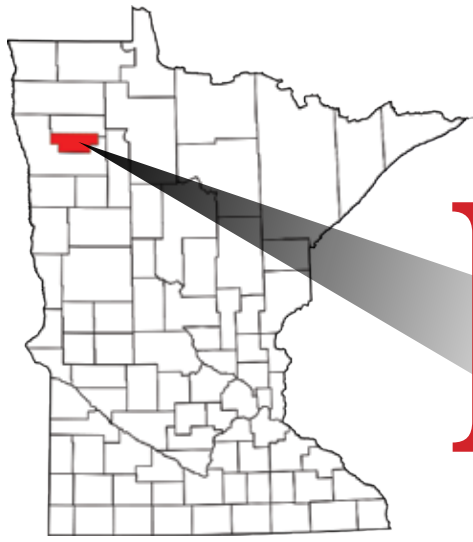




Red Lake County HERALD



Vol. 112, Number 27

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Fireman's Blizzard Bonanza was great!



Amanda Donner, Kim Olson, and Tracy Hamm were at the ticket table.



Some of the Lutheran Youth Group helping serve during the evening and were rewarded by earning a donation from the firemen for their trip to the Youth Gathering!



George and Ardelle Olson with Judy and Jerry Schue enjoying the Blizzard Bonanza!



Some of the kitchen help that shared the duties of serving the delicious meal at the Fireman's Blizzard Bonanza on Saturday night. Many hands make light work... and lots of fun.

The 2024 Oklee Volunteer Fireman's Blizzard Bonanza and Fish Dinner at the Oklee Community Hall on February 3rd was a good time had by all!

This is a fund raiser for the Oklee Fire Department. This past year one of the big purchases made by the fireman was new turnout gear. Enough for 5 fireman, each suit costs roughly \$3000 each. The suits have an expiration date of 10 years. Last year a new battery powered "jaws of life" was also purchased for \$15,000.

Another item needing replacement is the 1991 pumper! So you can see all the progress and other items still needing to be addressed by the Oklee Volunteer Fire Department. To do all these things it takes money!

And they have been successful raising the funds by having the Fireman's Blizzard Bonanza, usually once a year, but as everyone know, Covid stopped lots of events so this year was the first year back fundraising.

And as usually the had a great crowd that came not only to support their efforts but to also enjoy a delicious fish dinner with the help of the Gonvick American Legion doing the frying of the fish which they are so famous for.

Tickets were sold with some wonderful prizes the past moth or so and the winners were: **Dave Vatthauer:** 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. **Bud Bjerklie:** 2nd Prize is a Hatfield over-under 410 engraved Shotgun.

3rd and 4th prizes are both \$250 Cash went to **Rick Bjerklie** and **Michelle Sundquist**. Congratulations to the winners.

The night also included meat raffles, silent auction items, and door prizes!

Another year of successful fund raising and an evening of fun, entertainment and lots of prizes.



Tim Eggebraaten once again did a wonderful job emceeing the Firemen's Blizzard Bonanza on February 3rd.



Jamie Peterson and Ron Hamm showing off the engraved 410 raffle prize.

Operation Round Up® Grant Applications due Wed, February 28th

Organizations involved in community projects and charities are encouraged to apply for funds from Operation Round Up at this time. Completed grant applications are due in the Red Lake Electric Cooperative (RLEC) office by Wednesday, February 28, 2024.

Operation Round Up is a program adopted by RLEC headquartered in Red Lake Falls. Members choosing to "round up" their monthly electric bill payment provide funds for this effort. Today 98% of RLEC members now choose to contribute pennies each month to enhance their communities.

Funds will be donated primarily to nonprofit organizations to help fund specific projects or programs. Since the program began in 1993, \$660,071 has been granted to community organizations and charities. Money is donated for the betterment of the community within the outside service

area boundaries of RLEC.

The Red Lake Electric Trust Board of Directors determines grants. Board members are Laura Kasproicz, Thief River Falls; Stacy Bierman, Thief River Falls, Pamela Vettleson, Plummer; Stephanie Johnson, Gatzke and Bonnie Christians, Crookston.

To apply for Operation Round Up grant, organizations should contact the RLEC office in Red Lake Falls at 218-253-2168 or 800-245-6068. A short application must be completed and submitted along with a financial statement from the organization.

Grant application forms are available on the Cooperative's website: www.redlakeelectric.com For more information contact Stephanie Johnson, General Manager of RLEC, at 218-253-2168 or 800-245-6068.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Essentia Health faces off with City of Fosston over birthing services

About 40 community members gathered at Fosston City Hall Tuesday, January 30th to tune into a virtual public hearing on the matter of Essentia Health's closure of the labor and delivery services at Essentia Health's Fosston location. There were also over 100 others who joined online, along with four of Essentia Health's administrators and the Minnesota Department of Health's Stacy Shogren as the moderator.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) held this for Essentia Health to explain the reasons for ceasing to offer maternity care services at the

hospital and to provide an opportunity for public testimony on the discontinuation of maternity care services.

The hearing was an information only venue and an opportunity for public comment, there was no bearing on the decision made by Essentia Health to cease services, nor on the City of Fosston's course of action due to a breach of the 2009 contract between the City of Fosston and Essentia Health. Among other services in this contractual agreement with the city is obstetric care. Essentia put a pause on OB care in June 2022, and since that time, Fosston has worked

to meet the requirements from Essentia to return this care, despite some changes along the way.

According to Essentia Health, labor and delivery services have been diverted to St. Mary's Regional Health Center, an Essentia facility in Detroit Lakes, more than 60 miles from Fosston, as the company feels this shared maternity care model provides safer, coordinated care for the residents of Fosston, and the surrounding communities, which also use the hospital and clinic as their primary health provider. During the meeting,

Essentia Health officials stated that low-volume birthing centers have more risks that impact the well-being of moms and babies, as well as complications recruiting physicians and staff to low-volume birthing centers.

The City of Fosston is poised to terminate the agreement and regain operational control of the hospital. On September 19, 2023, The Fosston City Council voted to enter into mediation with Essentia Health during an informal meeting where over 100 community members gathered. Mediation, which took place in October 2023

between the City of Fosston and Essentia Health was unsuccessful.

