

Oklee Precipitation
By Einar Kvasager

	Rain	Snow
March 25	0.05	
Total in.	0.05	0.00

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

Vol. 104, Number 32

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

Easter Egg Hunt in Oklee



The group of children from 0 - 3 years old were lined up and allowed to pick up eggs filled with treats without them buried in Easter grass.



The Pre-school to Kindergarten group had lots of fun digging through the Easter grass to find filled eggs.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt in Oklee was held on Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. at the Oklee Community Hall. The children attending were broken into four age groups and after they each had a chance to find Easter Eggs, they could go and pick out a book to take home and read. There was also a table set up for the children to make things with foam cutouts and also sheets of mazes, word games, or coloring sheets of Easter Bunnies, ducks, etc. The children signed up as they came in and also could estimate how many pieces of candy were in two different containers. At the end of the events, the two winners who were closest to the actual count, was winner of the container of candy. The children had a great time and the parents and grandparents also had fun watching the young ones.

Calendar of Events

Wed, Mar. 30:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Mar. 31:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Apr. 1:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Apr. 2:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Apr. 3:
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Apr. 4:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Apr. 5:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards
Wed, Apr. 6:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Apr. 7:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Apr. 8:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Apr. 9:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Apr. 10:
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Apr. 11:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Apr. 12:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards.
Wed, Apr. 13, 9:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.



The children in the 1st and 2nd grade attacked the pile of Easter grass looking and clearing the area of treat-filled eggs in a very short time.



There were only 4 boys in the 3rd/4th grade group and they had a good haul of treats.



There were two candy guessing games and the winners of the game were William Mostrom and Jaylee Parsley.

Oklee Snowman Contest



First annual snowman contest was held with very little snow this year! Pictured in order are the winners.

First place prize of \$75 went to DJ Bernstein!

Second place went to Janae Olsen & her exchange sister Anna A. of \$50.

Third place was a tie and each recieved \$25.

Third Place winners were Megan Smith and Billie Jo Gryskiewicz.

Third place winners Peyton & Owen O'Neil who built their 2 snowmen in front of Great Grandma Irene Rosten's.

We hope to do this again next year with more workable snow & a bit more organized!

This was open to all ages!!

Thanks to all who participated! !



Malayla Hamm found a very pretty Easter egg during the hunt on Saturday.

Did you know? If you already subscribe to the paper you can view online for free!!!!



Tri County Canary

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Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Margaret Jacobus
Wed, Mar. 30: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation.
Sun, Apr. 3: 9:00 a.m. Zion. 9:00 a.m. Salem Sunday School. 10:15 a.m. Zion Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Salem.
Wed, Apr. 6: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH OKLEE
Fr. Adam Hamness
Sun, Apr. 3: 7:30 a.m. Confessions 8:00 a.m. Mass.

BROOKS – RED LAKE FALLS CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bill DeCrans
Sat, Apr. 2: 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph – RLF
Sun, Apr. 3: 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
Sun, Apr. 3: 9:00 a.m. Worship at Immanuel. 10:15 a.m. SS at Immanuel. 10:30 a.m. Worship at Ebenezer.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH
Bethany-Ekelund-Faith Interim Pastor Phil Johnson
Wed, Mar. 30: Release Time.
Fri, Apr. 1: 10:00 a.m. Ekelund Quilting.
Sun, Apr. 3: 8:30 a.m. Ekelund. 9:45 Ekelund SS. 9:45 a.m. Faith. 11:00 a.m. Faith SS. 11:00 a.m. Bethany. 9:45 a.m. Bethany SS.
Mon, Apr. 4: 1:30 p.m. Ekelund Ladies Aid.
Tue, Apr. 5: 1:00 p.m. Faith, Eve Circles.
Wed, Apr. 6: Release Time.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive – Nazareth Oak Park – St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseth
Wed, Mar. 30: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School. 7:30 p.m. Oak Park Ladies Aid.
Sat, Apr. 2: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School.
Sun, Apr. 3: 8:00 a.m. St. Petri. 9:15 a.m. St. Petri SS; 8:00 a.m. Nazareth Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Nazareth Brunch. 9:45 a.m. Nazareth; 9:45 a.m. OP Sunday School. 11:00 a.m. Oak Park.
Wed, Apr. 6: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg, Youth Pastor
www.newjournefosston.com
Wed, Mar. 30: 6:30 p.m. AWANA and Youth Group.
Thu, Mar. 31: 12:00 p.m. Rotary meeting.
Fri, Apr. 1: 8:00 a.m. Friday School.
Sun, Apr. 3: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.
Wed, Apr. 6: 6:30 p.m. AWANA and Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Sun, Apr. 3: 9:00 a.m. Lund. 10:30 a.m. Bethany.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY Fosston
Jon Marx, Lead Pastor
Seth Johnson, Assist. Pastor
Sun, Apr. 3: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship.

