

Oklee Precipitation
By Einar Kvasager

	Rain	Snow
December 10	0.27	
December 11	0.02	Trace
Total in.	0.29	0.00

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

Vol. 104, Number 17

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

Holiday Train makes stop in Plummer!



Mayor Jim DuChamp welcoming everyone to Plummer for the Annual CP Railroad Holiday Train, which helps out the local food shelves.



Catherine Johnson, Director of Inter County Community Council (behind the check) accepted the \$4500 donation from CP Railroad to be used locally at the food shelf.



Canadian born Kira Isabella and Canadian country legends Doc Walker were the featured entertainers on the CP Railroad's Holiday Trail which stopped in Plummer December 13th. This is the third year Plummer has been a host for the Holiday Train.

The picture doesn't do justice to the beauty of the decorated railroad cars of the CP Railroad Holiday Train. The train travels across the United States and Canada raising funds for food shelves.



The O'Neill family of Oklee posed with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Saturday morning.



The children gathered at the Oklee Hall and sang many Christmas songs, while waiting for Santa and Mrs. Claus to stop in Oklee on December 12th.



Double Queen room pictured

The Oklee Inn now open!

The former Freedom Living Center in Oklee has recently been transformed into the Oklee Inn and is now open for business. The owners have been working hard to make it an attractive and comfortable place to stay. Rooms are available at both daily and extended stay rates. The Inn will be an ideal place to stay while in Oklee for special events, or anytime.

Each room comes equipped with a mini-kitchen including a cabinet with a sink, microwave, fridge and a coffeemaker. And the rooms have either a king size bed or two queen sized beds. All the rooms are very spacious and are handicapped accessible. Each room also includes a walk in closet, a recliner, a chest of drawers, a desk with rolling chair, and a 37" flat screen TV. Cable and Wi-Fi are also included.

Stop by Tuesday, December 15th, from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. to see our rooms, have a cup of coffee, and meet our new Innkeeper, Terri Eisbrener. Terri will also be operating an alterations business located in the Inn. She has had much experience working in alterations and window



Each room has a mini-kitchen with refrigerator, microwave, sink and coffeemaker.

treatments in the Minneapolis area and more recently at Beautiful Beginnings in Thief

River Falls. Call 218-796-5003 or 612-414-6094 to book a room.



Two young men, visiting with Santa Claus in Plummer on Sunday night were filling the jolly fellow on what they wanted to find under their trees Christmas morning.



Annual Christmas Decorating Contest

Annual Christmas Light Decorating Contest for Oklee and rural Oklee residents. Sponsored by the Oklee Activity Club, Ottertail Power Company and Red Lake Electric Cooperative.

The Club will be going out before Christmas to select the winners. They try to find and look at everyone's lights, but if you would like to nominate someone's lights you can call 796-5679 or 796-5394.

Calendar of Events

Wed, Dec. 16:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Dec. 17:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
-Senior Site Christmas Party after Bingo.
Fri, Dec. 18:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Dec. 19:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Dec. 20:
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Dec. 21:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Dec. 22:
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards.
-LSS Sr. Meals 5:00 p.m.
Wed, Dec. 23:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Thu, Dec. 24:
-No LSS Senior Meals.
Fri, Dec. 25:
-No LSS Senior Meals.

Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Margaret Jacobus

Wed, Dec. 16: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation.

Sun, Dec. 20: 9:00 a.m. Zion SS Program practice. 9:00 a.m. Salem SS Program practice. 10:30 a.m. Zion SS Christmas Program. 4:00 p.m. Salem SS Christmas Program.

Mon, Dec. 21: 9:00 a.m. Quilting at Zion.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
OKLEE

Fr. Adam Hamness
Sun, Dec. 20: 7:30 a.m. Confessions 8:00 a.m. Mass.

BROOKS – RED LAKE FALLS
CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bill DeCrans

Sat, Dec. 19: 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph - RLF

Sun, Dec. 20: 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph – Brooks. 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph - RLF.

IMMANUEL–EBENEZER
LUTHERAN PARISH
ELCA

Pastor Jonathan Dodson

Wed, Dec. 16: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation at Immanuel.

Sun, Dec. 20: 9:00 a.m. Worship at Immanuel. NO Sunday School at Immanuel. 10:30 p.m. Worship at Ebenezer.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH
ELCA

Bethany–Ekelund–Faith
Robert W. Dahlen, Pastor

Wed, Dec. 16: 7:30 p.m. Advent Services at Ekelund.

Sun, Dec. 20: 8:30 a.m. Ekelund. 9:45 a.m. Faith. 11:00 a.m. Bethany. 5:00 p.m. Faith SS program.

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Oklee Senior Site Dining

December 21 - 25

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 sandwich, chili, dessert, and milk.

Tuesday: Hamburger on bun, California medley soup, dessert and milk.

Wednesday: Ham & Scalloped potatoes, vegetables, toast, dessert and milk.

Thursday: Closed for Christmas Eve

Friday: Closed for Christmas Day.

