

NOVEMBER
14
2013



LUCKEN'S
VILLAGE FOODS
is MATCHING YOUR
DONATION to the Boys & Girls Club of the
Bemidji Area dollar-for-dollar up to \$2,500!

Join us November 14th for **Give To The Max Day MN**. Go to giveMN.org and make a contribution to the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area. This is a wonderful opportunity for all Minnesotans to support a good cause. Give our kids a vote of confidence with your contribution so we can continue to improve the lives of youth in the Bemidji area.

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE BEMIDJI AREA
PO Box 191, Bemidji, MN 56619



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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE BEMIDJI AREA

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

"To inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens."

Fall 2013

1600 Minnesota Avenue NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

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www.bgcbemidji.com



Aaron Hulsebus Leads by Example

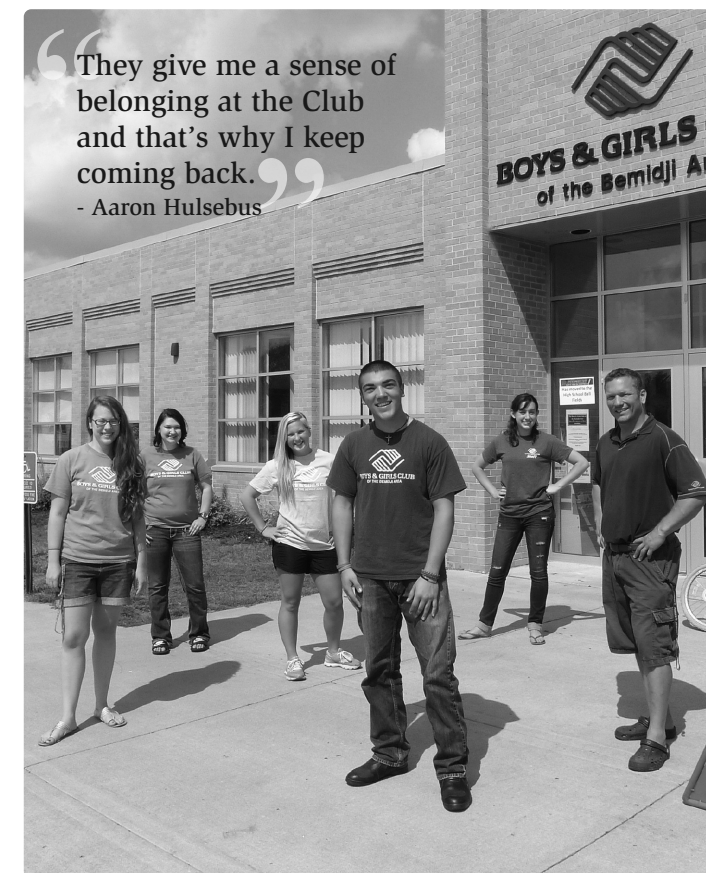
As a middle school student, Aaron Hulsebus remembers feeling rebellious. He hung with a tough crowd and admits he struggled with the aftermath of his parents' divorce and a series of successive moves from California to Utah and finally Minnesota.

In sixth grade, though, one of his friends brought him to the Boys and Girls Club in Bemidji. Aaron remembers that he liked the Club and kept coming back. He found new friends. Eventually, Club staff and supportive parents – including a new step mom – helped him realize that he could shed his rebellious feelings and just be himself.

"I got older and matured through the Club," said Aaron. "I started respecting Club staff...and they made me feel really good and even more welcome. Now, when I come here, I am a role model."

Aaron, a senior at Bemidji High School, competes in track and field and is a command sergeant general with the BHS Junior Reserves Officers Training Corps, the highest rank at the junior level. An avid motorcyclist and committed Christian, he is also a member of the Christian Motorcyclist Association through which he participates in ministry and community service. In addition, he works for Amnity Graphics and a local resort. In 2012, he was named the Club's Youth of the Year.

Through the Club, Aaron found direction and inspiration. At the Club, he did his homework and got involved in programs that taught him about personal finance, education planning and health and nutrition. He now volunteers as a Club junior staff member and particularly enjoys a new program to engage kids in sports leadership.



Aaron Hulsebus, center, stands in front of the Club with his mentors and Club staff, from left, Amber Klemish, Brandy Renaud, Shelby Weckwerth, Emily Malterud and Josh Kujava.

Aaron has also bonded with his mentor, Josh Kujava, unit director. "He has been there for the ups and downs," said Aaron. "He knows when to be funny and when to be serious. He has taught me a lot." One lesson Aaron learned is: "Be myself, not be afraid of what people think I am."

Last year, Aaron participated in the Club's tour of college campuses and plans to pursue a four-year degree in youth ministry. "I would love to work at the Club while in college," said Aaron, who wants to give other kids the kind of support and encouragement that Club staff shared with him.

Upcoming Events

Please Join Us For the
**3RD ANNUAL HOLIDAYS BY
HAND FINE ARTS AND
CRAFTS FESTIVAL**

Saturday, December 7, 9am to 4pm
at the

Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area
Free Admission and Great Gift Ideas!