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4-H Share the Fun

Performance

The Annual Red Lake County 4-H Share the Fun performances will be held on Friday, April 8th beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Lafayette High School (Robert Matzke Gymnasium). The Share the Fun acts will be featured by the Red Lake County 4-H Clubs. Performing arts participants will perform in between the club skits. Judges will be asked to select the top two skits, which will be able to go on to the Minnesota State Fair.

Oklee Senior Site Dining

April 4 - 8
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: Hamburger on bun, potato salad, vegetable, dessert, and milk.

Tuesday: Evening meal: Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, vegetable, dessert and milk.

Wednesday: Chicken strip, hash browns, vegetables, toast, dessert and milk.

Thursday: Taco on fried bread w/all the trimmings, dessert and milk.

Friday: Hamburger macaroni tomato hotdish, vegetable, toast, dessert and milk.

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, Mar. 30: Fargo/ Moorhead – Crookston.
Fri, Apr. 1: Crookston – Thief River Falls, Plummer, Red Lake Falls.
Mon, Apr. 4: Fargo/ Moorhead – Crookston.

Red Lake Falls Library News

The Northwest Regional Library Board of Trustees has approved an hours-of-operation schedule change for the Red Lake Falls branch library. Effective Friday, April 1 new hours will be Tuesday & Wednesday: 12:00 to 7:00 pm, Thursday & Friday 12:00 to 5:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, with Sunday & Monday closed.

This new schedule will add 1 more hour, and 1 more day of access for a total of 28 hours over 5 days per week. Further advantages of this change will be increased after-school and evening hours, and no loss of hours due to Monday-holiday closures. As before, the RLF branch will be open on Saturday for those who prefer weekend access. With an opening hour each weekday of 12:00 noon, the new schedule will be more consistent, thus easier to remember. Business cards and bookmarks with

Give your kitchen or bathroom a whole new look. Install new windows, add a deck, or build a garage. If you're thinking about a home improvement project, put us in your plans.

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Red Lake County Commissioners Minutes

RED LAKE COUNTY Regular Meeting Held February 9, 2016

Pursuant to adjournment of its regular meeting the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners duly met in regular session at the courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN on February 9, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Chair Simpson called the meeting to order. All members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

County Engineer Kleven met with the board and reported that three county highway projects from year 2014 are considered complete for final payment. The construction projects were joint projects completed in conjunction with Polk County on CSAH No.5, CSAH No. 7, and CSAH No. 8. Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Weiss and carried unanimously to approve final payment on Contract SAP 063-605-010 (CSAH 5) in the amount of **\$80,147.68** to Knife River Materials, Inc.

Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve final payment on Contract SAP 063-607-010 (CSAH 7) in the amount of **\$52,059.94** to Knife River Materials, Inc.

Commissioner Sorensen moved, seconded by Lerohl and carried unanimously to approve final payment on Contract SAP 063-608-010 (CSAH 8) in the amount of **\$21,671.23** to Knife River Materials, Inc.

Kleven mentioned that a replacement 15' Batwing Mower is needed for mowing roadside ditches. The current mower is a 2005 model year. Kleven presented a quote from John Deere in Thief River Falls in the amount of \$21,000 less trade allowance \$6500 with a net price of \$14,500 for a 2016 Landpride RCM6615. The mower is factored in the 2016 budget. Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve the purchase as presented.

