

DEBAHJIMON

July 2017 | Vol. XXXIV No. 1

The newspaper of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

MCT Update

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Blood Quantum referendum tabled, Constitutional Convention meetings scheduled.

Quarterly Reports

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Quarterly reports from each member of the Leech Lake Tribal Council

Powwow Photos

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Photos from the Waa Wiye Gaa Maag (Round Lake) and 4th of July Powwows

Leech Lake Tribal College Class of 2017



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CASS LAKE, MN- The Leech Lake Tribal College held its commencement ceremony in late May at the Northern Lights Casino & Hotel Event Center near Walker, MN.

The Leech Lake Tribal College had a total of 34 graduates this spring. Students earned an array of degrees including: Indigenous Leadership, Early Childhood Education, Forest Ecology, Residential Carpentry, Law Enforcement and more.

The Class of 2017 Valedictorian was Maria Lahr who earned an Associate of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education. Salutatorian honors went to Christopher Stauffer who received his Associate of Arts Degree in Liberal Education- S.T.E.M. Emphasis.

The Leech Lake Tribal College Drum Group opened and closed the night with traditional Anishinaabe music. The Cass Lake-Bena Drum and Dance Troupe performed as well. Interim LLTC President Dr. Pat Broker welcomed the attendees along with Arnold

Dahl-Wooley, LLTC Board of Trustees Chair. The Commencement address was delivered by Dr. John Gonzales, Bemidji State University.

On behalf of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, we would like to congratulate all of the graduates and their families. We wish you the best of luck as you continue your educational journeys and move into your careers.

LLTC Class of 2017

Polly Aitken
Branden Bowstring
Brett Brun
Chelsea Bush
Valerie Cash
Margaret Charwood
Anita Cloud
Matt Connor
Alicia Croaker
Jacob Ellis
Tifani Ellis
Anthony Fair Sr.

Karmen Fairbanks
Cory Gordon
David Headbird
Ronald Hunt
Adrianna Kingbird
Maria Lahr
Darold Madigan Jr.
Michelle Marion
Michael Masten III
Brandon Masten Sr.
Eninatig Miller
Tonya Morris
Damion Oberg
Thea Ogema
Nindonis Robinson
Vincent Robinson
Petra Rodriguez
Christopher Stauffer
Joni Tapio
Rebecca Tibbetts
Molly Tibbetts
Frank White

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The *Debahjimon* is a free, monthly publication of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

Leech Lake Tribal Council

- » Faron Jackson Sr., Chairman
- » Arthur "Archie" LaRose, Secretary-Treasurer
- » Penny DeVault, District I Representative
- » Steve White, District II Representative
- » LeRoy Staples Fairbanks III, District III Representative

Staff

Michael Chosa, Editor
Aaron Fairbanks, Photographer

Submissions

The submission of pictures, articles, announcements and letters is encouraged. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling, grammar, length and libelous content. Submission does not guarantee publication. The Editor reserves the right to reject any material submitted for publication.

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Deadlines

August Issue.....07/21/2017
September Issue.....08/25/2017
October Issue.....09/29/2017



MN Chippewa Tribe Tables Referendum on Blood Quantum

By Michael Chosa

CASS LAKE, MN- The 2018 election cycle would have brought an important issue to voters of the six bands of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. In addition to the election of tribal council members on each reservation, voters were to decide whether or not to expand the types of blood that would be considered when determining eligibility for enrollment.

At their most recent Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) meeting on July 10 at Northern Lights Casino, the TEC voted to rescind the original resolution which set a date for the "Secretarial Election". A Secretarial election is a Federal election conducted by the Secretary of the Interior. LLBO Chairman Faron Jackson Sr. cast the lone vote in opposition to the action.

The main issue cited by the TEC in rescinding the Secretarial Election date was Constitutional Reform. The body has already

passed a resolution calling for a constitutional convention to be held with the purpose of reshaping the MCT Constitution, the governing document which binds all six member bands of the MCT. Some members feel that this issue can be potentially resolved by revising membership requirements in a new constitution. Others expressed frustration at the historical lack of action by the TEC and felt the referendum would have offered the best opportunity for the MCT membership to express their position on blood quantum.

The Constitutional Convention has been on the TEC agenda for several months now. Details about the process, format and a potential timeline for implementation have yet to be decided.

Public informational meetings are being planned for each reservation. Currently, only meetings for Mille Lacs, White Earth and Bois Forte have been scheduled. According to

discussion at the last TEC meeting, they will be held:

August 21 12-4pm
August 22 8:30am-4pm
*Grand Casino Mille Lacs
Onamia, MN*

September 25 12-4pm
September 26 8:30am-4pm
*Shooting Star Casino & Hotel
Mahnomon, MN*

October 23 12-4pm
October 24 8:30am-4pm
*Fortune Bay Resort Casino
Vermilion, MN*

These Constitutional Convention meetings are open to all members of the MN Chippewa Tribe and all are encouraged to attend the closest scheduled meeting. Meeting dates and information for the remaining tribes will be published as they become available.

Leech Lake Secretary-Treasurer Archie LaRose once again raised

his objections to the current moratoriums on band transfers put in place by the Mille Lacs and Fond Du Lac bands. Especially in cases where the eligible enrollee has a parent or grandparent enrolled in the tribe.

The moratoriums prevent the transfer and enrollment of MCT members eligible for membership on the two reservations. They were put in place following a high number of applicants requesting transfer coinciding with the distribution of per capita payments issued by both tribes. Representatives for each tribe agreed to discuss the issue with their respective tribal councils and band members.

As of press time, the TEC had not yet scheduled their next regular or special meeting. Their office stated that the meeting notice will be available on their website <http://www.mnchippewatribe.org> when it has been finalized.

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond Du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2018	40,633	3,440	4,165	1,069	9,434	4,555	17,971
2023	39,700	3,475	4,067	1,008	9,508	4,683	16,959
2028	38,232	3,474	3,932	933	9,432	4,775	15,686
2033	36,192	3,423	3,741	845	9,206	4,798	14,179
2038	33,723	3,328	3,497	745	8,884	4,756	12,513
2043	30,964	3,196	3,221	640	8,473	4,657	10,777
2048	28,142	3,034	2,941	542	7,983	4,508	9,133
2053	25,539	2,856	2,683	460	7,439	4,322	7,779
2058	23,245	2,674	2,458	393	6,874	4,106	6,741
2063	21,134	2,484	2,253	338	6,304	3,865	5,890
2068	19,089	2,281	2,051	291	5,711	3,601	5,154
2073	17,115	2,071	1,853	250	5,113	3,319	4,509
2078	15,214	1,857	1,663	214	4,526	3,024	3,930
2083	13,463	1,652	1,485	185	3,987	2,726	3,427
2088	11,918	1,470	1,324	162	3,518	2,437	3,008
2093	10,546	1,302	1,174	143	3,109	2,162	2,656
2098	8,993	1,109	995	120	2,663	1,835	2,271

Population predictions for the MN Chippewa Tribe and its member bands under current enrollment requirements (1/4 blood quantum), show a drastic decline in population within the next century. The study was commissioned by the MCT and performed by Wilder Research in 2014. The full study is available on the MCT Website at www.mnchippewatribe.org under "MCT Population Projections".

Congressman Nolan Announces 2017 Congressional Art Competition Winner

The 2017 winner is Arnold Kingbird, a Junior at Cass Lake Bena High School



WASHINGTON D.C.- U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan announced that Arnold Kingbird, a Junior at Cass Lake Bena High School, is the winner of the 2017 Congressional Art Competition for Minnesota's 8th Congressional District. Arnold's artwork is titled "Modern Northwest Coast Designs."

Arnold described his artwork: "I used a southwest coast design, along with using modern colors. I drew northwest coast shapes on the feet, tail, and near the tail. I colored the feet with Native American medicine wheel colors along with drawing canoes up the sides of the reptile. It's a traditional made artwork used with modern colors with Native American artwork in it."

"We are proud to share Arnold's artwork with visitors from around the world," Nolan said. "We received many outstanding entries from high school students in every part of the Eighth District. Thank you to every young artist who submitted their work for this contest."

Each Congressional District's winning artwork is displayed for one year in the halls of the U.S. Capitol, and the student artist receives a trip for themselves and a parent or guardian to come to Washington for the unveiling.

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, more than 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

Each spring, as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Nolan sponsors a district-wide high school arts competition to recognize and encourage the amazing and talented youth we have in Minnesota's 8th District.

Leech Lake, Red Lake, White Earth area residents complete Blandin Reservation Community Leadership Program



GRAND RAPIDS, MN- Twenty-two residents of the Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth reservation communities completed a five-day leadership retreat May 12. This was the first segment of an intense seven-day training provided by the Blandin Reservation Community Leadership Program (BRCLP). The team also will participate in three follow-up workshops.

A program of the Grand Rapids-based Blandin Foundation, BRCLP has provided experiential leadership training for more than 500 community leaders from 11 Minnesota American Indian Reservations since 2001. This is the sixth time these communities have participated together in the BRCLP leadership program.

Participants who completed the retreat were:

Justin Beaulieu, Nita Cloud-Johnson, Penny De Vault, Randy Finn, Rita Ford, Joe Fowler, Stephanie Hendricks, Naomi Johnson, Sterling Knox, Douglas Lee, Cedric Littlewolf, Reyna Lussier, Wes May, Angela Nordman, Katie Northbird, Petra Rodriguez, Delana Smith, Edie Smith, Deanna StandingCloud, Jon Staples, Chris Stauffer, and Corey Weaver.

The goal of the Blandin Reservation Community Leadership Program is to strengthen leadership capacity through cultural strengths and assets to build and sustain healthy tribal communities. Topics covered during the retreat included:

acknowledging and drawing upon leadership strengths, recognizing and tapping into sources of personal and community resilience, framing community issues and opportunities, building social capital, and mobilizing community resources.

"A healthy community depends on leadership engagement of many community members," said Valerie Shangreaux, director of Blandin leadership programs. "The leadership demonstrated by these participants reflects their deep commitment to their communities, their reservations, and the people living there."

BRCLP training programs are funded entirely by the Blandin Foundation.

Apply for Admission Today at Leech Lake Tribal College!

Art, Basketball, Law Enforcement, Humanities, STEM, Carpentry, Business, Ojibwemowin, and Success.

What do these things all have in common? Leech Lake Tribal College!

We offer nine (9) degree programs, a men's and women's basketball team, and classes in Ojibwemowin, Traditional Arts, Business, and Carpentry. Registration for the Summer and Fall terms has begun and the course offerings can be viewed on the LLTC website www.lltc.edu.

Not sure what you want to study? Stop by the Student Services office to meet with one of our Academic Advisors to learn more about our programs to see which one would be the best fit for you.

Whether you want hands-on learning experiences, courses that will prepare you to transfer to a 4-year institution, or a degree that will help advance your current career path, Leech Lake Tribal College has the faculty and staff to support your goals.

