

Oklee Precipitation
By Einar Kvasager

	Rain	Snow
Dec. 18		Trace
Dec. 19		Trace
Dec. 20		1.50
Dec. 21		Trace
Dec. 22		1.00
Total in.	0.00	2.50

Oklee Herald

...AND CONTINUING THE PLUMMER PIONEER

OKLEE (RED LAKE COUNTY) MINN. 56742

www.TriCoCanary.com

Vol. 105, Number 19

Wednesday, December 28, 2016



The Sunday School children at Zion Lutheran Church presented their Christmas play titled, "The Missing Magi." The program was held on December 18th. The children performing are (not in order): Ella Moen, Aurimy Olson, Keira Morinville, Gunnar Halverson, Hayz Hanson, Marin Peterson, Tyler Parsley, Peyton O'Neill, Emma Hendrickson, Hunter Dudycha, Maverick Nelson, Parker Klasen, Avery Nelson, Keanna Landrus, Taylor Moen, Landon Klasen, Hannah Dudycha, Jackson Morinville, Natalee Hendrickson, Jett Hanson, Owen O'Neill, Jacob Lee, Aubrey Halverson, Easton Morinville, Jaylee Parsley, Ellie Halverson, Lola Hendrickson, Trevor Lee, and Keaton Eggerud.

May the New Year give you,
the strength to face the challenges of life
and courage to adjust the sail
so as to take every situation to your stride,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Oklee Herald
796-5181



Noah Hanson played the director of "The Missing Magi" skit at Zion.



Pastor Margaret Jacobus welcomed everyone to the Zion SS program.

Calendar of Events
Wed, Dec. 28:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Dec. 29:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Dec. 30:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.
Sat, Dec. 31:
-New Year's Eve
-Support your local business – Shop Locally!
Sun, Jan. 1:
-New Year's Day
-Worship at the church of your choice.
Mon, Jan. 2:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
Tue, Jan. 3:
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Cards
-LSS Sr. Evening Meal 5:00 p.m.
Wed, Jan. 4:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 1:30 p.m. – Bridge.
-7:00 p.m. Bingo at Plummer Legion.
Thu, Jan. 5:
-LSS Sr. Meal 11:30 a.m.
-Senior Site Activity: 12:30 p.m. – Bingo.
Fri, Jan. 6:
-LSS Sr. Meals 11:30 a.m.
-Noon deadline for Oklee Herald news.



Before the Sunday School program, these four talented youngsters, Peyton, Maverick, Keira & Ella, entertained the audience.

Heavy Snow and Wind Chills

Heavy snow can immobilize a region and paralyze a city, stranding commuters, closing airports, stopping the flow of supplies, and disrupting emergency and medical services.

Accumulations of snow can cause roofs to collapse and knock down trees and power lines. Homes and farms may be isolated for days and unprotected livestock may be lost.

In the mountains, heavy snow can lead to avalanches. The cost of snow removal, repairing damages, and the loss of business can have severe economic impacts on cities and towns.

Injuries Due To Ice and Snow

- About 70% result from vehicle accidents
- About 25% occur in people caught out in a storm
- Most happen to males over 40 years old

BLIZZARD: Winds of 35 mph or more with snow and blowing snow reducing visibility to less than ¼ mile for 3 hours or more.

BLOWING SNOW: Wind-driven snow that reduces

visibility.

Blowing snow may be falling snow and/or snow on the ground picked up by the wind.

SNOW SQUALLS: Brief, intense snow showers accompanied by strong, gusty winds. Accumulation may be significant.

SNOW SHOWERS: Snow falling at varying intensities for brief periods of time. Some accumulation is possible.

SNOW FLURRIES: Light snow falling for short durations with little or no accumulation.

Information from Cornell University:

What is Wind Chill Temperature?

It is the temperature it "feels like" outside and is based on the rate of heat loss from exposed skin caused by the effects of wind and cold. As the wind increases, the body is cooled at a faster rate causing the skin temperature to drop.

Wind Chill does not impact inanimate objects like car radiators and exposed water pipes, because these objects cannot cool below the actual air temperature.

What does this mean to me? The NWS will inform you

when Wind Chill conditions reach critical thresholds. A Wind Chill Warning is issued when wind chill temperatures are life threatening.

A Wind Chill Advisory is issued when wind chill temperatures are potentially hazardous.

What is Frostbite?

Frostbite is an injury to the body caused by freezing body tissue. The most susceptible parts of the body are the extremities such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, or the tip of the nose. Symptoms include a loss of feeling in the extremity and a white or pale appearance. Medical attention is needed immediately for frostbite. The area should be SLOWLY rewarmed.

What is Hypothermia?

Hypothermia is abnormally low body temperature (below 95 degrees Fahrenheit).

Warning signs include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. Medical attention is needed immediately. If it is not available, begin warming the body SLOWLY.

Electrical Fire Safety tips

Follow these electrical safety tips to help keep your home fire-safe.

Appliances

- Always plug major appliances, like refrigerators, stoves, washers and dryers, directly into a wall outlet.
- Never use an extension cord with a major appliance — it can easily overheat and start a fire.
- Always plug small appliances directly into a wall outlet.
- Unplug small appliances when you are not using them.
- Keep lamps, light fixtures and light bulbs away from anything that can burn.
- Use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage on the lamp or fixture.
- Check electrical cords on appliances often. Replace cracked, damaged and loose electrical cords. Do not try to repair them.

Outlets

- Do not overload wall outlets.
- Insert plugs fully into sockets.
- Never force a three-prong cord into a two-slot outlet.
- Install tamper-resistant electrical outlets if you have young children.
- Extension Cords, Power Strips and Surge Protectors
- Replace worn, old or damaged extension cords right away.
- Use extension cords for

temporary purposes only.

- Avoid putting cords where they can be damaged or pinched, like under a carpet or rug.
- Do not overload power strips.
- Use power strips that have internal overload protection.
- Make sure all electrical work in your home is done by a qualified electrician!

Winter Holiday Fire Safety

Did you know? Nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

- Inspect holiday lights each year before you put them up. Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires.
- Water your Christmas tree every day. A dry tree is dangerous because it can catch on fire easily.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell and feel like real candles.
- If you do use lit candles, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be knocked down easily.

For more information and free resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov

Red Lake Watershed District and DNR progress on Pine Lake flood project

The Red Lake Watershed District and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources continue their efforts toward better water management of the Pine Lake watershed in Clearwater County.

One of several flood damage reduction projects in the watershed district, the Pine Lake project will allow for water level management throughout the year by constructing a new control structure on Pine Lake and creating upstream retention basins to reduce flood damage at the lake and areas downstream.

A 45 square-mile drainage area flows into Pine Lake. Runoff causes rapid increases in lake levels in the spring and cabins have been flooded in 13 of the last 33 years. Lower lake levels in late summer, fall and winter can result in lake access issues for shoreland owners and may be detrimental to overwintering fish populations.

Recently, the watershed district and the DNR signed a memorandum of understanding to seasonally hold water in the wetland located on the Little Pine Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA) as part of area flood damage reduction efforts in the watershed. The WMA is located upstream from Pine Lake.

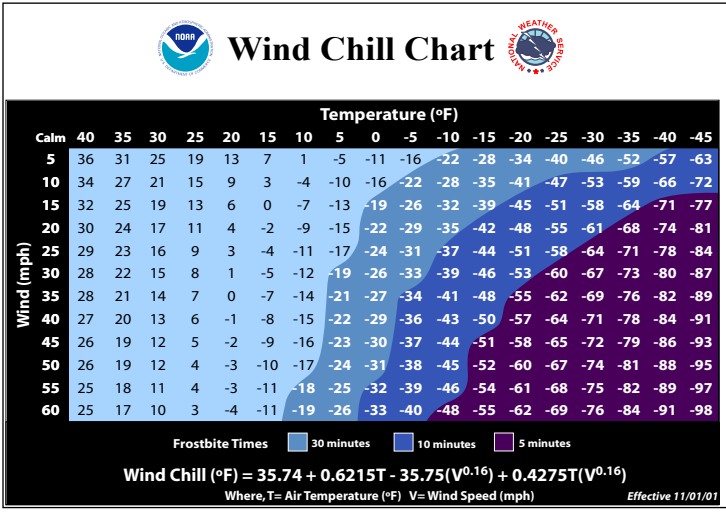
Under the memorandum, the watershed district will build a new dam on the wetland on Little Pine Lake WMA and the DNR will use it to manage water levels upstream to reduce flood damage and enhance wildlife habitat. In late fall, the DNR will drop water levels 2 feet in anticipation of holding upwards of 4 feet of water during a flood.