Kleven reported on the Local Road Improvement Program for the City of Red Lake Falls to renew road surfaces on some city streets. The city would be responsible for

approximately 30% to 40% of the cost and the balance would be paid out of the state bonding program. The program requires that any city under 5000 population must have the county involved as the fiscal agent and to supervise the road overlay project. Kleven stated that the city must first get all utilities upgraded that are located in the construction areas before the county proceeds. City Council member Al Bertilrud was in attendance and informed that the city recently approved a resolution to have Red Lake County be the fiscal agent and administer the project on the city's behalf. Kleven informed that he will provide future updates.

Commissioner Weiss mentioned that the Red Lake Watershed is reviewing a permit request to install a natural gas pipeline in the City of Red Lake Falls. Kleven reported that he received some information the previous day but has not yet reviewed it. Kleven will review and return later in the meeting to update.

Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Sorensen and unanimously carried to approve the expenditures for the period as follows:

Vendor Name	Amount
Cardmember Service	\$ 4,313.91
Computer Professionals Inc.	2,026.00
Plummer Coop Creamery	2,158.93
Red Lake County Coop	7,326.29
Taser International	2,628.72
Thibert Chevrolet	35,285.27
39 Payments less than 2000.	13,204.91
Final Total	\$ 66,944.03

The motion includes the following added bills: \$250.00 to MN State Law Library; \$434.24 to Personnel Concepts; \$284.76 to Thomson Reuter-West.

Sheriff Bernstein submitted an amended Joint Powers Agreement for the PTP Drug & Violent Crime Task Force. Bernstein provided information that the agreement is being amended due to staffing changes by some of the participants to the agreement. Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Flage and carried by unanimous vote to approve the amended agreement

as presented. The Board Chairman and County Auditor were authorized to sign the agreement.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Weiss and carried unanimously to approve the minute from the regular board meeting held January 26, 2016.

A request was presented by the County Attorney. Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Weiss and unanimously carried to approve **Resolution No. 02-01-16 "Access to Minnesota Government Electronic Court Records"** and is listed as follows:

WHEREAS, the new Minnesota Government Access Accounts, allowing government agencies to view appropriate electronic court records and documents stored in the Minnesota Court Information System for cases in Minnesota District Courts require authorization from the governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Board of Red Lake County, MN:

Approves and authorizes Michael Lacoursiere, Red Lake County Attorney, to sign the Master Subscriber Agreement for Minnesota Court Data Services for Governmental Agencies.

That the Red Lake County Attorney, Michael Lacoursiere, is the designated Authorized Representative for the Red Lake County Attorney's Office. The Authorized Representative is also authorized to sign any subsequent amendment or agreement that may be required by the State of Minnesota to maintain the County's connection to the systems and tools offered by the state.

That Commissioner Chuck Simpson, the Chair of the County Board, and Robert Schmitz, the County Auditor/Board Clerk, are authorized to sign the resolution.

The following Commissioner/Committee reports were shared:

<u>Commissioner</u> Weiss	<u>Meeting/Report</u> Area Agency on Aging discussing meeting dates and agency bylaws.
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Flage County Safety meeting regarding the Annual Safety Training and OSHA reporting.

Weiss Tri County Corrections discussing audit and budget, Juvenile Center, Probation, Jail Administration and the food service contract; MRCC discussing the sales tax fund for transportation purposes and 2016 priorities; NW Mental Health reviewing programs and financials.

Lerohl County Fair board regarding 2016 activities schedule and Legacy Funds Grant; AMC Job Fair Seminars, and meetings of the NWRDC and the Local Elected Official Board.

Simpson County Fair Board.

Engineer Kleven returned to the meeting to update on the natural gas pipeline permit to be discussed at the RLWD meeting the next day in Thief River Falls. The project plans are to install the pipeline within the county's highway right of way on CSAH No. 3, No. 18 and No 11 with the 4 inch main to be installed approximately 50 feet from the road centerline. Kleven informed that he will attend the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned until February 23, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest:
Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

Chuck Simpson, Chair,
Board of Commissioners
O1C

ADDRESS CHANGES

CONTACT THE
OKLEE HERALD AT
218-796-5181
OR
EMAIL:
okleeherald@gmail.com

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

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****Winner 1st place Typography Excellence,** Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1971.
****Winner 1st place Best Feature Story,** Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1981.
****Winner 1st place Best Single News or Feature Story,** Minnesota Medical Association, 1992.