The next step will be an arbitration panel which will probably take place during late spring or early summer of this year. Should Essentia Health not bring back birthing services to the Fosston Hospital, the City of Fosston will end the operation contract entirely and put the hospital back under the control of First Care Medical Services.

If the city ends their contract with Essentia Health, the provider will have 12 more months of service before they will no

longer operate the hospital and the facility will return again to being an independent hospital.

The closure of labor and delivery services in rural areas is a challenge affecting communities nationwide. This phenomenon is not confined to Essentia Health's Fosston hospital. With the closure of these birthing departments, there are questions about access to crucial healthcare services in rural communities. The repercussions are profound, impacting not only the community's health but also the local economy and population trends.

Church News

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Linda Molitor
Okleelutheran.org
Wed, Feb. 14: 7:00 p.m. Ash
Wednesday at Salem
Sun, Feb. 18: 9:00 a.m.
Zion. 9:00 a.m. SS at Salem
10:30 a.m. SS at Zion. 10:30
a.m. Salem.
Wed, Feb. 21: 6:00 p.m.
Meal. 7:00 p.m. Lent Service
at Zion.

**CATHOLIC PARISHES
OF OKLEE, GRYGLA &
GOODRIDGE**
Fr. Bryan Kujawa
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. St. Fran-
ces – Oklee; 10:15 a.m. – Gry-
gla. 12: p.m. – Goodridge.

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

**IMMANUEL-EBENEZER
LUTHERAN PARISH
ELCA**
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Sun, Feb. 18: 9:00 a.m.
Worship at Immanuel. 10:30
a.m. Worship at Bethany. 7:00
p.m. Worship at Ebenezer.

**GOODRIDGE AREA
LUTHERAN PARISH
ELCA**
Bethany-Ekelund-Faith
Wed, Feb. 14: 7:00 p.m. Ash
Wednesday – Faith.
Sun, Feb. 18: Faith: 8:00
a.m. Worship, 9:00 a.m. SS.
Bethany: 9:30 a.m. Worship,
10:30 a.m. SS. Ekelund: 10
a.m. SS 11:00 p.m. Worship.
Mon, Feb. 19: 9 am Quilt-
ing.
Tue, Feb. 20: 9:30 am Sha-
lom Circle
Wed, Feb. 21: 7 p.m. Lent
Service at Bethany.

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 –
Mahnommen.

Every 4th Tuesday – Thief
River Falls

Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednes-
day – Fargo/Moorhead.

Every 2nd & 4th Friday –
Bemidji.



Honoring America's Presidents

Following the assassination of
President William McKinley, Theodore
Roosevelt became the 26th President of the United
States. He served from 1901 to 1909.

President Roosevelt once said, “a thorough knowledge
of the Bible is worth more than a college education.”
One of Mr. Roosevelt's most important accomplishments
was the building of the Panama
Canal. Each February, on
Presidents Day, we honor all of
America's Presidents.

Bank Closed for
President's Day on
February 19th.

**Security STATE
BANK**
PO Box 69 Oklee, MN 56742



Phone 218-796-5157

O48C

**CLEARWATER
LUTHERAN PARISH**
Mt. Olive – Nazareth
Oak Park – St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wed, Feb. 14: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday School. 6 pm Meal,
7 pm Ash Wed at Nazareth.
Sat, Feb. 17: 9:00 a.m. Mt.
Olive.

Sun, Feb. 18: St. Petri:
8:00 a.m. Service. 9:15 a.m. SS.
Nazareth: 8:45am, SS 9:45 a.m.
Service. Oak Park: 10 a.m. SS,
11:00 a.m. Service.

Tue, Feb. 20: 5:00 p.m.
Mt. Olive.

Wed, May 23: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday School. 6 pm Meal.
7 pm Oak Park.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg,
Youth Pastor

www.newjourneyfosston.com
Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday
School. 10 am Worship.

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. Ladies
Bible Devotions.

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.
Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson,
Lay Minister
Wed, Feb. 14: Ash Wednes-
day at Lund – 6 p.m. Soup N
Sandwich, 7:00 p.m. Worship.
Sun, Feb. 18: 9:00 p.m.
Lund. 10:30 a.m. Bethany.
Wed, Feb. 21: Lenten –
Sand Valley – 7:00 p.m.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston
Seth Johnson,
Interim Pastor
Sun, Feb 18: 9:30 a.m. Sun-
day School. 10:30 a.m. Worship.

Deadline:
Fridays at noon!

Oklee Senior Site Dining

February 19 - 23
Oklee Senior Meals (LSS
Meals) are available for Home
Delivery, Monday-Friday.
Please call the Cathy or Car-
olyn at the RLF LSS Kitchen
the day before, by 12 noon at
218-253-4454.

Mon. 19: Honey Glazed
Chicken, Rice, Country Blend
Veggies, Bread/Butter, Fresh
Fruit, Low Fat Milk.

Tue. 20: Pizza Pasta Casse-
role, Green Beans, Texas Toast/
Butter, Peaches, Low Fat Milk.

Wed. 21: Chicken & Wild
Rice Soup, Mixed Vegetables,
Bread Stick, Cinnamon Baked
Apples, Confetti Cake, Low
Fat Milk.

Thu. 22: Roast Tur-
key w/Gravy, Mashed Po-
tatoes, Peas & Carrots,
Wheat Dinner Roll/Butter,
Fruit Crisp, Low Fat Milk.

Fri. 23: Baked Fish, Mashed
Potatoes, Peas, Bread/Butter,
Peanut Butter Bar, Low Fat
Milk.

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.

KURTIS ELLEFSON

RED LAKE COUNTY
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

218-689-8587
1-888-LINKVET

Email: kellefsoncvso@hotmail.com

O48-48C

Correction

By Eric Mickelson!

