

Oklee Precipitation
By Einar Kvasager

	Rain	Snow
Dec. 26		3.00
Dec. 27		Trace
Total in.	0.00	3.00

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, January 1, 2020



Vol. 108, Number 20



*As the New Year dawns, I hope it is filled with the promises of a brighter tomorrow.
From the Staff of the Oklee Herald*

Calendar of Events

Wed, Jan. 1:
- New Years Day!

Thu, Jan. 2:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.

Fri, Jan. 3:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.

Sat, Jan. 4:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!

Sun, Jan. 5:
-Worship at the church of your choice.

Mon, Jan. 6:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.

Tue, Jan. 7:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards

Wed, Jan. 8:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Thu, Jan. 9:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.

Fri, Jan. 10:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.

Sat, Jan. 11:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!

Sun, Jan. 12:
-Worship at the church of your choice.

Mon, Jan. 13:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.

Tue, Jan. 14:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards.

Wed, Jan. 15:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Thu, Jan. 16:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.

Fri, Jan. 17:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.

Sat, Jan. 18:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!

Sun, Jan. 19:
-Worship at the church of your choice.

Mon, Jan. 20:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.

Tue, Jan. 21:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards.

Wed, Jan. 22:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Thu, Jan. 23:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity:

2019 Year in Review...

January 2, 2019:
County Commissioners John Lerohl and Dave Sorensen retired from the board at their last meeting in December.

On Thursday, December 20, the Plummer Lions Club delivered candy bags to the children at Red Lake County Elementary School. The Lions gave out 270 bags of candy. The children were pretty excited to get the candy bags.

Elmer Hanson drove bus for Oklee Public School from 1954 to 1976. During these 22 years, each student on his bus felt extra special when they received the gift of a Hershey's Candy Bar at Christmas time. These bars of chocolate were not the regular sized bar, they were the HUGE Hershey's Chocolate Candy Bar! This Christmas season, Elmer received a package from a former passenger who now resides in Arizona. In the package, was a giant Hershey's, disguised as a snowman.

It has gotten cold and the predictions are for 25 below for tonight. Winter storm warnings are out for tonight also.

January 9, 2019:
Icy on the roads again this morning. Schools are two hours late in many instances. We didn't get as much snow as they did west and south of here but that is okay. More snow is expected later in the week.

On Thursday, December 20th, at the Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls, the Red Lake County Rebels boys' basketball played the Cass Lake Panthers in the second round of the tournament. The Cass Lake Panthers defeated the RLC Rebels 77-42.

Zachary Benson was selected for RLCC's November Senior High Student of the Month. Leilah VanDam was selected as Junior High Student of the Month November.

Red Lake County Central's Calyssa Eskeli tied teammate Brandi DeHate's record for steals in a game (12). Eskeli recorded 12 steals against Laporte on Thursday, December 20th tying DeHates record which was set in the Northland Holiday Tournament against Cass Lake in December 2017.

January 16, 2019:
The prediction for the week is that it will not be snowy but it will be colder. Get your snugglies out and keep warm.

The Minnesota State High School League recently awarded 35 Spotlight on Scholarship certificates to Red Lake County Central High School students in grades 9-12 for their achievements in the classroom and their participation in fine arts



The area was shut down due to a Winter Storm that moved through the area starting Saturday night and continuing until Monday morning. Church services through out that area were closed on Sunday and business on Monday morning were delayed opening while clearing the approximate 12 inches of snow. Photo by Oklee Herald.

Security State Bank/Agency Christmas Open House



There was a delicious spread of treats and beverages for everyone attending the Open House at Security State Bank/Agency on December 18th. Photo by SS Bank.



Ambrose Bergeron was one of many customers and others that came to the Open House at Security State Bank in Oklee on December 18th. Photo by SS Bank.



Don Stenberg and David Austad visiting at the Open House on December 18. Photo by SS Bank.



Roy & Carolyn Rystad enjoyed visiting with past employee Donna Drengsveit at the Open House held on December 18th. Photo by Security State Bank.

and athletics during the 2018-2019 fall season.

