

Oklee Precipitation

By Einar Kvasager

	Rain	Snow
April 6	0.11	0.50
April 7	trace	0.25
April 8	0.12	1.00
Total in.	0.23	1.75

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

www.TriCoCanary.com

Vol. 104, Number 34

Wednesday, April 13, 2016



Row 1: Jade Person as Bonnie May Belsnickle, Tom Nelson as Pa Belsnickle, Kjersten Walton as Ma Belsnickle, Kara Longtin as Junie Lou Belsnickle. Row 2: Hannah Kolstoe as Chiz Upschlager, Heather Longtin as Four Belsnickle, David Clifton as Reverend. Row 3: Austin Waliser as Cousin Zeke, Nick Pahlen as Obbey Upschlager, Erin Jones as Richard Maxwell, Sydney Melby as Ceelie Belsnickle, and Dede Walton as Aunt Lucy Maxwell.

RLCC High School to present “A Hillbilly Wedding” April 15th-17th

RLCC Theater will be presenting the three act comedy, "A Hillbilly Wedding" by Le Roma Greth and by special arrangement with Heuer Publishing on April 15-16-7 in the Oklee School gym. Admission is \$5.00 for 6th through adult and \$3.00 for K-6th grade.

The cast includes Tom Nelson, Kjersten Walton, Sydney Melby, Jade Person, Kara Longtin, Natalie Aakhus, Heather Longtin, Nick Pahlen, Hannah Kolstoe, Erin Jones, DeDe Walton, David Clifton, Austin Waliser, Holly Vetteson. The director is Michael Swenson.

This comedy includes some music played by talented pianist Holly Vetteson.

"A Hillbilly Wedding" takes place in the deep, deep Adirondack Mountains where modern conveniences like a two holer outhouse is a luxury. The

play takes place thirty miles from Horsehair Junction, the county seat.

Pa (Tom Nelson) had never traveled that far and none of the kids have either. Pa is Pa Kettle to the tee. Work and he don't ever meet very often.

Ma (Kjersten Walton) is concerned for the elder daughter, Ceelie Belsnickle (Sydney Melby) who loves her three pet rattlers and has never had a bath in her life. As Ma says, "Her critters cause the itching."

Juneey (Kara Longtin) has finally nailed her fellow by kissing him. In those parts a kiss was an engagement and a double barreled shotgun was the convincer. Bonnie Mae doesn't want a husband either, she prefers hitting the books dreaming of helping her kinfolk by educating them a bit.

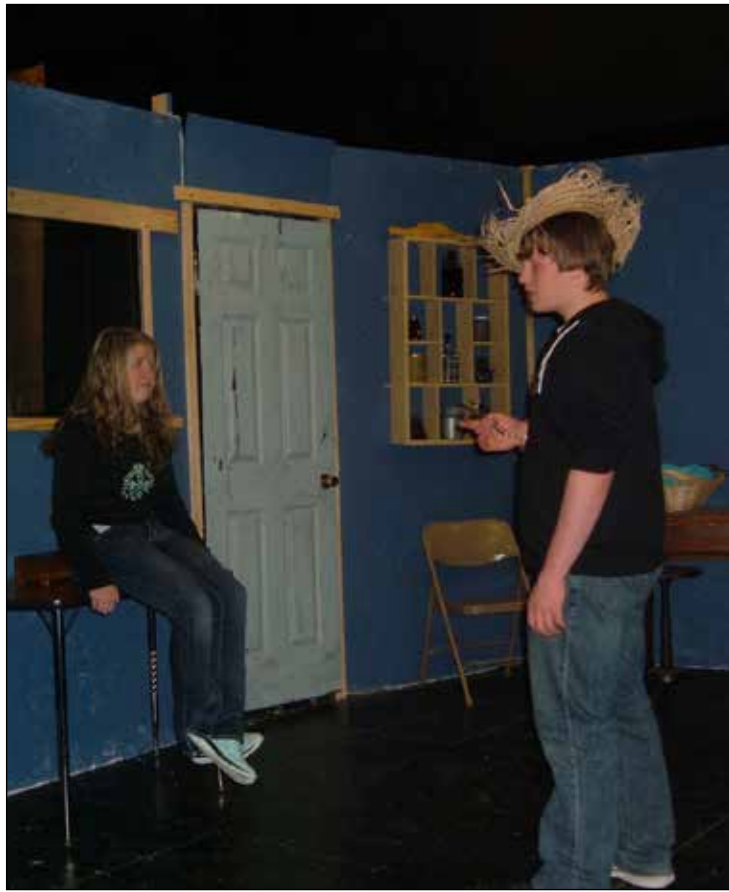
Along comes a city slicker, Ronald Maxbell) a future

doctor and his aunt Lucy (Dede Walton) who loves money and can't visualize skunk surprise for supper. They are trapped in the hills when Obbey Upslager (Nick Pahlen) and his brother Chiz (Hannah Kolstoe) wonder about the new guy since there are not many gals of marriageable age in the hills where they live.

Of course, the answer to this threat is enlisting in the Marines...Wrong story...a feud. Zeke (Austin Waliser) as Four Belsnickle and (Natalie Aakhus) as Six Belsnickle (Heather Longtin) figure they will shoot a few varmints for kissing which girl?????

At 7:30 p.m. in the Oklee High School gym, join us for this screwball hillbilly comedy and some music from the hills.

Admission is only \$5:00 for the zany comedy on April 15th, 16th, and 17th.



Hannah Kolstoe and Nick Pahlen are practicing their lines for the play, "A Hillbilly Wedding" which will be presented on April 15th to the 17th.

Tornado Drill Day set for April 14th

Every year, a Tornado Drill Day is set and this year, Thursday, April 14, 2016 is the day.

For more than 20 years, the state of Minnesota has conducted a Severe Weather Awareness Week in partnership with the National Weather Service and local governments. A statewide tornado drill is part of that event.

On Thursday April 14, 2016 simulated tornado watches and warnings will be issued to test the statewide warning and communications systems. All counties in Minnesota normally participate in the first drill at 1:45 p.m. unless actual severe weather is expected. The schedule is as follows:

1:00 p.m. All six weather National Weather Service offices that serve Minnesota will issue a simulated tornado watch (TOA). NOAA Weather Radios will activate with the

real TOA code.

1:45 p.m. The National Weather Service will issue a simulated tornado warning (TOR) for Minnesota counties. Note that most cities and counties will activate outdoor warning siren systems. NOAA Weather Radios will activate with the real TOR code.

2:00 p.m. The National Weather Service will issue an "End of Test" message using the Severe Weather Statement product. No alarm on weather radio.

6:55 pm. The National Weather Service offices will issue another simulated tornado warning (TOR). NOAA Weather Radios will activate with the real TOR code.

7:10 pm. The National Weather Service will issue an "End of Test" message using the Severe Weather Statement product. No alarm on weather radio.

Oklee Council meeting continued...

Last week, the March 14, 2016 City of Oklee meeting ended with Tougas finishing his maintenance report to the council.

Next on the agenda was Troy Peterson, about available lots, but he was not present.

Leo Olson came forward to the board to review the \$500 that was missing. He handed a packet of numbers he has gathered about the petty cash box and the approx. \$500 that has been missing, asking if this a good time to review this issue. Olson said everyone has been asking questions on it. He handed out paperwork to the council, but there was none for anyone else to follow this discussion. Olson said there was a beginning balance in the petty cash box of \$50.00 when he retired from the clerks office.

According to Leo, on July 9, 2013, Tougas requested a check for petty cash for \$98.38. On September 10, 2013, he requested a check for \$67.82. On November 13, 2013 he requested a check for \$78.47.

Leo continued his listed checks with one in February on the 10th of 2014 where Tougas requested \$214.79. And Leo stated, "And thats about the time that the cash went awry, wasn't it?"

Cross asked, "What was the date again."

Leo responded, "Around February of 2014."

Cross answered, "It must be around there."

Olson continued with a check on (date inaudible) for \$49.00 and in the last month Tougas was clerk a check was requested (amount inaudible- chair being moved). Leo continued, "...that I don't know where the cash came from to start with, so, I think that's where this came from and ... that's what I'm thinking."

Tougas asked, "Have you checked for all of this..."

"Well, just look." Olson interupted Tougas. "Here's.... (inaudible)... as I was able." Olson continued, "And the paper work that you had put in there to get it..."

"Cash and checks and not the receipts for this, that doesn't make sense" Tougas said.

Olson asked where the money came from before Tougas asked to replace it. Olson said, "There was only \$50 in petty cash wehn I left in the drawer. I don't know, but this is what I showed the auditors... of what I thought happened."

"Wasn't there cash under the keyboard." Tougas asked.

Bergerson asked, "And they were fine with this," about the auditors.

Olson said, "They (auditors) talked about it when they came to the audit last year."

Olson mentioned that fingers have been pointed and himself and Derek over this money issue. Bergerson said that this has been dealt with in the chambers and this is no longer an issue. It has been settled. Olson asked that it be put in the minutes.

Olson then asked the council for permission to contact the City Attorney to discuss the Oklee Herald and Matthew Genova. There was some discussion about the request, Bergerson made the motion, seconded by Jensen. Carried.

It was very hard to hear what the Council was saying, and

Genova asked them to please speak up.

The Fair board was next on the agenda about leasing the concrete area at the South Park for the Fair events. This is something they have done in the past, and need to get the paperwork completed. Tougas mentioned it may be more than one time a year. Bergerson was concerned about the shed and slab. The form also wasn't filled out, and the council tabled it until the fair dates have been set and the agreement is revised.

The local board of appeal will be held at the next meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Post Prom has asked for a donation. The council asked if they get the use of the Hall. The answer was yes.

An audience member made the statement, that a loud speaker is needed, because no one can hear what is going on.

According to a letter in the Council packet, a letter had been sent to the City of Oklee in November of 2015, from the Minnesota Management & Budget that a Pay Equity Implementation Report was due by January 31, 2016. The City didn't get the report in on time. To avoid a penalty, they were given a 90 day grace period and they City of Oklee is now in compliance was reported to the Council.

Pay raises were discussed. Historically Bergerson didn't remember when the employees received their last raise. Tougas said he hasn't gotten a increase in wages for a couple of years. Bergerson reminded the Council that the Levy was raised by 10% and was never lowered in the annual budget. Bergerson would like to check the budget and look back at the past three years. Jensen would like to see budget numbers also. Raise discussion tabled.

Cross reported that someone had looked at the upstairs for a possible business, but hadn't heard back from them – assuming no rental.

