

Oklee Precipitation By Einar Kvasager		
	Rain	Snow
Dec. 14		1.00
Dec. 15		Trace
Dec. 16		0.50
Total in.	0.00	1.50

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

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Vol. 108, Number 19

Wednesday, December 25, 2019



7 facts about the winter solstice

Nocturnal animals and human night owls may rejoice during the winter solstice.

On the winter solstice, people can witness the Earth's longest night and shortest day of the year for their respective hemispheres.

For individuals living in the northern hemisphere, the winter solstice generally occurs between December 20 and 23 each year.

Those in the southern hemisphere experience the winter

solstice between June 20 to June 23.

In 2019, the northern hemisphere's winter solstice occurs on December 21.

The solstice may come and go unnoticed, but it's an interesting day on the calendar.

1. Not only will the winter solstice occur on a specific date, it also occurs at a specific time when the Earth's semi-axis tilts furthest from the sun.

This corresponds to when the North Pole is aimed away

from the sun on the 23.5 degree tilt of the Earth's axis. At this point, the sun also shines directly over the Tropic of Capricorn.

The information and trivia site Mental Floss says the solstice happens at the same moment for everyone on the plane.

However, the hour it occurs depends on your time zone.

2. Areas of the Northern Hemisphere can have varying lengths of day and night on

the solstice.

For example, New York City may have nine hours and 15 minutes of sunlight on the winter solstice. If that upsets New Yorkers, they may be happy to be outside parts of Finland, some of which get less than six hours of sunlight on the solstice.

3. The word "solstice" is derived from Latin and means "sun stands still." It was chosen to describe this cosmic phenomenon because the solstice sun seemingly appears in the same position at noontime for several days before and after the winter solstice - at its lowest point in the sky.

4. It is easy to mistake the solstices for the equinoxes, which also occur twice a year.

However, the equinoxes occur in fall and spring and mark when the sun is directly above the equator and night and day are of equal length.

5. Despite the winter solstice indicating the beginning of the astrological winter, it may not be the coldest time of the season.

Usually those temperatures are reserved for January and February.

6. The Farmer's Almanac reports that many cultures marked the arrival of the solstice as a time of death and rebirth.

Early man also kept track of the days by observing the sun's position in the sky. In fact, historians believe Stonehenge was created to monitor the sun's yearly "movement."

7. Many traditions associated with Christmas originated during Pagan celebrations for the winter solstice.

For example, Scandinavians would burn a juul (yule) log in the hearth in honor of the god Thor. Thor's job was to bring the sun's warmth back to the people.

While the winter solstice and the lack of sunlight synonymous with it may not be something everyone looks forward to, there is a silver lining.

Following the winter solstice, the hours of sunlight gradually increase by the day, eventually paving the way for the spring equinox.

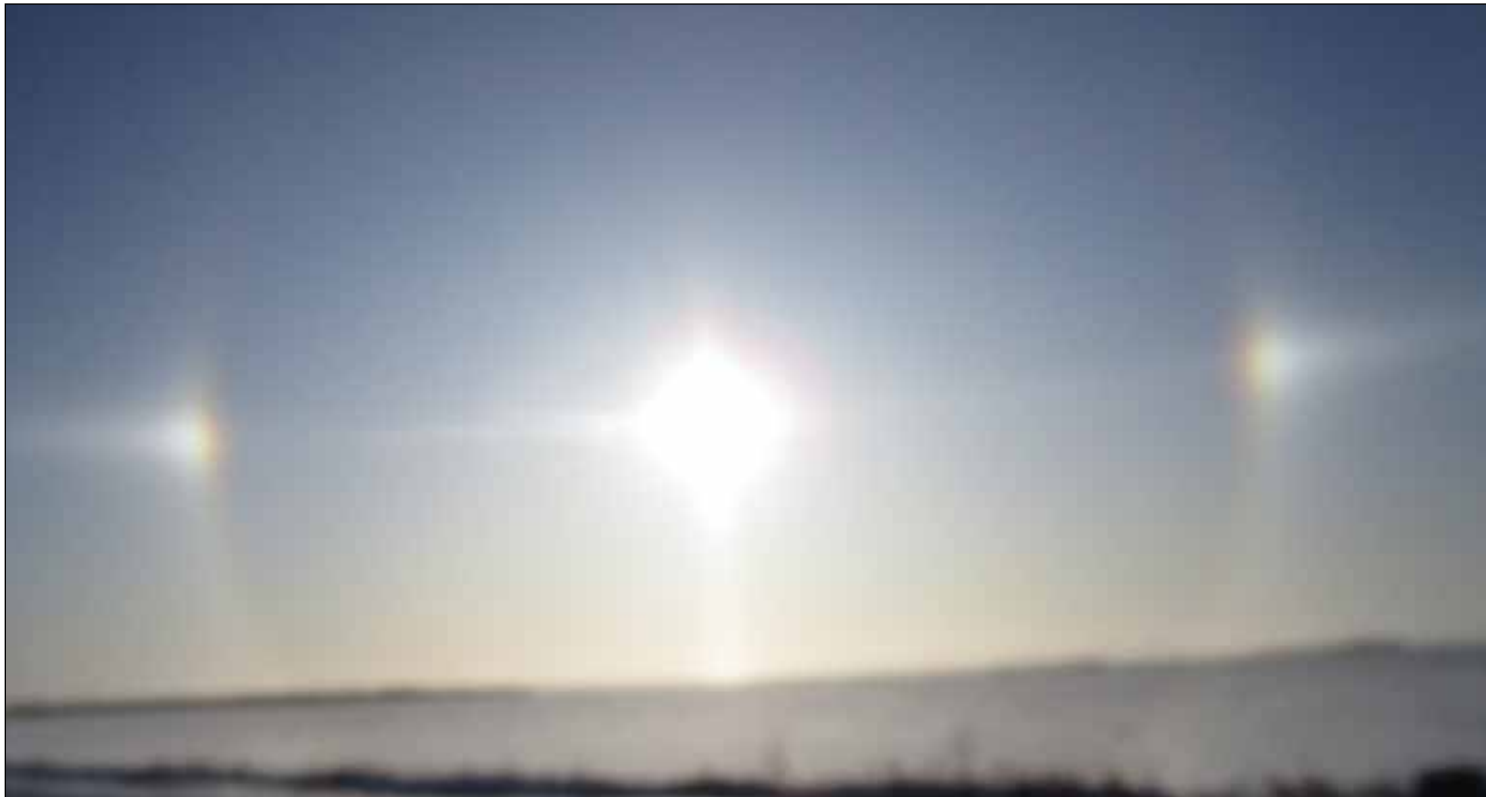


On December 13, the RLC Rebels hosted Stephane-Ar-gyle in a 61-44 win. Derek Peterson also scored his 1000th point this game scoring 24 with 5 steals. *Photo by RLCC Stampede*

The 12 days of Christmas

"On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me, a partridge in a pear tree." The familiar lyrics of this tune are sung as part of Christmas caroling and holiday celebrations, reaching a crescendo each time singers belt out "five golden rings." The song is an English Christmas carol that was written in 1720. While it references plenty of gift-giving, it's easy to assume the song is about giving Christmas gifts. However, the

12 days in the song actually refer to the birth of Jesus Christ. The 12 days of Christmas, also known as the Twelvetide, refers to the festive Christian season that celebrates the Nativity of Jesus. In fact, the start of these days occurs on December 25 and extends until the evening of January 5th, the day before the Epiphany, known as Twelfth Night. Each day corresponds to a remembrance of different religious events or people. Christmas celebrants can celebrate well into the new year. Commemorating the 12 days of Christmas can include small festivities from December 25 to January 5. On Twelfth Night, historically known for parties, modern-day fanfare can mark the culmination of the Christmas season - with the last of gift-giving occurring on the Epiphany. Gifting, hosting friends and family, attending religious services, participating in charitable events, or opening one's home to neighbors and those who can use some companionship are all ways to make the 12 days of Christmas more special.



On December 10, near Red Lake Falls, the sun dogs were very bright on that very cold morning. The temperatures were in the -20's. *Photo by Oklee Herald*

Get the facts about the cold and flu

The common cold and influenza are two contagious viruses that many people may be all too aware of. Although colds and flu can be contracted any time of the year, winter tends to be a prime time for cold and flu outbreaks, as more time spent indoors in close proximity to others provides an easy way for viruses to pass from one person to another.

Despite how common these illnesses can be, there seems to be no shortage of misinformation concerning prevention and treatment of the viruses. Those who think they know all about a cold or the flu can still benefit from a refresher course, which may even debunk some prevailing myths about both

ailments.

Cold
Colds are relatively minor infections of the throat and nose that are caused by more than 200 different viruses. Rhinovirus is the most common cause, which accounts for between 10 and 40 percent of infections, advises the American Lung Association. Adults get an average of two to four colds per year, while children suffer six to eight colds annually. In fact, in the United States, colds account for more visits to the doctor than any other condition, says the ALA.

The Cleveland Clinic states colds are contracted from inhalation of microscopic particles in the air or from contact with

contaminated surfaces. Symptoms can include runny nose, sneezing and nasal congestion, often with sore throat, mild cough, mild aches/fatigue, and fever in youngsters.

Influenza
The flu is a contagious respiratory illness that is caused by the influenza virus. It infects the throat, nose and sometimes the lungs, advises the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Like colds, the flu also can be spread through tiny droplets made when infected individuals cough, sneeze or talk, or by touching infected surfaces.