I apologize for a mistake
made in last week's paper.
In my article I named the
new worker as Kayla Gil-
bertson instead of Kayla
Brekke. Kayla's maiden
name was Gilbertson! I
checked my notes and I
wrote Kayla Brekke in my
notes so I am not sure why
I typed it in wrong! You
would think the man that
was officiant at her wed-
ding to Casey Brekke would
know the correct name!

Once again my apologies,
and we still welcome Kayla
Brekke to her new position
at Security State Bank.



Thank you from the Oklee Volunteer Firemen

The Oklee Volunteer Firemen want to thank all those who made their Blizzard Bonanza a success! First of all for all who helped with the food: Deann Eskeli for preparing the potatoes and Jackie Cross for helping cook the potatoes and let the cafe be used for extra seating! Thank you to the Gonvick Legion for frying the fish and the Oklee Lutheran Youth Group along with the Trap Team for helping as well!

A special thanks to Tracy Hamm, Tracy Cote and Kim Olson for all their help planning the event and all the other wives that helped set up the hall or contributed during the event and cleanup. Thanks to Mark Bieganeck for coming to register the guns.

The firemen want to thank all the people who donated and supported this event and make it a big success! The firemen are grateful to live and represent such a great community that always comes out in support of one another!

Also a big thanks to Jennifer Vogel for auctioning during the live auction segment of the evening. Thanks to TJ's Tavern for supplying the drinks and for the Red Lake County Herald for getting the word out to the community and helping pack the house! And last but definitely not least thanks to Tim Eggebraaten for the awesome entertainment!

The firemen want to thank all those involved even if your name was not mentioned. Your efforts are so appreciated in making this one of the most successful Bonanza's ever!

Red Lake County Co-op
Security State Bank
Carols Cozy Bar
Oklee Lumber
TJ'S Tavern
Oklee Quilting
CHS Northern Grain
Tracy Hamm
Klasen Kandles
Paradis, Inc.
Oklee Ambulance
NPL
Nelson & Nelson Construction
Ryan's Backhoe Service
Goodridge Liquor Store
Roed's Seed Sales
Valley Plains John Deere
Shorty's Place
CHS Ag Service
Sportsman's Lodge- Pine Lake
Salon 209
Olson Farms
Bob & Emily Bernier
Titan Machinery – Winger
Ross & Darla Hegge
Security State Agency
Eskeli Electric
Underdahl Hardware – Thief River Falls
RT Nelson Farms
Red River Ag
Garden Valley Telephone

Pat & Jenny O'Neill & Boys
Olson Gravel
Seven Clans Casino
Patty Bergeson
Cote Farms
Ronnings- Thief River Falls
Red Lake Electric
Old Trail's End Bar
Clear Air Duct Cleaning
Thibert Chevrolet
Northern Ag
Luke & Mary Swenson
CHS Northwest Insurance
McMullen Auction
Hubert Outdoors
O'Reilly Auto Parts
Jered's Grocery
The Deuce Bar & Grill
MN Twins
MN Vikings
Burggraf's Ace Hardware
E & J Grocery
South Town Lanes
Auto Value Fosston
Walter's Woodwork
Broadway Station
Charlie & Lora Johnson
A Special Thank you to the Gonvick Lions,
Oklee Lutheran Youth Group, and RLCC Trap
Club for helping with tonight's event.

O48C

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This project is made possible in part, under the Federal Older American's Act through a grant with the NWRDC under an area plan approved by the Minnesota Board on Aging.

SHOP ONLINE AT: <http://masonbros.com/weeklyads/ej-grocery-wine-spirits/>

O41-14C

JOHNSON

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Red Lake Falls • 218-253-2128
Oklee • 218-796-5177
www.johnsonfuneralservice.com

O46TEC

Sudoku Solution

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

Oklee Centennial Cookbook Recipe Corner - Pages 395

Sour Cream Raisin Bars Sheryl Wilde

2 cups raisins
1 cup brown sugar
1 cup butter
1-3/4 cups oatmeal
1 tsp soda
1-3/4 cups flour
3 egg yolks
1-1/2 cups sour cream
1 cup sugar
2-1/2 Tbsp cornstarch
1 tsp vanilla

Cook raisins (cover with water), drain and cool. Cream
brown sugar and butter, add oatmeal, soda and flour.
Put 1/2 the mixture in 9 x 13 inch pan and bake 7
minutes at 350 degrees. Mix egg yolks, sour cream,
sugar and cornstarch. Mix, boil, watch closely, stir well.
Add raisins and vanilla and pour over crust. Add rest of
crumbs and bake 30 minutes at 350 degrees.



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Red Lake County Sheriff

www.facebook.com/RedLakeCounty/

On 02/02/24, Red Lake
County deputies responded to
several reports, involving the
same individual, loitering at
businesses in Red Lake Falls.
The same man also caused is-
sues at his apartment building,
prompting a call for law en-
forcement assistance. Deputies
counseled the individual and
mediated the situation.

In the early morning hours
of 02/03/24, several parking
citations were issued for winter
parking ordinance violations
on Main Ave. in Red Lake Falls.

On the morning of 02/04/24,
the Red Lake County Sheriff's
Office received a report of a
theft of property from a garage
in Red Lake Falls. That report
remains under investigation.

On the afternoon of 02/05/24,
Red Lake County deputies as-
sisted members of the U.S.
Marshal's Fugitive Task Force
with an arrest. Andrew Gon-
zalez-Sheriff (23) of Red Lake
Falls was apprehended without
incident at the Mall in Red
Lake Falls. Mr. Gonzalez-Sher-
iff had multiple active felony
warrants in Oregon. He was
taken into custody by the
Marshals.

On the morning of 02/06/24,
the Red Lake County Sheriff's
Office received a report that a
juvenile had assaulted their
juvenile sibling in Brooks. A
Red Lake County deputy looked
into the matter, and it was
forwarded to Red Lake County
Social Services.

On the afternoon of 02/06/24,
a Red Lake County deputy re-
sponded to a report of an unruly

child in the city of Brooks. The
deputy counseled the child, and
the matter was mediated.

On the evening of 02/06/24,
Red Lake County deputies
arrested Shane Michael Drury
(43) at his residence in Red
Lake Falls. Clay County held
an active felony warrant for his
arrest. Mr. Drury was taken to
jail in Crookston, and he will
be turned over to Clay County
authorities.