Brooks Community Federal Credit Union and North Star Credit Union have completed the merger of the two credit unions effective in late 2018. The combination will provide members of Brooks Community FCU access to new products and services that weren't previously available.

January 23, 2019:
New City of Oklee Council members are Kelly Brekke and Larry (Snook) Olson. They attended their first official meeting on January 14th.

The Red Lake County Commissioners reorganization meeting was held on January

8, 2019 and was called to order by County Auditor Bob Schmitz. All members that were re-elected were sworn in by the Court Administration Deputy before any further business could be held.

This year's Red Lake County Central 1-Act play is called "The Complaint Department and Lemonade" by Kamron Klitgaard. In this play the students each go into the complaint department with a problem/complaint ranging from not being able to hear, to having a song stuck in their head.

Cold weather has infiltrated our area now and with deep cold comes wind chill. So frostbite and hypothermia can create

life threatening scenarios. Be careful out there. Bundle up with plenty of layers.

January 30, 2019:
The 52nd Annual Oklee Moonlighters Snowmobile Safari was held on January 19th with very cold temperatures in the area, but that didn't stop members from going out and having fun. The frigid temperatures, the trails were beautiful and the sun was shining making for a great ride.

Brooklyn Bakke, daughter of Dennis and Joanie Bakke, on becoming Thief River Falls Skating Club's newest United States Figure Skating gold medalist. Brookie is an 8th

grader at Franklin Middle School and passed her Gold level Argentina Tango and Westminster Waltz this past weekend to achieve this national recognition.

Each year the Red Lake County Central ninth grade physical science class builds CO2 cars and races them in the gym. All of the ninth graders start off with a piece of soft wood in a box that also holds the wheels and axle for the car. They carve out the pieces of wood to make them look like drag cars and make them weigh as close as possible to the required weight.

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Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH

Zion and Salem
Pastor Linda Molitor
Wed, Jan. 1: No Confrim-
ation.

Sun, Jan. 5: 9:00 a.m.
Zion. 9:00 a.m. SS at Salem.
10:00 a.m. SS at Zion. 10:30
a.m. Salem.

Wed, Jan. 8: 6:30 p.m. 8th
grade Confirmation. 7:30 p.m.
9th grade Confirmation.

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OKLEE, GRYGLA & GOODRIDGE

Fr. Adam Hamness

Sun, Jan. 1: 7:30 a.m. Con-
fessions 8:00 a.m. Mass at St.
Francis Xavier, Oklee; 10:15
a.m. St. Clement Parish, Gry-
gla; 12:00 p.m. St. Ann Parish,
Goodridge.

BROOKS – RED LAKE FALLS

CATHOLIC PARISH

Fr. Bob Schreiner

Sat, Jan. 4: 5:30 p.m. RLF
Sun, Jan. 5: 8:00 a.m.
Brooks. 10:00 a.m. RLF.

IMMANUEL–EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA

Pastor Jonathan Dodson

Sun, Jan. 5: 9:00 a.m. Wor-
ship at Immanuel. 10:15 a.m.
SS at Immanuel. 10:30 a.m.
Worship at Ebenezer.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA

Bethany–Ekelund–Faith

Pastor Kristen Ostercamp
Sun, Jan. 5: 8:30 a.m. Faith,
9:45 a.m. SS at Faith; 9:45
a.m. Bethany, 10:30 a.m. SS at
Bethany; 11:00 a.m. Ekelund,
9:45 a.m. SS at Ekelund.

Mon, Jan. 6: 9:00 a.m. Quilt-
ing Mission at Faith. 9:30
a.m. Rachel Circle. 1:30 p.m.
Ekelund WELCA.

Wed, Jan. 8: 4:00 p.m. Faith
WELCA.

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Monuments

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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 Na-
tional 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-who knows
what you might hear! We will
have several pairs of adult and
child size skis, as well as snow-
shoes, available for visitors
to use. If you have questions,
contact Lisa Wiersma at 218-
687-2229 x10 or lisa_wiersma@
fws.gov.

