



Red Lake County HERALD



Vol. 113, Number 21

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

RLCC Elementary School Concert held December 18



Our Elementary students presented Let It Snow!! Mr. Wattenphul and our students put on a wonderful program.



Mr. Wattenphul, RLCC Elementary Music Teacher, directing the Elementary Program.

New Year's pastime across the globe

In Thailand, it was once tradition to fire guns to frighten off demons.

In China, firecrackers routed the forces of darkness.

In Denmark, they throw plates and glasses against each others' front doors to banish bad spirits.

In Ecuador, it is tradition to burn the effigies of famous people to destroy bad "juju" from the past year and start fresh.

In other countries, many folks wait for the church bells or the chimes of clock towers to ring out.

In Spain, people attempt to eat 12 grapes during the 12 strokes of midnight! Tradition says that if they succeed before the chimes stop, they will have good luck for all 12 months of the coming year.

In Scotland—where Hogmanay is celebrated—Scots also hold bonfire ceremonies where people parade while swinging giant fireballs on poles!

The Irish enjoy pastries called bannocks.

Germans and Pennsylvania Dutch eat sauerkraut on New Year's Day for good luck in the coming year.

Just a few of other countries traditions.



Christmas Cookie decorating was the thing to do on December 19th in Mrs. Magnell and Mrs. Austad's classes, parents were invited to help. Was a fun day for at Red Lake County Elementary in Plummer!

2025

*Happy
New
Year!*

*From the Staff
at the
Red Lake
County Herald*

Winter load increases begin Dec. 20 in the North-Central frost zone

ST. PAUL, Minn. - The Minnesota Department of Transportation will begin winter load increases on unrestricted highways in the North-Central frost zone at 12:01 a.m. Friday, Dec. 20.

Winter load increases have already begun in the North frost zone.

Frost zones and restricted routes can be found on the MnDOT load limits map. Start and end dates and other load limit information are shown at mndot.gov/loadlimits.

Vehicles will be allowed to operate up to 10 percent over the standard legal maximum loads on unrestricted highways during the winter load increase period. However, trucks must comply with current registration weight laws and not exceed registered gross weight tolerances.

Please check with local agencies (cities, counties and townships) prior to increasing any weights on their routes. The sign erected on the roadway governs the load limit in effect. A winter weight increase permit is required to take advantage of the 10 percent weight increase on interstate highways only; a permit is not required for state trunk highways.

MnDOT will report start and end dates on its 24-hour automated message center at 1-800-723-6543 for the U.S. and Canada, and locally at 651-366-5400 for the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.

For questions about legal axle weight during SLR; Gross Vehicle Weight Schedule, call: Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Patrol - Commercial Vehicle Enforcement 651-350-2000

For questions about over-size/overweight loads/permitting, call: Minnesota Department of Transportation Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations - Oversize/Overweight Permits 651-296-6000

Oremail: ofcvopermits.dot@state.mn.us

All changes are made with a minimum three calendar-day notice.

For updated road condition information, call 511 or visit www.511mn.org. www.mndot.gov

Church News

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Okleelutheran.org
Sun, Jan. 5: 9:00 a.m.
Worship at Zion. 9:00 a.m.
SS. 10:00 a.m. SS. 10:30 a.m.
Worship at Salem.
Wed, Jan. 8: 7:00 p.m.
Confirmation at Zion & Salem.

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OKLEE, GRYGLA & GOODRIDGE
Fr. Bryan Kujawa
Sunday: 8am St. Frances – Oklee; 10:15am – Grygla. 12pm – Goodridge.

BROOKS – RED LAKE FALLS CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bob Schreiner
Saturday: 5:30pm St. Joseph – RLF.
Sunday: 8am – Brooks. 10am St. Joseph – RLF.

IMMANUEL–EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Sun, Jan. 5: 7 p.m. Joint Worship at Bethany.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Bethany–Ekelund–Faith
Sun, Jan. 5: 8:00 Ekelund Worship; 9:30 Faith Worship-SS @ 10:30; 11:00 Bethany Worship: SS @ 10:00. Communion Sunday / 3rd & 4th Graders read the Psalms.
Mon, Jan. 6: 9 a.m. Faith Mission-Quilting.
Wed, Jan. 8: No Wednesdays School.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive – Nazareth
Oak Park – St. Petri
Pastor Jeffrey Merseeth
Wed, Jan. 1: No Wednesday School/Confirmation.
Sun, Jan. 5: 8:45 a.m. Oak Park SS. 9:45 a.m. Joint Services with Communion with Parish Board meeting to follow.
Wed, Jan. 8: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School. 6:30 Vespers. 7:00 p.m. LYS.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Sun, Jan. 5: 9am Worship at Lund. 10:30 am Bethany.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Jarred LaBon, Pastor
Tyler Stynsberg, YPastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Sunday: 9am Sunday School. 10 am Worship.
Tuesday: 9:30am Ladies Bible Devotions.
Wednesday: 6:30pm Youth Group.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston
Seth Johnson, Interim Pastor
Sunday: 9:30am Sunday School. 10:30am Worship.

JOHNSON
Funeral Service, Inc.

Funeral Pre-planning Monuments

Thief River Falls • 218-681-4331
Red Lake Falls • 218-253-2128
Oklee • 218-796-5177
www.johnsonfuneralservice.com

Deadline: Fridays at noon!

Oklee Centennial Cookbook Recipe Corner - Page 1

Amazing Hot Artichoke Dip Marcia (Radniecki) Lindquist

1 cup low fat mayo (not Miracle Whip)
4 oz shredded parmesan cheese
1 clove garlic, minced
1 pkg (8 oz) low fat cream cheese, softened
1 can (14 oz) artichoke hearts, drained and chopped
1 can (4 oz) diced mild green chilies
8 oz mozzarella cheese.