Tougas wanted to discuss the Ambulance and Fire Calls. As of the beginning of 2015, Tougas has not been paid for his time when he is on ambulance and fire calls and to this day has not been paid. Olson said Mayor Burthwick wanted everything done by the book and that is what the personnel policy says and that is why Tougas hasn't been paid. Olson says that Tougas has been paid since they changed the policy for 2016. Tougas said he hasn't seen his pay stub for 2/5/2016 yet. He should have 25 hours of vacation, 10 banked time and my sick time never was added on and should have 30 days. Olson said it was added. Tougas also has issues with the way sick pay, banked hours and vacation are handled. Tougas feels that the system Olson is using is hard to keep track of and confusing.

Tougas questioned why he didn't get paid for a certain ambulance and fire call. Tougas asked why when Leo was clerk, why did he get paid for it. A Minnesota policy says Tougas should. Olson said because the Mayor wanted everything by the book and that is why. Olson said he is not going to add hours because where is the paperwork. Tougas told the council this is what he has been

fighting for a long time. Tougas wants to know what the council plans on doing. Olson said he only has done what he was instructed by the council. The decision is up to the council.

Tougas said that with all the policy changes that have happened over the past few years, Tougas has lost three weeks of vacation also. Tougas explained that he has worked for the city of 14 years and always got his vacation at the end of the year. In 2016, the policy was changed and he basically lost 3 weeks he had earned when the policy was changed to put limits on how much a person could have on account for vacation and banked hours. Tougas questioned whether that is right to do to an employee. Olson said he only followed the policy per the council directions.

Tougas feels that when Olson retired and things like this took a turn and things just got twirled around. To Olson, Tougas said, "I lost three week's vacation and now you try to tell me I'm going to lose another ..." Olson breaks in and said, "I'm not telling you anything. It's up to them (council). But I'm just saying the only reason I didn't do it the way it was because George Burthwich wanted everything done by the book and the book said..."

Matthew Genova asked why Olson was doing the paperwork and not Derek Cross, the City Clerk. Derek answered that until this issue was sorted out, he wasn't going to touch it.

Tougas told the council he was done talking to Olson on this. Tougas then asked if Cross was the City Clerk and he told Cross to deal with the council with this. Tougas once again reiterated that he has lost one year of vacation and the ambulance/fire calls and he wants it taken care of. Tougas asked if he was going to get paid for this or not. Cross said yes, if the council agrees.

Mayor Burthwick started a discussion on the policy and stated that, yes, the council wanted things done by the book, but didn't want this to be the outcome. Burthwick didn't want Tougas to lose all that stuff. A person doing a volunteer service for a community, he just didn't believe this would be changed.

John Dudycha, businessman in Oklee, asked Olson if he lost time on ambulance/fire calls. Olson said none of us did. Dudycha said why should Tougas lose time. Olson said because Burthwick wanted everything....Dudycha again stated, if you don't lose time, why should Tougas lose time.

Munt said this issue has been brought up month after month. Bergerson addressed the problem and said he didn't understand how this happened, the personnel policy has been changed 7 times. Bergerson didn't have the policy in front of him and he asked Tougas to explain. Tougas explained he earned vacation the first year he worked for the city and wasn't allowed to use (receive) it until he started his second year.

That is the way it was until when the policy change to accrue time instead and to put caps on vacation/banked hours. Olson wanted to continue banked

City of Oklee
Continued to page 4...

Calendar of Events

Wed, Apr. 13:
-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. 14:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Apr. 15:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Apr. 16:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Apr. 17:
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Apr. 18:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Apr. 19:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards
-Senior Potluck at Café 5:00 p.m.
Wed, Apr. 20:
-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. 21:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Apr. 22:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Apr. 23:
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Apr. 24:
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Apr. 25:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Apr. 26:
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards.
-LSS Sr. Meal 5:00 p.m.
Wed, Apr. 27:
-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. 28:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Apr. 29:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.

Spring Clean-Up Monday in Oklee

On Monday, April 18, 2016, the City of Oklee will be holding a large item pickup.

Oklee has held them in the past, but not for a few years now. This is where you can get rid of old appliances (no cost) such as refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers, etc.

What is not acceptable: TV's, microwaves and computer monitors (the computer can go in the regular garbage).

So what can you do with the unacceptable items: You have a couple of options this year. If you call the City of Oklee (796-5183) ahead of time to schedule a special pickup for a TV, microwave or computer monitor, and pay the disposal fee up front, they will take it for you and haul to the landfill. The cost per item is \$5.00.

Now on to tires: Same thing, if you have some tires you want to get rid of, call the

City Clerks office and arrange for them to be picked up.

But there is a fee for them also. But the cost is based on size of the tire. It ranges from \$2.00 to \$6.00 per tire.

All of the above listed items need to be taken care of on Oklee's Large Item day scheduled for April 18th.

Now here is something you probably don't know. Large items made of cloth (furniture) can be gotten rid of easily. Sanitary Service will take these pieces any time of year. The only thing you have to do (besides leave it for pick up) is to call Sanitary Service at 218-253-4126 to arrange for the pickup. There is a fee for this and it is based on the items. The following is a price list:

Regular Couch	\$5.00
Hide-a-bed Couch	\$10.00
Sectional Couch	\$15.00
Recliner Chair	\$5.00
Water Softener	\$5.00
Single Mattress or box spring	\$4.00
Single set	\$5.00
Double Mattress or box spring	\$6.00
Double set	\$8.00
Queen/King Mattress or box spring	\$8.00
Queen/King set	\$11.00

And finally, if you have stuff that doesn't qualify for this clean up, such as construction materials, the Red Lake County Landfill in Red Lake Falls is open now, and Oklee's will be opening after May 1st.

So now it's up to you to make Oklee look great!

Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Margaret Jacobus
Wed, Apr. 13: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. 6:30 p.m. Chime Choir.
Sun, Apr. 17: 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. 20: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. 6:30 p.m. Chime Choir.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH OKLEE
Fr. Adam Hamness
Sun, Apr. 17: 7:30 a.m. Confessions 8:00 a.m. Mass.

BROOKS – RED LAKE FALLS CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bill DeCrans
Sat, Apr. 16: 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph – RLF
Sun, Apr. 17: 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph – Brooks. 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph - RLF.

IMMANUEL–EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Wed, Apr. 13: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation at Immanuel.
Sun, Apr. 17: 9:00 a.m. Worship at Immanuel. 10:15 a.m. SS at Immanuel. 10:30 a.m. Worship at Ebenezer.
Mon, Apr. 18: 9:00 a.m. Quilting at Immanuel.
Wed, Apr. 20: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation at Immanuel. 7:00 p.m. Ebenezer WELCA.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Bethany–Ekelund–Faith Interim Pastor Phil Johnson
Wed, Apr. 13: No Release Time.
Sun, Apr. 17: 8:30 a.m. Ekelund. 9:45 Ekelund SS. 9:45 a.m. Bethany. 11:00 a.m. Bethany SS. 11:00 a.m. Faith. 9:45 a.m. Faith SS. Faith SWOT meeting.
Mon, Apr. 18: 7:00 p.m. Parish Board meeting at Faith.
Wed, Apr. 20: Release Time.

Oklee Community Rummage Sale Day
By: Nicole Riendeau
It's that time of the year to clean out the garages, clean out the closets and reorganize your storage areas. Oklee Community Rummage Sale Day is planned for Saturday, May 7, 2016. Contact Sandra Tougas at 796-5084 (home) by May 1st to get your sale included on the Community Sale Map. The hall will also have three free spaces. Call today to reserve your spot.

Notice of Chester Township Board of Appeal & Equalization

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal and Equalization of Chester Township will meet on April 25th, 2:30 p.m. at the Chester Township Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the township has been properly valued and classified by the assessor and also to determine whether corrections need to be made.
Pam O'Neill
Clerk



2016 Local Boards of Appeal & Equalization

TAXING DISTRICT	LOCATION	DATE	TIME
City of Oklee	City Hall	04/11/2016	5:30 p.m.
Poplar River	Town Hall	04/26/2016	9:30 a.m.
Lambert	Town Hall	04/26/2016	11:00 a.m.
Equality	Town Hall	04/26/2016	1:00 p.m.
Garnes	Town Hall	04/26/2016	2:30 p.m.
Terrebonne	Town Hall	04/26/2016	4:00 p.m.
Browns Creek	Courthouse	04/26/2016	5:30 p.m.
Gervais	Town Hall	04/26/2016	7:00 p.m.
River	Courthouse	04/27/2016	5:30 p.m.
Emardville	Town Hall	04/27/2016	7:00 p.m.
Louisville	Courthouse	04/28/2016	4:00 p.m.
Wylie	Town Hall	04/28/2016	5:30 p.m.
Lake Pleasant	Courthouse	04/28/2016	7:00 p.m.
Red Lake Falls - T	Courthouse	04/28/2016	8:00 p.m.
City of Brooks	City Hall	05/02/2016	7:00 p.m.
City of Red Lake Falls	City Hall	05/09/2016	6:00 p.m.
City of Plummer	City Hall	05/10/2016	7:00 p.m.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive – Nazareth Oak Park – St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wed, Apr. 13: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School/Confirmation.
Sat, Apr. 16: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School.
Sun, Apr. 17: 8:00 a.m. Nazareth. 9:15 a.m. Nazareth SS; 8:30 a.m. Oak Park Sunday School. 9:15 a.m. Oak Park, OP Voters meeting after church; 11:00 a.m. St. Petri (Confirmation). No Sunday School at St. Petri.
Wed, Apr. 20: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School/Confirmation. 7:30 p.m. Oak Park Ladies Aid.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg, Youth Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Wed, Apr. 13: 6:30 p.m. AWANA and Youth Group.
Thu, Apr. 14: 12:00 p.m. Rotary meeting.
Fri, Apr. 15: 8:00 a.m. Friday School.
Sun, Apr. 17: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.
Mon, Apr. 18: Cub Scout meeting.
Tue, Apr. 19: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study. 10:30 a.m. Quilting.
Wed, Apr. 20: 6:30 p.m. AWANA and Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund Sand Valley Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Wed, Apr. 13: 2:00 p.m. Lund WELCA.
Sun, Apr. 17: 9:00 a.m. Lund. 10:30 a.m. Bethany.
Wed, Apr. 20: 2:00 p.m. Sand Valley WELCA.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY Fosston
Jon Marx, Lead Pastor
Seth Johnson, Assist. Pastor
Sun, Apr. 17: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship.