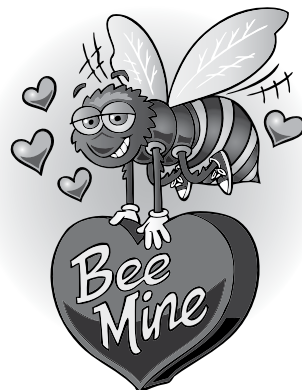
On the morning of 02/07/24,
the Thief River Falls Police De-
partment requested assistance
in locating a juvenile runaway.
A Red Lake County deputy
located the juvenile at a resi-
dence in Brooks. The juvenile
was transported back to Thief
River Falls and turned over to
their authorities.

On the evening of 02/07/24,
the Red Lake County Sheriff's
Office received a report of a sus-
picious vehicle in a residential
area of Red Lake Falls. A Red
Lake County deputy located
the suspect vehicle near the
intersection of State Ave. and
6th St. SW. The vehicle was
parked, occupied and the en-
gine was running. The driver
of the vehicle was Raymond
John Grenier (65) of Crookston.
The deputy discovered that Mr.
Grenier appeared to be intoxi-
cated. The deputy also discov-
ered an uncased and loaded
rifle in the back seat of the
car. The rifle was seized, and
Mr. Grenier was arrested. He
was taken to jail in Crookston
and was booked for gross mis-
demeanor DWI test refusal and
transporting a loaded, uncased
firearm in a motor vehicle. He
was released from custody the
following afternoon, and he will
be summonsed to appear in
Court in Red Lake Falls later
this month.

On the afternoon of 02/08/24,
an individual reported they had
been threatened by another
person while they were at their
place of work in Red Lake
Falls. The report is still under
investigation.

On the afternoon of 02/08/24,
the Red Lake County Sheriff's
Office received a report of a
semi-truck hauling a load of
straw, tipped over on the curves
near Dorothy. Red Lake Coun-
ty deputies responded to the
scene. Fortunately, there were
no injuries, and the vehicle was
towed from the scene.

Mitch Bernstein, Red Lake
County Sheriff: 02/09/24



Happy
Valentine's Day

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

Red Lake County Herald

Corner 2nd Ave. & Main
218-796-5181

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PUBLICATION NUMBER 407240

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first prize for Best News Story, 1959.

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

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

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

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RLCC Menus

February 19 - 23

Oklee

Monday: No School
Tuesday: Breakfast: French Toast w/Syrup, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Hot Dog or Polish, Baked Beans, Chips, fruit, and milk.
Wednesday: Breakfast: Bagel Bites, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Cheesy Bread, Dipping Sauce, Lettuce Salad, Fresh Veggies, Fruit, and Milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Pizza, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Taco in a Bag or Softshell, Refried Beans, Spanish Rice, Fruit, and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Grilled Cheese, Tomato Soup, Fresh Veggies, Fruit, and Milk.

Plummer

Monday: No School
Tuesday: Breakfast: Egg Omelet, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Ham & Scalloped Potatoes, Mixed Veggies, Dinner Roll, Fruit, and Milk.
Wednesday: Breakfast: Pancake Sausage on Stick, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Hot Dog w/Bun, Baked Beans, Chips, Cucumbers, Fruit, and Milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Toast w/PB & J, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken Alfredo, Bread Stick, Green Beans, Fruit, and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Cheese Bread, Marinara Sauce, Salad, Fruit, and Milk.

The Rebels are now 22-0; their last home game will be on Thursday, February 22 in Oklee against Fertile.

The Mustangs last home game will be on February 23 in Plummer against Fisher/Climax.

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

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

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

Mon, Feb 26: 7:00 p.m. Section Pigtail

Thu, Feb 29: Section Play-in Round TBD

Sat, Mar 2: Section Quarters TBD Ralph Engelstad Arena - TRF

Wed, Mar 6: Section Semis TBD Ralph Engelstad Arena - TRF

Fri, Mar 8: Section Finals 7:00PM Ralph Engelstad Arena - TRF

RLC Rebel BBB

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. —

Sat, Mar 9: Section Quarters TBD Ralph Engelstad Arena - TRF

Wed, Mar 13: Section Semis 7:45PM Ralph Engelstad Arena - TRF

Fri, Mar 15: Section Finals 7:00PM Ralph Engelstad Arena - TRF



2023-2024 Rebels with Owen Chervestad. Front Row: Ethan Majeres, Ben Gullingsrud, Owen Chervestad, and Ethan Johnson. Back Row: Coach Randy Huie, Peyton O'Neill, Luke Peterson, Alex Renner, Logan Vettleson, Will Gieseke, Jon Powers, Atley Vettleson, Connor Duden, Gunner Halverson, and Coach Steve Suchy. Not pictured Nick Suchy. Congratulations to Owen Chervestad on his 1000th point. He is the son of Aaron & Jill Chervestad of Oklee.



