

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

OF THE BEMIDJI AREA

PO Box 191, Bemidji, MN 56619

218-444-4171



Photography by Trish

INSIDE: Meet Alex, right. He and his friend Owen have grown into Club leaders.

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give
TO THE
MAX 

NOV. 16, 2017

Give now and your gift will be doubled.

Up to \$10,000 in gifts made through Nov. 16 will be matched thanks to Sue and Steve Engel, Kay and Larry Mack, and Valvoline Instant Oil Change as part of Minnesota's Give to the Max Day.

Just designate the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area as your charity of choice when making a Give to the Max gift. **Give anytime at bgcbemidji.org** or at the Club, 1600 Minnesota Ave. NW. Or **make a gift in person** on Nov. 16 at Lueken's South or North stores, 5-7 p.m., or at the Club, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.



Checking your list?

If charitable giving is part of your end-of-year plans, please consider a gift to the Club. We can help you explore options that benefit you, your family and a future generation of Club children. Contact Andrea Ohnstad, executive director, at 218-444-4171 or aohnstad@paulbunyan.net. Learn more at bgcbemidji.org.



PS. Don't forget to make your IRA charitable rollover gift before Dec. 31 to take advantage of the tax benefits in 2017.

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Holiday Campaign and 12 Days of Giving, Nov.-Dec. 31**
- **Bowl-A-Thon, Bemidji Bowl, Jan. 14**
- **An Evening of Love for Our Kids, annual gala, Hampton Inn & Suites, Feb. 9**

Newsletter design by:



Every kid deserves a great future.

bgcbemidji.org



BE GREAT



Fall 2017 newsletter

You help Alex gain valuable leadership skills



Thank you for giving Alex and Owen a safe and caring place to learn what it means to be good leaders and friends.

Photography by Trish

Alex, who attends the Club every day after school, leads by example so others learn how to be respectful and kind to one another.

Alex, 12, joined the Boys & Girls Club four years ago as a third grader who sometimes needed reminding not to roughhouse with his buddy Owen. But you would never guess that now.

Because of your generosity, the two seventh graders have found plenty of opportunities to grow into leaders.

Alex has earned the Club's Leader of the Week award three times by following the Club's key actions for positive leadership. At the top of the list is: Worry about YOUR actions first. Not far behind is: Be polite.

"Alex bought into everything that we teach about leadership," says Eli Muellenbach, co-assistant director of academic success. "I've really been impressed and I know he's going to succeed in life."

In football and other sports, notes Eli, Alex is not only athletic but also takes pride in helping

inexperienced players find success and feel important. Owen is right there, too, says Eli, leading with character and academic excellence.

Their strength of leadership earned the two friends a week at Laketrails Base Camp on the Canadian border, a summer program that sponsored nine Club campers this year. It was an adventure that Alex says he "will do again" despite the mosquitoes. He loved the crawfish dinner, canoeing and campfires.

Alex's mom, Dee, is grateful for the gift of opportunity that you give Alex with your Club support. Alex lost his dad five years ago and sometimes, says Dee, it can be hard with just mom and two younger sisters at home.

"I love that he can relate with other adults at the Club and that he's having so many positive experiences," she says. "I'm proud of him."