

Oklee Precipitation
By Einar Kvasager

	Rain	Snow
April 9		Trace
April 11		Trace
April 15	Trace	
Total in.	0.00	0.00

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Vol. 104, Number 35

Local Public Meetings on Sandpiper Pipeline in Crookston and TRF

Staff from the Department of Commerce, the Public Utilities Commission and Enbridge/ North Dakota Pipeline Company will be hosting public comment meetings regarding the proposed Sandpiper Pipeline which will run through Northwest Minnesota.

These public meetings will provide Minnesotans an opportunity to learn more about the proposed projects, as well as ask questions and provide input. Comment cards will also be available for people who wish to provide a written statement for public record.

“The Sandpiper Pipeline will help improve the safety of oil transport from North Dakota, as well and bring jobs and property tax revenue to Northwest Minnesota,” said Representative Dan Fabian (R-Roseau). “I hope folks will attend one of these meeting and share their input to keep

the project moving forward.” “These meetings provide an excellent opportunity for people’s voices to be heard regarding the building of Sandpiper Pipeline. Many folks have been frustrated by the politics and process regarding the project, and this will give folks a forum to go on the record and share their thoughts,” said Representative Deb Kiel (R-Crookston).

The following local meetings have been scheduled in Crookston and Thief River Falls:

Wednesday, April 27: 6:00 to 9:00 PM Crookston Inn and Convention Center, 2200 University Avenue, Crookston, MN 56716

Thursday, April 28: 6:00 to 9:00 PM Ralph Engelstad Arena, 525 Brooks Avenue North, Thief River Falls, MN 56701

USDA Financial Assistance available to help Organic Farmers create Conservation Buffers

Additional Opportunities for Organic Farmers are Available through the Farm Service Agency

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced its intent to assist organic farmers with the cost of establishing up to 20,000 acres of new conservation buffers and other practices on and near farms that produce organic crops. USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, Brad Pfaff, issued the announcement today at the Midwest Organics and Sustainable Education Service conference in La Crosse, Wis.

“This financial assistance will help tailor existing conservation practices to the needs of organic farmers, helping to improve soil and water quality while also providing more wildlife habitat,” said Pfaff, a rural La Crosse County native who previously served as FSA Wisconsin State Director. “This is one part of the wide variety of services available to all segments of agriculture at local FSA offices, in addition to credit, risk protection, on-farm storage and other services.”

The financial assistance is available from the USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), a federally funded voluntary program that contracts with

agricultural producers so that environmentally sensitive land is not farmed or ranched, but instead used for conservation benefits. CRP participants establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as “covers”) to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years.

For conservation buffers, funds are available for establishing shrubs and trees, or supporting pollinating species, and can be planted in blocks or strips. Interested organic producers can offer eligible land for enrollment in this initiative at any time.

Since 1985, CRP has sequestered an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking 9 million cars off the road; prevented 9 billion tons of soil from erosion, enough to fill 600 million dump trucks; and reduced nitrogen and phosphorous runoff by 95 and 85 percent, respectively. The program has allowed for the restoration of 2.7 million acres of wetland and protects more than 170,000 stream miles with forests and grasses, enough to go around the world seven times.

Other USDA FSA programs that assist organic farmers include:

- The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program that provides financial assistance for 55 to 100 percent of the average market price for organic crop losses between 50 to 65 percent of expected production due to a natural disaster.

- Marketing assistance loans that provide interim financing to help producers meet cash flow needs without having to sell crops during harvest when market prices are low, and deficiency payments to producers who forgo the loan in return for a payment on the eligible commodity.

- A variety of loans for operating expenses, ownership or guarantees with outside lenders, including streamlined microloans that have a lower amount of paperwork.

- Farm Storage Facility Loans for that provide low-interest financing to build or upgrade storage facilities for organic commodities, including cold storage, grain bins, bulk tanks and drying and handling equipment.

- Services such as mapping farm and field boundaries and reporting organic acreage that can be provided to a farm’s organic certifier or crop insurance agent.

Visit www.fsa.usda.gov/ organic to learn more about how FSA can help organic farmers. For an interactive tour of CRP success stories, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/CRPis30 or follow #CRPis30 on Twitter. To learn more about FSA programs visit a local FSA office or www.fsa.usda.gov. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.



Friends and family that attended Rick's induction in the the Girls Basketball Hall of Fame. Back row (l to r): Mike Schmitt, Jon Anderson, Diane Anderson, John Polynier, Rick Koivisto, Jerry Koivisto, Jim DuChamp, Danny Brustad, Russell Sorenson. Middle row (l to r): Fritz Schmitt, Gary Brantl, Sharyl Polynier, Janet Koivisto, Winnie Koivisto, Debbie DuChamp, Melody Brustad. Front row (l to r): SueAnn Brantl, Shelly Kremers, Allen Liebl.

Rick Koivisto inducted to Hall of Fame



Gary Brantl and Rick Koivisto at the Induction to the Hall of Fame.

Long-time area coach Rick Koivisto has been selected for induction into the Minnesota Girls Basketball Hall of Fame.

Rick Koivisto is a native of the Iron Range and played basketball for two years at Vermilion Community College in Ely, Minnesota. He went on to Bemidji State University where he graduated with a degree in elementary education and minor in special-education.

He began his career teaching fourth grade in the Plummer Independent School District taking over the girls basketball position in 1977, and was the head coach for the next 35 years. Plummer co-oped with Oklee in 1987 and became Red Lake County Central until his retirement in 2011.

While compiling a career Record of 507-312, Rick was named Section 8 Coach of the Year twice and won seven conference championships and were the Section 8 champions in 2008-2009. During his tenure, 11 girls have joined the 1000 point club and the 1991-92 team was the Academic State Champion.