Visit or contact Leech Lake Tribal College Student Services at 218-335-4220 to begin your college journey!



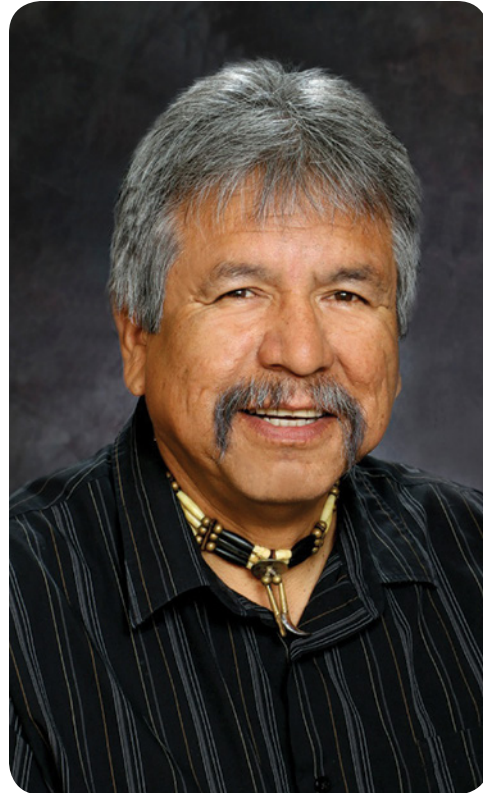
Tribal Council Quarterly Reports

Chairman Faron Jackson Sr.

Aaniin!

Time has certainly passed by very quickly, it is hard to believe that an entire year has passed since I was sworn in as Chairman. It has been a very busy year with a lot of issues to deal with and new problems to tackle on a daily basis.

Warmer weather has arrived, along with it, construction season is upon us and I'd like to highlight some of the work that is being done around the reservation. I am very proud to see the Shingobee on the Bay up and running finally. Leech Lake Gaming did a great job renovating the property and getting it ready for this summer. The construction of the Onigum Community Center is now underway. The expected completion date for that building is in January 2018. The community is very excited. Also, construction of the new Bug O Nay Ge Shig High School is progressing rapidly. The BIA has said the building should be ready for students in time for the beginning of the school year this fall.



The referendum for the new Palace Casino was positive. The band members who participated in that vote made the decision to move ahead with the project. The Tribal Council could have made the decision there, but we decided it was too important of an issue to act upon without the people's consent. We are all very excited to see this move forward. It will provide long-term economic stability for the Cass Lake area and the Band as a whole. Our preliminary plans call for construction to begin in 2018.

We have held a number of discussions aimed at addressing the housing issues here on the reservation. There are no easy or fast answers to this problem but we continue to have dialogue. We will be taking the information we have compiled to Washington and we hope to solidify a plan that will remedy these issues for our future generations. I have always been a firm believer of Treaty Rights, we have to continually remind the Federal Government in D.C. of their obligations.

I have met with all of the Tribal Leaders in Minnesota and Governor Dayton regarding the drug issues we face on Leech Lake. All the Tribes are dealing with this issue on their respective Reservations. We are planning a Tribal Opiate Summit for MN Tribes in order to tackle this ever-growing crisis. No date has been confirmed yet but we will keep everyone informed when it is decided.

I had the opportunity to attend the "Who Belongs" conference in Tucson this spring. Many Tribal Leaders from across the United States and Canada were in attendance. Very useful and interesting information was presented to us on Blood Quantum. It is an emotional topic for many and it has affected me personally along with countless families throughout Indian Country. I spoke several times, offering firsthand accounts of how it has affected members and descendants here on Leech Lake. It was standing room only with many high-level decision makers in attendance, including former Secretary of Interior Kevin Washburn. I also stated my belief that Tribes have the right to define their own membership through citizenship, kinship, clans, etc. Cultural identity of our members is very important to me and many others. We should not be denying blood inherent rights to our children. It is an outrage that Anishinaabe kids are being excluded and not recognized due to a system imposed on us by the Federal Government. I will continue to advocate for our children and the long-term

survival of our Tribe and all Tribes.

There was a Secretarial Election scheduled by the MN Chippewa Tribe (MCT) Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) that was to be held in June 2018 dealing with this very issue. At our last TEC meeting, a motion was passed to rescind the date for that election. It passed 11-1 and I was the sole voter opposing this action. It took us many years to get the approval from the Secretary of Interior to hold this referendum regarding changing the MCT membership requirements. I hope that it doesn't take years to get the approval to have another one. I believe being a sovereign tribe, exercising our tribal sovereignty gives us the right to determine our own membership criteria. It is part of the self-determination, self-governance that we possess. I'd like to hear your thoughts on blood quantum too, but enough on that topic for now.

We held our Quarterly Meeting in Minneapolis on July 7. Our Urban Band Members appreciated that very much. Transportation up to the reservation is a challenge for many so they are not able to attend most of our events. The meeting went very well and we will continue to work on their behalf to meet their needs and address their concerns. We all have family, relatives and good friends down in the urban areas. The Twin Cities Office is hosting their annual picnic next month on August 25. If you will be in the area, they would be very happy to see you and hope that you will stop by for visit.

We have made some progress in my first year here on Leech Lake, but we still have a long road ahead of us. Things take time to develop and it is my hope that the seeds we are planting now will be bountiful to our future generations. So I ask each of you to continue to be patient and positive as we slowly move forward. Leech Lake provides many services that other Tribes do not. I also want to encourage our Local Indian Councils to engage their communities more. We all play an important role here as community leaders for Leech Lake. Let us set a positive example for our people, our elders, our children, and grandchildren. We all must work together to build a greater future for ourselves.

Miigwetch,
Faron Jackson Sr.
LLBO Chairman

Onigum Community Center Groundbreaking



Tribal Council Quarterly Reports

Secretary/Treasurer Arthur “Archie” LaRose

Leech Lake Secretary/Treasurer Fourth Quarterly Report

Delivered at the Quarterly Meeting July 7, 2017 in Minneapolis, MN

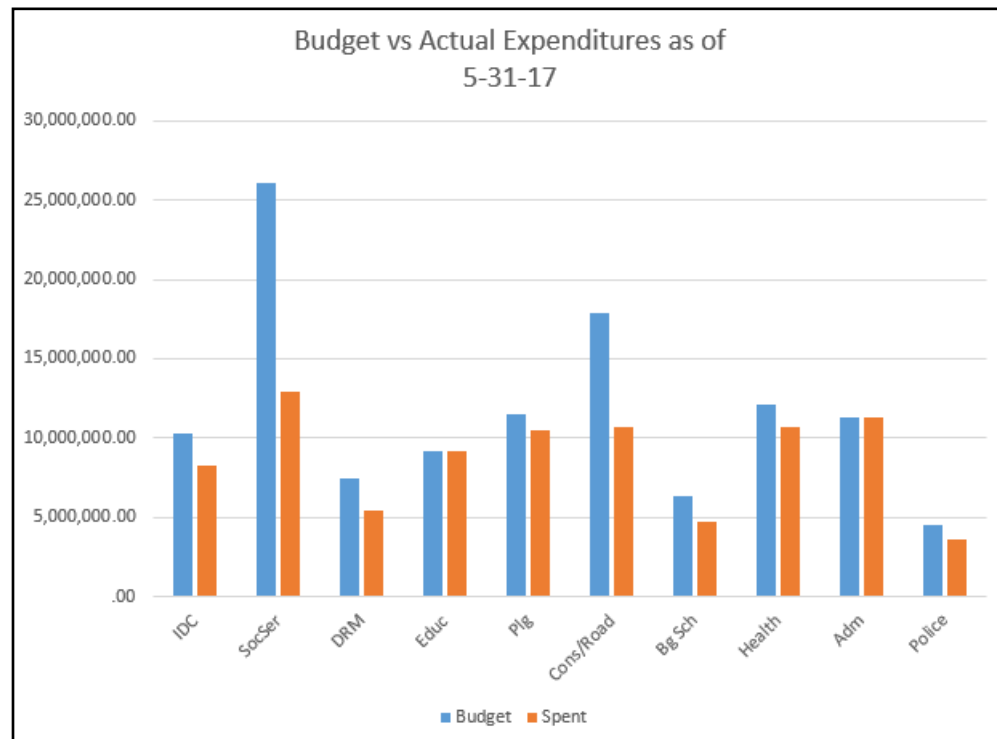
Boozhoo and welcome!

I love Minneapolis and all our people residing within and around the Twin Cities, your humor, your strength, your spirit, the good wolf and the bad wolf that resides within each of us. Sometimes we see one another so often or not enough and we forget to tell one another how much we care, how much we love them, how much faith we have in them, that they are appreciated. So I'll take a moment to say that it is always a privilege to be here with you; one I do not forget and with summer here I hope that everyone is enjoying the opportunity it brings to spend more time with family & friends.

Governmental Activities - Financial Summary

FY 2016 – The fiscal year 2016 audit is complete and was presented to the Tribal Council by the auditors (RSM) on May 25th, 2017. The Auditors issued an unmodified opinion on the Governmental Activities portion of the financial statements. The auditors reported 1 material weakness relating to year-end close processes and 2 significant deficiencies relating to payroll processing and the schedule of federal awards, respectively.

FY 2017 - The Band's FY 2017 is coming to an end and our budgeted versus actual expenditures for the fiscal year indicate most divisions are on track to have spent according to their planned budgets. This can be seen on graph one titled Budget vs Actual Expenditures as of 5-31-17.



The second graph titled General Fund – Reserve Fund Balance indicates the General Fund Reserve to remain above \$7 million dollars. It is critical for this reserve fund balance to remain at this level or higher. In the event of a financial emergency, this reserve balance would be needed to temporarily sustain operations.

2018 fiscal year - The budget process for the upcoming fiscal year (2018) is still in process and we are expecting this process to be finalized before July 31, 2017.

