



NEWSLETTER

LEISURE EDUCATION

Jan/Feb 2026



FOR EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE

ENRICHING LIVES
THROUGH
INCLUSIVE
EDUCATION,
RECREATION, AND
HEALTHY LIVING
OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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- Night Activities
- Special Olympics
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- Monthly Calendars
- LEEP Elegance
- State Special Olympics Bowling
- Thanksgiving Dinner
- Activity/Sports Registration

SPECIAL events

MSU Men's Basketball

Join LEEP for an exciting night of college hoops as we head to the Minnesota State University Mankato Men's Basketball game! Experience the energy of the arena, cheer on the Mavericks, and enjoy a fun evening out with friends.

Saturday, January 17

Meet at LEEP

3:00 pm - 5:30 pm | Limit: 10



Bethany's Production of Mary Poppins

Join LEEP for a magical evening at Bethany College as we attend their stage production of Mary Poppins! This beloved musical brings the classic story to life with unforgettable songs, charming characters, and spectacular moments that are sure to delight audiences of all ages.

Sunday, February 1

Meet at LEEP @ 1:00 pm

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm | Limit: 10

Dinner Out at Pizza Ranch

Join LEEP for a delicious night out at Pizza Ranch! Participants can enjoy an all-you-can-eat buffet filled with fresh pizzas, crispy chicken, salads, sides, and of course—Pizza Ranch's famous dessert pizzas. *(Participants and their staff pay for their own meals--\$20 suggested amount to bring)*

Tuesday, January 27

Pizza Ranch

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm | Limit: 15



Valentine's Dance

Put on your festive red and pink and join us for the LEEP Valentine's Day Dance! This heart-themed celebration is all about music, friends, and spreading kindness. Participants will enjoy dancing to their favorite songs, fun Valentine's activities, and plenty of time to socialize.

Thursday, February 12

LEEP

Non-members - \$10 at the door-

MUST be registered

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | Limit: 50

be my 
VALENTINE

SPECIAL events

Mt. Kato Tubing and Pizza

Get ready for an evening of winter fun and delicious food! Join LEEP for an exciting day of snow tubing followed by a warm, tasty pizza dinner. We'll hit the hill for fast rides, lots of laughs, and plenty of thrills—no experience needed!

After tubing, we'll head inside to relax, warm up, and enjoy some fresh pizza with friends.

PLEASE NOTE: Participants will be riding inner tubes down the hill and going back up the hill a number of times!

Saturday, February 14

Meet at LEEP | 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm | Limit: 8

Dinner Out at Boulder Tap House

Join us for a fun and flavorful night out at Boulder Tap House! We'll enjoy a delicious dinner together featuring their famous burgers, specialty fries, and a wide variety of menu favorites. This is a great chance to relax, socialize with friends, and enjoy a meal in a casual and welcoming atmosphere. *(Participants and their staff pay for their own meals--\$25-\$30 suggested amount to bring)*

Tuesday, February 24

Boulder Tap House

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm | Limit: 15



Night Activities

Birthday Bingo

Join us for birthday bingo! As usual, there will be great prizes and lots of friendly competition. **Be sure to tell us when you register if your birthday is in the month!**

Tuesday, January 6 ; Tuesday, February 3

LEEP | Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Limit: 30

Craft Night

Join us for a fun and festive LEEP Craft Night as we get creative and make our very own snowmen! Participants will enjoy a relaxed, hands-on evening of crafting, decorating, and bringing their snowmen to life using a variety of winter-themed materials.

Thursday, January 8

LEEP | Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Limit: 20

Walking Club

Easy low-impact walking is a great way to get healthier. Plus, you can chat with all your LEEP friends while walking. Dress for the weather and wear shoes that you can walk in for a long time. We will meet by A & W in the mall. Questions about weather on the day of? Call 507-387-5122 and PRESS 3.

Tuesday, January 13; February 17 | River Hills Mall | 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm | Limit: 20



Night Activities

Youth Night

Introducing LEEP Youth Night, a brand-new program designed just for teens! Youth ages 12 to 19 are invited to join us for an exciting evening filled with games, activities, social time, and plenty of fun. Each Youth Night will feature a mix of engaging group activities, creative projects, and opportunities to make new friends in a positive, welcoming environment.