Coach Koivisto is a lifetime member of the Girls Basketball Coaches Association.

The Induction ceremonies was held on April 9 in Northfield.



Rick & Janet Koivisto at the Induction to the Hall of Fame.

Retired Area Postmaster Receives National Recognition

By Gugi Degen
Reprinted & condensed by permission

A native of Minnesota, Clarence Gagner grew up in a small rural community, with 12 brothers and sisters: he attended Bemidji State University. In 1965, fresh out of college at age 21, Clarence was appointed Postmaster of Brooks, MN by President Lyndon Johnson. That same week he joined NAPUS (National Association of Postmasters of the United States).

Before his appointment as Postmaster, Clarence became a private in the Minnesota National Guard in December 1963. He enlisted with B Company of the 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 136th Infantry, in Thief River Falls, MN.



Commander Sgt. Maj. Gagner had a distinguished career in the Minnesota National Guard.

I met Clarence at a NAPUS Leadership Conference about 14 years ago. One of those individuals stood out because of the energy, charisma, self-confidence and exuberant passion for life that surrounded him like an aura. Clarence's desire to make everyone feel welcome and appreciated took center stage. I knew he was a champion and a leader.

Clarence served as a senior instructor at the Winter Operations School at Camp Ripley, 1973-1991, and during

the Norwegian Exchanges in Norway and Germany. At the request of Norwegian officials, he was selected to represent the Minnesota National Guard on an inspection tour of the Norwegian Home Guard. Clarence was one of the first to be involved with total quality management (TQM), which he used to help make the 136th Infantry Battalion the best in Minnesota.

On February 21, 1991, he was named Command Sergeant Major for the 900-soldier “Bradley Fighting Vehicle” battalion, headquartered at Moorhead, MN. He held this position until his retirement on May 17, 1997. While in the military, Clarence became an integral part of NAPUS.

He served at the state and national levels in many elected and appointed positions: district director and secretary-treasurer for 14 years, state committee on development, state resolutions chair, state vice president, state president, management conference instructor, National Educational & Development committee, National Credentials Committee, National Resolutions Committee co-chair, National Legislative co-chair and national vice-president.

While working as Postmaster in Oklee, MN and Red Lake Falls, MN, Clarence was assigned to a number of details, including establishing a speakers bureau for the Management Sectional Center. He did surveys for union negotiations and was assigned to help field offices in Minnesota



In 1983, Sgt. Gagner represented the Minnesota National Guard who participated with the Norwegian Home Guard in the Winter Operations Training Exchange Program. He was greeted by Gen. Simonson of Norway.

and North Dakota through the Methods Improvement Program. He temporarily served as superintendent of Delivery and Collections for the Fargo, ND, Post Office.

Over illustrious, 34-year military career, Command Sgt. Maj. Gagner received many awards and decorations. In 1985 Clarence was awarded the distinguished “Meritus” award from the International Society of Postmasters. He also was awarded the Air Transport Association’s “Order of the Vest” in 1997 in recognition of his exemplary service to the profession and NAPUS.

On September 17, 2000, Clarence was inducted into Minnesota’s “Court of Honor” for the National Guard. Recently, he was the recipient of the prestigious Seven Seals award, presented by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), for meritorious leadership and initiative in support of the men

and women who served in the National Guard and Reserve.

One of Clarence’s greatest challenges was the 1997 Flood Fight in the Red River Valley. The area was hit with eight major blizzards, which caused significant flooding on April 18, ultimately resulting in \$2 billion in damages. Clarence was a National Guard representative at the emergency operations center and helped evacuate more than 5,600 residents in East Grand Forks, MN – where many of the 1,150 Minnesota Army National Guard soldiers worked.

His compassion for others was evident as he worked to save lives and evacuate residents with their pets to shelter. During this challenging time, he declared, “We will unite, we will rebuild and we will survive.” He said NAPUS’ motto was relevant, as well: “Let us do together what we cannot do alone.”

Clarence’s wife Dianne has been a full partner in his military and postal careers. This past year, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They raised three children: Tim, Stephanie and Dan. They have five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Without a doubt, Clarence loves his family and is very proud of their accomplishments. He was honored to serve early in his career with Dianne as regional chair for the Minnesota March of Dimes.

Clarence also has served and volunteered extensively in the community, including on Brooks’ city council and Community Federal Credit Union, the Red Lake County Fair Board, St. Joseph’s Church Finance Council, chair of the St. Joseph’s Church Cemetery Committee; he was mayor of Brooks for 12 years. His contributions to the community continue as guest speaker at annual Veteran’s Day observances.

Clarence currently serves as a chair of NAPUS’ Distinguished Guests/VIP Committee. At conventions, his duties include

Gagner
Continued to page 5...

Calendar of Events

- 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.
- Sat, Apr. 30:**
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
- Sun, May 1:**
-Worship at the church of your choice.
- Mon, May 2:**
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.

Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Margaret Jacobus
Wed, Apr. 20: 6:30 p.m.
Confirmation. 6:30 p.m. Chime Choir.
Sun, Apr. 24: 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. 27: Confirmation Banquet at Salem. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. 6:30 p.m. Chime Choir.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH OKLEE
Fr. Adam Hamness
Sun, Apr. 24: 7:30 a.m. Confessions 8:00 a.m. Mass.