"Lower fall, and in drier years, lower spring water levels would offer some natural resource enhancements," said Dave Rave, Bemidji DNR area wildlife supervisor. "Lower water levels will provide breeding and migrating waterfowl and shorebird habitat. In very wet springs, we will hold back water to minimize flooding at Crookston and other areas downstream." Better water management in this and other watersheds will ensure that they work efficiently to meet local needs and also help address a Red River basin region-wide goal, the Red River Basin Commission established to reduce peak flows along the Red River of the North.

Landowners and other watershed partners attended public meetings last July and provided input on the Pine Lake project, as well as a similar project on the Four Legged Lake watershed. The project teams met in August. The public input is now being used to determine the best options for both projects.

"Public input has been helpful in determining suitable alternatives for evaluation," said Myron Jesme, Red River Watershed District administrator. "We're encouraged that the DNR and the Red Lake Watershed District have signed an agreement that establishes authority and responsibility for water level management on the Little Pine Wildlife Management Area."

For more information on both Pine Lake and Four Legged Lake Watershed projects and progress, visit www.redlakewatershed.org/.



Tips on how to dress during cold weather.

- Wear layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing. Trapped air between the layers will insulate you. Outer garments should be tightly woven, water repellent, and hooded.
- Wear a hat, because 40%

of your body heat can be lost from your head.

- Cover your mouth to protect your lungs from extreme cold.
- Mittens, snug at the wrist, are better than gloves.
- Try to stay dry and out of the wind.

Church news

OKLEE LUTHERAN PARISH
Zion and Salem
Pastor Margaret Jacobus
Wed, Dec. 28: No Confirmation Classes.
Sun, Jan. 1: 9:00 a.m. Zion. 10:30 a.m. Salem. No SS.
Mon, Jan. 2: 9:00 a.m. Quilting at Zion.
Wed, Jan. 4: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Classes.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH OKLEE
Fr. Adam Hamness
Sun, Jan. 1: 7:30 a.m. Confessions 8:00 a.m. Mass.

BROOKS - RED LAKE FALLS CATHOLIC PARISH
Fr. Bill DeCrans
Sat, Dec. 31: 5:30 p.m. RLF
Sun, Jan. 1: 8:00 a.m. Brooks. 10:00 a.m. RLF.

IMMANUEL-EBENEZER LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Pastor Jonathan Dodson
Sun, Jan. 1: 9:00 a.m. Worship at Immanuel. 10:30 Worship at Ebenezer.

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH ELCA
Bethany-Ekelund-Faith Pastor Kristen Ostercamp
Sun, Jan. 1: 8:30 a.m. Faith. 9:45 a.m. Bethany. 11:00 a.m. Ekelund.
Tue, Jan. 3: 1:30 p.m. Eve Circle.
Wed, Jan. 4: No Confirmation.

Oklee Senior Site Dining

January 2 - 6
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: Ham & Swiss melt on bun, hamburger dumpling soup, and dessert.
Tuesday: Evening meal: Roast pork, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, vegetable, and dessert.

Wednesday: Fish, baked potato, vegetable, and dessert.

Thursday: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, cream gravy, vegetables, and dessert.

Friday: Tator tot hotdish, coleslaw, toast, and dessert.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive - Nazareth Oak Park - St. Petri Pastor Jeff Merseth
Wed, Dec. 28: No Wednesday School/Confirmation.
Sat, Dec. 31: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive. No SS.
Sun, Jan. 1: 8:00 a.m. St. Petri. 9:45 a.m. Oak Park. 11:00 a.m. Nazareth. No SS at all churches.
Wed, Jan. 4: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School/Confirmation.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg, Youth Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Sun, Jan. 1: 9:30 a.m. Worship.
Wed, Jan. 4: 6:30 p.m. AWANA. 6:30 p.m. Youth Group.
Thu, Jan. 5: 12:00 p.m. Rotary meeting.
Fri, Jan. 6: 8:45 a.m. Friday School.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Sun, Jan. 1: 10:00 a.m. Parish Service at Lund with potluck to follow.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY Fosston
Seth Johnson, Interim Pastor
Sun, Jan. 1: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

Oklee Area Veterans' Memorial Update

Recently a donation was received for the Oklee Area Veterans' Memorial. Barb and Cliff Melby, Oklee made a contribution in memory of Richard Bluemke who was raised in the Oklee Area. He served in the army in Viet Nam from 1968-1970.

The volunteer committee is grateful for the support for this important tribute to our area veterans. They wish everyone a peaceful New Year, and remember to thank a veteran! Donations to the Oklee Area Veterans' Memorial may be sent to Security State Bank, Box 69, Oklee, MN 56742, Attn: Lori Melby. Questions should be directed to Mary Lynn Bachand at marylbachand@gmail.com.

NOTICE OF FILING FOR GARNES TOWNSHIP ELECTION

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Garnes Township, Red Lake County, State of Minnesota, that filing for town office will be held for a two week period beginning January 3, 2017.

Affidavits of Candidacy shall be filed with the Town Clerk at Clerk's home at any reasonable hour from January 3, 2017, to January 17, 2017.

Filing will close on January 17, 2017, at 5:00p.m.

Filing fee-\$2.00

Offices to be filled at the March Annual Election are:

1- Supervisor for a Three Year term

1- Treasurer for a Two Year Term

Diane Kolstoe, Clerk, Town of Garnes

038-40C

Health

Insurance

Open enrollment begins November 1, 2016 and ends January 31, 2017

MNSure is a marketplace where Minnesotans can shop, compare and choose health insurance coverage that meets their needs.

MNSure offers multiple health plans from insurance companies all in one easy-to-shop location. Consumers can compare plans side-by-side.

MNSure is also the only place you can go to see if you qualify for federal tax credits to help with your insurance premiums. A single person can earn up to \$47,080 per year, or a family of four earning up to \$97,000 per year, may qualify for tax credits.

Avoid tax penalties when you file your federal return. Tax penalties for 2016 are \$695.00 per adult or 2.5% of taxable income, whichever is greater.

MA and MNCare can be applied for anytime during the year.

Inter-County Community Council has a certified navigator on staff to assist you with your applications and renewals.

See how you can benefit by visiting MNSure.org, or call 1-888-778-4008 to schedule an appointment.

We have offices in Oklee and Thief River Falls. Evening appointments are also available.

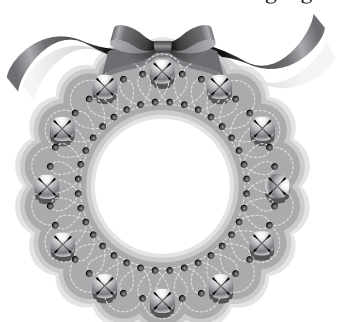
LSS Caregivers Group meets January 12th

The Thief River Falls Caregiver Group will meet on Thursday, January 12th at 10:00 a.m. at the Heritage Senior Center located at 301 E. 4th St, Thief River Falls.

These groups are open to all caregivers.

There is no charge. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Jaime Hemphill at 218-850-8616.

This project is made possible in part, under the Federal Older American's Act through a contract with the Land of the Dancing Sky AAA under an Area Plan approved by the Minnesota Board on Aging.



JOHNSON FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

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



Funeral Pre-planning Monuments
 www.johnsonfuneralservice.com

One of the joys of the Holiday Season is remembering those who are important to us. We'd like to thank all of our customers and friends for making this past year a successful one.

As your local independent bank, we look forward to serving you in the future. We hope the New Year brings you good health, happiness and prosperity.

Drive-up and bank closing at 3:00 Fri., Dec. 30. Closed Jan. 2.

