



East Polk County now in Drought Warning stage

Drought is defined as a period of abnormally dry and/or unusually hot weather sufficiently prolonged for the corresponding deficiency of water to cause a serious hydrologic imbalance.

When a serious hydrologic imbalance occurs, soil moisture reserves, groundwater supplies, lake levels and stream flows are negatively impacted.

Water-dependent industries including agriculture, public utilities, forestry and tourism are profoundly affected.

With 79 percent of Minnesota now experiencing severe drought and 35 percent experiencing extreme drought (link is external), the state is in drought warning phase. With this designation, the DNR and others are taking additional steps.

The warning phase for drought occurs when a significant portion of the state passes thresholds for severe drought conditions at major watersheds. We have reached this threshold. The warning phase for public water suppliers using the Mississippi River is also triggered when stream flows in the Twin Cities Metropolitan

Area have dropped below designated levels. The thresholds for drought watch and warning conditions are specified in the Minnesota Statewide Drought Plan.

Drought is a naturally occurring feature of Minnesota's climate. Some level of moderate and severe drought typically

occurs in the state almost every year for at least a few weeks. Most severe drought in Minnesota is short-lived, but drought in Minnesota does occasionally enter the extreme intensity classification.

Under current conditions, it will take at least five to eight inches of precipitation spread over a period of about one month to significantly alleviate drought. Soils are more efficiently replenished by multiple rainfall events than by any single heavy rainfall event.

Surface water and groundwater respond somewhat differently over time.

Drought conditions have elevated fire danger in roughly the northern two-thirds of the state.

The Minnesota Statewide Drought Plan identifies specific actions that need to be taken during a drought warning phase. These actions include:

- Convening the State Drought Task Force, a panel of state, federal, regional and local experts with water-related responsibilities. The Task Force was last previously convened in 2012.

- Notifying water appropriators with DNR permits that they should follow water conservation measures such as reducing landscape irrigation, using more efficient irrigation equipment, and checking for and repairing water leaks. Water appropriation permit holders can contact the local



Area crops are experiencing severe stress due to lack of water as East Polk County enters extreme drought intensity

DNR area hydrologist (link is external) for technical assistance or with any questions.

- Notifying public water suppliers that it is time to implement their water-use reduction actions. Residents and landowners should watch for communications from their municipal or public water supplier for details on local water use reduction actions and restrictions.

- Temporarily suspending

or modifying some water appropriations in response to low stream flow conditions as necessary. As of July 29, 2021 the DNR has suspended water appropriations in 17 watersheds. Suspension of more surface water appropriations is expected, unless there is a dramatic change in the current precipitation pattern.

Lake and river levels are dependent on the amount of precipitation an area receives,

how much of that moisture is contributed by runoff, how much water is recharged or discharged through groundwater, and how much water evaporates.

Very few lakes and rivers are regulated by water control structures. For those situations where control structures are present, they are operated according to the authorized project purposes and associated operating plans for those

structures.

Manipulation of lake levels, such as adding or removing stop logs at lake outlets, requires DNR authorization under a public water works permit. Any unauthorized lake level manipulation is illegal.

Water appropriation permits that withdraw water directly from lakes are subject to suspension when lake levels go below specified protective elevations.

Alluma Reinstates Masking Requirement

CROOKSTON, Minn. August 13, 2021 – Due to the continued spread of the highly contagious delta variant, Alluma will again require all staff and clients, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, to wear masks in all Alluma facilities and during all indoor face-to-face services, effective Monday, August 16.

“Our region has seen increases in COVID cases, and even those who are vaccinated can transmit the virus. Our Risk, Safety, and Compliance Committee elected to follow health

care best practices to protect the safety of clients, visitors, and staff,” said Joan Tronson, Chief Human Resources Officer and Compliance Manager for Alluma.

Alluma's decision aligns with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health. Children under age two and people with certain health conditions who may have difficulty wearing a mask or face covering safely are not required to wear masks.

Make plans for Tractor Day in McIntosh

McIntosh will hold its annual Tractor Day on Saturday, August 28th.

The day will begin with the Antique Tractor Parade down Main Street starting at 11:00 am.

Tractor line-up begins at 9:00 am at Erickson Park on the east side of McIntosh. After the parade there will be the Kiddie Tractor Pull in front of the Fire Department. The event is sponsored each year by the Polar Beach Snowmobile Club.

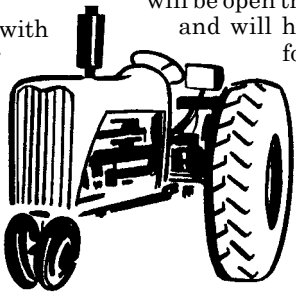
The Tractor Pull will take place on the old football field around 1:00 pm. Pullers must be registered and pay their fees to participate.

There will also be food vendors on Main Street featuring hot dogs, hamburgers, candy, popcorn, pop, water and much

more.

The Shoppes of McIntosh will be open their regular hours and will have special deals for the day.

Make plans to attend the Annual Tractor Day in McIntosh on Saturday, August 29th starting at 11:00 am.



Market Day in Oklee

Market Day in Oklee was held on Saturday, August 14th, which was a beautiful day for a celebration.

Because of the streets being redone, it was set up differently than past years. Most everything was held down by the Pickleball courts and at the softball field.

Watch for stories and photos in the next weeks paper.



The tarring of the county roads through Oklee are completed, though there is some small pieces of the project to still be done, but the major portion is done and people can now walk and drive downtown without issue.



The Oklee Cenex has completed their concrete project and are back to normal operations.