Mix together the first 4 ingredients, then add the artichoke hearts, chilies and mozzarella. Pour into a 9" pie plate or small casserole dish and sprinkle a few parsley flakes on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes or until just lightly browned. Serve warm with New York Style Panetini, garlic parmesan flavor (find these in the deli section) or other crunchy garlic toast or Triscuits. Amazingly good! It also reheats well in the microwave.



Dreams Start Here

If you're planning on buying a new home or saving for the future, we can provide the right products and services to get the job done.

We are a locally-owned independent bank and we're here to help you with all your financial needs. We invite you to contact us today.

Security STATE BANK
PO Box 69 Oklee, MN 56742



Happy Retirement

Please join us for a Retirement Open House for Ron Weiss
Thursday January 9th
1:00pm-3:00pm
Red Lake County Courthouse Boardroom
After 21 years of service as a Red Lake County Commissioner.
Come and wish Ron a Happy Retirement with us.
Cake and beverage will be served.

DLGA Statement on President Jimmy Carter

WASHINGTON – Democratic Lieutenant Governors Association (DLGA) Chair and Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis released the following statement on the passing of President Jimmy Carter:

“Jimmy Carter was a good president, but a great man, whose life was marked by an unwavering commitment to service, humanity and peace. As the 39th President of the United States, his landmark achievements promoted democracy and human rights around the world, and left a lasting imprint on international relations and peace and prosperity.

“His leadership extended far beyond the Oval Office, with a longstanding legacy in humanitarian work as he built affordable housing, promoted

democracy across the globe, and helped to wipe out an endemic disease. Blayre and mine's thoughts and prayers are with their family and loved ones. May his memory serve as a blessing and inspiration.”



Jimmy Carter 1924-2024

Oklee Area Veterans' Memorial Update

By proclamation of the President of the United States, flags at the Oklee Area Veterans' Memorial were lowered on honoring President Jimmy Carter.

Luke Peterson, Oklee Student Senate member, lowered the flags at the request of Mr. Huie, Student Senate advisor. The Oklee Student Senate has faithfully taken on the responsibility of lowering flags at the Veterans' Memorial when a proclamation has been made.

United States Flag to Half-Staff for Thirty Days Honoring Former President Jimmy Carter

December 29, 2024

The United States flags should be flown at half-staff effective immediately until sunset on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, in honor of the life and legacy of President Jimmy Carter, who passed away on December 29th in Plains, Georgia.

December 19 there was Cookies being decorated in Mrs. Magnell and Mrs. Austad's classes



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

WE DO IN-TOWN DELIVERIES!

ORDER MONDAY FOR TUESDAY DELIVERIES

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Wine & Spirits

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Meat • Produce • Health and Beauty
• Greeting Cards • Beer, Wine and Liquor • WIC & Food Stamps
This project is made possible in part, under the Federal Older American's Act through a grant with the NWRDC under an area plan approved by the Minnesota Board on Aging.
SHOP ONLINE AT: <http://masonbros.com/weeklyads/ej-grocery-wine-spirits/>

Red Lake County Sheriff

www.facebook.com/RedLakeCounty/

On the afternoon of 12/19/24, the Red Lake County Sheriff's Office received a report of snowmobiles on the Hughes Elementary School property. A Red Lake County deputy spoke with the snowmobile riders, and they agreed to leave the property.

On the morning of 12/20/24, Red Lake County law enforcement discovered a vehicle that had slid into a tree along 3rd St. SW in Red Lake Falls. The vehicle was unoccupied, and it appeared to have been there for some time. The owner/driver was located at their residence in Red Lake Falls. A crash report was completed, and the vehicle was towed from the scene.

On the morning of 12/20/24, a Red Lake Falls resident reported being harassed via social media. A Red Lake County deputy spoke with the involved parties and counseled them to mediate the situation.

On the afternoon of 12/21/24, an Oklee juvenile was cited for illegal window tint on CR. #1 east of Plummer.

On the afternoon of 12/21/24, Blake Roger Tvedt DeHate (28) of Plummer was cited for

Tri-Valley Public Transportation

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

Curb-to-curb services is available. Allowing for a safe and convenient method of transportation. All of our buses are handicapped accessible and lift-equipped. All of our drivers are trained and certified.

To reserve a seat, please call one business day prior to the scheduled trip - 1-800-201-3432.

For Polk, Red Lake and Clearwater County stops:
Every Monday – Grand Forks.

Every 2nd Tuesday – Mahnomen.
Every 4th Tuesday – Thief River Falls
Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesday – Fargo/Moorhead.
Every 2nd & 4th Friday – Bemidji.



FACT OF THE DAY:
Snow appears white because snow is a bunch of individual ice crystals arranged together. When light hits snow, it bounces all around the ice crystals and the “color” of all the frequencies in the visible spectrum combined in equal measure is white. While white is the color we see in snow, individual ice crystals are actually translucent. Provided by FactRetriever.com

Crossword Solution

C	R	E	A	M	T	I	P	P	E	N	D
P	I	T	T	A	Y	O	U	B	O	W	E
A	L	L	U	R	E	P	U	P	A	L	E
G	A	I	N	E	A	C	C	O	R	D	
T	A	O	Z	E	R	O					
R	I	D	L	O	V	E	U	N	C	O	R
I	C	E	S	S	O	A	K	S	A	L	O
G	I	L	T	I	L	E	D	V	I	S	A
H	E	T	U	P	D	O	E	R	A	V	I
T	R	A	D	E	R	U	N	I	T	E	N
N	U	T	S	E	R	E					
H	A	M	P	E	R	T	R	E	N	C	H
K	O	R	E	A	U	S	E	M	U	L	E
I	N	A	L	L	M	E	N	O	R	I	E
D	E	B	T	P	A	D	R	E	P	L	Y

speeding on CR. #1 east of Plummer.

In the early morning hours of 12/21/24, a Red Lake County deputy responded to a report of a disturbance at an Oklee residence. Two siblings who were involved in an argument were counseled and the situation was mediated.

On the morning of 12/22/24, a Red Lake County deputy was involved with a child custody dispute. Counseling and advice were provided to the parties involved.

