

Oklee Precipitation		
By Einar Kvasager		
	Rain	Snow
June 16	0.09	
June 20	0.02	
June 21	Trace	
Total in.	0.11	0.00

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

www.TriCoCanary.com

Vol. 107, Number 45

Wednesday, June 26, 2019



After 39 years, there is more time for the fun things in life!

Bonnie Borene recently retired after 39 years at CHS Northland Grain and was honored at a retirement party held at the Oklee Community

Hall on June 7, 2019. Bonnie moved to Oklee in 1979 when her husband Brad got a job as a teacher at the Oklee High School. Brad retired

in 2013.

In their first year living in Oklee Bonnie held a variety of jobs ranging from temporary office work to babysitting. One day Brad came home from work and said there were two jobs open in Oklee, one at Security State Bank and the other at the Oklee Elevator. She applied for both jobs, was offered both positions and then had to decide which one to take, a difficult

decision. After visiting with the current bookkeeper at the Oklee Elevator, who told her that things are always changing, she chose the job at the Oklee Elevator and she hasn't regretted that decision.

During 39 years as the bookkeeper at the Oklee Elevator, she has made many lasting friendships, which was evident at the retirement party and she has seen many changes in

the elevator business and the expansion of the Oklee Elevator becoming part of a much bigger organization of Cenex Harvest State (CHS) that has grown into CHS Northland Grain. Bonnie and Brad have one daughter, Kali, who was married 4 years ago to Seth Flower and they are now expecting their first child in November. They live in the Benson, MN area.

Bonnie and Brad lived in

Oklee for many years, but eventually built a house on Brad's parents farm near Clearbrook.

Bonnie and Brad now plan on spending time with their future grandchild, fishing, and Bonnie's love of gardening and quilting will keep her busy in her retirement.

Congratulations to Bonnie on her retirement. I know she will be missed by the crew at CHS Northland Grain in Oklee.



Bonnie Borene was honored at a retirement party at the Oklee Hall on June 7th. She was presented with this beautiful cake with a photo of Esther Strande and herself from her early days at the Oklee Elevator.



Helping Bonnie celebrate were members her family. Pictured is Randy Sims (brother-in-law), Bonnie, daughter Kali Flower, husband Brad Borene, and her sister, Sue Sims.

Calendar of Events

Wed, June 26:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Thu, June 27:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.

Fri, June 28:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.

Sat, June 29:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!

Sun, June 30:
-Worship at the church of your choice.

Mon, July 1:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.

Tue, July 2:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards

Wed, July 3:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Thu, July 4:
- Happy Fourth of July
-No Senior Meals.

Fri, July 5:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.

Sat, July 6:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!

Sun, July 7:
-Worship at the church of your choice.

Mon, July 8:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.

Tue, July 9:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards

Wed, July 10:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Thu, July 11:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.

Fri, July 12:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.

Sat, July 13:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!

Sun, July 14:
-Worship at the church of your choice.

Mon, July 15:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.

Tue, July 16:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards.

Red Lake County Fair starts on Thursday night with Community Supper in Oklee Hall

The 2019 Red Lake County Fair has three fun filled days, June 28-29-30, of activities for everyone. **UPDATE:** Events originally planned in the Ice Skating Rink are now being held in the **Oklee Community Hall**. The Rodeo and Baja will be out at the South Park (2 miles south, 1.5 miles west of Oklee.)

On **Thursday, June 27th**, from 5 - 8 p.m. there will be a Community Supper and Silent Auction Fund Raiser. Menu includes: Baked Potato bar, Taco in a Bag, and some goodies along with coffee or lemonade. This event will be held at the **Oklee Community Hall**.

And if you have animals you are bringing to the fair and you need to register them, from 6 - 9 p.m. all open class and 4-H animals can be registered.

Friday, June 28th: At 8:30 a.m. the Opening Ceremony will be held in front of the RLCC School in Oklee. The American Legion will present the colors and the flag.

The 4-H Food Booth in Oklee will be serving burgers, chips, shakes, and pies if you need a bite to eat while in town. This is a fund raiser for the Red Lake County 4-H. The 4-H kids and parents work the Food Booth. They will be open both Friday & Saturday.

Booths open at 9 a.m. in the gymnasium at the School. Non-Livestock Open Class entry begins. This is when you bring in items for display for the fair, but there are some rules to follow. The general rules are on page 2 of the Red Lake County Fair Premium List, which everyone with Oklee, Brooks, Plummer, Trail and Red Lake Falls address's should have received in the mail last week. If you didn't get a Premium List there will be some at the Fair office in the school.