Snowshoe Lacing

Workshop at Rydell

On Saturday, January 18th
the Friends of Rydell and Glaci-
al Ridge Refuges Association
will be hosting a Snowshoe
Lacing Workshop at the Rydell
NWR Visitor Center. The
one-day workshop will run
from 9:00am – 5:00pm. Class
participants will learn how to
lace their own pair of Ojib-
wa-style snowshoes. This is a
fun, hands-on class. You will
be able to work at your own
pace with provided instruc-
tions and friendly presenters
to assist you along the way.
Pre-registration is required
and class size is limited to 12
participants. The deadline for
registration is January 3rd.
To obtain more information
and to get a registration form,
contact Lynda Knutsen at 218-
689-4320 or lynda_knutsen@
fws.gov.

Sudoku Solution

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

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH

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

Wed, Jan. 1: No Wednesday
School/Confirmation.

Sat, Jan. 4: 9:00 a.m. Mt.
Olive.

Sun, Jan. 5: 8:00 a.m. St.
Petri, 9:15 a.m. SS; 8:30 a.m.
Nazareth SS, 9:45 a.m. Wor-
ship; 9:45 a.m. Oak Park SS,
11 a.m. Oak Park Worship.

Wed, Jan. 8: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday School. 7:00 p.m.
LYS meeting.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH

Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg,
Youth Pastor

www.newjourneyfosston.com
Fri, Jan. 3: 8:30 a.m. Friday
School.

Sun, Jan. 5: 9:30 a.m. Wor-
ship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.

Tue, Jan. 7: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Devotions. 10:00 a.m.
Quilting. 6:30 p.m. Bible Study.

Wed, Jan. 8: 6:30 p.m.
Youth Group. 6:30 p.m. AWA-
NA.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH

Bethany * Lund

Sand Valley

Dawn Hanson,

Lay Minister

Sun, Jan. 5: 9:00 a.m. Lund.
10:30 a.m. Sand Valley.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY

Fosston

Seth Johnson,

Interim Pastor

Sun, Jan. 5: 9:30 a.m. Sun-
day School. 10:30 a.m. Worship.

Oklee Senior Site Dining

January 6 - 10

Call 796-5666 to order a
meal.

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

Monday: Grilled ham &
cheese, potato soup, and des-
sert.

Tuesday: Chicken strip,
hash browns, peas, toast, and
dessert.

Wednesday: Hamburger
patty, tuna macaroni salad,
green beans, and dessert.

Thursday: Spaghetti w/
meat sauce, tossed salad, garlic
toast, and dessert.

Friday: Chicken rice hot-
dish, peas, toast, and dessert.

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



KURTIS ELLEFSON

RED LAKE COUNTY
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

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Carol Bachand, Jeanie O'Neill and Alma Stenberg vis-
ited at the Open House at Security State Bank/Agency on
December 18th. *Photo by Security State Bank.*

How to Talk with Children about Serious Illness & Death

When someone in your fam-
ily has been diagnosed with a
serious illness or is dying, it's
can be difficult to come to terms
with what's happening. It can
be even more challenging when
children are involved.

Even in the face of a such a
difficult situation, being open
and honest with children is
always the best approach. Knowledge
is power—whether
it's for an adult or a child
and understanding what is
happening takes some of the
fearfulness out of the situation.

"Kids are more aware of
what's going on than we of-
ten give them credit for. You
want them to be involved in
the process, so they grieve in
a healthy way later," Hospice
of the Red River Valley Social
Worker Cathy Miller, said.

Cathy also recommends get-
ting children involved earlier
in the process, so they feel like
they are a part of the journey
and can do special things with
their loved one while creating
meaningful memories. "The
more time children spend
around their loved one, the
better. If they aren't a part of
the process, they are going to
have questions later that you
may not want to answer be-
cause you are doing your own
grieving," Cathy said.

A child can be prepared even
in the face of tragedy. This
will give him or her the best
possible opportunity to emerge
whole and healthy.

What To Say & Do

- Tell him/her you are se-
riously ill.
- Tell the child the name of
your disease.

- Provide your best under-
standing of what may happen.
- Give assurance he/she
will continue to be loved and
cared for.

- It's OK to cry in front of
children. It's completely nor-
mal and natural. Tell your child
that you are crying because
you love someone, and you are
sad he or she is in pain—and
that you will miss them. Cry-
ing does not mean you aren't

strong. If you hold it in, there
will usually be issues later. It
also will show the child, it's
OK if he or she needs to cry.