On the afternoon of 12/23/24, the Red Lake County Sheriff's Office received a report from a landlord about tenants damaging a rental house. A Red Lake County deputy spoke with the property owner, and it was determined this was not a criminal matter and it needed to be handled in civil court.

On the afternoon of 12/23/24, an Oklee resident reported a theft of property. Investigation revealed that the alleged victim's spouse had taken the property, so it was not a theft and the matter was closed.

On the afternoon of 12/23/24, a Red Lake County deputy responded to a disturbance at a Red Lake Falls residence. They discovered that two exes were having a dispute over property. They were counseled and one of the parties involved was trespassed from the residence.

Just after midnight on 12/25/24, a Red Lake County deputy responded to a disturbance at a Red Lake Falls residence. It was discovered that two individuals were having a verbal disagreement, and no crimes had been committed. They were both counseled and the situation was mediated.

On the evening of 12/25/24, a Red Lake County deputy looking into a report of a protection order violation. It was determined the order was not violated, but both the petitioner and the respondent were counseled.

Mitch Bernstein, Red Lake County Sheriff: 12/27/24

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

Red Lake County Herald

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****Winner of Honorable Mention for General Excellence, Minnesota Newspaper Ass'n., 1962.**
****Winner 1st place Typography Excellence, Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1971.**
****Winner 1st place Best Feature Story, Minnesota Newspaper Association, 1981.**
****Winner 1st place Best Single News or Feature Story, Minnesota Medical Association, 1992.**
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MUSTANG STAMPED

RLCC Menus

January 2-3 & 6-10

Oklee

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken Fajita, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Fruit, and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Donut, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Ham Patty, Tots, Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Monday: Breakfast: Biscuit w/Egg & Cheese, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Mac & Cheese, Corn Dog, Vegetable, Fruit, and Milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Muffin, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Hamburger or Pizza Patty, Hash Browns Patty, Vegetable, Fruit, and Milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: French Toast w/Syrup, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken Bacon Ranch Hot Dish, Bread Sticks, Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Apple Fritter, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken Nuggets, Cheesy Hash Browns, Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** 3 Kinds of Soup, Meat Sandwich, Fresh Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Plummer

Thursday: Breakfast: Omelet, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Hamburger Hotdish, Bread Stick, Corn, Fruit, and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Long John, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken w/Bun, Fries, Green Beans, Fruit and Milk.

Monday: Breakfast: Yogurt, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Hot Dog w/Bun, Sun Chips, Baked Beans, Fruit and Milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Tomato Soup, Crackers, Cheese Sandwich, Carrots, Fruit and Milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Pancakes on a Stick, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Spaghetti, Garlic Toast, Corn, Fruit and Milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Egg & Cheese Biscuit, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Hot Ham Patty w/Bun, Cheese, Tator Tots, Green Beans, Fruit and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Pizza, Salad, Fruit and Milk.

RLCC Sports Schedules

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

RLCC Mustang Girls Basketball

Thu, Jan 2:

JV Game @ 6:00PM
Varsity 7:30PM

Mahnomen @ RLCC High School

Fri, Jan 3:

JH Game 4:30PM
Away vs. Climax-Fisher
Fisher High School

Mon, Jan 6:

JH Game 4:00PM
Girls JV 6:00PM
Varsity 7:30PM
Goodridge-Grygla @ Red
Lake County Central HS

Tue, Jan 7:

JH Game 4:30PM
JV Game 6:00PM
Varsity 7:30PM
Away vs. Red Lake Falls
@ RLF High School

Boys Basketball Schedule

Thu, Jan 2:

C Game 4:45PM
JH Game 4:45PM
Varsity 7:30PM
RLC Basketball vs.
Northern Freeze
Tri-County High School

Mon, Jan 6:

JH Game 4:30PM
Boys C 5:00PM
Boys JV 6:00PM
Varsity 7:30PM

RLC vs. Sacred Heart
High School @ Sacred
Heart High School

Thu, Jan 9:

JH Game 4:30PM
Boys C 5:00PM
Boys JV 6:00PM
Varsity 7:30PM

RLC Basketball vs. Stephen-Argyle Central
Storm @ Stephen



Chelsey Vettleson - School Board Member
In honor of your service, leadership and commitment to Red Lake County Central, Independent School District #2906 as a School Board Member from 2019 to 2025
THANK YOU! The Red Lake County Central Schools, Students, Staff & Communities



Lowell Hamrum - School Board Member
In honor of your service, leadership and commitment to Red Lake County Central, Independent School District #2906 and Plummer ISD 628 as a School Board Member from 2008 to 2025
THANK YOU! The Red Lake County Central Schools, Students, Staff & Communities

Ugly Sweater winners at RLCC High School



Red Lake County Central High School held an Ugly Sweater Contest on December 20th with Autumn Lindemoen being the top outfit! Receiving honorable mentions were Belle Brekke, Savannah Brekke, and Hailey Hanson. The Student Body raised \$152.00 for the local food shelf.

Cookie Day at the Elementary was held on December 19



Red Lake County 2023 Financial Statement

— RED LAKE FALLS, MINNESOTA —

SUMMARY OF RED LAKE COUNTY'S STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Functions/Programs	Program Revenues				Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Fees, Charges, Fines and Other	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	
Governmental activities					
General government	\$ 1,525,464	\$ 225,691	\$ 82,790	\$ -	\$ (1,216,983)
Public safety	2,053,080	157,293	524,582	-	(1,371,205)
Highways and streets	4,339,669	711,909	1,508,373	2,477,659	358,272
Sanitation	213,916	25,022	88,490	-	(100,404)
Human services	1,746,435	210,457	1,042,484	-	(493,494)
Health	101,703	5,740	-	-	(95,963)
Culture and recreation	81,314	-	52,031	-	(29,283)
Conservation of natural resources	779,919	107,237	633,477	-	(39,205)
Economic development	900	-	82,145	-	81,245
Total governmental activities	\$ 10,842,400	\$ 1,443,349	\$ 4,014,372	\$ 2,477,659	\$ (2,907,020)
General revenues					
Property taxes					\$ 3,447,227
Gravel tax					11,549
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs					604,160
Payments in lieu of taxes					12,015
Investment earnings					170,406
Miscellaneous					15,326
Total general revenues					\$ 4,260,683
Change in net position					\$ 1,353,663
Net position - January 1					62,963,341
Net position - December 31					\$ 64,317,004

A SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2023

Assets	General Fund		Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund		Social Services Special Revenue Fund		Nonmajor Ditch Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Assets								
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 2,245,663	\$ 199,641	\$ 1,920,771	\$ 1,040,750	\$ 5,406,825			
Cash with fiscal agent	104	-	-	-	104			
Investments	143,195	114,770	-	-	257,965			
Taxes receivable - prior	21,597	5,651	3,330	-	30,578			
Special assessments receivable - prior	-	-	-	358	-			
Accounts receivable	13,035	538	6,224	-	19,797			
Accrued interest receivable	12,625	-	-	-	12,625			
Due from other funds	50,625	11,058	-	-	61,683			
Due from other governments	48,446	5,590,754	135,790	-	5,774,990			
Inventories	-	558,878	-	-	558,878			
Total Assets	\$ 2,535,290	\$ 6,481,290	\$ 2,066,115	\$ 1,041,108	\$ 12,123,803			
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances								
Liabilities								
Accounts payable	\$ 47,432	\$ 69,345	\$ 2,276	\$ -	\$ 119,053			
Salaries payable	48,038	26,847	23,143	-	98,028			
Due to other funds	11,058	-	5,780	44,845	61,683			
Due to other governments	2,922	625	3,642	-	7,189			
Contracts payable	-	10,182	-	-	10,182			
Total Liabilities	\$ 109,450	\$ 106,999	\$ 34,841	\$ 44,845	\$ 296,135			
Deferred Inflows of Resources								
Taxes	\$ 16,197	\$ 4,238	\$ 833	\$ -	\$ 21,268			
Special assessments	-	-	-	358	358			
County State Aid Highway Allotment	-	4,920,542	-	-	4,920,542			
Total Deferred Inflows	\$ 16,197	\$ 4,924,780	\$ 833	\$ 358	\$ 4,942,168			
Fund Balances								
Non-spendable	\$ -	\$ 558,878	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 558,878			
Restricted	1,258,994	-	-	995,905	2,254,899			
Committed	312,000	526,226	1,216,772	-	2,054,998			
Assigned	-	364,407	813,669	-	1,178,076			
Unassigned	838,649	-	-	-	838,649			
Total Fund Balances	\$ 2,409,643	\$ 1,449,511	\$ 2,030,441	\$ 995,905	\$ 6,885,500			
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$ 2,535,290	\$ 6,481,290	\$ 2,066,115	\$ 1,041,108	\$ 12,123,803			

A SUMMARY OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Revenues	General Fund		Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund		Social Services Special Revenue Fund		Nonmajor Ditch Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues								
Taxes	\$ 2,491,163	\$ 618,615	\$ 348,479	\$ -	\$ 3,458,257			
Special assessments	-	-	-	94,704	94,704			
Licenses and permits	1,813	-	-	-	1,813			
Intergovernmental	1,420,612	4,059,718	1,102,225	396,803	6,979,358			
Charges for services	279,892	614,592	200,821	8,627	1,103,932			
Fines and forfeits	12,019	-	-	-	12,019			
Investment earnings	168,693	1,713	-	-	170,406			
Miscellaneous	228,922	97,317	9,636	-	335,875			
Total Revenues	\$ 4,603,114	\$ 5,391,955	\$ 1,661,161	\$ 500,134	\$ 12,156,364			
Expenditures								
Current								
General government	\$ 1,431,605	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,431,605			
Public safety	1,808,156	-	-	-	1,808,156			
Highways and streets	-	5,556,859	-	-	5,556,859			
Sanitation	202,911	-	-	-	202,911			
Human services	14,326	-	1,681,169	-	1,695,495			
Health	101,703	-	-	-	101,703			
Culture and recreation	81,314	-	-	-	81,314			
Conservation of natural resources	547,745	-	-	232,174	779,919			
Economic development	900	-	-	-	900			
Capital outlay								
General government	354,102	-	-	-	354,102			
Public safety	76,270	-	-	-	76,270			
Highways and streets	-	533,930	-	-	533,930			
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,619,032	\$ 6,090,789	\$ 1,681,169	\$ 232,174	\$ 12,623,164			
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ (15,918)	\$ (698,834)	\$ (20,008)	\$ 267,960	\$ (466,800)			
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ (15,918)	\$ (698,834)	\$ (20,008)	\$ 267,960	\$ (466,800)			
Fund Balance - January 1	2,425,561	2,129,161	2,050,449	727,945	7,333,116			
Increase (decrease) in inventories	-	19,184	-	-	19,184			
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 2,409,643	\$ 1,449,511	\$ 2,030,441	\$ 995,905	\$ 6,885,500			

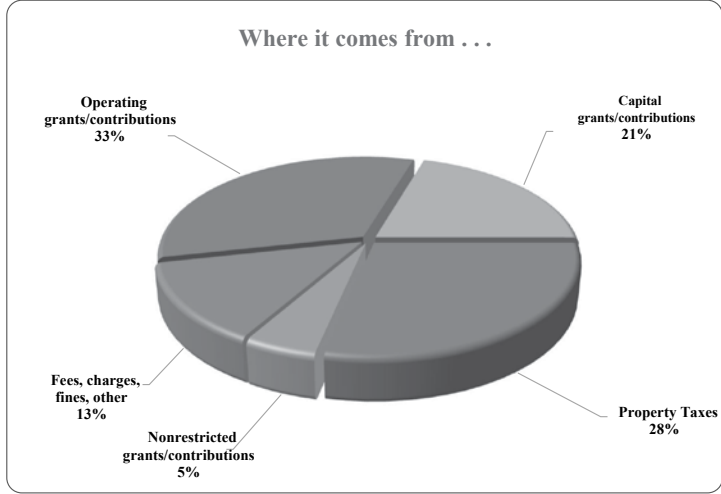
SUMMARY OF RED LAKE COUNTY'S STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2023