ALL ARE WELCOME! LEEP MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED!

Thursday, January 15; Thursday February 19
LEEP | 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Limit: 20

Board Games

Play your favorite board game or try a new one. We will have different options available including Sorry, Trouble, Battleship and more!

Tuesday, January 20
LEEP | 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Limit: 20



Karaoke Night

Get ready to take the stage at LEEP karaoke night! This exciting evening is all about music, laughter, and celebrating your inner star. Participants can choose from a wide selection of songs and sing a solo, a duet with a friend, or cheer on fellow performers as they show off their musical talents.

Thursday, January 22
LEEP | 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Limit: 20

Valentine Cookie Decorating

Be sure to sign up right away for this popular activity, it fills up quickly! Decorate cookies with your friends, eat 2 cookies, and take 2 cookies home. Sing along to love songs with all your LEEP friends.

Thursday, February 5
LEEP | 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Limit: 20

Valentine's Day Card Making

Celebrate the season of friendship and kindness at LEEP Valentine's Day card making! Join us for a fun and creative evening as participants design their own handmade Valentine's cards using colorful paper, stickers, stamps, and festive decorations.

Tuesday, February 10
LEEP | 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Limit: 20

Popcorn & A Show

Enjoy a relaxing night out with friends at LEEP! We'll gather around the big screen and soundbar for a fun show, complete with hot, buttery popcorn. Don't forget to bring your own closable water bottle and get ready for a cozy evening together!



**Thursday, January 29;
Thursday February 26**
LEEP | 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm | Limit: 30

Costumes, candy, and the best crew around. LEEP Boo Bash = FUN!



Please call the LEEP office at 507-387-5122 if you are interested in participating in any of the sports below!

POWERLIFTING

Powerlifting is a sport where athletes train to compete in 3 specific events: Squat, Bench Press, and Deadlift, or a combination of these events. The season runs from January 5 - March 2. Practice times are Mondays and Wednesdays 3 - 4 p.m. at the Mankato Family YMCA. The state competition is on February 28 - March 1 at Shakopee High School.



**Special
Olympics**

POLY HOCKEY (FLOOR HOCKEY)

Join us for the fast-paced fun of Special Olympics Poly Hockey (floor hockey)! Athletes play indoors with sticks and a hard plastic puck, working together as a team to pass, score, and celebrate. This exciting sport builds fitness, teamwork, and confidence—all while having a great time on the court! The season runs January 7 - March 4. Practice times are Wednesdays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at LEEP. The state competition is February 28 - March 1 at Shakopee High School.

BASKETBALL (HALF- AND FULL-COURT)

Get ready to hit the court! Join us for another exciting season of Special Olympics Basketball. Athletes will develop their skills, practice teamwork, and build confidence while preparing for upcoming competitions. Whether you're working on passing, shooting, or defensive skills, this program is the perfect place to grow and have fun. The Season runs March 9 - end of May. Practice times are Mondays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at LEEP. Competitions are TBD.

SWIMMING

Dive into a great season of Special Olympics Swimming with LEEP! Athletes will work on developing their strokes, building endurance, and strengthening overall swimming skills in a supportive and fun environment. Whether you're just learning or training to compete, this program offers something for swimmers of all levels. The season runs early March - end of May, practice dates and times are TBD. Competitions are TBD.



Join us for LEEP's NEW PROGRAM

YOUTH JANUARY 15TH
6:30 - 7:30 PM
AT LEEP
1315 STADIUM ROAD **NIGHT**

Youth ages 12 to 19 are invited to join us for an exciting evening filled with games, activities, social time, and plenty of fun! Each Youth Night will feature a mix of engaging group activities, creative projects, and opportunities to make new friends in a positive, welcoming environment.

Don't miss out, register now! Call (507-387-5122) or Email (Info@mankatoleep.org)



Introducing LEEP's New \$20 Monthly Membership

LEEP is excited to introduce its new **\$20 monthly membership**, created to make participation in LEEP programs/sports easier, more affordable, and more accessible for everyone. For just \$20 per month, participants will have access to nearly all LEEP activities—including most social events, recreation programs, and Special Olympics participation. This new structure replaces individual event fees and provides members with consistent, predictable monthly pricing. Please remember that **REGISTRATION FOR ALL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS/PROGRAMS/SPORTS IS STILL REQUIRED! ATTENDANCE IS EXPECTED IF PARTICIPANTS ARE REGISTERED.**

By simplifying the payment process, LEEP hopes to welcome more participants into the LEEP community while helping current members manage their monthly budgets with ease. This model reduces financial barriers, encourages greater involvement, and ensures that everyone has the opportunity to stay active, connected, and engaged.