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RLCC Menus

April 4 - 8
Oklee

Mon: Breakfast: Bakery roll, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Taco in a bag or soft shell taco, potatoes, oil, refried beans, fruit, and milk.

Tue: Breakfast: French toast sticks, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chicken strips, cheesy potatoes, vegetables, fruit w/dipping sauce, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Hot dogs or polishes w/chili & cheese, baked beans, chips, fruit, and milk.

Thu: Breakfast: S'mores, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Ham patty (w/lettuce, cheese, mayo), French fries, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Fri: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chef salad, breadsticks, fresh vegetables, fruit, cottage cheese, and milk.

Plummer

Mon: Breakfast: Blueberry muffin, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Mini corn dogs, baked beans, macaroni & cheese, fruit, and milk.

Tue: Breakfast: Egg wrap, cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken, baby bakes, tangy coleslaw, bread, fruit, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Breakfast Scramble pizza, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Subs, baked beans, hash browns, mini carrots, banana, and milk.

Thu: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Hotdish, broccoli & cauliflower w/ranch, salad, fruit, grilled cheese, and milk.

Fri: Breakfast: French toast, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Tacos, carrot dippers, fruit, cinnamon churro, and milk.

ECFE News

ECFE April Events

By: Katie Pendleton
Red Lake County Central's Early Childhood Family Education is for children ages birth-5 years old and their parents or other special adults. Grandparents, family members, and other adults are welcome to attend.

There will be no ECFE events scheduled for Thursday, April 7 or April 14.

A "Beach Party Family Fun Night" is planned for Thursday, April 21 at the Oklee site from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm for 0-5 years old. Wear your sunglasses for "Beach Night!" Spend time in the sand, water, and sun!! Explore shells, sea life, make hula hoop bubbles, rainbow fish painting, and lots more "beachy" things! Make your own ice cream and get ready to have fun, fun, fun, in the sun!!! Bring your camera to capture sunny photos.

There will be a "Field Trip to the Headwaters Science Center in Bemidji" Thursday, April 28 from 4:30-9:30 pm for 3 ½ -5 year olds and their parents. We will be eating at Giovanni's Pizza and touring the Science Center. This is an awesome field trip!!! Check it out at www.hscbemidji.org. The bus will be leaving at 4:30 pm from Red Lake Falls School and picking up at Plummer at 4:45 pm and then Oklee families at 5:10 pm. The bus ride will cost \$5.00 per family. Supper at Giovanni's Pizza will be free-will donation and the money will be collected on the bus. Entry to the museum is paid for by a REA Operation Round-up grant.

All families interested in attending this field trip must call in ahead of time by Thursday, April 21st to determine how many pizzas and how many busses will be needed. Red Lake Falls' families should call: Wanda Nelson at 253-2161 ext. 229 or wnelson@rlfedu.org. Plummer families call: Margaret Hamrum at 465-4222 ext. 18 or mhamrum@rlcc.k12.mn.us, and Oklee families call: Joni Bjerklie at 796-5136.



Wednesday, March 30, 2016



Junior Makay Berns made a coffee table with two glass inserts in his RLCC Industrial Tech class.



Marcus Christensen working on a project using the turning lathe in his shop class at RLCC.



Senior Alan Nemec from RLCC made two night stands made out of knotty hickory and a mirror with etched glass with a moose on it in shop class.

RLCC School Legals

ISD 2906 Red Lake County Central Minutes-March 16

The ISD 2906 Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at RLCC Elementary School in Plummer.

Kolstoe, Trontvedt, Hamrum, D. Paradis, Bray, Melby, P. Paradis, Cater were present. Person was absent.

Motions were carried to approve February minutes, financials, 2016-17 School Calendar, Principals contracts for 2016-17 and 2017-18, work agreement for dishwasher at the Elementary for remainder of the 2015-16 school year, enter into negotiations for a Shared Superintendent Contract for 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 with RLCC, RLF and Supt. Guetter.

(Complete minutes may be seen in the district office at 260 Minnesota Street, Plummer, MN or on our school website at www.rlcc2906.org.)