One common misconception about the flu is that it

can be contracted from the flu vaccine. This is not true. Harvard Medical School says the flu shot is made from an inactivated virus that can't transmit infection. People who get sick after receiving a flu vaccination were going to get sick anyway, as it takes a week or two to get protection from the vaccine. Many people assume that because they became sick after getting the vaccine, the flu shot caused their illness.

Even though the flu and colds share some symptoms, such as runny nose, sneezing, hoarseness, and cough, the flu is not just a bad cold. While very few people have landed in the hospital with a cold,

the flu can be so severe as to require hospitalization.

Steering clear of people who are sick, frequently washing hands, sterilizing common surfaces, and getting the flu shot are ways to prevent illness. Antibiotics are not effective against the cold and flu, and antiviral medication can lessen the effects and shorten the duration of flu but may not be able to prevent it.

The ALA notes that herbal and mineral products have received a lot of publicity as cold and flu remedies, but insists that such claims are not solidly supported by science. If symptoms do not abate, see a doctor.

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Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Linda Molitor
Tue, Dec. 24: 4 p.m. Salem.
9:00 p.m. Zion.
Wed, Dec. 25: 10 a.m. Christmas Day Service at Zion.
Sun, Dec. 29: Joint Service – 10 a.m. at Zion. No Sunday School.

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OKLEE, GRYGLA & GOODRIDGE
Fr. Adam Hamness
Sun, Dec. 29: 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, Dec. 28: 5:30 p.m. RLF
Sun, Dec. 29: 8:00 a.m. Brooks. 10:00 a.m. RLF.

IMMANUEL–EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Sun, Dec. 29: 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, Dec. 29: Joint Worship at Bethany. No Sunday School.

Oklee Senior Site Dining

Dec. 29 – Jan. 3
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 strip, tossed salad, cottage cheese, toast, and dessert.

Tuesday: ½ Hot beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots, and dessert.

Wednesday: Closed for New Year's Day.

Thursday: Goulash hot-dish, corn, toast, coleslaw, and dessert.

Friday: Baked chicken, baked potato, mixed vegetables, and dessert.

Candlelit Ski & Owl Prowl at Rydell

The evening of Saturday, January 11th the Friends of Rydell and Glacial Ridge Refuges Association will be hosting a Candlelight Ski and Owl Prowl event at Rydell National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) near Erskine, MN.

The timing of this event coincides with a full moon, and hopefully good snow conditions, clear skies, and moderate temperatures! The Rydell NWR Visitor Center will be open throughout the event, which will run from 4:45pm to 8:30pm.

As visitors traverse the trails, multiple owl calling stations will be set up where the calls of several owl species (e.g., saw whet, barred, great horned) will be projected into the woods to try to generate a response. Who-who-knows what you might hear! We will have several pairs of adult and child size skis, as well as snowshoes, available for visitors to use. If you have questions, contact Lisa Wiersma at 218-687-2229 x10 or lisa_wiersma@fws.gov.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive – Nazareth Oak Park – St. Petri Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wed, Dec. 25: 8:00 a.m. St. Petri. 9:45 a.m. Oak Park.
Sat, Dec. 28: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive.
Sun, Dec. 29: 8:00 a.m. St. Petri. 9:15 a.m. SS; 8:30 a.m. Nazareth SS, 9:45 a.m. Worship; 9:45 a.m. Oak Park SS, 11 a.m. OP Worship.
Wed, Jan. 1: No Wednesday School.

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

Sun, Dec. 29: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.

Tue, Dec. 31: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Devotions. 10:00 a.m. Quilting. 6:30 p.m. Bible Study.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund Sand Valley Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Sun, Dec. 29: No Services. Resume in January.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston Seth Johnson, Interim Pastor
Sun, Dec. 29: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship.

Oklee Historical Society needs your pop cans!

The Oklee Historical Society is raising funds by collecting aluminum cans. Please bring them to the recycling bin set up near the ice skating rink and fair buildings in Oklee. The money raised will be used for supplies needed to build displays not only on the main floor of City Hall, but to expand the museum area to the upstairs so that full room displays can be set up.

Carpeting is now needed to finish the transformation of a museum area upstairs. All the laminate flooring has been installed and it is beautiful. Thank you to all who donate their pop cans.

10 percent of all money raised by the Historical Society is being set aside in the hopes of raising enough funds for an elevator to be installed so that everyone will have access to the museum.

Your continued support in the aluminum can drive is greatly appreciated by the Oklee Historical Society.



Sis Christianson celebrated her 90th birthday recently with many friends & relatives to help her. Photo submitted.

COUNTY PROJECT – BIDS CLOSE

Tuesday, January 21st, 2020

RED LAKE COUNTY RED LAKE FALLS, MN 56750

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS – Bids will be received until 10:00 AM, Tuesday, January 21st, 2020, 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 project 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. 063-613-016 – Box Culvert, Bridge Removal, Grading, Aggregate Base, and Bituminous Surfacing on CSAH # 13

The Major quantities of work include COMMON EXCAVATION CY 11,322; AGGREGATE BASE CLASS 5 Ton 5,533; TYPE SP 9.5 WEARING COURSE MIXTURE (3.B) TON 1,379; Type SP 9.5 NON-WEARING COURSE MIXTURE (3.B) TON 1,379; REMOVE EXISTING BRIDGE LS 1; 14 X14 PRECAST CONCRETE BOX CULVERT LF 140; 14 X 14 PRECAST CONCRETE BOX CULVERT END SECTION EACH 4.

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

Tri-Valley Public Transportation Schedule

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.

Curb-to-curb services is available, allowing those with special needs more comfortable, safe and convenient method of transportation. All of our buses are handicapped accessible and lift-equipped. All of our drivers are trained and certified.

To reserve a seat, please call one business day prior to the scheduled trip - 1-800-201-3432.

The new schedule started December 2016.

For Polk, Red Lake and Clearwater county stops:

Every Monday – Grand Forks.

Every 2nd Tuesday – Mahanomen.

Every 4th Tuesday – Thief River Falls

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

Every 2nd & 4th Friday – Bemidji.

Notice to Residents of Terrebonne Township

The dates of filing affidavits of candidacy for township offices are December 31, 2019 – January 14, 2020.

Offices open are: 1 Supervisor- three year term, 1 Supervisor- two year term ,1 Clerk-two year term

Filing may be done at the Clerk's office at any reasonable time by calling 698-4615. The Town Clerks Office will be open on January 14th from 1-5 p.m. Filing closes at 5:00 p.m. on January 14, 2020. Filing fee is \$2.00.

Josie Myhre, Terrebonne Township Clerk
O39-40C

Notice: All eligible voters residing in the Township of Terrebonne

The Township of Terrebonne has chosen to implement mail ballot procedures for Federal and State elections.

The first mail ballot election will be on March 3, 2020 for the presidential nominating primary.

There will be no change to the Election of Township Officials which will continue to be held at the Terrebonne Township Hall, on the Second Tuesday of March each year with the polls open from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The Terrebonne Township Annual Meeting follows the election at 8:15p.m. For more information you may call 698-4615.

Josie Myhre
Township Clerk
O40-41C



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O49-48C

FARM LAND RENTAL/LEASE

The Polk County Highway Department is soliciting Quotes until 4:30pm, December 31, 2019 for rental/lease of County Property - farmland to be used for pasture and hay stumpage. The property is located in Sections 25 and 36 of Angus Township. The total acreage available is approximately 293.5 acres, more or less. A legal description and information regarding the rental/lease of this property is available at the Polk County Highway Department. If you are interested, please contact Darin Carlstrom at (218) 281-3952 ext. 8254 or by email darin.carlstrom@co.polk.mn.us. You may also visit the Highway Department, Monday-Friday from 8am-4:30pm. Located at 820 Old Highway 75 South, Crookston, MN.

FARM LAND RENTAL/LEASE

The Polk County Highway Department is soliciting Quotes until 4:30pm, December 31, 2019 for rental/lease of County Property - farmland to be used for pasture and hay stumpage. The property is located in Section 22 of Liberty Township. The total acreage available is approximately 150 acres, more or less. A legal description and information regarding the rental/lease of this property is available at the Polk County Highway Department. If you are interested, please call our office: 218-281-3952 or visit our Highway Department office at 820 Old Highway 75 South in Crookston, MN for more information. Office hours: 8-4:30 Monday-Friday.

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Sudoku Solution

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



Crossword Solution

L	A	P	E	L	R	U	B	K	I	E	V
E	C	O	L	I	U	S	A	K	I	O	W
A	E	S	O	P	S	E	T	I	N	T	E
R	E	P	O	R	T	H	U	N	G	A	R
E	M	U	G	E	L	D					
M	A	N	A	R	I	A	T	O	P	D	O
A	R	I	L	A	B	O	T	F	L	O	U
L	O	S	E	L	I	Z	O	A	N	T	E
E	M	E	N	D	D	I	A	S	Y	U	R
K	A	I	S	E	R	I	E	T	E	A	
E	L	C	H	A	P	O	B	R	E	X	I
R	A	Z	O	R	S	U	E	C	E	L	E
S	T	A	R	K	I	T	S	T	R	I	A
T	E	R	N	E	T	S	T	A	R	T	

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**Winner 1st place Typography Excellence, Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1971.

**Winner 1st place Best Feature Story, Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1981.

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

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Security State Bank will be Closed January 1st, 2020. Happy New Year!





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RLCC Menus

Dec. 29 – Jan. 3

Oklee

Monday: No School.
Tuesday: No School.
Wednesday: New Year's Day - No School.
Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch:** French toast w/syrup, sausage links, strawberries, and milk.
Friday: Breakfast: Bakery roll, cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, cheesy potatoes, vegetable, uncrustables, fruit, and milk.