Assets	Governmental Activities	
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 5,406,825	
Cash with fiscal agent	104	
Investments	257,965	
Taxes receivable - prior	30,578	
Special assessments receivable - prior	358	
Accounts receivable	19,797	
Accrued interest receivable	12,625	
Due from other governments	5,774,990	
Inventories	558,878	
Capital assets		
Non-depreciable	10,497,980	
Depreciable - net of accumulated depreciation	45,574,398	
Total Assets	\$ 68,134,498	
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Related to other post-employment benefits	\$ 60,441	
Related to pensions	2,013,997	
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 2,074,438	
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 119,053	
Salaries payable	98,028	
Contracts payable	10,182	
Due to other governments	7,189	
Long-Term Liabilities		
Due within one year	221,491	
Due in more than one year	157,363	
Other post-employment benefits	307,529	
Net pension liability	2,943,533	
Total Liabilities	\$ 3,864,368	
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Related to other post-employment benefits	\$ 1,902	
Related to pensions	2,025,662	
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 2,027,564	
Net Position		
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 56,072,378	
Amounts restricted for		
General government	119,545	
Public safety	45,533	
Highways and streets	3,973,297	
Conservation of natural resources	1,488,791	
Economic development	68,249	
Unrestricted amounts	2,549,211	
Total Net Position	\$ 64,317,004	

The following is a list of recipients for Red Lake County expenditures totaling \$5,000.00 or more during 2023. The list does not include salaries to county employees nor does it include individuals who receive federal, state or county human services.

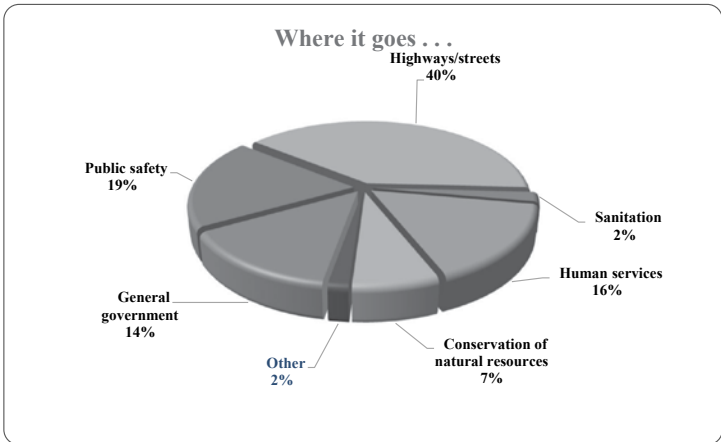
Vendor	Amount
Aflac (American Fam Life Assurance Co)	7,130.79
Alluma, Inc.	15,670.42
American Engineering Testing, Inc.	6,553.75
Anderson Brothers Const.	76,750.25
Association Of Mn Counties	9,839.00
K & K Trucking Inc.	118,350.00
Lafayette High School	7,910.00
Lakes Community Cooperative	7,631.24
Larson Helicopters, LLC	13,506.50
Law Enforcement Labor Services Inc	8,043.06
Les's Sanitation	45,371.80
Little Falls Machine Inc	10,010.94
M & R Signs Co Inc	7,755.04
Mactek Systems Inc	16,487.50
Mayo Clinic	9,087.28
Michael E DeSautel	7,800.00
Michael J. Burns Architects LTD	41,258.89
Midstates Equipment & Supply	53,646.00
Minnesota Child Support Payment Center	8,236.69
Minnesota Counties Computer Coop	27,113.14
Minnesota Counties Intergovernment Trust	119,365.00
Mn Commissioner Of Revenue	144,011.28
Mn Department Of Revenue	81,596.97
Moore Engineering, Inc.	195,400.00
Motorola Solutions Connectivity, Inc.	23,002.00
Ironhide Equipment Inc	7,391.26
luoe Local 49	5,040.00
luoe Local No.49 Health & Welfare Fund	224,580.00
JOHN HANCOCK USA	8,805.00
K & K Trucking Inc.	118,350.00
Lafayette High School	7,910.00
Lakes Community Cooperative	7,631.24
Larson Helicopters, LLC	13,506.50
Law Enforcement Labor Services Inc	8,043.06
Les's Sanitation	45,371.80
Little Falls Machine Inc	10,010.94
M & R Signs Co Inc	7,755.04
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Minnesota Child Support Payment Center	8,236.69
Minnesota Counties Computer Coop	27,113.14
Minnesota Counties Intergovernment Trust	119,365.00
Mn Commissioner Of Revenue	144,011.28
Mn Department Of Revenue	81,596.97
Moore Engineering, Inc.	195,400.00
Motorola Solutions Connectivity, Inc.	23,002.00
Treasury Division	1,344,267.27
Computer Information Systems Inc	20,034.48
Corporate Technologies LLC	43,686.06
Counties Providing Technology	59,058.00
Davidson Construction	701,384.34
Deere & Company	181,896.69
Delta Dental	19,591.97
Dhs Swift	213,731.66
Eide Bailly	24,613.54
Election Systems & Software Inc	7,995.90
Equity Builders & Construction Services	241,317.00
EVCO Petroleum Products	9,471.89
Flage/Anthony	10,112.39
Friends Of The Library	8,104.00
Garden Valley Telephone	34,917.46
Gary Weiss	7,504.68
Geo-Comm Corporation	9,662.70
Gladden Construction, Inc.	1,169,534.26
Grand Trailer Sales	11,194.97
H & L Mesabi	41,888.00
Hancock Concrete Products LLC	19,742.99
Harbott Knutson Larson & Hollen, PLLP	72,216.00
HARTFORD LIFE	13,123.11
Hepner Consulting Inc	15,111.45
Hoffman, Philipp, & Martell, PLLC	50,435.00
Houston Engineering, Inc	8,808.63
Independent School District #2906	7,500.00
Innovative Office Solutions, LLC	6,880.74
Internal Revenue Service	733,225.31