Minor Trust Fund - Statements for individual balance values have been prepared and mailed

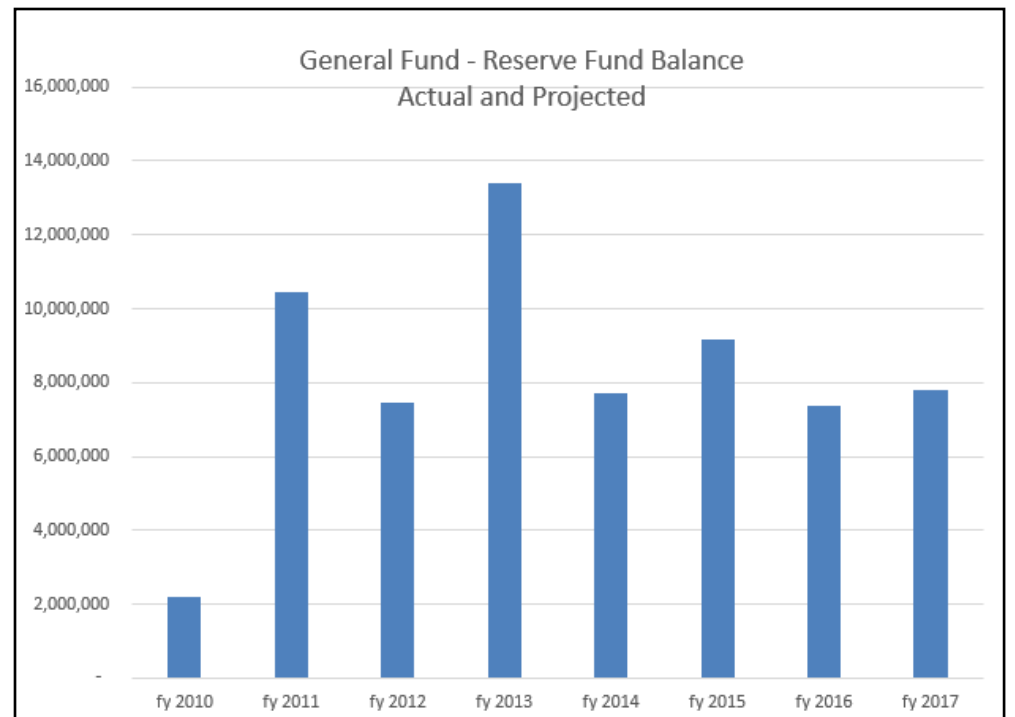
by the Band's internal Accounting staff. Payments of over \$250 thousand dollars to individuals turning 18 years of age have been made this fiscal year.

Moondance Loan - On April 13, 2017, we received a payment for the outstanding principal and interest due on the Moondance Loan. A letter was sent to release the collateral and the loan is now paid in full.

Capital Projects - Ongoing and new Capital projects include the Assisted Living Center, and a community center for the Onigum area. These projects are funded internally with Band funds. The Bug School High School project is underway and that project is funded and managed through the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Education.

Pow-wows - The Pow-wow season has started and the Band funds several events in the Cass Lake and surrounding areas. The Onigum Pow-wow has been cancelled due to construction in progress on the new community center.

Small Businesses - The Bands small businesses are undergoing a change in reporting structure and being transferred to the Gaming Administration management systems and processes. This change will allow for better financial reporting, access to marketing resources and general management oversight.



Tribal Council Quarterly Reports

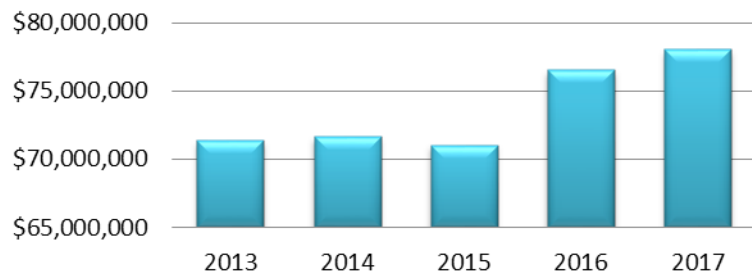
Sec/Treasurer *Continued*

Leech Lake Gaming Summary of Operations Quarter Ending June 2017

Revenue

Gaming revenue continues to see growth through the fourth quarter. Total revenue for fiscal year 2017 through May totals to \$78 million compared to the prior year in which totaled \$76.5 million. This is approximately a \$1.5 million increase in revenue compared to last fiscal year.

Revenue 5-Year Comparison YTD Ending 5/31



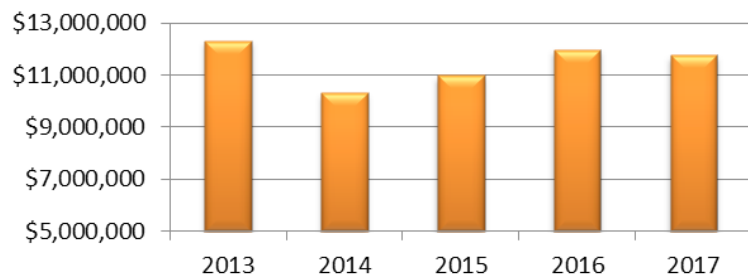
Expenses

Operating expenses for Gaming are up about \$1.0 million through May 2017 compared to same time last year, as are Cost of Sales which are up approximately \$1.0 million as well. Payroll expenses are down about \$376 thousand over prior year. Overall, expenses are up about \$1.7 million compared to prior year. A major factor that plays a role in the increase of Cost of Sales is the sale of cigarettes at low cost. As for operating expenses, the Get a Gift Sunday promotions is one cause for the increase. In effort to decrease operating expenses this year, Gaming has reduced the amount of expense for travel. Gaming travel expenses decreased by approximately \$85,000 from July 2016 through March 2017 compared to prior fiscal year.

Net Profit

Net Profit through May has decreased from about \$12 million last year compared to \$11.8 million this year, which is about a \$217 thousand decrease. Although revenue is up, expenses are up as well which resulted in decrease of net profit compared to the prior year.

Net Profit 5-Year Comparison YTD Ending 5/31



Forecast

Revenues continue to increase over prior years. To improve Net Income, Leech Lake Gaming would need to look at control operating and payroll expenses. Shingobee on the Bay opened up at the end of June. This Sports Bar & Marina is expanding our business to increase revenue, and bring more jobs into the area.

District I Representative Penny DeVault

Office of the District I Representative Penny DeVault, Quarterly Report

April 2017

District I was honored to host the April 7, 2017 Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Quarterly meeting in Ball Club, Minnesota. It is a gratifying time when we are able to bring tribal services to our District I communities. Inger and Ball Club/Deer River Local Indian Councils held Easter celebrations for community members, which were well attended as always. Winnie Dam, Ball Club and Inger LIC's also held annual community clean-ups, concluding their day with a celebratory cook-out. S. Lake held their Ziigwan Ceremonies (Water Raft offerings).

District Representative DeVault had an office day at the Duluth Leech Lake office to meet with constituents from the urban area and also to work with the staff on future projects. Representative DeVault also attended the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Tribal Executive Committee meeting while in the area that week.

The Leech Lake Referendum committee held informational

meetings in Ball Club and Inger regarding the construction of the new Palace Casino. Gaming staff, Tribal Council and Referendum committee members were in attendance to answer any questions or concerns regarding this new endeavor. Gaming staff provided a power point presentation detailing the history, current situation and future of the Palace Casino & Hotel. The referendum vote was held on May 16, 2017 and passed with a resounding "YES".

District I staff attended the annual Deer River King Elementary D.A.R.E. graduation on April 29, 2017. Representative DeVault presented all graduates with gift bags and well wishes of a bright and successful future. The D.A.R.E. graduates also attended the Minnesota Twins baseball game that following Sunday, thank you to the Johnson O'Malley program for your support of our students.

May 2017

The District I LIC Assembly was held on Friday, May 5, 2017 at the S. Lake Community Center. All LIC's were represented as well as many tribal programs and divisions. Topics included were Tribal Police body worn camera presen-



tation, Palace referendum vote, White Oak expansion, Gaming Human Resources, Temporary Employment Program, Pow-wow planning, Public Relations/events, proposed Pipeline, Health Division and Elder Advocates.

Events held this month and attended by the staff of District I were the Spiritual Run, Inger LIC Mother's Day brunch, Deer River King School pow-wow, Head Start graduations at Ball Club and Inger, Leech Lake Housing Authority Elders feast at Northern



Youth Regalia winners take a break from dancing to take a picture with the District I staff and the elders who selected them as winners of the dance special.

Tribal Council Quarterly Reports

District II Rep. Steve White

Lights Casino, Head Start powwow at the Ball Club Powwow Grounds, Leech Lake Memorial Day powwow, Deer River High School Indian Education Spring Feast, and the King Elementary 5th Grade Farewell.

Representative DeVault also attended the weeklong Blandin Community Leadership Program, which is beneficial as she can write quick response grants for our smaller community needs, such as playgrounds. Things such as, framing statements, building and using social capital and mobilizing enough human and other resources to increase effectiveness as a community leader were discussed at great length.

June 2017

With the ending of the school year of 2016-2017, we would like to wish all of our recent graduates nothing but the best and brightest futures.

Take a Kid Fishing was held on June 10, 2017 at Stony Point Resort with over 400 attendees. This was a great family event sponsored by the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

The following weekend was the Waa Wiye Gaa Maag 13th Annual Traditional powwow celebration. Leech Lake Band gifted the youth with regalia at the 3rd annual youth dance special. Elders selected 8 youth to receive regalia, donated by Representative DeVault and others from our local crafters of District I. We will continue on this tradition at the Mii-Gwitch Mahnomen Days and Cha-Cha-Bah-Ning Celebrations.

It has been a great quarter with continued hard work and dedication from our Local Indian Councils.

Respectfully submitted by
Penny DeVault,
District I Representative

Another quarter has passed here on the Leech Lake Reservation, I hope everyone is enjoying their summer.

We had another successful year and positive turnout for our 4th of July celebrations around the district. We were able to host events in Bena, Sugar Point and Kego Lake this year. Attendees were entertained by the bike parade and basketball tournament and we kept the kids busy with various games and activities. No Fourth of July Celebration would be complete without a fireworks display which the crowd enjoyed at dusk. Community members enjoyed the games, door prize drawings and other activities that were held. We would like to thank everyone that attended and all of the volunteers that came together to make this possible. Chi Miigwetch!

Earlier this spring I was able to attend a Cass County Board meeting and make a \$2500 donation to the Cass County Dive Team (see photo below) in appreciation of their efforts in recovering the body of the late Kenneth Gale last summer. We have built a strong and productive partnership with the county over the years and i am proud to continue advancing these efforts.



Finally, we would ask again that if you want to get our monthly flyers we send out, call the District II office and leave your address so we can update our mailing list. Also if you are a District II elder and you haven't received your birthday coupons within your birthday month then call and let my assistants know, we will be happy to add you to that list! Have a great Summer!

From the District II Office
Steve White



District III Rep. LeRoy Staples Fairbanks III

Boozhoo!
Waagosh indizhinikaaz makwa indoodem.

Greetings fellow Band members!

As always, it is my pleasure to bring you this brief update on the activities, priorities and upcoming goals in the District III Office.

I would like to start off by congratulating all of the graduates who have taken another step forward on their educational and life journeys. I would like you all to know that we are very proud of you and your accomplishments. Whether it was a Head Start, High School or University graduation, you are on the right path to better yourselves and your community.

The referendum for the new Palace Casino was a success. I understand that there are some people who have been critical and untrusting of the process. I can say personally that I advocated and encouraged the Council and administration to keep this endeavour at arms length and not to be directly involved. I believe we did a very good job in this aspect. Our role in the referendum was only to provide the resources to allow the vote to be carried out and get the proper information out to band members and allow them to make the decision.