WINTER BEGINS

DECEMBER 21

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

To the residents and businesses of Oklee MN and surrounding areas:

I would just like to take a moment and thank you all for welcoming me into your community. December 22nd of this year will be my 1 year anniversary of working for the Oklee Post Office. It has certainly been a wonderful year and I know it will only get better. I would like to personally thank you for your continued business with the United States Postal Service. I look forward to serving you for many more years to come. On Thursday December 24th, please take a moment to stop in the post office for some coffee and goodies. I truly appreciate how at home you all have made me feel. Thank you once again. We here at the Oklee Post Office wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year

Mae Mero & the staff at the Oklee MN Post Office

Tri-Valley Public Transportation

To reserve a seat, please call by 3:00 p.m. the day before - 1-800-951-9363. All routes will arrive approximately between 10 and 11 a.m. at the destination. All routes need at least five persons signed up.

Wed, Dec. 16: *Fargo-Moorhead* – Red Lake Falls, Plummer, Oklee, McIntosh, Mentor, Crookston.

Fri, Dec. 18: *Grand Forks* – Thief River Falls.

Mon, Dec. 21: *Fargo/Moorhead* – Crookston.

RLCC ECFE

Events for December

Thursday, December 17: **"3-5 year old Literacy Night #2"** featuring "Book Bingo" at 6:00-7:00 pm at the Plummer School. Soup and bread supper will be available. A Jan Brett story will be read, and book bingo played to earn FREE books!

Wright Brothers Day

December 17

Red Lake Falls Library News

New adult fiction includes "Tricky Twenty-Two" in Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum number series, "The Grown-Up" a short story by Gillian Flynn, author of "Gone Girl," "After She's Gone" by Lisa Jackson, "Your Brother's Blood" by David Towsey, and "The Seafront Tearoom" by Vanessa Greene.

New DVDs include "So Familiar" with Steve Martin, "90 Minutes in Heaven," "Elf: Buddy's Musical Christmas,"

Oklee Area Veterans' Memorial Update

Recently a granite block was purchased for the Oklee Area Veterans' Memorial. Louis Dessellier, Coon Rapids, made a contribution to the Veterans' Memorial with his purchase of a block recognizing his military service. Mr. Dessellier was in the US Air Force from 1961-1969 and served as a SSGT with tours in Okinawa and Korea. Louis Dessellier is known in the area as he is related to the local Dessellier families.

As winter sets in the volunteer board for the Oklee

"Man from UNCLE," "A Matter of Faith," and "Restless."

For younger readers: "The Dragonsitter" and "The Dragonsitter Takes Off" by Josh Lacey, "House of Robots" by James Patterson, book 2 in the Robots Go Wild series, book one in Rick Riordan's new series "Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard" entitled "The Sword of Summer," "Charlie & the Grandmothers" by Katy Towell, and "Lilliput" by Sam Gayton.

Area Veterans' Memorial asks snowmobilers to refrain from crossing the Veterans' Memorial property. It is requested that snowmobilers not drive across the walkways on the property in an effort to protect the blocks that have been placed there honoring our area veterans'.

Donations may be made to the Oklee Area Veterans' Memorial by sending contributions to Security State Bank, Box 69, Oklee, MN 56742, Attn: Lori Melby. Questions should be directed to Mary Lynn Bachand at bachand@gvtel.com.

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go towards your retirement. When you bank with us, you're doing business with people you know and trust. See us soon about opening an IRA.

NOTICE OF FILING FOR GARNES TOWNSHIP ELECTION

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Garnes Township, Red Lake County, State of Minnesota, that filing for town office will be held for a two week period beginning December 29, 2015.

Affidavits of Candidacy shall be filed with the Town Clerk at Clerk's home at any reasonable hour from December 29, 2015, to January 12, 2016.

Filing will close on January 12, 2016, at 5:00p.m.

Filing fee--\$2.00

Offices to be filled at the March Annual Election are:

1--Supervisor for a Three Year Term

1--Clerk for a Two Year Term

Diane Kolstoe

Clerk, Town of Garnes

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF TOWNSHIPS HAVING MARCH ELECTIONS

The dates of filing affidavits of candidacy for township offices are Tuesday, December 29, 2015 through Tuesday, January 12, 2016. Offices open are Supervisor and Clerk. The filings may be done at the Clerk's office at any reasonable time. Filings close at 5:00 pm on January 12, 2016. Filing fee is \$2.00.

Red Lake County Township Officers Ass'n.

Marie Chaput, Secretary

037-38C

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DEADLINE

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



The Ecumenical Choir sang on November 22nd at Zion Lutheran Church. This is an annual event in Oklee where Zion Lutheran and St. Francis Xavier Catholic churches join together to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. Next year it will be held at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

Statepoint Crossword Theme: The Holidays

ACROSS

- Post-employment insurance
- T-cell killer
- Many focuses
- Finno-___ language
- Cassius Clay
- Noted Impressionist
- Russian pancakes
- And not
- Oxygen-containing compound

- *Spiked holiday libation
- *a.k.a. Timothy Cratchit
- Not a regular teacher
- Animal waste
- ___ y pimienta
- *Hanukkah dreidel has Hebrew letter on each one
- 1/100th of a ruble
- "___ to perfection"
- Habitual twitches
- Wood turning device
- Back of neck
- Like the north face?
- Inmate's weapon
- Nashville player
- Edible tubes
- Prima donna's numbers
- Not digital
- Wide river valley
- Break a commandment
- No parking ___
- *Done during Christmas dinner

- *Pan-African celebration
- *Festival of ___
- Relating to birth
- Knot-tying words
- Shoelace bunny ears

