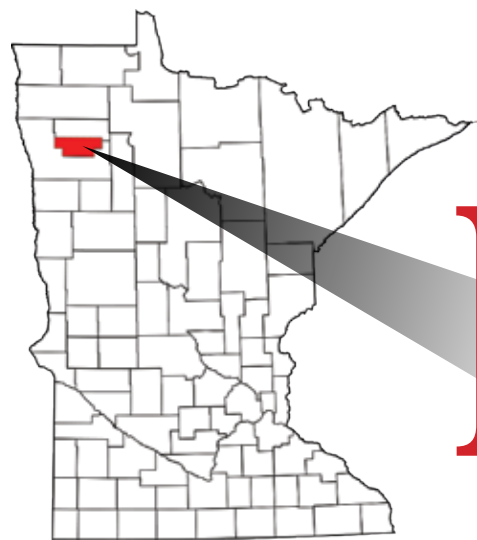




Red Lake County HERALD



Vol. 112, Number 25

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, January 31, 2024



Paraprofessionals: The Heartfelt Hero.
Using their talents to help students discover their own.
Dedicating their time and energy each day to
the students in their care,
And doing it while meeting the needs of many
- Teresa Kwant
* Not Pictured Amanda Vettleson



Linette Trebesch



Nancy Gunderson



Haven Lundeen



Kristina Nelson



Sue Olson



Kristie Olson



Lindsey Roisland



Lisa Sorenson



Tammy Pendelton



Sandra Tougas



Lori Voeltz



Gin Berns



Deysi Lucio



Ana Bramer



Debbie DuChamp



Amber Kvasager

All Civic Minded Citizens: Save The Date!

This year's political party precinct caucuses are scheduled for Tuesday, February 27th at 6:30 P.M. and are held at various locations around the state of Minnesota. Both parties select the locations which can be found in your local newspapers or on the Secretary of State website. There should not be conflicting publicly funded activities or meetings that Tuesday evening as that is prohibited by law. Caucuses are free of charge, and you have a legal right to time off from work to attend caucuses.

Management of elections is granted to the 50 states and the territories by the U. S. Constitution. State Legislatures develop the rules allowing eligible citizens to select candidates for elective offices locally, statewide, and, every four years, president of the United States. The process culminates on election day when voters decide who they want to work for them.

While some states select can-

didates solely through Primary elections, Minnesota provides additional opportunities for voter participation in candidate selection and the content of the party platform. The Platform is a document of party values, and how members would like to see those issues addressed. You select the party that supports your values and ideas about governmental action and join those efforts. Caucuses are the official beginning of Minnesota's election process and offer citizens the opportunity to join in "self-governance", the method by which "we the people" govern ourselves in a democracy.

Caucuses are open to all eligible voters, including young adults who will be 18 years of age by election day. The local party organization has secured a neighborhood location, and all are invited and encouraged to attend to discuss declared candidates and issues of importance to them with their neighbors. Through the Res-

olution process attendees can offer suggestions to address community concerns.

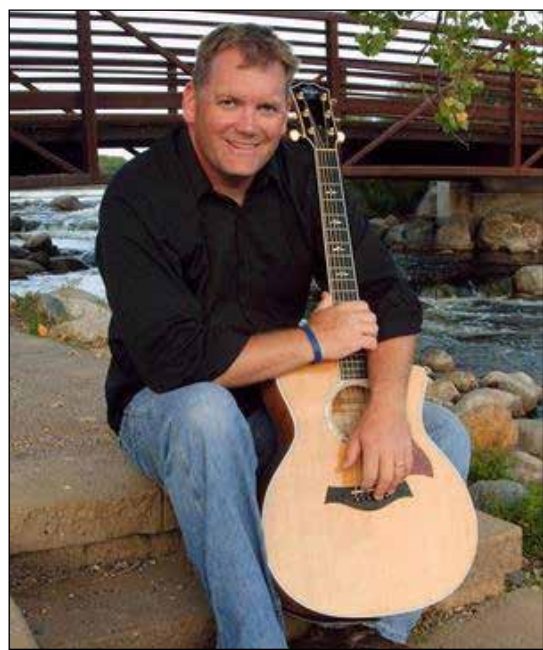
Get to know your neighbors better, learn about the election process, and learn how to participate further. Upon arrival you will:

1. Register as a participant
2. Join in discussions of candidates for office and issues of concern to your community,
3. Identify and suggest actions legislators may take to address those concerns,
4. Elect delegates to the County Convention.

Contact your County Auditor for information in your location. You may also go to <http://www.sos.state.mn.us>, then find "Elections and Voting" on the green main menu and click on the arrow by the caucusfinder window which will appear on the website starting February 7th.

This is a y'all come situation. Democracy is NOT a spectator sport!

The Blizzard Bonanza is this weekend!



The 2024 Oklee Volunteer Fireman's Blizzard Bonanza and Fish Dinner is this weekend at the Oklee Community Hall, February 3, 2024. Fun is sure to abound again with the entertainment of Tim Eggebraaten.

Tim has entertained audiences for over two decades through his musical talent, adding his unique humorous improv style and creating an experience like no other.