Darby Trontvedt
ISD 2906 School Board Clerk o/c

RLCC High School Parent Teacher Conferences, March 31

By: Nicole Riendeau
Red Lake County Central High School's end of third quarter was Thursday, March 24, 2016. The High School Parent Teacher Conference night is scheduled for Thursday,

March 31 from 4-8 pm. Report cards will be handed out at the conferences. Ms. Beth Hagen is only available from 4-6 pm.

RLC Track season begins

By: Ethan Vettleson
Red Lake County Rebels track season began Monday, March 14, 2016. There are 39 RLC athletes participating in track this year from Red Lake County Central and Red Lake Falls. The returning seniors are Devin Lambert and Marcus Christensen. Coaches include Mr. Randy Huie and Mrs. Cheryl Matzke.

Their first track and field event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12 and is the Trojan Early Bird Track Meet in Barnesville. Track meets may be dependent upon the weather and field conditions.

RLC Speech Public Performance is April 3

By: Nicole Riendeau
The Red Lake County Speech team has a public performance coming up on Sunday, April 3, 2016. It will be held in the Multi-Purpose room at 4:00 pm at Red Lake County Central High School in Oklee.

Throughout the winter, the speech team has been busy practicing their speeches and participating in meets. The public is welcome to come and see their performances.

11TH Annual Plummer Lions Speech Meet

By: Nick Plante
Red Lake Country Speech team hosted the 11TH annual Plummer Lions Invitational Speech Meet on March 19,

2016 at Red Lake County High School. There were 11 schools who attended the meet and 150 participants. Winning the tournament was East Grand

Forks, in second place was Crookston, and third place was Warroad. Red Lake County took eighth place.

RLC individual results were

Lily Guillemette taking first place in Poetry, Sydney Melby taking second place in Humor, Shelby Gunderson taking sixth place in Great Speeches, and

Jade Person taking six place in Humor. Also Natalie Aakhus earned red ribbon in Drama and Jayden Iverson earned red ribbon in Poetry.



11th annual RLC Plummer Lions Invitational Speech Meet was held March 19 at RLCC in Oklee. RLC speech team includes Natalie Aakhus, Lilly Hanson, David Clifton, Remi Rathack, Lily Guillemette, Kara Longtin, Jayden Iverson, Lana Bravo, Phillip Sorenson, Jayden Fore, Tom Nelson, Sydney Melby, Abby Walton, Jade Person, Deidra Walton, Zoe Russillo, Shelby Gunderson, and not pictured Allison Aakhus, Serenity May, Carly Williams, and Nick Piersol.

Oklee Herald Early Files

Seventy Years Ago
April 4, 1946
Mr. and Mrs. Andy Knutson took over the ownership and operation of the Oklee Café and Hotel on Monday of this week. The new enterprise will be known as Andy's Café.
Red Lake County had six suspensions of drivers licenses in the first two months of 1946.
Garden Valley Telephone Company has mailed out phone directories and is urging callers to call by number rather than by name in order to save the operator's time.
Temperatures rose to the 70's last week but dropped again nearly to freezing, bringing a light snowfall. It was snowing again yesterday afternoon.
Sixty Years Ago
March 29, 1956
Minnesota was locked in a March blizzard this week with a threatened six to eight inches of snowfall and nor-wester winds.
Oklee stores will remained open all day tomorrow (Good Friday) because of poor weather and road conditions which sewed up the area Wednesday and today.
Mr. and Mrs. Gunny Gunderson, Mr. and Mrs. O.M. Mandt and Mrs. Sena Chervestad called at the home of Gunder Anderson to help him celebrate his 74th birthday.
Fifty Years Ago
March 31, 1966
Brooks Manufacturing Company moved its operation

into the former Hartz building in Oklee this week.
B r o o k s / P l u m m e r
Presbyterian Church members had a welcome potluck supper Friday evening to welcome their new minister, Rev. and Mrs. Robert Villwock and family.
Judy Pederson was picked by the Plummer Chapter of the American Legion Auxiliary as its candidate to attend the Girls State in St. Paul in June. Alternate was Jane Linder.
Forty Years Ago
March 25, 1976
Mr. and Mrs. Korydon Chervestad are the proud parents of a baby girl born March 22nd. They named her Abigail Helen.
Seniors Mark Nelson and Phil Fore were honored this year by being selected all conference basketball players.
On March 23rd, 1976, at a special meeting, the voters of Gully Township voted to form a Township Militia.
Thirty Years Ago
March 26, 1986
The Oklee Farmers Cooperative Elevator Association held their annual meeting on March 22nd with over 200 patrons attending.
Mr. and Mrs. Roger and Janel Walter of Plummer were selected to participate in the Land O' Lakes annual meeting for the Young Farmers Program held February 24-27th in Minneapolis.
Jennifer Cyr was an