Special Olympics

LEEP membership is required for participation in SO. In addition, participation in Special Olympics will now be a flat \$50 per athlete per calendar year - no matter how many sports the athlete participates in! This fee will be charged when the athlete registers for their first sport of the year.

LEEP Elegance

Pricing for LEEP Elegance will be announced at a later date and shared in the LEEP newsletter.

Activity/Event/Program Access

LEEP Members: Free admission to all night activities, most special events, and most LEEP dances such as Valentine's Day, Boo Bash, etc.

Scholarships: Available for memberships and activities/events/programs/sports with additional costs. Forms can be found online or in the LEEP office.

Billing & ACH Information

To be more efficient, LEEP is transitioning away from regular credit/debit card, cash, and check payments. To make budgeting easier, memberships will be processed through ACH on the 10th of each month (quarterly and annual ACH payment options also exist).

- Each membership includes **one free ACH transaction per calendar year** (starting a new membership counts as the free transaction).
- Additional ACH changes will incur a **\$50 fee per transaction**.
- To end ACH payments, members must notify LEEP **in writing at least 30 days before the next scheduled withdrawal**.
- Scholarships will be available for monthly memberships and other events/activities that have additional costs (forms are available online or in the LEEP office).

All forms—including membership, ACH, and scholarship—are available at:
www.mankatoleep.org/membership

JANUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 LEEP Office CLOSED HAPPY New Year	2	3
4	5 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	6 NA: Birthday Bingo 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	7 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA SO: Poly Hockey 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	8 NA: Craft Night 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	9	10
11	12 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	13 NA: Walking Club 5:00 - 5:45 pm @ River Hills Mall	14 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA SO: Poly Hockey 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	15 NA: Youth Night 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	16	17 SE: MNSU Men's Basketball 3:00 - 5:30 pm @ Meet at LEEP
18	19 LEEP Office CLOSED  SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	20 Board Games & A Snack 6:30-7:30 p.m @LEEP	21 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA SO: Poly Hockey 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	22 NA: Karaoke Night 6:30 - 7:30 pm @LEEP	23	24 SO: Poly Hockey Regional Tournament TBD @ Golden Valley
25	26 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	27 SE: Dinner Out 5:30 - 7:00 pm @ Pizza Ranch	28 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA SO: Poly Hockey 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	29 NA: Popcorn & A Show 6:30 - 8:00 pm @LEEP	30	31

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS:

LEEP - 1315 Stadium Rd, Mankato

Mankato Family YMCA - 1401 S. Riverfront Dr, Mankato

Pizza Ranch - 1551 Tullamore St, Mankato

River Hills Mall - 1850 Adams St, Mankato



OFFICE PHONE:
507-387-5122



EMAIL:
INFO@MANKATOLEEP.ORG

FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 SE: Mary Poppins @ Bethany 1:00 - 5:00 pm Meet @ LEEP	2 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	3 NA: Birthday Bingo 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	4 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA SO: Poly Hockey 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	5 NA: Valentines Cookie Decorating 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	6	7
8	9 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	10 NA: Valentines Card Making 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	11 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA SO: Poly Hockey 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	12 SE: Valentine's Day Dance 6:30 - 8:00 pm @ LEEP	13	14 SE: Mt Kato Tubing & Pizza 2:30 - 5:30 pm Meet @ LEEP
15	16 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	17 NA: Walking Club 5:00 - 5:45 pm @ River Hills Mall	18 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA SO: Poly Hockey 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	19 NA: Youth Night 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	20	21
22	23 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	24 SE: Dinner Out 5:30 - 7:00 pm @ Boulder Tap House	25 SO: Power Lifting 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA SO: Poly Hockey 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ LEEP	26 NA: Popcorn & A Show 6:30 - 8:00 pm @ LEEP	27	28 SO: Power Lifting State Tournament TBD @ Shakopee SO: Poly Hockey State Tournament TBD @ Shakopee
1 MARCH 2026 SO: Power Lifting State Tournament TBD @ Shakopee SO: Poly Hockey State Tournament TBD @ Shakopee	2 MARCH 2026 SO: Power Lifting Wrap Party 3:00 - 4:00 pm @ YMCA	3 MARCH 2026	4 MARCH 2026 SO: Poly Hockey Wrap Party 6:30 - 7:30 PM @ LEEP			