The cost of the event is \$20 per ticket with 300 tickets available. See a fireman or check Oklee area businesses for the chance to buy one of the 300 tickets and enjoy a fish dinner and a chance to win some great prizes. 1st prize is a Folding Picnic Table, 10 X 10 Tent, an LP Patio Heater, and a gift card to Walter's Woodworking for a Corn Hole Set. 2nd Prize is a Hatfield over-under 410 engraved Shotgun. 3rd and 4th prizes are both \$250 Cash! Need not be present to win!

The night will include meat raffles, silent auction items, and door prizes! Get a ticket and enjoy another Oklee Volunteer Fireman's Blizzard Bonanza!



Groundhog Day History

European Roots (Adapted from "Groundhog Day: 1886 to 1992" by Bill Anderson)

Groundhog Day, February 2nd, is a popular tradition in the United States. It is also a legend that traverses centuries, its origins clouded in the mists of time with ethnic cultures and animals awakening on specific dates. Myths such as this tie our present to the distant past when nature did, indeed, influence our lives. It is the day that the Groundhog comes out of his hole after a long winter sleep to look for his shadow.

If he sees it, he regards it as an omen of six more weeks of bad weather and returns to his hole.

If the day is cloudy and, hence, shadowless, he takes it as a sign of spring and stays above ground.

The groundhog tradition stems from similar beliefs associated with Candlemas Day and the days of early Christians in Europe, and for centuries the custom was to have the clergy bless candles and distribute them to the people. Even then, it marked a milestone in the winter and the weather that day was important. According to an old English song:

*If Candlemas be fair
and bright,
Come, Winter, have
another flight;
If Candlemas brings
clouds and rain,
Go Winter, and come
not again.*

According to an old Scotch couplet:

*If Candlemas Day is bright
and clear,
There'll be two (two) winters
in the year.*

Another variation of the Scottish rhyme:

*If Candlemas day be dry
and fair,
The half o' winter to come
and mair,
If Candlemas day be wet
and foul,
The half of winter's gone
at Yule.*

The Roman legions, during the conquest of the northern country, supposedly brought this tradition to the Teutons, or Germans, who picked it up

and concluded that if the sun made an appearance on Candlemas Day, an animal, the hedgehog, would cast a shadow, thus predicting six more weeks of bad weather, which they interpolated as the length of the "Second Winter."

Pennsylvania's earliest settlers were Germans and they found groundhogs to in profusion in many parts of the state. They determined that the groundhog, resembling the European hedgehog, was a most intelligent and sensible animal and therefore decided that if the sun did appear on February 2nd, so wise an animal as the groundhog would see its shadow and hurry back into its underground home for another



six weeks of winter.

The Germans recited:
*For as the sun shines
on Candlemas Day,
So far will the snow swirl until
the May.*

This passage may be the one most closely represented by the first Punxsutawney Groundhog Day observances because there were references to the length of shadows in early Groundhog Day predictions.

Another February 2nd belief, used by American 19th century farmers, was:

Groundhog Day - Half your

hay.
New England farmers knew that we were not close to the end of winter, no matter how cloudy February 2nd was. Indeed, February 2nd is often the heart of winter. If the farmer didn't have half his hay remaining, there may have been lean times for the cows before spring and fresh grass arrived.

The ancient Candlemas legend and similar belief continue to be recognized annually on February 2nd due to the efforts of the Punxsutawney Ground-

hog Club.

Growing Fame

From offering support of political events, to rooting for area sports teams, to becoming the star of a Hollywood movie, Punxsutawney Phil has increasingly been in the public eye.

Early observances of Phil's predictions were conducted privately in the wooded areas that neighbor the town. Today's celebration sees *tens of thousands* of visitors from all over the world as revelers await Phil's appearance as most fans wait to see their favorite rock stars.

The Punxsutawney Spirit newspaper is credited with printing the news of the first observance in 1886 (one year before the first legendary trek to Gobbler's Knob):

*"Today is groundhog day,
and up to the time of going to
press the beast has not seen his
shadow."*

Fun Facts About Groundhogs

* The average groundhog is 20 inches long and normally weighs from 12 to 15 pounds. Punxsutawney Phil weighs about 20 pounds and is 22 inches long.

* Groundhogs are covered with coarse grayish hairs (fur) tipped with brown or sometimes dull red. They have short ears, a short tail, short legs, and are surprisingly quick. Their jaws are exceptionally strong.

* A groundhog's diet consists of lots of greens, fruits, and vegetables and very little water. Most of their liquids come from dewy leaves.

* A groundhog can whistle when it is alarmed. Groundhogs also whistle in the spring when they begin courting.

* Insects do not bother groundhogs and germs pretty much leave them alone. They are resistant to the plagues that periodically wipe out large numbers of wild animals. One reason for this is their cleanliness.

* Groundhogs are one of the few animals that really hibernate. Hibernation is not just a deep sleep. It is actually a deep coma, where the body temperature drops to a few degrees above freezing, the heart barely beats, the blood scarcely flows, and breathing nearly stops.