Plummer

Monday: No School.
Tuesday: No School.
Wednesday: New Year's Day - No School.
Thursday: Breakfast: Egg omelet, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Pepperoni Hot Pocket, corn, yogurt, fruit, and milk.
Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken quesadilla w/salsa, sour cream, salad, tomatoes, churro, fruit, and milk.

Oklee Open Gym

By: Karena Melby
Open gym began Saturday, Dec. 14th, and will go to the end of February. It will be every Saturday from 1-3 pm. All are welcome, but 6th grade and below need to be with an adult or guardian. Call Kurt Halvorson at 612-247-0812 for any questions or more information.

Mustang Wrestling Schedule

Jan. 2: Meet TBD Fertile-Beltrami @ Fertile-Beltrami High School
Jan. 3: Tournament TBD Mahnomen @ Mahnomen High School
Jan. 7: Match 6:30PM Walker-Hackensack-Akeley @ Oklee School
Parents Night - Jan. 9: Triangular TBD Fosston, Blackduck/Cass-Lake-Bena @ Fosston High School
Jan. 11: Invitational 9:00AM Bertha-Hewitt, Benson, Breckenridge, Crosby-Ironton, Deer River, Ortonville, Park Rapids Area, Pelican Rapids @ Parkers Prairie High School
Jan. 14: Triangular TBD Lake Park Audubon, Mahnomen @ Oklee School
Jan. 17: Quadrangular TBD Bertha-Hewitt, Park Rapids Area, Roseau @ Oklee School
Jan. 18: Tournament TBD Thief River Falls @ Ralph Engelstad Arena - TRF
Jan. 23: Triangular TBD Bertha-Hewitt, Wadena-Deer Creek @ Verndale

Basketball Boys Var/JV Schedule

Jan. 2: 6:00PM Goodridge/Grygla-Gatzke @ Plummer
Jan. 6: 6:00PM Sacred Heart School @ RLFalls
Jan. 7: 6:00PM Win-E-Mac @ Win-E-Mac
Jan. 10: 6:00PM Warren/Alvarado/Oslo @ Red Lake Falls
Jan. 14: 6:00PM Climax Shelly @ Red Lake Falls
Jan. 16: 6:00PM Crookston @ Oklee
Jan. 20: 6:00PM Goodridge/Grygla-Gatzke @ Goodridge.
Jan. 21: 6:00PM Kittson County Central @ Lancaster

Basketball Girls Var/JV Schedule

Dec. 30: 6:00PM Kittson Central @ Plummer
Jan. 7: 6:00PM Red Lake Falls @ Red Lake Falls High
Jan. 9: 6:00PM Warren/Alvarado/Oslo @ W-A-O High School
Jan. 13: 6:00PM Goodridge/Grygla-Gatzke @ Goodridge High School
Jan. 14: 6:00PM Bagley @ Bagley High School
Jan. 17: 6:00PM Warren/Alvarado/Oslo @ Plummer
Jan. 20: 6:00PM Laporte @ Oklee

Wednesday, December 25, 2019



Derek Peterson scoring his 1,000 point at the Stephan-Argyle game on Dec. 13. Photo by RLCC Stamped



George Duden (left) placed 1st in Heavyweight and Damon Ferguson (right) placed 1st for 160 lb. at the Rodd Olson Invitational Wrestling Tournament in Crookston on Dec. 14. Photo by RLCC Stamped



Ferguson pinning his opponent at the Rodd Olson Tournament on Sat. Dec. 14. Photo by RLCC Stamped



Duden competing in the Heavyweight Section at Saturday's Tournament. Photo by RLCC Stamped



Boys Basketball

By: Adriel Bakken
The Red Lake County Rebels boys basketball team played against East Grand Forks on Dec. 10th in Plummer. The Rebels lost 54-62. Derek Peterson scored twenty-one points, Eric Gieseke scored 3 points and two assists, and Bailey Hince scored 3 points.

RLC Rebels vs. SCHS

By: Trent Goulet
On December 13, the RLC Rebels hosted Stephan-Argyle in a 61-44 win. Before the game there was a meal for veterans and they were introduced in place of the starting lineups. Derek Peterson also scored his 1000th point this game scoring 24 with 5 steals. Eric Gieseke scored 11 points with 5 assists.

Digi-Key Caroling

By: Adriel Bakken
The Red Lake County Central senior high choir sang Christmas carols at Digi-Key on Dec. 18th. The choir sang a variety of classic Christmas carols and were accompanied by Taya Morinville on piano and Adriel Bakken on guitar.

RLCC Mustang vs. Fosston Greyhounds

By: Bella Russillo
On Monday, the 16th, the RLCC Mustang GBB team lost against the Fosston Greyhounds, with a score of 48-50. Kia Bachand made 14 points, Cari Bachand made 6 points, Brandie DeHate made 2 points, Calyssa Eskeli made 5 points, and Jenna Pahlen made 14 points.

RLCC Mustangs Basketball

By: Kia Bachand
The Red Lake County Central Mustangs defeated the Lake of the Woods Lady Bears on Thursday, December 12th, in Oklee. The final score of the game was 66-35. Highlights for the Mustangs include Jenna Pahlen with 22 points, 7 rebounds, and 3 steals; Kia Bachand with 17 points, 10 rebounds, and 3 assists; Cari Bachand with 11 points, 7 steals, and 5 assists; Marissa Thomas with 8 points and 8 rebounds; Sidney Olson with 4 points and 6 rebounds; Brandie DeHate with 2 points and 5 rebounds; and Tanisha Srnsky with 2 points and 6 rebounds.

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On December 13th, Veterans were honored at the RLC Boys' Basketball game against Stephan-Argyle in Red Lake Falls. Back Row (l to r): John Dudycha, Jan Dulka, Rick Dulka, Larry Skallet, Shawndra Duray, Einar Kvasager, Clarence Gagner, Jon Renner, Jeff Lytle, Al Wieland. Front row (l to r): Doug Derosier, Gayle Schmitz, Jerry Schindler, Gary Weiss, Mike Bachand, Don Stenberg, Don Brown, Bruce Bjerklie, David Bachand, Vincent Dessellier, Jim Stich, Jim Schmitz, Harvey Bakke, Jim Gilbertson, Jim Rystad, Alan Bertillrud, Pete Stich, Jacob DeHaan. Photo by RLCC Stampede



All the RLCC Mustang Wrestlers who placed at the tournament, from left to right: Paul DeHate, who placed 3rd at 170 lbs.; George Duden, who placed 1st in Heavyweight; Damon Ferguson, who placed 1st at 160 lbs.; and Zach Howard, who placed 2nd at 220 lbs. Photo by RLCC Stampede



Boys huddle during the East Grand Forks game on December 10. Photo by RLCC Stampede

WIC SCHEDULE

The Women, Infants and Children's Supplemental Nutrition Education Program (WIC) is being held the month of January 2020.

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 January.

Thursday, January 9 Red Lake Falls Community Center (City Bldg.)

Monday, January 13 Thief River Falls Redeemer Lutheran Church

Tuesday, January 14 Thief River Falls Redeemer Lutheran Church

Wednesday, January 15 Thief River Falls Redeemer Lutheran Church

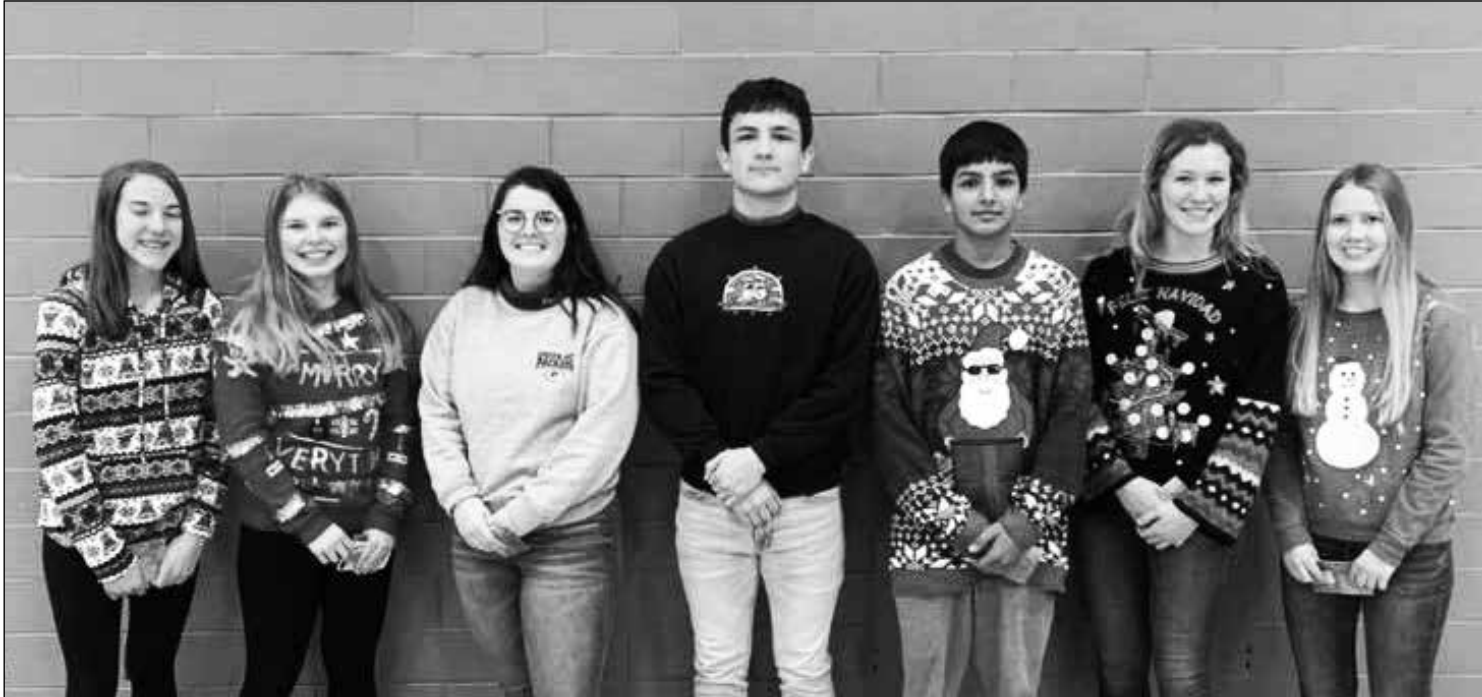
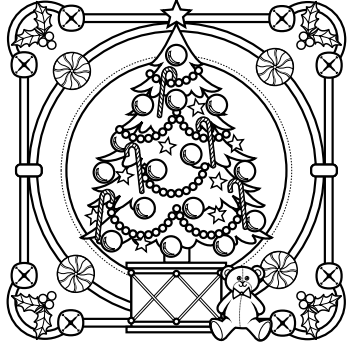
Thursday, January 16Thief River Falls Redeemer Lutheran Church