It was a very important issue with a large amount of financing required to make it happen. As I stated at the public meeting, Of course I am nervous about it, with any major project that requires this amount of investment there is risk involved. However, it is a calculated risk which has historically proven to be very beneficial to our tribe. The National Indian Gaming Association also recently reported that Indian Gaming has continued to grow on a national scale, increasing revenue by 4.4% in the past year. This a good indicator that this is the correct direction and a safer choice for us to invest



in for long term financial stability.

The whole point was to let the people's voice be heard. I appreciate all of those who participated whether they were for or against. We want to make these decisions in the right way and not skip any of the steps. We also wanted to stay mindful of our band members wants on this issue and to be able to move forward without second guessing ourselves or regretting the decision.

The architectural and general contractor RFP's for the new Palace have been issued. Pending the financing portion we are expecting to have a groundbreaking next summer. Once again i want to say "Miigwetch" to all the band members who weighed in on this important issue.

Construction on other facilities has been progressing rapidly. You can view a time lapse of the work being done on the Bug O Nay Ge Shig School on their website. I believe the same technology is being used at the Onigum Community Center to allow you to view the progress and work as it is being done. The Shingobee on the Bay has also opened this summer. They are still anticipating having a Grand

District III Report Continued

Opening ceremony in the very near future. It is open for business, but they still have a few items to work out before they would like to have their official Grand Opening. Updates on that event will be posted as they become available. Stay tuned!

I am very thankful and honored to be a part of the work that has gone into these different projects. Some of these, like Shingobee, have been a very long time coming. I believe that the mechanisms we put in place and followed, ensured the project was carried out correctly. Sticking to the procedures, doing things the right way through a fair and ethical process, strongly monitoring the budget and expenses have resulted in a beautiful business which has been vacant for far too long.

A new campus for our Health and Human Services Divisions is currently in the planning and development stages currently. This has been a priority for me since I came on board here and will be a major accomplishment once it is completed. We are also seeking infrastructure acquisitions and development off the reservation as well. We are looking at the services we provide in Bemidji, Duluth and Minneapolis and working on solutions to address the issues there in the most effective manner. I cannot commit to any specific timelines or locations yet, but we are taking a look at those and we will be following up. We want to make sure we are giving the time and energy toward these developments.

One major issue that has been brought to me is the emergency issuance of hotel rooms by Tribal Council at the Palace and at Northern Lights to some extent. I believe this is a symptom of not having quality services in place. We have to do something, we are a compassionate people. We can't let our members be exposed to the elements in our harsh winters or hot summers.

The room issue is something we need to address before we complete the new Palace Casino. The easiest way to alleviate this issue is

to address it head on and create a new service for our band members. This will be a major initiative I will be working to address in the next year by working with Housing, Gaming and Tribal Development. I hope that we will end up with a better solution to emergency homelessness situations rather than using our casino hotel rooms.

Much of the success that we have enjoyed in the past year, I attribute to stability within our government. When we are stable things progress very well. Around election time we see many silos begin to form, people begin to get uneasy and separate into factions. If we are stable enough as an organization, as a government and as a people, those times can come and go and only be a small hiccup as we progress forward. When I look at national politics I see a deep divide with the Federal government swinging back and forth between the far left and the far right. This leads to a very reactionary form of governing, we need to avoid this type of mindset. At the end of the day, we are a small close-knit community with the same major goals in mind to benefit our people and our future generations. We must continue to move forward and remaining stable is going to benefit the quality of life for all of our people. I cannot stress enough the importance of government stability. I understand that people will have different views and opinions on what this may look like and I respect all of their views. Just keep in mind at the end of the day we are all working together towards the same goal.

District III Elders are now eligible to receive a casino coupon within their birthday month. This will be the first month that we are doing this so bear with us as we smooth out the process. For now, elders with birthdays in July or August can contact my assistant Toni Pemberton at 335-3020 for more information on how to receive these.

Miigwetch for reading,

LeRoy Staples-Faribanks III
District III Representative

Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders



District I Birthdays

May
Margaret Ferber
Norma Wilson
Ruby Rogers
Melvina Sherman
Marion Bixby
Detra Lyons
Robert Roy
Sandra Charwood
Robert Fairbanks
Micheal Kirt
Carol Goggleye
Rose Gotchie
Kim Hanson

Francine Smith
Barbara Kannas

Constance Wilson
Darwin Wilson Jr.

From the District I Office Penny, Sarah, & Sondra

District II Birthdays

May
Joe Chase
Donna White
Dolly Boyd
Helen Smith
Bonita Strong-Desjarlais
Terri Goggleye
Guy Greene III
Tony Stangel

June
Hilda Beaulieu
Ronald Burnette
Charlene Dahl
Roxanne Drumbeater
Marian Molash
Barbara Shipley
Robert Veilleux
Beatrice Dunn

Lorraine Johnson
Ricky Goose
George Hawkins
July
Virginia Greene
Guy Greene Jr.
Stella Mitchell
Connie Wheeler

Mark Banks
Marlene Mitchell
Gordon Giffen
Terrance "Terry" Mitchell
Dan White Sr.
Robert Mitchell
Robert Johnson
Sharon St. John

From the District II Office Steve, Amos, & Michelle

District III Birthdays

July
Brenda Anderson
Deborah Brown
Pamela Burnette
Hazel Chase-Zimpel
Darlene Cloud
Oliver Drouillard
David Fairbanks
Elaine Fleming
Delores Goggleye
Corrine Goose
Gladys Granroos
Manuel Granroos

Francis Guinn Sr.
Jennifer Hanson
Veda Harrison
Sandra Houle
Kari Humphrey
Wilbur Humphrey
Florine Iverson
Faron Jackson Sr.
George Jackson
Roberta Jackson
Nancy Kingbird
June Klaser
Birdena Lyons

Terrance Mitchell
Bernice Mitchell-Diver
Gerald Northbird Jr.
Lois Northbird
Bernice Pemberton
Shirley Preston
John Raisch Jr.
Paula Savage
Henry Sherer-Nason
Margaret Steensland
Vern Vannette
Vivian Washington
Robert J White Sr

From the District III Office LeRoy & Toni

Leech Lake Band Members Approve New Palace Casino Project by Referendum Vote

CASS LAKE, MN- Leech Lake Band Members took to the polls earlier this summer to decide whether the tribe should move forward with a new casino construction project to replace the existing Palace Casino & Hotel in Cass Lake, MN.

The referendum question passed with a resounding "Yes". Approximately 78% of the votes cast were in favor of moving forward with the replacement project. Voters had the option of returning a paper ballot by mail or voting at one of the election precincts located throughout the reservation, and in Duluth and Minneapolis. A total of 1,244 "Yes" votes were cast with 341 votes cast for "No".

In March, the Leech Lake Tribal Council voted to turn over the decision making power on this proposal to the tribal citizenship. A similar measure was passed in 2000 which led to the successful construction of the Northern Lights Casino near Walker, MN.

The new Palace Casino will be located along the Highway 2 Frontage Road in Cass Lake, MN. An estimated \$45 million to \$50 million will be invested into construction of the new building. Work on the new structure is expected to begin in early 2018 and be completed in 2019. Once finished, the new casino is expected to provide an additional 100-200 jobs beyond current staffing levels.

Official Results from the May 16, 2017 Referendum for the construction of a New Palace Casino Hotel.

Location	Yes Votes	No Votes	Total
Referendum Cmte. Office	962	161	1123
Ball Club	11	30	41
Inger	11	19	30
S. Lake	16	0	16
Bena	18	11	29
Sugar Point	5	13	18
Kego-Smokey	12	6	18
Cass Lake	114	63	177
Cass River	11	4	15
Oak Point	4	1	5
Onigum	14	10	25 (1 Spoiled)
Mission	26	10	36
Bemidji	11	5	16
Duluth	6	1	7
Minneapolis	23	7	30
Grand Total	1244	341	1586
	78.43%	21.50%	

National Native News Briefs

Federal Funding for Native American Programs and Services Face Drastic Cuts in Trump Budget

"Don't balance the budget on the backs of the poorest citizens," Congressman Tom Cole (R-OK) said at a June 8 hearing focused on Interior's Indian-related budget.

As the appropriations process in Congress has proceeded, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke has championed the Trump budget, proposed earlier this year, which includes a substantial decrease to funding for Indian country programs and services.

"This is what a balanced budget looks like," Zinke has said at various congressional hearings. Throughout his congressional testimony, he has reiterated the assumption driving the numbers: that the American people wanted a balanced budget and that the Trump plan would make it happen in 10 years.

Left unsaid by Zinke has been an important question—whether the \$1.6 billion cut to Indian programs (13.4 percent below the fiscal year 2017 enacted Interior budget) was a painful one-time reduction or there would be additional cuts over the next nine fiscal years or a cap on future increases.

Under the Trump plan as it now stands, approximately 241 Bureau of Indian Affairs positions would be eliminated. Indian education is to lose \$64.4 million.

The budget proposal also reduces funding to Indian social service, welfare assistance, and the Indian Child Welfare Act by \$23.3 million, and proposes to eliminate the \$8 million housing program.

In addition, support for tribal justice programs dropped by \$21.4 million. Real estate ser-

vices decreased by \$17.4 million, natural resource management programs lost \$27.3 million, and completely cut Tribal Climate Resilience Awards funding. Construction lost \$50.3 million.

Following opening remarks by Chairman Ken Calvert (R-CA) at a June 8 Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies hearing in which he expressed distress over the cuts to the Interior budget, ranking member Betty McCollum (D-MN) led the charge for the Democrats against the cuts.

She described the Trump proposal as "reckless" and one that "[endangers] our nation's natural and cultural resources... one that guts funding for programs critical to appropriately manage public lands, it dishonors our commitment to Native Americans and rejects science."

McCollum continued, "This budget.... dishonors our commitment to Native Americans and.... advances an agenda that puts the profits of oil companies above the public good."

White House Rescinds Fracking Standards for Tribal Lands

A notice set to be published in the Federal Register announces the withdrawal of a 2015 fracking regulation put in place by the Obama administration. Energy producing tribes complained it was imposed without their consent and a federal judge eventually ruled that the Bureau of Land Management lacked the authority to subject Indian lands to the standards.

"The BLM now believes that the appropriate framework for mitigating these impacts exists through state regulations, through tribal exercise of sovereignty, and through BLM's own pre-existing regulations and authorities".

Public comments will be accepted on the withdrawal of the fracking

rule for 60 days. The standards affect federal lands in addition to Indian lands.

Tribes Sue U.S. Govt After Grizzly Bears Removed From Endangered Species List

Grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone area are now, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, no longer endangered. It lifted protections on the animal last month, which means a certain number of them can be hunted. The bears are not only iconic symbols of the American West, but they're also sacred to Native American cultures.