* Young Groundhogs are usually born in mid-April or May, and by July they are able to go out on their own. The size of the litter is 4 to 9. A baby groundhog is called a kit or a cub.

* A groundhog's life span is normally 6 to 8 years. Phil receives a drink of a magical punch every summer during the annual Groundhog Picnic, which gives him 7 more years of life.

(This information is from the official Groundhog web site: www.groundhog.org)



Pictured are Jed & Connor Duden, sons of Jody and Rodney Duden. Connor, a Rebel Sophomore, made his 1000th point on January 25th at the Robert Matzke Gym in Red Lake Falls. The Rebels won against the Roseau Rams, 85-54. See story on page 3.

Church News

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Linda Molitor
okleelutheran.org
Wed, Jan. 31: 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir, No Confirmation.
Sun, Feb. 4: 9:00 a.m. Zion. 9:00 a.m. SS at Salem. 10:30 a.m. SS at Zion. 10:30 a.m. Salem.
Tue, Feb. 6: 7:00 p.m. Zion Council meeting.
Wed, Feb. 7: 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir, 7:00 p.m. Confirmation.

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OKLEE, GRYGLA & GOODRIDGE
Fr. Bryan Kujawa
www.oggcatholic.org
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. St. Francis – Oklee. 10:15 a.m. – Grygla. 12:00 p.m. – Goodridge.

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–BETHANY RLF LUTHERAN PARISH
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Sun. Feb. 4: 9 a.m. Worship @ Immanuel. 10:30 a.m. Worship @ Ebenezer. 7 p.m. Worship at Bethany).

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH
Bethany-Ekelund-Faith
Sun, Feb. 4: Faith: 8 a.m. Worship 9 a.m. SS. Bethany: 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. SS. Ekelund: 10 a.m. SS, 11 a.m. Worship w/ annual mtg following service. 4 p.m. Mutual Ministry mtg @ Faith.
Mon, Feb. 5: 9 a.m. Quilting. 1:30 p.m. Ekelund WELCA.
Tue, Feb. 6: 9 a.m. Faith WELCA.
Wed, Feb. 7: Release Time/Confirmation.
CLEARWATER

Tri-Valley Public Transportation

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

Curb-to-curb services is available. Allowing for a 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.

LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive – Nazareth
Oak Park – St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseth
Facebook:
clearwaterlutheranparish
Wed. Jan 31: 5 p.m. Wednesday School. 6:30 Vespers.

Sat, Feb. 3: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive.

Sun, Feb. 4: St. Petri: 8:00 a.m. Nazareth: 8:45 a.m. SS, 9:45 a.m. Oak Park: 10 a.m. SS, 11 a.m. Worship.

Wed. Feb 7: 5 p.m. Wednesday School. 6:30 Vespers. 7:00 p.m. LYS.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Jarred LeBon, Pastor
Tyler Stynsberg, Assoc. Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Sundays: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School. 10:00 a.m. Worship.
Tuesdays: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Devotions.
Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m. Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Wed, Jan. 31: Confirmation: 5 p.m. 7th Grade; 6:30 p.m. 8th Grade.
Sun. Feb. 4: 10:30 a.m. Lund Worship/Annual Meeting.
Wed, Feb 7: Confirmation: 6:30 p.m. 8th Grade at Lund.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston
Seth Johnson,
www.facebook.com/bethel-fosston
Sundays: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School. 10:00 a.m. Worship Service.
Wednesday Evening: 6:30 p.m. Kids, High School & Adult programs.

Oklee Senior Site Dining

February 5 - 9
Oklee Senior Meals (LSS Meals) are available for Home Delivery, Monday-Friday. Please call the Cathy or Carolyn at the RLF LSS Kitchen the day before, by 12 noon at 218-253-4454.

Mon: Feb. 5: Chicken, Broccoli & Rice Hotdish, Carrots, Bread/Butter, Fresh Fruit, Low Fat Milk.

Tue: Feb. 6: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Peas, Wheat Dinner Roll/Butter, Frosted Banana Cake, Low Fat Milk.

Wed: Feb. 7: Herbed Pork Loin, Potato Wedges, Corn, Bread/Butter, Rice Krispie Bar, Low Fat Milk.

Thu: Feb 8: Ginger Pot Roast, Rice Pilaf, Squash, Wheat Dinner Roll/Butter, Chilled Peaches, Low Fat Milk.

Fri: Feb. 9: Tuna Noodle & Peas Casserole, Broccoli, Dinner Roll/Butter, Choc. Peanut Butter Bar, Low Fat Milk.



We Guarantee The Safety Of Your Money

Of all phrases in the English language, "Insured by the FDIC" has been among the most trusted. Since 1933, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has been protecting the deposits of bank customers.

When you invest with us, your deposits are insured by the FDIC to \$250,000.

Security STATE BANK
PO Box 69 Oklee, MN 56742



Phone 218-796-5157

O46C

Jumpin' Jax Cafe
Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Grill off at 2 p.m. Dining room open til 3 p.m.
Sunday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Oklee, Minnesota 56742 ... 218-796-5999
Without proper care for it we can have no community, because without proper care for it we can have no life. The ultimate goal of farming is not the growing of crops, but the cultivation and perfection of human beings.