Card of Thanks

Thanks for the cards, food and visits to me while I was ill and thanks for driving me to the doctor. Also speical thanks to Don, Suellen & Scott who came from California and my niece Merlaine, who came from Bemidji. It's great to live in a small town where people care for their neighbors

Iona Berry

Sudoku Solution

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

City of Oklee NOTICE

City of Oklee will be flushing the hydrants on April 14 or 15.

Weather permitting

Red Lake County Drainage Ditch Inventory

The Red Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District will be conducting a Drainage Ditch Inventory, along County and Judicial Drainage Ditch Systems, for Red Lake County. Dave Bennett and Matt Anderson from the Red Lake County SWCD will be out in the field collecting this information for the Drainage Ditch Inventory. The Red Lake County SWCD office wanted to inform the public about the inventory that will be going on throughout 2016. The Drainage Ditch Inventory will identify areas where side water inlet structures or buffer strips could be placed along County and Judicial Drainage Ditch Systems. If you have any question please give our office a call at (218) 253-2593 ext. 4.

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.
Thu, April 14: Fargo/Moorhead – Thief River Falls.
Mon, April 18: Fargo-Moorhead – Crookston.

Oklee Senior Site Dining

April 18 - 22
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: Taco salad (chips, and all the trimmings), dessert, and milk.
Tuesday: Baked chicken, baked potato, vegetables, dessert and milk.
Wednesday: Pancake, sausage patty, 1 egg, dessert and milk.
Thursday: Meatballs, boiled potatoes, mushroom gravy, vegetables, dessert and milk.
Friday: BBQ on bun, hash browns, vegetables, dessert and milk.

Red Lake Falls Library Corner

The library is open on Tuesday from Noon until 7:00 pm, Wednesday from Noon until 7:00 pm, Thursday from Noon to 5:00 p.m.; Friday from Noon until 5:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. On-line patrons are reminded that they can visit www.nwrlib.org/rlf.htm at anytime, where they can create their own patron accounts to browse, request and renew materials all from their home computers.
Winners of door prizes during the new-hours open house on April 1 & 2 were Judith Anderson, Delbert Audette, Linda Carroll, Ella Mae Derosier, Mary Derosier, Margaret Hamrum, Rick Hanson, Donna Hasby, and Kathy Waldal. Thanks to these and all our patrons for visiting the library often.
This week, April 10-16, is National Library Week. Patrons are again encouraged to make use of the beautiful public library in our community. Coffee, cookies & other refreshments, along with prize registrations, will be available throughout the week.
New adult titles arriving in April include “Extreme Prey” by John Sandford, “The Beast” by J. R. Ward and “14th Colony” by Steve Berry. Also “Lilac Girls” by Martha Hall Kelley, inspired by the life of a real World War II heroine, this debut novel reveals an incredible story of love, redemption, and terrible secrets that were hidden for

JOHNSON FUNERAL SERVICE, Inc.

Thief River Falls • 218-681-4331
Red Lake Falls • 218-253-2128
Oklee • 218-796-5177



Funeral Pre-planning Monuments
www.johnsonfuneralservice.com

NOTICE

A copy of the 2015 Consumer Confidence Report can be requested to be mailed or picked up at the City Clerk's office.

Oklee City Clerk
PO Box 190,
Oklee, MN 56742
Phone 218-796-5183

LSS Caregivers Group meets August 13th

The Thief River Falls Caregiver Group will meet on Thursday, April 14th at 10:00 a.m. at the Heritage Senior Center located at 301 E. 4th St, TRF, MN.
The group provides education and support for caregivers and opportunities to share with other caregivers in a confidential setting.
This month: Video: The Senior Gems: Your Guide to Supporting Family Members with Dementia (Discussion & handouts will follow.)
There is no charge. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Jaime Hemphill at 218-850-8616.
This project is made possible in part, under the Federal Older American's Act through a contract with the Land of the Dancing Sky AAA under an Area Plan approved by the Minnesota Board on Aging.

NOTICE Large Item Pick-up in Oklee

April 18, 2016 ... starting at 8:00 a.m.

This is not for garbage. Only metal items will be picked up: white goods (water heaters, stoves, refrigerators, dryers, etc.) No MICROWAVES, TV'S OR COMPUTER MONITORS.
Monitors, TV's or Microwaves may be picked up for a nominal fee. Fees for monitors, TV's and Microwaves are \$5.00 each. Must be paid for before the pick up. Pay at the City Clerks office. Please call the Oklee City Clerk's office the week before the clean-up if you have one of those items to be picked up. Tires will also be picked up for a fee: Contact City Clerk for price. Also needs to be paid for before City will take.
This year the large items will be picked up at your home. Please have them out by 8:00 a.m. in the morning and place items on the boulevard. This is a one-day-only pick-up. If you have any questions, call the Oklee City Clerk's office at 796-5183.

ADDRESS CHANGES

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

Minnesota's Farmers Lead by Example on Water Quality

Clean water is important to all Minnesotans, especially farmers

There is a new, voluntary program in Minnesota that recognizes and rewards farmers for leading by example. The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program began in four pilot sub-watersheds and recently became available to farmers statewide.
The program is an opportunity for farmers to gauge their progress in protecting water quality on their land—trained conservation specialists work with farmers to identify risks to water quality on a crop by crop, field by field basis. Farmers who pursue certification are eligible for priority on-farm financial and technical assistance to treat any risks to water quality found on their farm.
Farmers and landowners who implement and maintain approved farm management practices are certified and are deemed to be following all new water quality rules and laws for 10 years. Certified farmers also receive field signs to show their friends and neighbors how they're caring for Minnesota's waters and can use their certified status in their marketing efforts.
The strength of this program is the fact it's tailored to each farmer's individual operation. This program can help everyone from a small organic farmer to a large conventional crop farmer make improvements that will benefit our waters.
Local conservation professionals are currently working with several hundred farms seeking certification from across the state. To date the program has certified 110 farms, covering more than 64,000 acres, and generating 229 new conservation practices.
It's easy to get started, farmers interested in seeking certification should contact Red Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District at (218) 253-2593 ext. 4, or go to the following websites: www.redlakecountyswcd.org or www.mylandmylegacy.com to learn more.

Red Lake County Fair News

The Red Lake County Fair is scheduled for June 24, 25 & 26th.
Vendor spots are available by contacting 686-9382, by text or calling to reserve your place for the fair.
A dance with the music of Bad Campers will be held on Saturday night after enjoying a day at the fair that includes Baja races at 2:00 pm at the South Park and Demonstrations, 4H Awards, and many Contests in town.
Save the dates for a fun time at the Fair!

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.

City of Oklee

Emergency Numbers
City Clerk 218-277-0131
Maintenance 218-684-0124

ECFE News

There will be no ECFE events scheduled for Thursday, 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.

Deadline:
Friday's at noon!

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

Oklee Herald

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****Winner 1st place Best Feature Story, Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1981.**
****Winner 1st place Best Single Newsor Feature Story, Minnesota Medical Association, 1992.**

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MUSSTANG STAMPED

RLCC Menus

April 18 - 22

Oklee

Mon: Breakfast: Biscuit w/ egg, cheese & sausage, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Ham patty w/lettuce, cheese, mayo, & pickles, French fries, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Tue: Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Pizza, lettuce salad, cottage cheese, yogurt, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Pork fritters, mashed potatoes, vegetables, fruit, cookies, and milk.

Thu: Breakfast: Muffins, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chicken burgers, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, fruit, dipping sauce, and milk.

Fri: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** BBQ, chips, baked beans, potato salad, and milk.

Plummer

Mon: Breakfast: Grab & Go bag – Cooks Choice, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, baked potato, veggie cup, tea roll, fruit, and milk.

Tue: Breakfast: Egg & cheese omelet, toast, PB & jelly, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Pork riblet, cheesy hash browns, coleslaw, cinnamon baked apple, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Coffee cake, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Brunch for lunch: French toast sticks, sausage patty, yogurt, fruit, and milk.

Thu: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Diced chicken gravy, whipped potatoes, glazed carrots, dinner roll, baked cinnamon apple, and milk.

Fri: Breakfast: Oatmeal or cold cereal, Pop-Tart, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Bosco sticks, marinara dip, salad, cucumbers, PB & J Uncrustable, fruits, and milk.

RLCC competes in

Vocal Ensembles

By: Ethan Vettleson

Seven students from the Red Lake County Central High School music department competed at the Vocal Ensemble Contest held Wednesday March 23. They had three ensembles performing at the contest and according to choir teacher Mrs. Patty Michelson, “They all did well.”

Natalie Aakhus and Holly Vettleson sang “The Skye Boat Song” and received an excellent rating. Sydney Melby, Jayden Fore, and Nick Pahlen sang “Angel of Music” from Phantom of the Opera and received a superior rating. Dede Walton, Miranda Magnell, and Holly Vettleson sang the song “Stay” and received a superior rating.



RLC speech members that advanced to finals at Section 8A Tournament were Kara Longtin, Tom Nelson, Jayden Iverson, Lilly Guillemette, and Jayden Fore.

RLC Competes in Section 8A Speech Tournament

By: Katie Pendelton

Section 8A Speech Tournament was held Tuesday, April 5th at Fosston. The Rebels speech team took eight entries to the competition with four entries making it into the final round. Rebels Coach Judy Schue commented, “The most entries we have placed in the final round for many years.”

Rebels who placed in the finals were Jayden Fore in

Creative Expression with seventh place, Kara Longtin and Tom Nelson in Duo with seventh place, Lilly Guillemette in Poetry with sixth place, and Jayden Iverson in Poetry with seventh place. Those who competed but did not make it into the finals were Natalie Aakhus in Drama, Shelby Gunderson in Great Speeches, Jade Person in Humor, and Zoe Russillo and Phillip Sorenson

in Duo.

Coaches of the speech team are Judy Schue, Bobbi Aakhus, and Jessie Hamrum.

Coach Schue was selected by fellow coaches as Subsection 31A Coach of the Year and was then honored by the coaches of Section 8A as Section Coach of the Year. Schue also announced that she will retire from the head coaching position for the RLC Rebels



The speech members from RLCC who advanced to the Section 8A Tournament were (back) Phillip Sorenson, Natalie Aakhus, Lilly Guillemette, Shelby Gunderson, Jayden Fore, (front) Kara Longtin, Tom Nelson, Zoe Russillo, Jade Person, and Jayden Iverson.

10 from RLC speech advance to Sections

By: Ethan Vettleson

Rebel speech team competed in the Subsection 31 A Speech Tournament on Saturday, April 2 at Red Lake County Central in Oklee. There are seven schools in this subsection and all competed in the tournament hosted by the Red Lake County team. Those placing in the top four of this tournament qualified to advance into the section tournament. The Section tournament was held at Fosston on Tuesday, April 5th.

