



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE BEMIDJI AREA
BLACKDUCK BRANCH

BLACKDUCK
bulletin | SPRING 2026

Winter Recap

This winter has been full of **imagination**, **growth**, and **confidence** at our Blackduck Branch. Club members worked hard on projects for the National Arts Contest, excited to share their artwork with families at our special art show. Kids also began learning Spanish - practicing colors, numbers, and everyday phrases - while a new walking club helped them stay active and connect with staff during the colder days. Blackduck youth also explored Olympic themed programs with hands-on activities of their own.

Creativity continued with paper mâché animals, bringing imaginations to life in unique ways. Club members also had opportunities to participate in community events, helping spread the word about the Blackduck Club. Other winter highlights included a Be Great Party trip to the Blackduck Movie Theater and a Family Night that brought families together for games, conversation, and feedback. It's been a season of exploration, fun, and meaningful connections.

Members of the Month

February - Wally, age 10

Wally brings so much fun and energy to the Club each day. He's always making everyone laugh with his jokes, playfully pranking staff, and eagerly jumping into every activity. We're so lucky to have his positive spirit as part of our Club family.



March - Lily, age 11

Lily consistently goes above and beyond - whether it's stepping in to clean up messes that aren't her own or checking in with staff to ask how she can help. Her kindness, initiative, and positive attitude make a big difference every single day. Lily truly leads by example, showing what it means to be responsible, caring, and kind.



WE ARE HIRING

Youth Development Professionals (YDP)

- Summer opportunities now available!
- Work directly with Club kids
- Flexible hours available in Blackduck + Bemidji



Scan the QR Code
or visit
www.bgcbemidji.org

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



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Finding Confidence at the Club

When Silas first joined the Boys & Girls Club as a kindergartener, he was still learning how to navigate big feelings in a big world. Some days were hard. He struggled with following directions, often ran and hid through the halls, and had difficulty showing respect to staff and peers. At times, connecting with others and participating in activities felt overwhelming for him. But our staff never gave up and neither did he.

With patience, consistency, and lots of encouragement, Silas slowly began to trust the adults around him and believe in himself. Staff took the time to guide him, celebrate even the smallest victories, and help him learn what kindness and teamwork look like. Step by step, those small moments turned into meaningful change.

Today, Silas is building genuine friendships, joining activities with confidence, and showing kindness in ways that truly shine. He is learning to listen, follow directions, and use his energy in positive ways. Most importantly, Silas is proud of himself and we are incredibly proud of him too.



Volunteer Spotlight

Marie Kovar is a retired teacher from the Red Lake School District and has also worked part-time for the Blackduck School District in the Early Childhood Family Education Program. She has been on the Club's Blackduck Advisory Committee for the past year. Marie is a member of the Blackduck Tri Sigma GFWC, an organization whose purpose is community service, study, and sociability. Tri Sigma is a strong supporter of the Boys & Girls Club. Marie is a great advocate for Club Kids, and we are so grateful that she shares her support enthusiastically with the community.

Upcoming Events for Club Kids

Blackduck families mark your calendars!

APRIL 27TH Summer Registration Night

MAY 19TH Family Night

MAY 26TH Be Great Party

JUNE 23RD Family Night

JUNE 30TH Be Great Party

JULY 16TH Family Night

JULY 30TH Be Great Party

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