Native American tribes from seven states and Canada are saying this decision violates their religious freedom, and they're suing the government.

Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act reportedly moves closer to passage in Senate

A bill to exempt tribes and their gaming facilities from federal labor law is inching closer to passage in the Senate. Citing a "tribal lobbyist" who wished to remain anonymous, GamblingCompliance reported S.63 is within 2 votes of the 60 needed to move forward in the chamber.

For decades, tribes didn't have to worry about the National Labor Relations Act. But in 2004, the National Labor Relations Board said tribal businesses -- particularly casinos -- could be subjected to the law because they employ non-Indians and cater to non-Indians.

The same standard doesn't apply to states and local governments. The Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act would essentially ensure parity for tribal governments and recognize their right to implement their own labor laws.

The House version of the bill is H.R.986. It cleared the House Committee on Education and the Workforce on June 29 by a vote of 22 to 16.



Obituaries



Debra Rushman



Debra Lynn Rushman of the Bear Clan, 51, of Inger, Minnesota passed away Saturday, April 15, 2017 in Duluth, Minnesota. She was born December 13, 1965 to Henry Sr. and Izetta (Garbow) Rushman in Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Debi had a heart of gold and always helped anyone that asked her. She was always putting everyone else before herself. She was known by "Ma" as many of her nieces and nephews called her. Debi enjoyed going to the casino to play her Keno. She enjoyed visiting her family, especially her grandchildren and helping anyone that asked. Some of her hobbies include working and being outside, cutting boughs and harvesting wild rice. She also loved to sew.

She is welcomed to the spirit world by her parents, Henry and Izetta, mother-in-law; Debra Kay Robinson, infant grandson; Exavier Duran White, aunties; Frances, Leojean and Emma, uncles; Ernest and Dennis and several other relatives.

Those she leaves behind are her husband; Eugene Howard, Sr., her children; Cheyenne Rushman, Cody Rushman, Craig (Cassandra) Cloud, Sr., Sonny Rushman, Eugene Howard, Jr., Jazmine Howard and 9 grand babies, her sisters and brothers; Donna (Ernest) Johnson, Mary Rushman, Melvina Rushman, Roland Wilson, Henry "Sonny" (Connie) Rushman, Jr. and Robert "Moe" (Elsie) Rushman, Sr. and many nieces, nephews, other family members and many friends.

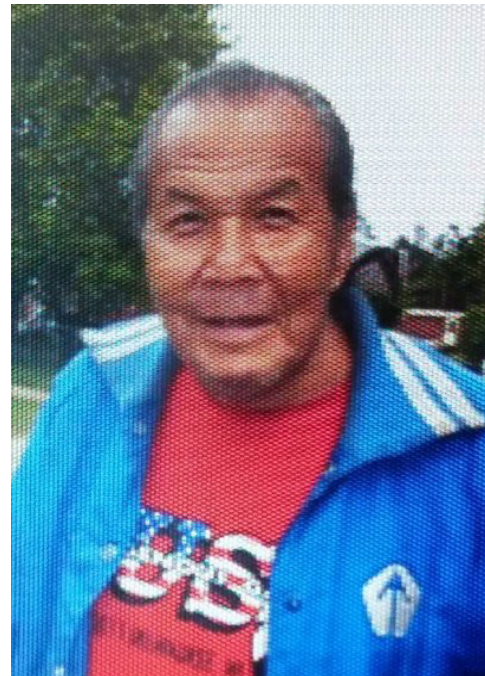
An overnight wake will begin at 4:00 p.m.,

Tuesday, April 18th and continue until her 10:00 a.m. traditional service on Wednesday, April 19th all being held at the Inger Community Center in Inger, Minnesota. Allen Hardy will be her Spiritual Advisor.

Pallbearers for Debi will be Zachary Rushman, Robert Rushman, Jr., Ernest Johnson, Jr., Delbert Rushman, Jr., Delbert Rushman, Sr. and Jerome Roy. Alternates are Richard Wakonabo, Jr. and Joseph Campbell. Her honorary pallbearers are all of her children, grand babies and nieces and nephews. Interment will be in the Inger Cemetery at Inger, Minnesota.

Debra's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, Minnesota. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.northernpeace.com.

Donald "Don" Tuttle



Donald "Don" James Tuttle, 58, of Cass Lake, Minnesota began his journey to the spirit world on Sunday, April 28, 2017 from the Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, ND. Don was born in Cass Lake, MN on May 31, 1958 to Donald Weiss and Lorraine Elsie (Tuttle) Day.

Don was a simple man. He liked to hunt and fish. Don enjoyed going to the casino to gamble, listening to music, going to pow-wows and just having fun with his family and friends.

Those welcoming Don to the spirit world are his mother; Lorraine Day, brother; Clifford Day, Jr., nephew; David Wayne Raisch-Day and other family members.

He leaves behind his son; Cody, brother; Ronald (Earlene Ogema) Day, Sr., nieces; Alicia Day, Kimberly Raisch and Denise Croaker, nephews; Ronald Day, Jr., Clifford Croaker and Marcus Croaker, many more relatives and friends.

An overnight wake for Don will begin at 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 2nd and continue until his traditional service at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 3rd all being held at the Veterans Memorial Building in Cass Lake. Pallbearers for Don are Jim Tuttle, Bill Tuttle, Ron Day, Sr., AJ Devorak, Robert Tuttle, Clifford Croaker, Isaac Raisch and Brian Funk. His honorary pallbearers are Earlene "Oge" Ogema, Alicia Day, Kimberly Raisch, Tina Raisch, Connie Littlewolf and Carlotta Redwing. Inurnment will be in the Prince of Peace Cemetery at Cass Lake at a later date.

Don's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com

James Weldon Rowe



James (Jimmy) Weldon Rowe, 48 years old, of Minneapolis, Minnesota and the Fish Clan began his spiritual journey April 5, 2017 from his home. He was born in Minneapolis, MN on May 21, 1968.

Growing up and into adulthood Jimmy was wiry, smiley and full of energy. His passion was cooking and was very good at it. He was also a hard worker. He loved to be around his friends and all his family, both biological and adopted. They were all very important to him. He was so very excited when he discovered his biological family and was welcomed by them with open arms

after having been separated at birth. School was always a struggle for Jimmy and it was a very proud day for him when he graduated from South High School. Discovering the Anishinabe Wakiagun house was a key event in his adult life. It was an important place for him, giving him a home where he was accepted, safe and cared for. His son Quinton Kennedy lives on the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation in New York with his mother Carrie Kennedy.

Those welcoming Jimmy are his mother and father; William and Norma Rowe, mother and father; Rachel and Kenneth Smith, sister; Connie White, niece; Deanna White, grandparents; Hartley and Lillian White, Sr., uncle; Joseph White, aunts; Shirley White and Patrice Johnson and other relatives.

Those he leaves behind are his son; Quinton Kennedy of New York, sister; Julie Rowe and brother-in-law; Josh Radinski of Chicago, IL, brothers; Tony (Kelly) Novak of Cass Lake, Ken (Barb) White of Shakopee, aunts; Linda Morris, Donna (Duane) White, Nancy Emmick, Patricia Bade, Peggy White, and special aunt; Jean Howard, uncles; Hartley White, Jr., Richard Emmick, Milton Bade and Gary Johnson, nephews; Wyatt White, Matthew Koch, Brandon White, Sr., John Charnoski, Ben, Sam and Joe Radinsky, nieces; Rosalie White, Lauren Hott and Chantel and Cheyenne Novak, many cousins and friends.

An overnight wake for Jimmy will be at 5:00 p.m., Sunday, April 9th at the Little Earth Gymnasium, 2501 Cedar Ave, Minneapolis, MN. Jimmy will then travel to Sugar Point for another overnight wake that will begin at 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 10th at Sugar Point Community Center and will continue until his traditional service at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 11th. His spiritual advisor will be Steve Jackson. Those helping lay Jimmy to rest will be Jack Reyes, Wyatt White, Nathan Howard, Larry Ranallo, Brandon White, Sr., Nicholas Howard, Gino, John Charnoski and Butch Wuellner. His honorary pallbearers are Quentin Kennedy, Tony Novak, Ken White, Hartley White, Jr., Gina from Bena, Tommy Ranallo, Josh Radinsky, Julie Rowe, Chris Zimmerman, Anishinabe Wakiagun Staff and Residents, Leech Lake Twin Cities Office Staff and all his friends from the Moose. Interment will be in the Battle Point Cemetery at Battle Point, Minnesota.

Jimmy's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, Minnesota. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com

Lorena Johnson



Lorena Marie Johnson, 52 “Eisch can nah nah wahb equay” which means “Strong Standing Woman” of the wolf clan began her spiritual journey April 4, 2017. Lorena was born on September 6, 1965, the daughter of Floyd and Leona Johnson.

Lorena was born and raised in Nevis Minnesota. She worked at the Palace Casino Hotel for about 18 years and she really loved her job. But her world was taking care of her grandchildren.

Lorena is welcomed home by her mother; Leona Johnson.

Those Lorena leaves behind to cherish her memory are her father; Floyd Johnson, sisters; Lorraine Johnson, Lisa Johnson and Loretta Johnson, her brothers; Floyd Johnson, Jr. and Lucas French, her children; Rayna Hunt, Jage Hunt, Ronald Hunt and Ressina Hunt and her 8 grandchildren who she loved very dearly.

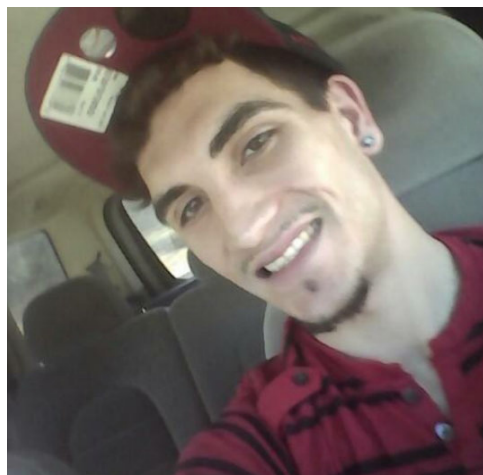
A wake for Lorena will begin at 12:00 p.m. Friday April 7, 2017 and continue until her 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 8, 2017 service all being held at the Veterans Memorial Building Cass Lake, Minnesota. Allen Hardy will be her spiritual leader.

Those helping to lay Lorena to rest are, Faron Blakely, Loren French, Donald Fairbanks, Archie LaRose, Mike Washington, and Thomas Leon. Alternate pallbearers are, Vern Howard, Levi Wind and Paul Connor, Jr. Honorary Pallbearers are Ronald Hunt, Jage Hunt, Rayna

Hunt, Ressina Hunt, Lucas French and Floyd Johnson, Jr. Inurnment will be in Old Agency Cemetery Onigum, Minnesota.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home in Walker, Minnesota. Online condolences for the family can be left at www.northernpeacefuneral-home.com

Casey Matthews



Casey Adam Matthews, 27, of Bena began his spiritual journey on Wednesday, May 17, 2017. Casey was born in Bemidji, MN, on September 6, 1989, to Gerald Edward Humphrey and Joy Marie Matthews.