alternate winner in the Minnesota Music Teachers Association State Piano Contest held at Normandale Community College in Minneapolis on March 15th.
Twenty Years Ago
March 27, 1996
Governor Arne Carlson has announced the award of a Small Cities Development grant of \$531,949 to the City of Oklee. The City of Oklee will use the grant to construct a new water tower, new well, and water transmission line from the new well.
Tomina Wilmo, turned 90 recently and a birthday party was held for her at the United Church in Berner.
Named to the Academic All-State Girls Basketball team were Patty Greenwald and Maria Austad.
Ten Years Ago
March 30, 2006
Kevin and Deb Amiot of Red Lake Falls perfectly represent the proud, hardworking, humble, farmers of Red Lake County. They were named the 2006 Red Lake Falls Ag Couple of the Year.
Courtney Halvorson (Best Defensive Player), Brittany Gustafson (MVP; joined the 1,000 point club), Betsy Winkler (Highest Free-Throw %, 300 rebounds club), Kayla Pelletier (Most Improved), and Faith Kruchowski (Miss Hustle) were honored at the recent athletic banquet for their skills in Girls Basketball.

Red Lake County Extension Educator

Curtis W. Nyegaard - 218-253-2895

Think Twice Before Cutting Crop Input Costs

The Economic Environment Faced By Farmers In 2016 Makes It Imperative That Any Plans To Reduce Costs Must First Be Evaluated On Whether Or Not They Will Impact Yield. If any of your plans could affect net profit per acre for crop production, will the net profit be more impacted by "yield, price, or costs"?
Dwight Aakre, N D S U Extension Farm Management Specialist, says "when operating margins are strong, as was the situation for several years prior to 21013, this concern seldom came to mind. There were adequate returns to cover rising costs and minor yield reductions because commodity prices were still strong and rising. Since grain prices peaked in 2012, the price for wheat and soybeans has declined by 40% and the price of corn has been cut in half. At the same time, costs have declined very little.
Therefore; most farm operators are struggling with the cost price squeeze and are looking for every possible way to deal with it. The typical first response is to cut costs. Cutting costs will be a necessary part of the strategy to survive this financial squeeze, yet producers need to be careful where they cut lest they make the cash flow situation even worse. Some serious analysis is needed to determine if a cost is fixed or variable. Fixed costs are difficult to alter in the short term without disrupting the business. Costs associated with ownership of assets, such as machinery, buildings and land, make up the majority of fixed costs on most farms.
Variable costs are items used up in the production of a crop within the crop year. Common variable costs include seed, fertilizer, pesticides, fuel, repairs, crop insurance, drying and operating interest. The easiest costs to reduce are variable costs. Another way to look at costs is whether a cost contributes directly to yield, either enhancing yield or saving yield potential. The expenditures meeting this criteria are seed, fertilizer and pesticides. These are the costs that are the easiest to reduce, but cutting these costs often results in reduced yield potential, possibly making the cash flow even worse.
What is the importance of yield, price and costs in determining net profit? Farm and Ranch Business Management Education record summaries for the Red River Valley from 2005 to 21014, were examined to shed some light on this question. When a wheat enterprise on cash rented land was analyzed; the ten year average yield, price, direct costs and land rent were summarized for all farms, including the 20 percent most profitable farms and 20 percent least profitable farms. "Return over variable costs"(ROVC) is yield times price minus direct costs and cash rent. The average for all farms was \$77.30 per per