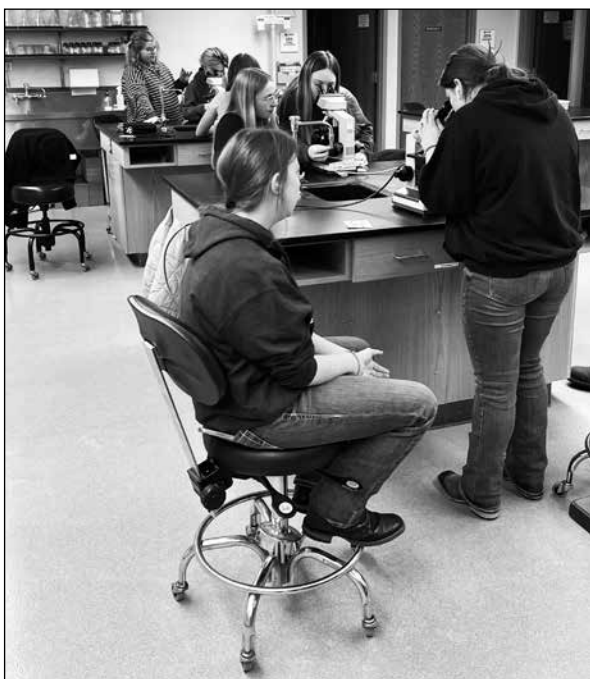
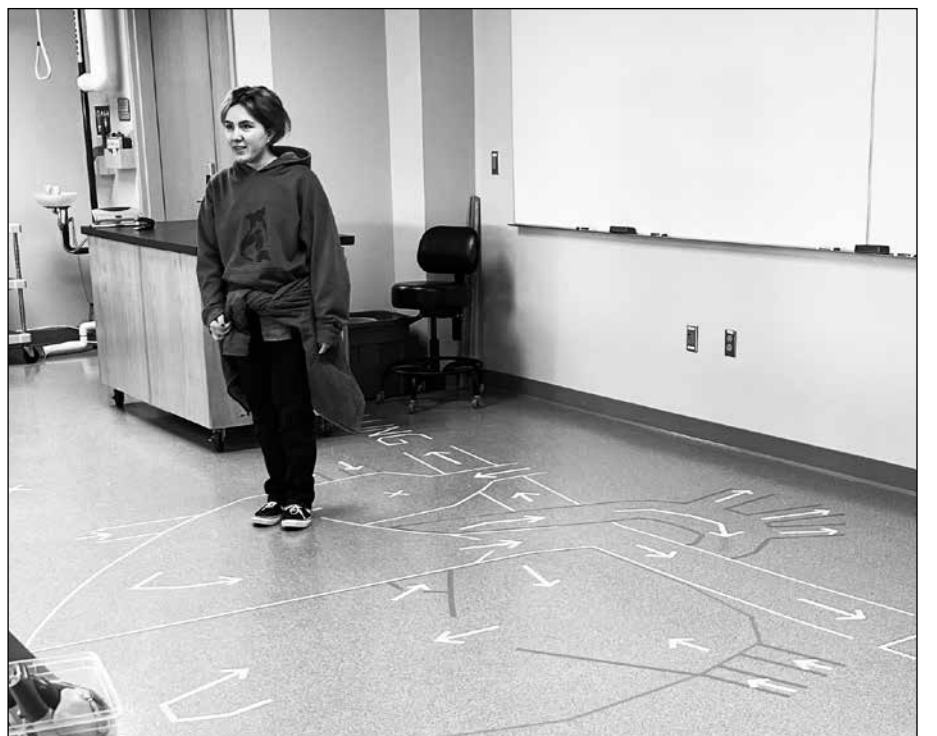
Trio Trip to visit Bemidji State University

On Friday, January 26th, TRIO advisor Ruth Gripenotrog invited the 8th-grade girls to tour Bemidji State University and visit the Medical Science lab. Taylor Moen, Autumn Lindemoen, Willa Klamm, Emma Chaput, Maya Arlt, Nick Andreef, and Nikolena Hofstad signed up for a fun adventure on campus. "It was neat to see what a college looks like!" Willa Klamm told her class when she got back the next week. "I think Bemidji State is pretty cool," added Emma Chaput. The TRIO program is a federally funded program offered at the University of North Dakota that helps students throughout rural regions to explore various college degrees and careers and offer support to students in transitioning from being a high school student to becoming a college student.

8th Grade Girls touring Bemidji State Medical Lab with TRIO advisor, Ruth Gripenotrog: Taylor Moen, Autumn Lindemoen, Willa Klamm, Emma Chaput, Maya Arlt, Nick Andreef, and Nikolena Hofstad.



Maya Arlt at the microscope while Nick Andreef tours the flow of blood through the heart.



Willa Klamm waits as her partner, Emma Chaput looks at specimens in the microscope.



Nikolena Hofstad and Nick Andreef take turns on the Microscope.