This does not mean you
should share everything—dif-
ferent ages understand things
differently. You are the best
judge of what your child can
understand.

"Kids are often very inquis-
itive. They ask questions and
want to know what's going on
because they don't have the
knowledge and emotion that
goes with losing a loved one
and not seeing them again,"
Cathy said. "It's sometimes
easier for kids to accept and
understand if they are a part of
the conversation. It's beneficial
when you can be direct with
the child."

For younger kids, the con-
versations should be more play-
ful, simplistic and can include
an activity, such as coloring
or Play-Doh. Incorporating
an activity can help the child
become comfortable so you can
start the conversation. "Kids
usually have an idea of what
not being here means, whether
they've experienced death with
a pet or have seen something
on TV or in a movie or cart-
oon," Cathy shared. She also
explained that using animals
as a talking point can help
young children relate.

Older children and teens are
often are involved in caring for
the family or the loved one who
is ill. Whether they help with
chores around the house, make
meals, care for their siblings
or assist with direct care, they
are often put into an adult
role. "It's important to make
space for older kids to pause
from their everyday routine
and take time to actually talk
about what's going on. They
don't often have a chance to
do that," Cathy said. "Teens
might not want to talk and
might do more listening. Cre-
ating an environment where
they can bring their feelings
forward is key."

Regardless of the child's age,
never share anything but the

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

truth with the child.

When discussing your ill-
ness, you may want to get
an idea of what he/she knows
before explaining the illness
further. This way you can cor-
rect any misunderstandings. A
child can imagine much worse
things than the truth.

"I don't like to use the word
'sick' at all. If mom is the
person who is dying, and you
use the word 'sick' with your
child, when your child becomes
sick, the child can think they,
too, are going to die," Cathy
explained. "I encourage fam-
ilies to name the illness and
use whatever word, like cancer,
that's causing end of life. It's
about the body not working for
them anymore."

**What To Do If They Ask
'Will You Die?'**

- If death is a possibility,
it should be acknowledged, but
put into a perspective that life
has to go on until the death
needs to be faced.

- Focus on living each day.
- Worrying about death
cannot stop it from happen-
ing. Worrying may prevent
you from fully being present
and enjoying time with your
loved one.

- Be prepared to answer
questions: "Can I catch this?"
"Who will take care of me?"
"Did I do something to cause
this?" However difficult, an-
swer all questions with hon-
esty and appropriateness to
the child's age. He/she may
continue to ask questions,
or the same question several
times, until something makes
sense. Be patient and know
that he/she is struggling to
understand.

- Don't lie or make promises
you may not be able to keep.

**What Now? After Dis-
cussing the Diagnosis**

- Routine is good for kids.
Attempt to get back to as
normal a routine as possible,
allowing the child to resume
normal activities. Ask for help
from others to keep kids on
their routine like carpooling to
activities and school.
- Continue to keep the child
up to date on the progression

**Talk with Children
Continued to page 3.**

Oklee Centennial Cookbook Recipe Corner

– From page 39

Clam Chowder Marjie Sporlein

6-1/2 oz can
minced clams
3 potatoes, peeled and
diced
3 carrots, diced or sliced
1/4 cup chopped onions
1 Tbsp butter
3/4 cup water
1 can mushrooms,
drained
1 can mushroom soup
1 can whole milk
salt & pepper to taste
Combine clam juice,
potatoes, onions,
carrots, butter and water.
Cook about 15 minutes
until vegetables are
cooked. Stir in salt &
pepper, soup and milk.
Heat thoroughly, add
clams before serving.