Ironhide Equipment Inc	7,391.26
luoe Local 49	5,040.00
luoe Local No.49 Health & Welfare Fund	224,580.00
JOHN HANCOCK USA	8,805.00
K & K Trucking Inc.	118,350.00
Lafayette High School	7,910.00
Lakes Community Cooperative	7,631.24
Larson Helicopters, LLC	13,506.50
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Mn Commissioner Of Revenue	144,011.28
Mn Department Of Revenue	81,596.97
Moore Engineering, Inc.	195,400.00
Motorola Solutions Connectivity, Inc.	23,002.00



Where it comes from . . .	
Fees, charges, fines, other	1,613,755
Operating grants/contributions	4,014,372
Capital grants/contributions	2,477,659
Property Taxes	3,447,227
Nonrestricted grants/contributions	604,160

12,157,173



Where it goes . . .	
General government	1,525,464
Public safety	2,053,080
Highways/streets	4,339,669
Sanitation	213,916
Human services	1,746,435
Conservation of natural resources	779,919
Other	183,917
	10,842,400



Oklee Community Christmas Party at TJ's Tavern in Oklee



Daisy, Lindsay, and James did a great job serving the full house at TJ's. Photo by Eric Mickelson



John and Ben in the kitchen! Thank you John for the great night at TJ's Tavern! Photo by Eric Mickelson



Marcella and Lauren Melby showing off the awesome hats they won in the door prize drawing at TJ's Tavern! Photo by Eric Mickelson



Sydney Melby provided some great music for the Oklee Community Christmas Party. Photo by Eric Mickelson



The crowd enjoyed the music. Photo by Eric Mickelson

Tips from Essentia Health to stay safe and healthy this winter

As winter approaches, Essentia Health wants to ensure that our communities stay safe and healthy during the colder months. With a few simple precautions, you can enjoy winter activities while protecting yourself from the cold weather and flu season.

Winter activity safety tips:

Dress warm: Layer your clothing to stay warm and dry. Wear a hat, gloves and a scarf to protect exposed skin from frostbite.

Stay active: Engage in winter sports like skiing, snowboarding or ice skating, but always wear appropriate safety gear.

Be cautious on ice: Watch for icy patches on sidewalks and driveways.

Stay hydrated: Even in cold weather, it's important to drink plenty of water to stay hydrated.

Sun safety: Even though the temperatures are colder, the sun can still be harmful to your skin. During outdoor winter activities, sunglasses and sunscreen are still recommended.

Cold-weather health tips:

Prevent hypothermia and frostbite: Limit time spent outdoors in extreme cold. Know the signs of hypothermia, such as shivering, confusion and drowsiness, and seek immediate medical attention if symptoms occur.

Maintain indoor safety: Ensure your home is properly heated and use space heaters safely. Install carbon monoxide detectors to prevent poisoning from heating sources.

Mental health: The shorter days and longer nights can affect mental health, leading

to conditions like Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). Staying active, maintaining social connections and getting enough sunlight can help improve mood and overall well-being.

Keep your home humidified: Use a humidifier to maintain moisture in the air, which can help prevent dry skin and respiratory issues.

Protect yourself and others from illness:

Get vaccinated: The flu and COVID-19 vaccines are your best defense against winter illnesses. Schedule your flu or COVID shot with Essentia today.

Practice good hygiene: Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and avoid close contact with sick individuals. Regularly clean and disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, light switches and mobile devices to reduce the spread of germs.

Stay home if sick: If you experience common illness symptoms, such as fever, cough and body aches, stay home to prevent spreading the virus to others.

Boost your immune system: Eat a balanced diet rich in fruits and vegetables, get reg-

ular exercise and ensure you get enough sleep to keep your immune system strong.

"Winter is a beautiful season, but it comes with its own set of challenges," said April Rohrer, an advanced practice registered nurse and certified nurse practitioner specializing in family medicine at Essentia Health. "By following these tips, we can all make the most of this time of year while minimizing the risks associated with cold weather and seasonal illnesses."

Sudoku Solution

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

1x3

Sounds like multiplication?

Guess again.

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- ACROSS
- Half of half-and-half
 - *Gratuity
 - Remain unsettled
 - Pita, alt. sp.
 - Uncle Sam wants whom?
 - Played violin, e.g.
 - "Encore!"
 - Young canine
 - Amber warning
 - *Entice
 - *Agreement
 - "___ Te Ching"
 - Goose egg
 - Antonym of keep
 - *Affection
 - Open wine, e.g.
 - Frosts a cake
 - Leave in a bucket
 - *Parlor
 - Coating of aurum
 - Like many bathroom floors?
 - Border pass
 - Full of emotion (2 words)
 - Opposite of talker?
 - Tel ____, Israel
 - Auto ____ website
 - *Module
 - Compass point between NE and E
 - *Insane
 - Old-fashioned before
 - *Prevent
 - *Ditch
 - Peninsula of 38th parallel fame
 - Single-____ plastics
 - Donkey + horse, pl.
 - All told (2 words)
 - '80s band "___ At Work"
 - Bay window
 - Chapter 11 issue
 - Mouse turf
 - Email option
- DOWN
- Tax pro, acr.
 - Capital of Latvia
 - Bibliographical abbr.
 - Not upright
 - Instructions handbook
 - Use an Underwood
 - Promissory note letters
 - Cocoon dwellers
 - Horse and mallet sport
 - *Pitcher
 - One ridiculed for studiousness
 - Banned insecticide, acr.
 - Kevin ____ and Sir Francis ____
 - Resting spot for a chicken
 - French vineyard
 - *Avid
 - *Correct
 - *Slipperier
 - 4th letter of Greek alphabet
 - *Nothingness
 - Spanish sparkling wine
 - Martini garnish
 - Violinist's pine resin
 - *Rogue
 - Wall support
 - It often precedes "eye"
 - Laundry room appliance
 - Correspondence friend
 - Feel remorse
 - Seismic shake
 - Card game move
 - Accustom
 - *Sharpen
 - A in UAE
 - Cheesy patty
 - Be inclined
 - Paper holder
 - Dog command
 - Baby goat
 - Pirate's turf
 - "Rocky" creator