Advancing to sections from

the RLC Rebels were Jayden Iverson- second place in Poetry, Shelby Gunderson- third place in Great Speeches, Jade Person- fourth place in Humor, Jayden Fore- fourth place in Creative Expression, Lilly Guillemette- fourth place in Poetry, Natalie Aakhus- fourth place in Drama, Tom Nelson and Kara Longtin- fourth place in Duo, and Phillip Sorenson and Zoe Russillo- fifth place in Duo and first alternate that will compete a sections. For the alternate to sections Sydney Melby, fifth placed in

Humor and first alternate to sections, and David Clifton, sixth place in Informative and second alternate to sections.



RLC Speech Coach Mrs. Judy Schue was selected as Subsection 31A Coach of the Year and was then honored by the coaches of Section 8A as Section Coach of the Year. Schue will be retiring from the head coaching position.



RLCC Students of the Month for March were Seth Johnson with teacher Mr. Steve Strutz and Elijah Rath sack with teacher Mr. Kory Baril.

RLCC March Students of the Month

By Ana Almeida and Nicole Riendeau

The Red Lake County Central Students of the Month for March were announced Thursday, March 31. Among Senior High students it was 12th grader Seth Johnson. From the Junior High Students, it was seventh grader Elijah Rath sack.

Seth Johnson is 17 years old and he likes hunting and fishing. His parents are Jeff and Pam Johnson and he has a sister named Marie. He's involved in football and the National Honor Society. Mr. Steven Strutz nominated Johnson and while presenting he mentioned that Johnson is a student that participates actively in school activities, in either sports teams, academics and arts or staying after school getting work done.

RLCC's Junior High Student of the Month for March was Elijah Rath sack. He was nominated by Mr. Kory Baril. Rath sack is in seventh grade and he is 12 years old. His parents are Raymond and Nicole Rath sack. His siblings are Justin Enright, Jeremiah Remi, and Emily Rath sack. He likes to do math during his free time. He loves to hang out with his classmates and is always respectful. Baril nominated him for his kindness and effort in class. He said Rath sack is always willing to participate and help with anything in class. Baril says Rath sack is one of the few students who says “thank you” after each class. “He has a great character and a desire to learn.”

Congratulations, Seth and Elijah.



River of Dreams ID# 16RLC001

Congratulations! You discovered a canoe launched by 5th grade students from Red Lake Co. Central, MN with a dream to reach Hudson Bay via the Red River and its tributaries. Use your phone or computer to visit riverofdreams.org and click "I Found a Canoe" to log your discovery. Then, return the canoe to the river asap to continue its journey to the sea. Thank you!



RLCC's fifth grade class decorated little canoes that will be floated along the Clearwater River for the Canoe Launch Program.

Mini-Canoes to be launched April 15 on Clearwater River

By: Nicholas Plante

Be on the lookout for miniature canoes floating down the Clearwater River! Approximately one foot long wooden canoes were painted by the Red Lake Country Central Elementary students in Mrs. Dawn Halvorson's fifth grade science class. This winter her students learned how the Clearwater, Red Lake, and Red River Watersheds are connected and that all of the water in this region eventually

flows north through Canada to Hudson Bay.

April 15, each student will test that fact by launching a canoe they designed and decorated into the Clearwater River in hopes that it will travel a long way – maybe even to the Hudson Bay! A specially designed web app will allow the students to track discoveries of their canoe downstream. The purpose of this launching is to basically see how far the canoes can go and also raise awareness of the wonderful asset rivers are.

The canoes will be launched Friday, April 15 at 1:00 pm from the bridge on the Clearwater River near Plummer. The River Watch team from RLCC High School will be present as well. Each canoe is labeled with a number to identify it and to hopefully track its progress.

If you find a canoe floating down the river, contact River of Dreams team at riverofdreams.org by computer or phone to document its location. The inside of the canoe includes the contact information as well as a canoe identification number. If a photo is taken, it can be uploaded on the website. The public is urged to return the canoe to the river and let it continue its journey.

For more information about this project, email andy@iwinst.org and check out riverofdreams.org.

Additional information about RLCC's involvement with River of Dreams and Canoe Launch Program will be coming in future issues of the paper.



Northern Galaxy Girls' Basketball Conference went to RLCC's junior girls Ashley Longtin for All-Conference and Taylor Bushelle for Honorable Mention All-Conference.

MEET THE RLCC SENIORS



Seth Johnson

Family members: Jeff, Pam and Marie

Favorite movie: Smokey and the Bandit

Favorite song/band: “Chicken Lightson” and “Chrome” by Jesse Watson.

Favorite class: Advanced English

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: Football

Favorite teacher/coach: Coach Philipp

Most important person in your life: Parents, sister, grandparents

Life has rules. What is your personal rule you plan on following in your life:

When something good is over, don't cry, smile and be grateful that it was.

Best memory from school: When life was simple, back in elementary school.

Your plans for the Future: Go to NDSCS for Diesel Tech.



Heaven Heard

Family members: Gene (dad), Jennifer (mom), Kearstin (sister), Iyalaya (sister).

Favorite movie: most horror movies, Pixels, Goosebumps

Favorite song/band: The Beatles, Pink Floyd

Favorite class: Web Page/Photo Shop

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: Wrestling (though never participated)

Favorite teacher/coach: Mrs. Aakhus & Mr. Illies

Most important person in your life: My family and friends matter most

Life has rules. What is your personal rule you plan on following in your life:

“What you give is what you get” – Rolling Stones

Best memory from school: Decorating for prom my 11th grade year. It was fun and memorable.

Your plans for the Future: Making a difference in the world and other peoples life.



Cade Bachand

Family members: Jeff & Jodi Bachand. Sisters: Cari and Kia Bachand

Favorite movie: Enders Game

Favorite song/band: Foreigner

Favorite class: Physical Science

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: Trap Team

Favorite teacher/coach: Mr. Strutz

Most important person in your life: My Mom

Life has rules. What is your personal rule you plan on following in your life:

“Necessity is maturation for Unlikely Circumstance”

Best memory from school: Friday night races in East Grand Forks and bonfires at Seth's.

Your plans for the Future: Diesel Tech at NDSCS, Wahpeton, ND.

City of Oklee

Continued from page 1.

hours, Tougas didn't care if he earned banked hours or was paid the overtime instead. The policy was changed and the year he had just finished wasn't added in to the current vacation time, so he lost a year of vacation (3 weeks). Then he was told he was double dipping. In the new policy, an employee had a cap of 120 hours. Every time I try to talk to Olson, it never gets solved. There are questions on sick time also. Tougas wants better way to track this and Cross said it could be simplified. The Council wants more information and Burthwick stated that we have to be careful how we say things – otherwise it gets twisted.

Next on the agenda was Matthew Genova, resident of Oklee. Genova thanked the audience for coming and started his conversation with the council on the attendance record of the council. He talked about the attendance of the council. Bergerson asked if he had the rules, Genova said he had it. Bergerson missed 3 last year, and 1 in January, that makes 4. Bergerson asked if Genova was serious, trying to shut down Genova and Genova asked Sheriff Bernstein is he was out of order and Bernstein said no. Genova continued the attendance figures: Munt 3, and Melby 5. The Minnesota rules state if you miss 3 in a row, you could be penalized. So please try to make it to the council meetings, was Genova's request, for the sake of the taxpayers. It was explained the Melby has been sick.

Next Genova tried to talk about a letter that had been received by the Oklee Herald, which was perceived as a threat. The Council said it wasn't on the agenda. Genova also tried to talk about his past and was told to move on because it wasn't on the agenda.

Moving on, Genova talked about the garbage issue he has brought before the council previously. Cal Eckstein from Sanitary Service, who was at the meeting, said he was willing to do a large item pickup again. A large item Pickup will be held, a date will be set. The large items have to be white goods (no microwaves, TV, or monitors). Sanitary Service will pick up furniture year round, by scheduling a pickup and paying ahead of time for the disposal. The City office has a list of the items accepted and the prices. It was suggested that it could be put on the water bill as a reminder.

Before Eckstein left, Genova showed him some of the photos with garbage, about other types of items that could be picked up, such as tires. There is a charge for tires and building materials should be brought to the landfill outside of Oklee. They should be open soon.

Genova next moved on to the Code of Ethics. Genova asked if the City of Oklee had such a thing. Bergerson said yes, showing Genova and piece of paper and asked him if he would like a copy. Genova said yes, he would like a copy.

The last thing Genova asked was what was the wage each council member gets paid for attending a meeting. Bergerson asked Cross, who said \$40.00. Genova asked if that included Olson. Bergerson said he gets paid by the hour. Genova asked why is it different than the council members. Genova went on to say that if Olson is here three hours he gets paid more than the council members.

Dudycha asked why there were two people taking notes. Bergerson answered so they get taken correctly. Dudycha said you didn't have two when

Olson was at the helm.

Genova once again mentioned the letter the Oklee Herald received in regards to Matthew Genova. Since this was not on his list of items, he was asked to move on, Genova thanked them for their time.

Olson had one other thing if the council didn't mind. He wanted the council to review the forum for public speaking at a meeting. Olson stated that he understood that a person had one subject (Genova had 4 or 5 things) and it was supposed to be 3 minutes. Olson would like this clarified for Cross so he knows when Genova comes in what it is.

Dudycha asked about the 3 minutes limit. Burthwick said it was to help keep things moving. Someone in the audience said that it is pretty hard to get things across in three minutes. Olson asked but should someone be able to put down 4 or 5 things to be talked about. Genova said, "Why not. Why are you trying to limit things."

Munt said it's in the minutes, the council said they would have to look back in the minutes and Genova said to the council that they were trying to keep the citizens from speaking to the council. Tougas asked if there was something that needed to be address, did they want it brought up on the streets or here? Melby said it needs to be brought up here. Tougas went on to say, that three minutes isn't very long and what about the person that doesn't know you have to pre-register.

Dudycha said he thought it was very small of the city to treat the citizens like that. Bergerson said the reason for being put on the agenda so the council isn't blindsided. Dudycha went on to tell the council they were about to be blindsided in two minutes. Dudycha had three points.

Dudycha asked Olson, "Do you think it is fair to go around town to solicit for a person to get on the council and the mayor." Olson responded he didn't solicit the mayor. Dudycha said, "no, because he was a write in. What about the rest of them." Olson said, "What is wrong with it." Dudcha said to Olson, "You show me in the legislation of Minnesota that the City Clerk can do that." Olson responded that anybody can, council member can.

