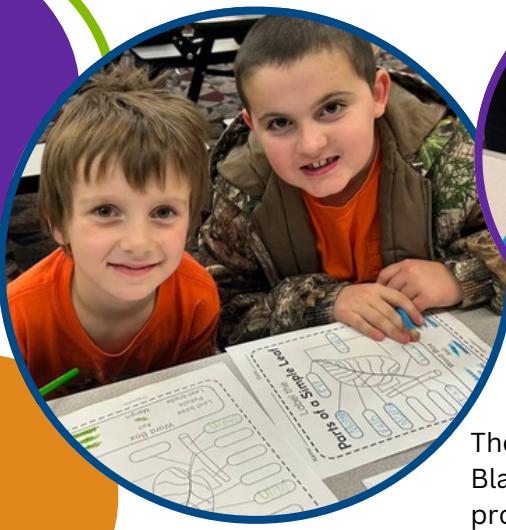




BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE BEMIDJI AREA
BLACKDUCK BRANCH

BLACKDUCK BULLETIN | WINTER 2026



Fall Recap

The first month of school is always busy, especially at the Club! This year the Blackduck Branch welcomed September with a flurry of activities, from STEM projects to reading practice.

October brought cooler weather and tons of fun community events. Getting ready for Halloween, the Club joined Blackduck's Trunk or Treat to spread joy and, just as importantly, lots of candy! In November, we built on local partnerships, with Headwaters Science Center coming to the Club and bringing hands-on science lessons to the Blackduck Branch. Youth learned all about northern Minnesota's nature!

In December, with snow beginning to fall, the Club volunteered to host Blackduck's Glow in the Snow, featuring Santa, hot chocolate, and twinkling holiday lights. We can't wait to see what the next season brings!

Members of the Month: (Oct-Dec)

October - Braylan, age 10

Braylan is the ultimate team player - always ready to lend a hand, share brilliant ideas, and crack jokes to keep everyone entertained! He works hard to be a good friend to everyone at the Club, helping younger members when they're having trouble and always approaching activities with a great attitude.



November - Declan, age 8

Declan consistently shows kindness to everyone around him and brings energy and enthusiasm to everything he does. His fun, positive attitude makes the Club a welcoming place for everyone! His eagerness to learn and grow is an inspiration to other Club members.



December - Aurora, age 7

Aurora is an absolute rockstar in everything she does! She's always kind, always joyful, and always bringing positive energy to the Blackduck Branch! She loves doing art projects, swinging on monkey bars, and learning new words. We are so proud of Aurora and grateful to have her as part of the Club family!



WE ARE HIRING

Youth Development Professionals (YDP)

- School-year + summer opportunities
- Work directly with Club kids
- Flexible hours available

Questions? Contact Karl at karl.mork@bgcbemidji.org



Scan the QR Code or visit
www.bgcbemidji.org

Volunteer Spotlight

Meet **Lori Lundberg**, an incredible community leader and a member of the Blackduck Branch's Advisory Committee! Lori is co-owner of Northwoods Lumber, alongside her husband Daryl, and provides key guidance from her perspective as a business owner, parent, and volunteer.

When the Club hosted its first ever Blackduck Bonanza to raise money to support Club kids and programming, Lori played a pivotal role as one of the event's biggest supporters. She sponsored the event through Northwoods Lumber and helped bring in raffle items, guests, volunteers, and more. Without her help, the Bonanza wouldn't have been such an incredible success and we're so grateful for Lori and all of her support!



Club Van Update

One of the kids favorite Club activities is field trips - and those wouldn't be possible without a Club van!

Designed to safely transport our growing number of kids, the Club purchased a second van in 2024 to make sure that kids at all of our locations have the chance for off-site learning and fun.

After inviting businesses in Blackduck and Bemidji to sponsor the Club in exchange for van recognition, the first newly designed van rolled into the new year! We're incredibly grateful for the businesses who made this possible—be sure to wave if you see the Club kids on the road!

Interested in sponsoring our second Club van?
Please contact emily.raymond@bgcbemidji.org

Our Partnership with United Way

The Blackduck Branch is built on a foundational partnership with the United Way of Bemidji Area. In 2021, they reached out to the Club about the childcare needs in Blackduck - an effort supported by Lori, who currently serves as the United Way Board President - knowing the Club's track record of high-quality youth programming. Without that initial contact and their continued support, the Blackduck Branch wouldn't have been able to open in September 2024!

The United Way has reaffirmed their commitment to the success of the Blackduck Branch again and again. As one of the Blackduck Branch's largest funders, they are critical to the success of our program. Beyond funding, they connect us to resources, opportunities, volunteers, and more. The Club is just one of the amazing organizations they support in our community, and we couldn't be more grateful for them!



Proud partner of



**ONLINE AUCTION IS LIVE:
FEBRUARY 13, NOON TO FEBRUARY 20, 6PM**



**VISIT OUR GALA WEBSITE
TO LEARN MORE:**

[HTTPS://FUNDRAISER.SUPPORT/BGCAGALA2026](https://fundraiser.support/bgcbagala2026)

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FEBRUARY 20, 2026