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THEME: SYNONYMS

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13						14			15			
16						17			18			
	19				20		21	22				
			23				24					
25	26	27		28		29		30	31	32	33	34
35			36		37		38		39			
40					41		42		43			
44				45		46				47		
48					49		50		51		52	
				53		54			55		56	
	57	58	59				60			61	62	
63						64	65		66			67
68						69			70			
71						72			73			

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Writers & Writing by Michael Tidemann

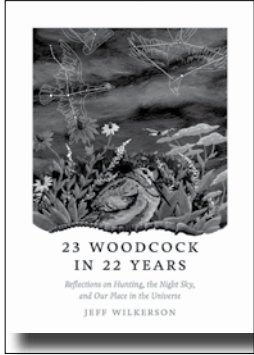


Tidemann started his journalism career at the Bismarck Tribune in 1978 and began college teaching career as a graduate teaching assistant at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion in 1977. He has worked at newspapers in Iowa and the Dakotas and his work has appeared in Overdrive, Writer's Journal, the San Diego Union-Tribune and Snowmobile. (Michael Tidemann writes from Estherville, Iowa. His author page is amazon.com/author/michaeltidemann.)

Memoir blends science and nature

At first glance, Jeff Wilkerson's memoir of science and nature, 23 Woodcock in 22 Years, seems a bit of an anomaly. The subtitle Reflections on Hunting, the Night Sky, and Our Place in the Universe seems even more incongruous.

However, Wilkerson, professor of physics at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, masterfully blends the seemingly disparate concepts of hunting woodcock and exploring the mysteries of the universe.



23 Woodcock in 22 Years
Jeff Wilkerson
University of Iowa Press
ISBN 978-1-60938-987-1
\$24

Wilkerson says of the first woodcock he ever shot:

"I will bind you to the earth here and remind you of the sky above, understanding this is your home, a home stretching beyond the physical place, to a community that understands what it means to make some sort of living from the wilderness around, and a home with those who study the world, using data to build models of the universe."

It's that centeredness, then, that taking a shot-

gun into the field and taking game, that anchors Wilkerson to terra firma so he is free to explore the universe.

Wilkerson evokes echoes of Native American philosophy when he says that when he makes a meal of a woodcock his own body is nourished, a body that eventually becomes a part of nature, feeding the woodcock of future generations.

He also makes sense of the very concept of time, of the rotation of the Earth and its journey around the sun, when he says:

"What a gift it is to be able to measure out the flow of life by year-to-year changes in encounters with wild birds – and maybe even more, to make a living talking to people about the nature of the universe."

As he faces his own mor-

tality toward the end of his memoir, we see that Wilkerson has indeed lived a full life – a life of hunting woodcock and exploring the universe and finding meaning in interactions with his students.

"I have measured out my life in the return to the sky of Sagittarius each spring and in the flights of wood ducks each spring and fall. I have measured out my life in digging potatoes each fall and in the arrival of each new class of students ready to begin their journeys in earnest."

Wilkerson's is a heavily philosophical book, and he offers lessons for all of us.

(Michael Tidemann writes from Estherville, Iowa. His Facebook page is Author Michael Tidemann.)

Oklee Herald Early Files

80 Years Ago January 4, 1945

Ration reminders: Sugar-book four sugar stamp 34 good indefinitely for five pounds. Another stamp becomes valid on February 1, 1945. Tire inspection-truck inspections must be made every six months of five thousand miles whichever occurs first.

Staff Sargent Wilton H. Melby, 34 son of Mrs. Inga Melby of Oklee, serving with a B-24 Liberator heavy bomber group has been authorized to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge.

The Oklee Public School is conducting a waste paper campaign. Paper should be tied into bundles, with paper, magazines and corrugated paper and cardboard tied separately.

Cpl. Walter E. Falardeau, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Falardeau, of Oklee, has been awarded the combat infantry medal, His out fit is stationed in the Netherland, East Indies.

70 Years Ago January 6, 1955

Mrs. Coya Knutson became an official member of the United States House of Representatives Wednesday when she was sworn in by House Speaker Sam Rayburn as the new 9th district representative.

The A.W. Nyquist home was given first place in the Commercial Club sponsored Christmas Home Decorating contest. Second place went to Orlo Melby and third place to Knute Rolandson.

Wednesday, all the students and personnel of Oklee School received a Mantoux test, administered by Dr. Flancher from Sunnyrest Sanitarium.

60 Years Ago January 7, 1965

Donald Larson of Oklee will head the Red Lake County Crippled Children's Appeal for 1965.

With the first units expected to be ready for occupancy in February or March, Oklee Community Homes, Inc. announced this week that it is ready to receive applications for rental.

Specials at Bergeron's included: Slab Bacon-35 cents a pound, oranges-3 dozen for \$1.00, and lettuce 2 heads for 25 cents.

50 Years Ago January 2, 1975

Mark Larson, a sophomore from Brooks, who is majoring in business administration was one of the students named to the Dean's List at UMC.

A building bee organized by Olaf and Orlan Stolaas, and Darrow Lundeen have been busy helping Orlando and Korydon Chervestad rebuild their barn that was destroyed by fire a few weeks ago.

The Oklee Bobcats, Plummer Cardinals, the Red Lake Falls Eagles, and the Erskine Comets will participate in the third annual Red Lake County Basketball Tournament held in Red Lake Falls.

George Olson was the winner of a Knipco Heater from Oklee Coop Oil Assn.

