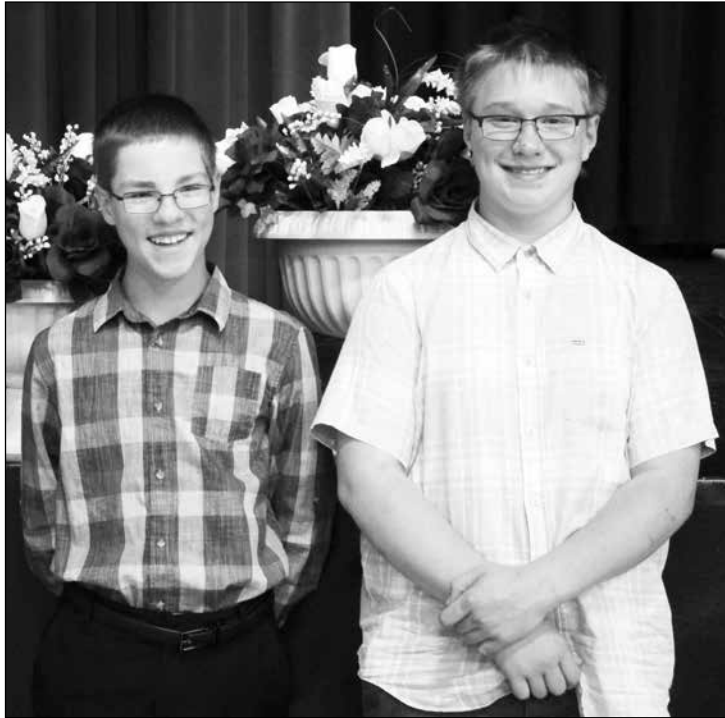
Nationwide, over 26,000 student athletes representing over 800 school-approved teams participated in the League during the 2017-18 school year.

For more information visit <http://mnclaytarget.com> | <http://usaclaytarget.com>

Contact: John Nelson at 612-490-1388 | Email: jnelson@mnclaytarget.com



Allison Aakhus sang a patriotic song at the American Legion Memorial Day Program held on May 28 at RLCC High School gymnasium.



Gunner Sandeen and Noah Hanson played echo Taps. Noah played the initial notes and Gunner followed with the echo making it sound respectively solemn for the ending of the Memorial Day Program. The two boys did a fine job as this is their first year and we hope to see them in the following years to come.

Oklee Herald Early Files

Seventy Years Ago June 3, 1948

Miss Cora Cooke, Extension Specialist from the University of Minnesota, spent two days in the county for the purpose of working with poultry raisers and their problems relative to poultry. Miss Cooke was well known to many for her work and through her columns and articles that were in the farm magazines.

Mr. and Mrs. Owen O'Neill of Chester Township were married for twenty five years and marked their silver anniversary with an open house for their friends and neighbors.

The members of the Oklee High School graduating class went to Winnipeg on a pleasure trip. They were accompanied by Supt. and Mrs. C. G. Quist and their son Roger, Coach Selmer Walhaug and Marvin Sordahl.

The twenty-third annual Women's Camp for women of Northwestern Minnesota counties was held at the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston. The camp which annually attracted 150 to 200 women had its camp leader Miss Retta Bede, a member of the Home Economics staff of the Northwest School. A full program of lectures and demonstrations by specialists in homemaking, handicraft and recreation had been arranged for the camp.

A birthday party for Mrs. James Hervey was held at the Hervey home. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Larson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Milo Cantwell and family, Mr. and Mrs. Stone and Patty, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Larson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Stennes and family, Mr. and Mrs. Peter H. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Haugtvet, Mrs. Ida Erickson and Isabelle, Mrs. T. O. Lien, Mrs. Thor Larsen, Mrs. Karen Stennes, Jake Stennes and Barbara Stenberg.

Sixty Years Ago June 5, 1958

Coordinated teamwork among neighboring farmers and the Oklee Fire Department was credited with saving a large modern barn on the Eddy Arveson farm in Hickory township from destruction by fire after it was struck by lightning.

For the first time in history, the Oklee school was represented at the Minnesota state track meets. As a result of qualifications accomplished at regional competition in Bemidji, Oklee had not one but two representatives at the state meet. Martin Johnson, who placed seventh in shot put and Vncent Austad, who ran second in the high hurdles at the regional to qualify for state completion which, because of heavy rain, was run on a track covered with three inches of water.

The 75th anniversary of the Thirteen Towns area was celebrated in McIntosh as a feature of the Minnesota statehood centennial festivities.

