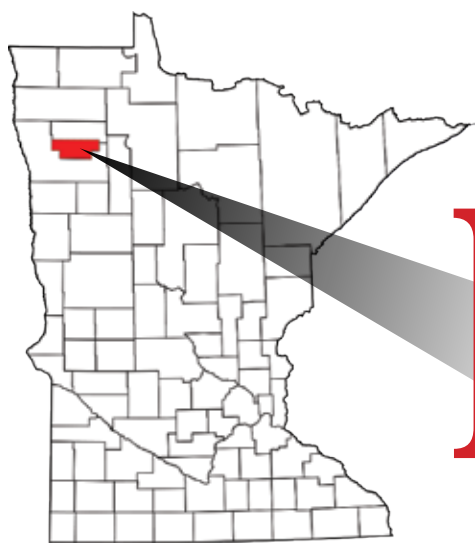




Red Lake County



HERALD

Serving Oklee - Plummer - Brooks - Red Lake Falls

Vol. 113, Number 29

www.TriCoCanary.com

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

The Blizzard Bonanza was a huge success once again!



Jamie Peterson and Ron Hamm were at the door with one of the gun prizes.



Auctioneer Jennifer Vogel auctioned a few items for the fireman.



Sheryl Fore decides where to spend her tickets among the many prizes.

By Eric Mickelson

The 2025 Oklee Volunteer Fireman's Blizzard Bonanza and Fish Dinner was held at the Oklee Community Hall, February 22, 2025.

Once again the entertainment of Tim Eggebraaten was a hit. Tim has entertained audiences for over two decades through his musical talent, adding his unique humorous improv style and creating an experience like no other.

As in the past the event featured many donated items that you could buy a chance on (including 4 dozen eggs!). Other items were featured in a live auction with auctioneer Jennifer Vogel. Meat raffles were another big part of the night and of course a great fish dinner was served.

Beyond the donations many local residents donated their time. Some of the youth from the community were there helping clear tables and any other jobs that were needed to do. The fireman's wives and other volunteers served and sold raffles. Like they say, "It takes a village..." and the village of Oklee led by the local volunteer fireman pulled it off again with a great fundraiser and fun night out for those able to attend. A big thanks to all who were involved!



As usual a nice crowd was on hand for the Fireman's Blizzard Bonanza.



Entertainment featuring Tim Eggebraaten!



Sarah Lee and Tracy Cote among others served a great meal!

Knights of Columbus free-throw champions



These are the winners at the district Knights of Columbus free-throw championship on Sunday, February 23. Winners from Red Lake County include Aaliyah Bramer, 3rd from left, Isabelle Paradis, 4th from left, Kingston Paradis, 5th from left, and Evann Philion, 6th from left.

RLCC and RLC student advance in Knights of Columbus FT Contest:

The Knights of Columbus held the district free throw contest in Red Lake Falls today.

Here are the kids from Red Lake County who placed at the District Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championships for District 9 which includes northwest Minnesota.

First place winners will advance to the Regional Free

Throw Contest in East Grand Forks on Sunday March 2nd. Winners at the Regional will advance to State in Osseo on March 29th.



Winners advancing to the Regional:

Age 13 girls: Aaliyah Bramer from Trail
Age 14 girls: Isabelle Paradis from Brooks
Age 10 boys: Kingston Paradis from Brooks
Age 12 boys: Jack Stephens from RLF
Age 13 boys: Evann Philion from RLF

Others who placed at the District level:

Age 9 girls: Gracie Gullingsrud, RLF, 2nd place
Age 10 girls: Addison Remick, RLF, 2nd place
Age 9 boys: Evan Pahlen, Plummer, 3rd place
Age 11 boys: Liam Adelman, RLF, 2nd
Age 14 boys: Alex Bramer, Trail, tie for 2nd



Congratulations to the RLCC/RLC 1st place winners, Aaliyah Bramer, Isabelle Paradis, Kingston Paradis, Evann Philion. They will be moving on to the Regional free throw contest in March.



The 6th grade girls took home another 1st place at the WEM tournament.



The 5th grade Rebel Boys took first place in WEM tournament on February 22nd.