Friday, January 17 Thief River Falls Redeemer Lutheran Church

Tuesday, January 28 Oklee Inter-County Community Council Building

For further information concerning the WIC program, call or write WIC Quin, PO Box 248, Newfolden, MN 56738, phone 874-7845 (Newfolden, Viking, Middle River, Holt or Thief River Falls residents) or 1-800-223-1591, or e-mail at quinchs@wiktel.com.

North Valley Home Health will offer immunizations, dental varnishing & blood lead testing at the Newfolden and Warren clinics from 9 to 11 am. Arrangements should be made prior to clinics by contacting North Valley Public Health. For more information contact North Valley Public Health at 218-745-5154 or 1-800-950-6986



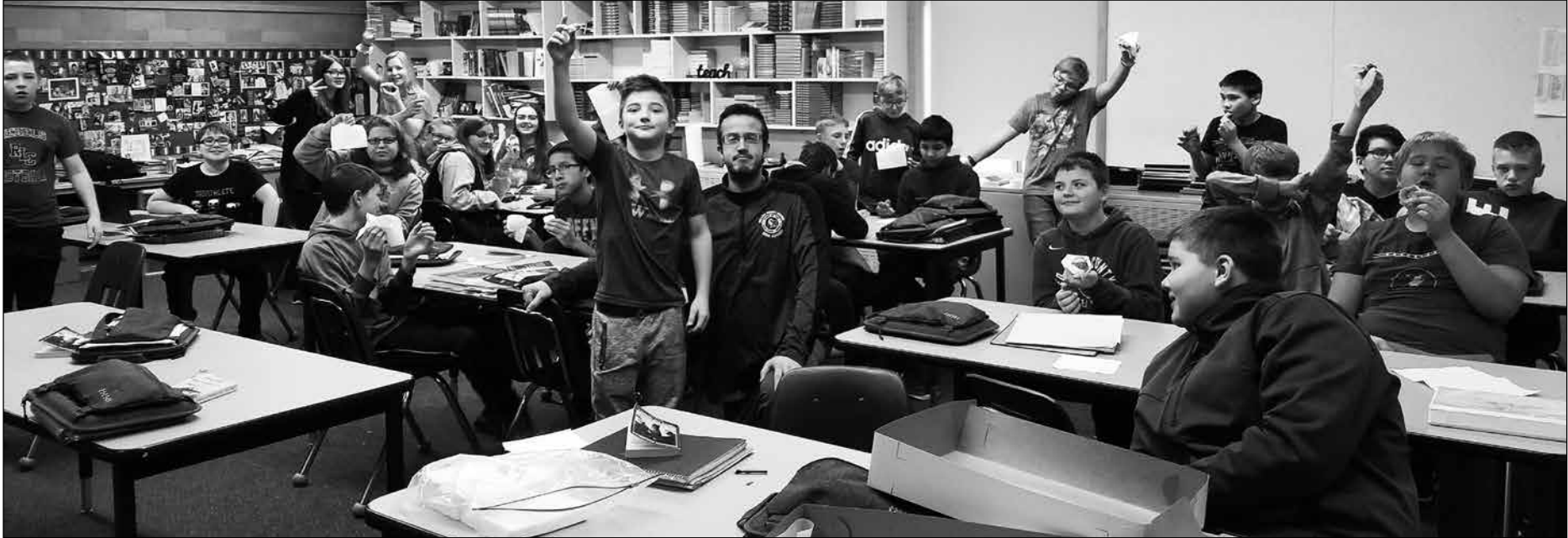
RLCC hosted an ugly Christmas sweater competition to help raise money for local charities, and here are the winners left to right: Sydney Fougner, Aurimy Olson, Courtney Eskeli, Trent Goulet, Ryan Tvedt, Karena Melby, and Bailey Sherman. Photo by RLCC Stampede



Vocal Solo Spotlight on Scholarship: Faith Hanson, Jayden Iverson, Sidney Olson, and Adrienne Jones. Photo by RLCC Stampede



Sidney Olson makes a free throw at the Clearbrook-Gonvick game on Dec. 9. Photo by RLCC Stampede



RLCC 7th Graders win the food drive competition, and are eating their prize of doughnuts. Photo by RLCC Stampede

Wednesday, December 25, 2019

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Oklee Herald subscribers: Please check the address label in the upper right corner of the front page. Be sure all the information is correct. If not, call the Oklee Herald office at 218-796-5181 or email: okleeherald@gmail.com as soon as possible. You need to contact us with a change of address or corrections. Just giving the Post Office a change of address, DOES NOT change your paper address.

Thank You.

Red Lake Falls Library News

The RLF Library and all branches of NWRL will be closed on both Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25.

Regular hours resume on Thursday, December 26. Branches will again be closed on Wednesday, January 1 for the New Year's holiday.

Mark your calendars for the Winter Concert Series, back for winter of 2020, to include Alex Conwell, fiddler and contemporary violinist, on Tuesday, January

21; Briand Morrison, jazz guitarist, on Tuesday, February 25; and Siam's Congo, African folk music, on Thursday, March 26. All concerts begin at 6:00 pm in the Red Lake Falls Library, and are free of charge and open to the public.

The Winter Reading Program will be held during the months of January and February and is designed to encourage adults visit the library, to check out books & read, attend programs, and register for prizes.



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Red Lake County Financial Statement

RED LAKE FALLS, MINNESOTA

SUMMARY OF RED LAKE COUNTY'S STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

Functions/Programs	Program Revenues				Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Fees, Charges, Fines and Other	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	
Governmental activities					
General government	\$ 1,176,101	\$ 195,487	\$ 64,895	\$ -	\$ (915,719)
Public safety.....	1,518,729	97,087	270,755	-	(1,150,887)
Highways and streets.....	2,934,927	203,602	1,422,282	1,833,222	524,179
Sanitation	197,885	-	76,650	-	(121,235)
Human services.....	1,552,299	391,183	796,703	-	(364,413)
Health.....	59,388	-	-	-	(59,388)
Culture and recreation	85,534	-	35,945	-	(49,589)
Conservation of natural resources	406,318	98,382	169,995	11,712	(126,229)
Economic development.....	59,729	42	-	-	(59,687)
Total governmental activities	\$ 7,990,910	\$ 985,783	\$ 2,837,225	\$ 1,844,934	\$ (2,322,968)
General revenues					
Property taxes.....					\$ 2,705,909
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs					281,172
Payments in lieu of taxes.....					13,225
Investment earnings.....					168,133
Miscellaneous.....					74,179
Total general revenues					\$ 3,242,618
Change in net position					\$ 919,650
Net position - January 1, as previously reported.....					\$ 46,111,850
Prior period adjustment					(112,706)
Net position - January 1, as restated					\$ 45,999,144
Net position - December 31.....					\$ 46,918,794

A SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS December 31, 2017

	General Fund	Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund	Social Services Special Revenue Fund	Nonmajor Ditch Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Assets and Deferred Outflows					
Assets					
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 1,929,713	\$ 852,500	\$ 1,381,808	\$ 714,353	\$ 4,878,374
Cash with fiscal agent	3,057	-	-	-	3,057
Investments	73,665	741,424	-	-	815,089
Taxes receivable - prior	33,884	10,322	7,508	-	51,714
Special assessments receivable - current	-	-	-	89,500	89,500
Special assessments receivable - prior.....	638	-	-	2,085	2,723
Accounts receivable	1728	5,880	-	-	7,608
Accrued interest receivable	9,934	1,068	-	-	11,002
Due from other funds	11,662	-	-	-	11,662
Due from other governments	21,984	8,100,392	135,076	-	8,257,452
Inventories	-	341,038	-	-	341,038
Special assessments - noncurrent	28,315	-	-	-	28,315
Total Assets	\$2,114,580	\$ 10,052,624	\$ 1,524,392	\$ 805,938	\$14,497,534

Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Fund Balances

Liabilities					
Accounts payable	\$ 9,806	\$ 26,774	\$ 54,114	\$ -	\$ 90,694
Salaries payable	45,983	24,473	24,430	-	94,886
Due to other funds	-	-	-	11,662	11,662
Due to other governments	3,341	-	-	-	3,341
Contracts payable	-	241,908	-	-	241,908
Total Liabilities	\$ 59,130	\$ 293,155	\$ 78,544	\$ 11,662	\$ 442,491