Also on the back page of the RLC Premium List is a picture for the coloring Contest for all ages. They have to be at the RLCC School (Fair Office) by Noon on Saturday, June 29th.

The animal judging starts in the morning with the 4-H in the barn with open class to follow. Open Class judging in the school starts at 1 p.m. and 4-H judging starts at 2 p.m.

At 1 p.m. the Senior Citizen Program will begin. It will be held in the **Oklee Community Hall**. Speakers and Bingo along with goodies & coffee for all seniors.

Have you heard of an Escape Room? Well, the RLC Fair has one set up and will be open from 2 - 4 p.m. on Saturday and on Sunday from 1 - 3 p.m.

At 5 p.m. a Horse Show is scheduled and will be held near the 4-H barns.

At 6 p.m. it is time for the Wojo Rodeo held at the South Park. This is an exciting event for the whole family. The riders are amazing and put on a great show. There will be food vendors set up at the South Park. After the Rodeo, there will be a dance at the South Park to finish off the day's events.

Saturday, June 29: 9 a.m. Come on down to the South Park for a Cowboy Breakfast. Then head into Oklee for lots of family fun. The booths open at 9 a.m. and at 10:30 til 12 noon - there is a Make It - Take It at the school. Fun crafts for the kids of all ages to enjoy.

At 11 a.m. Bingo at the **Oklee Community Hall** will start and if fun for all ages also. Are you feeling lucky?

The **FREE Kids Bounce Houses** will be up all afternoon.

A Fair Favorite - the Kids Tractor Pedal Pull starts at 12 noon.

1 p.m. - After the Kids' Tractor Pull, don't leave - it is time for the Kids' BAJA. Bring in your electric ride for a fun competition.

At 2 p.m. there are two events happening at the same time and same place. In front of the school Sydney Melby will be entertaining and on the street will be the kid's games. These are old fashioned kid games, like the shoe kick, egg toss, three legged race, etc.

At 3 p.m. there will be the Redneck Challenge. This event was introduced at last year's fair and the specifics haven't been released yet. But last year the challenge was a time event to do a designated activity designed by the Fair Board and the best time wins.

And to finish off the day, there will a second day of Rodeo fun with the Wojo Rodeo at the South Park.

Sunday, June 30th: The Fair Booths open at 9 a.m. At 2 p.m. there are two events going on. You'll have to choose between the BAJA races at the South Park and 4-H Awards and Share the Fun at the **Oklee Community Hall**.

At 3 p.m. the exhibits and the booths close.



The Oklee and Plummer American Legion were represented at the annual Flag Day picnic/potluck at the Oklee Area Veteran's Park for the proper disposal of flags that have been damaged. Commandor Rick Dulka led the members in a Flag ceremony.

June 14th ~ official Flag Day



The Flags were inspected to verify that these flags were no longer acceptable to fly. Inspecting were John Lerohl, Don Stenberg and Commandor Rick Dulka.



The flags are then burned and one person from the Legion is given the task to bury the ashes in an unmarked area so they cannot be disturbed. John Lerohl and Milo Sandeen are manning the fire and adding flags.

Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH

Zion and Salem
Pastor Linda Molitor
Wed, June 26: 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday night Service at Zion.

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

Wed, July 3: 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday night Service at Salem.

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OKLEE, GRYGLA & GOODRIDGE

Fr. Adam Hamness
Sun, June 30: 7:30 a.m.
Confessions 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Oklee; 10:15 a.m. St. Clement Parish, Grygla; 12:00 p.m. St. Ann Parish, Goodridge.

BROOKS - RED LAKE FALLS

CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bob Schreiner
Sat, June 29: 5:30 p.m. RLF
Sun, June 30: 8:00 a.m.
Brooks. 10:00 a.m. RLF.

IMMANUEL-EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA

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

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA

Bethany-Ekelund-Faith
Pastor Kristen Ostercamp
Wed, June 26: 7:00 p.m.
Evening Service at Ekelund.
Sun, June 30: 8:30 a.m.
Faith. 9:45 a.m. Bethany.



Oklee Senior Site Dining

July 1 - 5

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: 2 pc. French toast, 2 pc. bacon, 1 egg, and dessert.
Tuesday: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, cream gravy, corn, and dessert.

Wednesday: Cheeseburger w/bun, hash browns, vegetable, and dessert.