Notice to Residents of Townships having March Elections

The dates of filing affidavits of candidacy for township offices are Tuesday, January 3, 2017 through Tuesday, January 17, 2017. Offices open are Supervisor for a three year term and a Treasurer for a two year term. The filings may be done at the Clerk's office at any reasonable time. Filings close at 5:00 pm on January 17, 2017. Filing fee is \$2.00.

Red Lake County
 Township Officer's Ass'n.
 Marie Chaput, Sec'y.

038-40C

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 those with special needs more comfortable, 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.

The schedule is different starting December 2016.

For Polk, Red Lake and Clearwater county stops:

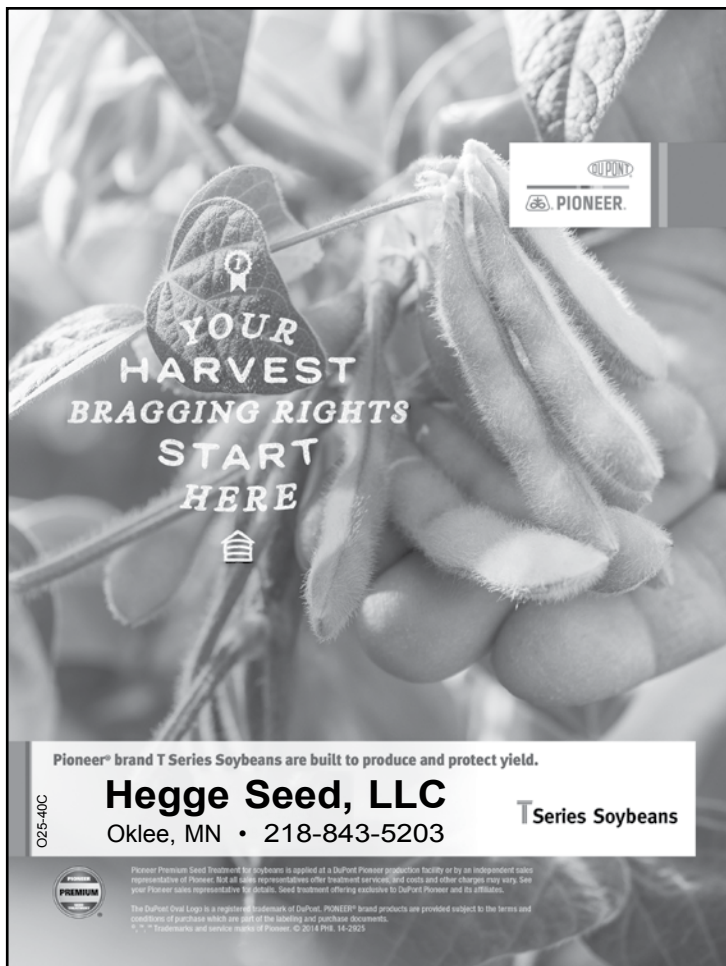
Every Monday - Grand Forks.

Every 2nd Tuesday - Mahnomen.

Every 4th Tuesday - Thief River Falls

Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesday - Fargo/Moorhead.

Every 2nd & 4th Friday - Bemidji.



Red Lake Falls Library News

With January right around the corner, the "Hot Reads for Cold Nights" adult Winter Reading Program begins, and continues throughout January & February. This program focuses on materials & programming of particular interest to our adult patrons. Some of the programs this year will include a bagpipe performance, a day with an antique appraiser, as well as a World War I commemorative 100th anniversary presentation by Arn Kind (www.historicalexpériences.com) among others yet to be announced.



Emma Hendrickson playing the piano at Zion's SS program.

January will also bring our "floating collection" throughout the region; a number of "new" materials will arrive weekly in the Red Lake Falls branch, as the 7 branches & 2 link sites of Northwest Regional Library will swap & share materials on a rotating basis. There are sure to be items "new to you" appearing frequently on the shelves. Adults, especially, are invited to stop into the library, view the collection and register for door prizes during Hot Reads for Cold Nights.



Marin Peterson playing the saxophone at the SS program.

DEADLINE

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

January ECFE Events

By: Sydnie Gunderson

Recognizing that parents are a child's first and most significant teachers, Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) offers a variety of classes and resources for parents and children birth up to kindergarten age. ECFE helps build healthy families and sets the stage for parent involvement and children's success. Parents are invited to bring their children to the following three fun nights in January.

The first class on **Thursday, January 5th** is Infants and Toddlers Music and Movement at the Oklee site at 6:00-7:00 p.m. There will be no soup served that night but we will be making trail mix! We will be reading "Rosie's Walk" and going on a cool obstacle course trail using flashlights. Our

make and take project will be a dancing flag so we can dance around to lots of music!!

Thursday, January 12th will be the second class, **Family Fun Gym Night** at the Oklee site at 6:00-7:00 p.m. for 0-5 year olds. Join us for soup and sandwiches, and then get up and move in the gym with lots of fun activities for you to try. Get some exercise and have fun!

On Thu, January 26th, ECFE Book Bingo will be held at the Plummer Site at 6:00-7:00 p.m. for 3-5 year olds. Start with the alphabet tomato soup and sandwiches, and then we will be playing different kinds of Bingo games to win books for your home library!

Grandparents and other adult or other family members are always welcome to attend the three upcoming ECFE events!

Sudoku Solution

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

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

Oklee 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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 Oklee, MN 56742
 Phone 218-796-5157



MUSTANG STAMPED



RLCC Sports Schedules

RLC Rebel Varsity

Boys Basketball

Sat. Dec. 31: G-G in *G-G* at 2:00 p.m.

Tues, Jan. 3: Against East Grand Forks SH in *Plummer* at 6:00 p.m.

Mon, Jan. 9: Against Sacred Heart in *RLF* at 6:00 p.m.

Tues, Jan. 10: W-E-M in *WEM* at 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Jan. 13: W-A-O in *WAO* at 6:00 p.m.

Tues, Jan. 17: Against Climax-Fisher in *RLF* at 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Jan. 19: Against Fosston in *Plummer* at 6:00 p.m.

Tues, Jan. 24: Against Roseau in *RLF* at 5:00 p.m.

Sat. Jan. 28: Against Waubun in *RLF* at 6:00 p.m.

Tues, Jan. 31: Against Northern Freeze in *Plummer* at 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Feb. 3: Parent's Night: Against W-A-O in *RLF* at 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Feb. 9: Against C-G in *Oklee* at 6:00 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 11: Super Saturday at *NCTC-TBD*

Tues, Feb. 14: Against Northern Freeze in *New Folden* at 6:00 p.m.

Thurs, Feb. 16: Against Mahnomen in *Mahnomen* at 6:00 p.m.

Mustang Wrestling

Jan. 3: Mayport-Roseau Tri in Mayville at 5:00 p.m.

Jan. 6: Mahnomen/Wauban in *Mahnomen* at 4:00

Jan. 7: Pine-to-Pine in *Fertile* at 11:00 a.m.

Jan. 17: Against Mahnomen/L.P in *Oklee* at 5:00 p.m.

Jan. 20: Against Park Rapids in *Oklee* at 2:00 p.m.

Jan. 21: TRF Tourney in *TRF* at 9:30 a.m.

Jan. 31: Against BGMR Tri in *Oklee* at 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 4: Northwest Tourney in *Fertile* at 11:00 a.m.

Feb. 7: Against Fosston in *Oklee* at 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 10: Against Fertile-Beltrami in *Oklee* at 6:00 p.m.

Feb. 18: Team Section in *Thief River- TBD*

Lady Mustang Varsity

Basketball 2016-17

Tues, Jan. 3: Against Goodridge-Grygla in *Oklee* at 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Dec. 5: Against Red Lake in *Red Lake* at 6:00 p.m.

Sat, Jan. 7: Against Stephen-Argyle in *Oklee* at 1:00 p.m.

Tues, Jan 10: Against Red Lake Falls in *Plummer* at 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Jan. 13: Against Fosston in *Fosston* at 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Jan. 19: Against Laporte in *Oklee* at 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Jan. 20: Against W-A-O in *Warren* at 6:00 p.m.