40 Years Ago January 2, 1985

Coffee and Cookies were served at the Security State Bank in Oklee for their open house.

Dan and Shelley Willett of Plummer are proud to announce the arrival of their new son, Joshua Michael, born December 18th.

Many from the area attended the New Year's Weekend entertainment in Trail, featuring LeRoy Peterson on the bass and Ozark Country Boys from Ozark, Missouri.

30 Years Ago January 11, 1995

Cooperation or Separation? Still the question faced by the Oklee and Plummer schools. Both committees concluded that the outcome should be

to the benefit of the students.

Tammy Morinville of Brooks was awarded a \$200 Hartz Scholarship. Morinville is enrolled in the Practical Nursing major at the NW Technical College in TRF.

An explosion in the boiler room of the Goodridge School on Tuesday, January 3rd, caused about \$50,000 in damage.

20 Years Ago January 6, 2005

Lucielle Svendsen is born on November 21st. Parents are David and Lori Svendsen, grandparents are Steve and Jenni Svendsen of Trail and Dan and Fay Vedbraatten of TRF.

Tim Cote, formerly of Oklee graduated from Anoka Technical College with a degree as a Machinist. He is a 1976 graduate of Oklee High School.

The family of Fred and Delores Berberich held their Christmas party on Sunday, at the St. Joseph's Fellow Hall in Brooks.

The area was hit with icy conditions when rain hit the area.



10 years ago - January 7, 2015

Deb and Rick Sherman were recognized on the front page of the paper for their hard work and dedication running D&R Grocery!

Senior Site News & Other Things

Bonny Cote, Treasurer - Acting Secretary

SAIL Classes

Ever wonder what SAIL stands for? It is "Stay Active and Independent for Life."

Jo Lambert or Carol Kvasager do a wonderful job of leading the group on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Oklee Community Center at 10 a.m.

Dates To Remember

Wednesday: Cards at 1:30 p.m.

Presently Hand and Foot is being played. Hand & Foot is a 1 deck per person game that is played with a hand and foot and it played by teams of 2 or 3 people. The object of the game is to be first to get rid of all you cards.

If you are interested in

seeing who the game is played, stop by on Wednesday afternoon.

Presently the card crew is looking for subs. They will assist in teaching you how to play.

It is an afternoon filled with laughter and fun.

Senior Site Meeting

Senior Site meeting was moved Thursday, January 2nd.

Please mark it on your calendar as it is important to have a quorum in order to make decisions.

Some Adult Truths

Sometimes I'll look down at my watch 3 consecutive times and still not know what time it is.

Nothing sucks more than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.

I totally take back all those times I didn't want to nap when I was younger.

There is great need for a sarcasm font.

Map Quest really needs to start their directions on # 5. I'm pretty sure I know how to get out of my neighborhood.

Obituaries would be a lot more interesting if they told you how the person died.

I can't remember the last time I wasn't at least kind-of tired.

Bad decisions make good stories.

You never know when it will strike, but there comes a moment at work when you know that you just aren't going to do anything productive for the rest of the day.

I have a hard time deciphering the fine line between boredom and hunger.

**Hope you all have
a Happy and Healthy
New Year!**

Oklee Senior Meals on Wheels NSI Menu

January 6-10

Oklee Meals on Wheels Nutrition Services Inc (NSI) is the new service offering Senior Meals/Meals on Wheels. They are available for Home Delivery, Monday-Friday. Please call Carolyn at the RLF NSI Kitchen the day before, by 12 noon at 218-253-4454.

NSI provides this service in part under the Federal Older Americans Act through a contract with NWRDC under an area plan approved by the MN Board on Aging.

Mon: Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese, Fruit Cup, Cookie, 1% Milk.

Tue: Baked Ham, Au Gratin Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli, Lemon Cake, 1% Milk.

Wed: Chili, Corn Bread, Fruit Juice, Pudding/Toppings, 1% Milk.

Thu: Oven Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Blushing Pears, 1% Milk.

Fri: Tater Tot Hotdish, Peas & Carrots, Dinner Roll, Fruited Jello, 1% Milk.

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

Mark and Jana Granum came up from the cities to visit Debbie and Jim DuChamp, and also visited Bunny DuChamp at Greenleaf apartments in Thief River Falls.

Kat DeHate and Diane DeHate visited Anna DeHate the day after Christmas.

Karen Carter and son Xander of Bluffton, South Carolina, came for a visit to Anne Traxler's over Christmas.

Wavell Sorenson visited Anne Traxler the day after Christmas.

The weather has been unseasonably mild for this time of year. January will be colder. Alice Jobe went to her sister

Phyllis Unruh's for Christmas. They live south of Warroad. Everyone enjoyed a lasagna dinner and other goodies. Kari, Phyllis' daughter and two sons, Noah and Wren, Dereck, Jana and 3 years old Ellie of Williams also came.

Pictures were taken of the six Kukowski siblings. Everyone got to take home a pan of lasagna made by brother Jack's wife, Sherrie.

Have a save and Happy New Year!

ATTENTION

RED LAKE COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS AND POTENTIAL STARTUP ENTERPRISES

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

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

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

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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.

Who's Dat?



Who's Dat?

This week's photo is of a group of ladies that lived in the area. One still does live in Oklee. They were very active in what group?

Last Week's photo was of Joe Cyr, a high school junior, was working out for the Jr. World National Tournament in May of that year.

This is one of most popular columns of the Red Lake County Herald. Remember that photos from the 80s are now 40+ years old.

I am always in need of more photos - School days, church events, sports, etc. From anywhere in the area - Brooks, Plummer, Red Lake Falls, Oklee, send or email in a photo

and description.

If you email a photo, please scan at 300 dpi (high quality) if you can. You can email to okleeherald@gmail.com.

If you mail a photo to the Oklee Herald office, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope so the photos can be returned. Mail them to: Red Lake County Herald, PO Box 9, Oklee MN 56742.

Or stop by the office and I will scan your photo(s) while you wait.



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