Easing border measures for fully vaccinated travelers entering Canada

Non-essential travel to Canada has been banned since March 2020.

On Monday, August 9th Canada began to allow entry to American citizens and permanent residents, who are currently residing in the United States, and have been fully vaccinated at least 14 days prior to entering Canada for nonessential travel.

This preliminary step allows for the Government of Canada to fully operationalize the adjusted border measures ahead of September 7, 2021, and recognizes the many close ties between Canadians and Americans.

With the advent of increased vaccination rates in Canada, declining COVID-19 cases and reduced pressure on health

care capacity, the government intends to bring a number of changes into effect, provided that Canada's COVID-19 epidemiology remains favorable.

This is good news for Minnesotans who live on the Northwest Angle and have been cut off from the rest of the state — and country — for more than a year.

Non-essential travel has been banned since March 2020 and others headed to Canada had to observe a 14-day quarantine. This will be waived once travelers from the U.S. have received a full course of the COVID-19 vaccine approved for use in Canada, a news release says. That includes the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccines.

In addition, fully vaccinated

travellers must also:

- provide COVID-19-related information electronically through ArriveCAN (app or web portal) including proof of vaccination prior to departing for Canada (subject to limited exceptions);
- meet the pre-entry testing requirements;
- be asymptomatic upon arrival; and
- have a paper or digital copy of their vaccination documentation in English or French (or certified translation, along with the original) ready to show a government official on request.

All travellers must still present a suitable quarantine plan, and be prepared to quarantine, should they not meet all of the conditions required to be

exempt from quarantine.

They will also be required to follow public health measures in place, such as monitoring for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, wearing a mask when in public and keeping a copy of their vaccination documentation and test results - as well as locations visited - for 14 days after entry to Canada.

Entry of unvaccinated children under 12 years of age, or unvaccinated dependent children (due to a mental or physical condition), who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents currently residing in the U.S. and who are accompanying a fully vaccinated parent, step-parent, guardian or tutor who has a right to enter Canada.

Oklee Precipitation

By Einar Kvasager
2020 Totals

	Rain	Snow
Jan.	0	13.375
Feb	0	2.00
Mar	0.00	0.25
Apr	0.81	4.25
May	1.23	0
Jun	5.77	0
Jul	4.75	0
Aug	6.43	0
Sep	0.74	0
Oct	0.6	5.25
Nov	0	4
Dec	0	11
	20.33	40.13

	2021 Totals	
	Rain	Snow
Jan.	0	4.00
Feb	0	0.50
Mar	0.00	0
April	0.08	4.00
May	1.90	0
June	1.60	0
July	0.84	0
	4.46	8.5

Calendar of Events

Wed, August 18:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Thu, August 19:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.

Fri, August 20:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news

Sat, August 21:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!

Sun, August 22:
-Worship at the church – check inside for church times and places.

Mon, August 23:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.

Tue, August 24:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.

Wed, August 25:
-11:30 a.m. Senior Meals delivered – Call to order.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.

Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Linda Molitor
Sun, Aug. 22: 9:00 a.m.
Zion. 10:30 a.m. Salem.
Sermons are on GVTel Channel 35 (10 am Sunday & 2 pm Tuesday), also on Facebook or YouTube.

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OKLEE, GRYGLA & GOODRIDGE
Fr. Adam Hammess
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. St. Francis – Oklee. 10:15 a.m. – Grygla. 12:00 p.m. – Goodridge.
Go to: <http://www.oggcatholic.org/> for service times.

BROOKS – RED LAKE FALLS CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bob Schreiner
Brooks – Red Lake Falls Catholic Parish
Fr. Bob Schreiner
Saturday: St. Joseph RLF 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Brooks Sunday 8:00 a.m. St. Joseph 10:00 a.m.

IMMANUEL-EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Sun, Aug. 22: 9:00 a.m. Worship at Immanuel. 10:30 a.m. Worship at Ebenezer.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH
Bethany-Ekelund-Faith
Pastor Kristen Ostercamp
Sun, Aug. 22: 8:00 a.m. Faith Worship. 9:30 a.m. Bethany Worship. 11:00 a.m. Ekelund Worship.

Deadline:
Friday's at noon!

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive – Nazareth
Oak Park – St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wed, Aug. 18: 7:00 p.m. Oak Park Ladies Aid
Sat, Aug. 21: Mt. Olive: 9:00 a.m.
Sun, Aug. 22: St. Petri: 8:00 a.m. Worship. Nazareth: 9:45 Worship. Oak Park: 11:00 a.m. Worship.
Find services and past sermons at www.facebook.com/clearwaterlutheranparish

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg, Youth Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Wed, Aug. 18: 6:30 p.m. Youth Group.
Sun, Aug. 22: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.
Tue, Aug. 24: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Devotions.
Wed, Aug. 25: 6:30 p.m. Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Wed, Aug. 18: 2:00 p.m. Sand Valley WELCA meeting.
Sun, Aug. 22: 9:00 a.m. Lund; 10:30 a.m. Bethany.
Wed, Aug. 25: 8:00 p.m. Parish Board meeting at Lund.
CDC safety guidelines for COVID-19 will be followed.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY Fosston
Seth Johnson, Interim Pastor
Sundays: 10:00 a.m.
Services will continue to be live-streamed on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/bethelfosston>) as an alternative to attending in person.