BROOKS - RED LAKE FALLS CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bill DeCrans
Sat, Apr. 23: 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph - RLF
Sun, Apr. 24: 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. 20: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation at Immanuel. 7:00 p.m. Ebenezer WELCA.
Sun, Apr. 24: 9:00 a.m. Worship at Ebenezer. 9:15 a.m. SS at Immanuel. 10:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel.
Mon, Apr. 25: 9:00 a.m. Quilting at Immanuel.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Bethany-Ekelund-Faith Interim Pastor Phil Johnson
Wed, Apr. 20: Release Time.
Sun, Apr. 24: 8:30 a.m. Ekelund. 9:45 Ekelund SS. 9:45 a.m. Faith. 11:00 a.m. Faith SS. 11:00 a.m. Bethany. 9:45 a.m. Bethany SS.
Wed, Apr. 27: Release Time.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive - Nazareth Oak Park - St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wed, Apr. 20: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School/Confirmation. 7:30 p.m. Oak Park Ladies Aid.
Sat, Apr. 23: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School.
Sun, Apr. 24: 8:00 a.m. St. Petri. 9:15 a.m. St. Petri SS; 8:30 a.m. Nazareth Sunday School. 9:45 a.m. Nazareth, Dinner following service; 9:45 a.m. Oak Park SS. 11:00 a.m. Oak Park. 3:00 p.m. Oak Park Circuit Visitor's Conference - Supper to follow.
Wed, Apr. 27: No Wednesday School - Students asked to attend Circuit Visitors on April 24th.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg, Youth Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Wed, Apr. 20: 6:30 p.m. AWANA and Youth Group.
Thu, Apr. 21: 12:00 p.m. Rotary meeting.
Fri, Apr. 22: 8:00 a.m. Friday School.
Sat, Apr. 23: 10:00 a.m. Teen Gift Bible Study.
Sun, Apr. 24: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.
Tue, Apr. 26: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study. 10:30 a.m. Quilting.
Wed, Apr. 27: 6:30 p.m. AWANA and Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Wed, Apr. 20: 2:00 p.m. Sand Valley WELCA.
Sun, Apr. 24: 9:00 a.m. Lund. 10:30 a.m. Sand Valley.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY Fosston
Jon Marx, Lead Pastor
Seth Johnson, Assist. Pastor
Sun, Apr. 24: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship.

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Oklee Senior Site Dining

April 25 - 29
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: Grilled chicken breast, hash browns, vegetables, dessert, and milk.
Tuesday: ½ BLT, tater tots, vegetables, dessert and milk.
Wednesday: Chicken drummies, American fries, vegetables, dessert and milk.
Thursday: ½ Cold Pork sandwich, hash browns, tossed salad, dessert and milk.
Friday: Hamburger on bun, w/cheesey wild rice soup, dessert and milk.

Wally & Vernie Porch celebrate 69th Anniversary



On April 12th, Wally was 90 years old and Wally and Vernie were married 69 years ago. To help celebrate these great milestones many family members came to Roger Porch's home in Baudette, where Wally & Vernie now live. The family took generational photos.



4th Generation photo - standing (l to r): Leah Shaw, Tierra Shaw, Vernie Porch and Roger Porch. In front is Wyatt Shaw standing next to Wally Porch.



5th Generation photo - Standing in the back (l to r): Heather Fish, Tony Porch, Vernie Porch, Roger Porch. In front is Taylor Fish and Jake Fish next to Wally Porch.

Red Lake Falls Library News

The library is open on Tuesday: 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/rllf.htm at anytime, where they can create their own patron accounts to browse, request and renew materials all from their home computers.
New adult nonfiction on the shelves in April: "Farm on the Roof" by Anastasia Cole Plakias; "In their effort to build the world's first and largest commercial green rooftop farm, the founders of Brooklyn Grange learned a lot about building and sustaining a business while never losing sight of their mission—to serve their community by providing delicious organic food and changing the way people think about what they eat. But their story is about more than just farming. It serves as an inspirational and instructional guide for anyone looking to start a business that is successful while making a positive impact."
Also "Becoming Grandma: The Joys and Science of the New Grandparenting" by journalist/reporter Lesley

Stahl; After four decades as a reporter, Lesley Stahl's most vivid and transformative experience of her life was not covering the White House, interviewing heads of state, or researching stories at 60 Minutes. It was becoming a grandmother. She was hit with joy so intense and unexpected, she wanted to "investigate" it, as though it were a news flash. And so she explored how grandmothering changes a woman's life, interviewing friends & colleagues (and grandfathers.) Stahl also speaks with scientists and doctors about physiological changes that occur in women when they have grandchildren, as well as anthropologists and psychiatrists, all about the effects of grandchildren on both grandmothers and grandfathers."

Hazard Mitigation Plan Input Wanted

Red Lake County and the cities of Brooks, Oklee, Plummer and Red Lake Falls invites your input concerning projects to be added to the updated Hazard Mitigation plan. For those wishing to participate in this opportunity, a list of recommended projects can be found at the Red Lake County Sheriff's Office, and at the city offices for Brooks, Oklee, Plummer and Red Lake Falls. Input will be accepted until May 5, 2016. If you have any questions please contact Sheriff, Mitch Bernstein at 218-253-2996.

Sheriff's Report

Richard William Paulson (25) of Stephen, MN made his first appearance in District Court in Crookston on 04/15/16 to face several criminal charges. Mr. Paulson is charged with Controlled Substance Crime in the 3rd Degree, a felony, for possession of methamphetamine in a school zone and for having a previous controlled substance crime conviction in 2011, and Controlled Substance Crime in the 5th Degree, a felony, for possession of approximately a gram of methamphetamine. He was charged with 2 misdemeanor traffic violations for operating a motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license and for operating an uninsured vehicle. He was also charged with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, which is a petty misdemeanor.
In the early morning hours of 04/13/16, Red Lake County Deputies conducted

Red Lake County Commissioners Minutes

RED LAKE COUNTY Regular Meeting Held March 8, 2016

Pursuant to adjournment of its regular meeting the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners duly met in regular session at the courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN on March 8, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Chair Simpson called the meeting to order. All members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Weiss and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the addition of the County Engineer.
Penny Grove SS Financial Supervisor met with the board regarding the employment and training contract for "SNAP", the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Grove informed that the program funding is used for paying the Workforce Center to meet with workers on various procedures in seeking jobs. The program contract covers the counties of Polk, Kittson, Marshall, Roseau, Pennington and Red Lake for the

time period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. Polk is the host county. Commissioner Sorensen moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve the agreement as presented with Chairman Simpson and SS Director Nelson authorized to sign the document. The document is available at Red Lake County Social Services office.