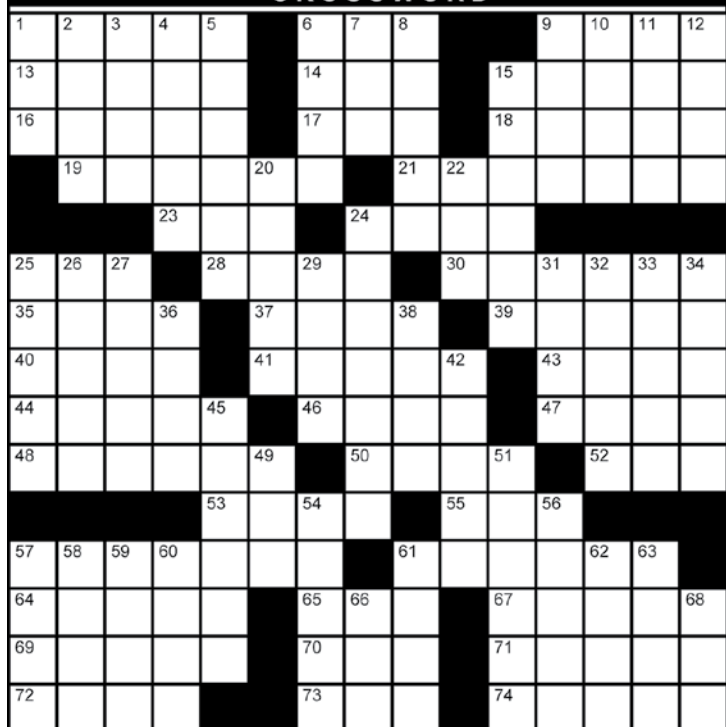
- Skip the big wedding
- Jean-Claude ___ Damme
- Bar, legally
- Familiar deciduous trees
- Hurricane center
- Easily irritated

DOWN

- Chicago baseballer
- Check out
- Place for mutinous sailor
- Saturn's feature, pl.
- Just one of acini
- *Done to ornaments
- International Labor Organization
- Taste for fine objects of art
- Like Jimi Hendrix' Lady
- "Put a lid ___!"
- Ghana monetary unit
- Found on a list
- Golden Horde member
- Newspaper notices
- Octopus' fluid
- Do like Pinocchio
- *One "chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf"
- "Encore!"
- Former Greek coin
- Flighty person
- Aaron Rodgers' move
- Community spirit
- Popular cook-off dish
- *Macaulay Culkin's character

- *Look for a good one on Black Friday
- "___ good example"
- Mushroom caps

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MUSTANG STAMPED

RLCC Menus

December 21 - 25

Oklee

Mon: Breakfast: Ham & cheese croissant, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chicken legs, baked potatoes, dinner roll, vegetables, and milk.

Tue: Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Taco in a bag or softshell taco, seasoned potatoes, refried beans, fruit, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Bakery roll, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Pizza, lettuce salad, fresh vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Thu: No School.

Fri: No School.

Plummer

Mon: Breakfast: Pancake & sausage wrap, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Spaghetti & meatballs, garlic toast, salad, shredded cheese, croutons, fruit, and milk.

Tue: Breakfast: Waffles, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, baby bakes, peas, cottage cheese, pineapple, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Cook's Choice, variety of cereals, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Taco in a bag (lettuce, tomato, cheese, taco sauce), hash browns, refried beans, fruit, and milk.

Thu: No School.

Fri: No School.

Sports Schedules

RLC Rebels

Boy Basketball

Fri, Dec. 18: Stephen/Argyle at Plummer 5:00 p.m.

Mon, Dec. 21: Warroad at Warroad 6:00 p.m.

RLCC Mustang

Wrestling

Fri, Dec. 18: Big Bear Tournament at Cass Lake 11:30 a.m.

Sat, Dec. 19: Big Bear Tournament at Cass Lake 11:30 a.m.

Girls Basketball

Thu, Dec. 17: Tournament at NCTC TBD

Mon, Dec. 21: Fosston at Fosston 6:00 p.m.

Tue, Dec. 29: BGMR at Greenbush 6:00 p.m.

Sue Berberich Retires from RLCC



Sue Berberich retires from RLCC High School after 23 years.

By: Katie Pendelton and Nicole Riendeau

Red Lake County Central High School will have a major change in the office staff starting December 14th. Sue Berberich who has worked at the school for 23 years will be retiring from her office duties. She started on January 1, 1993. She was the Business Manager. Her duties were the payroll, finance, food service, and transportation. When the two schools combined she transitioned from doing the payroll and finance to finance and food service and transportation.

What she enjoyed most about working at the school were the students, staff, and families. Her favorite memories working at the school were watching the students grow and their families then coming to school, too. She is going to miss the

people in the school the most. After she retires she plans to go to a warmer climate for the winter and do some volunteer activities.

She is married to Mark and has three daughters: Cathi, Bobbi who is married to Chris DuChamp and their two children Bryce and Bret, and Patti who is married to Oscar Tirado and their two children Marcus and Marisabell.

Berberich stated, "Thank you to everyone that has helped me in my career. I have gained many friendships and will always treasure them." She added, "I have enjoyed my time at Oklee and Red Lake County Central. It's time for the next journey."