Thursday: Closed.

Friday: Cold ham sandwich, potato soup, and dessert.

Summer Rec Schedule

July 1 - 5

Monday, July 1:
10:00 Cadets baseball.
RLCC Red plays at Bagley, RLCC White plays at Clearbrook. They will ride together on one bus. Bus leaves Bagley at 8:30, Brooks at 8:45, Oklee at 9:00.

NO AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, July 2:
1:00 - 2:00 Kickball for all ages in Oklee gym
2:00 - 3:30 Cadets and Softball practice at softball fields, PeeWees practice behind the school.
3:30 - 4:30 Open Gym

NO ACTIVITIES the rest of the week for July 4.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive - Nazareth
Oak Park - St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Sat, June 29: 9:00 a.m.
Mt. Olive.

Sun, June 30: 8:00 a.m.
St. Petri. 9:45 a.m. Oak Park.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg,
Youth Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com

Wed, June 26: 6:30 p.m.
Youth Group.

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

Tue, July 2: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Devotions, 10:00 a.m.
Quilting. 6:30 p.m. Bible Study.

Wed, July 3: 6:30 a.m.
Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson,
Lay Minister
Sun, June 30: 10:30 a.m.
Parish Wide worship at Lund.
Potluck to follow.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston
Seth Johnson,
Interim Pastor
Sun, June 30: 10:00 a.m.
Worship.

99th Birthday Party
for Leona Eleanore Christianson
June 27th
2 p.m.
Oklee Senior Site
Everyone Welcome
to stop by for cake and coffee.

RLCC High School Summer Office Hours

The office at Red Lake County Central High School is beginning their summer hours' schedule. The office will be open 8 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday. The office is closed Fridays.

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Plummer Residents Please Note

Due to the July 4th holiday, garbage will be picked up in the afternoon on Wednesday, July 3rd

Have a safe & Happy 4th of July!

COUNTY PROJECT - BIDS CLOSE

Tuesday, July 23rd, 2019

RED LAKE COUNTY RED LAKE FALLS, MN 56750

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS - Bids will be received until 10:00 AM, Tuesday, July 23rd, 2019, by Robert Schmitz, County Auditor, at the Auditor's Office in the Red Lake County Court House, 124 Langevin Ave, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750, for the construction of the projects listed below. Bids will be opened publicly by Erik Hove, County Engineer, or a designated representative, on behalf of the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners.

S.A.P. 063-040-001- Construction of Red Lake County Salt & Sand Storage Facility

The proposed work includes furnishing and installing all labor and materials to construct a 42' x 30' Salt & Sand Storage Facility at the Red Lake County Highway Department, 204 7th St SE, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.

Plans and proposals may be procured by purchase from the Red Lake County Highway Department, 204 7th Street Southeast, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.

Complete Plans, Bid Proposals and Specifications:

Counter Price: \$50.00 (includes tax)

Mailed: \$58.00 (includes tax)

Bids must be accompanied by a cashier's check or bidder's bond made payable to the Red Lake County Treasurer in the amount of at least 5% of the total bid.

The Red Lake County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept any bid or reject any or all bids, waive irregularities, and award the contract in the best interest of Red Lake County.

Robert Schmitz - Red Lake County Auditor

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S.A.P. 063-599-028 - Culvert replacement Terrebonne Township
S.A.P. 063-599-029- Culvert replacement Terrebonne Township
The Major quantities of work include COMMON EXCAVATION CY 630; AGGREGATE BASE CLASS 5 CY 375; GRANULAR BACKFILL (CV) CY 308; 14' x 7' PC CONCRETE BOX CULVERT CL. I LF 38; 14' X 7' PC CONCRETE BOX CULVERT 15 DEGREE END SECTIONS CL. I EACH 2; 14' X 6' PC CONCRETE BOX CULVERT CL.II LF 42; 14' X 6' PC CONCRETE BOX CULVERT END SECTION CL. II EACH 2; RANDOM RIPRAP CLASS III CY 350.

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Robert Schmitz - Red Lake County Auditor

Red Lake County Commissioners Minutes

RED LAKE COUNTY Regular Meeting Held May 28, 2019

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 28, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order. All Board members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Simpson to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dudycha and carried unanimously.

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

Vendor	Amount
Truenorh Steel	\$10,485.00
15 Vendors less than \$2,000.	\$2,748.54
	13,233.54

TOTAL

The motion includes the following added expenditures: \$134.16 to Dacotah paper; \$553.15 to Sather Law; \$62.64 expenses and \$140.00 per diem to Allen Remick.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Remick and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on May 14, 2019 as presented.