Wednesday, February 26, 2025



MUSTANG STAMPEDE

RLCC Menus

March 3 - 7

Oklee

Monday: Breakfast: Ham & Cheese Croissant, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Corn Dog, Mac & Cheese, Vegetable, and Milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: French Toast w/Syrup, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Totches, Refried Beans, Spanish Rice, Fruit, and Milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Bagel w/Cream Cheese, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Pollock, Mashed Potatoes w/ Butter, Vegetable, Fruit, and Milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** French Dip or Chicken Philly, Vegetable, Fruit, and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Cheesy Bread w/Dipping Sauce, Lettuce Salad, Fresh Veggies, Fruit, and Milk.

Plummer

Monday: Breakfast: Yogurt, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Crispy Chicken Wrap, Toppings, Veggie Bowl, Fruit, and Milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Pancakes, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Hotdog w/Bun, Sun Chips, Baked Beans, Fresh Vegetables, Fruit, and Milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Pop Tart, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Cheesy Bread, Marinara Sauce, Salad with Veggies, Fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Pizza Hotdish, Bread Stick, Corn, Baby Carrots, Fruit and Milk.

Friday: Breakfast: Mini read Loaf, Boiled Egg, Cereal, Fruit, Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Tomato Soup, Cracker, Cheese Sandwich, Green Beans, Fruit, and Milk.

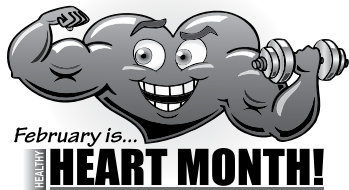
Looking for ways to spend your free time?

SKATING RINK OPEN
Saturday & Sunday from 10-8:00pm and weekday afternoons from 4-8:00pm (closed if there is a home game at the high school)

OPEN GYM in Oklee on Saturdays from 1-3:00 pm, children 6th grade and under must have adult supervision. Contact Kurt with questions at 612-247-0812

Speech Schedule

Saturday, March 1: Speech meet in Walker.



Red Lake County Herald Office Hours

Bonny is in the office on Mondays from 10 am until 4 pm. Deadlines for items in the paper is on Fridays by Noon. Bonny is in the office some Fridays, but please call to check before coming in. If you need to get a hold of Bonny when she is not in the office, please call 612-840-9401 or email her at: okleeherald@gmail.com.

Eric Mickelson is the reporter for the RLC Herald. If you have a story or idea to share, call Eric @ 218-791-9157. You can also email Eric at okleeherald@gmail.com.

RLCC Sports Schedules

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

Boys Basketball Schedule

Fri, Feb 28:

Boys C 5:00PM

JV Game 6:00PM

Varsity 7:30PM

RLC Basketball vs.
Cass Lake-Bena @ Cass
Lake-Bena High School

Boys Basketball Parents Night held at Red Lake Falls High School



Managers: Harmonee Buckholz, daughter of Amy Buckholz; Taylor Moen, daughter of Jason and Shannon Moen; Avery Nelson, daughter of Steve and Amanda Nelson; Allegra Knott, daughter of Nicole and Matt Knott; Leah Pahlen daughter of Andy and Brittanie Pahlen; Randi Rowley, daughter of Donna Hasby and Randy Rowley; Layna Schindler, daughter of John and Staci Schindler.



Freshmen: Peyton Donaldson, son of Robert and Kit Donaldson; Dylan Lundeen, son of Chad and Mary Lundeen; Owen O'Neill, son of Pat and Jenny O'Neill; Lamare O'Quinn, son of Brittany Nephew; Bronco Bergeson, son of Skip and Angel Bergeson; Ben Gullingsrud, son of Mike and Nikki Gullingsrud; Mason Williams, son of Kristie Olson, Parker Klasen, son of Randy and Mandy Klasen; Alex Bramer, son of Andy and Ana Bramer; Myles Smith, son of Amanda Smith and Mark Smith.



Sophomores: Benji Bramer, son of Andy and Ana Bramer; Austin Lund, son of Brain and Ashley Rystad; Nathan Powers, son of Chris and Nicole Hanson; Xavier Sams, son of Darrell Sams; Thor Thompson, son of Ryan and Lisa Thompson.



Juniors: Connor Duden, son of Rodney and Jody Duden; Will Gieseke, son of Randy and Pam Gieseke; Gunnar Halverson, Dave and Ashley Halverson; Ethan Johnson, son of Catherine Johnson and JJ Johnson; Alex Renner, son of Jeff and Nyssa Renner; Nick Suchy, of Kristie Suchy, Atley Vettleson, son of Wyatt and Miranda Vettleson, Logan Vettleson, Katie Arnold and Lon Vettleson.