ATTENTION

RED LAKE COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS AND POTENTIAL STARTUP ENTERPRISES

The Red Lake County Economic Development Corporation can help you start your own business or expand an existing one. We are here to assist with a ten (10) year loan for an amount up to \$30,000 at 2% APR. The business must be located in Red Lake County.

For more information, please contact one of the Red Lake County Economic Development Board Members: Allen Bertilrud 218-684-1315, Dave Ste. Marie 218-686-4019, Kelsey Gervais 218-686-5114 or email rlcdec@yahoo.com.

O42-41C (2xmo.)

City of Plummer Public Hearing Notice

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plummer will hold a Public Hearing on February 13, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Plummer Community Center.

This will be an informational meeting to discuss the proposed sewer project including economic and environmental impacts, service area, alternatives to the project, and potential funding sources, including USDA Rural Development. All residents and property owners within the City of Plummer are encouraged to attend.

Margaret Peterson
City Clerk/Treasurer

O46C

FOR SALE ON BIDS CITY OF PLUMMER COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL CITY LOT

That part of the South Half of the Southeast Quarter (S½SE¼) of Section Nine (9), Township One Hundred Fifty-one (151), North of Range Forty-two (42), West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, contained within the following described boundaries:

Beginning at a point on the East line of Minnesota Street in the Village of Plummer extended Southerly 70 feet South of the Southwest corner of Block 1 in the First Addition to Plummer; from this point at right angles East parallel with the South line of said First Addition a distance of 407.00 feet; thence South 03°20'33" East 370.35 feet to a point; thence at right angles West, the trajectory being South 89°9'12" West a distance of approximately 423.13 feet to the East line of Minnesota Street; thence North along the East line of Minnesota Street to the point of beginning.

*City water & sewer hook up is available.
(This lot was formerly known as the baseball field)*

Bids will be accepted till noon March 11th at the Plummer City Clerk's office or mail them to City Clerk PO Box 128 Plummer MN 56748. Bids will be open Tuesday, March 12th at the regular City Council meeting. The Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Margaret Peterson
Clerk/Treasurer

O46-51C

KURTIS ELLEFSON
RED LAKE COUNTY
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER
218-689-8587
1-888-LINKVET
Email: kellefsoncvso@hotmail.com
O46-48C



Barnesville, MN Ambulance Manager Averie Whiteford, right presented an "Life Saving Award" to David Cote for his efforts attending a child in cardiac arrest. David is the son of Violet Cote and is a 1986 graduate of Oklee High School.

JOHNSON
Funeral Service, Inc.
Funeral Pre-planning
Monuments
Thief River Falls • 218-681-4331
Red Lake Falls • 218-253-2128
Oklee • 218-796-5177
www.johnsonfuneralservice.com
O46TFC

Sudoku Solution

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

Oklee Centennial Cookbook Recipe Corner - Pages 463

Saltine Chocolate Pieces Lois (Lambert) Vraa

1 sleeve saltine crackers (about 24)
1 cup butter
3/4 cup nuts, chopped
3/4 cup brown sugar
12 oz (2 cups) semi-sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Line a 10 x 15 cookie sheet with foil; spray very lightly with cooking spray. Cover cookie sheet with saltines. Boil sugar and butter for 3 minutes. Pour mixture over saltines and spread evenly. Bake for 5 minutes. Remove from oven. Sprinkle with chips. Let set for 1 minute; then spread melted chips with spatula. Sprinkle nuts over this and press down lightly. Cut on diagonal; immediately or cool until firm, then break up; pieces can be frozen.



Oklee Office Hours

I am usually in the office most Fridays (call to check) and I will be in the office on Monday, February 5th from 11 a.m. till 4 p.m.

If you need to get a hold of me when I'm not in the office, please call 612-840-9401 or email me at: okleeherald@gmail.com.



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3/4 cup brown sugar
12 oz (2 cups) semi-sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Line a 10 x 15 cookie sheet with foil; spray very lightly with cooking spray. Cover cookie sheet with saltines. Boil sugar and butter for 3 minutes. Pour mixture over saltines and spread evenly. Bake for 5 minutes. Remove from oven. Sprinkle with chips. Let set for 1 minute; then spread melted chips with spatula. Sprinkle nuts over this and press down lightly. Cut on diagonal; immediately or cool until firm, then break up; pieces can be frozen.



Oklee Office Hours

I am usually in the office most Fridays (call to check) and I will be in the office on Monday, February 5th from 11 a.m. till 4 p.m.

If you need to get a hold of me when I'm not in the office, please call 612-840-9401 or email me at: okleeherald@gmail.com.