Nearly 200 dairy calves from northwestern Minnesota counties had been entered to compete for \$3000 in awards at the ninth annual Northwest Dairy Day that was held in Thief River Falls.

The Minnesota State Fair honor school board members on Education Day at the 1958 State Fair. Selected to represent Red Lake County was Olaf Skatvold of Plummer. Mr. Skatvold had been a board member, serving as clerk of the Plummer school board.

Fifty Years Ago June 6, 1968

Two Red Lake Falls youths, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Torkelson, Alton Jerome

Torkelson (16) and Gerald Ray Torkelson (14), drowned at the junction of the Red Lake and Clearwater rivers.

A special award was presented to Gene L. Mattison, who was the owner and operator of East Side Service in Plummer. The award, a plaque bearing two rare silver dollars, two Kennedy half-dollars, and a specially minted commemorative coin set in an automotive engine design, was presented for exceptional customer service by a representative of The Gates Rubber Company.

The Red Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District had the largest tree program with over 60,000 trees planted on about 60 farms. The new planter purchased by the district had filled a real need for fast and dependable planting "Headstart" classes began in the Oklee School from June to late July. Applications had been sent to all students eligible for first grade. Mrs. Elmer Hanson and Mrs. Vernon Voeltz were the teachers. Miss Renae Bergeron, Miss Linda Champagne and Miss Sandra Groven were the teacher's aides.

There was a bridal shower held at the Brooks-Plummer Presbyterian church in honor of Miss Colleen Tinkham. Miss Tinkham was to become the bride of Dennis Hyde.

Miss Fern M. Hanson and Eldon L. Groven exchanged marriage vows at the Zion Lutheran church in Thief River Falls.

Forty Years Ago June 1, 1978

Julie Witt of Plummer attended the 4-H Conservation Leadership Conference at Itasca State Park. The theme for the conference was "Conservation in a Changing World".

Derick Lynn Vettleson, son of Annette and Mark Vettleson was baptized at the Ebenezer Church

An open house was held in honor of Mrs. Lillie Halvorson's birthday at her home with her relatives and friends coming to wish her a "Happy Birthday".

Members of the public in Red Lake County joined federal, state, and local resource agencies and organization in a program to align the federal soil and water conservation programs to the long-term resource needs of the county, state and nation.

The citizens of today were children of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Osbjornson, Danny (12), Nancy (8) and Darby (6); Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Skallet, Tammy (7); Children of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Nelson, Keith (11) and Jason (5); and children of Mr. and Mrs. John Kolstoe, Eric (3) and Matthew (8 mo.).

A baby shower was held at the Nazareth Dining Hall for Mrs. Al Kindt and twins Mathew and Tamara.

Thirty Years Ago June 1, 1988

An unnamed person sent a letter to the editor that was published. It began with "To the People of Oklee, or at least the ones that still care, I am sick of hearing that Oklee is a dying town. Why???" He continues with statements of what we had (ex. Bank, school, barbershop, Polaris dealer, etc.), and asks the question "Why are we dying?"". People didn't want to spend the time fixing this town but to instead take business elsewhere. If we would have just invested more into our businesses we wouldn't have been a dying town.

Jason Magnell, who delivered the Grand Forks Herald

for 4 ½ years in Oklee, turned his route over to the Leroy Hruby family. Jason said that it had been a tedious but enjoyable job.

A birthday party for Todd Willett, who was 5 years old, was held at the home of Tom and Rebecca Willett.

The Memorial Day Program was held at the school and was attended by 85 people. Rev. Forsberg gave the address, Benji Hofstad and Jason Nelson played a trumpet duet and taps, the Zionettes and St. Francis Choir sang "Prayer for Peace" and "God Bless America", Elmer Hanson and Joan Bronken read the Memorial Rolls for the Legion and Auxiliary and lunch was served by the Auxiliary members.

Twenty Years Ago June 3, 1998

Charity Wicks, daughter of Mike and Lorna Wicks and a 1998 Oklee High School graduate, was awarded the Bray-Gentilly Mutual Insurance Co. college scholarship of \$250 along with many others like the Bruce Ferden Music Scholarship which was presented to her by her former elementary music teacher, Irene Ferden.

The Zoo Man from Prairie Winds Zoo came to educate and entertain young and old alike. The Zoo Man, with the help of his many animal friends, presented an outstanding program in Red Lake Falls. The program featured WOOKIE, the Zoo's golden panda. The Zoo Man also brought Vickie, the World's Most Beautiful Animal.