The following Commissioner/Committee reports were shared:

Commissioner Simpson: County Fair Board. A County Road Committee with Commissioner Weiss and the County Engineer discussing current and proposed projects.

Flage: Attended the Public Information meeting held May 21st regarding the CSAH 13 road improvement plans.

Dudycha: Inter County CCC meeting in Oklee reviewed budget and programs.

Remick: RR Watershed Management Board meeting.

Weiss: County Road Committee.

Sudoku Solution

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

ATTENTION

RED LAKE COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS AND POTENTIAL STARTUP ENTERPRISES

The Red Lake County Economic Development Corporation can help you start your own business or expand an existing one. We are here to assist with a five (5) year loan for an amount up to \$20,000 at 2% APR. The business must be located in Red Lake County.

For more information, contact the Red Lake County Economic Development home office at 1-218-253-2897.

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.

KURTIS ELLEFSON
RED LAKE COUNTY
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

218-689-8587
1-888-LINKVET

Email: kellefsoncvso@hotmail.com

Tri-Valley Public Transportation

T.H.E. Bus is available for anyone. There are no age or income guidelines. However, children under the age of four must be accompanied by an adult and children under the age of one must be secured in an infant seat.

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For Polk, Red Lake and Clearwater county stops: Every Monday - Grand Forks.

Every 2nd Tuesday - Mahnomen.

Every 4th Tuesday - Thief River Falls

Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesday - Fargo/Moorhead.

Every 2nd & 4th Friday - Bemidji.

Oklee Centennial Cookbook Recipe Corner - From page 109

Taco Salad Mary Jo (Hanson) Lothspeich

1 lb hamburger
1 small onion
1 (16 oz) bag shredded cheese
1 head lettuce
1 bag Nacho Cheese Doritos
1 (16 oz) bottle Hidden Valley Ranch

Fry hamburger with onion. Let cool. Cut up lettuce and mix with cheese. When hamburger is cooled, add to lettuce and cheese mixture. Put dressing in mixture until moistened. Add coarsely crushed Doritos just before eating. Sour cream is optional.



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Chairman Weiss mentioned that a meeting of the Complete Count Committee (CCC) for the 2020 Census is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at Brooks City Hall.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Simpson to approve sponsoring a 2019 County Fair 4-H ad in the Oklee Herald.

County Auditor Schmitz presented a request from the Oklee Moonlighters Snowmobile Club. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Remick and carried by unanimous vote to approve **Resolution No. 05-02-19** of Red Lake County. The resolution authorizes the county to enter into an agreement for FY 2019/2020 with the State of Minnesota DNR. The agreement allows the county to act as the trail sponsor/fiscal agent to receive funding on behalf of the club for maintaining the Riverland East snowmobile trail. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to sign the agreement. A complete document is available at the County Auditor's office.

County Highway Engineer Erik Hove was present for an advertised 11:00 a.m. bid opening for the culvert replacement project on CSAH 12 (SAP 063-612-008) in Terrebonne Township. The project consists of replacing two metal culverts with a new concrete arch pipe. Hove mentioned that the scheduled completion date is October 12, 2019. Three (3) contractors submitted bids as follows: \$202,638.00 from Triple D Construction of Plummer; \$204,500.00 from Taggart Contracting of Thief River Falls and \$213,679.00 from Olson Construction of Thief River Falls. The engineers estimate is \$191,570.00 for the project. Hove recommended awarding the apparent low bid to Triple D Construction. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried by unanimous vote to approve the low bid of \$202,638.00 from Triple D Construction contingent upon no calculation errors in the bid document, and if errors are found that no longer make it the lowest dollar amount then the contract will be awarded to next low bid based on the final bid abstract.

Hove commented that his staff is working on two additional culvert replacement projects in Terrebonne Township.

Hove informed that the City of Red Lake Falls has been awarded a \$750,000.00 Local Road Improvement (LRIP) Grant from the State to be used towards a mill and overlay on Industrial Drive, Polk Avenue SW and Third Street. The County will act as project sponsor which involves requesting the grant dollars from the State and to disburse to the City upon satisfactory completion of the project. Hove presented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOA) that will define the roles and responsibilities of both the City and County throughout the project and requested its approval. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the MOA as presented. The Board Chairman and County Auditor were authorized to sign the agreement. A complete document is available at the County Highway Department or County Auditor's office.