Seniors: Owen Chervestad, son of Aaron and Jill Chervestad; Ethan Majeres, son of Greg and Sylvia Majeres; Luke Peterson, son of Jamie and Wendy Peterson; Gavin Thomas, son of Gil Thomas & Kippy and Donny Howard.



Bemidji Speech Results

Ciara Mitzner - 5th Place Honor Finals Great Speeches

Peyton Williams - 1st Place Honor Finals Poetry

Not Pictured- Hayden Shulstad - 2nd Place Honor
Finals Discussion



In honor of Black History Month, Mrs. Bernstein's Expression of Music class learned about racial healing. They talked about ways for all of us to heal from the wounds of the past and to build mutually respectful relationships across racial and ethnic lines that honor and value each person. Discussing the hopes of creating a society where our culture, systems, and structures enable people from all identity groups to thrive.

Songs and art can help with racial healing by raising awareness, promoting empathy, and inspiring action. Along with listening and learning about some of these songs and musicians, students were asked to write a song or poem to raise awareness of the need for racial healing. Featured are

poems written by 10th grade students, Alexa Chervestad and Olivia Benson.

"The Beauty of a Black Girl"

By Alexa Chervestad

The black girl was tough on the outside not showing the warmth she had within as most people believed they were defined by the color of their skin, but when the sunlight hit her skin she started appreciating her melanin. She learned to stand tall as her hair was her crown and nobody could talk it down. The constant reminder that society wouldn't accept her for she had courage that would be a representation for her nation. The black girl was beaten and bruised, separated by class and defined by the past. You see black history will one day be a victory.

"Black and White Lines"

By Olivia Benson

Sunrise paints the cotton fields, a sky so bright and bold. But shadows stretch across the land, a story to be told

Of separate schools and separate lives, a line drawn in the sand. They say it's right, with a heavy, cruel hand.

Black and white lines etched so deep. Dividing hearts they try to keep.

A promise broken, freedoms denied. Underneath their weight, their spirits hide.

Water fountains, waiting rooms, a bus seat, back and front. The color of my skin's a cage, a painful bitter hunt.

They build up walls of law and fear, a system built to break. But hope still burns within their souls, for goodness sake.

But we the people will rise, we'll shout and sing, their voices will be strong. These lines will fade, the darkness flee, where they belong.

Black and white lines are gonna break. No more dividing FOR GOODNESS SAKE!

A promise kept, our freedoms gained. No longer will they walk in vain.

Black and white, no more the lines. We'll stand as one and we will shine!

Oklee Herald Early Files

**February 26, 1925
100 Years Ago**

Born February 19, a baby boy to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Dessellier.

Thursday evening of last week a big baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Xavier Boucher of Lambert.

**February 28, 1935
90 Years Ago**

Lloyd Netteland, a junior in the Oklee High School, won first place in oratory at the district declamation contest held in Mahanomen Monday of this week.

William Seeger arrived here from Fargo last Thursday to spend a short time at his parental home in Oklee.

Mrs. Walter Welte and Mrs. Melvin Johnson attended Ladies Aid at the home of Mrs. Albert Berget north of Oklee yesterday.

**March 1, 1945
80 Years Ago**

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hince are the happy parents of a baby girl born Wednesday, February 21, 1945.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Toulouse and daughter Janice, returned home Wednesday of last week from Hudson Bay, Sask., Canada, where they visited at the Albert Bernier home and other relatives.

**February 24, 1955
70 Years Ago**

Pvt. Ludger Tougas, son of Florian Tougas of Brooks, is now stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

Northwestern Minnesota

is digging out from under an avalanche of snow which swept through the area over the week-end leaving streets and roads blocked causing schools to be closed on Monday.

**February 28, 1965
60 Years Ago**

Minnesota does not yet require youth under 18 to complete formal drivers training before they can be licensed to drive, but the State Legislature has under consideration a bill that would place such a requirement in place.

Despite the February temperatures in the area, three men spent a night in a tent about 21 miles northeast of Fourn town "just to see what it would be like." They were Marvin Burman and Tom Eggen of Minneapolis, Randy Brekke of Oklee. The temperature that night was -38 degrees!

**February 20, 1975
50 Years Ago**

Harvey Anderson, who will replace Ardith Lerohl as manager of the Oklee Cooperative Oil Association has been getting acquainted at the station and in the community.

Todd Gustafson, sophomore wrestler for the Plummer Cardinals, took third place last week in the District 31 tournament in Crookston.