The administration, staff and students at RLCC will miss her and wish Mrs. Berberich a very happy retirement and a wonderful "journey."



Heather Hegre was recently hired at RLCC High School as paraprofessional.

RLCC's New Staff Member

By Nick Plante

Red Lake County Central High School has a new staff member, Heather Hegre, a full-time paraprofessional. Hegre is from McIntosh and currently works part time at Garden Valley. She also had worked as a para in two other schools. She graduated from Win-E-Mac and went to college after high school.

She is married and has two daughters, Clarissa who

is fifteen and Breelyn who is three. Her interests are volleyball, darts, reading, and also watching the Vikings. Her favorite food is pizza, color is purple, and she loves to travel and wishes to travel more often.

Hegre is most looking forward is helping students excel and also said everyone has been so nice and welcoming here in Oklee. Welcome to RLCC High School.

Rebels take third in NCTC Boys Tournament

By: Nicole Riendeau,

Wyatt Waldal, and

Ethan Vettleson

Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls hosted its annual Boys Basketball Holiday Tournament on December 7, 8, 10. In round one of the tournament, Red Lake County defeated Goodridge-Grygla Chargers on December 7 with a final score of 62-53. The first half was Rebels-36 and Chargers-23, and the Rebels were outscored 26-30 in the second half.

RLC's Drake Engelstad had 23 points, Austin Waliser 17, Will Duden 13, Austin May six, Ethan Johnson two, and Talon Porter had one point.

For Goodridge-Grygla Blaine Kriel had 19 points, Dylan Walker 15, Tyler Stinar 11, Benji Wilebski six, and Ben Groven two.

The Rebels then played the Cass Lake-Bena Panthers on December 8 during the semi-finals of the NCTC Boys Basketball Holiday Tournament. The Rebels were winning at halftime but could not keep up with Cass Lake Bena's ability to run the floor.

Some of the highlight stats for the Rebels were Drake Engelstad scoring 21 points, Will Duden 13, Austin Waliser eight, Ethan Johnson five, and Talon Porter four. Engelstad had 10 rebounds followed by Waliser's eight. Austin May

recorded six rebounds on the night. Waliser also recorded four assists.

Some highlight stats for the Panthers were Noah Delapaz scoring 15, Alvin Wind 12, Terick Frazer 11, and Jared Brown 7. The Panthers ended up winning 68-52 and continued on to the finals of the NCTC Boys Basketball Holiday Tournament.

In the third round the Rebels beat the Badger-Greenbush-Middle River Gators 60 to 58. The game was held Thursday, December 10 in Thief River Falls. The Rebels received a third place in the NCTC Tournament. The Gators were ahead of the Rebels by nine with five minutes to go and then the Rebels came back and won by two.

Drake Englestad led the team with 28 points, Will Duden with 10, Talon Porter seven, Austin Waliser six, Devin Lambert four, Ethan Johnson three, and Ethan Vettleson two. Englestad led the team with 12 rebounds and Porter had nine. Duden and Englestad both had three steals and Waliser two.

For the Gators Ben Lieberg scored 14 points, Trevor Robinson 10, Chase Anderson 10, Jordan Watson four, Colton Penas four, Robby Davy three, Skyler Frost two, Austin Aune two, and Tyler Becker one point.

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RLCC loses to C-F

By: Katie Pendelton

The Red Lake County Central Mustangs girls' basketball team lost their game against Climax-Fisher Knights. The game was held in Fisher Monday, December 8, 2015. In the first half of the game the Mustangs had 20 scored points and the Knights had scored 23. In the second half of the game the Mustangs scored 20 points and the Knights 31 points for a final score of 40-54.

RLCC scorers were Brandi Jensen with 16, Morgan Bushelle with 11, Ashley Longtin with seven, and Kat DeHate, Michelle Sundquist, and Julia Bernstein each with two.

C-F scorers were Sydney Magsam with 29, Sophie Love with 16, Adrianna Vasek with seven, and Elizabeth McDonald with two.

RLCC Winter Break

By: Nick Plante

Red Lake County High School and Elementary School will have a break for Christmas. The students will be in school through Thursday, December 23. There will be no school Friday, December 24 and the break will continue through Sunday, January 3. Then school will resume Monday, January 4. Happy holidays to the students of RLCC.

Happy Go Lucky

4-H Club

The Happy Go Lucky 4-H Club met at 10:00 a.m., Saturday December 5, 2015 at Northern Air in Grand Forks. We played dodge ball and enjoyed the trampolines. We exchanged gifts. It was fun. Our next meeting will be Thursday January 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Plummer Community Hall. We will be learning about robots. All are welcome to attend.

Reporter, Bailey Culkins



8th grade shop projects at Red Lake County Central



Etched glass mirror and frames made by the RLCC 8th grade shop class: (Back) Garrett Qualley, Derek Peterson, Jayden Iverson, Chris Longtin, Abby Walton, and Jenna Pahlen. (Front) Adrienne Jones, Brandie DeHate, Sidney Olson, Tanisha Srynsky, Britain Arlt, and Brandon Weems.

By: Katie Pendelton

At Red Lake County Central, Mr. Bernier is the new Industrial Tech teacher and he teaches all the classes

for shop. The eighth grade students have been making mirrors. They selected an etched mirror and made the

frame to fit the mirror.