The board acknowledged correspondence from the NW Regional Development Commission regarding a public hearing for the CY 2020 budget and the Commission's quarterly meeting to be held June 4, 2019 in Red Lake Falls.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned to June 11, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest:
Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

Ron Weiss, Chair,
Board of Commissioners
014C

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

Oklee Herald

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Customer Appreciation Dinner at Security State Bank on June 20th



The Security State Bank held their annual Customer Appreciation Dinner on the Gazebo grounds behind the bank. Visiting at this table were Pat Glick, Jeannie O'Neill, Carol Bachand, Milo & Betty Sandeen (at the far end of the table) and Teresa Benson.



Rose & Larry Skallet and Ambrose Bergeron, were sitting at the table with JoAnn Lerohl, Barb Fore and Elaine Green.



Mckenzie Hamm enjoyed dinner with her grandma, Sue Carriere at the Security State Bank Appreciation Dinner. The weather was pleasant and the company was great. What more could you ask for on a nice summer evening.



Enjoying the Security State Bank Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, June 20th, were Carolyn & Roy Rystad and Bob Melby.



Visiting at the Security State Bank Appreciation Dinner was Kari and Darrell Hamm visiting with Sharon Larson. *Photos courtesy of Lori Melby.*

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 to 5:00 p.m.; Friday from Noon until 5:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Online 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.

Last week's Summer Reading Program prize winners were Courtney Brault, Jacob Harmoning,

Felix Kargel, Sylvester Kargel, and Hayden Shulstad. Weekly prizes for any young readers (up through age 18) who register include t-shirts, (neon green with "It's Showtime" theme, or royal blue with eat/sleep/read logo.) thermo-plastic rubber shark hand-puppets, cardboard finger puppets, tote bags with It's Showtime theme, and more.

Upcoming Legacy programs this summer include "Mysterious Creatures of Minnesota" presented by

Chad Lewis, researcher, author and lecturer on topics of the strange and unusual (chadlewisresearch.com) on Friday, July 26th at 2:00 pm; and Noah Sonie, magician and mentalist (noahmagic.com) on Thursday, August 15 at 1:00 pm, as finale for the Summer Reading Program. Both of these events are free of charge and open to the public, made possible by MN Library Legacy funding.

Writers & Writing

by Michael Tidemann



Tidemann started his journalism career at the Bismarck Tribune in 1978 and began college teaching career as a graduate teaching assistant at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion in 1977. He has worked at newspapers in Iowa and the Dakotas and his work has appeared in Overdrive, Writer's Journal, the San Diego Union-Tribune and Snowmobile.

Rivers, Wings & Sky joins art and poetry

It's a long-known fact that art inspires poetry. Ode to a Grecian Urn by John Keats is a prime example. It's wonderful, then, to see a great collaboration by Vermillion, S.D., artist Nancy Losacker and rural Vermillion poet Norma C. Wilson in *Rivers, Wings & Sky*, a paean to nature and a gentle yet impassioned plea to save the land and all it holds.

First, though, I have to make a disclosure. Losacker and Wilson are both friends of mine. And I admire their work greatly.

While the \$20 price for the book is not out of line for similar books, the cost of color reproduction must be taken into consideration. The book is easily worth the price. It also shows how Losacker and Wilson have brought their collaboration to the highest level.

In "The Long View", Wilson evokes the bold landscape of the bluffs north of the Missouri River.

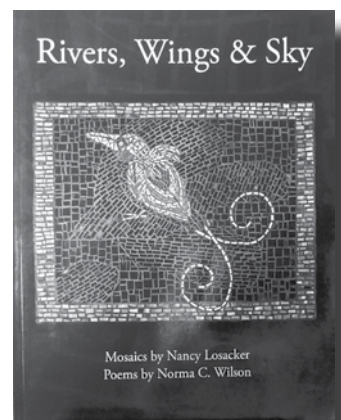
More than ten thousand years have passed since the last glacier shaped this bluff undulating down to alluvial plain.

From the highest point on Turkey Ridge,
we gaze at Nebraska's bluff
above the Missouri
twenty miles away.

Wilson movingly makes her plea for environmental justice and kindness to all of humanity as she shows how humans disrupt nature's eternal cycle in "Monarch Crossing".

Will we ever stop burning
fuels that warm
the planet and kill the
Oyamel firs?