Inter-County Nursing Service Visit us at Facebook August 12, 2021

	Pennington	Red Lake
• New Cases from last report	8	0
• Total # of confirmed cases	1565	405
• Totat # of Hospitalizations	72	22
• # of Active Cases in Isolation	21	2
• Deaths	20	7
• County Residents with at least 1 of COVID-19 vaccine	6655	1879
• County Residents with completed vaccine series	6327	1793
• Percentage of county residents 12+ with completed vaccine series	55%	56%

The vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19, including the delta variant. Currently, 99.9% of people who have been vaccinated in Minnesota have not gotten sick with COVID, that means there is a very small chance of having a breakthrough infection. Even with a breakthrough infection, the severity of disease is significantly reduced with having the vaccine on board. The delta variant has been identified in Northwest Minnesota and is causing more than 80% of new cases across the United States.

Find us on
Facebook

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



Oklee Senior Site Dining

August 23 - 27

No congregate meals served. If you are over the age of 60 and you want a meal delivered to your home, call the Oklee Cafe 796-5666. Please call by Friday to order your meals from the menu below. If the cafe runs short, it will be Cook's Choice. A \$5.00 per meal donation is suggested.

Mon: Hamburger on bun, broccoli cheese soup, milk, and dessert.

Tue: Baked chicken, parsley buttered potatoes, vegetables, bread, milk, and dessert.

Wed: Cook's Choice, milk, and dessert.

Thu: ½ Hot pork, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, milk, and dessert.

Fri: Goulash hotdish, corn, bread, milk, and dessert.

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.

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

Every 2nd Tuesday – Mahnomen.
Every 4th Tuesday – Thief River Falls

Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesday – Fargo/Moorhead.
Every 2nd & 4th Friday – Bemidji.

Phone numbers:
Crookston – 218-281-0700
Thief River Falls – 218-681-6760
Toll Free 800-201-3432.
Give us a call and let us do the driving for you!

Red Lake County Commissioners Minutes

RED LAKE COUNTY Regular Meeting Held July 13, 2021

Pursuant to adjournment of its last meeting the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners duly met in regular session at the Courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN on July 13, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Flage called the meeting to order. All Commissioners were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

County Engineer Erik Hove met with the board regarding bid opening for excess Highway Department equipment, a 1985 Pup Trailer and 1991 F800 single axle dump truck. Three individuals submitted sealed bids. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Weiss and carried unanimously to accept the high bid of \$1,600.00 from Joe Bregier for the 1991 F800 truck. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Gerardy and carried unanimously to accept the high bid of \$1,200.00 from Joe Bregier for the 1985 Pup Trailer.

County Attorney Mike Lacoursiere commented on a letter received from Robert Small, Executive Director of the MN County Attorney's Association regarding the Enbridge tax settlement legislation for the years 2012 thru 2018. Lacoursiere also mentioned that he and Engineer Hove reviewed signage at the Oklee Gravel Pit and determined that an additional No-Trespass sign is needed for the south (back) entrance to the pit.

County Assessor Michelle Nelson was present to discuss appointment of individuals to the Special Board of Review/Equalization to replace the County Board of Review. The Special Board is needed because the 2021 County Board of Review could not be held on its scheduled date as there were no trained members present for the meeting. Nelson explained that County Board members can be on the Special Board, but in addition, there must also include a member with prior assessing experience. Nelson mentioned that former County Assessor Nancy Amberson has agreed to be on the Special Board of Review along with the five County Commissioners. Nelson will inform the members when the date is set for the meeting.

Nelson asked that the board allow her to purchase the CAMA (Computer Aided Mass Appraisal) software from CPT. The county already utilizes several property tax system models from CPT. Nelson

reports there is a one-time software setup fee of \$6,560.00 plus an additional \$295.00 monthly maintenance fee. Nelson will include the costs in her 2022 budget if the board approves. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Weiss and carried by unanimous vote to approve the request and allow Nelson to include the costs in her 2022 department budget.

Commissioner Weiss moved and seconded by Gerardy to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on June 22, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Social Services Director Kristi Nelson met with the board and presented quotes for painting and replacing carpet at the Social Services building. There were five carpet quotes presented. Vern's Carpet of Fertile quoted \$11,275.00 for the carpet, labor and baseboard replacement. Nelson informed that only one painting quote was received but are waiting on another estimate from a painter that works directly with Vern's Carpet. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Dudycha to approve the quote of Vern's Carpet in amount of \$11,275.00 and also approve up to \$8,500.00 for the painting project.

Auditor Schmitz presented a Consulting Services Agreement with Hildi, Inc. in amount of \$4,900.00 to complete actuarial valuations mandated by the GASB 75 and GASB 16 Disclosure Requirements for the 2020 and 2021 county financial audits. Commissioner Dudycha moved, seconded by Remick and carried by unanimous vote to approve the agreement as presented.

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

Vendor	Amount
Cardmember Services	\$ 2,276.57
Counties Providing Technology	4,394.00
Hildi, Inc.	4,900.00
IBM Corp.	12,099.64
MN Public Employees Ins.	31,214.00
Moore Engineering, Inc.	5,632.50
Pomp's Tire Service, Inc.	2,533.36
ReadiTech IT Solutions	3,725.10
Red Lake County Co-op	27,413.22
52 Vendors less than \$2,000	21,153.31
TOTAL	\$115,341.70

The motion included the following additional bills: \$900.00 Office of MNIT; \$1,659.34 Prowest; \$135.90 Quill; \$20.16 expenses and \$105.00 per diem to Ron Weiss.

The Following Commissioner/Committee reports were shared:
Commissioner Meeting/Report
Dudycha: -Tri-County Corrections meeting.

Gerardy: -None.
Weiss: -Tri-County Corrections meeting; NW Regional Development meeting.

Remick: -Meetings of Soil and Water District, NW Mental Health, RLC Affordable Housing and Red Lake Falls City Council.