**February 21, 1985
40 Years Ago**

Senior Site members Edna Nelson and Ralph Berg were crowned Queen and King for Valentine's Day and were honored at the Valentine Dinner.

Brothers of the Brush put in a notice that quite a few had not purchased their Shaving or Beard Permits yet. They have until February 28th to buy either one or come before the Kangaroo Court on March 7th.

The Oklee City Council voted to publish the official minutes of their monthly meeting at the recent council meeting.

**March 1, 1995
30 Years Ago**

Logan O'Neill was baptized at the Zion Lutheran Church on February 26th.

Oklee experienced its fifth water break of this winter season this past week.

Erin Melby and Charity Wicks will be among the 21 winners of the Northwest District advance to the MMTA All State Piano Contest.

**February 24, 2005
20 Years Ago**

LaVern Grimm and Ina Burman were the Senior Site King and Queen at the Valentine Senior Site dinner on February 15th.

Jeremiah Willett qualified for the State Wrestling Tournament and will be wrestling at the Excel Center on Thursday. So far his record is 29-4.

**February 25, 2015
10 Years Ago**

The city of Plummer was busy with many snowmobiles. The reason the annual Plummer Snowmobile Safari was held. They had plenty of snow but the weather was on the cold side with temperatures below zero.

Senior Site News & Other Things

Bonny Cote, Treasurer - Acting Secretary

Oklee Senior Site Meeting Date

The February meeting has been set for February 27th at the Oklee Senior Site. This is short notice but it is important that all members please try to attend. The meeting is at 2:00 p.m. at the Senior Site.

SAIL Classes

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

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

Dates To Remember

Wednesday: Cards at 1:30 p.m.

Brooks - Terrebonne News

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

The cold spell left us and we have had beautiful weather the past two days. A couple of snowmobilers went past our home on Saturday. I can't, in my tiny imagination, see that that is fun snowmobiling on black dirt. They must have been having fun so I guess it is okay.

Plummer had a vintage snowmobile show on Saturday. They also had a meal and fun at a silent Auction. There were a bunch of folks there and some said it was fun to see all those old snowmobiles from the olden days in the 60's and 70's and on. They were quite primitive back then. I remember when we had a single cylinder Arctic Cat 292. Everybody could hear me coming. I wonder if that is one of the things that has made me deaf. Oh but we had fun back then with a ride and a wiener roast on the ice of the Hill River on New Years Eve. The Perreaults would call and ask us to join them. They were so much fun.

It was so wonderful to see Joyce Christenson again. We haven't seen her for several weeks. She has been helping her husband get well. He had pneumonia first, and just didn't get well very quickly. They kept doing tests on him and did and angiogram one day and as they were on their way home, the doctor called them back to Fargo. They said he

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

If you are interested in seeing who the game is played, stop by on Wednesday afternoon.

Potlucks to Start

At the last meeting, it was decided to start up the potlucks again starting Tuesday, March 11th at 5 p.m. in the new Senior Site.

To Give Away

The old Senior Craft Shop is just about empty. There are a few things left to go through

and a few things to give away.

There is a piano and to the left is a picture of some shelving that needs to go. If anyone is interested, please call Bonny at 612-840-9401.



Oklee Senior Meals on Wheels NSI Menu

March 3 - 7

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

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

Mon: Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Creamed Corn, Fruit Cup, 1% Milk.

Tue: Taco Salad, Fruit Salad, Corn Muffin, Pudding/Topping, 1% Milk.

Wed: Fish or Alternate, Baked Potato, Parslief Carrots, Ice Cream, 1% Milk.

Thu: Meat Loaf, Au Gratin Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Baked Diced Apples, 1% Milk.

Fri: Vegetable Soup, Egg Salad Sandwich, Vanilla Fruit Salad, Cookie, 1% Milk.

Plummer News

By Alice Jobe 218-465-4402

On Tuesday evening at six o'clock, the Plummer Auxiliary met. Scholarships were discussed and the amount.

There will be a poppy poster contest in May for the sixth graders. First, second and third prizes will be awarded. The next meeting will be in May.

Brodie and Brielle Traxler, of Thief River Falls, visited their grandma Anne Traxler and enjoyed supper with her.

Valentine's Day evening Anne Traxler, Anna DeHate and Alice Jobe had the buffet supper at the Legion in Thief River Falls.

We have enjoyed quite mile

temps and also are very little snow. The east coast got more than their share.