Will we ever transition to
sun and wind?
Will we ever enact
neighborly laws to sustain
the monarchs, trees and



**Rivers, Wings & Sky
Mosaics by Nancy
Losacker
Poems by Norma C.
Wilson
Scurfpea Publishing
ISBN 9781533005441
\$20**

migrants?
Without balance, we hang.

Wilson shows us how the environmental movement is not new in "The Feathers Belong to Them".

Thanks to those women who
in 1892
boycotted hats with egret
plumes,
we saw that egret lift its
wings, and fly
to join its mate.

Just as we humans are part of the problem, we can also be part of the solution. Wilson personifies the Missouri River and calls for restoration of native prairie in "May She Do As She Will".

May we plant prairie grass
along her banks –
big and little bluestem, side
oats gramma,
Indian grass. May the roots
of the grass
reach deeper and deeper to
hold the soil.

This is a great collaboration of art and poetry. I recommend it to anyone interested in nature, the environment or poetry in general.

Michael Tidemann writes from Estherville, Iowa. His author page is [amazon.com/author/michaeltidemann](https://www.amazon.com/author/michaeltidemann).



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Oklee Herald Early Files

Eighty Years Ago June 23, 1939

The annual Farm Bureau 4-H Club Picnic will be held at the Old Mill Site, Terrebonne on June 24th. All farmers and their friends are invited to attend this picnic. Everyone planning to come will please bring their picnic lunch and plan to have their lunch at noon.

The Oklee Aces baseball team lost an 8-4 decision to Plummer at that place last Sunday. Lerohl was on the mound for Oklee and held the Plummer sluggers to eight scattered hits, but the locals were able to get only six hits of Barnes, Plummer pitcher.

Dr. W. B. Torgerson left here last week for Rochester, where he is receiving medical treatment.

Miss Gladys Melby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O.O. Melby of Oklee and Dr. J Weir Ewing, local dentist, were married in Minneapolis at noon June 17th at the home of the groom's brother.

It has been reported that Miss Ruby Slettveldt, who fell from an automobile Monday of last week, was hurt more seriously than was first thought. The paper has been informed that her left arm was broken and she also sustained a broken shoulder along with many burses will keep her in the hospital for about a month.

Seventy Years Ago June 23, 1949

Farmers in the Lost River drainage area will meet in the community hall her tonight to record crop losses, according to officers of the newly-formed Lost River Flood Control Association. The reports will be used in compiling information to be submitted to authorities in Washington and will include amounts of loss in dollars over the entire period of 1949.

A crowd estimated at about 500 attended an old settler's picnic at Riverside Park in Red Lake Falls Sunday. Philip and John Demarais of Lake Pleasant Township, who have lived in the county since 1876, were awarded a prize for oldest settlers. Mrs. Marie Paquin of Oklee, who is 93, was the oldest woman present.

Violet Rustan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Rustan of Oklee became the bride of Ervin Weberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Art Weberg of Trail on June 5th at Oak Park Lutheran Church of River Valley.

Mrs. Richards Sletvold this week announced she will open a pastry counter in the front part of the building occupied by Melby's Locker Service. She will sell home baked pastries of all kinds beginning Saturday, June 25th.

Sixty Years Ago June 25, 1959

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Dennistoun of Brooks left for a visit to Mr. Dennistoun's native Scotland - his first visit in 47 years. He was born there 75 years ago. They will leave for home on August 14th from Liverpool, England.

Harold Lindquist graduated from School of Dentistry from the University of Minnesota. Mr. Lindquist has also earned

his degree as a pharmacist.

A five inch rainfall a week ago in the Clearbrook area raised the level of the Lost River here about three feet, according to the reading taken by Otto Bakken, local weather recorder. The river reading at the creamery bridge is now slightly over 14 feet and the water is spilling over the banks in low areas.

Mr and Mrs. LuVerne Felling and family who have spent the past two years in Iran arrived Monday to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Robidoux.

Fifty Years Ago June 26, 1969

The Setesdalslaget of America had a very successful convention in Oklee on June 13 & 14th. The program over the two days included speakers, singers, dancers and other types of entertainment.

The Village of Plummer is completing plans for another Fourth of July celebration which beings on July 3 and continues until July 6th.

Army Private Gale E Schmitz and Army Private 1st Class Bernard Scheuring, both of Red Lake Falls, were recently assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea as an infantrymen.

Last Monday evening a Father-Son Banquet was given at the Immanuel Lutheran Church for the first time.