Engineer Kleven met with the board to provide an update on the proposed natural gas pipeline route to Red Lake Falls. Kleven informed that public meetings will be held at the Louisville Town Hall at 1:00 pm on March 8, 2016 and at Red Lake Falls City Hall on March 14, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Kleven mentioned that county spring road restrictions will go into effect on March 9th, and that the 10-ton road routes are very good in the county.

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

Vendor Name	Amount
Computer Professionals Inc.	\$ 2,026.00
Independent Emergency Services	22,689.51
Midstates Equipment & Supply	41,899.20
(34) Payments less than \$2,000	9,551.42
Final Total	\$76,166.13

The motion includes the following added bills: \$3,412.54 to Cardmember Services; \$174.28 to Farmers Brothers Coffee; \$448.07 to Jeff Kelley; \$700.00 to MACMH; \$1,258.00 to Rogers 2-Way Radio; \$179.00 to Sterling; \$4,080.65 to Strichers; \$135.00 expenses and \$350.00 per diem to John Lerohl.

Also included in the motion is to disallow reimbursement of \$46.70 of non-itemized food expenses and \$4.26 of misc. expenses to two county employees.

Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Weiss and carried unanimously to approve minutes from the regular board meeting held February 23, 2016.

The following commissioner/committee reports were shared:

Commissioner Weiss	Meeting/Report None.
Flage	None.
Sorensen	N W R D C
Transportation Advisory Committee	discussing 2016 proposed highway construction projects.

Lerohl N W R D C discussing topics on Senior Linkage, Blandin Foundation for the Design Team, Tourism Work Plan, and attended County Fair Board meeting.

Simpson None.
Auditor Schmitz informed that the handicap wheelchair lift is out of service due to a faulty door switch. ThyssenKrupp Elevator completed the initial inspection and provided a quote to perform the repair. The quote is \$1,934.00 for parts and labor. Commissioner Lerohl moved, seconded by Weiss to approve the quote as presented.

Marco has informed that repair parts are no longer available for the current Canon copier machine located in the Records Office. The current machine is a 2003 model year. Marco quoted a new Canon IR-4245 at approximately \$5,600.00 with an available service contract at 1.6 cents per copy covering maintenance services, including toner supplies. Auditor Schmitz informed that funding has been set aside on a yearly basis that is designated for the copier replacement. Commissioner Sorensen moved, seconded by Lerohl and carried unanimously to approve the purchase as discussed.

The board acknowledged a newsletter from the Tri-Valley Opportunity Council.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned until March 22, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest:
Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

Chuck Simpson, Chair,
Board of Commissioners
O4C

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

Oklee Herald

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Sunday,
April 24,
2016

from 11:30 - 12:30

DEADLINE

FOR NEWS AND ADS IS FRIDAYS AT 12:00 NOON. CONTACT THE OKLEE HERALD AT 218-796-5181



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MUSSTANG STAMPEDE

RLCC Menus

April 25 - 29

Oklee

Mon: Breakfast: Ham & cheese croissant, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chicken quesadillas, salad, fresh vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Tue: Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Corn dogs, macaroni & cheese, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Cereal, breakfast pizza, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chicken pot pie w/biscuits, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Thu: Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Rice hotdish, breadsticks, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Fri: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Chicken fajita, refried beans, rice pilaf, fruit, and milk.

Plummer

Mon: Breakfast: Pancake sausage wrap, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Fish sticks, whipped potatoes, country gravy, peas & carrots, corn bread, fruit, and milk.

Tue: Breakfast: Blueberry bagel, cream cheese, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Super nachos (hamburger, cheese, lettuce, sour cream, salsa), gusto garlic fries, carrots, fruit, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Egg & sausage biscuit, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Hot ham patty w/bun, tater tots, baked beans, fruit, and milk.

Thu: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Baked breaded chicken drumstick, au gratin potatoes, broccoli, fruit, buttered bread, and milk.

Fri: Breakfast: Variety of cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch:** Pizza crunchers, K-2:Veggies & ranch. 3-6: Salad bar; grapes or pineapple, goldfish grahams, and milk.

ECFE News

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.

RLC Fair News

Outstanding Senior Citizen award

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

National Autism Awareness Month: David Clifton shares about Autism

By: Ana Almeida

Red Lake County Central’s David Clifton is a 16-year-old student with Asperger’s Disorder, a variation of Autism. He’s in the Speech team and presents an Informative Speech about Autism. He recently invited teachers and staff members at the high school to listen to his presentation hoping to create awareness and help people understand the disorder.

In his speech piece, he explains to the audience that Autism is a very complex developmental disability and a severe form of a broader group of disorders. “It impacts a lot of functions, mainly in the brain.” He talks about the five main types of Autism- Autistic Disorders, Asperger’s Disorder, Pervasive Development Disorder, Rett’s Syndrome and Childhood Disintegrative Disorders.

He also talks about some characteristics of Autism. The first one involves communication and language, being that the child may have no verbal skills and some delayed language or echo. The second characteristic is social interaction where relationships might be a struggle for the child, they may have non-verbal behaviors, or not want to share items with other people. Behavior is the third characteristic and there might be repetitive behaviors. The fourth characteristic has to do with sensory and movement disorders and the child has some unconventional motions and other body issues which mainly happen at birth. The fifth characteristic is resistance to change; the child will stop what they’re doing or shut down when a routine is changed. The last characteristic he mentions is the intellectual functions which occurs at all ages and the child might have verbal

and reasoning skill difficulties.