Deferred Inflows of Resources

Taxes	\$ 28,468	\$ 8,672	\$ 6,308	\$ 91,585	\$ 43,448
Special assessments	28,953	-	-	-	120,538
County State Aid Highway Allotment	-	8,759,476	-	-	8,759,476
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 57,421	\$ 8,768,148	\$ 6,308	\$ 91,585	\$ 8,923,462

Fund Balances

Non-spendable inventories	\$ -	\$ 341,038	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 341,038
Restricted for					
Attorneys forfeiture	334	-	-	-	334
Conservation of natural resources	-	-	-	702,691	702,691
Gravel pit restoration	59,150	-	-	-	59,150
Housing Rehabilitation	3,057	-	-	-	83,057
Landslide acquisition	149,062	-	-	-	149,062
Recorder's equipment	51,984	-	-	-	51,984
Recorder's technology	24,060	-	-	-	24,060
Riparian protection aid	75,055	-	-	-	75,055
Sheriff's contingent fund	4,150	-	-	-	4,150
Sheriff's forfeited property	10	-	-	-	10
Committed to					
Contracts	-	223,672	-	-	223,672
Assigned to					
General government	165,872	-	-	-	165,872
Public safety	1,059,134	-	-	-	1,059,134
Highways and streets	-	426,611	-	-	426,611
Social services	-	-	1,439,540	-	1,439,540
Sanitation	406,161	-	-	-	406,161
Total Fund Balances	\$1,998,029	\$ 991,321	\$ 1,439,540	\$ 702,691	\$ 5,131,581

Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Fund Balances	\$2,114,580	\$ 10,052,624	\$ 1,524,392	\$ 805,938	\$14,497,534
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RED LAKE COUNTY • RED LAKE FALLS, MN ORGANIZATIONAL SCHEDULE DECEMBER 31, 2017

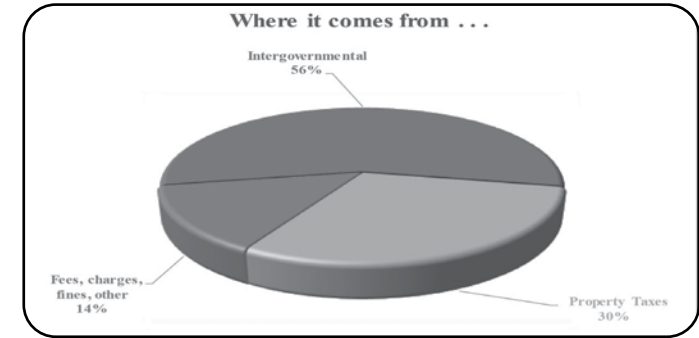
The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of financial information concerning Red Lake County for interested citizens. Questions about this report should be directed to the Red Lake County Auditor at 218-253-2598. A full and complete copy of the County Financial Statement is available upon request by calling 218-253-2598, or by writing to the Red Lake County Auditor, P.O. Box 367, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.

Office	Name	Term Expires
Commissioners		
1st District	David Sorensen (Chair)	January 2019
2nd District	Ron Weiss	January 2021
3rd District	John Lerohl	January 2019
4th District	Anthony Flage (Vice-Chair)	January 2019
5th District	Charles Simpson	January 2021
Officers:		
Elected:		
Attorney	Mike Lacoursiere	January 2019
Auditor	Robert Schmitz	January 2019
Recorder	Joyce Paquin	January 2019
Sheriff	Mitch Bernstein	January 2019
Treasurer	Nick Knott	January 2019
Appointed:		
Assessor	Nancy Amberson	December 2020
Medical Examiner	Dr. Mary Ann Sens	June 2018
Highway Engineer	Courtney Kleven	May 2018
Veterans Service Officer	Kurtis Ellefson	December 2019
Environmental Services Officer	Kurt Casavan	Indefinite
Social Services Board		
Chair	David Sorensen	January 2019
Vice Chair	Charles Simpson	January 2021
Secretary	Ron Weiss	January 2019
Member	Gayle Flateland *	July 2018
Member	Patricia Purath *	July 2017
Member	John Lerohl	January 2019
Member	Anthony Flage	January 2021
Director	Kristi Nelson	Indefinite

* In 2017 the Social Services Board became a five-commissioner board following the resignations of Patricia Purath and Gayle Flateland.
* Resigned July 2017-did not replace two lay members (Patricia Purath and Gayle Flateland) of the Social Services Board.

The following is a list of recipients for Red Lake County expenditures totaling \$5,000.00 or more during 2017. The list does not include salaries to county employees nor does it include individuals who receive federal, state, or county human services.

VENDOR	AMOUNT
AAA Stripping Service Co.....	\$ 26,403.79
Aiaac (American Fam Life Assurance Co)	11,442.40
Association Of Mn Counties	6,420.00
At&T Mobility	10,073.96
Bert's Truck Equipment of Moorhead	58,248.00
Brooks Auto	8,052.04
Cardmember Service.....	22,288.89
Central Pension Fund	25,472.70
CITY OF CROOKSTON	5,000.00
Clerk City Of Brooks.....	31,804.83
Clerk City Of Oklee.....	231,031.00
Clerk City Of Plummer.....	163,793.91
Clerk City Of Red Lake Falls	809,294.59
Commissioner of MMB, Treasury Division	1,342,807.05
COMPASS Business Consulting	28,523.00
Computer Information Systems Inc	18,522.00



Where it comes from ...	
Fees, charges, fines, other	1,241,320
Intergovernmental	4,963,333
Property Taxes	2,705,909
	8,910,562

A SUMMARY OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

	General Fund	Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund	Social Services Special Revenue Fund	Nonmajor Ditch Special Revenue Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues					
Taxes	\$ 1,794,905	\$ 523,509	\$ 373,829	\$ -	\$2,696,243
Special assessments	11,662	-	-	90,517	102,179
Intergovernmental.....	740,350	1,105,962	833,852	-	2,680,164
Charges for services.....	205,553	167,436	212,446	-	585,435
Investment earnings	153,750	14,383	-	-	168,133
Miscellaneous	221,781	36,166	178,737	10,387	447,071
Total Revenues.....	\$ 3,128,001	\$ 1,847,456	\$ 1,598,864	\$ 100,904	\$6,675,225
Expenditures					
Current					
General government	\$ 1,137,402	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,137,402
Public safety.....	1,345,607	-	-	-	1,345,607
Highways and streets.....	-	1,900,484	-	-	1,900,484
Sanitation	186,381	-	-	-	186,381
Human services	17,511	-	1,520,265	-	1,537,776
Health.....	59,388	-	-	-	59,388
Culture and recreation	85,534	-	-	-	85,534
Conservation of natural resources.....	350,593	-	-	50,460	401,053
Economic development	59,729	-	-	-	59,729
Capital outlay					
Public safety	48,830	-	-	-	48,830
Highways and streets.....	-	393,489	-	-	393,489
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,290,975	\$ 2,293,973	\$ 1,520,265	\$ 50,460	\$7,155,673
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ (162,974)	\$ (446,517)	\$ 78,599	\$ 50,444	\$ (480,448)
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 2,160,953	\$ 1,327,462	\$ 1,360,941	\$ 652,297	\$5,501,653
Increase (decrease) in inventories	-	110,376	-	-	(110,376)
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 1,997,979	\$991,321	\$ 1,439,540	\$ 702,741	\$ 5,131,581

SUMMARY OF RED LAKE COUNTY'S STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2017

	Governmental	Accounts payable	\$ 90,694
<u>Assets</u>	<u>Activities</u>	Salaries payable	94,886
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 4,878,374	Contracts payable.....	241,908
Cash with fiscal agent	3,057	Due to other governments.....	3,341
Investments	815,089	Compensated absences	96,035
Taxes receivable - prior	51,714	Noncurrent	
Special assessments receivable - current.....	89,500	Compensated absences.....	71,713
Special assessments receivable - prior.....	2,723	Other Post Employment Benefits	343,887
Accounts receivable	7,608	Net pension liability	2,844,863
Accrued interest receivable	11,002	Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 3,787,327</u>
Due from other governments.....	8,257,452	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>	
Inventories	341,038	Related to pensions.....	<u>\$ 2,089,615</u>
Special assessments - noncurrent	28,315	<u>Net Position</u>	
Capital assets		Net investment in capital assets.....	36,194,905
Non-depreciable	1,046,664	Amounts restricted for	
Depreciable - net of accumulated depreciation	<u>35,148,241</u>	General government	52,318
Total Assets	<u>\$ 50,680,777</u>	Public safety	4,160
<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>		Highways and streets	9,022,761
Related to pensions.....	<u>\$ 2,114,959</u>	Conservation of natural resources.....	836,896
<u>Liabilities</u>		Economic development	152,119
		Unrestricted amounts	655,635
		Total Net Position.....	<u>\$ 46,918,794</u>

RED LAKE COUNTY RED LAKE FALLS, MINNESOTA A SUMMARY OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2017

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Agency</u> <u>(Statement 3)</u>	<u>Liabilities</u>	
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 158,748	Accounts payable	\$ 582
		Due to other governments	158,166
		Total Liabilities	\$ 158,748