For more information or to reserve a booth,
contact Michelle at
holidaysbyhand@gmail.com



**PRE-ORDER LIVE CHRISTMAS
TREES, WREATHS
AND GARLAND**
– Show Your Club Support

Contact Becky Bergquist at 218-444-4171 or
bbergquist@paulbunyan.net
Go to www.bgcbemidji.com for details!

To donate handmade items to the Club's
Holidays by Hand booth, contact
Becky Bergquist.

Save The Date



BOWLING EXTRAVAGANZA
– Fundraising Event
January 19th

ANNUAL GALA
– Fundraising Event
February 13th



Club Priority Outcomes

Graduate from high
school ready for college,
trade school, military
or employment



Be an engaged citizen
involved in the community,
register to vote and model
strong character



Adopt a healthy diet, practice
healthy lifestyle choices and
make a lifelong commitment
to fitness

Community Connections



CLUB Beautification Day

*Working Together for
Children and Families*

One idea + lots of community support = one very productive day. Wayne Chadwick, Bemidji State University head volleyball coach, had an idea. He had 38 intercollegiate athletes from throughout Minnesota in town on June 1 and wanted to do a service learning project at the Club. Of course, the Club said, “Yes!” and organized a Club Beautification Day.

A Northwest Minnesota Foundation Valspar grant contributed 75 gallons of paint and Modern Woodman provided \$500 toward painting supplies and volunteer coordination. Area businesses provided additional supplies and equipment: Knife River Materials and Pine Products Inc., \$1,000; Sherwin Williams, \$200; Ace on the Lake, \$100; and Hirschfields, \$100.

Athletes, Club staff, family and friends stepped in to help. Together they painted the gym, hallways, restrooms and front desk area; washed windows; filled garden beds with mulch; swept sidewalks; cleaned the art room; cleaned computer equipment; and built raised beds and trellises for the garden high tunnel.

Every day, Club members and staff are grateful for the community support that helps the Club inspire and enable youth to reach their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. That’s community collaboration at its best.



⤴ Ace on the Lake



⤴ Hirschfields



⤴ Modern Woodmen



⤴ Bemidji State University



⤴ Sherwin-Williams

CLUB FACILITY RENTALS!

Looking for a fun and affordable place to host your next trade show, birthday party celebration, office gathering or group outing?

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Bemidji Area has facilities available to rent including, gymnasium, multi-purpose room, commercial kitchen, games room, and more. Rental rates available at www.bgcbemidji.com.

For more information or to schedule your facility rental today, please contact resource development director, Becky Bergquist at 218-444-4171 or bbergquist@paulbunyan.net.

High Tunnel and Harvest Dinner

Club members got their hands dirty this spring and shared the fruits of their labor this fall. Kids and teens, together with Deb Dilley, nutrition educator with the University of Minnesota Extension, averaged three afternoons a week in the Club’s high tunnel garden. They planted, weeded and harvested as they learned about gardening and nutrition. They also learned to prepare healthful Club snacks and honed their entrepreneurial skills by selling produce to Lueken’s Village Foods and the Bemidji school district.

On October 10, the Club hosted the 4th annual Harvest Dinner. Eighty-three Club kids, family and community members shared a meal of fresh produce from the high tunnel garden. Club members served the dinner under the supervision of Deb and with assistance from volunteers and staff. Attendees had a chance to win a pumpkin donated by Terry Nennich.



What is a High Tunnel?



A high tunnel is an unheated, plastic-covered structure used to grow and protect plants. With the high tunnel, Club members can extend the growing season by two months for earlier planting and later harvests.



The following monetary gifts were given to the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area between July 1 and October 24, 2013 by businesses, organizations and foundations.

- \$49,999 - \$25,000**
George W. Neilson Foundation
- \$5,000 - \$9,999**
Otter Tail Power Company
United Way
- \$2,500 - \$4,999**
Bob Lowth Ford
- \$1,000 – \$2,499**
Bemidji Cooperative Association
Willow Wood Market



- \$500 - \$999**
Bobcat of Bemidji
Community Holiday Meal Fund
Land O’ Lakes Foundation
Lucachick Architecture
Kohl’s Cares-St. Cloud
Meyers Sign Source
Northwest Minnesota Foundation
- \$499 - \$250**
Beltrami Electric Cooperative
Bemidji Lions Club
Bemidji Rotary
First National Bank Bemidji
K&M of Bemidji (Dairy Queen)
Lueken’s Village Foods
North Central Door Company

- \$249 - \$150**
Pinnacle Publishing
Sparky’s Construction
- Marketing Sponsors:**
Paul Bunyan Communications
RP Broadcasting

Name Omitted? We apologize for any names that were omitted. Please contact our office and we will gladly make a correction in our next edition.

Special thanks to BareBonz Design, Amity Graphics, and Cindy Serratore for their contributions to this newsletter.