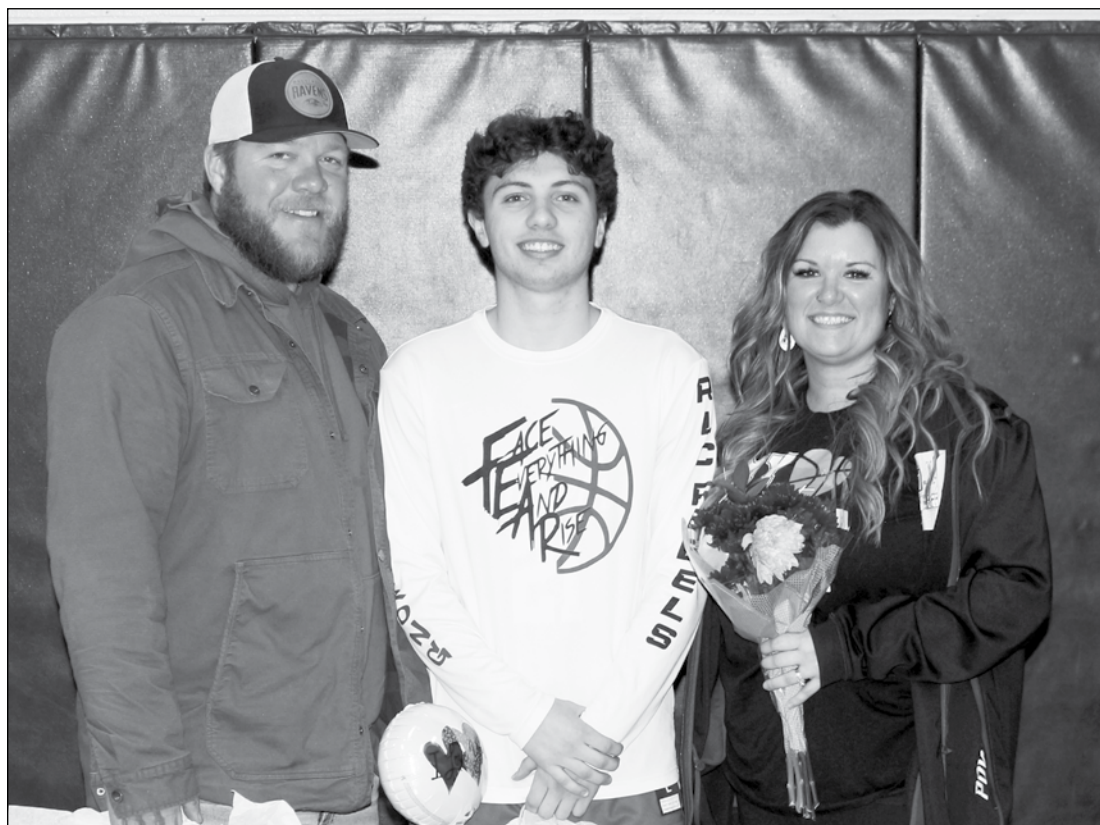


Autumn Lindemoen analyzing specimens in BSU Labs.

~~~~ Boys Basketball Parent's Night ~~~~



Senior Peyton O'Neill with Jenny and Pat O'Neill.



Senior John Powers with Nicole and Chris Hanson.



Juniors
Gavin Thomas with Kippy and Don Howard and Gil Thomas, Owen Chervestad with Jill and Aaron Chervestad, Ethan Majeres with Sylvia and Greg Majeres, Luke Peterson with Wendy and Jamie Peterson.

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Sophomores
Logan Vettleson with Katie Arnold and Lon Vettleson, Nick Suchy with Kristie Suchy, Masen Pahlen with Andy and Brittany Pahlen, Will Gieseke with Pam and Randy Gieseke, Connor Duden with Jody and Rodney Duden, Gunnar Halverson with Ashley Halverson, Ethan Johnson with Catherine Johnson and JJ Johnson, and Alex Renner with Nessa and Jeff Renner, Atley Vettleson with Miranda and Wyatt Vettleson.



8th and 9th Grade
Ben Gullingsrud with Nicole Gullingsrud, Xavier Sams with Darryl Sams, Benji Bramer with Ana and Andy Bramer, Nate Powers with Nicole and Chris Hanson, and Thor Thompson with Lisa and Ryan Thompson.

Free Concert

O'Neil Family Band

Traditional and Contemporary Acoustic Music

Friday, February 16
4:00 PM
Red Lake Falls Public Library

O48C

Oklee Herald Early Files

Ninety Years Ago February 15, 1934

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Toulouse, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bergeron, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bergeron and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bachand of Brooks visited at Fisher on Saturday.

The local Legion Post held a lively meeting at the fire hall Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bergeron, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bergeron, Mr. and Mrs. W.P. Lynch and Mr. and Mrs. Lou Horstman and son Jerry were supper guests at the D.R. Shetterly home north of Oklee.

The cement foundation work for the village hall was finished and things were ready for the carpenters.

Eighty Years Ago February 10, 1944

The Oklee High School basketball teams divided a twin bill with Mentor at the Oklee Auditorium last Thursday. The A team was defeated, 66-20 but the B team won from Mentor, 20-17, in an overtime period.

The Oklee fire department was called out of bed at 6 a.m. Sunday to help combat a chimney fire which started at the residence of Mrs. H. B. Reindal. The fire was brought under control before serious damage was done.

Wedding Dance at Oklee February 12 Good music, everyone welcome, Given by Mr. and Mrs. Bjarne Fossum.

At the Oak Theatre Saturday & Sunday is "Bombardier" with Pat O'Brien and Randolph Scott.

Just as American pioneers pushed through wilderness to create a vast network of railroads covering the United States, Allied soldiers are hacking through the wilds of Burma to bring supplies into China and to get at the Japanese.

Ration Reminders: Gasoline - No 10 coupons in A book good for three gallons each Jan. 22 thru March 21. B2 and C2 supplemental ration coupons good for five gallons each. Outstanding B & C coupons bearing the words 'mileage ration' and B1 and C1 coupons remain good

at two gallons each.

Seventy Years Ago February 18, 1954

Irene Barsness represented Red Lake County in the district 4-H radio speaking contest held in Crookston. Irene won the county 4-H contest held here in competition with four other 4-H members.

A modern seating system in the form of folding bleachers was installed in the Oklee School gymnasium.

Mrs. Ole Nesland of Oklee won a dryer in a contest sponsored by REA News. She wrote a letter on the subject of "Why Every Housewife Should Own an Electric Dryer."

Sixty Years Ago February 13, 1964

In a business transaction announced this week, Bergeron's Store of Oklee purchased the entire stock of the local Hartz store and has begun moving the stock to the present Bergeron building.

A housing development for senior citizens will be the subject of a meeting to be held in Oklee on February 20th in the community hall. Proposed is a development of new, modern housing units to be offered at a low rental to citizens of the area that are 62 years of age or older and are in a condition of health that will permit them to care for themselves.

Bemidji State College has placed 117 seniors in school for practice teaching assignments during the winter quarter. Betty LaJambe, Oklee, Physical Education and Health is student teaching at Aurora-Hoyt Lakes and JoAnn Buck, Oklee, Physical Education student teaching at Hibbing.

A card party was held on Sunday evening at the Terrebonne church hall. Winning high were Mrs. Anthony Schiefert and Euclid Reopelle and low went to Mrs. Joe Derosier and Walter Novak.

Rocky Flateland spent the weekend with Margaret Torkelson at the Bennie Torkelson home.

Those from Deer Park 4-H Club who attended the leaders

council meeting in Thief River Falls Monday evening were Roger Barnes, Kory Chervestad, Mike and Regene Radnietki and Faye Stacy.

Forty Years Ago February 14, 1974

A boy scout troop is going to be reorganized in Oklee. The new scoutmaster will be Mr. LeRoy Hruby. The assistant scoutmaster will be Rene Hofstad.

Oklee students received "A" ratings at the district solo competition in Waubun on Feb. 7th were Marcia Radnietki, Sherry Swenson, Gene Arveson, Mark Sletto and Vance Haugen.

Cash wheat at the Oklee Elevator hit a new high this week. Last week spring wheat was \$5.10. This week it is \$5.40. This is a jump of thirty cents in one week.

While staying in the United States, Seiji Ota, Japanese exchange student is living with the Harold Vatthauer family of rural Plummer.

Thirty Years Ago February 8, 1984

Kevin Enerson and Gary Parenteau, Oklee High seniors, applied and were chosen as messengers and pages at the house floor in St. Paul for the State Legislature.

Milan Rustan caught the record breaking 15lb. 3oz. 39 inch long Northern Pike at Zippie Bay, Lake of the Woods on January 22nd. Included in the fishing party were Virgil and Al Radnietki.

A baby shower was held at the Rindahl home Friday evening in honor of Debbie Rindahl and infant son Derrick Jack.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnie Paradis were host to a fish fry dinner party with Mr. and Mrs. Del Determan and boys, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Brekke and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Olson and Shannon on Sunday evening.

Thirty Years Ago February 9, 1994

Oklee Firemen who recently completed additional training were George Burthwick, Don Knutson, Jamie Peterson, Steve Haugen, Mike Dessellier, Jim Dessellier and John Burthwick.