year, but the real story is in the difference between high and low profit groups.
The low profit farms were \$24.26 short of paying for direct costs and cash rent. This shortfall had to be made up from other farm enterprises, or non farm income or credit. These high profit farms generated enough cash per acre to cover all direct costs and land rent, and still had \$162.98 left to make principal and interest payments on machinery debt and provide for family living. The records clearly show that yield, price, direct costs and cash rent all contributed to the difference in profitability between the low 20% and high 20% of farms enrolled in this educational program.
The next step was to look at the ROVC for the different groups if the average price received for all farms was applied to the high profit and low profit farms. This reduced the gross income and ROVC for the high profit farms and raised the gross income and ROVC for the low profit farms. The results show the low profit farms improved only slightly, still not covering direct costs and cash rent, and leaving nothing left to pay principal and interest payments on machinery debt and family living. On the other hand, while the high profit farms would have received a reduction in income of nearly \$24 per acre, they still had \$139 per acre ROVC.
If all farms sold for the same price, spent the same for direct costs and paid the same for land rent, would there still be a significant difference in operating profit as measured by the ROVC? Equalizing selling price, direct costs and land rent

leaves only yield remaining to account for the difference in the ROVC. Yield alone accounted for a \$113 per acre difference in the ROVC and therefore, net profit per acre between the farms in the lowest 20 percent and farms in the highest 20 percent. "Yield will always be the primary determinant of profitability," Aakre says. Certainly direct costs, market price and land rent impact profitability as well, but this analysis suggest that all of these factors together do not equal the impact that yield has on the bottom line.
The economic environment faced by farmers in 2016 makes it imperative that any plans to reduce costs must first be evaluated on whether or not they will impact yield. The bottom line is that farmers cannot afford to lose yield in 2016. ***This Year Will Be A Cash Flow Challenge For Many Producers, But Don't Make It Worse By Making Short Sighted Decisions On Yield Enhancing Inputs!***
Most difficult financial situations arise from taking on too much debt on land and machinery. These obligations are incurred during good times and are feasible as long as those conditions last. But when markets turn down, there is considerably less cash flow to service this debt load. If more information on cash flows and operating expenses are needed; you can contact Dwight by e mailing him at dwight.aakre@ndsu.edu and ask for the Internet sites for the "PDF" and "EPS" files that are available for you.
Source: Dwight Aakre, N D S U Extension Farm Management Specialist.

Who's Dat?



Who's Dat?

This week the Who's Dat is from a photo hanging in the Oklee Historical Area in the City Building. All the other 1960 Bearded gentlemen are named except these two. The name of one is printed on the back, but not for the other. If you know who they are, please contact the Oklee Herald office at 796-5181 or email: okleeherald@gmail.com.
Last week's photo was of Patrick O'Neill who was in 2nd grade. Now he is a daddy of four very active boys.



Senior Site News and Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

Iona is gone for the week and will not have her column this week.

Dates to Remember
April 5: LSS Evening Meal 5:00 p.m. Please call 796-5666 to reserve your seat.
April 16: Senior Potluck Meal 5:00 p.m. Oklee Cafe.

Watch for more news next week.

Life's Little Instructions
Commit yourself to constant improvement.
Follow the three R's: Respect for self. Respect for others. Responsibility for all your actions.



Carol Kvasager was the Birthday meal winner for March. Congratuations.

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

Cindy and Del Determan hosted the Saturday traditional seder meal at their home for Brianna and Kyle Wanner and their children James, Andrew, and Felicity of Bismarck, ND. Colton and Jamie Determan and Kaydence and Camden of Detroit Lakes, Jess and Heidi

Determan of Brooks and their children Emma, Elizabeth, and Mikalya. In the afternoon the families spent time at the water park celebrating the birthdays of Andrew Wanner who turned 3 and Felicity Wanner who turned 1. On Sunday Brianna and Cindy went to Fosston to

visit with AJ Parenteau at the hospital. Others who visited with AJ were Randy Versdahl, Deb Champagne, and Joanne and Francis Bradley.
Aurel loves to get cards and good wishes from his friends and family. Send him some good wishes or a note at:
Essentia Health
First Care Living Center
Aurel Parenteau
900 Hillgoss Boulevard SE
Fosston MN 56542
Rebecca Novak of Mankato came to visit with her parents Jerome and Barb Novak. Jerome is in the Altru Rehabilitation Hospital until Tuesday of this week then he will be home for a couple of weeks.
Myrtle Hamrum went to Lowell Hamrum's home for supper on Friday evening.
Arron and Meg Determan went on their honeymoon to California (a delayed honeymoon) last week and returned home in time to join Aaron's family in a cookout on Sunday evening. Jess and Heidi Determan and children, Del and Cindy all joined together for the first cookout of the season. Who could have thought that at this early Easter we could have cookouts already?