MUSTANG STAMPED

RLCC Menus

February 5 - 9

Oklee

Monday: Breakfast: Ham & Cheese Croissant, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken Nuggets, Fried Rice, Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Pancake on a Stick w/Syrup, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Hot Subs, Fresh Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Omelet, Toast, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce or Chicken Alfredo, Bread Sticks, Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Apple Turnover, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Hamburger or Pizza Patty, Curly or Tator Tots, Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Pork Fritter Hash Brown Patty, Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Plummer

Monday: Breakfast: Yogurt, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Hamburger w/Bun, Baked Beans, Carrots, Fruit and Milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Mini Bagel, Sausage, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Salisbury Steak, Buttered Bread, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Tostitos, Toppings, Corn, Ric Krispy Bar, Fruit, and Milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Waffles, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Tomato Soup, Uncrustable, Green Beans, Fruit, and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Long John, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Hot Ham Patty w/Bun, Cheese Slice, Tri-Tator, Carrots, Fruit, and Milk.

RLCC Sports Schedules

Schedules subject to changes - please check the school web site at <https://www.rlcc2906.org/>

RLCC Mustangs Girls Varsity BB

Thu, Feb 1: 7:30PM
Kittson Central @ Plummer.

Mon, Feb 5: 7:30PM
Away vs. Northern Freeze @ Newfolden

Fri, Feb 9: 7:30PM vs. Climax-Fisher @ Fisher High School

Mon, Feb 12: 7:30PM
"Senior Night" vs. Win-E-Mac @ Oklee

Thu, Feb 15: 7:30PM vs. Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears @ C-G High School

Tue, Feb 20: 7:30PM
Mahnomon @ Oklee

Fri, Feb 23: 7:30PM
Climax-Fisher @ Plummer

RLC Rebel BBB

Thu, Feb 1: 7:30PM.
Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears @ Clearbrook-Gonvick High School