Angel Mickelson, daughter of Winton and Linda Mickelson and Paul Melby, son of Robert and Phyllis Melby, have been nominated for the Academics, Arts and Athletics Award.

Diane Plante had the misfortune of falling on the ice and breaking her ankle on Tuesday.

Terry Rewertz has returned home after surgery at the Da-

kota Hospital in Fargo.

Mike Fore, an 11 year old Oklee sixth grade student took all three prizes at the Hoop Shoot contest held during half-time at the RLCC Boys Basketball game in Plummer on Feb. 4th. For making the lay-up shot, he won a pizza and shake, for the free throw shot he won a liter of pop and when the 5'2" young athlete made the half court shot, he won \$200. Mike confessed he has been practicing this shot.

Twenty Years Ago February 12, 2004

Local teenager, Nicholas Burns, was killed in a two car accident north of Oklee. Two others were injured and taken to the hospital, Allison Berns and Debra Gunderson.

Iona Berry presented a gift of appreciation to Bonny Cote for her computer assistance at the Senior Craft Shop in Oklee.

Bob and Pam O'Neill of Oklee and Lorraine Lorensen of Strathcona, announce the engagement of their children, Katie Ann and Mary Ryan.

Meet the Kindergarten featured Holly Vettleson and Ben Kolling this week.

Jennifer Tougas of Oklee has been named to the Dean's list for Alexandria Technical College.

Todd Bergeron, former Oklee High School standout, is now the head coach for the Greenbush/Middle River/Badger Gators varsity wrestling team. He graduated from Oklee in 1987, a wrestler with a 136-19-1 career record.

Oscar Flateland celebrated his 90th birthday with a party held at the Oklee Cafe, which was filled with friends and family wishing him many more years.

Ten Years Ago February 12, 2014

RLCC High School received a new digital piano recently. They applied for a grant in November and it was accepted. and in January a new piano was delivered. The digital piano, known as a clavivova, sounds like a variety of other instruments, will play a rhythm to any style or tempo of music and can also utilize apps and other web services.

At the Senior Site they had a Valentine dinner and the King and Queen for the evening were Ron Juneau and Carol Kvasager. Everyone got a candy treat.

The I-500 was held at the & Clans Casino over the past week. The Plummer Snowmobile Club helped with marking the rails and then cleaning up the signs quickly after the race was over.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: Mortgage: Nicholas W Johnson, a single person Mortgagee: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

Dated: January 15, 2010 Recorded: January 19, 2010 Red Lake County Recorder Document No. 128796

Assigned To: Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Dated: January 15, 2010 Recorded: January 19, 2010 Red Lake County Recorder Document No. 128797

Assigned To: Wells Fargo Bank. N.A.

Dated: May 27, 2010 Recorded: June 14, 2010 Red Lake County Recorder Document No. 129206

Assigned To: US Bank National Association Dated: June 2, 2010 Recorded: June 14, 2010 Red Lake County Recorder Document No. 129207

Transaction Agent: N/A Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: N/A Lender or Broker: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Residential Mortgage Servicer: U.S. Bank National Association Mortgage Originator: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: LOTS (1), (2) & (3) OF BLOCK (70) IN KRETZSCHMAR'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF RED LAKE FALLS.

This is Abstract Property. TAX PARCEL NO.: 17-3187-000 ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 415 Broadway Ave Ne Red Lake Falls, MN 56750

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Red Lake

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$39,780.00

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE: \$32,792.10

That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; that no action or proceeding has

been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: April 18, 2024, 10:00 AM

PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Office, 124 N. Main, Red Lake Falls, MN

to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within 6 Months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns.

DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: The date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under Minnesota Statutes section 580.30 or the property redeemed under Minnesota Statutes section 580.23 is October 18, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then the date to vacate is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: NONE

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Dated: February 7, 2024 U.S. Bank National Association, Assignee of Mortgage By: HALLIDAY, WATKINS & MANN, P.C. Attorneys for: U.S. Bank National Association, Assignee of Mortgage 1333 Northland Drive, Suite 205 Mendota Heights, MN 55120 801-355-2886 651-228-1753 (fax)

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MN11388, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27 049-2C

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

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 rlcedc@yahoo.com.

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More Basketball!!

By Eric Mickelson

The Red Lake County Rebels basketball team been turning some heads around the area and even in the state of Minnesota. Most recently congratulations to Owen Chervestad on getting his 1000th point!

I came across a picture that turned my head, even back in 1976 communities, like Oklee were closely following their basketball teams. Back then not the Rebels but the Oklee Bobcats made the paper as they won their first District 30 tournament game against Halstad Pirates. They advanced to the next round where they will play the McIntosh Scots.



Front Row: Scott Spong, Jerome Hruby, Bill Stenberg, Zack Fore, and Jeff Stenberg.

Second Row: Coach Dale Svaren, Mgr. Keith Barsness, Roger Good, Sherman Knutson, Mgr. Kevin Bergeron, Coach Tom Sedler.

Back Row: Kevin Karel, Phil Fore, Jim Mitchell, Mark Nelson, and Dave Gunderson.



Do You Remember?

By Eric W. Mickelson

Do you remember the...Bicentennial!

More about the Bicentennial!

By Eric Mickelson

Last week I wrote a little piece about Oklee's preparations for the Bicentennial Celebration in 1976. Many hours of hard work and planning go into the preparation needed to pull off a celebration of this nature. I couldn't help doing a little more digging and came across a couple of fun pictures from the past, as the town got ready for the big party!