The equipment they used were the table saw, miter saw, jointer, Greg machine

for drilling holes for the corner joints, and hand power sanders for finish sanding. The materials they use for the

frame were either aromatic cedar or red oak. They could use different colored stains or the cedar was clear coated.

Santa Visits Area Towns Brooks Oklee Plummer



December Health Points

Prepare for extremely cold weather every winter—it's always a possibility.

Extreme cold is a dangerous situation that can bring on health emergencies in susceptible people, such as those without shelter or who are stranded, or who live in a home that is poorly insulated or without heat. Exposure to cold temperatures, whether indoors or outside, can cause other serious or life-threatening health problems.

Infants and the elderly are particularly at risk, but anyone can be affected. To keep yourself and your family safe, you should know how to prevent cold-related health problems and what to do if a cold-weather health emergency arises.

There are steps you can take in advance for greater wintertime safety in your home and in your car.

Prepare Your

Home for Winter

Emergency Supplies List

- an alternate way to heat your home during a power failure: dry firewood for a fireplace or wood stove, or kerosene for a kerosene heater
- matches
- furnace fuel (coal, propane, or oil)
- electric space heater with automatic shut-off switch and non-glowing elements
- blankets
- multipurpose, dry-chemical fire extinguisher
- flashlight or battery-powered lantern
- food that needs no cooking or refrigeration
- water stored in clean containers or purchased bottled water (5 gallons/person)
- non-electric can opener
- first aid kit and instruction manual

- battery-powered radio
- battery-powered clock or watch
- extra batteries
- snow shovel • rock salt
- special needs items (diapers, medications, etc.)

Heat Your Home Safely

If you plan to use a wood stove, fireplace, or space heater, be extremely careful. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Light and Cook Safely

If there is a power failure:

- Use battery-powered flashlights or lanterns rather than candles, if possible.
- Never leave lit candles unattended.
- Never use a charcoal or gas grill indoors—the fumes are deadly.
- Never use an electric generator indoors, inside the garage, or near the air intake of your house because of the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning

Water Supply

Extreme cold can cause water pipes in your home to freeze and sometimes rupture. When very cold temperatures are expected:

- Leave all water taps slightly open so they drip continuously.
- Keep the indoor temperature warm.
- Improve the circulation of heated air near pipes. For example, open kitchen cabinet doors beneath the kitchen sink. If your pipes do freeze, do not thaw them with a torch. Instead, thaw them slowly by directing the warm air from an electric hair dryer onto the pipes.

Prepare Your

Car for Winter

You can avoid many dangerous winter travel problems by planning ahead. Have maintenance service on your vehicle as often as the manufacturer recommends. In addition, every fall:

- Have the radiator system serviced, or check the antifreeze level yourself with an antifreeze tester. Add antifreeze, as needed.
- Replace windshield-wiper fluid with a wintertime mixture.
- Replace any worn tires, and check the air pressure in the tires.
- During winter, keep the gas tank near full to help avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
- Pack a winter survival kit for your car

For more, read: Extreme Cold: A Prevention Guide to Promote Your Personal Health and Safety www.cdc.gov

Parenting Tips

The Benefits Of Reading with Your Child

There are many benefits of reading with your kids. We can talk all day about the medical, social and the mental benefit of it. What I want to talk about is the other part. The bonding the quiet time and the part where they have your undivided attention. We as parents can show them by reading with them or to them that their imagination can do many things. We are creating a time where it shows how important they are to us. We are improving their vocabulary, teaching them new things. We are creating a time to just be with them. No electronic devices just one person to another. Creating lasting memories that they can do with their own children one day. So if we all take 30 mins of our time and sit and read with them they benefit so much. So put down all the electronic gadgets and find a book, take your children on a wonderful journey.

Alfred Olson Memorial Wrestling Tournament

By Ana Almeida

Ten teams participated at the Fosston/Bagley Alfred Olson Memorial Wrestling Tournament in Fosston on Saturday, December 5. The top three teams were Blackduck/Cass Lake-Bena, Ottertail Central and Bemidji. Red Lake County Central placed ninth.

RLCC's Tristan Larson placed first in the Heavyweight category and won the Pinners Award with

three pins in 2:30. Nick Pahlen (195 lbs.) placed fourth, Dylan Gustafson (138 lbs.) placed fifth and Ben Kolling (132 lbs.) placed sixth. Bryce Bergerson (106 lbs.), Kyle Gagner (160 lbs.) and Tyler Sandahl (120 lbs.) also wrestled at varsity but did not place. Tristyn Ferguson placed first and George Duden second on junior varsity.



Tristan Larson from RLCC won the Pinners Award with three pins in 2 minutes and 30 seconds and placed first at the Fosston/Bagley Alfred Olson Memorial Varsity Wrestling Tournament.



RLCC seventh graders Tristyn Ferguson (right) placed first at the Fosston/Bagley Alfred Olson Memorial JV Wrestling Tournament and George Duden (left) placed second.

Bonny's Bits...

okleeherald@gmail.com

If you, the Okleeites, get the paper on Tuesday, go check out the new business in town. They are having an open house at "The Oklee Inn," known formerly as the Freedom Living Center. The owners have been busy getting in furniture and set up for daily or long term rooms.