Tues, Jan. 24: Against W-E-M in *W-E-M* at 6:15 p.m.

Thu, Jan. 26: Against Cass Lake-Bena in *Oklee* at 6:00 p.m.

Tues, Jan 31: Against Fertile-Beltrami in *Fertile* at 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Feb. 2: Against Red Lake Falls in *RLF* at 6:00 p.m.

Sat, Feb. 4: Against Lake of the Woods in *LOW* at 1:00 p.m.

Mon, Feb. 6: Against Kittson Central in *Lancaster* at 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Feb. 9: C-G in *C-G* at 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Feb. 10: Against Sacred heart in *Sacred Heart* at 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Feb. 16: Against BGMR in *Plummer* at 6:00 p.m.

Fri, Feb. 17: Against Goodridge-Grygla in *Goodridge* at 6:00 p.m.

Tues, Feb. 21: Parent's Night; Against Mahnomen in *Plummer* at 6:00 p.m.

Thu, Feb. 23: Against Bagley in *Oklee* at 6:00 p.m.

Tues, Feb. 28: Pig Tail at High Seed at 7:00 p.m.

Thu, Mar. 2: Play-In Game at *UMC/NCTC* at 6:00 p.m.

Sat. Mar. 4: Section 8A ¼ at *REA* in *TRF-TBD*

2016 RLCC Scholarship Winners

A reminder to student who were awarded the following scholarships in spring of 2016: Joan Bronken Scholarship, Marvin Bronken Scholarship, National Farmers Organization Scholarship, Red Lake Electric Scholarship, Red Lake Country Central Community Service Scholarship, Tim and Donna Swenson Scholarship, Vincent and Shirley Dessellier Scholarship, Lorna Wicks Scholarship. You need to bring or mail to the RLCC office in Oklee: proof that you successfully finished 1st semester of schooling (a copy of your first semester grades) and proof of enrollment for 2nd semester.

Checks then will be issued to you shortly after, at the address you indicate you want them sent to. Mrs. Cote will not be in the office the week of December 26th. But back in on January 3rd.

Those receiving organization sponsored scholarship are to send their paperwork to the organization directly.

RLCC Menus

January 2 - 6

Oklee

Mon: No School.

Tue: Breakfast: S'mores, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Pizza, lettuce salad, carrots & celery, fruit, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, rice, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Thu: Breakfast: Muffins, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch:** Hamburger, tots, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Fri: Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken pot pie, biscuit, vegetables, fruit, and milk.

Plummer

Mon: No School.

Tue: Breakfast: Pancakes, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Mini corn dogs, baked potatoes, cheddar popcorn, fruit, and milk.

Wed: Breakfast: Egg omelet, cereal, fruit, juice, and milk. **Lunch:** Macaroni hamburger hotdish, green beans, bread, fruit, and milk.

Thu: Breakfast: Breakfast Scramble pizza, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch:** Pork fritter, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll, baked cinnamon apple, and milk.

Fri: Breakfast: Cook's Choice, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch:** Chicken patty on bun, oven fries, coleslaw, fruit, and milk.

School Resumes

January 3rd

Red Lake County Central High School and Elementary School had no school beginning Friday, December 23 through Monday, January 2 due to Christmas break. School will resume Tuesday, January 3.

Oklee Open Gym

Oklee Gym is open on Saturdays. The gym will be open from 1:00-3:00 pm. All ages are welcome but anyone sixth grade and under must be under adult supervision.

There will be **no open gym** on New Year's Eve, December 31st. For more information call Curt Halverson at 612-247-0812.

Oklee Ice Skating Rink Open

By Marie Johnson

The ice skating rink in Oklee has been opened. The rink is open Monday to Friday 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm, Saturdays 9:00 am to 8:00 pm, and Sundays 12 noon to 8:00 pm. The ice skating rink is open to the public. The skating rink will remain closed on days of home school events.

During Christmas break the rink will be open every day from 9 am to 8 pm. The skating rink is sponsored by RLCC Community Education.



Polar bears with speaking parts at RLCC's K-3 program included: Logan Vettleson, Nolan Lundeen (holding the mic) McKaelyn Frizzle, Abbie Morinville and Masen Pahlen



"Dancing on Ice" performed by RLCC second grade.



"A Bear-y Merry Holiday" was the theme of the K-3rd grade holiday program directed by Krista Bernstein at RLCC.



Jack Dodson, Graceyn Kvasager, Benji Bramer (holding mic) Atley Vettleson and Ava Arlt in "A Bear-y Merry Holiday."



First graders from RLCC Elementary moving to "Jingle Bears."



"Snow is Falling Today" and "Snowman Jump" featured RLCC kindergartners.

RLC Against Warroad

By Hannah Riendeau

Red Lake County lost 39-73 against Warroad Tuesday, December 20 at Red Lake Falls. The first half the Rebels were behind 29-44. Points scored in the second half were 13-26. The team were close in rebounds with the Rebels at 34 and Warroad with 42. The Rebels had nine and Warroad 12 steals.

The leading scorer for the Rebels was Ethan Vettleson with 16 points, nine rebounds and three steals. Justin Nemec scored seven points and had three assists. Also scoring for the Rebels were Adrien Verbout with five, Austin Jensen with three, Conner Lambert, Matt Vettleson, Seth Paradis, and Ben Cardinal each scored two. Lambert had six rebounds.

The leading scorer for the Warroad was Isaac Stoskopf who had 19 points and eight rebounds. Tommy Vilyphone had 12 points, seven steals, and three assists. Also for Warroad were Phillip Ness with 11, Tyler Fox and Kyle Spent both had 10, Jett Shone had eight points and six rebounds, Jimmy Philajack two, and Tyler Skarp scored one.



Storms tops
the Rebels

By Marie Johnson
Red Lake County Rebels lost to Stephen-Argyle Central on Friday, December 16th at Stephen-Argyle 38-78. The first half the Strom outscored the Rebels 45-22. The Rebels were outscored again in the second half with the Strom adding 33 points and the Rebels only 16. The Storm shot 55% while the Rebels shot 40%. The Rebels and Storm were tied for steals with seven.

Leading in points for the Rebels was Ethan Vettleson with 16. Justin Nemec had eight and Ben Cardinal with three. Matt Vettleson, Jordan Johnson, Derek Peterson, John Renner, and Seth Paradis all had two points. Brandon Wiskow had one point. E. Vettleson led in rebounds with seven and had two steals.

Top scorer for the Storm was Hunter Yutrzeńkia with 15 points. Isaac Mills, Zak Fincher, and Seth McGregor each had nine points. Yutrzeńkia led in steals with two for the Storm. Fincher blocked two for Storm.

RLCC girls
lose to Fosston

By Sarah Christensen
Red Lake County Central varsity Mustangs lost to the Fosston Greyhounds 34-61 Monday, December 19 in Plummer. At half time the score was 31 to 21 with Fosston up. Top scorer for the Mustangs was Ashley Longtin with 21 points followed by Julia Bernstein with seven, Taylor Bushelle with two, Jenna Pahlen with two, and Calyssa Eskeli with two.

Top scorer for the Greyhounds was Emily Curfman with 15 points followed by Jennifer Non with 13, and Tess Hubbard with 12, Lillie Manecke with 11, Jaclyn Hubbard with six, and Brianna Vig with four.

Big Bear Tournament

By Sydnie Gunderson
Thirty-nine teams attended the annual two day Big Bear Wrestling Tournament at Cass Lake Friday, December 16th and Saturday, December 17th. The top three placing teams included Hutchinson taking first place, Thief River Falls received second, and Staples-Motley third.

The wrestlers from Red Lake County Central that participated but did not place were Bryce Bergerson 0-2, Dylan Gustafson 0-2, Kyle Gagner 0-2, Nick Pahlen 2-2, and Alec Castaneda 0-2.

Sheriff's
Report

The Red Lake County Sheriff's Office has seen an increase in drug-related arrests and activity over the past few months. Here is a summary of several drug-related cases that local law enforcement has investigated during that time.