Clifton finishes his piece by explaining particular behaviors he has when he’s excited like jumping up and down or flapping his hands. When he’s angry he may jump up and down, stomp his feet and his hands. Loud noises used to affect him a lot when he was younger but he can handle them much better now. Clifton has a fear of storms which impacted his Autism making him unable to communicate his needs. He also says that to calm himself he moves his body back and forth.

According to the Autism Society website the characteristic behaviors may be evident in infancy but become clearer during early childhood. Some symptoms are not babbling or cooing and not gesturing by 12 months, not saying a single word by 16 months, not saying two-word phrases by 24 months and any loss of any language or social skills at any age. There are several ways to diagnose the medical diagnosis made by a physician based on symptoms and diagnostic tests; and the educational determination made by a multidisciplinary team of several school professionals.

Some facts the website presents about autism are that about one percent of the world population has autism spectrum disorder and the incidence in the United States is about 1 in 68 births. More than 3.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder.

The National Autism Awareness Month is an opportunity to promote awareness, acceptance and draw attention to those diagnosed each year. Join the celebration for the 2016 National Autism Awareness Month in April!

RLC Boys Baseball victory over WEM

By Seth Paradis

Red Lake County baseball had their first game in Red Lake Falls against Win-E-Mac on April 12. RLC won 12-2. In the first inning RLC got one run, and the second inning three. Both teams scored two in the third inning. In the fourth inning RLC scored four and in the fifth inning brought in two more. The ten run rule ended the game.

The highlights for RLC included Drake Engelstad going 3x3 two RBIs and four runs and, Mason Hanson hitting 2x2 with two RBIs. For W-E-M Noah Klinkhamer was 1x3 with two RBIs.

On the mound for W-E-M was Emelian Kaya. For RLC Mason Hanson pitched three innings with two strikeouts and four walks and Brandon Klipping pitched two innings with three strikeouts and one walk.

RLC Junior High Track & Field Meet

By: Ana Almeida

The Red Lake County Rebels Track & Field Junior High team had a meet in Bagley Thursday, April 14. The following students placed at the meet.

Girls “A” Division
Team finished in third Place
100 Meter: 1st Place- Zoe Russillo, 13.09
100 Hurdles: 2nd Place- Makenzie Williams, 18.92
100 Hurdles: 4th Place- Julia Bernstein, 20.14
200 Meter: 1st Place- Zoe Russillo, 28.33
200 Meter: 3rd Place- Makenzie Williams, 29.91
200 Meter: 6th Place- Julia Bernstein, 30.83
400 Meter: 1st Place- Makenzie Williams, 1:06.27
400 Meter: 3rd Place- Zoe Russillo, 1:12.24



David Clifton from RLCC gave an informative speech on autism to the high school staff.

MEET THE RLCC SENIORS



Holly Vettleson

Family members: Alan (dad), Chris (mom), and Matt (brother)

Favorite movie: Gone With The Wind, The Longest Ride.

Favorite song/band: “Humble and Kind” by Tim McGraw

Favorite class: Online Ethics

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: Volleyball

Favorite teacher/coach: Mr. Paskvan

Most important person in your life: My parents

Life has rules. What is your personal rule you plan on following in your life: Give 100% effort in everything that I do and try to be a better person each day.

Best memory from school: The junior cookout last year and homecoming games.

Your plans for the Future: Attend college at Minnesota State University Moorhead and major in paralegal.



Samanth Jean Smith

Family members: Parents: Jon & Sue Smith; siblings: Stephanie, Megan, Molly.

Favorite movie: None

Favorite song/band: Anything Country like Thomas Rhett, Brett Eldredge, Danielle Bradbery

Favorite class: Chemistry with Mr. Strutz or Online college

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: Volleyball

Favorite teacher/coach: Mr. Strutz

Most important person in your life: Parents, grandparents and friends

Life has rules. What is your personal rule you plan on following in your life: Try my hardest in everything I do, go the extra mile to get things accomplished!

Best memory from school: Bonfires with the class and chemistry experiments

Your plans for the Future: Go to MSUM (Minnesota State University Moorhead)



Asia Davis

Family members: Jeff Davis, Tanya and John Sorenson, and Brenden and Haley Davis

Favorite movie: Grown Ups

Favorite song/band: “Little Moments” by Brad Paisley

Favorite class: Anatomy

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: Volleyball

Favorite teacher/coach: Mr. Strutz

Most important person in your life: My parents

Life has rules. What is your personal rule you plan on following in your life: Stick up for myself and what I believe is right.

Best memory from school: Chemistry labs with Mr. Strutz. Probably the coolest thing I’ve done in school is learn to make different chemicals and experiment with them.

Your plans for the Future: Get my Master’s degree in the Science of Nursing to become a Nurse Practitioner.



Kayla Olson

Family members: Parents: Snook and Bobbie; siblings: Aurimy and Lucas

Favorite movie: The Fault in our Stars

Favorite song/band: “It’s All Good” by Danielle Bradbery

Favorite class: English

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: None

Favorite teacher/coach: Mrs. Bergeson

Most important person in your life: My brother Lucas

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

Best memory from school: Going to the pit last year with my class

Your plans for the Future: Go to Minnesota State University Moorhead for elementary education and special ed.



Chase Agnes

Family members: Jerry Agnes. Sisters: Ayla and Lael Erickson.

Favorite movie: None

Favorite song/band: No particular band – classic rock.

Favorite class: Physics/Physical science

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: None

Favorite teacher/coach: Mr. Strutz

Most important person in your life: My parents, they help me through life and through rough times.

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

Best memory from school: Spending time with friends, making new friends.