This will be very handy for people coming to town for wedding, family reunions or other events held in Oklee. The long term rentals are pointed at the pipeliners and other workers needing a place to stay while on the job.

Christmas is just around the corner, really, just a week away. I hope I have everything done by the 20th so I can enjoy the week of Christmas. Life gets so busy with all the programs, events, shopping, wrapping, writing cards, it's hard to slow down enough to enjoy Christmas.

It's been a few years since I had the different versions of "The Night Before Christmas" in the paper. This year, I'm only planning on the original. Enjoy and make your Christmas special.

ADDRESS CHANGES

CONTACT THE
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important thing is to have a plan! If you follow the five steps above; you will be able to offset many of the consequences of the 2015 weed season. For more information on weed related issues, contact Rich Zollinger, NDSU Extension Weed Scientist by e mail at RZollinger@ndsu.edu. Source: United Soybean Board; www.unitedsoybean.org.

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

by Clement Clarke Moore
'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Had just settled down for a long winter's nap,

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!
On, Comet! on Cupid! on, Donder and Blitzen!
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my hand, and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.

His eyes -- how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow;

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath;
He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook, when he laughed like a bowlful of jelly.

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."

Red Lake County Extension Educator Curtis W. Nyegaard - 218-253-2895

Five Step Plan for Weed Control

Benjamin Franklin was once credited with saying "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." That statement describes the stage that many farmers are with their weed control plans for 2016. If you don't plan accordingly, the problems experienced with weed control in 2015 could lead to even greater weed problems in 2016. In 2015 and 2014 many fields were "prevented plant" and did not receive the weed control needed and now has an excess amount of weeds.

One of the major weeds that is moving into Red River Valley soybean fields and surrounding area is water hemp. Water hemp is in the pig weed family and can produce 300,000 to 500,000 seed per plant. What should be done to control this weed and other serious weed problems in the future?

Where to Start

Weed scientists are suggesting a stepwise approach for selecting a soybean herbicide program for the 2016 season. But remember that herbicides shouldn't be the only component of your weed-management program. Your program should also include cultural control methods like narrow row spacing, optimum planting populations, crop rotation, cover crops and tillage where appropriate. These cultural control practices need to be combined with an effective herbicide program to achieve the best weed control possible.

Consider Five Steps

1. Consider a fall herbicide application.

Fall herbicide applications aren't the answer to all of the weed problems, but they are an

effective tool for winter annual weeds, especially mares tail or horse weed. A fall herbicide application can save you from having a much bigger problem next spring. Some of the more effective fall residual herbicides for the control of mares tail in soybeans are products like Canopy, CloakTM, ValorXLT or AuthorityXL. These herbicides should be combined with Roundup plus 2,4-D or Banvel to control any seedlings and rosettes.

2. Start 2016 with an effective tillage program or burn down herbicide application. We now have weeds resistant to multiple herbicides, including Palmer amaranth, mares tail, giant ragweed and water hemp. This means that there are few or no post emergent herbicide options for the control of these weeds in "Roundup Ready Soybeans."

3. Be sure and apply a full rate of a pre-emergence, residual herbicide in 2016 that targets your most troublesome weeds. A key point here is that you apply a full use rate of whichever product that you have chosen, unfortunately, some pre-emergence herbicides still have a section on the label that contains information about reduced rates. Usually this reduced rate is half that of the full rate listed in a different section of the label. If this reduced rate is used it is like to cause more resistance problems in the future.

4. Scout fields regularly after soybean emergence and make timely applications of post emergence herbicides to control weed escapes. Simply put, there was a time when many farmers forgot about

the importance of weed size because "Roundup" controlled the weeds no matter the size. Now, "ROUNDUP" does not control most of the worst weeds such as water hemp, mares tail, giant ragweed, etc. Many of the post-emergence herbicides will not control weeds such as water hemp after it is greater in size than 4 inches. It isn't necessarily because the weed is resistant; it's probably because the products aren't labeled for water hemp that size in the first place. Another thing to think about with post emergence herbicide applications is that coverage is critical. The spray application parameters that may be ideal for "Roundup" aren't usually the best for those contact herbicides. So higher volume per acre and nozzles that provide coverage will be critical.

5. "Layered" or "overlapping-residual" herbicide programs are insurance against late season flushes of certain species and have proven to be an effective strategy for late season flushes of certain species and have proven to be an effective strategy for the management of water hemp. This type of weed-management strategy involves a pre-emergence residual herbicide before planting, followed by an in-crop application of another residual herbicide, usually made at the same time as Roundup application in Roundup Ready Soybean, or Liberty application in Liberty Link soybean. This herbicide strategy will not work on every weed species, but it does provide effective residual control of water hemp and a variety of other small seeded broadleaf weeds and grasses.

Whatever you do, the most

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Oklee Herald Early Files

Seventy Years Ago December 13, 1945

A considerable number of relatives and friends gathered at the home of Mrs. M. Short, north of town last Sunday to help celebrate her 90th birthday.

Second Lieutenant Arnold T. Stenberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Stenberg, returned to his home north of Oklee last week having received his discharge after serving for 34 months in the Army Air Corps.

Fire destroyed the home of the Marland Skreland farm northeast of Oklee last Tuesday. Mr. Skreland was absent from the house at the time the fire started and he returned to find the home burned.