Next question from Dudycha was, "Is it right that you can dictate to the council what goes on." Olson said, they make the motion. Example given by Dudycha was that in the past, when Skallet was on the council, you were got gas, overtime and wages plus and Dudycha asked three council members and the mayor about it they wouldn't give him the time of day. Dudycha says he finally wrote to the state and according to Dudycha, he got a letter and Olson had to pay back some of the funds.

Dudycha continued to ask Olson, "Why are you God. Why is it that the councils goes along with everything you say." Dudycha said he has lived in many towns and has never seen a town council that is controlled by the City Clerk (referring to Olson), except here.

The meeting was adjourned, quickly, not resolving the question on the review the forum for public speaking at a meeting.

STORY TO SHARE!

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

Mustangs Girls' Basketball Awards Night

By: Katie Pendelton
Mustangs Girls' Basketball Awards Night was held Monday, April 4th at the Oklee Community Center. Head Coach Mark Bagaason and Assistant Coach Mitch Bernstein gave out the awards. Those who received Senior Awards were Morgan Bushelle, Kat DeHate, Michelle Sundquist, Holly Vettleson, and Brandi Jensen.

Special Awards were presented. Defensive Player of the Year was awarded to Taylor Bushelle, Super Sub Award went to Julia Bernstein, Hustle Award was awarded to Taylor Bushelle, Best Free Throw Percent was presented to Julia Bernstein with 66%, Most Improved was awarded to Michelle Sundquist, Most Valuable Player was given to Ashley Longtin, and Mustang Pride Award went to Holly Vettleson.

Northern Galaxy Girls' Basketball Conference All-Conference was given to Ashley Longtin and Honorable Mention All-Conference went to Taylor Bushelle.

Letter winners for seniors were Brandi Jensen, Michelle Sundquist, Morgan Bushelle, Kat DeHate, and Holly Vettleson. For juniors those lettering were Ashley Longtin, Taylor Bushelle, and Nikki Schmitz. Freshman letter winners were Sarah Christensen, Marie Johnson, and Julia Bernstein.

2015-2016 RLCC Mustang Wrestling Awards

By: Taylor Klasen
Red Lake County Central Mustang Wrestling Awards night was held Monday, April 4th at the Oklee Community Center. Head coach Aaron Nelson presented awards to many wrestlers.

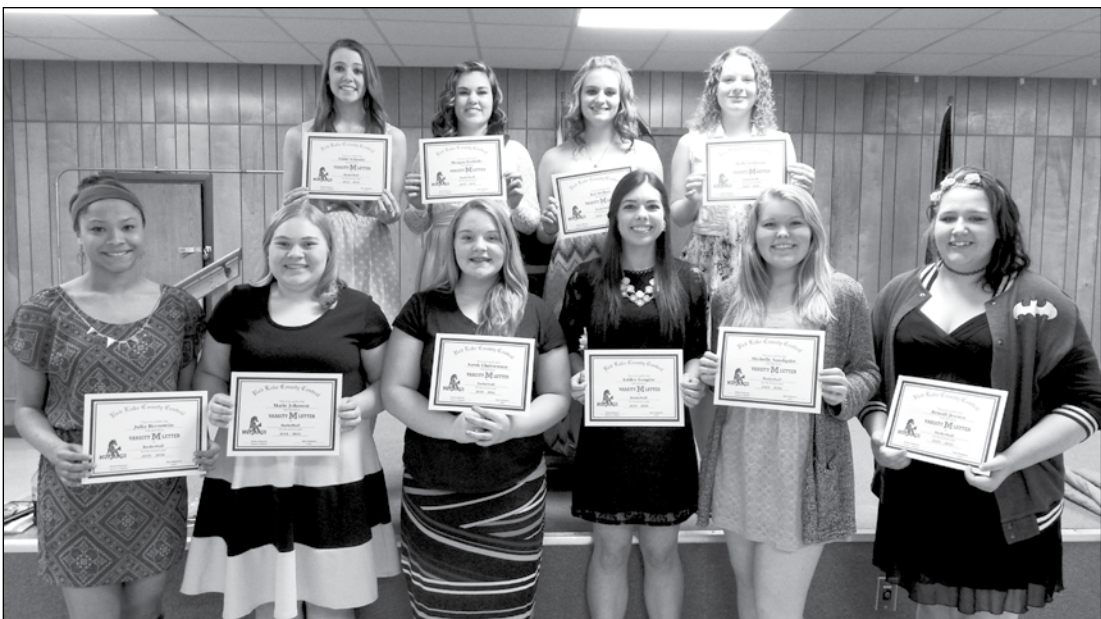
Dylan Gustafson was awarded Most Improved, Mr. Hustle, MVP, and with 37 takedowns the Most Takedowns. Tristan Larson was awarded Mustang Leadership, MVP, and Most Pins with 25 pins. Tyler Sandahl was awarded Mustang Leadership.

North Star Wrestling Conference Honorable Mentions were Gustafson, Nick Pahlen, and Larson.

Letter winners included Seniors-Larson, Sandahl, and Ben Kolling, Juniors-Gustafson, Kyle Gagner, and Alec Castaneda, Sophomores-Pahlen and Bryce Bergerson, and seventh graders-Tristyn Ferguson and George Duden.



RLCC Mustang Wrestling awards were given to Dylan Gustafson (Most Improved, Mr. Hustle, and Most Takedowns with 37 and MVP), Tristan Larson (Most Pins with 25, MVP and Mustang leadership), Tyler Sandahl (Mustang Leadership).



RLCC's Girls' Basketball letter winners were (top row) Nikki Schmitz, Morgan Bushelle, Katherine DeHate, Holly Vettleson, (bottom row) Julia Bernstein, Marie Johnson, Sarah Christensen, Ashley Longtin, Michelle Sundquist, Brandi Jensen and Taylor Bushelle (not pictured).



RLCC girls' basketball special awards included Most Improved- Michelle Sundquist, Most Valuable Player- Ashely Longtin, Mustang Pride- Holly Vettleson, Super Sub and Best Free Throw Percent- Julia Bernstein, and Defensive Player of the Year and Hustle - Taylor Bushelle (not pictured).



Senior basketball players Michelle Sundquist, Kat DeHate, Morgan Bushelle, Holly Vettleson, and Brandi Jensen and RLCC's head coach Mark Bagaason.



Named North Star Wrestling Conference Honorable Mentions were Dylan Gustafson, Nick Pahlen, and Tristan Larson.



Quin County Community Health Service is holding a "Walk Around Quin" activity to encourage walking the distance around the 5 counties Quin

serves. The activity is currently taking place from March 1 – May 15. "Walk Around Quin" is an activity for all ages. Pick up a scorecard or find one on our website: www.intercountynursingservice.com under healthy activities, complete it and receive a prize! There will also be Grand Prize Drawings when the activity ends.

What To Do During a Tornado Event

In a House With a Basement

Avoid windows. Get in the basement and under some kind of sturdy protection (heavy table or work bench), or cover yourself with a mattress or sleeping bag. Know where very heavy objects rest on the floor above (pianos, refrigerators, waterbeds, etc.) and do not go under them. They may fall down through a weakened floor and crush you.

In a House With No Basement

Avoid windows. Go to the lowest floor, small center room (like a bathroom or closet), under a stairwell, or in an interior hallway with no windows. Crouch as low as possible to the floor, facing down; and cover your head with your hands. A bath tub may offer a shell of partial protection. Even in an interior room, you should cover yourself with some sort of thick padding (mattress, blankets, etc.), to protect against falling debris in case the roof and ceiling fail.

In an Apartment, Dorm or Condo

If you live in an apartment that is on an upper floor, get to the lowest level of the building that you can immediately. This could be an underground parking garage or a neighbor's first floor apartment. Then move to the most interior area possible, away from windows.

If you live in a high-rise apartment building, you may not have enough time to get to a lower level, so picking a place in the hallway in the center of your building is the best idea such as a stairwell. If that is not available then a closet, bathroom or interior hall without windows is the safest spot in your apartment during a tornado. Power loss during a tornado storm is common, so avoid elevators and keep a flashlight handy.

In an Office Building, Hospital or Store

Follow instructions from facility managers. Go directly to an enclosed, windowless area in the center of the building -- away from glass and on the lowest floor possible. Then, crouch down and cover your head. Interior stairwells are

usually good places to take shelter, and if not crowded, allow you to get to a lower level quickly. Stay off the elevators; you could be trapped in them if the power is lost.

In a Mobile Home

Get out! Even if your home is tied down, you are probably safer outside, even if the only alternative is to seek shelter out in the open. Most tornadoes can destroy even tied-down mobile homes; and it is best not to play the low odds that yours will make it. If your community has a tornado shelter, go there fast. If there is a sturdy permanent building within easy running distance, seek shelter there. Otherwise, lie flat on low ground away from your home, protecting your head. If possible, use open ground away from trees and cars, which can be blown onto you.

At a School

Follow the drill! Go to the interior hall or room in an orderly way as you are told. Crouch low, head down, and protect the back of your head with your arms. Stay away from windows and large open rooms like gyms and auditoriums.

In a Car or Truck

Vehicles are extremely dangerous in a tornado. If the tornado is visible, far away, and the traffic is light, you may be able to drive away from its path by moving at right angles to the tornado. Otherwise, park the car as quickly and safely as possible -- out of the traffic lanes. Get out and seek

shelter in a sturdy building. If in the open country, run to low ground away from any cars (which may roll over on you). Lie flat and face-down, protecting the back of your head



NOTICE



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF SCOPING EAW AND DRAFT SCOPE FOR SANDPIPER PIPELINE AND LINE 3 REPLACEMENT PROJECTS AND SCHEDULE FOR EIS SCOPING MEETINGS

Issued: April 11, 2016

Project Description

Sandpiper Pipeline Project

The North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC (NDPC) is proposing to construct and operate a new 616-mile oil pipeline that would extend from Beaver Lodge Station, south of Tioga, North Dakota through a new terminal at Clearbrook, Minnesota and then on to an Enbridge affiliate’s terminal and tank farm in Superior, Wisconsin.

The proposed project, called the Sandpiper Pipeline project (or Sandpiper), includes about 303 miles of new pipeline in Minnesota. NDPC is proposing to install 24-inch diameter pipeline from the North Dakota border to Clearbrook, and 30-inch diameter pipeline from Clearbrook to the Wisconsin border. The project also includes construction of a new oil terminal at Clearbrook and upgrades to the existing Pine River facility.

The proposed project is located in Polk, Red Lake, Clearwater, Hubbard, Wadena, Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, and Carlton counties.