The janitorial crew putting up the Bicentennial Flag. Martin Walker, Ambrose Bergeron, Elmer Hanson, and Wallace Nelson. The Bicentennial Flag and the United States Flag will be flown day and night with a light shining on them in front of the school.



The City of Oklee also put up a new sign on the school lot facing the highway. Putting up the sign was Mayor Alvin Jensen, Larry Cote, Roger Plante, and Mike Paquin.

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START DATE

Who's Dat?



Who's Dat?

This week's photo is of five children happy playing outside. Last Week's photo was of Onezime Bachand, Fr. Keogh Patnode, and Joe Dufault in 1982.

Correction on the Eric Mickelson photo, the other person was David Hamm. This picture was taken around 1985. Both still live and farm in the area.

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.



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 enjoy some fun game time visiting with your fellow seniors.

February Meeting

Changes were made to the Constitution to bring it up to date since we no longer have LSS meals. It was decided that the Craft Shop will close and letters will be sent out to vendors with more details and then it was decided that instead of a Valentine's Gathering, a

Presidents Day gathering will be held on February 20th with delicious pies and coffee. So Mark your Calendar!!

Jokes

A policeman spotted a jay walker and decided to challenge him, 'Why are you trying to cross here when there's a zebra crossing only 20 metres away?' 'Well,' replied the jay walker, 'I hope it's having better luck than me.'

Going To Church I didn't see you in church last Sunday, Perkins. I hear you were out playing football instead. 'That's not true, Vicar. And I've got the fish to prove it.'

Have a good week and hope you are enjoying the nice weather.

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

The Plummer Snowmobile Club had their "Junkers & Clunkers" fund raiser "Trails for Treatment" for cancer at the Plummer Hall on Saturday, February 3rd. They served macaroni salad, and barbecues. There were about fifteen sleds in all.

Brodie Traxler, of Thief River Falls, celebrated his 15th birthday early in the week. He is the grandson of Bob Traxler.

Anna DeHate attended the hockey game of her great-granddaughter on Saturday at the Ralph Engelstad arena on the 3rd of February. She is the granddaughter of Linda and Marty Hagenson of

Thief River Falls.

The weather has been cloudy for at least four days. It rained most of Thursday morning (today). So, it is sloppy and just plain gooey mud. The sun needs to shine for sure.

Tri-River Pioneers had their monthly meeting Monday, the 5th. Two new people became members. Jordan and Mickyayla Chaput. There will be a tractor coloring contest at RLCC Elementary in Plummer. They will be judged and prizes given to winners.

Country Singer, Toby Keith passed away at age 62 from Stomach cancer. He was a sing-

er-song writer. He is a former oil field worker from Oklahoma. His big hits were: "Should Have Been a Cowboy", and "How Do You Like Me Now." He had a wife and three adult children and grandchildren..

I doubt I'll be doing any more skiing, unless the weather changes drastically. It's a muddy mess out there. The cars and pickups don't stay clean for long.

I wonder when the robins will come. A couple of winters ago, I saw robins in my trees in January, or February. It was cold that time.

Have a good week, everyone.

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

The weather still is holding for the warmer side. It did cool down, but there is a lot of water on those rivers out there. I am quite surprised at the amount of water that is in the ditches, and on the ponds around the countryside. We will take it as it isn't so bad that we can't stand it. The one thing that I haven't been too fond of is the fog. It seems to bother my medical condition more than clear weather. Just try to make lemonade if you are given a bunch of lemons,

I have heard that Bob Bernier of Oklee has had a bad flu, so I am asking for our prayer warriors to shoot him a bunch of prayers. Get well quickly Bob.

If you have a pet dragon in your yard, give him or her something they like. Either a bone or a good hunk of meat or a watermelon. Whatever is their pleasure. As of Saturday we have moved to the year of the dragon. It is a Chinese tradition and this year we are at the dragon year. The years in the chronological way is rat, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster,

dog, pig. It is a good time to have a celebration and of course a dragon dancing in the streets.

Our sympathy goes out to the Delage family at the loss of their brother Harvey. He and his wife lived in Thief River Falls. His funeral will be Monday Feb. 12, at St Bernard's Church. Harvey grew up in Brooks and came to our many

gatherings over the years. He was always so friendly and everyone like to see him. He is the brother of Richard and the late Robert Delage. Rest in peace old friend.

That is what we have on short notice in a short week for me. Enjoy life, and I hope your pick for the super bowl won.

Bonny's Bits

This past weekend, I was gone until Monday because we hadn't gotten together with our oldest daughter yet for Christmas. I know it seems strange to have a Christmas so late in the winter, but between weather and illness, we just couldn't manage to get it together.

We decided to gather in the Twin Cities for our Christmas. On Saturday morning, We drove down with our youngest daughter and Vi Cote to Minnetonka. Saturday night we enjoyed our Christmas and went out for breakfast on Sunday with Tim & Wendy Cote. They did a little shopping before gathering again to enjoy the Super Bowl. We drove home on Monday and I will be in my office on Friday for sure.

Here is a little Valentine Trivia:

15% of U.S. women send themselves flowers on Valen-

tine's Day.

73% of people who buy flowers for Valentine's Day are men, while only 27 percent are women.

About 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are exchanged each year. That's the largest seasonal card-sending occasion of the year, next to Christmas.

About 3% of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets.

Alexander Graham Bell applied for his patent on the telephone, an "Improvement in Telegraphy", on Valentine's Day, 1876.

California produces 60 percent of American roses, but the vast number sold on Valentine's Day in the United States are imported, mostly from South America. Approximately 110 million roses, the majority red, will be sold and delivered within a three-day time period.

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