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

Oklee Herald

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MUSTANG STAMPEDE

RLCC Menus

**January 6 - 10
Oklee**

Monday: Breakfast: Egg, sausage & cheese biscuit, cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken fajita, Spanish rice, refried beans, fruit, and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit, and milk. **Lunch:** Hamburger patty w/ bun, French fries, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Coffee cake, cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken spaghetti hotdish, bread sticks, string cheese, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit, and milk. **Lunch:** Pizza, lettuce salad, carrots & celery, cottage cheese, fruit, and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch:** Subs, chips, fresh vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Plummer

Monday: Breakfast: Apple turnover, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Macaroni hotdish, green beans, yogurt, tea roll, fruit, and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Egg wrap, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Hot dog w/bun, baked beans, Sun Chips, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Pancakes, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Pork fritter, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, bread, fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast pizza scramble, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** shredded pork w/bun, hash browns, vegetable medley cookie, fruit, and milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Tacos (hard shell, hamburger, lettuce, cheese, tomato, taco sauce), potato rounds, veggies w/ranch, fruit, and milk.

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

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

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

Jan. 23: 6:00PM Cass Lake-Bena @ Cass Lake-Bena

Wednesday, January 1, 2020



Plummer Lions passed out candy bags to the Red Lake County Central elementary School students on Tuesday, December 17th. Lions members helping were Andy Fougner, Wade Westlake, Don Fox, Jim & Debbie DuChamp. Photo by Plummer Lions.



Children who received bag at RLCC Elementary. Photo by Plummer Lions.



Children at RLCC Elementary with their bags of treats from the Plummer Lions. Photo by Plummer Lions.

USDA Signup for Conservation Reserve Program opened on December 9

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture opened signup for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) on December 9, 2019. The deadline for agricultural producers to sign up for general CRP is February 28, 2020, while signup for continuous CRP is ongoing.

Farmers and ranchers who enroll in CRP receive a yearly rental payment for voluntarily establishing long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as "covers") to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat on marginally productive agricultural lands.

"The Conservation Reserve Program is one of our nation's largest conservation endeavors and a critical tool to help producers better manage their operations while conserving natural resources," Secretary Perdue said. "The program marks its 35-year anniversary in 2020, and we're hoping to see one of our largest signups in many years."

CRP has 22 million acres enrolled, but the 2018 Farm Bill lifted the cap to 27 million acres. This means farmers and ranchers have a chance to enroll in CRP for the first time or continue their participation for another term.

Signed into law in 1985,

CRP is one of the largest private-lands conservation programs in the U.S. The program was originally primarily intended to control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production. This Farm Bill program has evolved over the years, providing a variety of conservation and economic benefits from coast to coast. CRP has:

Prevented more than 9 billion tons of soil from eroding, enough soil to fill 600 million dump trucks;

Reduced nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to annually tilled cropland by 95 and 85 percent respectively;

Sequestered an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking 9 million cars off the road;

Created more than 3 million acres of restored wetlands while protecting more than 175,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, enough to go around the world 7 times; and

Benefited bees and other pollinators and increased populations of ducks, pheasants, turkey, bobwhite quail, prairie chickens, grasshopper sparrows and many other birds

By enrolling in CRP, producers are improving water quality, reducing soil erosion, and restoring habitat for wildlife. This

in turn spurs hunting, fishing, recreation, tourism, and other economic development across rural America.

CRP Enrollment Options General Signup

CRP general signup will be held annually. The competitive general signup will now include increased opportunities for enrollment of wildlife habitat through the State Acres For Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) initiative.

Continuous Signup

While some practices under SAFE will remain available through continuous signup, CRP continuous signup will focus primarily on water quality within the Clean Lakes, Estuaries, and Rivers (CLEAR) Initiative. The 2018 Farm Bill prioritizes water quality practices such as contour grass strips, filter strips, riparian buffers, wetlands and a new prairie strip.

USDA will also be working with Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) partners to relaunch CREP continuous options in each state under new statutory provisions. CREP will continue to target high-priority local, state or regional conservation concerns.

Grasslands Signups

CRP Grasslands signup helps landowners and operators protect grassland, including

rangeland, and pastureland and certain other lands while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. A separate CRP Grasslands signup will be offered each year following general signup. The sign-up period for CRP Grasslands in 2020 runs from March 16, 2020 to May 15, 2020.

Pilot Programs

Later in 2020, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will roll out pilot programs within CRP: CLEAR 30, which allows contracts expiring with CLEAR practices to be reenrolled in 30-year contracts and in the Soil Health and Income Protection Program (SHIPP) in the prairie pothole region. More information on these programs will be announced in the new year.