Computer Professionals Unlimited Inc	35,774.00	Northwest Regional Development Commission	12,571.47	Southwest Health & Human Services	19,864.14
Conduent Enterprise Solutions, LLC	5,695.92	Northwest Regional Library	26,732.00	Streicher's	6,065.39
Davidson Construction	75,331.31	NORTHWEST SERVICE COOPERATIVE		SUN LIFE FINANCIAL.....	14,271.69
DHS Swift	44,607.83	CCOGA	335,845.50	Taggart Contracting Inc	90,824.00
Dick's Backhoe Service	40,755.84	NW Mental Health Center	66,572.10	Td Ameritrade Trust Company	6,888.02
Election Systems & Software Inc	5,887.50	NW Mn HRA	32,285.49	Thibert Chev-Buick	41,385.97
Elleffson/Kurt Ryan	6,266.42	Office of MNIT Services.....	10,800.00	Treasurer Brown's Creek Township	
Evergreen Implement Company	7,336.08	Oklee Moonlighters.....	9,899.76	Treasurer Emardville Township	21,508.48
Friends Of The Library	6,300.00	Oklee Volunteer Ambulance	9,000.00	Treasurer Equality Township	69,220.08
Garden Valley Telephone	36,526.43	Ottertail Power Company	34,972.69	Treasurer Garnes Township	51,849.48
GCR Tire Center	19,356.99	Pathfinders	35,347.22	Treasurer Garnes Township	65,493.27
Geo-Comm Corporation	5,465.00	Pemberton, Sorlie, Rufer & Kershner		Treasurer Gervais Township	59,548.06
H & L Mesabi	28,794.36		7,145.24	Treasurer Lake Pleasant Township	
HARTFORD LIFE	9,719.74	Pitney Bowes Inc.....	12,860.91	Treasurer Lambert Township	38,671.35
Heppner Consulting Inc	9,953.08	Plummer Co-op Creamery.....	38,857.71	Treasurer Lambert Township	36,879.25
Hoffman, Philipp, & Knutson, PLLC	13,215.00	Powerplan	10,026.07	Treasurer Louisville Township	42,054.82
Houston Engineering, Inc.....	32,694.49	Prowest & Associates Inc.....	16,469.02	Treasurer Poplar River Township	
Humana Dental	13,562.06	Public Employees Retirement Association		Treasurer Poplar River Township	39,980.62
Ingstad Broadcasting (Thief River Falls)	5,000.00		461,949.77	Treasurer Red Lake Falls Township	
Inter County Nursing Service	21,568.20	Quill	9,520.69	Treasurer Red Lake Falls Township	40,695.23
Internal Revenue Service.....	598,541.21	RDO Equipment Co.....	59,242.00	Treasurer River Township.....	10,189.85
IUOE Local No.49 Health & Welfare Fund	156,120.00	ReadiTech IT Solutions	37,777.94	Treasurer School District #2906	1,
JOHN HANCOCK USA	5,375.00	Red Lake Co Soil & Water Conserv Dist		Treasurer School District 141	133.37
Knife River Materials Inc....	36,038.15	Red Lake County Auditor ...	99,060.00	Treasurer School District 2609	50,399.13
Kruse Backhoe Service LLC	5,215.00	Red Lake County Child Init/Family Collab	73,446.63	Treasurer School District 564	23,761.74
Lafayette High School	10,450.00	Red Lake County Committee On Aging	16,030.00	Treasurer School District 630	
LARSON HELICOPTERS, LLC	29,689.40	Red Lake County Co-op.....	8,360.00	Treasurer Terrebonne Township	1,060,057.73
Les's Sanitation	39,500.00	Red Lake County Co-op.....	111,392.96	Treasurer Terrell Township	63,020.42
McCart/Denise	6,423.38	Red Lake County Fair Board	10,000.00	Treasurer Wylie Township	15,552.95
Midstates Equipment & Supply	21,235.20	Red Lake County Park Board	11,229.31	Tri County Community Corrections	205,914.00
Minnesota Counties Computer Co	11,066.49	Red Lake County Water Board	11,229.31	Triangle Tire Sales.....	7,562.02
Minnesota Counties Intergovernment Trust	85,511.00	Red Lake Falls Ambulance	29,000.00	Triple D Construction & Leasing Co	
MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	13,661.86	Red Lake Falls Utilities Dept	6,654.05	Truorth Steel, Inc.....	5,132.50
Minnesota Unemployment Insurance	15,278.91	Red Lake Watershed District	281,464.35	University Of Minnesota (Extern Serv)	24,598.06
Mn Commissioner Of Revenue	109,036.09	Revenue	1,049,449.30	University Of Minnesota (Extern Serv)	74,746.44
Mn Department Of Revenue	53,054.48	Revolutions Power	11,297.75	University Of North Dakota	9,367.04
Morrison County Public Works	6,900.00	Richards Publishing.....	6,328.53	Wright Construction	178,445.41
Nationwide Retire Solutions Serv Center	38,537.20	Road & Bridge	439,150.89	Ziegler Cat.....	17,608.36
Nelson International	67,054.69	Roger's Two-Way Radio Inc	7,548.00	440 Vendors Less Than \$5,000	414,323.55
		Rural Transportation Collaborative.....	6,659.31	135 Vendors.....Cutoff Total	<u>12,159,565.44</u>
		Sany's Backhoe Service	17,081.60	575 Vendors..... Final Total	\$12,715,892.55
		Ryan's Compliance Services LLC	5,000.00		
		Sanford Medical Center**TRF	14,175.25		
		Select Account.....	70,887.51		
		Select Account Fsa.....	9,623.89		
		Select Account-Veba	23,363.00		
		Social Services	468,793.84		

Statepoint Crossword
Year-In-Review



- debate
64. Sweeney Todd's weapon
65. Seek damages
67. *Archie was one before he was born
69. *Bran, Lord of the Six Kingdoms, e.g.
70. "____ Now or Never"
71. *What Jeffrey Epstein had in store
72. Seaside bird
73. Volleyball divider
74. Set in motion
DOWN
1. Grazing ground
2. Maple tree or laptop brand
3. Downward dog, e.g.
4. Skip the big wedding
5. Benign fatty tumor
6. Pipe problem
7. *Europe voted to ban single-____ plastics
8. Take a tubby
9. *Best Actress in Supporting Role Oscar-winner
10. Tiny bit
11. Pitcher
12. Subject to change
15. To some extent, two words
20. Not urban
22. Final, abbr.
24. More gossamer
25. *Actor in Leading Role Oscar-winner
26. Wafting pleasantness
27. One born to Japanese immigrants
29. Footnote acronym
31. Performance with acts
32. Holey confection
33. Grossly unconventional
34. *Swedish environmentalist
36. Eye contact
38. Nicholas II was the last one
42. Willow twig
45. Go ashore
49. Tombstone acronym
51. Builds
54. Fluorescent red dye
56. Make an effort
57. Formerly, formerly
58. Better than never
59. #38 Down, alt. sp.
60. Some blow their own
61. **Green Book," winner of ____ Picture
62. Hip bones
63. Salty drop
66. Shoshonean
68. Summer sandwich?

- Like a Man, ____"
28. Diva's delivery
30. Opposite of underdog
35. Seed covering
37. Share a boundary
39. Miller's product
40. Leave behind
41. *Flute playing rapper
43. Pot contribution
44. Make corrections
46. Days in Havana
47. Nomad's round house
48. Caesar derivative
50. "Fifteen Miles on the Canal"
52. Mad Hatter's drink
53. Hofbräuhaus offering
55. Bard's before
57. *He got life plus 30
61. *Euroceptics vs. pro-Europeanists point of

Bonny's Bits...

okleeherald@gmail.com

Christmas is here and the weather has been pretty nice for the holiday season. We had a few cold days and nights, but overall, been pretty nice. Not going to complain.

On Christmas Eve, I went to my brother's home in Thief River Falls and most of the family got together. All three of us siblings, Lauren, Tim and I were all missing one of our children that evening. They all live far from the area and had to work so a January gathering will have to be planned for those missing children.

On Wednesday, the Cote group gathered at our house and we had a good time and good food. Of course we were missing a few also there also.

As our children get older and get their own lives, it is harder to gather everyone at the same time. This has been slowly happening to our families and I'm sure it is a familiar tale in your families too.

And with Christmas in the middle of the week, that adds another factor to deal with. Many people have to work the day after Christmas and some have to work full days on Christmas Eve.

But the important part is to enjoy the ones your with and make sure you call the others and try and share some of the Christmas fun over the phone.

A few years ago, I had many different versions of "T'was the Night Before Christmas" poems in the paper. I had fun running them in the weeks before Christmas and I got lots of comments on them from readers.

Thinking that this paper is actually going to be coming to your home after Christmas, I wondered if there was a T'was the Night After Christmas, and guess what, there was. I will share this unsigned and undated poem is from a newspaper clipping found in the Graphic Arts Department of the American Antiquarian Society according to the website.



Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and look forward to a Happy New Year!



Polk County Snow and Ice Control Policy

The removal of snow and ice from the county's roadways is one of the most important jobs confronting the County Highway Maintenance Department during the winter months. The safety and comfort of the public shall at all times be the primary consideration of all county maintenance personnel. Snow and ice removal operations must be conducted in such a manner so as to provide the safest, most economical means of opening the county's highway system within a reasonable amount of time after each winter storm event.

The following Policy has been established to provide guidelines for the public and for plow operators to follow in order to ensure consistent practices for snow and ice removal during winter storm events.

Polk County does not have a bare road policy and does not assure a completely bare road. Entire sections of roadway are not usually salted. Users of the road system are reminded to exercise caution and drive with care. The legal speed limit may not be possible at all times.