Line 3 Pipeline Replacement Project

Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership (Enbridge) is proposing the Line 3 Replacement project in order to address safety and integrity issues associated with the existing Line 3 pipeline. The pipeline replacement is proposed to follow existing Line 3 from the Minnesota-North Dakota border to Clearbrook and then follow the same route proposed for the Sandpiper pipeline from Clearbrook to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border. The Line 3 route is approximately 337 miles long in Minnesota. The project also includes upgrades to existing pump stations at Clearbrook, Donaldson, Plummer, and Viking, and construction of new pump stations at Backus, Cromwell, Palisade, and Two Inlets.

The proposed project is located in Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Clearwater, Hubbard, Wadena, Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, and Carlton counties.

Meeting Information		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Monday, April 25, 2016	6:00 – 9:00 pm	Tobies Restaurant and Bakery 404 Fire Monument Road Hinckley, MN 55037
Tuesday, April 26, 2016	6:00 – 9:00 pm	The Falls Ballroom 15870 Minnesota 27 Little Falls, MN 56345
Wednesday, April 27, 2016	6:00 – 9:00 pm	Crookston Inn & Convention Center 2200 University Ave Crookston, MN 56716
Thursday, April 28, 2016	6:00 – 9:00 pm	Ralph Engelstad Arena 525 Brooks Ave North Thief River Falls, MN 56701
Monday, May 2, 2016	6:00 – 9:00 pm	Bemidji State University 1500 Birchmont Dr. NE #31 Bemidji, MN 56601
Tuesday, May 3, 2016	10:00 am – 1:00 pm	American Legion 900 East 1st Street Park Rapids, MN 56470
Tuesday, May 3, 2016	6:00 – 9:00pm	Park Rapids Century School 501 Helten Avenue Park Rapids, MN 56470
Thursday, May 5, 2016	10:00 am – 1:00 pm	Black Bear Casino Resort 1785 MN-210 Carlton, MN 55718
Thursday, May 5, 2016	6:00 – 9:00 pm	Black Bear Casino Resort 1785 MN-210 Carlton, MN 55718
Monday, May 9, 2016	6:00 – 9:00 pm	Saint Paul RiverCentre 175 West Kellogg Boulevard Saint Paul, MN 55102
Tuesday, May 10, 2016	3:00 – 6:00 pm	Rice Lake Community Center 13830 Community Loop Bagley, MN 56621
Wednesday, May 11, 2016	10:00 am – 1:00 pm	East Lake Community Center 36666 State Highway 65 McGregor, MN 56718

- Each meeting will include an informal open house (1 hour), a formal presentation by state agency staff (30 minutes), and an opportunity for public comments (1.5 hours).
- State agency staff members will facilitate the meeting and are available to respond to questions about the permitting process and the project.
- NDPC and Enbridge (applicants) staff will also be available to answer questions about the proposed projects during the informal open house.
- You may add verbal comments, written comments, or both into the record. A court reporter will be available to take verbal comments, and comment cards will be available for people who wish to provide written comments for the public record.

Comment Period: Written comments will be accepted through **Thursday, May 26, 2016** on-line or by mail.

Online: www.sandpiperline3.us

Email: Pipeline.Comments@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: Jamie MacAlister, Environmental Review Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul MN 55101

Fax: 651-539-0109

Important: Comments will be made available to the public via the PUC’s and the Department of Commerce’s websites, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. Personally identifying information is not edited or deleted from submissions. Please include the PUC Docket Numbers (Sandpiper: PL-6668/CN-13-473 and PPL-13-474, Line 3: PL-9/CN-14-916 and PPL-15-137) in all communications.

Note: Each project will have its own scope and EIS, however, public meetings will address both projects.

Eminent Domain: If issued a route permit by the PUC, Enbridge and NDPC may use the power of eminent domain to take land for this project. Any new easement or right-of-way agreements reached between Enbridge/NDPC and landowners before a pipeline route permit is issued will not be considered in the PUC’s final decision.

How to Learn More

Department of Commerce Project Website (documents are available at these websites):

Sandpiper: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33599>

Line 3: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=34079>

Project Mailing List: Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate (meetings, comment periods, etc.). Contact docketing.puc@state.mn.us, 651-201-2204, or 1-800-657-3782 with the docket number (Sandpiper: 13-473 & 13-474) or (Line 3: 14-916 & 15-137), your name, mailing address, and email address.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the PUC’s website - mn.gov/puc, select Search eDockets, enter the year (13) and the docket number (473) for the Sandpiper CN or (13) and (474) for the Sandpiper Route Permit, then select Search. Enter the year (14) and the docket number (916) for the Line 3 CN or (15) and (137) for the Line 3 Route Permit, then select Search.

Community Locations: The Draft Scoping Decision Documents and Scoping EAWs will be available at the following locations in communities crossed by the proposed pipelines:

- Township Clerk
- City Clerk
- County Auditor or Administrator
- Public Libraries:
 - Hennepin County Library – Minneapolis Central, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis
 - Bemidji Public Library, 509 American Avenue NW, Bemidji
 - Crookston Public Library, 110 North Ash Street, Crookston
 - Duluth Public Library, 520 W Superior Street, Duluth
 - Kitchigami Regional Library, 212 Park Ave., PO Box 14, Pine River
 - East Central Regional Library, 244 So. Birch Street, Cambridge
 - Great River Regional Library, 1300 West St. Germain, St. Cloud

Available on CD: You may contact DOC-EERA staff to request copies of these documents on CD (see contact information below).

Minnesota Statutes and Rules: The certificate of need application is reviewed under Minnesota Statute 216B and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7853. The pipeline route permit application is reviewed under Minnesota Statute 216G and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7852. The EIS will be reviewed under Minnesota Rules Chapter 4410.2000.

Minnesota Statutes and Rules are available at www.revisor.mn.gov.

Project Contacts

Public Utilities Commission Public Advisor

Tracy Smetana – consumer.puc@state.mn.us,
651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782

Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities Planner

Scott Ek – scott.ek@state.mn.us,
651-201-2255

Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager

Jamie MacAlister – Pipeline.Comments@state.mn.us,
651-539-1775 or 1-800-657-3794

Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership Project Contact

www.Enbridge.com/L3andSPP – enbridgeinmn@enbridge.com,
1-855-788-7805

North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC Project Contact

www.Enbridge.com/L3andSPP – enbridgeinmn@enbridge.com,
1-855-788-7805

This document can be made available in alternative formats (e.g., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in these meetings (e.g., sign language, foreign language interpreter, large print materials), please contact the PUC at 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 at least one week in advance of the meeting.

O3MNA

Oklee Herald Early Files

Sixty Years Ago
April 12, 1956
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Qualley and twins Debbie and Diane of Cloquet spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vedo Plante.

A daughter, Mary Kay, was born April 8, to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Radniecki.

Last week's adverse weather forced cancellations of at least two local events. Due to the heavy winterkill of fish life in many lakes this winter, there will be large amounts of dead fish accumulated on the shores when the ice is gone.

Fifty Years Ago
April 14, 1966
The Cadettes and Senior Girl Scout Troup 155 left Sunday for their educational tour of Chicago.

Julie and Dennis Johnson and Connie Brinkman helped Theresa Martell celebrate her 12th birthday Thursday afternoon.

The Sand Valley Church installed a new Hammond Electric organ last Sunday.

Forty Years Ago
April 8, 1976
Mark Nelson, a senior at Oklee High School, participated in the Thundering Herd Classic at NDSU. Mark was the only

double winner in the indoor meet of high school athletes.

The Brush Patrol has been out looking for bare faced brothers with no shaving permits and Oklee Mayor Alvin Jensen was arrested by Patrolman John Peoples. Alvin quickly paid the 50 cent fine and purchased a shaving permit.

"It had bright, flashing yellow lights and seemed to come towards up. When we turned off the car's lights, the object sped away," said Schoot Pahlen, son of Mrs. R. H. Pahlen from Plummer in describing the latest in a series of possible Unidentified Flying Objects (UFP's) which have been reported in the Goodridge area.

Thirty Years Ago
April 9, 1986
A lyceum was held at the Oklee School featuring Jim Kilps, a Zoomobile Naturalist from the Minnesota Zoological Garden. Kilps presentation and animals had to do with predators and their importance to the balance of nature.

Plummer student Craig Brantl will be representing Plummer at the Regional Science Fair held in Bemidji.

It has arrived! The 11th annual Oklee Community Auction.

Twenty Years Ago
April 10, 1996
Ray C. Swenson received a plaque from Oklee Farmer's Co-op Elevator Association for the thirty years of service Ray has given the association.

Randy and Lori Radniecki are the proud parents of a baby boy born March 31st.

On Sunday, double celebration was held in honor of Austin, son of Greg and Donna, to celebrate his 1st birthday and Easter with grandparents, Marc and Connie Parenteau.

The 3-act play at Oklee High School is "The Canterville Ghost."

Ten Years Ago
April 13, 2006
A disaster drill was held at the elevator and the school in Oklee this week. The scenario was anhydrous leak.

Academic banquet was held and many students were honored.

Share the Fun performances were pictured in the paper: The teams participating were the Garnes Go Getters, Huot Hustlers, Happy Go Lucky and the Pembina Trail.

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

Temporary Agricultural Extension Educator
I'd like to reintroduce myself. My name is Ray Bisek and I'll again be filling in on a temporary basis as Extension Educator in Red Lake County for Curtis Nyegaard while he is on leave for the next 4-6 weeks. Some of you may recall that I was in the Extension office last winter while Curtis was on leave for three months last winter. I previously worked for U of M Extension for 22 years in Mahnomen and Norman Counties and took an early retirement 5 years ago. My background is in crop production systems and farm business management but also have interests in animal production systems, horticulture and natural resources. I reside in Mahnomen County and also do some substitute teaching, FSA field reporting, and farming. I'll be in the Red Lake County Extension office one day per week, usually on Tuesday, similar to Curt's schedule. You can reach me at [218-253-2897](tel:218-253-2897) (office), [320-247-2590](tel:320-247-2590)(cell) or by email at bisek001@umn.edu.

Agronomic Responses of Corn to Planting Date and Plant Population in Minnesota

Below is an article by Dave Nicolai, Extension Educator, Crops, UMN Extension. Keep in mind the article was written for all producers in Minnesota. Early hybrids would be the 79-82 day range while late hybrids would be in the 87-89 day range for NW Minnesota. Generally speaking we do switch to early hybrids only when planting is delayed to June. Also research at Crookston has shown a benefit for high populations in 22 inch rows. Not sure if the current market price still support the high population rate though. For more information on this, or other topics, contact me by

email at bisek001@umn.edu or by office phone 253-2857, or cell [320-247-2590](tel:320-247-2590). Ray Bisek, Extension Educator

Few decisions for corn production are as important as those related to planting. Hybrid selection, row width, planting date, and planting rate can influence corn yield and net return. Decisions related to planting rate are especially important, since seed represents around 15% of the total cost of corn production. Dr. Jeff Coulter, University of Minnesota Extension Corn Specialist provides the following guidelines for consideration about corn planting dates and planting populations:

Maximum corn yield is generally obtained when planting occurs in late April or early May. In years when spring arrives early, a mid-April planting date also will produce similar yield if young plants are not damaged by a freeze in May. In years when there are few growing degree days during late April and the first half of May, maximum corn yield also can be obtained when planting occurs in mid-May.