Land Transition

The CRP Transition Incentives Program (TIP) is an option for producers interested in transitioning land to a beginning farmer or rancher or a member of a socially disadvantaged group to return land to production for sustainable grazing or crop production. CRP contract holders no longer need to be a retired or retiring owner or operator to transition their land. TIP participants may have a lease less than five years with an option to purchase, and they have two years before the end of the CRP contract to make conservation and land

Red Lake Falls Library News

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

Happy New Year to all our NWRL patrons! Winners of the holiday gift bags were Jason Gaudry, Linda Johnston, Anthony Lucio, Sherry Largis and Mary Magnuson.

The adult Winter Reading Program "Book Blizzard" is now underway. Adults can stop in and register to win prizes during January and February.

This year's prizes will again include ceramic coffee mugs, and new this year are red zip-front hoodies, both items inscribed with the NWRL and Book Blizzard logos. Programs such as the winter concert series have been planned to enhance this year's program.

New adult nonfiction includes "Edison" by Edmund Morris. From Pulitzer Prize-winning author Morris comes a revelatory new biography of Thomas Alva Edison, the most prolific genius in American history. Thomas Alva Edison's invention of the first practical incandescent lamp 140 years ago so dazzled the world that it cast a shadow over his later achievements. In all, this near-deaf genius patented

1,093 inventions, not including those he left unlicensed for the benefit of medicine. Morris portrays the unknown Edison-- philosopher, futurist, chemist, botanist, wartime defense adviser, founder of nearly 250 companies-- while deconstructing the Edison of mythological memory.

Talk with Children Continued from page 2.

of your illness.

- Allow listening and sharing opportunities by providing open and honest communication.

- Help the child understand the progression of your illness by not shielding him/her from your symptoms.

- Allow the child to help. Be realistic in what you expect of him/her and not assume the child will know what to do. A child is very focused on him/herself.

- Find a balance between home and outside responsibilities for the child.

- Talk to daycare providers, school counselors, teachers, etc. It's not necessary to give all the information of the illness, but it may be helpful to make them aware.

- Make dying part of your living and explain that you are going to do the best you can to live as long as you can.

Helping children and young adults face life challenges can be difficult but allowing the child to be involved in this process now will help the child turn this time into a meaningful life experience.

Young people are amazing and resilient, so take their lead, be honest, and you will get through this.

About Hospice of the Red River Valley

Hospice of the Red River Valley is an independent, not-for-profit hospice serving more than 30 counties in North Dakota and Minnesota. Hospice care is intensive comfort care that alleviates pain and suffering, enhancing the quality of life for patients with life-limiting illnesses and their loved ones by addressing their medical, emotional, spiritual and grief needs. For more information, call toll free 800-237-4629, email questions@hrrv.org or visit www.hrrv.org.



improvements.

Previously Expired Land
Land enrolled in CRP under a 15-year contract that expired in September 2017, 2018 or 2019, may be eligible for enrollment if there was no opportunity for re-enrollment and the practice under the expired contract has been maintained.

CRP Rates and Payments
FSA recently posted updated soil rental rates for CRP. County average rates are posted on the CRP Statistics webpage. Soil rental rates are statutorily prorated at 90 percent for continuous signup and 85 percent for general signup. The rental rates will be reviewed annually. Under continuous signup, producers also receive incentives, including a signup incentive payment and a practice incentive payment.

More Information
CRP marks its 35-year anniversary in 2020, and FSA will continue to highlight the impacts of the program that was created in 1985 and the many stewardship-minded farmers, ranchers and landowners who have participated over the years. Learn more.

To enroll in CRP, contact your local FSA county office or visit fsa.usda.gov/crp. To locate your local FSA office, visit fsa.usda.gov/service-locator.

Security State Bank and Agency has a new fresh look



After months of work, the remodeling has been transforming. The lobby is larger and the teller stations are more functional. Photo by Security State Bank.



Who's Dat?



Who's Dat?

This week's photo another winter photo. The two gals making the snowman are living in the area yet. Last week's photo was of Mark Larson. 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.