James Toulouse, who has spent the last nine months in various parts of the world with the Merchant Marines, arrived her last Friday for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Toulouse.

Sixty Years Ago December 15, 1955

Members of the Oklee chapter of the American Legion Auxiliary will meet at the Tom Melby home tonight to perform their annual sacking of the candy for Santa Day.

It was a rough week for Paul Cyr, age 2, son of Harold and Shirley Cyr of Oklee. First he fell on a sharp object resulting in a gash on his head, then later opened the oven door and fell and hit his chin, later fell again and a large "prune" blossomed on his head, but lastly he accidentally tipped a pan of boiling water and scalded his arm and ended up in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Torkel Gunderson and girls, Marlis, Rene and Gyle Hofstad were among those who attended the free show at Thief River Falls on Saturday.

Fifty Years Ago December 16, 1965

A ten-day grand opening sale will begin today at the

Oklee Gamble store, according to an announcement by Mr. and Mrs. Don Walsh, proprietors.

A species of wild game not commonly seen in the area was bagged by Harold Cyr last Sunday afternoon about three miles out of Oklee. It was a brush wolf, which at one time commanded a bounty, but is now considered almost extinct.

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church was the scene of the marriage of Miss Susan Melby, daughter of Mrs. Orrin T. Melby and Carlvn F. Harmoning, son of Clarence Harmoning of Red Lake Falls, Saturday, October 3rd.

Forty Years Ago December 11, 1975

There will be a bridal shower given in honor of Miss Cathy Linebery Friday evening at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Plummer.

Arnold Paradis has been accepted for admission in the Carpentry Class at Thief River Falls Area Vocational-Technical Institute.

Worker Bee aids Oklee farmer – Gerhard Larson, whose farm is 5 miles NE of Oklee, had enjoyed his Thanksgiving dinner and was going to get a few more hours of work hauling in hay before quitting for the day, when a farm accident caused a leg injury. While he was in the hospital, friends and neighbors transported all 220 bales of hay to the Gerhard Larson farm.

The Oklee Bobcats Wrestling team traveled to Bagley on Saturday, December 6th for a tournament. Bagley won their own tourney with Oklee coing in only ½ point back for second place.

Thirty Years Ago December 11, 1985

Inter County Nursing celebrated National Home Health Care Week December 1 – 7th.

Santa Claus will arrive in Oklee on December 14th so the children can tell him all their Christmas wishes.

Snow update: from November 24th to December 7th, we have received an additional 12-3/4 inches bringing the total to 21 inches to date.

Nearly fifty employees, stockholders and spouses celebrated their annual Christmas Party at Brooks Third Base on Thursday evening.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Marc Parenteau were Mr. and Mrs. Marc Parenteau and family of Red Lake Falls, Pam and Gary Parenteau, students in Moorhead and Tony Johnson of Moorhead.

Twenty Years Ago December 20, 1995

RLCC Mustang players named to the All Tournament Team for the 5th annual Northland Community and Tech College were Mark Lorensen and Aaron Chaput.

Rev. Keough Patnode, 94, of Bemidji, a former parish priest at Thief River Falls and Oklee, died Thursday, December 14th.

Edwin Halvorson visited with his uncle Ted Halvorson in Clearbrook and he also recently visited with his brother Raymond at Mac Manor in McIntosh.

Ten Years Ago December 15, 2005

Over thirty people attended the RLC Commissioners meeting on Dec. 13 to express their opinion to wait and let the people gather more information for an informed decision of the Jail proposal. The Board decided to vote for the Polk County proposal.

Santa Claus Day was a success with a large crowd of people attending the fun day. Fresh lefse was being made by Shirley Cyr, Jeannie O'Neill, Donna Fossum and Ardell Opdahl.

Christmas programs were pictured in the paper from the High School concert, Sunday School programs at Brooks and Oklee, and Santa Day events.

Senior Site News and Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

January 5th.

Dates to Remember
Dec. 17: Site Council Meets 10:00 a.m.
Dec. 25: Christmas Day
No Pot Luck Meal this month.
Jan. 5: - Evening Meal (2016)

Words of Wisdom

You'll never know what you're capable of doing if you're not given more than you can do.

Regardless of how late guests stay, clean up the kitchen and wash all dishes before going to bed.

Joke Time

A farmer was stopped by a police officer for going five miles an hour over the speed limit on a straight country road. The officer's attitude was heavy-handed as he began to lecture the farmer about his speed and generally belittle him. When the officer finally got around to writing out the ticker, he had

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

It is kind of cold outside, not in temperature but the wind bites when it hits you. The wind is a major factor in what we perceive as hot and cold. When the wind blows it seems colder than the actual temperature. It also cools the body quicker which feels colder than it actually is. We seem to be entering the shiver factor of the year. Out west there are huge snowstorms, and out east they are talking of record breaking temps. Well it looks like winter will come soon and I guess most of us are not really ready for the shiver factor.

The Christmas holiday is coming very fast as well. I still have not put up my tree or decorated inside at all. I hope you all are more ready than I. Merry Christmas .

Congratulations to the Majeres family. Sylvia and Greg Majeres are the proud parents of a baby boy, Nicholas Joseph who was born November 30. He came into this world at a whopping 8 lbs. 2 oz. He is a perfect little baby who doesn't have a flaw at all. Just the sweetest gift a parent can have. His grandparents are Marlene

and Donovan Majeres of Red Lake Falls, and Louis Lallier and late Madonna Lallier of Plummer. Congratulations to all of you, you are blessed.