Mrs. Dwight Ophus left on Tuesday for Philadelphia where she met her husband who returned from Thailand where he was employed. They returned here on Saturday.

Lou Barber celebrated her 9th birthday on Monday afternoon at the Andrew Fore home.

Roger Good celebrated his 9th birthday on Sunday with many friends and family attending.

The girls in Deer Park have formed a softball team with Beth Radniecki as captain. Members were Marcia and Denise Lundeen, Lana Chervestad, Lori Lundeen, Jennifer Peterson, Fern and Elaine Solheim, Kathy Lager and Geraldine Radniecki.

Forty Years Ago June 21, 1979

The Setesdals Laget of America, will invade Oklee for their 70th annual convention June 30th. The purpose of the Laget is to promote and preserve the best in our Norwegian heritage.

Richard Bronken and Donna Lambert successfully defended their mixed doubles tennis tourney held in Oklee over the past weekend. Rick Nelson & Sue Christopherson claimed 2nd place and Marc E. Parenteau and Pam Parenteau took 3rd with Bob Melby and Ardis Hofstad getting the consolation title.

A Kjorvestad reunion is being planned at the Orlando Chervestad farm north of Oklee on July 1st.

Samuel Edward Rustan, son of Errol & Gerri Rustan was baptized at St. Francis Xavier Church on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Rahier announce the engagement of their daughter, Deborah to Richard Halle, son of Elna Hal-

le of Chinook, MT. A September wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Flateland visited for the past 10 days at the Bryon Flateland home in Colorad. While there they went to Pike's Peak by way of the Cog Railroad.

Thirty Years Ago June 21, 1989

Pictured on the front page of the Oklee Herald was Orlo Melby with a pet female bushy tailed grey squirrel perched on his shoulder, which they found abandoned, she was just a few inches long.

Angela Engesether, a Plummer School graduate and daughter of Wanda Wilson, has been accepted for enrollment at Moorhead State University. Her major will be in Computer Science.

The children at Nazareth had their Vacation Bible School program at the church on Sunday forenoon. They also served a delicious pot luck dinner afterwards and lots of friends and relatives attended.

Twenty Years Ago June 23, 1999

The cast of Aladdin and his Magic Lamp for the Oklee/Plummer Community Theater were James Stoneouse, Matthew Lundeen, Tony Lundeen, Tiffany Malwitz, Maureen Munt, Tanya Melby, Kelly Opdahl, Lynette Lundeen Mindy Lundeen, Sarah Dahlquist, Andy Swenson, Kayla Bachand, Teisha Wright, Kayla Hamm and Conway Hamm.

On Sunday, May 30, Chase Grinde, son of Sarah and Wade Grinde, was honored at a baby shower hosted by Cindy Arlt.

Mac Manor News: Pauline Walker entertained the residents with her piano playing on Thursday. Clara Radniecki of Oklee was also a visitor.

Dr. Loretta Heuer, was chosen as the 1999 NDNA Nurse of the Year Award. She is the daughter of Selmer and Sis Christianson of Oklee.

Ten Years Ago June 24, 2009

Oklee Area Veteran's Memorial Flag Day Dinner was held on June 16th at the Oklee Community Hall. Alvin Jensen was the winner of the hand-crafted American Flag created by Clay Haugen.

Centennial Yard of the Week was Linda and Dick McCloskey who get the Centennial Sign in their year for the week.

Rose Marie Jolly recently reported that she attended the Eagle Scout award ceremony for her grandson Christopher Genereux in Detroit Lakes. He has now completed the requirements for the Eagle Scout Award.

On Sunday, Howard and Bernice LaFayette attended the confirmation of Tyrell Hamrum, son of Margaret and Lowell Hamrum at Saron Church in rural Erskine. Afterwards they had dinner at Hamrum's.

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Senior Site News & Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

2:00 p.m.

June 28: Senior Day at the Fair 1:00 p.m. at the Hall.

July 4: Plan a picnic to celebrate.

July 18: Senior Site Council meeting.

July 19: Birthday Meal.

Words of Wisdom

Remember that children, marriages, and flower gardens reflect the kind of care they get.

Encourage exceptional students to become teachers.

Joke Time

Overheard: "I think our bank is in trouble. I was about to complete a withdrawal at the ATM and the machine asked me if I wanted to go double or nothing."

Discussing the environment with his friend, on man asked, "Which of our natural resources do you think will become exhausted first?"

"The taxpayer," answered the other.