Fri, Feb 2: 7:30PM
vs. Warren/Alvarado/Oslo @ Red Lake Falls High School

Tue, Feb 6: 7:30PM
vs. Mahnomon @ Red Lake Falls High School

Thu, Feb 8: 7:30PM
vs. Fosston @ Oklee

Sat, Feb 10: TBD
vs. Northern Freeze @ Sacred Heart High School

Tue, Feb 13: 7:30PM
vs. Goodridge-Grygla @ Goodridge High School

Thu, Feb 15: 7:30PM
vs. Norman County East/Ulen-Hitterdal @ U-H High School

Thu, Feb 22: 7:30PM
vs. Fertile-Beltrami @ Oklee

Mon, Feb 26: 7:30PM
vs. Win-E-Mac @ Win-E-Mac High School

Mon, Mar 4: Section Pigtail TBD vs. _____

Thu, Mar 7: Section Play-in Round TBD vs. _____

Connor Duden made his 1000th point on January 25th



Coach Randy Huie, Nick Suchy, Masen Pahlen, Ben Gullingsrud, Gavin Thomas, Gunnar Halverson, Luke Peterson, Ethan Majeres, Connor Duden, Ethan Johnson, John Powers, Peyton O'Neill, Will Gieseke, Owen Chervestad, and Coach Steve Philion. Photo Credit: Gavin Ward.

~~~ Basketball, It runs in the Family! ~~~

By Eric Mickelson

Maybe you have seen the movie or TV show called Friday Night Lights. It revolves around the importance to the community of their high school football team....playing on Friday night under the lights!

You can probably go to any small town in NW Minnesota, the state of Minnesota, or probably anywhere in the United States and find heading to those games or sitting around the coffee shop the next day discussing what happened is high priority and most of the time plain old fun.

Our communities are no exception.

This week Connor Duden, a sophomore player for the RLC

Rebels boys basketball team got his 1000th point. If you have ever watched Connor play you know how and why he got this accomplishment. Connor is a great athlete and can straight up shoot the rock! But as I did some substitute teaching last Friday at the Plummer school I realized a few things!

It made me remember the days closer to when I graduated from Oklee High School. When I headed off to Northland College in Thief River Falls, I began to hear about some awesome things happening in Plummer. It was kind of one of those Friday night lights things. People would come out to watch girls basketball and see another awesome player,

Jody Pahlen. Jody ended her career with 1796 points. She ended up with a little more than 1000! Oh yes, and I would like to mention there was no three point line at the time, and in those days I don't believe a 26 game schedule was played, probably more like 18 or maybe 22! 1796 points not to shabby! Did I mention they played four eight minute quarters so games were about 4 minutes less than they are today. She also did it with a "boys" basketball, there was not the new smaller lighter ball used in girl's basketball today! The correlation of course is Connor is Jody's son, hence the title of the article Basketball, it runs in the Family! So

you can see just like Connor, Jody could shoot the rock too! Another fun story occurred when Connor was young. He found Jody's 1000pt ball that had been signed by her coach Mr. Koivisto, saying congratulations. He brought the ball out of the basement and into his room and it has been there ever since! Now I guess there will be two 1000pt basketballs in his room. Just another fun fact for celebrating "Friday Night Lights!"

Closer examination also showed more family connections. One of Connor's cousins, who graduated from RLCC is also in that exclusive list. Jenna Pahlen with 1624 points. If

we travel across the county to RLF yet another cousin topped that 1000 point mark, Emma Duden, with 1094 points. If we go north to Goodridge another cousin, Otto Rubischko ended his high school career with 1008 points.

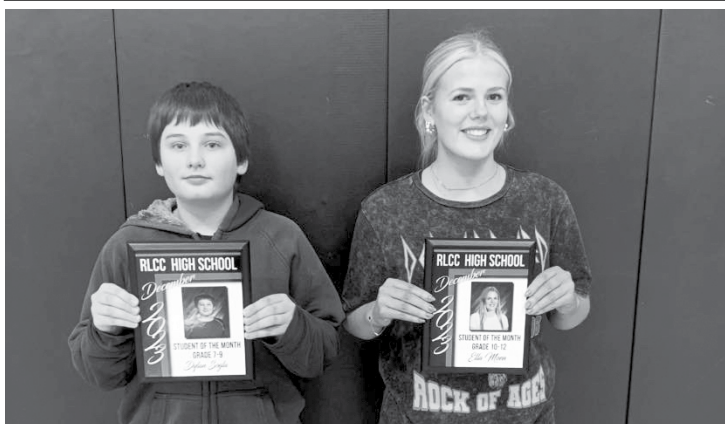
So I would count us lucky to live here in the Red Lake County area. I would also count us lucky that over the last 40 or so years we have been graced with some awesome basketball. Many student athletes have given us this treat but I guess we are really lucky to get to be around to watch Connor showcase his skills! But, don't forget sometimes basketball runs in the family!

VARSITY G.B.B.

JODY PAHLEN: Leading Active Scorer in MN in 1985 Total Points — 1796



RLCC High School December Students of the Month



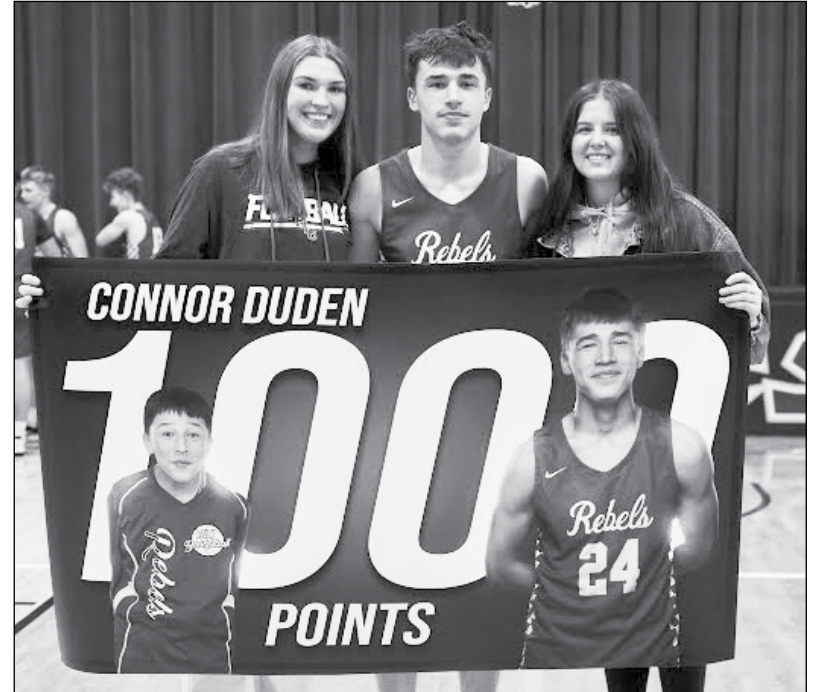
By Rylee Gerardy, Oliver Russillo, and Kathryn Srnsky

Congratulations to Dylan Sogla and Ella Moen, Red Lake County Central's December Students of the Month. Dylan Sogla, a seventh grader, is RLCCHS Junior High Student of the Month. His parents are Keith and Kelly Sogla, and he has a brother, Steven Sogla, who graduated from RLCC in 2021. Teachers at RLCCHS voted for Dylan because he's very polite to his teachers and classmates. Dylan works very hard in the classroom and is willing to help anyone who needs it. If Dylan is sick, he works hard to turn all of his work in. One of Dylan's favorite activities is taking a nap in the hallways with his comfy "Burrito Blanket." He says that he likes all of his teachers a lot, but he likes Gym Class the best. Dylan's favorite school lunches are Chicken Legs or Pizza. Dylan likes to play video games and hang out with his big brother. Dylan also has

a pet cat!

Ella Moen is the Senior High Student of the Month. Ella is a senior. Her family consists of her dad, Jason, her mom, Shannon, her older brother Brody, and her younger sister Taylor. She added, "I also have an adorable one-year-old niece named Livvy." Ella played volleyball in the fall. When asked who her hero is, she answered, "My mom has always been my biggest role model, and I go to her if I need help or advice." She does not have a favorite teacher, but she likes all of her teachers for different reasons. After high school, she plans on attending Northland for nursing to become a nurse in a dermatology setting. Teachers at RLCC voted for Ella to be SOM because she works hard in all of her classes, is an excellent writer, and is dedicated to making RLCC a better place for everyone.