Dispatching of Snow Plows
The decision to plow and/or sand will be made by the Highway Engineer and/or Maintenance Supervisor, based on the following guidelines:

1. The County will not dispatch plows until after the snowfall and/or wind has stopped, EXCEPT: (a) in an emergency or other special circumstances; or (b) when conditions allow reasonable accomplishments to be made.
2. The County will perform snow removal on bituminous surfaced roads when we receive appreciable accumulations, generally 1 to 2 inches. 1" of wet heavy snow or 2" light snow will be used as a general rule of thumb.
3. The County will perform snow removal on gravel roads when accumulations exceed four (4) inches. Gravel roads will not be plowed in early season until snow pack has been formed.
4. The County will perform ice control measures when icy conditions seriously affect travel.

Hours of Operation
The County is staffed for one shift of snow and ice removal. In a snow event, the necessary County personnel and equipment will be mobilized by the Maintenance Supervisor. Any deviation from the start time must be approved by the Highway Director and/or Maintenance Supervisor.

The normal weekday early start time during a snow event is between 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

Weekends and holidays will receive a reduced level of service, due to lower traffic volumes and the limited resources available.

Operator duty shifts are generally limited to a maximum of 12 hours per day for safety reasons; therefore most routes will not have coverage between 5:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. the next morning.

Operations will be halted when: (a) service levels are reached; (b) coverage time has elapsed; (c) conditions are too

hazardous; or (d) reasonable accomplishments cannot be made.

Operations
Generally, the following three phases will be used in snow removal operations:

1. Make the roads passable: Clean one lane in each direction.
2. Widen the lanes to edge of shoulders and apply abrasive/chemical mixture: The County will perform sanding operations at problem areas, including: curves, hills, intersections, and bridges. The County does not assure a completely bare road and will not typically sand entire sections of highways.

A blend of 8-10% salt to sand is generally used in sanding operations; this is modified as the temperature and/or conditions warrant. Salt use will be limited at temperatures below +20 degrees; below +20 degrees salt becomes ineffective.

Gravel roads shall not be plowed to a bare surface or sanded unless directed by the Highway Director or Maintenance Supervisor.

3. Clean up: Remove ice and slush off roadway after salt and sun have been allowed to work.

Depending upon the situation, more than one phase may be accomplished at one time.

Plowing Priorities
It is the goal of the Highway Department to serve the majority of the public in the quickest way possible. Roads with higher traffic volumes will typically receive higher priority. The following are the priorities plow operators will strive to adhere to:

1. County bituminous surfaced roads, starting with high collection areas close to town and working out towards rural areas thereafter.
2. County gravel surfaced roads.

3. Township roads (unorganized town roads and those done on a contract basis)

Personal Property
Mailboxes, fences and other items damaged during snow and ice removal are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Only those items that were damaged by actual contact with County equipment will be repaired at the County's expense. The Highway Department does not provide special mailbox installations or decorative designs. Damaged supports will be replaced with the Department's swing-away type support. Any mailbox that is repaired or replaced by the Highway Department does not imply a change of ownership.

The County is not liable for damages to fences, vehicles, and/or other objects placed on County right of way.

Residential Plowing
County residents are reminded that it is unlawful under Minnesota Statutes 160.2715 to plow snow from driveways onto or across County roads. Piles of snow left on or near the road can freeze into a solid mass or cause drifting, creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Accidents and damages caused by snow piles placed in the roadway may result in liability to the property owner.

Stranded Motorists
Plow operators may assist stranded motorists by contacting local law enforcement and/or emergency personnel. Plow operators will not attempt to remove a stuck vehicle.

Emergency
The Sheriff's Office should be contacted for all emergencies requiring plowing. Plows will not be dispatched from regular routes or called in for extra duty unless it is an emergency coordinated through the Sheriff's Office. Icing bridges or snow drifting on roads are expected aspects of winter travel and generally is not adequate justification to dispatch plow crews.

No Travel Advisory
No Travel Advisories issued by the State Patrol and/or Sheriff's Office apply to all County snow and ice removal crews. When a No Travel Advisory is issued, local media is contacted and all plows are pulled from their respective routes.

Information
Questions or concerns regarding snow removal should be directed to the Polk County Highway Department at (218)281-3972 during normal business hours (M-F, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.).

Summary
This policy was developed to provide general guidelines for both County personnel and the traveling public. This policy intends to cover the majority of situations normally encountered in winter storm events. If situations arise that is not part of the above policy, the County Highway Engineer or Maintenance Supervisor will deal with them on a case-by-case basis.

Each decision to mobilize the snow plow crews is a judgment call based on the particular weather conditions combined with past experience along with the resources available at the time and, therefore, may not adhere strictly to this general policy.

Guidelines for Plowing Priorities
The department should endeavor to have the bituminous routes open within 4 hours and the complete system open within 48 hours. The bituminous routes have been broken down to 3 levels:

Priority: Extremely high traffic volume areas of high collection. Primary: Areas of rural collection, moderate to high volume. Secondary: Low traffic count, low volume rural areas.

1. Priority roads: Both lanes should have bare wheel paths with intermittent or completely bare pavement before coverage time is reduced.

2. Primary: Both lanes should have intermittent bare wheel paths with sanded hills, curves, intersections and stop signs.

3. Secondary: One wheel path in each lane should have intermittent bare pavement with sanded hills, curves, intersections and stop signs.

4. Each snowplow route will be reviewed annually and during the season upon the plow operator's request and any necessary changes will be made depending on resources available.

Some routes will contain segments that may require additional levels of service.



The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train pulling into Plummer on December 13th. Many people were outside waiting behind the barricades and enjoying the fairly mild weather. Photo by Oklee Herald

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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.

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Oklee Herald Early Files

Eighty Years Ago

December 21 & 28, 1939

The Oklee High School Orioles scored their second win of the season over the Fosston team with a final score of 24-10.

We have been informed that Emmet Hart broke his right arm just above the wrist, Sunday. He was riding horseback, and as he turned onto the state highway, the horse fell, rolling on his hand. It was first thought to be a sprain, but Dr. Torgerson disclosed the broken bone.

School presents operetta – “Scrooge’s Christmas” was presented in the local auditorium on Monday evening this week by the first six grades of the local school. A good crowd witnessed the performance.

Ralph Fossum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Reier Fossum, and Miss Irene Lynch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lynch, were married at the Catholic Church in Plummer on December 26th.

Miss Mildred Bruggeman suffered a broken bone in her right wrist, Sunday afternoon, when she fell. Miss Bruggeman was roller skating in the hall, when she fell over a girl who had already fallen.

A Christmas party and tree were enjoyed at the Gully School Friday, after which school was dismissed until January 8th.

The Shadow Lawn School, under the supervision of Miss Anne Vigen presented an interesting Christmas Tree program at the schoolhouse Friday night.

Seventy Years Ago

December 22 & 29, 1949

Santa Claus distributed 700 bags of candy and nuts to young boys and girls of the community on his annual visit here Monday. Children also saw a free movie at the Oak Theatre. The film “Bambi” was the feature and is about a little deer.

An attendance estimated at between 600 and 700 farmers and landowners and other interested persons heard reports on flood damage caused by Lost River and Ruffy Brook at a public hearing in Oklee on Monday.

Raymond Sauve, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Sauve of Brooks, senior at St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN has been named to the all-state Catholic Conference football team. Sauve, a three letter man, is captain of the St. John’s prep team.

Gonvick scraped out a thin victory Friday, December 16th, as they defeated Oklee 35-36.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Radniecki on the arrival of a baby girl.

Johnny Eisbrenner, who attends college in Bemidji, is spending his vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Eisbrenner.

Sixty Years Ago

December 24 & 30, 1959

Lou Horstman, Jr., was released from the Fosston Hospital Wednesday where he was a patient since being injured early Sunday morning when his car struck a horse on Highway 92 west of Trail. The car he was driving was beyond repair due to the damage.

About 62,500 acres of Red Lake County cropland are out of production under Conservation Reserve contracts, according to a year-end report on Soil Bank activity of the Red Lake County Stabilization and Conservation office.

Mrs. Della Riel was the honored guest at a birthday party on Tuesday evening. Many guests attended and lunch was served.

District 52 held their Christmas party and program at their school Wednesday evening. The most popular man was Santa Claus.

It takes the language of the beatnik to accurately describe the weather of this area during the past week: Like “Crazy man, crazy!” Instead of snow the Oklee area has had a half inch of rain which fell Dec. 26 and 27th measuring .48, according to weather observer Otto Bakken.

Army Pfc. Dewey Lambert, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lambert of Brooks, recently participated with the 4th Armored Division’s 22nd Artillery in a field training exercise in Germany.

Loretta Lundeen visited her parents, the Herbert Lundeen’s over the Christmas holidays. She returned to Minneapolis Sunday evening.

Fifty Years Ago

December 25, 1969

Inter County Community Council announced this week that their plan to help older man supplement their income by building bird houses, bird feeders and other items will be swinging into operation after the first of the year.

The second annual two-day Snowmobile Derby will be held in Oklee this week with closed course lap racing on Saturday and cross country racing on Sunday. Last year 250 snowmobiles were entered in the two events.

Double baptism was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Les Foster of Roseau had their infant son, Dean Leslie baptized and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Froiland had their daughter Jerilee Renae baptized. The two sets of parents were sponsors for each other’s child.

The Senior Citizens of rural Trail celebrated their Christmas party at the Hickory Townhall on Tuesday. Mrs. Eddy Arveson won the door prize. Gifts were received for each member.

The Deer Park 4-H Club held their annual Christmas party at the Roman Radniecki home. Gifts were exchanged and treats given by the Club.

Gerald Mack returned home from the Navy Sunday evening following his discharge after serving in the Navy.