Flage: -Rural Transportation Commission (RTC) Zoom meeting.

There being no further business the regular board meeting adjourned to July 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest:
Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

Anthony Flage,
Board of Commissioners Chair
O22C

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**Winner of Honorable Mention for General Excellence, Minnesota Newspaper Ass'n., 1962.

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

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

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Notice of Sale of Tax Forfeited Lands

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Friday the 27th day of August, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Red Lake County Courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN, I shall sell to the highest bidder those parcels of land described in the list contained herein, which have been classified as non-conservation lands and appraised as provided by law. This sale will be governed by the provisions of Section 282.01 of Minnesota Statutes and by the resolution of the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners authorizing such sale, which resolution reads as follows:

"BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the parcels of land forfeited to the State of Minnesota for nonpayment of taxes, appearing on the list filed with the County Auditor, which have been classified and appraised as provided by Minnesota Laws, 1935, Chapter 386, as amended, shall be offered for sale by the Red Lake County Auditor, said sale to commence at 10:00 a.m. on the 27th day of August, 2021 as provided by law."

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the terms of the sale shall be for **CASH ONLY.**"

In addition to the sale amount, 3% of the sale price shall be added pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 292.28, Minnesota Title Assurance Fund. Also, a \$25.00 fee shall be paid at the time of the purchase to cover the cost of the state deed, pursuant to M.S.A. 282.014. A recording fee of \$46.00 per deed shall also be collected and retained for the recording of the state deed before it can be presented to the purchaser, M.S.A. 282.301. Deed tax based on the amount of sale shall also be paid at the time of sale.

Attention should be given to M.S.A. 429.071, 453.23 and 444.076 that refer to special assessments that may be the subject of a reassessment or a new assessment. Red Lake County is not responsible for location, or determining property lines or boundaries.

LIST OF TAX-FORFEITED LANDS Red Lake County, Minnesota

Township/City	Parcel No.	Description	Appraised Value
Lambert Township	07-1438-000	Auditor's Lot 7 of 10-150-41	\$ 2,500.00
City Red Lake Falls	17-2878-000	Champagne & Dows Addition, E. 74 ft of Lot 24, Block 3	100.00
City Red Lake Falls	17-3275-000	Original Townsite Addition, Exc RR, Lots 6 thru 11, Block 1	5,000.00

Given under my hand and official seal at Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, this 12th day of August, 2021.

Robert Schmitz
Red Lake County Auditor

O22-23C

2022 Plummer Street and Utility Improvement Project Informational Open House

A public Open House will be held on Tuesday August 31st, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at the Plummer Community Center. Representatives from the project team will be available to discuss project details of this 2022 Street and Utility Improvement project.

O22-23C

RIDE WITH US! T.H.E. Bus is a rural public transportation system serving NW Minnesota

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

Protect Yourself From Scams

Scammers are getting more sophisticated in their attempts to get your money or personal details. **Be alert and protect yourself from being scammed by following these tips.**

- Be alert to the fact that scams exist.
- Know who you're dealing with.
- Beware of any requests for personal info or money.
- Keep your personal details secure.
- Choose your passwords carefully.



Oklee Centennial Cookbook Recipe Corner - From page 119

Chicken Spaghetti Donna (Jensen) Larson

- 1 whole chicken, boiled and cut into pieces (or boil a 2-3 lb bag of chicken breasts in chicken broth and then cut up)
- 1 lb thin spaghetti or other noodles, cooked 1 minute less than the shortest recommended time on package
- 1 stick butter
- 1 medium onion (or less), chopped
- 1 bell pepper, chopped
- 1-2 cups chopped celery (optional)
- 1 can Rotel tomatoes (we like mild kind)
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 lb (or more) Velveeta cheese, diced
- 2 cups shredded cheese (cheddar or co-jack) -- optional

Saute onion, pepper, and celery in butter until soft. Put on LOW heat. Add Rotel, soup, and Velveeta and stir to blend, allowing Velveeta to completely melt. Add cooked chicken and cooked spaghetti, and mix gently in a large bowl until well blended. Pour into a greased (pam sprayed) casserole dish. Cover and refrigerate until ready to heat and serve, or place in oven immediately. To serve, bake at 350 degrees (covered) for 30-45 minutes, or until nearly hot through. Uncover, sprinkle with shredded cheese and bake another 15 minutes or until cheese is melted and it is hot throughout.

Security STATE BANK
FDIC Phone 218-796-5157 PO Box 69 Oklee, MN 56742 O21C

National Eye Exam Month Reminds Us to Take Care of Our Vision

Written by Connie Troska
As we age, our vision changes. The ability to see up close can become challenging. Distinguishing colors, such as blue and black, can be tricky and if you didn't need glasses before, you will probably be having this conversation with your optometrist soon.

August is National Eye Exam Month and a great reminder that we need to take care of our eyes. Protecting our eyes by having regular eye exams is a good start in keeping eyes healthy. Early detection of an eye problem can help prevent or slow down vision loss.

Many people do not recognize vision changes in the early stages. Because many vision problems happen gradually, people learn to adjust and adapt. An eye exam where the eyes are dilated, may be the only way to find some common eye diseases. It is in the early stages that they are easier to treat.

Another reason for having your vision checked is to make sure your glasses prescription is right for you. If your prescription no longer corrects your vision, you are at an increased risk of falls, more frequent headaches and tired eyes.

You can help keep your eyes healthy by following these tips from the National Institute on Aging:

Protect your eyes from sunlight by wearing sunglasses that block ultraviolet (UV) radiation and a hat with a wide brim when you are outside.

Stop smoking.