Casey was and always has been a family-oriented young man. He enjoyed spending time with family, especially his nieces and nephews. He cherished play time in the park, and walks with Baby Nick and Nick'aya, and his “faithful furry friend” Tammy. He was very passionate

in anything he chose to do. He also loved to take pointless road trips, shop, and go to the casino. He liked to eat at various restaurants, always looking for the best strawberry shortcake. Casey graduated Cass Lake-Bena High School in 2011 and attended Leech Lake Tribal College for one year. His smiling face will be missed by all who knew him.

Welcoming Casey home are his grandparents.

He leaves behind his father; Gerald Edward Stangel-Humphrey, his mother; Joy Marie Matthews, his grandfather; Frank Humphrey, his brothers; Thomas Matthews, Jonathan Magnuson, Roland Orth, his sister; Noma Stangel (Nicholas Budreau), nieces and nephews; Nicholas Budreau, Jr., Nick'aya Budreau, Thomas Matthews, Precious Matthews, Anayah Matthews, Avery Matthews, Kianna Orth and special friend; Trevor Kingbird, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and many other relatives.

The wake for Casey will begin at 5:00 p.m., Monday, May 22nd and continue until his 1:00 p.m. traditional services on Wednesday, May 24th all being held at the Bena Community Center in Bena, MN. Allen Hardy will be his Spiritual Leader. Pallbearers for Casey will be Nicholas Budreau Sr., Trevor Kingbird, Roland Orth, Ricky Hinrichs, Tony Stangel, and Tony Stangel, Jr. Honorary pallbearers will be Nicholas Budreau Jr., Nick'aya Budreau, Thomas Matthews, Precious Matthews, Anayah Matthews, and Avery Matthews.

Casey's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com

Michael Smith



Michael Allen Smith, age 55, of Cass Lake, Minnesota began his spiritual journey on May 18, 2017 from Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was born September 27, 1961 in Minneapolis, MN to Donald Joseph Smith and Loretta Mae (Aitkin) Smith.

Michael is one of seven children who, at a young age, were separated from each other. When Michael was old enough to understand the family dynamics, he started searching for his siblings and fought very hard, even through his illness, to keep his family together. Michael was a very outgoing person who loved people. He was a very good man and when he loved you, he loved you wholly. He loved to watch movies especially “Burlesque” with Cher. Michael loved to laugh and make others laugh and he will be missed tremendously by all his family and friends.

Obituaries Continued on Page 12



Cass Lake Grief Support Talking Circle

When: 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month

Time: 5pm-6pm Where: HD2 Building

312 1st Street (Cass Lake)

Light Meal Provided

“Join us for a talking circle to come together with others experiencing grief. Craft supplies will be available for a therapeutic approach at healing.”

Womans Support Talking Circle

1st & 3rd Monday's of the Month
Time: 4:30pm-5:30pm

Where: HD2 Building
Light Meal Provided



Onigum Grief Support Talking Circle



1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month
Time: 6pm-8pm

Where: Onigum Community Center
Light Meal Provided

Obituaries Continued from Page 11

The family that welcomes Michael to the Spirit World are his parents; Loretta and Donald Smith, and "Mom" Celeste Larson, daughter; Ronnie Martin, sisters; Donald "Bebe" and Deborah "Sissy" Smith, aunt; Cindy Day, niece; Myra "Tiny" Smith and several other relatives.

Michael is survived by his significant other of 30 years; Tina Martin, son; Peter Martin, brothers; Greg and Dennis Smith, sisters; Lucy "Lucky" (Smith) Council and Vicki "Mouse" (Smith) Swanson, special sister; Tess Eichens, special brother; John Iverson, aunties; Georgianna "Auntie Babe" Feigum and Phyllis Day, uncles; John Feigum and Jimmy Day, Sr. and many other family members and friends.

A wake for Michael will begin at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 24rd and continue until his 12:00 p.m. traditional service on Thursday, May 25th all being held at the Facility Center in Cass Lake, Minnesota. Spiritual Advisors for Michael are Wally Humphries and Jimmy Day. Pallbearers will be Peter Martin, Michael Martin, Jr., Fred Martin, Arrione Martin, Yonny Cortes, Evan Cortes and John Iverson. His honorary pallbearers are Roger Martin, Michael Martin, Sr., John Martin, Jr., Cassius Council, Damien Smith, Arthur Wright, Sr., Casey (Smith) Cortes, Jamie Smith, Toni Smith and John Swanson and all his nieces and nephews. Interment will be in the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery at Old Agency, Minnesota following his service on Thursday.

Michael's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, Minnesota. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com.

Roberta Wind

Roberta Jean (Staples) Wind, 74 years young, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, June 22, 2017 from the Sanford Hospital in Bemidji, MN. Roberta was born in Cass Lake, MN on February 13th, 1943, the daughter of Charles and Margaret (Charwood) Staples, Sr.

Berta was born and raised in the Cass Lake/Mission area. She lived with her family in the Cass Lake/Mission area until they moved to Minneapolis in the early 1970's. Berta and her family returned to Cass Lake area in the late 1970's



where her and her siblings worked as the Leech Lake Band of Objiwe Ambulance EMT crew for quite a few years. Berta worked at the food distribution center from the early 1980's until she she started working at the Palace Casino Gift Shop. Berta loved spending time with her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren her two great great grandchildren along with going to the casino next door to her house where she enjoyed playing her horse race slot game. Berta raised her daughter Terri's kids after she passed away and also took care of her granddaughter Susan for the past 18 years, right up until her passing. Berta loved football as she had Vikings football boards going every year and loved watching the Minnesota Twins. Berta also played softball with the Mission Tornados. She enjoyed bowling and listening to her country music while she visited with her family. Berta attended the Episcopal Church in Cass Lake and sang with the Ojibwe Hymn Singers for years until she lost her voice due to medical issues. She is deeply loved by her son Joe, and many others and her presence will be missed

dearly by many.

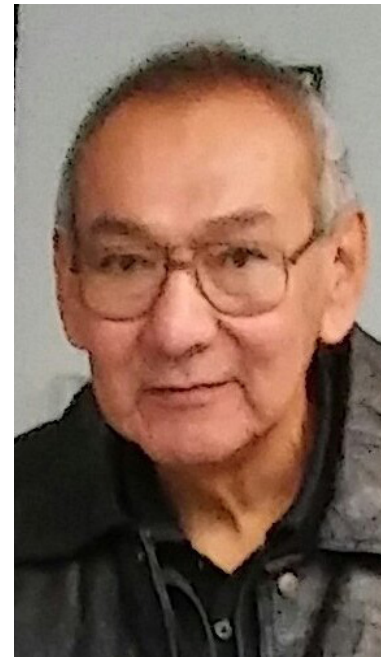
Berta has been reunited with her parents; Margaret and Charles Staples, Sr., her daughter; Terri Staples, brothers; Richard Staples, Charles Staples, Jr. and Samuel Staples, sisters; Catherine "Mish" Adams, Cecelia "Bone" Drouillard, Naomi "Oma" Countryman, Beatrice "Betty" Staples and Delores "Dee" Morrow, special nephew; Daniel "Dom" Kingbird, several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Those left behind to cherish her memory are her son; Joe (Shelly) Wind of Cass Lake, daughter; Deanna Wind of Cass Lake, brother; Patrick "Slaptoes" (Carol) Staples of Cass Lake, sister; Barbara (Jimmy) Perleberg of Cass Lake, special granddaughters; Terri Wind, Anna Wind, Susan Morris and Paisley Staples, special grandson; Chandler Staples, 14 grandchildren, 29 great grandchildren, two great great grandsons, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and many many friends.

A wake for Berta will begin at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, June 24th and continue until her 1:00 p.m. service on Monday, June 26th all being held at the Mission Community Center in Mission/Cass Lake, MN. Pastor Mark R. Olson will officiate. Those helping to lay Roberta to rest are Darryl Drouillard, Michael Staples, Kenneth Staples, Cody Wind, Aaron Wind and Sam Staples, Jr. Alternate pallbearers are William Kingbird, Arnold Kingbird and Jimmy Crandall. Her honorary pallbearers are Deanna Wind, Sally Pemberton, Susie Roy, Rocky Cook, Barbara Perleberg, Roberta Norby, Patricia Staples, Jean Roper, Nikki Kingbird, Cheryl Staples, Jen Kingbird, Shelly Pemberton, Alaina Wind, Bitsy Kingbird, Susan Morris, Michelle Morris, Kristi Wind, Della Kingbird, Kelly Wind, Karla Wind, Kaylyn Ness, Jenelle and Jarrod Mankie. Interment will be in the Mission Cemetery following her Monday services.

Berta's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com

Eugene "Ribs" Whitebird



Eugene "Ribs" Dale Whitebird, 61 years old, of Cass Lake, Minnesota went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, June 26, 2017 from the Cass Lake IHS Hospital in Cass Lake, MN. He was born in Cass Lake, MN on April 2, 1956 to LeRoy and Elizabeth (Littlewolf) Whitebird, Sr.

Ribs was born and raised in Cass Lake, MN. In high school, he was an all-around athlete. After graduating from Cass Lake High School in 1974, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. Ribs spent the next two years of his life protecting his country and upon discharge came home to Cass Lake. He was a devoted servant to his people, in many different ways. Ribs was a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church for many years, where he was a lay reader. He also served on the Leech Lake Tribal Council from July 2008 to July 2012, he was a valued member of the Leech Lake Housing Board and was a Chemical Dependency Counselor trainee at the Addiction and Dependency program at AhnjiBeMahDiz Men's Halfway House in Cass Lake.

Ribs helped many people with their journey home to the Lord, whether he was assisting Pastor Mark with the services, singing with the Ojibwe

Singers (of which he was a long-time member), or both. When Ribs wasn't busy helping others, he played for the Minnesota Chipp's Softball team, traveling and playing in tournaments in many different cities. He also liked to go to the casino and play the slots. Ribs' greatest pleasure was spending time with his grandchildren, they meant to world to him. He was known by many and will be missed by all.