Forty Years Ago

December 27, 1979

Charges are pending in Red Lake County against the fellow for the burglaries of the Plummer State Bank, Matt Hardware and Larry’s Market.

There were many Holiday Drawing winners listed in the paper from cash prizes to cutlery sets, personalized stationery & envelopes, and many gift certificates from local businesses.

Modern Santas should fill their cars before holiday traveling, as approximately 70 percent of the state’s gas stations will be closed on Christmas Day.

Hunters took approximately 54,000 deer according to the Department of Natural Resources during this year’s deer hunting season.

Thirty Years Ago

December 27, 1989

Jim Dulka, owner of Dulkatech, for the third year, has presented his own award for

academic excellence to a senior student. This year, Kristi Berberich, an Oklee High School senior, was selected by a panel of faculty and administration and received a computer from Dulkatech.

December of 1989 was a very cold year. The first day of winter (December 21st, was 30-35 degrees below zero and the windchill was in excess of -60 degrees.)

The Oklee/Brooks Jaycees sponsored a Christmas Lights contest for the City and rural homes. Winning first place in the City was Cob Radniecki and rural was the John Rosten’s home, rural Brooks.

On December 14, the Mustang Wrestling team went up against East Grand Forks and Sacred Heart. The final score was Mustangs 51, Sacred Heart 18.

Bunny DuChamp joined her sisters Gertie Haugen of Goodridge, Terry Blaine and Mr. and Mrs. Orville Askeland of Grygla for a pre-Christmas get-together at a café in Thief River Falls. Tillie Nesland, a cousin from Valley Home joined them also for dinner.

Twenty Years Ago

December 23 & 30, 1999

Thomas Erlandson entertained at the Oklee Senior Meal Site with a variety of piano Christmas selections on December 17th.

Ron Peterson gave the School Board a letter of resignation as bus driver and mechanic effective December 21st and the board accepted it.

A fun time was held Sunday evening at St. Joseph’s Fellowship Hall by the Brooks City Council. A delicious potluck and sing-along. Santa Claus came with a Ho Ho and treated everyone with a bag of candy and a prize was received by everyone.

Mrs. Myrtle Hamrum helped her grandson Tyrell, son of Lowell and Margaret Hamrum, celebrate his 6th birthday on Saturday.

Ernie Tougas retires after 19 years with Red Lake Electric Cooperative. He began is employment in 1981.

Ardis Hofstad won a Red Oak Keepsake, made by Kelly Opdahl, at a raffle for the 6th grade trip to be held in 2000.

Ten Years Ago

December 23& 30, 2009

The 4-H members and invited guests participated in the Annual Bake and Share Cookie Project at Sunview Center in Red Lake Falls.

Paige Olson, daughter of Conway and Kim Olson, had a Christmas wish to donate her hair to the Locks of Love this holiday season. Paige got her hair cut at Simply Hair was thrilled to help the children through the Lock’s of Love program.

After being tied at 30 points each at half time, the RLC Rebels team lost to the Grygla Eagles with a final score 52-61.

Mrs. George (Dorothy) Lee has an amazing collection of Nativity scenes. She has been collection for twenty five years. Her hobby started with her she received a nativity scene from her daughter it now has grown to 300 sets.

The first snowstorm of the season of 2009, dumped up to 20 inches of snow on December 23 and all the towns were piling up snow where ever they could fit it.

Senior Site News & Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

Today has been a great day for taking a walk outside. My thermometer showed 40 degrees. Not bad for December.

I went to Bemidji last week to finish Christmas gifts. It was crowded in the stores - I had to send some gifts off so I’m glad to be finished and hope they arrive in time.

We had a delicious meal on Tuesday night at the Senior Site. There was a large crowd who came.

I made a visit to the Quilting Shop in Oklee last week. It had been quite a while since I had been there. I was amazed how many things they

have. I am planning to knit a blanket. I have made several blankets and it’s a good evening pleasure.

Dates to Remember

Dec. 25: Christmas Day - Senior Site not open.

Jan. 1: New Year’s Day - Senior Site not open.

Words of Wisdom

Find contentment in simple things and contentment will always be close at hand.

Go the extra mile and you’ll have the highway all to yourself.

Bitterness and resentment never move you forward.

Joke Time

A daughter complimented her elderly father on his improved manners.

"After all these years, I notice you have finally started putting your hand over your mouth when you cough."

"I have to," he said. "How else can I catch my teeth."

Two golfers were talking, "Guess what! I got a set of golf clubs for my wife."

The other nodded, "Great swap!"

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

The RLCC Christmas Concert was on Friday afternoon, the 13th at 2 p.m.

Last Thursday, the 12th, Judy and Jim Kelley, Russ Carpenter and Mike Fossum joined Jean Carpenter at Greenleaf Apartments for the Christmas Tea the staff puts on. They had a wide variety of meats, hors d’oeuvre and candies and cookies for everyone.

Saturday, Anna DeHate and Jill Dehate went to Fargo for a Christmas dinner and National Guard party for Brandie DeHate.

On December 13th, the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train came to Plummer at 6:00 p.m. The museum was open at 4 p.m. and also at the Hall, hot dogs, chips, coffee, hot chocolate and cookies were served by Inter County Community Council. Upstairs was the photo booth, book give away for kids and activities. Christmas carolers were at 5 p.m. at the Hall. Santa came was at the Hall from 4 to 4:30 p.m. Then the carolers and Santa came over to the Museum. At 6 p.m. the train came and stayed about 45 minutes. The crowd was

somewhat smaller. A good crowd toured the museum. The weather was good, fortunately.

Saturday afternoon, Jack Kukowski of Badger and a friend, Jerry, stopped at Alice Jobe’s for a short visit. They had been skiing at Detroit Lakes.

On Monday, the first grade class from Challenger School, TRF, came to Tri River Museum for a tour. Afterwards they made butter in baby food jars and put it on crackers and had juice to drink. Those volunteering at the museum were: Leo Schmitz, Kyle Qualley, Roger Harmoning, Glenyce Eskeli, Les Hofstad and Alice Jobe. The first day there were 46, about 44 on Tuesday and 42 on Wednesday. Mrs. Elizabeth Quick’s class came on Wednesday. They sang Christmas Carols

and played a game of Hide the Thimble. Also on Wednesday, Daniel Quick played the cello and brother, Brigham played the double bass. They played Christmas tunes. The kids had a wonderful time and learned a lot about what life was like long ago.

By the time you read this it’ll be Christmas.

Wednesday afternoon, coming home from Thief River Falls, close to 5 p.m., there was a beautiful sunset with layers of purple, orange, blue and yellow. I hope a few saw it. It was gorgeous.

Merry Christmas everyone!



Many people enjoyed the choir while waiting for the Holiday Train. Photo by Oklee Herald

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

Nice weather greets us, at least icicles are not nipping at my toes. Yesterday it actually broke the freeze mark.

Cindy and Del Determan went to Bismarck last week to spend some time with the grands and their school offerings. Del went on to Montana for hunting coyotes with Brad and Dave Barent. Cindy went to lunch with her grandsons Andrew and James Wanner. It is fun to hear what the kids have to say while relaxing and eating. Later she went to a Christmas pageant that Felicity Wanner was in then attended the Christmas party that the Religious Education group put on. That night they went for a ride to see all the Christmas lights that decorated the city and homes in Bismarck.

On Sunday evening Cindy and Del went to the Humbleberry Farm in Brooks and enjoyed the Christmas scene of Jesus in the stable with live animals. The barn was lighted and decorated with lights and there was a lighted path with small fires for people to take a walk in the outdoors by firelight, and there

was an offering of cookies and hot chocolate. Ryan and Kelsey and their children enjoyed the fun, Pam and Randy Gieseke and their children Grace and Will enjoyed the visit Alice Jobe went twice to the farm, she went in the afternoon and again in the evening. Dianne and Clare Gagner went to see the Nativity scene, Sue Lee from McIntosh played guitar and sang Christmas Carols with the crowd joining in. This was a very neighborly event with everyone joining in the Christmas Spirit.

Happy Birthday to Paul Beech, Cindy Determan’s father. He turned 88 on December 21st.

We lost a wonderful soul again this past week. Merlyn Perreault a resident of Terrebonne community died. The wake was held on Sunday evening, and the funeral is being held on Monday morning (today) at 11 am.

Merlyn was a gardener, homemaker, caregiver, cook, baker, and mother to 7 children. She was a very positive

person and always smiled at everyone. She will be missed by all of us. God rest her soul. And our sympathy goes out to the family.

Jerome and Barb Novak went to the wake of Merlyn Perreault on Sunday night and Pam Paradis also attended the wake service.

The census is very near, and there are not enough people who are signed up for taking census in Red Lake County. They still need six people. Go down to workforce center or log on to census.gov to apply or find out how to apply. They will be paying \$19.00 and hour, and 58 cents a mile. Lots better pay than when I did it ten years ago.

Merry Christmas to you all. The time of the year goes so fast, and now we are looking forward to spring. We are already two days into the quest for spring. The sun is on it’s upward trip in the sky. May your end of the year be fruitful and that Santa gives you everything you asked for.

May God bless you!

Who’s Dat?



Who’s Dat?

This week’s photo someone from the area. It is taken during the winter and by the looks of the background near Security State Bank.

Last week’s photo was of an angel for a operetta at Oklee Elementary. I don’t know the name of the angel nor any details. Please call if you know.

I am always in need of more photos - please send or bring some more of your great old photos. School days, church events, sports,

etc.

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.



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Wednesday, December 25, 2019



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