Above are other views of the new interior of Security State Bank & Agency. Down the hallway is the office of Vice President, Wyatt Vettleson, a handicapped accessible restroom, more storage and a lunchroom for employees. Photos by Security State Bank.

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Senior Site News & Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

It is a windy morning and it is blowing snow over the roofs. I haven't been outside as my driveway is full of snow. It's a good thing we were warned it was coming. I'm sure every one is looking forward to "2020." I always watch the TV to see how New York celebrates the New Year! It has been quiet at the Senior Site the last days. We didn't have Bingo or Cards for two weeks. It will be back to normal on Monday, January 6, 2020.

Dates to Remember

Dec. 31: New Year's Eve! Jan. 1: New Year's Day! Jan. 6: Welcome to the Senior Site. Words of Wisdom Hard times can be temporary. Harsh words are permanent. Resentment and bitterness never propel, they slow you down. Joke Time "When I came to the coun-

try," writes Yakov Smirnoff, "one of the toughest things to get used to was all the different names of Rock bands, Ratt, the Grateful Dead, or Twisted Sister. Then I saw the people in these groups, and it began to make sense." In a greasy spoon, a downhearted diner asked the waitress for meatloaf and some kind words. She brought the meatloaf but didn't say a thing. "hey," he said, "what about my kind words." She replied, "Don't eat the meatloaf."

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

I think everyone here is happy with the snow we were given over Saturday and Sunday. We have up to five foot drifts in our yard and plenty of snow on the level. Enough Mother Nature we are good now the snowmobile runners will have enough and so will the fishermen. There was no travel advisories all over the area. The roads were pretty heavy. We, Jerome, Becky and I went to Saturday night Mass in Red Lake Falls. Our planned trip to Warroad did not happen because of the promise of bad weather on the way home. I checked and there were no rooms at the Inn. Full up till after New Years I was told. So we watched the snow pile up in the yard and ate what we could graze on. I hope your New Years plans are full of hope and fun. Enjoy the season.



I (Bonny Cote) walked out to the end of her driveway after the first pass of the snowblower. It was as tall as my knee. Reports of 12 inches in the Oklee area. Photo by Oklee Herald.



Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

Christmas dinner guests at Tony Sheila Gerardy's were Russell Sorenson and Marty, and Wavell Sorenson. Anne Traxler, Bob Traxler and Hayley, Brodie and Brielle Traxler went to Nancy and Al Olson's, of Goodridge for Christmas dinner. Diane DeHate and Chuck came Friday night to Anna DeHate's. They had their Christmas get together at Linda and Marty Hogenson's of Thief River Falls. The previous weekend, Debbie & Barry Rewertz left on Thursday the 19th, for Duluth for an early Christmas celebration at their son's home, Brett and Lauren and girls of Superior. Also their daughter Jill and Mikel Magnell and family and Kelsey and Dan Stephens and family stayed through Saturday and got to see the Bentleyville Lights at the canal which are very beautiful. The temps were in the 30's. They all had a great time. Our church at Brooks has some wonderful Christmas music and singing on Christmas Day for the 8 o'clock mass. Thanks to the choir and organist Max and trumpet player, a Schmitz from Red Lake Falls. It was beautiful and memorable! Unfortunately, I don't have much for Christmas news items.

Some were gone on Thursday, so I've got to settle for less news. I went to my brother Jack and his wife Sherri at Badger. There were about seventeen of us. There was much food, turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, scalloped corn, coleslaw, lefsa, cherry dessert, and pies. We played the White Elephant game for our gift exchange. It was more fun this year. The roads were good even though there was a foggy mist on the windshield. My sister &

brother-in-law said their roads were icy coming from south of Warroad. I talked to my great nephew from Sundown, Manitoba who is a senior and plays hockey. He had broken his collar bone (clavicle) about a week before Christmas playing hockey. He'll have to be off from playing for a while. According to the weather forecast, a storm is coming Sunday, lots of snow and strong winds. Stay well and be safe. Happy New Year to everyone.

Oklee Herald Office Hours

This weeks hours:

Wed, Jan. 1 New Year's Day! Thu, Jan. 2 In Gonvick. Fri, Jan. 3 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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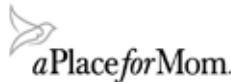
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