AAL Branch 10327 honored Mrs. Sylvia Flatland of Trail with a "Just Say Thanks" Certificate of Recognition and a monetary gift for her many years of volunteer work with the Mt. Olive Sunday School.

For the 7th year, Discover Card awarded close to a million dollars in scholarship money to high school juniors. The Discover Card Tribute Award Scholarships, given in cooperation with the American Association of School Administrators, was awarded to outstanding high school juniors. Tracy Konickson of Plummer won a scholarship from the silver category, giving her \$1,750.

Ryan Bachand and Paul Bachand played a trumpet duet of "Taps" during the Memorial Day Program held at the Oklee School.

Ten Years Ago May 28, 2008

The 10th annual Relay For Life in Red Lake County kicked-off at the Oklee Football Field.

Kathleen Skala of Red Lake Falls was the 2008 honorary chair of the American Cancer Society's Red Lake County Relay For Life. Skala was first diagnosed with breast cancer in March 1998 and had been cancer free since October 1998. She was the sole proprietor of Triangle Tire Sales and Auto Services in Red Lake Falls and owned the business for 26 years.

Red Lake County Central High School received a grant to help ninth graders think about their futures. RLCC was one of 10 schools in the cooperative that partook in the grant. Pine to Prairie was one of 25 grant recipients of a \$100,000 Advising and Counseling Grand from the Office of Higher Education.

May's students of the month were Jill Rewertz for the RLCC senior high and Haylie Malwitz for the junior high.

Tryouts for the Aladdin play for the Oklee Community Children's theater were under way. Directed by Mike Swenson.

It was a proud moment for the Oklee Area Veteran's Memorial Volunteer Committee as the long awaited granite monument was delivered and set in place at the Memorial site.

Senior Site News & Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

Today started out at a low of 49 degrees. It is strange how the temperature can change so suddenly. I will take 90 degrees in the summer before an abrupt change to 49.

I am finally getting a small garden started. I like doing garden work, but I have had many other things to do so I feel I really can let gardening go to the weeds if I have more important things to do.

The Memorial Day program at the school was very impressive. I always marvel how the veterans do so much for our country. I'm sure almost everyone in the Oklee area, has had someone in the service of our Country. We are so fortunate in living in the U.S.A. We can complain about many things, but where else would be better?

We had quite a wind early last week. I had many branches and twigs to pick up. I worked for 2 hours picking them up and I still missed many of them. Across the street from me, a large tree fell covering part of the road. It was sawed into logs and taken away later in the week.

Dates to Remember

June 12: Potluck at Cafe

June 14: Flag Day

June 15: Birthday Meal at the Senior Site

June 21: 10 a.m. Senior Site Council meeting. Also First Day of Summer.

Words of Wisdom

Life is a journey, don't saunter – Stride.

If you want your boss' job,

dress the part.

Joke Time

A balding man went into a barber's shop and asked how much it would be for a haircut. "Twenty-five dollars." Said the barber.

"Twenty-five dollars, that's outrageous! Said the man. "I've hardly got any hair. How can it be that expensive?"

The barber explained. "It's five dollars for the actual cut, and twenty dollars for the search fee."

A pastor asked a little boy if he said his prayers every night.

"Yes sir," the boy replied.

"And do you say them in the morning too," the pastor asked.

"No, sir," the boy replied. "I ain't scared in the daytime."

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

We are in the summer season, though yesterday it was rather chilly. For sure you needed a jacket in the morning but the afternoon was very nice. Today it promises to be in the 80's. Change is good I am told.

On Sunday Dianne and Clarence Gagner hosted a dessert and coffee event for two of Dianne's classmates on Sunday. Karen (Swenson) Carlson and husband Doug Carlson, of Austin Texas and Judy (Johnson) Reger and her husband Dick Reger of West Fargo, came for dessert and coffee. There was much remembering and catching up to do and everyone had a great time getting together again.

On Saturday of last week Dianne and Clarence Gagner went to West Fargo to attend the graduation and reception of Dylan Gagner the grandson of Rolland Gagner at the Mark and Lolly Gagner home.

Mary and Vern Schindler hosted a weekend of fun and family at their home. Joe and Tracey Puerringer and family came along with Gavin Martell, and Patty Puerringer and children. Glenn Schindler was home for a vacation from Arizona. He arrived on Friday and stayed for a week.

On Sunday the whole gang of Schindler's and Puerringer's went to Lakeview to enjoy the buffet. A great meal and lots of talk kept them entertained and they were joined by Christine Puerringer of Toad Lake.