On December 4th and 5th Donna Paradis, her sister Yvonne Berhow, and Yvonne's daughter Ann Nephew traveled to Bemidji to pick up Donna's daughter Bernadette Paradis. They then traveled to Iron, Minnesota to the home of Agnes Reek for her Christmas Tea. Agnes is in her 80's and hosts this tea every year. About 20 to 30 ladies join her in this event yearly.

Clarence and Diane Gagner went with Dick and Karen Delage to Branson, Missouri last week. They visited several shows and took in the sights of the area. One of the highlights of the trip at this time of year is the Dixieland Stampede which has a live depiction of the Christmas story with live people and animals. The live oxen and donkey and camels along with the people makes for a very memorable scene and story.

Congratulations to Karen Tvedt in the arrival of her new

to swat some flies that were buzzing around his head.

"Having some problems with them circle flies are you?" inquired the farmer.

"Well, yeah," said the officer, "If that's what they're called. But I've never heard of circle flies."

The farmer explained: "Circle flies are common on farms. They're called circle flies because they're almost always found circling around the back end of a horse."

"Oh," said the officer as he continued writing out the ticket. Then it dawned on him what the farmer was implying. "Wait a minute,,are you trying to call me a horse's rear end?"

"Oh, no officer," said the farmer. "I have too much respect for law enforcement to consider calling you such a thing."

"That's all right then," said the officer.

After a pause, the farmer added. "Hard to fool them flies though."

Regional Ag News

Jim Stordahl, Extension Educator

Planning for Retirement

As we prepare to close out another year, many farmers may be considering retirement and wonder when to pull the trigger. For those in which this point is approaching, there are many questions that should be considered. David Bau, Extension Educator in Agricultural Business Management, shares some of the common issues to those at this crossroads. Even if your plans are a few years off, it's never too early to begin planning for this transition.

Perhaps the first question to consider is, "What are your farm transfer goals"? We all have goals in life and each is unique. All generations involved in the farming operation should sit down and list their individual, family and farm goals. The next step would be to rank and combine these goals from the different generations into one plan for the farming operation. This process is an opportunity to bring the entire family together to share your wishes.

How much income will be necessary in retirement? You should determine how much income will be needed in retirement. A simple way to calculate this is to list out your current expenses, then complete a second column with adjustments for which expenses will go up or down after you retire. This will determine the amount of income necessary for your retirement years.

How are you going to use your farming assets to accomplish your farm transfer goals and to generate your retirement income? When completing your balance sheet, determine which assets you will keep to generate retirement income. Often times the land is kept and rented out. This rental income,

along with social security, livestock and equipment sales, and investments can generate your necessary retirement income. If you have sufficient assets heading into retirement, you may look at which assets you could possibly transfer to the succeeding generation through a sale or gift.

Is there sufficient income for both generations to make a living? This is a tough question for many farm operations to answer. Frequently, there is not sufficient income generated by the farming operation for both the retiring and incoming family. This is where carefully planning and analyzing different options can help the transfer plan succeed. Many farming operations are now subsidized by off-farm incomes. Taking a realistic look at the income needs of both generations can help determine how the asset transfers can take place: whether gifting is needed for the start of the succeeding generation or a purchase is needed to provide income for the retiring farmer. Renting equipment and/or livestock can also provide a flexible option that could be adjusted according to the profitability of the farming operation.

How retired do you want to be? When retiring from the farming operation you must determine how actively you will contribute labor to the operation. Will you be available to help with certain livestock chores, or at peak times of the year such as planting and harvesting? You must decide how much you are willing to contribute to the farming operation, even in retirement, so the next generation can plan how to proceed.

These and many other questions will need to be

answered as you approach retirement. To help guide your transition, we have a series of 10 bulletins on "Transferring the Farm" and 10 more bulletins on "Estate Planning" that can be found on the Center for Farm Financial Management website at www.cffm.umn.edu, or simply stop by your local Extension office. These bulletins are a great place to start planning a successful transition into retirement.

For more information, contact me at 800-450-2465 or stordahl@umn.edu.

STORY TO SHARE!

If you have a story or photos you want to share, please send to: okleeherald@gmail.com

Who's Dat?



The Who's Dat photo had the same name as another photo and the computer linked to the wrong photo. So here is the photo meant for: This week's photo is of some children who were raised in the area.

Last week's photo was of Iona Berry and Janice Toulouse at the Berry Café.



Centennial Recipe Corner

Southwestern Round Steak

Carol Chervestad

1 Reynolds oven bag, large size (14x20)
1 Tbsp flour
1 jar (16 oz) Pace chunky salsa
1-1/2 lbs boneless round steak (1/2 inch thick)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Shake flour in oven bag and place in

13 x 9 x 2 baking pan. Add salsa to oven bag and squeeze oven bag to blend in flour. Pound steak to 1/8 to 1/4 inch thickness using a meat mallet or rolling pin. Add steak to oven bag and turn oven bag to coat steak with the sauce. Close oven bag with nylon tie, cut six 1/2 inch slits on top. Bake until tender, 45 to 55 minutes. Thinly slice steak before serving. Makes 4 servings.