Congratulations to Dylan and Ella!



Cousins: Jenna Pahlen, Connor Duden, and Emma Duden. Photo by Eric Mickelson.

RLCC One-Act Play "Bus Stop" cast



The RLCC theater performed their one act play, Bus Stop, by Kendra Thomas at the Win-E-Mac Auditorium on January 26th. Although not advancing to the section competition, Director Tyrell Hambrum reported the cast gave their best performance! He also gave praise to the great bunch of kids they were to work with this season.

Cast members pictured here are: Boys in the back Left to Right include Ruben Osborn, Eli Grove, Gavin Roisland, and Guy Bergeson. Front Row: Nickolena Hofstad, Dominna Andreef, Haily Hanson, Mckenzie Tofstad, Peyton Williams, Lillie Lundeen, Mckenzie Hamm, and Hannah Dudycha.

Do You Remember?

By Eric W. Mickelson

Do you remember the...

Oklee Farmers Co-op Elevator?

By Eric Mickelson

Yes, there is an elevator north of the railroad tracks in Oklee. Also, a fertilizer and chemical plant and several new bins and other buildings. It is an impressive complex but let's look at a little history of Oklee's elevator.

When you think of the time of homesteaders to our country, I think of lots of hard labor. Building a house and maybe a barn. The draw of land to be had for farming was certainly important to pioneers moving onto the new land. When the land around Oklee was opened for settlement early farmers began to clear land with the hopes of raising crops to feed their animals and maybe have some leftovers to sell. If your hope was to raise a cash crop the nearest markets were either in McIntosh or Plummer. Poor roads and the distance made getting the grain to market was difficult.

But, now the year is 1910, and the railroad makes its way to Oklee! Seeing a great opportunity, the Northland Grain Company built an elevator. The following year the Matt Barzen Company of Thief River Falls added another elevator.

Then in the spring of 1912 a group of farmers decided to organize and build the Farmers Coop Elevator Assn. The original board of directors included Olaf Tande, President; Christ Halvorson, Secretary; Iven Gunstensen, Treasurer; and Thomas Wetch and Joe Bergeron, Directors. The first manager was Carl Rindahl. In 1916, August Lindquist became the manager and Henry Falardeau and Edward Havik joined the board of directors. Then in 1926 the farmer's bought the elevator that had been built by the Northwest Grain Company.

In 1939 a feed mill and clipper fanning mill were installed to further meet the needs of area farmers. In 1945, Louis Cyr became manager, a position he held until 1951.



Oklee Farmer's Co-op Elevator bins damaged by the tornado that hit Oklee in 1982.

During this time a warehouse and office was added a modern seed cleaning plant was built. Milo Larson then became the manager in 1951 continued his duties until 1967. In '52 the elevator bought the Matt Barzen Grain Elevator. To increase storage three concrete stave storage bins were added in 1954 and in 1956 a storage quonset was built.

Two new scales were also added and in 1965 a 120,000 storage quonset was built. Now is about the time my memory kicks in a bit. In 1967 Gary Mitchell was hired as manager. At this time Alvin Fore, Ray Swenson, Onezime Bachand, Ralph Sorenson, and Russell Norberg made up the Board of Directors. Also, in the fall of 1967 the feed mill was destroyed by fire. And a new modern elevator with storage of 50,000 bushels was built. This is maybe what we would call the "main elevator" and the feed mill was moved to the east elevator. In 1969 Don Stenberg succeeded Onezime Bachand on the board of directors. The new elevator and moving of the feed mill was completed in 1968 and soon after a new bulk fertilizer plant was built where the Matt Barzen elevator had stood.

By 1970 the first 'Floater' was purchased! Anhydrous Ammonia was soon added, more bins, other buildings were also added to the already

growing elevator complex. In 1976 seven acres of land were purchased, north of the main house. In 1978 Robert Sherman became manager and served until 1981. An all-steel elevator and high-capacity grain dryer was added in 1979 with the intent to be used mostly for the crop of sunflowers. It was referred to as the Sunflower Plant. In 1981 Lawrence Melvie became manager and in 1982 a train loading station was added to the main elevator allowing 24 cars to be loaded in a 10-hour period.

I remember it well, on July 17, 1982, a tornado hit Oklee causing a lot of damage to the four steel bins by the railroad tracks. Some damage was also sustained at the Sunflower Plant. Total cost of the damage at the elevator was \$300,000!

Now the elevator and fertilizer plant are part of Cen-ex Harvest States and more expansion has been added. But, looking back I want to say thank you to the early pioneers who personally signed a \$5,000.00 note at the bank to begin an endeavor that has continued to the 21st century and although it is no longer the Oklee Farmers Coop Elevator, it certainly continues to be a big part of our little towns economy and still serves as a place for our area farmers to sell grain and by supplies..... just like they intended back in 1910!



These men operate the new Jacobson Pulverator grinding and mixing machine put into service last week at the Oklee Farmers Cooperative Elevator Co. Left to right are Clifford Hegge, Dale Bjerklie and Lloyd Green. The new machine, with a 60 hp electric motor, was clocked at 200 pounds per minute on heaving oats. Augers used in place of blowers hold dust to a minimum.

Senior Site News & Other Things

By Volunteers Jo Lambert & Bonny Cote
Site number: 218-796-5149

Senior Meals

Oklee Senior Meals (LSS Meals) are available for Home Delivery, Monday-Friday - Meals on Wheels (LSS) meals will be furnished from Red Lake Falls, and you need to order a day or two before the day you plan on having a meal.