On 05/27 /16, Red Lake County deputies arrested Scott David Panek (42) of Goodridge, on CR #13, just outside of the Red Lake Falls. He was formally charged with 5th Degree Possession of Controlled Substances (Methamphetamine and Marijuana), 4th Degree DWI, Driving after Revocation and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He is currently out on bond. This matter is scheduled for jury trial in December of 2016.

On 06/12/16, a traffic stop on Hwy. #32, north of Red Lake Falls, resulted in the arrest of Jose Cruz Romero (38) of Thief River Falls. He was charged with a 2nd Degree DWI and 5th Degree Possession of Controlled Substances (Hallucinogenic Mushrooms). On 09/14/16, Mr. Romero plead guilty to both Gross Misdemeanor crimes and he was sentenced on 10/12/16. He was ordered to serve 30 days in jail, pay a fine of \$460 and was placed on supervised probation for a period of five years.

On 08/10/16, Justin Allen Goose (21) of Laporte was cited for Possession of a Small Amount of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. On 10/14/16, he plead guilty to both Petty Misdemeanor charges and was ordered to pay \$220 in fines and fees.

On 08/31/16, Charles Wayne Zornes (39) of Grand Forks, ND was found to be in possession of illegal controlled substances. He was arrested and formally charged with 5th Degree Possession of Controlled Substances (Methamphetamine), Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Driving after Revocation and No Proof of Motor Vehicle Insurance. Mr. Zornes is currently in custody in the jail in Crookston and is



RLCC Elementary third graders in “Covered in White.”



A mixture of K-3rd graders from RLCC Elementary as polar bears and panda bears in “A Bear-y Merry Holiday.”

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

Consider a 2017 New Year's
Resolution of Investing in Human Capital

This is the time of year when the New Year's resolutions flow freely. Some of those resolutions made will have an everlasting positive and profound effect on one's life or lifestyle. As we look to the New Year, especially when doing cash flow/financial planning, most enterprises of an agricultural nature, will more than likely project a return much lower than recent year's receipts. With a projected shortage of cash, most producers will scrutinize the "needed" capital assets from the "would like to have" capital assets as they assess the 2016 year and plan for 2017 and beyond.

While farm financial planning takes place, producers might overlook the human capital and/or human capital skills needed to operate efficiently and to move the farm business in a direction as desired. I would encourage both operators and employees to evaluate their skill set, and maybe in a New Year's resolution form, set some educational goals. Then search, prioritize, and find continuing education opportunities. Follow through on selected educational opportunities that may add growth to the human capital segment of the business.

Education and training exist in various mediums and venues. Many read farm papers or magazines to stay up to date. Some go online or seek a consultant or another producer for the knowledge needed. Consider opportunities both close to home, a neighboring state, and/or if need be, an educational seminar in distant state or country. Many educational opportunities are basically at no or very limited cost to the producers except for the time one might invest. Other opportunities might cost the business thousands of dollars. An educational opportunity provided by your Land Grant Universities, where education and information is based on scientific research, usually provides a return on investment.

Excellent and endless lists of educational opportunities are now much closer and available to the individual today via telecommunications in the home/local library/school. Some courses, seminars, and information is still available via the traditional method of hard paper copies available by snail mail or picked up at your local Extension office and library, or consist of the traditional face to face, warm blooded living body presentation in front of you format, but many are also available in electronic format. Many courses of study might offer a hybrid of sorts, where you may get direct contact in a lecture/hands on lab, while also offering portions of the training via web casts, webinars, emails,

videos, PowerPoints, etc.

I encourage you to make an active and discerning decision on what continuing education may be needed for the human capital working in the farm business. If a two hour night meeting fulfills your business goals, I would encourage you to attend, but I would also encourage you to look at and invest time and money into other potential continuing educational opportunities. It might mean sending yourself or an employee to a week-long, multi week, or semester course(s). It also might mean scheduling time on a daily basis for an online course. On the other side of the spectrum it might also mean finding a new employee with skills that match your farm's needs.

Education of employees is also a major part in managing risk for the farm business. So as you also do risk management assessment and planning for the new year, consider the skills and knowledge of the people involved with the business, and how training provided might lower disaster probabilities.

The economic success engine of many businesses, including the farm sector, along with our country as a whole, has always benefited from a talented and trained workforce. As you plan, does the human capital component on your "success engine" need a tune-up, overhaul, or is it running smoothly. In the coming months, U of M Extension is providing opportunities for agricultural producers for those hoping to improve the human capital side of the business. I encourage you to attend one or more of the educational opportunities that may exist this winter.

Good luck on your New Year's resolution!

2017 Educational
opportunities provided
by U of M Extension and
partners – partial list.

Irrigators – Get Nitrogen Smart - January 4, 1:00 PM, Central Lakes College, Staples Research Update for Ag Professionals – January 3-12th. Locally in NW MN it will be held at the NWROC in Crookston on January 12th, 12:30 pm

Small Grain Update Meetings – Wheat, Soybeans, Corn - January 16-20th – three meeting sites most closest to Polk/Clearwater Counties are Crookston (Amer. Legion 8:30 am) and Gary (Amer. Legion 9:00am) on Wed. January 18th and Red Lake Falls (City Hall 8:30am) on Fri. January 20th. Best of the Best in Wheat and Soybean Research – Jan. 31st – Feb. 1st, Moorhead and Grand forks

NW Farm Managers Assoc. Annual Meeting – Feb. 1st, Fargo

Sugarbeet Growers Seminar – Feb. 7th -14th, 4 locations

Int'l Crops Expo – Feb. 22nd – 23rd, Grand forks

Private Pesticide Applicator Training – Examination tests and packets available in most local offices and online. Trainings TBA at select northern MN locations late January / Feb.

Tour de Forage Winter Meetings – Jan. 31 – Feb. 2nd, Rochester, Royalton, and Floodwood

MN Organic Conference – Jan. 12-13th, St. Cloud

Midwest Fruit and Vegetable Growers Annual Conference – Jan. 19 – 20th, St. Cloud

Sustainable Farmers Assoc. An. Meeting - Feb. 11th, St. Joseph, MN

NDSU Advanced Crop Advisors Workshop – Feb. 28th – Mar. 1st, Fargo

Tile Drainage Workshop – March 2nd and 3rd, Grand Forks

Beef Cow/Calf Days – Northern Tour Feb. 7th – Feb. 10th. Locally in Bagley, Amer. Legion, February 7th, 5:30 pm.

Beef Home Study Courses – "Introduction to Cattle Feeding", "Health Management for the Cow/Calf Herd", and "Introduction to Cow/Calf Nutrition". Register online by Jan. 17th at U of M Beef web site.

ND Bull-buying Workshops – Jan. 20th and Feb. 3rd, Dickinson Research Extension Center

NDSU Feedlot School – Jan. 18 and 19, Carrington Research Extension Center

SD Cattle Handling, Facility Evaluation Workshop, SD Ag Experiment Station, Beresford

U of M Dairy Days – March 7th, Community Center McIntosh

Local Foods College – Online Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:30 pm from January 17th – March 7th. Register at localfoods.umn.edu

Farmers Market Gathering – March 8th, 9:00 – 3:00 at the UMC Bede Ballroom in Crookston

One Vegetable One Community Workshop – January 26th, Thief River Falls, time and location to be announced

RRV Emerging Leadership Class – Nov. – Mar. – Counties select candidates for future classes

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Oklee Herald Early Files

Seventy Years Ago
January 2, 1946
Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin Johnson and Darlene of Bemidji spent Christmas here with relatives and friends.
A.T.Nelson was hospitalized for a couple of days last week. He suffered two fracture ribs on Christmas Eve when the car he was driving collided with another car which was pulling a car from the ditch north of town.

Miss Leona K. Larson of Oklee and Martin R. Sletto of Gonvick were married at Salem Church on Wednesday, December 25th.

Sixty Years Ago
December 27, 1956
A decision on whether or not to sell the club rooms is slated for consideration at the January meeting of the Frank Lund Post of the American Legion.

The Hollyhocks Homemakers Club held their Christmas party Monday evening at the Lloyd Mercil home.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Johnson and Terry of Minneapolis arrived Friday evening and are visiting until Christmas Day at the Home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Gerardy.