This person shall be nameless, but there is a new scam going on in the country areas of the county. In the middle of the night sometime after 1 o'clock someone came to the door of this older couple and banged until she was let into the house. She was crying and all upset, and wanted to use the phone to call her Dad. The lady of the house gave her the

Bonny's Bits...

okleeherald@gmail.com

I think I will start using my column as a journal because by the time I sit down at the computer when putting the paper together, I forget all the great ideas I had earlier in the week.

On Tuesday morning, I was sitting at my table and all of a sudden I heard this horrible noise like someone was being killed. Then the sound of pounding feet getting closer prompted me to get to the door to see what was happening. Out of the woods to the west, ran a gray cat with a fox on it's heals, both running full speed. The cat managed to get up a tree and the fox looked disappointed that it didn't get the cat. The scream was loud enough that it woke of my daughter who was sleeping in the guest room.

On Wednesday when I came home from work I saw an animal on the road dead near our mailbox. Curious to see if it was the cat or the fox, I checked it out. It was a fox, but

it looked younger than the one that ran through the yard the other morning. Maybe there is a fox den nearby. Will have to keep my eyes open.

On Thursday morning, I got up and looked outside at the back deck and I immediately notice things were not right. We had a visitor during the night who made a mess of my bird feeders. All three suet feeders were on the ground and empty, the oriole feeders were on the ground and empty and the shepherd hooks that it hung from was bend over with the other feeder still hanging but empty as well. So my guess is that my messy guest was a bear looking for something to eat. Thankfully everything was still able to be used if bent back into shape except for the homemade suet feeder on the tree. That one was torn completely apart and was in pieces.

We have quite a few different species of birds that occupy our woods. In the morning I usually see blue jays, orioles,

red breasted gross beaks, hummingbirds, mourning doves, wrens, cow birds, cat birds, downy woodpeckers, yellow finches, and many kinds of sparrows. Earlier this year we had a few visitors that moved on to their nesting sites such as a northern flicker and a blue bunting. We keep the bird book on the table with a pair of binoculars so we can identify any new visitors. A fun pastime when you have a few minutes to relax.

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Plummer News

By Alice Jobe
218-465-4402

Rachel and Chancey Greenwald and kids of White Bear Lake, MN came Friday evening for the weekend and stayed at Greenwald's home uptown.

Cathy and Kevin Samuelson and Brady of Sarles, ND rode motorcycle to Plummer and stayed over at Bunny DuChamp's. They left the next morning for the North Shore. Sounds like fun!

Anne Traxler's brother Harold Neuswander and wife Elaine of Goodridge came for

Memorial Day. Later Bob Traxler, Hayley, Brodie and Brielle visited. Alice Jobe and Anna DeHate came to visit and enjoyed rhubarb dessert.

The Memorial Day program was held in the Park at 10:30 a.m. Commander Roy Holmes gave the short talk and that was followed by Girl Stater Sydney Melby and Jayden Fore. They gave a talk on the highlights of going to the capitol last year and learning about government. They both

enjoyed it very much and recommend it for students to go if had the chance. It was beautiful day, compared to last year. Following the program, they went to the bridge where the poppy wreath was thrown into the river to remember those who died at sea, prayer and a gun salute followed. Afterward a lunch was served at the American Legion in Plummer. It was pulled pork on a bun, chips, macaroni salad, bars and coffee. President Kristie Hesse prepared the lunch.

Alice Jobe visited Fern Eskeli and Stoney Skjerven at Oakland Park Nursing Home on Wednesday.

Wednesday night John Zimpel celebrated his birthday at the Legion during Bingo. His mom Arlene, made cupcakes and everyone was treated.

Red Lake County Central High School had the graduation Friday evening at 5:30 p.m. It was hot in the gym which is unfortunate for everyone. Congratulations to the whole class! These kids are awesome. They should go far and do well in the future, whether at college or work or whatever their dreams are.

The rain we had Monday night was one half inch – beautiful rain. The fields are coming up, wheat and soybeans. North Dakota may have gotten too much on Wednesday – 2 to 4 inches.

Happy grass cutting and barbecuing. Have a good week.

Who's Dat?

Who's Dat

This weeks photo is of a sweet little girl who was born and raised in the Oklee area. She is also an Oklee High School Graduate.

Last weeks photo was of Shirley (Okstad) Dessellier, who now lives north of Oklee. 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.

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 address stamped envelope so the photos can be returned.



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