On Thursday, Anna DeHate, Anne Traxler and Alice Jobe enjoyed dinner at Carol's Cozy Bar & Grill. They had a choice of broasted pork chop or Klub (potato dumpling) dinner. Karen Tvedt and Roger Harmoning were there also. Joyce Burns and Arlene Froiland had dinner also.

A strange thing happened where my bird feeder is. A rabbit had been killed and partially eaten one day and the next day. It may have been a fox that did it.



Rhonda Rindahl

Rhonda is the 16 year old daughter of Jack and Mary Lou Rindahl. She has 4 siblings: Debbie, Lisa, Michelle, and Richard. She is sponsored by Inter County Community Council. Rhonda is active in basketball, Future Homemakers of America and is on the school Annual Staff. She is a State F.H.A. Representative. Her plans are to attend college at Bemidji State University.



Julie Murack

Julie is sophomore and daughter of Richard and Judy Murack. Julie was sponsored by the Oklee Herald. She has a brother Rich and a sister Jeanna. Julie is a member of the volleyball and basketball teams and also band, choir, and the school musical. She is also active in the Oklee Majorettes. She plans on attending college.



Joelle Enerson

Joelle was sponsored by the Oklee Farmers Coop Elevator. Joelle is the 16 year old daughter of Lowell and LaVonne Enerson. She has one brother, Kevin. Joelle has been active in volleyball, basketball, and the school choir, as well as being a 4-H member. Her future plans are to become a barber.



Irene (Sue) Olson

Irene is the 17 years old daughter of John O. Olson and is sponsored by Peter's Fairway. She has two sisters, Brenda and Ci Ci. and two brothers, Tom and Johnny. She is active in volleyball, choir, band, the one act play as well as the school musical. Irene is also part of the annual staff and photo club. Her future plans are to attend a 4 year school in the area of education or computer.



Lynn Hammer

Lynn is the daughter of Marlin and Anne Hammer and was sponsored by the Oklee Lumber Yard. She has two sisters, Jeanine and Shelly, and one brother Chad. 16 year old Lynn is in the school choir and all school musicals. She also plays piano and is a cheerleader as well as a 4-H member. Her future plans are to attend college.

KURTIS ELLEFSON
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VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

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1-888-LINKVET

Email: kellefsoncvso@hotmail.com

049-48C

Who's Dat?



Who's Dat?

This week's photo of a couple. The gal is from the area.

The photo of the last week was of Howard Person, Co. Extension Educator with the couple being honored, John and Diana Stich, and Vice Pres. Institute of Ag. C. Eugene Allen.

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

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

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

If you mail a photo to the Oklee Herald office, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope so the photos can be returned. Mail them to: Red Lake County Herald, PO Box 9, Oklee MN 56742. Or stop by the office and I will scan your photo(s) while you wait.



Red Lake County Sheriff

www.facebook.com/RedLakeCounty/

On the afternoon of 02/15/25, the Red Lake County Sheriff's Office received a report of an occupied vehicle in the ditch along CR. #5, near 2nd Ave. in Oklee. A Red Lake County deputy responded and when they arrived an adult male exited the vehicle that was stuck in the snow. Investigation revealed the driver, Jason Lee Aakhus (51) of Red Lake Falls was intoxicated. Mr. Aakhus was arrested, taken to jail in Crookston and he was booked for felony DWI and for violating the terms of his supervised probation. He remains in custody at the time of this release.

On the afternoon of 02/27/25, Red Lake County deputies counseled and advised two individuals who were having a dispute over custody of a shared child. The issue was mediated and both parties were advised to have their custody agreement reviewed by a Judge in civil court if they were unhappy with the current arrangement. The deputies also supervised the child exchange and helped keep the peace.

On the afternoon of 02/19/25, the Dollar General Store in Red Lake Falls requested assistance with an unruly customer. A Red Lake County deputy responded, and the customer left the store without any further incident.

On the morning of 02/20/25, a Red Lake County deputy assisted a motorist who struck a deer on CR. #3 west of Red Lake Falls. The vehicle was substantially damaged and had to be towed from the scene, but the driver was not injured.

On the afternoon of 02/20/25, Miles Robert Moore (19) of Crookston was cited for speeding on Main Ave. in Red Lake Falls.

On the evening of 02/20/25, Red Lake County deputies responded to Louisville Township to look for an individual who left a residence and their fiancé was concerned about their welfare. The individual was located and returned safely to their home.

Mitch Bernstein, Red Lake County Sheriff: 02/21/25