Your plans for the Future: Go to work for the laborers union or possibly school for mechanics.



Wyatt Waldal

Family members: John and Lori Waldal. Siblings: Shawna, Brittany, Mark, Matt and Lexus Waldal.

Favorite movie: Step Brothers

Favorite song/band: Basically anything

Favorite class: Anatomy or anything science

Favorite RLCC Sport/Activity: Basketball

Favorite teacher/coach: Coach Steve Philon

Most important person in your life: Parents

Life has rules. What is your personal rule you plan on following in your life: Don’t stop following your goals, set the bar high.

Best memory from school: Joking around and talking to Mr. Strutz.

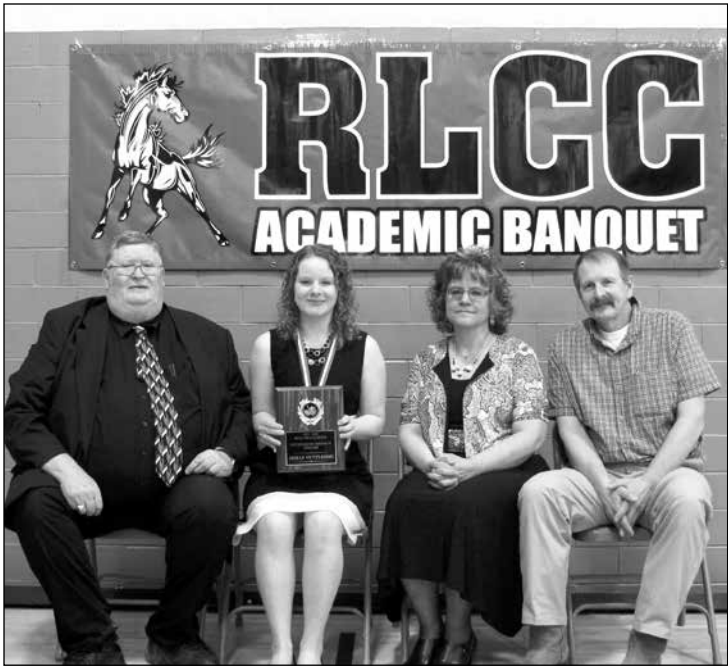
Your plans for the Future: Attend college at either UND or University of Minnesota to become a physical therapist.



The Family Literacy Committee at Red Lake County Central

Elementary School would like to thank the Plummer Lions Club, ISD #2906 and everyone that participated in the “Family Fun Event”. A great evening was had by everyone. Parents and children experienced the importance of literacy through a variety of activities. Congratulations to all those that won a literacy gift basket. We look forward to a bigger and better event in 2017. OAC





Mr. Mike Swenson awarded Senior Holly Vettleson the Outstanding Senior in English. She is pictured with her parents Chris and Alan Vettleson.



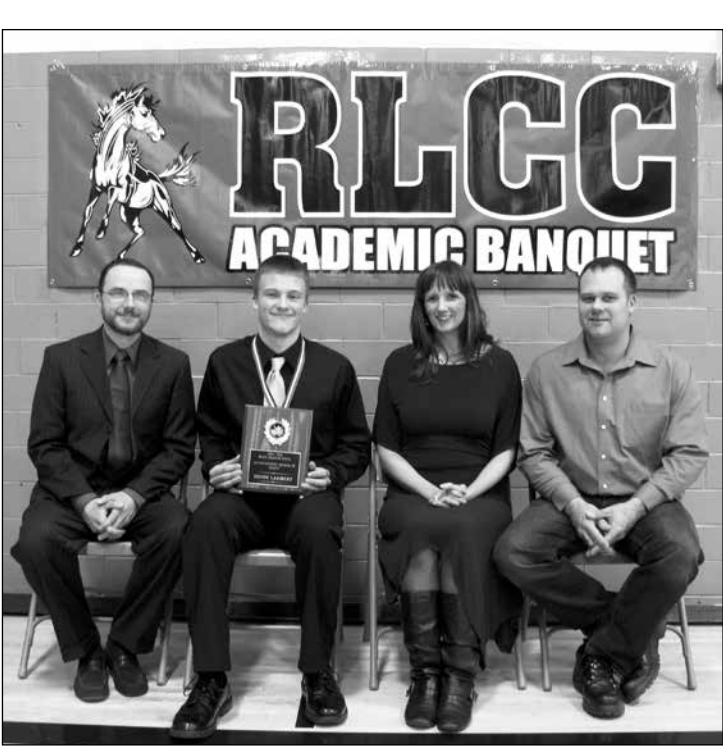
The Outstanding Senior in Science award was presented by Mr. Steven Strutz to student Asia Davis. They are pictured with her parents Tanya and John Sorenson.



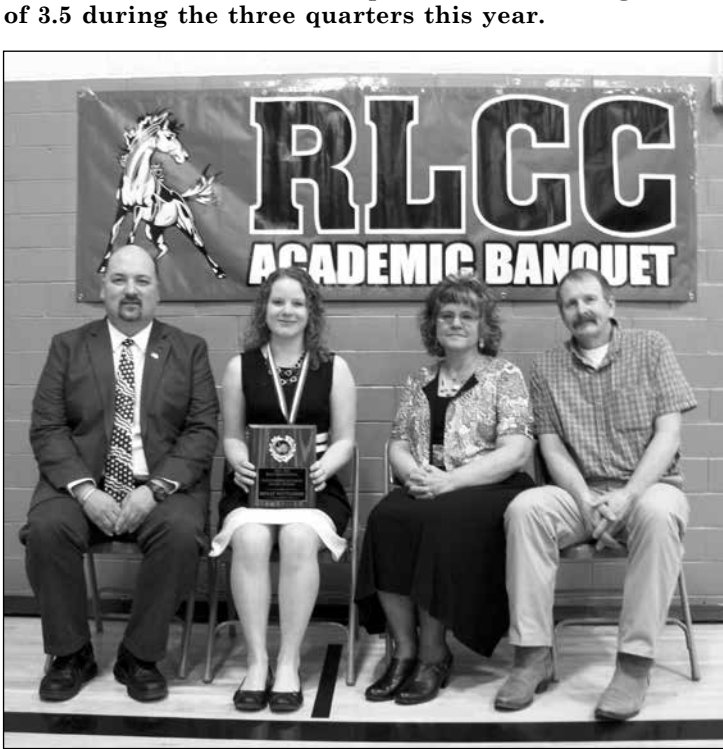
Holly Vettleson, Austin Waliser, Devin Lambert and Asia Davis were the senior recipients of Academic Medals at the RLCC Academic Banquet for maintaining a GPA of 3.5 during the three quarters this year.