Make smart food choices.

Be physically active and maintain a healthy weight.

Maintain normal blood pressure.

Manage diabetes (if you have it).

If you spend a lot of time at the computer or focused on one thing, take a break every 20 minutes to look about 20 feet away for 20 seconds to

National Immunization Awareness Month puts flu, COVID vaccines in the spotlight

August is National Immunization Awareness Month, putting the flu and COVID-19 vaccines at the forefront for many. The two shots are important as students prepare to return to school.

The annual observance is especially important this year after many people delayed their immunizations due to the COVID pandemic. Kelsey Nefzger, Essentia's immunization program manager, says there are several safety protocols in place to ensure patient safety when visiting one of our facilities.

"We have taken extreme measures to make sure our patients and health care workers are safe," Nefzger said. "We strongly urge parents and guardians to get children their vaccinations so they can help prevent getting a disease or significantly decrease the severity if they do catch something."

Nefzger adds many patients are behind on their vaccinations as people prioritized the COVID vaccine over others. According to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, it is safe to receive multiple vaccines at the same time you receive the COVID vaccine. Thus, those wanting to get a COVID shot and the flu vaccine can do it simultaneously. Please note that the flu vaccine will be available through Essentia Health beginning Sept. 1.

"Flu vaccines will be really important this year as people return to normal life," Nefzger said. "The flu could be more widespread compared to last year when people were masking, quarantined and so many of the places where people gather in large groups were closed."

Staying up to date on your immunizations protects not only yourself, but those around you.

"By getting vaccinated you are not only protecting yourself, but those who can't be vaccinated — immunocompromised patients, children who are not old enough to get certain vaccinations or don't have access to them," said Nefzger.

Children age 12 and older are eligible for the Pfizer-BioN-

centers, and civic groups, are able to make referral back to State Services for the Blind to help those with age-related vision decline or vision loss to remain more independent and active. For more information on State Services for the Blind and to find an organization near you, call 651-539-2300.

Vision problems and disorders are common in older adults. Treatments exist to address some of these aging-related conditions, but the key is early detection. Make sure you have regular eye exams to help you live more independently.

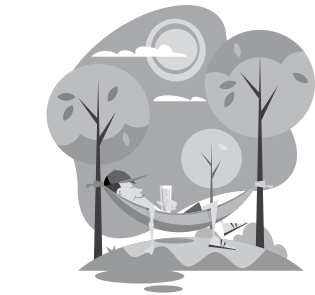
Connie Troska is a Program Developer with the Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging.

National Immunization Awareness Month puts flu, COVID vaccines in the spotlight

Tech COVID vaccine. Anyone 6 months and older is eligible for the flu vaccine. Contact your primary care provider for more information and best practices on all other vaccines.

Patients can schedule all of their vaccinations at most of Essentia's facilities in Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. If you are unsure which vaccines you need, your immunization record can be accessed by using the MyChart patient portal or by requesting them through your state health department.

Overall, Essentia Health pharmacies administered more than 20,000 vaccinations last year.



Statepoint Crossword "BACK TO SCHOOL"

CROSSWORD

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dish

- ACROSS
- * ____ mater
 - *Graduate degree, acr.
 - Opposite of stereo
 - Defense ditch
 - Fishing rod attachment
 - More sure
 - One's final notice
 - Dutch cheese
 - Golfer's traction aid
 - *Half-year terms
 - At the summit of
 - Water nymph
 - Actor ____ Mahershala
 - Be a busybody
 - Metrical foot in poetry
 - Earlier in time, archaic
 - Become bony
 - Shakespeare's tragic monarch
 - Labanotation founder
 - Theodor Geisel, ____
 - Dr. Seuss
 - Threshold
 - Relating to the ear
 - Weather advisories, e.g.
 - + or - atom
 - Widely esteemed
 - Most mature, as in fruit
 - Indian dish
 - Dashboard window
 - Female sheep, pl.
 - *"The Breakfast Club" punishment

- Flower holders
 - Singles
 - High school breakout
 - Acoustic output
 - Overwhelming defeat
 - *Gym class test?
 - Catchall abbr.
 - *Geography class staple
 - Not talker?
- DOWN
- ____ of cookie fame
 - Stud site
 - Cripple
 - *Go to class
 - Mythological princess of Colchis
 - TV cooking show pioneer James ____
 - Contributions to the poor
 - *Kind of choice
 - Black and white treat
 - Less than average tide
 - Table scrap
 - Laces again
 - Milan's La ____
 - Manicurist's office
 - Is it ____ wonder?
 - Hard on outside, juicy on inside
 - One of the Muses
 - Payment option
 - From a great distance
 - Chill-inducing
 - Type of palm tree, pl.
 - Council of ____, city in Italy
 - *Back-to-School retail event
 - WWII general who became President
 - *Faculty member
 - "Peace" with fingers
 - TV classic " ____ in the Family"
 - Superlative of true
 - Lowest male singing voice
 - Small bomb
 - Christopher Columbus' birthplace
 - Consumed (2 words)
 - Small ladies' handbag
 - What one does at the altar
 - *College freshman's new digs
 - International Civil Aviation Organization
 - Half as much as twice
 - ____-do-well
 - Every American's uncle?

RLCC News

ATTENTION New Residents of RLCC District:

If you have moved to the area and have children newborn to high school age, please contact the school to let us know you are here! We will add your child to our census and help get school-age students registered for the 2021-22 school year.

Call the RLCC Oklee Site (preschool and 7-12th grade) at 796-5136 or RLCC Plummer Site (preschool - 6th grade) at 465-4222 for more information.