Fifty Years Ago
December 29, 1966
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cote and children and Mrs. Hazel Rystad and Elaine of Oklee were Christmas Eve guests at the John Reinbold home.



Nataltie Hendrickson played for the audience at the Zion SS program.

The Brooks Cheese Factory employees and their partners enjoyed their annual Christmas party Wednesday evening.
Pvt. David Austad of Fort Hood, Texas, arrived home on furlough December 18th to spend the holiday season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grunde Austad.
Kory Chervestad and Carol Sorenson visited at the Elmer Hanson home in Oklee on Sunday afternoon.
Forty Years Ago
December 30, 1976
Coya Knutson hopes to return to Congress and is already making stops in the seventh district to see what her chances are and if she should seek the Democratic endorsement.
The Trapper n' Trader is a new lounge and supper club located at Goodridge and will have a grand opening in January.
Mr. and Mrs. James DuChamp and Chris, Emil Dostal and Mrs. Agnes DuChamp were Christmas Day guests at the Jesse DuChamp home.
Thirty Years Ago
December 31, 1986
Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Dulka and family of California is spending a few days at his parent's home, the Jim Dulka's. Ricky will be leaving for Germany with the Armed Forces for several years.
So far the wrestling season looks good as the Mustangs



Landon Klasen also played a number for the Zion SS Program.

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

The Christmas of 2016 was a mixed bag. We were warned early that a big storm was imminent, and travelers were warned to stay off the roads if they needed to go any long distance. North Dakota and Northwest Minnesota were the bullseye for the storm. Well it started with rain, and that froze to the pavement, then snow and rain capped that off. But the 12 to 20 inches of snow have not come yet as of this writing on Monday morning. More of the storm next week.
The plans for families were changed often. Our family decided that Phillip's birthday on New Years Eve would probably suffice also as Christmas. Some families had already celebrated the holiday earlier, so they just enjoyed the day at home, or doing some fun thing like skiing, fishing or snowmobiling. The weather sometimes causes us to be creative.
Tyler and Laura Norland

are the proud parents of a baby girl born Dec 20th. She was 7 pounds 14 ounces. Her name is Harper Mary. Her grandma is Mary Jo Anderson formerly Mary Jo Gagner. Her grand Aunt is Sandra Gagner. Congratulations to the Norlands.
Clarence and Diane Gagner hosted Christmas Eve and Christmas day for their family. Visiting and staying overnight were Tim and Brenda Gagner of Fergus Falls, Stephanie and Craig Koralewski of Maple Plain, Tyler and Lynn Gagner, and their children Kallyn and Nolan of Battle Lake. On Christmas Eve there were other guests who returned home on Saturday evening. They were Arleen Berry of East Grand Forks, Dave and Melissa Berry and their children Peyton Sad and Devon Berry and Jason Berry. Mark and Gen Berry and children Caleb and Jordan of Grand Forks, Nikki Aaker and Delaney and Seth Aaker of

East Grand Forks. On Sunday the guests left early for their homes before the storm started, for safer travel.
Rebecca Novak of Mankato came to visit the Jerome and Barb Novak home. She traveled to Brooks on Friday and plans a trip back to Mankato on Tuesday and a return on Thursday so that the family will be able to be together to celebrate Christmas together later in the week. Plans were changed for the celebration due to the weather.
Pam Paradis hosted Christmas Eve at her home. Among the guests were Lonnie Paradis and Olivia, Dellas Paradis, Carol and Leland Saga, Kallie Saga and Jacob Krebs, Ryan and Kelsey and their children Isabella and Kingston, Chelsey and Dane Kjono and their children Annika and Carter, Ethan and Kali Paradis Valerie Walker , and Kallie, Dennis Murphy, Joyce Rock, Pam and Mitch Scherschlit and her mother, Eva Bergstrom. Todd Shatzer and Mike Lombardo, and Tom

Senior Site News and Other Things

By Volunteer Iona Berry

This morning is a lot quieter after the Christmas celebration. I looked out to see if it had snowed more, but it seems to have taken a rest for now. The television seems to think it will get windy later on. The rain last night was uncalled for as it made the streets and roads icy.
I had a wonderful Christmas as I hope everyone else did too. I don't plan on driving on ice to go for all the specials advertised for today in the larger towns. It might be a good time to get buys, but the time another Christmas season comes along, you forget who you purchased a gift for and where did I place it for safe keeping.
I was very sad to hear Luaine Hanson had passed away. Last summer he had made a wooden basket which I have and will always remember him by. He is a person who always had a smile on his face. His family will be lost without him. He had been caring for his parents as they have had

health problems for quite awhile. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family.
Today (Monday) is my day to volunteer at the Senior Site. I called the Cafe to see if they would be open, but had no answer, so I probably won't try to make it down. I'm sure if it remains icy no one will be moving about.
New Years is just around the corner so hope everyone traveling will take care on the highway.

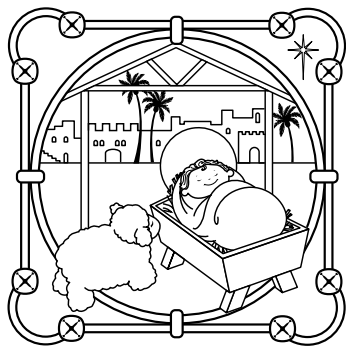
Dates to Remember
Jan. 3: 5:00 p.m. Evening Meal.
Jan. 17: 5:00 p.m. Potluck meal
Jan. 19: 10:00 a.m. Site Council meeting.
Jan. 20: 11:30 a.m. Birthday Meal.

Words of Wisdom
There's always another option.
Be proud of your days and you'll be content with your

years.

Joke Time
One of the unmarried girls who works in a busy office arrived early one morning and began passing-out cigars and candy, both tied with blue ribbons. When asked what the occasion was, she proudly displayed a diamond solitaire on her third finger, left hand, and announced, "It's a boy.... six feet tall and 187 pounds."

Happy New Year!!



Plummer News
By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

Brent Hemly returned Monday, after visiting his mother, Agnes Hemly, in Washington.
Mike Fossum spent a few days at Christmas with his brother, Mike Fossum, at Chippewa Falls, WI.
Tuesday was the last day the Challenger 1st graders came to the museum. Jim Schiefert's grandson was one of the 1st grade kids who came, so he came and helped in the harness shop. The kids were lively, but behaved well. Mrs. Elizabeth Quick was one of the teachers. She played "Jingle Bells" on the Chickering piano and the kids sang along. Also, Sarah Quick, daughter of Roy and Elizabeth, played the violin. It was a beautiful number called, "Toss the Feathers." After touring, the kids made butter and later put it on soda crackers, had juice and sugar cookies.

After they left, the volunteers enjoyed homemade chicken vegetable dumpling soup, rolls and lattice-topped apple pie. It was delicious. Connie Bishop did the cooking.
On Wednesday, the 21st, Renae Fallon, Jeanine Pahlen, Wilma Arlt, Connie Hughes, Alice Jobe, Bunny DuChamp, Jean Carpenter, Anna DeHate and Karen Tvedt enjoyed dinner at the Cozy in Brooks. Hot beef sandwiches and BBQ riblet dinner were the specials. It was a fun time before Christmas and fair weather.
Where did December go? We all thought we had plenty of time for everything. I'm thankful I started early with cards.
Wednesday it was thawing. I had 40 degrees for a short time.
Plummer looks so pretty at night before Christmas with all the colored lights. Some of the neighbors really decorated nicely.
More snowmobilers out and I suppose ice fishing in some places. However, with the warmer days, it's rather

dangerous to drive till January, I think.
Hope you had a happy and blessed Christmas with family!



Masen Pahlen as the "Snowman" during RLCC's holiday program for kindergarteners through third graders.

HAPPY NEW YEAR
Due to the New Years holiday,
The Oklee Herald
Oklee
will be **CLOSED**
Monday,
January 2.
AD DEADLINE will extend to Tuesday before noon on January 3rd.

Bartley.
It seems that the flu and colds are going around the area now. Keep safe and if you are sick stay home and don't spread it to someone else. The old adage that one should rest if you have a cold or flu, still holds. That way someone else won't get it. Stay as healthy as possible.
The person of the week is Father Bob Schriener. His homily and the song he sang was so sweet in honor of our Christ Child, our new born king who saved us and the world from the darkness of sin. The song was so poignant that I cried. Thank you for all you do for us at St. Joseph's and Merry Christmas.