Typically there is a rapid decline in corn yield as planting is delayed beyond mid-May. However, advantages from timely planting according to the calendar can be negated if planting occurs when soils are too wet. When corn planting is delayed beyond the third week in May, switching late-maturity hybrids to earlier-maturity hybrids reduces the risk of corn freezing in the fall before it has reached maturity. Research from Illinois and Minnesota indicates that the optimum final plant population for corn is not affected by planting date.

Planting rates of 34,000 to 36,000 seeds/acre maximize net return in most fields. Optimum planting rates tend

to be near or above the high end of this range for early-maturity hybrids (96-day relative maturity or earlier, and especially for hybrids less than 90-day relative maturity). While optimum planting rate differs somewhat among hybrids, hybrid selection generally impacts yield more than fine-tuning planting rate by hybrid.

The economic optimum planting rate for corn is related to yield level. Research in the U.S. Corn Belt has shown that the optimum planting rate increases by about 800 to 1,000 seeds/acre for each 10 bushels/acre increase in yield level. Too high of a planting rate generally does not reduce corn yield, but does reduce net return. In recent trials in northwestern Minnesota where growing season rainfall was just 10 to 15 inches, grain yield ranged from 100 to 130 bushels/acre and was not reduced with final stands up to 44,000 plants/acre.

High corn yields can still be obtained if planting is delayed until mid-May. Consider earlier-maturity hybrids when planting is delayed beyond the third week of May. When corn is planted into good soil conditions, optimum planting rates generally do not differ with planting date.



Senior Site News and Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

This morning I looked to the East of my house and thought it would be a beautiful sunny day. It didn't last long before it clouded over and the sun has had a difficult time trying to shine. Will Spring never come!!

I was back at my job at the Site on Monday. It felt good to be able to visit with the people who wondered in. It was the first time I had been there in over three weeks.

I have to report I am feeling great again and ready to start cleaning the yard and house.

It was sad to hear Barbara Solien had passed away. Her funeral was last Saturday. Sincere sympathy to the family. She had many friends and relatives in the Oklee area.

We still have Bingo on Thursdays at 12:30 at the Senior Site. Come and enjoy the fun, you might be able to take home a prize.

Dates to Remember
April 15: Birthday Meal
April 19: Pot Luck Meal 5:00 p.m. Come, bring something for the "Pot" and visit with your friends and neighbors.
April 21: Site Board Meets 10 a.m. If you have something you would like to discuss you are welcome to come and present it to the board.

Words of Wisdom
Life without books is like a Popsicle without a stick.
Only by doing your best will

you discover what your talents truly are.

Joke Time
A four-year old boy was asked to return thanks before the dinner. He began his prayer by thanking his family--his mother, his father, his sister, his uncle, his aunt, his grandpa and grandma, even his dog and then his thanked God for the food.

He thanked God for the turkey, the potatoes, the cranberry sauce, the salad, the pie and the milk. Then he paused. Everyone waited. Eventually he looked up at his mother and said, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't God know I'm lying?"

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

Well, it stands to prove that weather is predictable. It is April, and it got cold toward the end of last week and the winds went high and it is still cold today. After all it is April in Minnesota and it is expected that Mother Nature is going to throw us a bunch of curves. Someday we will get warmer weather. Right now we need rain after all the wind we have experienced. The countryside is tinder dry. Don't burn anything.

The parishes of St. Joseph in Red Lake Falls and Brooks are getting excited about the ordination of one of our own. Matt Schmitz is being ordained April 30 into the diaconate. His ordination will be at Red Lake Falls and his first Mass will be at St. Joe's in Brooks. We are all excited for him and his family and hope that everyone takes advantage of the ceremonies that take place at this auspicious time. Everyone is invited to attend

and congratulate him and his family.

Dianne Gagner celebrated her HMMM Birthday on Wednesday. Three friends joined together to greet her on her big day and brought her lunch. Thanks to Carolina Gervais, Karen Delage, and Carol Chaput for being great friends and helping her celebrate. Diane is getting around a bit better these days and is beginning to get used to her walker. Better than being in a wheel chair all the time.

Clarence decided that Dianne deserved a real treat for her birthday so he took her out to the Evergreen for the evening. Happy Birthday Diane.

Elaine Radniecki went to supper in Oklee at the Shirley and Vincent Dessellier home. They just returned from a 10 day cruise and she got to see some of the picture and their news of the trip. She said it

was an enjoyable evening.

Arleen Berry of East Grand Forks came to stay with Diane Gagner on Friday and Saturday of last week while Clarence went to Camp Ripley for a funeral.

Our sympathy to the Solien family formerly of the Brooks area. Barb Solien passed away and her funeral was on Saturday.

Many people have asked about Jerome Novak's health. He is on chemo and is trying to regain his strength before he goes back for more chemo. It is a good day, bad day kind of recovery. Some days he is stronger than others. Step by step we go on and keep trying. Thank you all for your warm wishes and all the prayers that are being said for him. We really appreciate it.

We hope that you all have a great week. Keep your powder dry, and wish for warmer weather.

Plummer News
By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

An 80th Birthday party was given for Billy Peterson on Sunday by his sisters; Mildred, Rose and Laura. It was held at the Legion at 2:00 p.m. The cake had a bowling theme with pins and ball. Also ice cream, punch, nuts and candy kisses and coffee was served. A good crowd came from the neighboring towns. Bills' birthday was on St. Patrick's Day.

Alice Jobe and Ann Traxler went to the last concert for the season at Lincoln High School Sunday evening. It was six musicians from England named the Jive Aces. It included a piano player, bass fiddle, drummer, trombone and saxophone. The lead singer played the ukulele some. They sang songs of Bobby Darin, Louis Armstrong, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Louis Prima and others. They were high energy especially the pianist. They were high dressed in yellow suits and bow ties, yellow and black shoes. It was

probably the best of the whole series. The concerts have run for 50 years now.

Also performing was Makinna Ridgeway, from Hollywood. She did Boogie Woogie dancing and sang with the guys and solo.

Tri River Pioneers met Monday evening at 8:00 p.m. There was re-election of officers. The restoration of the fire truck, what to do with the threshing machine along the highway, and a tractor that needs a lot of work.

Gary Carpenter visted Jean Carpenter over the weekend, while Louise, his wife went with her sisters to Detroit Lakes for a fun day out.

There was a Spring Dance recital at Lincoln High School on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

It was called "Girls Just Want To Have Fun." Sanford Wellness Center presented it and donations went to the center. Alice Jobe and Anna DeHate went. Anna's great

granddaughters were in it. It was well done and the little girls sure were cute.

The Creamery meeting was held Tuesday at the Legion at 1:30 p.m. Business meeting, lunch was ham on buns, macaroni salad, ice cream and coffee. Debbie showed slides on You Tube about butter and its uses, also milk replacer.

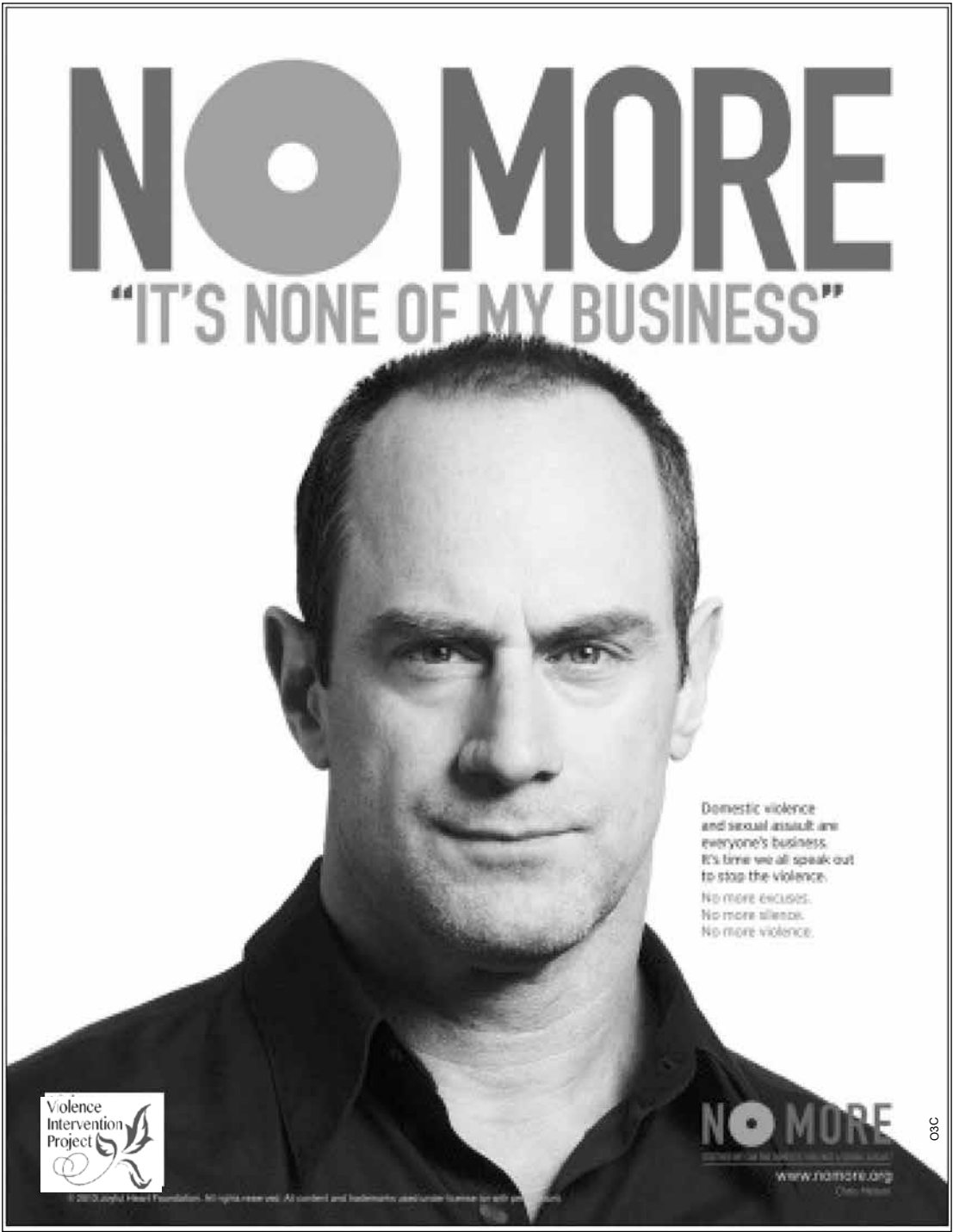
Jack Kukowski, youngest brother of Alice Jobe, stopped by Sunday on his way home. He had pictures on his trip with nephew Jeremy, who's from Benson, out to Colorado and Utah. Besides sightseeing at parks and deserts and mountains, they skied at Loveland, Colorado and went mountain biking in Utah. He had many pictures of his trip to show. One cactus in Utah was called beaver tail - fully looking. They had a great time. It snowed quite heavily at Loveland while they were skiing. Otherwise the temps in Utah were 60 degrees.