RLCC Summer Office Hours

The High School office will be open Monday – Thursday from 6:00 am until 4:00 pm started on Tuesday, June 1st.

Red Lake Falls Library

Last week's winners of the Summer Reading Program prizes were Bentley Benoit, Justina Kargel, Noah Lota and Esme Pearson.

Final prize winners will be published next week, or watch Facebook page for winners.

New adult nonfiction includes "Americanon: An Unexpected U. S. History in Thirteen Bestselling Books" by Jess McHugh.

"Surprising and delightfully engrossing, Americanon explores the true history of thirteen of the nation's most popular books; our simple dictionaries, spellers, almanacs, and how-to manuals are the unexamined touchstones for American cultures and customs. Taken together, these books help us understand how their authors, most of them part of a minority, attempted to construct meaning for the majority. Their beliefs and quirks' as well as personal interests, prejudices, and often strange personalities, informed the values and habits of millions of Americans, woven into our cultural DNA over generations of reading and dog-earing," (amazon.com)

Also, "The Hormone Balance Bible: A Holistic Plan to Create Lifelong Health" by Shawn Tassone, MD, PhD; and "Beautifully Organized at Work: Stay Calm, Relieve Stress, and Get More Done Each Day" by Nikki Boyd.

Wednesday, August 18, 2021



2nd Avenue in Oklee, looking west is all paved and the parking for the cafe and post office are now available. It was quite a task to find parking when you wanted to go to cafe or postoffice the past few weeks.

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to eyesight.

R I S I

--	--	--	--

Answer: Iris

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to vision. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 25 = H)

A. 11 8 5 25 4
Clue: Ability to see

B. 2 25 26 2 16 12 6
Clue: Thorough examination

C. 4 26 23 9 11
Clue: Eye secretion

D. 17 21 8 7 16
Clue: Close eyelids

Answer: A. sight B. checkup C. tears D. blink

kids' corner

HEALTH FACT:

BEFORE A NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS, MANY STUDENTS MUST VISIT THEIR DOCTORS TO GET ONE OF THESE.

ANSWER: A PHYSICAL EXAM

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Student

SPANISH: Estudiante

ITALIAN: Studente

FRENCH: Élève

GERMAN: Schüler

Crossword Puzzle

1					2	3
				4		
		5	6			
7					8	
9						

ACROSS

- Place to eat
- Type of computer
- Teachers write on these
- Refers to two or more of things
- Witness
- Study of the physical and natural world

DOWN

- Those who give lessons
- Courses in school
- Belonging to more than one
- Yellow, brown or red color

Answers:

1. Teachers 2. PC 3. Boards 4. Our 5. Science 6. Ocherre 7. Each 8. See Down 9. Science

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

AUG 18

• 1590: JOHN WHITE, THE GOVERNOR OF THE ROANOKE COLONY, RETURNS FROM ENGLAND TO FIND THE SETTLEMENT DESERTED.

• 1783: A HUGE FIREBALL METEOR IS SEEN ACROSS GREAT BRITAIN.

• 1963: JAMES MEREDITH BECOMES THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN TO GRADUATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI.

New word

EDUCATE

give instruction to someone

Did you know?

WHILE MOST SCHOOLS BREAK IN THE SUMMER FOR A FEW MONTHS TO MARK THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, OTHERS HAVE CLASSES YEAR-ROUND.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SCHOOL BUS

Oklee Herald Early Files

Eighty Years Ago August 21, 1941

The 1941-42 school years will open on Tuesday, September 2nd.

The new theatre building constructed in our village this summer will be open to the public next Sunday, August 24th. The new building will be called the "Oak" theatre.

A girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Nelson August 17, 1941.

Miss Delilah Fore, Miss Iyla Torgerson and Miss Carolyn Erickson who have been attending school at Warren, arrived home last week for a visit.

Miss Eleanor Bergeron was guest of honor at a bridal shower held in the Catholic Church parlors Sunday afternoon.

Rev. S. Radniecki of Chicago arrived for a visit at the John L. Radniecki home near River Valley.

Seventy Years Ago August 16, 1951

Sgt. Lyle Nelson arrived here Thursday after serving a year with the armed forces in the Korea battle zone. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Nelson of Oklee.

Casually unearthing potatoes in her garden, the other day Mrs. Oscar Flateland of Trail was suddenly given reason to wonder if some of the seeds she had planted in the spring were perhaps exceedingly fertile. From one hill she dug up 80 potatoes.

Among the winners at the Pennington County Fair at TRF from this community was Tom Dennistoun, who was awarded a 100lb sack of flour by the Math Barzen Company for the best dozen eggs.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Nelson was baptized at Thirty Church on August 12th. He received the name John Allen.

Sarah and Osov Legvold visited at the Russell and Alvin Fore and Maurice Lillo homes Wednesday.

Sixty Years Ago August 24, 1961

Mrs. Terry Knutson (Barbara LaJambe) was one of 26 girls to graduate from the Lutheran Deaconess School of Nursing in Minneapolis on August 20th.

Ted LaCoursiere and Clarence Kush have taken over the management of the Plummer Bowling Alley and will have the alleys re-sanded and recoated soon. They plan on being open for business the first week of September.

A crewman of the Bemidji Tank & Tower Company was busy painting the "Oklee" sign on the water tower more than 100 feet above ground.

Sp/4 Marvin Grover, who has spent the last two years at Verdun, France, with an army ordinance group is spending a furlough here.

Large ad in the Oklee Herald - Quitting Business with listings of equipment for sale. Rolandson Implement Company. They will continue to operate the Standard Service Station and Body Shop.