Note: Please call Red Lake Falls LSS Site to order or cancel your meals from now on. Jo Lambert will no longer be taking the orders. Call Carolyn or Cathy at 218-253-4454 to order your meals.

SAIL Classes

SAIL exercise class are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am in the Oklee Hall. It is

FREE to join. Sign up at the Senior Site or call Jo Lambert at 218-796-4527 or Carol Kvasager at 218-201-0180.

Craft Shop by Appt only

The Craft Shop is open by appointment only. If Bonny is in the Oklee Office, she can help you or call Jo Lambert at 218-796-4527.

Dates To Remember

Wednesday: Cards at 1:30 p.m. If you would like to come play cards, come on in and and enjoy some fun game time visiting with your fellow seniors.

January Meeting

The meeting was not held

due to lack of participants. We need a quorum to do business. If you are interested in keeping the Senior Site open, more participation is needed.

The next meeting will be early in February at the Oklee Senior Site at 2:00 p.m. It is important for seniors to attend as we need a quorum to be able to vote on items discussed. Watch for updates on the upcoming meeting.

It's is warmer this week! And may stay warm for a week or more. I know we all will enjoy the nicer temperatures, but remember that nice can mean icy sidewalks and streets. Be Careful!

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

Saturday evening, the 20th, the Sportsman's Club had their annual membership supper at the Plummer Legion. They also had drawings on guns.

On January 23rd, Bunny DuChamp had her 102nd birthday. I called her.

On Tuesday, Anne Traxler had lunch with her sister, who is from Walker at the Oklee Cafe.

Brodie Traxler came Wednesday evening to Ann Traxler's and enjoyed a lasagna

supper. He attended confirmation class at Immanuel that evening.

Wednesday evening, at Bingo, Mrs. Val Schill treated everyone to rice krispie bars with chocolate frosting. It was so good.

Tuesday I went skiing for the first time south of my place. There isn't much snow. I made four runs, back and forth, east and west. The skis aren't so good, but at my age, I'm not getting different ones.

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

The weather continues to surprise us. Yesterday was such a beautiful day I wish I could have bottled it. I'd be a millionaire in a minute in any other year. This year all those who spent money on rentals for the winter wasted their hard earned cash on moving to the south for the winter. We have enjoyed our warm winter that has been a real heart warmer for us all. I know, the snow lovers and fishermen are a bit put out this year. I do like those activities but not freezing

every time I stick my nose out the door is a real plus to me. I have a coat that is faded and torn but I continue to wear it because it is so warm in winter. I just can't find a coat that equals it in warmth.

On Sunday there was a breakfast at St. Joe's Church in Red Lake Falls. The Knights of Columbus were serving for a fundraiser. They do so much for the youth in our towns and I try to help support them. They served and egg bake, ham and strawberries or blueberries.

Delicious food. A young man was helping serve the tables and pick up dishes. I didn't recognize him so I asked him who he was. He said I am Arthur. He added that he was from Fertile. He was a member of their EDGE team. They were asked to help at the breakfast, and he was very good at helping he was a busy young man as he worked diligently. I was impressed by his faithful duty to his job. As we ate I saw and greeted many of our friends that I have had contact with over the years and it was like old home week. After being rather shut in for the past few months it was so wonderful to see folks I knew and to get out into society again.

Ione (nee Walter,) Markley has passed away in her sleep. She was found on Sunday by her daughter. She grew up in Plummer and is the sister of Ray and Duane and Marvin Walter. God rest her soul in peace. Our sympathy goes out to the whole family.

That is the news for this week. I hope that you all have a great week.

Pennington & Red Lake County Public Health & Home Care

There is going to be a Community Resources Fair on February 7th, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Northland College Commons located at 1101 State Hwy 1, Thief River Falls, MN. This event is sponsored by Inter-County Community Council.

Have you been looking for Resources in the area that could help you or your family? Come out and meet with area providers to hear who they can help, ask them questions, and even apply for services on the spot.

Services and Resources available at this event include: Education supports for adults & kids, Energy Assistance, Employment & Training support, Food Shelf/Food Support, Head Start - Early Education & Family support, Health insurance application assistance, Housing/Homelessness support, Home Health - nursing service, Parent education & support, Pregnancy support,

Public Transportation, Salvation Army/Emergency Support, WIC/Nutrition Support and more services added every day!

Free Transportation is available - call THE Bus at 218-681-6760. Refreshments available also.

Have questions? Give Inter-County Community Council a call at 218-796-5144, Option 5 or email: headstart@intercountyycc.org.

Who's Dat?



Who's Dat?

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

Last week's photo was of Mary & Joan Bronken holding Barb.

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 Red Lake County Herald. **I really am short on photos** and have been diving into history books and other placed to find photos.

I am always in need of more 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 returned. Mail them to: Red Lake County Herald, PO Box 9, Oklee MN 56742 Or stop by the office and I will scan your photo while you wait.



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