RLCC juniors (back) Taylor Bushelle, Ana Almeida, Kelsie Sirjod, Kyle Gagner, Ashley Longtin, (front) Natalie Aakhus, Megan Berberich, Angel Auman, and Nikki Schmitz were honored at the RLCC Academic Banquet.



The Outstanding Senior in Math was awarded by Mr. Bryan Paskvan to Devin Lambert, son of Scott and Shannon Lambert.



Outstanding Senior in Social Studies Holly Vettleson and her parents Chris and Alan Vettleson with Mr. Randy Huie

Kim Vettleson speaks on following values learned in school

By: Ethan Vettleson
Kim Vettleson was the Academic Banquet speaker for the 2016 Academic Banquet at Red Lake County Central High School. He graduated in 1987 from Oklee High School. When he was in high school he was in football and basketball, Student Council and a class representative. He learned from his small community and educators. "Back in the day" Vettleson said they didn't have cell phones or text messaging. "If you did something wrong your folks found out before you were even home!"

Being in sports and school activities taught many life skills. Values he learned were honesty, integrity, be true to yourself and be your own person. He also emphasized the importance of being a good listener. "People will respect you if you're a good listener."

When he graduated he thought he wanted to go to tech school and originally thought carpentry. But he decided focus on sales and marketing and restaurant management. Vettleson's first job was at Godfather's Pizza where he was the manager. "It was very long hours" with multiple people, shifts, and scheduling. "Diplomacy's one of the most important things you can learn in life." In life you sometimes have to sacrifice and have to find common ground. "If people like you they might tell one

person. If they don't, how many will they tell? Probably 10."

Vettleson also said, "If nothing is ventured then nothing is gained. Life is about taking risks." This led him to a change of career. In 1996 he was living by St. Cloud. His kids were about to start school but he wanted to move back to this community. He got a job at Digi-Key. A few months later a supervisor position opened up and he decided to apply. Later on an International Sales job opened up and they asked him to try that position. When asked to step into a different area, he decided to.

One year later Vettleson was promoted to Director-Production Business International at Digi-Key. His job involves many countries and learning to deal with variety of people is very important. That is where "values learned in high school really came in."

His role at Digi-Key has led Vettleson to travel abroad. In his job, Vettleson has flown over 400,000 airline miles around the globe. Some countries he has been to are Korea, Netherlands, Hong Kong, China, Israel, Germany, England, United Kingdom, Sweden, and Finland. He has worked with many people around the world and one of the most important things he learned was to listen. Proper etiquette and a strong handshake are very important

and to show your confidence.

Vettleson has learned about many cultures. You get greeted differently. Some counties greet you by being kissed on both cheeks. Some are very aggressive negotiations, some are just a hand shake.

He told about his travels including stories about traveling to Korea. He said it was a long trip, 32 hours travel time on multiple planes and lay overs. In Korea it is a 13 hour time difference. He went to have breakfast, one side was the traditional Korean, and the other side was Western, and he "went to the "wrong side." That afternoon he was taken to lunch at a traditional Korean restaurant. First thing he had to do when he got to the restaurant was take off his shoes and he is size 13. Then, he had to sit down but it's on cushions. After sitting cross legged the whole meal Vettleson got ready to leave and he tried to stand up and it felt like pins and needles. He couldn't feel his feet and the whole restaurant was looking at him!

The last thing Vettleson said was to "Follow what you have learned at RLCC especially the values."



RLCC presents Academic Honors

By: Nicholas Plante
The Red Lake County Central held their 2016 Academic Banquet on Monday, April 11. Honored were the students in 9th-12th grade that maintained 3.5 GPA in their core classes in the first three quarters of this school year. Principal Randy Pederson mentioned this was the 21st year of holding the banquet.

Mr. Pederson welcomed the honored students and family



2016 Academic Banquet speaker at RLCC was Kim Vettleson, a 1987 graduate of Oklee High School.

members. The invocation was given by Mrs. Chris Vettleson. The special guest speaker was Kim Vettleson, Oklee High School Class of 1987 graduate.

Twenty-two students maintained 3.5 GPA. Academic Medals were presented to the honored students. The senior honorees at the Academic Banquet were Asia Davis, Holly Vettleson, Devin Lambert, and Austin Waliser. The honored juniors were Natalie Aakhus, Mary Auman, Taylor Bushelle, Ashley Longtin, Nicole Schmitz, Ana Almeida, Megan Berberich, Kyle Gagner, and Kelsie Sirjod.

The sophomore honorees included Jayden Fore, Kara Longtin, Katie Olson, Hannah Kolstoe, Sydney Melby, and Matthew Vettleson. The freshman who were honored were Julia Bernstein, Marie Johnson, and Sydnie Gunderson.