Ribs is reunited with his parents; LeRoy and Elizabeth Whitebird, Sr., brothers; Darwin and Dave, sisters; Betty, Arlene and Shirley, his companion of 26 years Kathy Taylor and his grandparents; William and Sarah Whitebird and Joseph and Katherine Littlewolf and several other relatives.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory his daughters; Kelli (Jared) Norton and Jamie Taylor, ten grandchildren, special grandson; Tyson, brother; LeRoy "Puff" Whitebird, Jr., sister; Beverly (Ed Dalton) Whitebird, mother; Nancy Whitebird, many more relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

A wake for Ribs will begin at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 28th and continue until his 11:00 a.m. service on Friday, June 30th all being held at the Mission Community Center in Cass Lake, MN. Pastors Mark R. Olson, John Rock and Father George Ross will officiate. Pallbearers for Ribs will be J.R. Taylor, Clinton Taylor, Kyle Whitebird, Eric Fairbanks, Scott Whitebird and Daniel Fineday. Alternate pallbearers are Jared Norton and Daryl Fisherman. His honorary pallbearers are the Ojibwe Singers, Minnesota Chipp's Softball Team, Men's Halfway House Staff and Clients, David Hare, Robert "Jappy" Headbird, Patrick Northbird, Henry Harper, Walter Gross, Alfred "Tig" Pemberton and Rupert Olson. Interment will be in Prince of Peace Cemetery at Mission/Cass Lake following his Friday service. Military honors accorded by the Leech Lake Honor Guard of Cass Lake, MN.

Ribs' care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com.

Linda Cabrales



Linda Ann Cabrales, 63 years young, of Fertile, Minnesota passed away on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at Essentia Hospital in Fargo, North Dakota. Linda was born July 4th, 1953 in Bemidji, Minnesota to Pricilla Jones. She was eventually adopted by Hank and Laura Staples and grew up in Osseo, MN.

Linda gave birth to six children, raising five children on her own. As a single mother she was a very strong and independent woman. She taught her kids to never give up and be strong no matter what life threw at you.

Her passion in life was native American crafts. She was self employed native American bead crafter, where her work is now all over the world. She also loved going to pow wow's and trying her luck at the casino's with her "free money's" as she always said. What brought her the most joy was her 10 grandchildren. She loved spoiling them, and made sure they were always taken care of.

Sadly, the last couple of years she had several health issues that she battled hard. Even though her body was weak, her mind and spirit stayed strong. Now she flies and watches over her loved ones.

Family that she is reunited with are her parents; Hank and Laura, biological mother; Priscilla, the love of her life; Steven Juarez, son; Steven Dimis Cabrales, brothers; Jerry Staples and Jack Miller, sisters; Joyce and Gladys Coons and Janice Marty and other family members.

Those she leaves behind to cherish her memory are sons; Jesus (Heidi) Cabrales of Fertile, Juan Juarez of Excelsior, daughters; Jennifer Staples of Billings, MT, Margarita (Donnie Daniels) Cabrales of Prior Lake and Stella Juarez of Fertile, brother; Butch (Cleo) Miller of Osseo, sister-in-law; Caren Staples of Zimmerman, grandchildren; Alejandorey, Francisco, Laura, Dylan, Evan, Virginia, Lola, Kora, Ian and Dezi, life long friends; Nadine and Lawrence Wade and many more relatives and friends.

A gathering of family and friends will be held from 3:00-7:00 p.m., Saturday, May 27, 2017 at the Facility Center in Cass Lake, Minnesota. Pallbearers for Linda will be Ian Latimer, Donnie Daniels, Dylan Cabrales, Jesus Cabrales, Juan Juarez and Al Ford. Her honorary pallbearers are Larry and Nadine Wade, Troy Staples, Todd Staples and Lukas Pukeas. In keeping with Linda's giving spirit continued even at the end of her life providing gifts of organs to give life to others. Inurnment will be in the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery, next to her mother, at a later date.

Linda's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com

Nancy "Sam" Greene

Nancy "Sam" Louise Greene, 53 years old, passed away on Saturday, July 1, 2017. She was born the daughter of Dale Greene, Sr. and Mary "Ponee" Paquette-Greene on June 25, 1964 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Sam was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Growing up she spent a lot of time with her many cousins. Sam had a big heart and was very strong, strong willed. She was always willing to

help anyone she crossed paths with. Sam enjoyed spending time with her husband, children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. She enjoyed going to bingo, and she liked it even better when she won. Sam loved to cook, drink Coca Cola and collecting Coca Cola accessories and bunnies. Sam's big heart and open door will be greatly missed by all.



Nancy is welcomed home by her mother; Mary "Ponee" Paquette-Greene, Dad; David Lee Murray, son; Jay Louis Taylor, grandparents; special cousin; Tina Thompson, many aunts, uncles and other relatives.

She leaves behind her husband; Robert RedEagle of Minneapolis, children; Robert Daniel Greene, Sr., Donovan Lee Greene, Roseleah Kristin Maxwell and Keith Richard RedEagle, Sr. all of Minneapolis and Dell Hall of Fayetteville, AR, brother; Dale (Rebecca) Greene of Park Rapids, sister; Rose Murray of Minneapolis, special grandchildren; Matthew, Aiden and Elliana, grandchildren; Travis, Robbie Jr., Kylee, Jay, Savannah, David and Baby Richard, special daughters-in-law; Randi, Shawna and Rachel, brothers-in-law; Melvin Brunner, Tom Johnson and James RedEagle, Sr., numerous nieces, nephews and family members.

Janice Tanner



Janice Kay Tanner, age 72 of Walker, began her spiritual journey on Saturday, July 1, 2017 at her home with her family by her side. She was born on May 8, 1945 in Long Prairie, MN, the daughter of Isadore and Remelda (Wettstein) Kotula.

Jan grew up on Big Rock Resort in Walker and attended Walker High School where she graduated in 1963. Following high school, Jan worked at 1st National Bank and in October of 1963 she married Richard Tanner. Together they moved to Minneapolis where Richard attended the Minneapolis School of Arts. They moved back to Walker in 1972. Jan attended BSU where she would obtain a Degree in Community Service. While going to school, she took a position at the Onigum Head Start and did all this while raising her five young children.

Jan knew the Onigum community very well and gained many lifelong friends from the area. She became the Librarian at the Walker Public Library and in the mid 80's she and her husband would open a lady's clothing store in Walker called the Joy of Jeans. Her husband, Dick, passed in 1996 and one year later Jan sold her store and began to travel with her dear friend. They went to pow-wows and Indian conferences all over the nation to sell their wares. Eventually Jan moved back to Walker and opened Kreatively Yours, another woman's clothing store. Even during this

time, Jan would travel to craft shows with one of her daughters to sell their embellishments.

Jan was a wonderful quilt maker. She enjoyed spending time with the Northwood's Quilters Guild and helping with quilt shows. The guild would donate quilts to many different organizations. So, Jan's hands and beautiful work have touched many different lives.

Jan enjoyed traveling all through her life, even at a young age when her parents would take her all over the country. She was an avid sewer and would make clothing and gifts for her family and friends. She loved reading books, but especially those that were written by Minnesota authors. Jan had a love for Leech Lake and her family. She was a very generous kind hearted woman who would never forget names and faces. Jan could even tell you what a person had bought from her store many years after the fact. She was a collector of black bears to remember her husband and her family being of the Bear Clan. She will be missed by all who knew her.

The family that Jan joins again are her parents, her husband and one son.

Those she leaves behind to cherish her memory are her son; Dallas (Lisa) Jones-Tanner of Boy River, daughters; Evelyn (Jim) Campbell of Duluth, Valerie Tanner and her husband Greg Wostrel of Cloquet, and Gina (Matt Peterson) Drumbeater-Tanner of Bemidji, brother; Alan (Traci) Kotula of Lincoln City, OR, special son Clayton Daniels, 9 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren.

A memorial service for Jan will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 8, 2017 at the Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service also at the funeral home. Honorary pallbearers will be all her grandchildren and John Whitebird.

Jan's care has been entrusted to the Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences for the family may be given at www.northernpeace.com

Healthy Tribal Living



A monthly column provided by
Cass Lake IHS

Submitted by Tuyen Nguyen, PharmD Candidate 2020

SPOTLIGHT ON MEN'S HEALTH

June was Men's Health Month!

What is Men's Health Month?

The goal of Men's Health Month is to increase awareness of preventable diseases, promote detection and treatment of diseases, and improve general health of men and boys. Men are encouraged to seek regular medical advice and early treatment for diseases and injuries.

Why Are Men at Higher Risk?

- 1 in 2 men are diagnosed with cancer compared to 1 in 3 women
- On average, men live about 5 years shorter than females
- Men have a higher death rate for heart disease, diabetes, cancer, and suicide than women
- Women are twice as likely to visit the doctor for annual exams and preventative services when compared to men
- Men may have less healthy lifestyles including risk-taking at younger age

Men What Can You Do to Improve Your Health?

Make Prevention a Priority

Many of the preventable diseases can be detected early during regular examinations with your healthcare provider. It is recommended that all adult men get screened for high blood pressure and obesity. All adults should get their cholesterol checked every 5 years. Men 50 years of age or older should get screened for colorectal and prostate cancer. Being up-to-date on your immunizations is also very important for disease prevention.

Testicular Self-Exam

The testicles are a pair of male sex glands suspended below the penis in a sac like pouch called the scrotum. This is where sperm is produced and stored. Men should check their testicles in front of a mirror on a monthly basis for the development of testicular cancer. Testicular cancer is most common



in men ages 20-39. If diagnosed and treated early enough, testicle cancer can be cured!

Steps for testicular self-examination

- 1) After a warm shower, stand in front of a mirror
- 2) Look for any swelling on the scrotum
- 3) Using both hands, roll each testicle gently between the thumbs and fingers
- 4) See your healthcare provider right away if you feel:

- A lump
- A feeling of heaviness or a large amount of fluid in the skin around the testes
- Pain or aching in the testes, groin, or lower abdomen area
- A testicle becomes larger or shrinks
- Tender or enlarged breasts

Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)

Prostate is a small, walnut shaped gland that sits below the bladder.

It is part of the male reproductive system. The prostate is very small at birth and increase in size during puberty. BPH is a non-cancerous enlargement of the prostate and it is very common. More than half of men over the age of 50 have BPH.

Some symptoms of BPH are:

- Feeling that the bladder is emptied
- Inability to hold urine
- Increased urination frequency, especially at night
- Weak, slow urine stream

BPH cannot be prevented but here are some self-care tips that can reduce your symptoms:

- Urinate when you first get the urge and urinate whenever you have the opportunity to
- Avoid drinking alcohol and caffeine, especially after dinner
- Spread out fluids intake during the day and avoid drinking fluids within 2 hours of bedtime
- Taking over the counter drug that contain decongestants or antihistamines can increase

your BPH symptoms

Sexual Transmitted Disease

Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are spread from person to person through sexual contact. This includes oral and anal sex, sex with a single partner or multiple partners, and between heterosexuals or homosexuals. It is important to get tested for STDs because most STDs have no symptoms! The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommend an annual STD testing for men if they've shown symptoms or have had sex with another male. Men from 13-64 years old is recommended to include STD tests in their routine screening.