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 Olson, Oklee, 218-796-5656.
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Wednesday, December 28, 2016

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

Farm Income Tax Planning

Agricultural producers should do tax planning before the end of the year based on the information known at this time. This planning will usually help limit your tax liability.
However with the downturn in the agricultural economy, limiting tax liability may not be an issue, but tax planning is still an important factor. Some growers have generated a net operating loss (NOL) which can possibly help qualify a farmer to carry a loss back five years for a refund. A grower may elect to carry the loss back only two years or elect to carry the loss up to twenty years. However; one important note is that self-employment tax is not refundable.
Ron Haugen, NDSU Extension Farm Economist says "you should not forget any income that was deferred to 2016 from a previous year. Depreciation also needs to be estimated and it is also best spread out your income and expenses so they will not be abnormally high or low in any one year. However,

caution should be used in deferring too much income into future years because it may push you into a higher tax bracket.
The Following Items Need To Be Considered For 2016 Tax Returns
• Congress has made the \$500,000 section 179 expense election permanent. The section 179 expense generally allows producers to deduct up to \$500,000 on new or used equipment or equipment purchased in the tax year. There is a dollar for dollar phase out for purchases above \$2,010,000.
• The additional 50% first year bonus depreciation is in effect. It is available for new property with a recovery period of 20 years or less. It is equal to 50% of the adjusted basis after any section 179 expensing. This provision is scheduled to be phase out by 2019.
• Income averaging can be used by growers to spread the tax liability to lower income tax brackets in the three previous years. This is done on schedule J.

• Crop insurance proceeds and government crop disaster payments can be deferred to the next tax year if a grower is a cash tax payer and can show that normally income from damaged crops would be included in a tax year following the year of the damage.
• A livestock income deferral is available for those who had a forced sale of livestock because of a weather related disaster.
Here is what growers can do before the end of the year to limit their tax liability:
• Prepay farm expenses. Feed, fertilizer, seed and similar expenses can also be prepaid. Typically, discounts are received by paying for these expenses in the fall. Growers can deduct prepaid expenses that do not exceed 50% of their other deductible farm expenses.
• Pay real estate taxes or interest. Paying taxes or interest can be done before the end of the year to increase 2016 expenses.
• Defer income to 2017. Crop and livestock sales can be transferred until the next year by using a deferred payment contract. Most grain elevators

or sales barns will defer sales until the next tax year. Growers should be aware that they are at risk if the business becomes insolvent before the check is received and cashed.
• Purchase machinery or equipment. Machinery or equipment purchases can be made before the end of the year to get a depreciation or 179 expense deduction for in 2016.
• Contribute to a retirement plan such as a simplified employee pension plan, savings incentive match for employees, individual retirement account or solo 401 K.
More information on agricultural topics can be found in the Farmers Tax Guide, Publication 225. It can be obtained at any IRS office or can be ordered by calling 800.829.3676. Any questions about these topics should be addressed to your tax professional or the IRS at 800.829.1040 or http://www.irs.gov. You can also contact Ron Haugen, N D S U Extension Farm Economist by e mail at ronald.haugen@ndsu.edu or call him at 701.231.8103.
Source: Ron Haugen, N D S U Extension Farm Economist.



RLCC Elementary students with speaking parts in “A Bear-y Merry Holiday: were Anne Dolan, Carter Hanson, Kendra Morinville, Hailey Hanson, Dylan Wichterman, Brady Lowell (holding the mic) and Teddy Bear-Ellie Nelson.

This Week in American History

In 1913, Minnesota saw its first public Christmas tree displayed. It was lit Christmas Day in Gateway Park, Minneapolis. Today there are thousands of public Christmas trees displayed all over the state and the country. From: (http://collinpetersen.house.gov/rep-petersens-newsletter-10222016)



Red Lake County Financial Statement

— RED LAKE FALLS, MINNESOTA —

SUMMARY OF RED LAKE COUNTY’S STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

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	\$ 1,090,345	\$ 208,191	\$ 47,641	\$ -	\$ (834,513)
Public safety.....	1,293,210	88,897	163,449	-	(1,040,864)
Highways and streets.....	1,527,522	195,892	1,216,945	1,603,332	1,488,647
Sanitation	98,341	17,147	119,630	-	38,436
Human services	1,481,716	512,892	658,201	-	(310,623)
Health.....	60,388	-	-	-	(60,388)
Culture and recreation	93,832	-	49,461	-	(44,371)
Conservation of natural resources.....	464,025	102,108	62,691	14,801	(284,425)
Economic development.....	800	72	-	-	(728)
Interest	12,925	-	-	-	(12,925)
Total governmental activities	\$ 6,123,104	\$ 1,125,199	\$ 2,318,018	\$ 1,618,133	\$ (1,061,754)
General revenues					
Property taxes.....					\$ 2,362,518
Gravel tax.....					4,183
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs					447,657
Payments in lieu of taxes.....					10,052
Investment earnings.....					100,141
Total general revenues.....					\$ 2,924,551
Change in net position					\$ 1,862,797
Net position - January 1, as previously reported.....					\$ 47,811,769
Prior period adjustment					(2,120,537)
Net position - January 1, as restated					\$ 45,691,232
Net position - December 31.....					\$ 47,554,029

A SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS December 31, 2015

	General Fund	Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund	Social Services Special Revenue Fund	Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds (Statement 1)	Total Governmental Funds
Assets and Deferred Outflows					
Assets					
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 2,666,961	\$ 707,333	\$ 1,279,682	\$ 609,102	\$ 5,263,078
Cash with fiscal agent	66,718	-	-	-	66,718
Investments	84,574	716,411	-	-	800,985
Taxes receivable - prior	30,981	9,868	7,328	-	48,177
Special assessments receivable - prior ..	51	-	-	1,593	1,644
Accounts receivable	1,122	3,484	740	-	5,346
Accrued interest receivable	6,853	3,379	-	-	10,232
Due from other funds	2,143	-	-	-	2,143
Due from other governments	42,061	3,522,676	139,268	15,686	3,719,691
Loans receivable	635	-	-	-	635
Inventories	-	240,063	-	-	240,063
Special assessments - noncurrent	47,192	-	-	-	47,192
Total Assets	\$2,949,291	\$ 5,203,214	\$ 1,427,018	\$ 626,381	\$ 10,205,904
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Fund Balances					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable	\$ 2,703	\$ 12,691	\$ 27,813	\$ 440	\$ 43,647
Salaries payable	45,011	21,631	23,063	-	89,705
Due to other funds	-	-	-	2,143	2,143
Due to other governments	825	1,803	25,308	22,008	49,944
Contracts payable	-	182,377	-	-	182,377
Total Liabilities	\$ 48,539	\$ 218,502	\$ 76,184	\$ 24,591	\$ 367,816
Deferred Inflows of Resources					
Taxes	\$ 25,188	\$ 8,023	\$ 5,958	\$ -	\$ 39,169
Special assessments	47,243	-	-	-	47,243
Loans	635	-	-	1,593	2,228
County State Aid Highway Allotment	-	3,845,497	-	-	3,845,497
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 73,066	\$ 3,853,520	\$ 5,958	\$ 1,593	\$ 3,934,137
Fund Balances					
Non-spendable	\$ -	\$ 240,063	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 240,063
Restricted	264,591	-	-	600,197	864,788
Committed	2,563,095	891,129	100,000	-	3,554,224
Assigned	-	-	1,244,876	-	1,244,876
Total Fund Balances	\$2,827,686	\$ 1,131,192	\$ 1,344,876	\$ 600,197	\$ 5,903,951
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Fund Balances	\$2,949,291	\$ 5,203,214	\$ 1,427,018	\$ 626,381	\$ 10,205,904