Fifty Years Ago August 19, 1971

What may prove to be a bumper crop for the area is rolling in to the Oklee Elevator. The trucks bringing in the high yield of high-quality grain are lined up for two blocks.

A new service for the people

of Oklee area was recently instituted at the laundromat. A self-service car wash.

Ramona Good, who ended up in the Lost River, is now feeling fine after her accident last week. She had dropped a pop can on the floor and had reached down to pick it up, and the next thing she new she was in the ICU in TRF.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Sundrud moved to Littlefork, MN last week as he took a new position as Principal at the High School.

Miss Selma Waldal left Saturday for her home in Illinois after she has spent two weeks here at the home of her parents the Alfred Waldals and attended their golden wedding anniversary.

Forty Years Ago August 20, 1981

Summer workers have completed many "fix-up" projects at the Oklee School. Floors have been cleaned and waxed till they shine, general painting and repair work has been completed. The major summer project was the redoing of the Home-Ec room. The ceiling was lowered, lights and insulation of overhear heat ducts, and new paint.

All signs of harvesting are about in Oklee. Large farm trucks driving to and from the elevator, constant noise of loading and unloading and if you are out driving around, you can't miss the swathers, trucks and combines in the fields.

Three young men from Oklee were injured in a roll-over involving Jim Lessard, Roger Asselin and Greg Whalen. Lessard was driving and he lost control on the curve 3 miles south of Oklee. The car went off the road, hit a field approach and became air borne for over 100 feet. All three were transported to the hospital.

Richard Bronken, Paul Gunderson and Bill Stenberg arrived home last week from spending the summer working in Denver, Colorado.

Thirty Years Ago August 21, 1991

At the City of Oklee Council meeting it was reported that the ponds for the sewer are behind schedule. They have to be filled and readings taken approximately one month before homes will be hooked up.

Pictured was Guitar Trio, Tracy Rystad, Shelly Hammer and Erin Melby played during Father Jerome Felion's retirement celebration held at the St. Francis Catholic Church on Sunday, July 28th.

The weather finally cooled off to the "comfortable breathing" zone and it rained on Friday. Some people said we needed it, and those still combining, said NO.

Clarence Gagner has been promoted to Command Sergeant Major for the Second Battalion, 136th Mechanized Infantry headquartered at Moorhead.

Viola Kvasager of rural Oklee was the winner of the Moonlighters Snowmobile Club logo contest. Her prize was a sweatshirt with the logo and a cash prize of \$25.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Froiland were Sunday visitors at the Rick Froiland home where they helped their son Rick celebrate his 46th birthday.

Pipeline looping projects by Great Lakes Gas Trans-

mission Limited Partnership in northwestern Minnesota will mean an additional \$1.85 million in manual Minnesota tax revenue.

Twenty Years Ago August 16, 2001

On Wednesday evening, August 8th, at 9 p.m. things were calm. A few minutes later, the warning system began to wail. And then the lights went off and all the force of "Hades" broke loose. Trees toppled and snapped like toothpicks, huge metal grain bins, twisted free from there concrete pads, the roof from the Oklee High Rise was lifted and torn to pieces and the recently constructed RLC shed is but a memory.

The storm also hit Gully area with many buildings damaged and the SchoolHouse Grocery sign was laying flat on the ground.

Plummer's Class of 1981 celebrated their 20-year reunion on August 4, 2001 at the Best Western in TRF. 18 classmates had a good time visiting and catching up.

Ten Years Ago August 17, 2011

Oklee Market Day was held on August 13th and was very successful. It was a beautiful day with lots of activities for everyone.

George Olson drove a 1927 McCormick-Deering Model 10-20 with steel tires in the Oklee Historical Plow-off. First place winners in the Kiddie Parade were Guy and Bronco Bergeson as cavemen and in second place was Natalie Vettleson as a vampire, 3rd place was Leif and Orin Hofstad and golfing buddies.

First and second place winners in the People's Choice Awards in the Quilt Show were Sue Beaudoin and Carol Bachand.

Little Miss Thief River Falls 2011 was Brooklyn Bakke, granddaughter of Larry & Jeanie O'Neill.

Crossword Solution

ALMA		MBA		MONO
MOAT	REEL	SURER		
OBIT	EDAM	CLEAT		
SEMESTERS		ATOP		
	NAIAD	ALI		
MEDDLE		ANAPEST		
ERE	OSSIFY	LEAR		
LABAN	AKA	VERGE		
OTIC	ALERTS	ION		
NOTABLE		RIPEST		
	DAL	GAUGE		
EWES		DETENTION		
STEMS	ONES	ACNE		
AUDIO		ROUT	RACE	
MISC		MAP	DOER	

1x3

Sounds like
multiplication?

Guess again.

It's newspaper talk for a
one-column by 3-inch ad.

Too small to be effective?

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this one!

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Who's Dat?



Who's Dat?

This week's photo is of three men from the area.

Last week's photo was of Jeanie (Lussier) O'Neill. She graduated with the class of 52.

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.

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. 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

Senior Site News & Other Things

By Volunteers Jo Lambert & Bonny Cote

Senior Meals: If you want to order a Senior Meal call the Oklee Cafe at 796-5666. Teresa is asking that Seniors call in their order for the week as soon as possible so she can order appropriately. So call in by Friday for the menu in this weeks paper. If you don't and call in later, you may get a Cook's Choice meal instead.

Craft Shop: is open four days a week - Mon - Tue - Wed - Fri from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. But if you are looking for a gift, and no one is there you can ask Bonny if she is in her office at the Oklee Herald or call Jo Lambert to make arrangements.