Red Lake County Fair News

Outstanding Senior Citizen award
The Red Lake County Outstanding Senior Citizen award will be given Friday, June 24th.
Anyone interested in nominating someone should contact Lowell Hamrum at 218-698-4449 or John Lerohl at 218-796-5370.

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

The Plummer Legion Auxiliary met Saturday with 9 members present. Taylor Bushelle and Ashley Longtin applied for Girls State. They will both go later in the spring. The ladies had coffee and cinnamon frosted rolls DeeAnn Eskeli baked. We may have a rummage sale this summer.
Ducks Unlimited banquet was Friday night. BBQ ribs, walleye, baked potato and coleslaw, about 100 suppers served. There were gun drawings and other things given away.
Rick and Arlene Froiland traveled to Camp Ripley, near Little Falls, MN Friday, March 18th. They attended the promotion of their daughter Shannon to First Sergeant of Headquarters and Headquarters Company 347th Regional Support Group. Shannon's children, Dayton, Sterling and Arlee pinned her new rank insignia on her uniform and cap.
Later they attended the change of Responsibility Ceremony and reception. The commander of the Company, outgoing First Sergeant and Incoming First Sergeant, Shannon Froiland spoke.
Sterling and Arlee, who are on Spring break, came back with Grandpa and Grandma to spend the week on the farm.
On Saturday, March 26th the Plummer Lions and Lions Too had an Easter Egg Hunt at the

school at 10 a.m. Preschool-4th grade participated. Parents and kids had a great time.
I attended the AFRAN (French Club) annual dinner and meeting. It was held at St. Peter's Church in Gentilly at 12 noon on Palm Sunday. The menu was roast turkey, tourtiere (French Meat Pie) BBQ ribs, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables coleslaw, lettuce salad, cranberries, rolls apple pie and ice cream was served later for dessert.
University of Minnesota Crookston String Orchestra Director George French played piano and a female violinist played a few songs. The business meeting followed. Mass is at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. Father Augie is pastor. He stayed for dinner. St. Peters Church was 100 years old in 2014. Father Thellion (Thayon), Gentilly's 3rd priest was a good friend of James J. Hill (Empire Builder) railroad. Herode the train and promoted cheese from Gentilly's cheese factory. Interesting!
Ice was not out yet on the river on Thursday afternoon. Temperatures too cold at night. I'd guess two or three day and it would be out.
A few states had heavy snow fall on Wednesday, I think, southern Minnesota, Denver, CO, and Green Bay, WI.
I hope you all had a wonderful and blessed Easter.

Regional Ag News

Jim Stordahl, Extension Educator

When is Early too Early?

The recent warm temperatures this spring make it feel more like May than the end of March. Obviously, if the fields look ready, the question arises whether this early is too early. The last time this happen was in the spring of 2010, and fields planted very early resulted in disappointing wheat and barley yields. Yet, everyone understands that early planting is important but what are the risks of planting too early? Is there such a thing as too early for seeding wheat and other cool season grasses?
Spring wheat (and spring barley and oats) will start germinating in earnest when soil temperatures reach 40°F. Once the imbibition phase starts there is no return to dormancy and the germination/emergence should be as quick as possible to establish a healthy, vigorous seedling. Prolonged emergence will predispose the seedling to attacks of soilborne fungi like Pythium damping off or common root rot, ultimately reducing stands. Daytime highs in the sixties and night temperatures around 40 are great and will allow the crop to emerge in 8 to 10 days and make for a robust stand.

During this whole May 15 in the last 30 years, the warmest 30 April months on record and the 5 warmest April months on record.

Temperature	30-year average (1981-2010)	30 Warmest April months	5 Warmest April months
Percent days (%)			
<22 F	9	4	4
<28 F	25	15	6
<32 F	45	36	20
Average April temperature	43 F	47 F	50 F

Wednesday, March 30, 2016