RED LAKE COUNTY • RED LAKE FALLS, MN ORGANIZATIONAL SCHEDULE DECEMBER 31, 2015

Office	Name	Term Expires
Commissioners		
1 st District	David K. Sorensen	January 2019
2 nd District	Ron Weiss, Chair	January 2017
3 rd District	John B. Lerohl	January 2019
4 th District	Anthony Flage	January 2019
5 th District	Charles Simpson	January 2017
Officers:		
Elected:		
Attorney	Michael Lacoursiere	January 2019
Auditor	Robert Schmitz	January 2019
Recorder	Joyce Paquin	January 2019
Sheriff	Mitch Bernstein	January 2019
Treasurer	Nick Knott	January 2019
Appointed:		
Assessor	Nancy Amberson	December 2016
Medical Examiner	Dr. Mary Ann Sens	June 2018
Highway Engineer	Courtney Kleven	May 2018
Veterans Service Officer	Kurtis Ellefson	December 2019
Environmental Services Director	Kurt Casavan	Indefinite
Social Services Board		
Chair	David K. Sorensen	January 2019
Vice Chair	Charles Simpson	January 2017
Secretary	Ron Weiss	January 2017
Member	Gayle Flateland	July 2017
Member	Patricia Purath	July 2016
Member	John B. Lerohl	January 2019
Member	Anthony Flage	January 2019
Director	Kristi Nelson	Indefinite

The following is a list of recipients of Red Lake County expenditures totaling \$5,000.00 or more during 2015. The list does not include salaries to county employees nor does it include individuals who receive federal, state, or county human services.

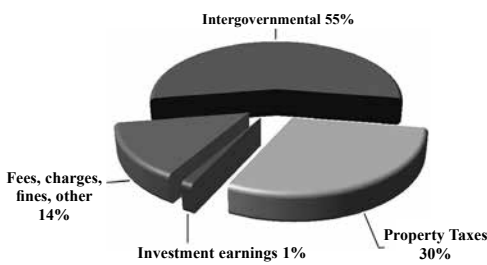
VENDOR	AMOUNT
AAA Striping Service Co.....	22,621.66
Aflac (American Fam Life Assurance Co).....	17,969.37
Association Of Mn Counties...	5,837.00
AT&T Mobility	9,370.23
Auto Value Parts Store	7,941.47
Berts Truck Equipment	5,156.41
Bobcat Of Grand Forks	5,320.00
Brummund Excavating LLC...	5,581.00
Cardmember Service.....	23,991.49
Central Pension Fund.....	25,074.50
CITY OF CROOKSTON.....	5,000.00
Clay County IT Department...	9,500.00
Clerk City Of Brooks.....	31,637.06
Clerk City Of Oklee.....	195,474.29
Clerk City Of Plummer	153,049.94
Clerk City Of Red Lake Falls..	780,268.71
Comm Of Finance, Treas Div.	1,046,593.31
Computer Information Systems Inc.....	16,800.00
Computer Professionals	96,537.44
Unlimited Inc	30,367.44
Dacotah Paper Company	5,546.24
DHS Swift.....	111,979.68
Election Systems & Software Inc	5,887.50
Ellefson/Kurt Ryan.....	6,618.60

Evergreen Implement Company	12,689.54
Friends Of The Library	5,500.00
Galls LLC.....	6,491.09
Garden Valley Telephone	38,662.81
Geo-Comm Corporation	5,150.00
H & L Mesabi	6,076.16
Hoffman, Philipp, & Knutson, PLLC.....	29,500.00
Independent Emergency Services Lic	7,133.91
Insight Technologies	75,778.68
Inter County Nursing	22,468.20
Internal Revenue Service	528,054.08
IUOE Local No.49 Health & Welfare Fund.....	135,152.00
Knife River Materials Inc	934,780.07
Les's Sanitation	39,500.00
Madison National Life Ins Co., Inc.....	6,475.99
Midstates Equipment & Supply	86,700.00
Minn-Dak Asphalt	86,700.00
Minnesota Counties Computer Coop	9,945.77
Minnesota Counties Inter-government Trust.....	119,131.00
Minnesota Life.....	6,580.47
Minnesota Unemployment Insurance	22,867.64
Mn Commissioner Of Revenue ..	96,537.44
Mn Department Of Revenue ..	63,205.27
Nationwide Retire Solutions	39,077.20
New Vision Truck Accessories ..	5,988.68
Next Chapter Technology, Inc. ..	9,872.05
North Country Business Products.....	12,310.27

North Homes, Inc.	36,763.70
Northwest Regional Development Commissio	10,614.57
Northwest Regional Library ...	26,732.00
Northwest Service Cooperative	273,667.50
NW Mental Health Center	25,648.37
NW Mn Household Hazardous Waste Mng.....	5,414.60
NW Mn HRA.....	25,947.08
O'day Equipment Inc.....	30,945.37
Office Of Enterprise Technology	10,800.00
Oklee Moonlighters	11,177.63
Oklee Volunteer Ambulance ...	14,000.00
Ottertail Power Company	32,546.43
Pathfinders	39,782.37
Pitney Bowes Inc.....	9,000.00
Plummer Co-op Creamery.....	27,878.11
Polk County Highway Department.....	27,956.67
Postmaster	5,766.00
Powerplan.....	11,691.18
Public Employees Retirement Association.....	403,115.39
Quill	8,825.93
RDO Equipment Co.....	169,981.21
Red Lake Co Soil & Water Conservy Dist	96,421.00
Red Lake County Auditor	63,854.25
Red Lake County Child Init/ Family Collab.....	19,941.00
Red Lake County Committee On Aging.....	8,360.00
Red Lake County Co-op.....	93,954.43
Red Lake County Fair Board..	10,000.00
Red Lake County Insurance Fund.....	518,204.50
Red Lake County Park Board ..	8,114.21
Red Lake County Social Welfare Fund	6,697.00
Red Lake County Treasurer ...	14,594.64
Red Lake Electric	38,735.50
Red Lake Falls Ambulance.....	37,578.78
Red Lake Falls Utilities Dept...	6,097.69
Red Lake Watershed District...	209,095.25
Revenue	927,912.88
Richards Publishing.....	5,566.71
Road & Bridge	378,060.88
Roger's Two Way Radio Inc...	12,604.00
Rural Transportation Collaborative.....	9,211.77
Safety Compliance Services...	5,200.00
Sanford Medical Center.....	7,130.67

Sather Law Office.....	5,263.42
Sauder Worship Seating.....	5,235.97
Select Account.....	62,067.50
Select Account FSA.....	10,852.11
Select Account-Veba	18,561.00
Social Services	421,887.50
Streicher's	9,747.34
TD Ameritrade Trust Company	6,687.00
Thibert Chev-Buick	47,450.91
Thygeson Construction.....	90,834.28
Town & Country Builders	99,744.00
Treasurer Brown's Creek Township	18,686.63
Treasurer Emardville Township	68,959.04
Treasurer Equality Township..	52,074.35
Treasurer Games Township...	64,525.73
Treasurer Gervais Township...	57,273.69
Treasurer Lake Pleasant Township	38,222.56
Treasurer Lambert Township..	34,574.12
Treasurer Louisville Township	39,694.22
Treasurer Poplar River Township	39,651.43
Treasurer Red Lake Falls Township	40,216.72
Treasurer River Township.....	9,961.29
Treasurer School District #2906	903,154.83
Treasurer School District 280936,144.59	
Treasurer School District 564 ..	19,425.81
Treasurer School District 630 ..	785,371.53
Treasurer Terrebonne Township	65,271.69
Treasurer Wylie Township	16,174.02
Tri County Community Corrections	224,055.00
Triangle Tire Sales	7,452.05
Triple D Construction & Leasing Co.....	37,717.50
Truonorth Steel.....	18,570.69
Tyler Technologies, Inc.....	5,950.84
United Healthcare Insurance Company	13,695.12
University Of Minnesota (Exten Serv).....	71,504.96
University Of North Dakota....	8,142.00
Valley Truck	9,879.84
Vatthauer Farm Supply.....	11,886.10
Xerox business Systems, LLC	5,368.95
446 Vendors	
Less Than \$5,000	387,000.81
131 Vendors – Cutoff Total..	12,063,624.67
582 Vendors – Final Total...	12,450,625.48

Where it comes from . . .



Where it goes . . .