Special awards in Mathematics, Science, Social

Studies and English were presented to seniors. Mr. Bryan Paskvan gave the Outstanding Senior in Mathematics to Devin Lambert. Asia Davis received the Outstanding Senior in Science by Mr. Steven Strutz. Mr. Randy Huie presented Holly Vettleson with Outstanding Senior in Social Studies. Holly Vettleson was given Outstanding Senior in English by Mr. Michael Swenson.

The waiter and waitresses also had to maintain a 3.5 GPA. Eighth graders were Madison Carlson, Calyssa Eskeli, Sophia Linder, Adrianna Jones, Christopher Longtin, Derek Peterson, Garrett Qualley, Rickey Ulrich, and Abigail Walton. The seventh grade waiters and waitress included Kia Bachand, Bailey Culkins, George Duden, Tristyn Ferguson, Emily Kolstoe, Karena Melby, Janae Olson, Elijah Rath sack and Katelyn Suchy.



Sophomores (back) Hannah Kolstoe, Matthew Vettleson, Katie Olson, Sydney Melby, (front) Kara Longtin, and Jayden Fore were honored at the RLCC Academic Banquet.



The RLCC sophomore Academic Honorees who attended the Academic Banquet were Sydnie Gunderson, Julia Bernstein, and Marie Johnson.



7th and 8th grade waiters and waitresses for RLCC's Academic Banquet. Front (7th graders): Elijah Rath sack, Karena Melby, Adriel Bakken, Kia Bachand, Janae Olson, Katelyn Suchy, Emily Kolstoe, Tristyn Ferguson, and George Duden. Back (8th graders): Abigail Walton, Madison Carlson, Christopher Longtin, Rickey Ulrich, Derek Peterson, Garrett Qualley, Calyssa Eskeli, Sophia Linder, and Adrienne Jones.



Clarence, with wife Dianne, served as regional co-chairs, 1966-1970, for the Minnesota's March of Dimes.

Gagner
Continued from page 1.
picking up distinguished guests from the airport and driving them to the convention hotel. He drove former Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe on a number of occasions.
At the 2014 Leadership Conference, snow fell over Washington, DC, shutting down the federal government. As a result, the U.S. All-Services Color Guard was not available for Monday morning's opening ceremony. Clarence rose to the challenge and gathered NAPUS members to form the Honorary Postmaster Color Bearers.
Clarence continues to look for challenges. His strategies to stay productive until the age of 100 were reflected in a recent interview with actor

and director Ron Howard in the *AARP Bulletin*. "Life experiences are beneficial," he said, "but you must keep your youthful spark and curiosity. Once your kids are grown, you have time for bigger projects. It's important to always enjoy life, however long it may be. Dive into a project, then take a pause. Make the most of your creativity and longevity."
With Clarence's many accomplishments, one could easily believe he is self-involved. However, when talking to him, you feel good about yourself because he cares so much about everyone he meets. We salute Clarence Gagner for his outstanding military and postal careers and dedication to serving his community with passion and pride.

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.

"Throwback Thursday" Spring Music Concert



The Senior High Choir was part of the RLCC Band and Choir Concert "Throwback Thursday." They presented songs including "6 Tons," "Turn Around" and a "Throwback Medley."



Part of the RLCC Junior High Choir singing at their Spring Music Concert held April 7th at the RLCC High School.



Sophomores Sydney Melby, Nick Pahlen and Jayden Fore singing "Angel of Music" during RLCC's Throwback Thursday Music Concert on Thursday, April 7th.



Senior Brandi Jensen and sophomore Austin Jensen singing "Anything You Can Do" at RLCC Spring Music Concert.



RLCC Senior High Band played four songs: "Imperial March," "Rock Away," "Bandstand Boogie," and "Achy Breaky Heart." Pictured on the drums Austin Jensen and Tom Nelson; Marie Johnson, Seth Johnson, Holly Vettleson, Matt Vettleson on the trumpets; Lacey Pendelton, Kjersten Walton on the flutes.



Spring Music Concert featured seniors Holly Vettleson, Miranda Magnell, and Kjersten Walton singing "Stay".

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@mnsstatefair.org.



The RLCC's junior high band performed three numbers at the Throwback Thursday Spring Concert.

ROGATION DAYS

To ASK FOR GOD'S
BLESSING
DURING THE
PLANTING SEASON



7:00 PM Monday, April 25th St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church - Oklee
7:00 PM Tuesday, April 26th St. Clement Catholic Church Grygla
7:00 PM Wednesday, April 27th St. Ann Catholic Church Goodridge

You are invited to a Rogation Service during which we ask our Heavenly Father to send his blessing upon our crops, fields, and livestock, that we might have a bountiful harvest. Furthermore, we pray to avert any natural disasters or storms that may harm livelihoods. Following the service, there will be a blessing of seeds and livestock. This prayer service is open to people of all faiths.
Participants are invited to bring seed to be blessed (either a token amount or a whole truck load). Participants may also bring livestock for a blessing. Following the Rogation Service, refreshments will be served.

G3-4C

Centennial Recipe Corner

Corn Dogs Karen Fossum

2 cups flour
4 tsp baking powder
1/4 cup sugar
1/2 cup cornmeal
2 tsp salt

Mix dry ingredients; add one egg and 1-1/4 cup milk and mix together.

Use a fork and dip each hotdog into the batter one at a time until completely covered.

Fry in Crisco 375 degrees until brown. Makes 15 corn dogs.



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 five (5) year loan for an amount up to \$20,000 at 2% APR. The business must be located in Red Lake County.

For more information, contact the Red Lake County Economic Development home office at 1-218-253-2897.

Or call David Ste. Marie, Red Lake Falls, 218-698-4279; Mike Spurgin, Red Lake Falls, 218-465-4648 or Leo Alton, Oklee, 218-796-5656.

O43-43C (2x/mo.)

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Sounds like multiplication?

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