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Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

It has been cool and threatening rain. We need rain and all week there were forecasts of rain. We got none or rather close to none. Some got a bit more than us but the dust dried out really quickly after the tenth that we got. The garden and yard is showing its thirst in dried up plants and dry grass. It helps with the mowing jobs, but I'd rather mow. I like green. Now they are predicting hot and muggy over the end of this week. That is kind of natural during fair week. I hope you all have a lot of fun at the fair. It is bigger and better every year. Rodeos and car races or demolitions derby's are always fun especially if you know who is in the race.

Clarence and Dianne Gagner went to Battle Lake to bond with their new little great grandchild. They stayed until Thursday. Dianne said that they stayed in their camper nearby, and took the older children with them to let Mom and baby have some one on one time together. That was such a

great idea. Wish I'd gotten that treatment when I was having kids. They also did their own bonding with the baby, and they enjoyed the restful week. Congratulations again Clare and Dianne.

Eldora and Bryan Paradis came to Brooks this past week and helped with a friend's auction sale. Eldora said that they would be leaving on Sunday to go to their home. It was so good to see them.

The poster for the 4th of July in Plummer is out and it looks like there will be many things to take in for the holiday. Everyone has a great memory of July 4th in Plummer. Years ago there was a carnival that came to Plummer. I went to the horse show and watched the horses doing barrel runs etc. I sat and enjoyed it so much. Soon my son came up to me and said Dad wants you to get the car and pick him and the girls up. I went and did that and I noticed they were all kind of sickly looking

including my son. "Where to?" I asked. "Home, we are sick," So I drove them home. Later I found out that they went on a new ride that was kind of wild, and that is how they got sick. The bathroom was busy for a while.

The Wallendas, the tight-rope walkers did an awesome job walking across Times Square 25 stories up. I couldn't watch it. After the fact knowing they got it done I could see the replay. I tuned in when Wallenda's sister was finishing her walk and that was still too much for me to see. My fear of heights also bothers me when someone else is doing it. My heart pounds so hard, it is awful. Nevertheless, they got through it safely. I hope they retire pretty soon. I watched the Grand Canyon walk and I still cringe remembering that. What is next? He says he is going to walk over an active volcano.

Have a fine week. It is going to be fun at the fair. Enjoy.

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

Dan & Mary Hesse's son, Shawn and his wife, Erin, along with their kids, Blake, Lauryn, and Evan came home for a visit. They live in Red Rock, Arizona. They were here June 4th through the 19th. It had been 3 ½ years since they had been here.

The railroad guys have been busy the last two weeks replacing wooden railroad ties here.

They were lucky to have good weather. There are at least 30, maybe 40 working.

Last Friday, Alice Jobe's nephew, Mike Kukowski, of Badger stopped by on his way back from Detroit Lakes. He was pulling a trailer with the long pieces he'd bought. He had his dog "Pup Pup" with. She is an Irish wolf hound and is very friendly. She had to make a quick walk to the neighbors yard. It was fun to have them stop by.

Karen Tvedt, Anne Traxler, Bunny DuChamp, Anna DeHate, and Alice Jobe went to the Bite Me Grill for lunch (at the American Legion). Kristie Hesse, the cook, had the first day for lunch. There were ham sandwiches, soup, burgers (special order), and two choices of cheesecake. I had silk tuxedo. It was yummy. I guess the railroad guys order a take out on Thursday. I hope it goes well.

On Sunday, I went to Florian for Polish Days. I met my cousin Edwardine and her husband John Szklarski from Moorhead at the church basement. At Mass, the Polish singers sang a hymn in Polish. They used to sing the national anthem in Polish, but this year it looks like it was in English. I had a copy of the songs. After mass,

the dinner was served with ham, salad, bars, czarnina (duck soup) also. It was filling and very good. We had a very nice visit. Then at 2 o'clock we went to watch the Polish dancers and singers. The changed costumes twice and were very entertaining. They are from St. Paul. It rained while I was at Florian and there was a light show all the way back to Thief River Falls.

I finished staining my deck on Wednesday. I had started it the week before. It looks nice but it'll need another coat. I'll have to buy more.

The 4th of July will be here soon. Remember - Plummer has a parade, food to eat, bingo at the Legion, and the museum will be open. Music under the tent. Come on down and have fun!

Who's Dat?



Who's Dat

This week's photo is of a couple from the area.

Last week's photo was of Mark Spong, Les O'Neill, Greg Sandeen and Roger Asselin.

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