Who's Dat?



Who's Dat
This week's photo is of two fellows, both grew and were raised on farms north of Oklee. They served in the Philippians.

Last week's photo is of the Class of 1976. They were busy making their class float for the 75th anniversary held in 1985. They are: Back row: Mary (Radniecki) Robidoux, Nancy (Fornier) Magnell, Suellen (Berry) Spong, Vickie (Johnson) Humphrey, Mari (Mandt) Klesk, Janette (Brown) Mosbeck. Front row: Margaret (Lambert) Peterson, Dorene Dessellier and Doris Dessellier.



April Health Points

April is Stress Awareness Month

Stress happens. Sometimes it's unavoidable, at times it's unbearable. That's why taking time for yourself is invaluable. It's healthy to relax, renew, and rejuvenate.

Stress does not merely afflict your mind; it can also affect you on a cellular level. In fact, long-term stress can lead to a wide range of illnesses—from headaches to stomach disorders to depression—and can even increase the risk of serious conditions like stroke and heart disease. Understanding the mind/stress/health connection can help you better manage stress and improve your health and well-being.

The Fight or Flight Response

The sympathetic stress response is a survival mechanism that is hardwired into our nervous systems. This automatic response is necessary for mobilizing quick reflexes when there is imminent danger, such as swerving to avoid a car crash.

When you perceive a threat, stress hormones rush into your bloodstream—increasing heart rate, blood pressure, and glucose levels. Other hormones also suppress functions like digestion and the immune system, which is one of the

reasons why chronic stress can leave you more vulnerable to illness.

Danger triggers the stress response. Unfortunately, so can work conflicts, concerns over debt, bad memories, or anxiety in general. Although one bad day at work won't compromise your health, weeks or months of stress can dampen your immune response and raise your risk for disease.

Combat Your Stress

If you suffer from chronic stress and can't influence or change the situation, then you'll need to change your approach. Be willing to be flexible. Remember, you have the ability to choose your response to stressors, and you may have to try various options.

- Recognize when you don't have control, and let it go.
- Don't get anxious about situations that you cannot change.
- Take control of your own reactions and focus your mind on something that makes you feel calm and in control. This may take some practice, but it pays off in peace of mind.
- Develop a vision for healthy living, wellness, and personal growth, and set realistic goals to help you realize your vision.

Relax and Recharge

Be sure to carve out some

time to relax and take care of yourself each day—even just 10 to 15 minutes per day can improve your ability to handle life's stressors. Also, remember that exercise is an excellent stress reliever.

Everyone has different ways they like to relax and unwind. While you can't avoid stress, you can minimize it by changing how you choose to respond to it. The ultimate reward for your efforts is a healthy, balanced life, with time for work, relationships, relaxation, and fun.

www.foh.hhs.gov/calendar/stress.html



It's easy to think of these as diseases of the past. But the truth is they still exist. Children in the United States can—and do—still get some of these diseases.

Oklee Community Ed Swimming Lessons Offered

By: Katie Pendelton
Swimming lessons will be offered through Community Education for children in the Oklee School District. There will be one session of 15 lessons offered at the Fosston School beginning June 6th and continuing each weekday through June 24th. Students will swim from 10:15 am to 12:00 pm. Buses will be leaving at 9:00 am from the school then picking up kids at Emily Magnell's Daycare and then onto Pam Johnson's daycare and will be back by 12:45 pm.

Children who have completed Kindergarten are eligible to participate. If your child has had a bad experience with water or swimming, please advise the school when you sign them up. The swimming instructors would like to be aware of these or any other

problems your child may have during swimming lessons.

Lessons will cost \$30 per child with a \$90 family maximum. If you are riding the bus from Emily's Daycare there will be an extra \$5 transportation fee because of mileage added to the existing route to make this stop. No child will be refused from this program because of financial difficulties. If you cannot afford the registration fee, contact Sandra Tougas at the Oklee site to make arrangements.

Please sign up at the Oklee site office and pay for your child's swimming lessons by May 18th so bus assignments can be made.



Red Lake County Fair News

Century Farms

The Century Farm recognition program, sponsored by the Minnesota State Fair and the Minnesota Farm Bureau, recognizes farms that have been in continuous ownership by a family for 100 years or more. Since the program began in 1976, over 9,700 Minnesota farms have been recognized. Each year, Century Farm recipients receive an outdoor sign designating the farm as a "Century Farm" and a certificate signed by the governor of Minnesota and presidents of the Farm Bureau and Minnesota State Fair. Applications for the 2014 Century Farm program are available for download on the right or may be requested via email by contacting centuryfarms@mnnstatefair.org.

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.



Sydney Melby, Tom Nelson and Kjersten Walton practice lines for the play "A Hillbilly Wedding."

Top 10 Scams From The IRS For Tax Season

1. Scammers Change Tactics
Aggressive and threatening phone calls by criminals impersonating IRS agents remain a major threat to taxpayers, but now the IRS is receiving new reports of scammers calling under the guise of verifying tax return information over the phone.

The latest variation being seen in the last few weeks tries to play off the current tax season. Scam artists call saying they have your tax return, and they just need to verify a few details to process your return. The scam tries to get you to give up personal information such as a Social Security number or personal financial information, such as bank numbers or credit cards.

2. W-2 Scam Targeting Payroll and Human Resources Professionals

Payroll and human resources professionals should be aware of an emerging phishing email scheme that purports to be from company executives and requests personal information on employees. The email contains the actual name of the company chief executive officer. In this scam, the "CEO" sends an email to a company payroll office employee and requests a list of employees and financial and personal information including SSNs.

3. E-mail, Phishing and Malware Schemes

The IRS has seen an approximate 400 percent surge in phishing and malware incidents so far in the 2016 tax season.

The emails are designed to trick taxpayers into thinking these are official communications from the IRS or others in the tax industry, including tax software companies. The phishing schemes can ask taxpayers about a wide range of topics. E-mails can seek information related to refunds, filing status, confirming personal information, ordering transcripts and verifying PIN information.

Variations of these scams can be seen via text messages, and the communications are being reported in every section of the country.

When people click on these email links, they are taken to sites designed to imitate an official-looking website, such as IRS.gov. The sites ask for Social Security numbers and other personal information, which could be used to help file false tax returns. The sites also may carry malware, which can infect people's computers and allow criminals to access your files or track your keystrokes to gain information.

4. IRS-Impersonation Telephone Scam

An aggressive and sophisticated phone scam targeting taxpayers, including recent immigrants, has been making the rounds throughout

the country. Callers claim to be employees of the IRS, but are not. These con artists can sound convincing when they call. They use fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. They may know a lot about their targets, and they usually alter the caller ID to make it look like the IRS is calling.

Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer. If the victim refuses to cooperate, they are then threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver's license. In many cases, the caller becomes hostile and insulting. Or, victims may be told they have a refund due to try to trick them into sharing private information. If the phone isn't answered, the scammers often leave an "urgent" callback request.

Note that the IRS will never:

- 1) call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill;
- 2) demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe;
- 3) require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card;
- 4) ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone;
- or 5) threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

5. Tax Preparer Phishing Scam

A bogus email asks tax professionals to update their IRS e-services portal information and Electronic Filing Identification Numbers (EFINs). The links that are provided in the bogus email to access IRS e-services appear to be a phishing scheme designed to capture your username and password. This email was not generated by the IRS e-services program. Disregard this email and do not click on the links provided.

6. Email Phishing Scam: "Update your IRS e-file"

The IRS has been alerted to a new email phishing scam. The emails appear to be from the IRS and include a link to a bogus web site intended to mirror the official IRS web site. These emails contain the direction "you are to update your IRS e-file immediately." The emails mention USA.gov and IRS.gov (without a dot between "IRS" and "gov"), though notably, not IRS.gov (with a dot). Don't get scammed. These emails are not from the IRS.

Taxpayers who get these messages should not respond to the email or click on the links. Instead, they should forward the scam emails to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov.

The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by

email to request personal or financial information.

7. Tax Scams

Don't fall victim to tax scams. Remember--if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Education is the best way to avoid the pitfalls of these "too good to be true" tax scams.

8. Phony Arguments

No matter how some things are sliced, they're still baloney. This IRS.gov exclusive addresses some of the more common false legal arguments made by those opposed to compliance with the federal tax laws. Each contention is briefly explained, followed by a discussion of the legal authority that rejects the contention. The second section deals with frivolous arguments encountered in collection due process cases. The final section illustrates penalties imposed on those pursuing frivolous cases.

9. Identity Theft Scams

The IRS has issued several consumer warnings about the fraudulent use of the IRS name or logo by scammers trying to gain access to consumers' financial information in order to steal their identity and assets. Scammers will use the regular mail, telephone, fax or email to set up their victims. When identity theft takes place over the Internet (email), it is called phishing.

The IRS does not initiate taxpayer communications through email. Unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, or from an IRS-related component such as EFTPS, should be reported to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov.

Additionally, clicking on attachments to or links within an unsolicited email claiming to come from the IRS may download a malicious computer virus onto your computer.

10. The IRS will NEVER:

-Call to demand immediate payment over the phone, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you several bills.

-Call or email you to verify your identity by asking for personal and financial information.

-Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.

-Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.

-Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone or e-mail.

-Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.



Oklee Herald papers available at many locations and online

Oklee: D & R Grocery, Cenex C-Store, Oklee Herald office.

Brooks: Brooks Travel Center.

Plummer: Plummer Coop Creamery.

Red Lake Falls: Eagle Square.

Gully: Gully Tri-Coop.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.