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS:

LEEP - 1315 Stadium Rd, Mankato

Boulder Tap House - 291 St Andrews Dr, Mankato

Mankato Family YMCA - 1401 S. Riverfront Dr, Mankato

River Hills Mall - 1850 Adams St, Mankato

Shakopee High School - 100 17th Ave W, Shakopee, 553792



OFFICE PHONE:
507-387-5122



EMAIL:
INFO@MANKATOLEEP.ORG

LEEP Elegance 2025

PRESENTED BY



HARRY MEYERING



What a great night!



*Thank you
volunteers!*



*Thank you
MRCI
& HMC!*



Special Olympics State Bowling



*Thanksgiving
Dinner*

**Thank you to Wow!Zone
for hosting us & to Civitan
for serving us!**



January

X	CODE	DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT	FEE
NIGHT ACTIVITIES				
	NA	1/6	Birthday Bingo	
	NA	1/8	Craft Night	
	NA	1/13	Walking Club	
	NA	1/15	Youth Night	
	NA	1/20	Board Games	
	NA	1/22	Karaoke Night	
	NA	1/29	Popcorn and A Show	

SPECIAL EVENTS

	SE	1/17	MSU Men's Basketball	
	SE	1/27	Dinner at Pizza Ranch	

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

	SO	Mondays & Wednesdays 1/5 - 3/2	Power Lifting	\$50
	SO	Wednesdays 1/7 - 3/4	Poly Hockey	

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:**2026 FORMS**

	2026 Membership Form			
	2026 ACH Form			
	2026 Scholarship Form (if applicable)			

February

X	CODE	DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT	FEE
NIGHT ACTIVITIES				
	NA	2/3	Birthday Bingo	
	NA	2/5	Cookie Decorating	
	NA	2/10	Valentine's Card Making	
	NA	2/17	Walking Club	
	NA	2/19	Youth Night	
	NA	2/26	Popcorn & A Show	

SPECIAL EVENTS

	SE	2/1	Bethany's Production of Mary Poppins	
	SE	2/12	Valentines Dance	
	SE	2/14	Mt. Kato Tubing & Pizza	
	SE	2/24	Dinner at Boulder Tap House	

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

	SO	March - May	Basketball	\$50
	SO	March - May	Swimming	

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:**2026 FORMS**

	2026 Membership Form			
	2026 ACH Form			
	2026 Scholarship Form (if applicable)			

To make sure you're signed up, please call the LEEP office (507-387-5122) or email info@mankatoleep.org and we will confirm your registration.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

If you have any questions about the new membership system, registrations, Special Olympics, or anything else, please call the LEEP office (507-387-5122) or email info@mankatoleep.org and we would be happy to talk to you!



LEISURE EDUCATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE
1315 Stadium Rd, Ste. 101
MANKATO, MN 56001

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH INCLUSIVE RECREATION,
SPORTING, AND HEALTHY LIVING OPPORTUNITIES.

PROUD PARTNER OF:



*This newsletter is also available
on the LEEP website at
www.mankatoleep.org*

BECOME A 2026 MEMBER programming with no limits

LEEP provides leisure education, recreation, and healthy living opportunities for people with different abilities. The monthly membership fee is \$20. As a LEEP member, an individual will have access to all the programs offered by LEEP including night activities, special events, and Special Olympics. Current LEEP members were sent a mailing with all 2026 forms. These forms—including membership, ACH, and scholarship—are also available online or in the LEEP office. All forms may be returned to the LEEP office at 1315 Stadium Rd Ste 101, Mankato, 56001; returned in person; or emailed to info@mankatoleep.org.

JOIN LEEP TODAY!

**COMPLETE THE MEMBERSHIP & ACH FORMS AND RECEIVE MEMBER BENEFITS!
MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND MOST LEEP EVENTS IN 2026!**