SAIL Class:

I know you keep hearing it is starting soon. It really is going to. Hopefully the classes will start in August. The classes will be at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday at the Oklee Hall.

If you haven't signed up, please do. The paperwork is available at the Site.

Weekly Activities

Rummikub is on Tuesdays. They need 2 to four players and if you have played Rummy 500, you already know how to play

this game. The only difference is it is played with tiles instead of cards.

Wednesday is for playing cards. It starts at 1:30 p.m. There are three tables available at the Site. Any card games are welcome. There are a few that like to play Bridge. If anyone is interested in playing or learning stop in. Maybe someone wants to start a Whist table or Smear?

Bingo is on Thursdays. 2:00 p.m. is the starting time. All seniors are welcome. Come play, visit and win some prizes.

Congregate Meals: Some discussion has been had to see if we should open for Congregate Meals. We could open at this time, but because the COVID numbers are rising again in Pennington (10 active cases) and Red Lake (3 active cases), it was decided to wait a few more weeks before a decision is made.

The next Senior Site meeting is scheduled for August 19th at 9:00 a.m. Seniors, please plan on attending.

Dates to Remember

Wed, Aug. 18: 1:30 p.m.

Cards.

Thu, Aug. 19: 9:00 a.m. Senior Site meeting.

2:00 p.m. Bingo - come win some prizes.

Tue, Aug. 24: 2:00 p.m. will be playing Rummikub. Come join in, it is a easy and fun game to play.

Joke Time

Two Norwegians from Minneapolis went fishing in Canada. They caught one fish. When they got back one of the Norwegians said, "The way I figure our expense, dat fish cost us \$400.

"Vell," said the other Norwegian, "at dat price it's good ting ve didn't catch anymore."

Ingvald and Agnes had been to a dance at Norway Hall in Detroit Lakes and were walking home together.

Feeling romantic, Ingvald whispered in his girlfriend's ear, "You're beautiful."

Agnes laughed and told him, "Oh, you'd say dat even if you didn't tink so."

"Den ve're even," he said, "because you'd tink dat even if I didn't say so."

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

Well, no rain again this past week. There was a hope one night while watching the weather on television that a front was coming our way from North Dakota. It sounded to us like we may get about an inch of rain. As it turned out it went north of us. The rain did come down, and Thief River Falls, got 2.50 inches Euclid got 2.95 inches and Red Lake Falls got .70 of an inch. We got just a skim of water in the bottom of the gauge, and that was not even up to a tenth. We are extremely dry in our area. It seems like it is still going around us. When it rains again, I bet we are going to be praying to turn off the spigot. It will be too much too fast I'm sure.

Clarence and Dianne Gagner have been fixing their new house and getting ready to move for the past couple of months. This past weekend Stephanie Koralewski of Maple Plain, came to the Gagners and helped with the fixing and

packing. After 15 years in a house a lot of things accumulate so it takes a while to get packed up and ready to go.

Rebecca Novak of Mankato came to visit her parents Jerome and Barb Novak for the weekend. She arrived on Friday and left on Sunday afternoon.

On Saturday Nancy and Matt Ellenson celebrated their 25th Anniversary. Nancy is the daughter of Jerome and Barb Novak of Brooks, the Ellenson party was held in Warroad. Those attending from our area were Reinette Walter of Plummer, Leonard and Marilyn Novak of Warren, Anita Mattson of Bismarck, Walter Novak of Brooks, and Gerard Novak of Thief River Falls Jerome and Barb Novak of Brooks and Rebecca Novak of Mankato. Congratulations to Matt and Nancy on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. We hope you have many more to celebrate.

Dana Berberich had a really

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe
218-465-4402

On Thursday, the 5th, Marian Schiller, of Grand Forks, came to visit her sister Anne Traxler. Then on Friday here sister Gloria and husband Bill Niswonger of Walker and Kevin Dahlen of TRF visited her. Saturday her brother Harold and wife Elaine Skreland took Anne to lunch in Erskine for her birthday.

Shaun and Amanda Roff and children of Delano, and Ashley and Tait Sorvig and kids visited Arnie and Barb Schmitz over the weekend.

On August 7th, Pastor Jonathan Dodson, Kelly, Jack and Lila and some friends returned from a trip to Costa

Rica. They were gone for two and a half weeks. Some of the things they did were zip-lining in the jungle, which was scary because of the animals. There were lots of monkeys and huge iguanas. They saw the black sand beaches. They speak Spanish there and there are many poor people. It gets dark at 6 p.m.. So, its 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness. Costa Rica is between Panama and Nicaragua. Brodie Traxler and a couple of friends made a nice "Welcome Home" sign for the Dodson's.

Diane DeHate came Thursday evening to Anna DeHates. She recently was hired at DigiKey and came for more instructions from her sister Linda who has worked there for many years.

While Thief River got about 2-1/2 inches of rain, there was nothing here. Even the river rose in Thief River which was

good.

The previous weekend there was a farewell party for the pipe-liners at Chuck Simpsons. A few in the area had guys renting from them while here. Anyway, a lot of the guys were from Louisiana and they had made Jambalaya. One pot was made with turkey. They also used sausages, maybe shrimp and the hot sauce. The guys said it was good but very hot.

When I was in Louisiana years ago on a bus trip we ate at Mulates, the most famous Cajun restaurant in the world and it had Jambalaya. There was an alligator skin on the ceiling. After eating we went dancing there. It was so different there. They call them parishes in Louisiana rather than counties.

Check out the Deep South for traveling. It's an unforgettable experience.

Have a good week.

Oklee Herald

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4 THE OKLEE HERALD