The most common STDs are:

- Syphilis
- Gonorrhea
- Chlamydia
- Genital Herpes
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
- HIV/AIDS

You can reduce your risk of getting

an STD by:

- Use condoms every time you have oral, vaginal, or anal sex. Plastic condoms can be used if you are allergic to latex
- Wash genitals and hands before and after sexual contact
- Get shots to prevent hepatitis B and HPV, which can cause genital warts and cervical cancer
- Get tested

If you think you have an STD, visit your healthcare provider right away. The longer you wait to get treated, the more damage the disease may cause. Untreated STDs can cause more complicated problems such as cancer and difficulties getting pregnant.

Sexual Dysfunction

The most common sexual dysfunction in male is erectile disorder (ED). ED is the inability to attain or maintain an erection or to keep an erection firm enough for satisfactory sexual intercourse. ED is treatable at any age and more men have been seeking help.

Your chance of having erectile disorder increases with these risk factors:

- Diabetes mellitus
- Hypertension
- Depression
- Dyslipidemia
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Medication use
- Smoking tobacco
- Advancing age

If you are worried that you have ED, you should tell your doctor. ED can be a sign of underlying health problems that could become serious if untreated. For many men, simply taking a pill can solve the problem. Other modifications such as getting more exercise, losing weight, and stopping smoking can also help!

Want to see these statistics change? Call the Cass Lake IHS at 218-335-3200 to schedule a checkup today!

BUG-O-NAY-GE-SHIG SCHOOL NEWS

Submitted by Mike Schmid

Memorial Feast at Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School held May 30

Bug O Nay Ge Shig School held its annual Memorial Feast on Tuesday, May 30th at 5:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium. The Memorial Ceremony and Feast was held in memory of all deceased students and staff who have been a part of the Bug O Nay Ge Shig School family. All of their family members are encouraged to attend.

1978 Dave Munnell Melvina Rogers Larry Windom	David J. Whitebird, Sr.	1999 Terri Staples Alice M. Sumner Boyd Leedon Beaulieu Gary L. Hanson, Jr. Duane Jenkins Robert Stone Mary Wittner Gladys Drouillard	Quenten Roy Carol Garbow	Merrel Hill Mark Wakonabo Jimmy Adams Cecil Johnston Rochelle Sargent Daniel Peet	Headbird Frances Barney Alfred Fairbanks Sr. Jereme Kraskey Shirley Whitebird Morris "Moe" Beaulieu Jr Sharon Raisch Everett Allen Gladys Robinson Rhonda Hurd White David Raisch Day George Whipple Sr. George Earth Jr Jane Mitchell Stephanie Venzel	Veronica "Roni" Jones
1979 Frankie Brown Bobby Harrison Eunice Wittner	1991 Bob Rice Denise Thompson Scott Brown Corey Whitebird	2000 Elmer Jones Sonny Seelye Wayne Goggeye Samuel Goose Terry A. Cloud Donald Cobenais Charles Beaulieu Tom Mitchell Jerome Decicco Jimmy Hardy Mary Jane Johnson Sterling Gale Linda Mitchell Rubie (Smith) Oconnor	2003 Tina Garton Shane Waybenais-Stately Joan Lafriniere Matt Goose William "Bj" Mitchell- Drumbeater Matt SchAAF Michael Gale	2008 Bill Bobolink Josie Ryan James "Wiisin" Rogers Tanya Sargent Ron Lyons Dennis Harper William St. Cyr Carmen Kingbird Robert "Pacho" Goggeye, Jr Mike "Bocky" Kingbird Rodney Johnson, Sr. Mike Lahmon	2012 Brian Northbird James Elmberg Myron Lyons Louise "Peanuts" Johnson Jenkins Renae Jackson Larry McClimek Darrin Losh Karen Morgan Ed Bobrowski Scott Thurlow	2015 Doug Roberts Terry Robinson, Jr. David Smith, Sr. Nathan (Newt) Jenkins Dianna Donnell Barbara Fineday Miranda Ogema Judy Fairbanks Cory J. Walter Jones Endonnis Headbird Baird Dallas Medina-Graciano Kevin Charwood Katie O' Kelly Dale Thornton Lisa Fisherman
1980 Melvin Gale	1992 Rhonda Fairbanks James Jackson, Sr. Steve White Rick Hare Terry W. White	2001 Silas "Jake" Blue Holly Kornezos Anessa Anderson Shawn Guinn Doug (Losh) White Dion Staples Chuck Keezer Jerome Johnson, Sr. Richard Wakanabo Dan Brown Dustin Kingbird Ernest Howard Iv Elizabeth Boyd Porky White Tonya Monroe Julius Blue Sr. Leo Gotchie Cody Houle Jonathan Mitchell Owen Goose	2004 Zachary Fairbanks Earl (Ringo) Ogema David Schoenborn Sr. Leon Burnett Jodi Hinden Theresa Johnston Janice Bradley Bert Headbird Marlo Meserina Lucy Mitchell	2009 Elverna "Byrd" Morris Terrell Wilson Jay White Lucy Donnell Aloysius "Wishy" Thunder Hartley White Gerald (Jake) Hurd Benny Tonce Jessica Staples Barbara Ann Drouillard Don Staples	2013 Leroy B. Fairbanks Leslie Headbird Ida Jackson Barb Fairbanks Judy Harper Henry Harrison Arlene Whitebird Larry Cronquist Julie White Wayne Smith Sonya Smith Robert "Johnny" Mitchell Frances Sherer Dan Rasmussen Steve Reiners Cecelia "Bone" Drouillard	2016 Roberta Holstein-Wind Marya Jenkins Jeff Keezer David Cronin, Sr Manomin White Louise Durant Autumn White Terrance "Chopper" White, Sr Stacy Strong Geraldine Chase Renee Jenkins Donna Beaulieu Billie Jean Tibbets Lorin A. Losh Art Chase
1982 Chuck Jones Colin Harper Ben Lowry, Jr. Vernon Frankfurt	1993 Walter P. White III Randy Headbird Bonita Cloud	2002 John Sayers Judy McClimek Kristen Monroe Kasi Monroe	2005 Evelyn Jones David Morgan Sr. Tim Budreau Kevin Finn Warren Tibbetts Brandon Humphrey Jesse Lee Jones Pat Morgan Susie Kay Budreau Allen	2010 Alfred "Ray" Pemberton, Jr. Brenda Budreau Josephine Dunn Kathy Hurd H. Tom White Deborah Folstrom Barbara Ann Nason Julie Weeyas Carrie Ann Estey "Sandy" Lawrence Gotchie Roland Skinaway Sharon Fineday Smith	2014 Leondre' Adams Dick Morlan Terry Robinson, Sr. Hannah Fairbanks Catherine "Mish" Adams	
1984 Duane Begay Eva Robinson Jim Drumbeater	1994 George Fineday, Sr. Tonya Smith Bongo Loren Burnette Charlene Johnson Donald Desjarlait, Jr.	2007 Ernest Declusin Loretta Brown Myron Ellis Erin Fairbanks	2006 Lena Cloud Dave Savard Duane Meat Donna Budreau Tammy White George Goggeye Esther Wakonabo Josie Lee Keith Benson Holly Rae Seelye Jennifer Nason			
1985 Brad Hardy Rodney Allen, Jr. Robert Mckennett Breanna Wakanabo	1995 Tom Bowstring, Sr. Connie White Frank Brown Dolores (Dodi) Simons George Dennis Beaulieu					
1986 Joe Wakanabo Brian (Guy) Wilson Cheryl Smith Stephanie Barney Michelle Goose	1996 Greg Jones Louie Jenkins Dwight Evans Phillip Gale Brenton "B.J." Headbird Dan Wilson, Jr.					
1987 Arnold Kingbird	1997 Jolynn Beaudreau Shane Taylor					
1988 Gary Cloud Jim Tuttle Greg (Ingemar) Geving	1998 Esther Aspinwall Steve Hake Michael (Harley) Monroe Duane Fineday Constance I. (Monroe) Jordan Benjamin Frank White					
1989 William Clark Sheldon Raisch Iris Cloud						
1990 Joe Jourdain Don (Fudd) Wind George Aubid						

If We Have Missed
Anyone Or Made
An Error On This
List, Please Call
Bruce White Or
Mike Schmid
1-800-265-5576 or
218-766-2865

Miigwech.

District 1 Youth Spotlight

Kiona Johnson



The District I Office would like to congratulate Kionna Johnson on becoming the new Leech Lake Sr. Princess at the Leech Lake Memorial Day Pow Wow in May.

Kionna lives in the Winnie Dam community. She was the first District I Youth Spotlight in October 2014.

Kionna continues to strive for excellence in athletics as well as community service.

Kionna was recently appointed as the Youth Representative on the Winnie Dam Local Indian Council.

Congratulations Kionna and keep up the good work!

District 1 Elder Spotlight

Gil Applebee Jr



We would like to start this month's Elder Spotlight by wishing Mr. Gilbert Applebee Jr. a Happy 60th Birthday!

Gil was born to Elizabeth and Gilbert Applebee Sr. in Cass Lake in 1957. He was nicknamed "Baby Gil" after his father and no matter what Lisa Jackson says he has now outgrown the nickname is now "Gil, Baby." He grew up in the District I Community of Ball Club then ventured out when he was nineteen years old. Gil and his family then moved back to Ball Club nine years ago. He has two sisters and one brother.

Gil is happily married to Waneta Applebee; they have three sons, one daughter, and eleven grandchildren.

As a child, Gil attended King Elementary School in Deer River and graduated from Deer River High School in 1975. He received an Associate of Arts degree from Itasca Community College then attended Bemidji State University to become a special education teacher, during which time he was teaching music at the Bug O' Nay Ge Shig School. Music has always been a strong passion of Gil's. He has been in various bands, starting as early as fourteen years old, taught music, and has managed his own entertainment business for twenty years. In addition, Gil has worked as a commercial truck driver, excavator, procurement officer for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, bus driver and Transportation Director for the Bug O' Nay Ge Shig School and is currently working as the Event Coordinator for Leech Lake Public Relations.

When Gil was younger he enjoyed hunting, fishing, netting, spearing, ricing and of course, music. Gil has riced on just about every lake in the Leech Lake area. Overtime, however, Gil says people's hobbies naturally change; nowadays he fills his spare time with spending time with friends and family, gambling at White Oak Casino on Sunday mornings, and harassing his friends on Facebook. Throughout his life, music has always remained close to his heart. He now dedicates much of his time doing community service by offering his musical talents. By his calculations, Gil has sang and provided music for approximately 500 funerals since age 11, DJ'ed 75-100 fundraising events, and donated his time for many teen dances in various communities. As part of his current position as Event Coordinator he also emcees and provides music for nearly all Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe events.

Culture is an important aspect of Gil's life. He can speak some Ojibwe, just enough to get himself in trouble he says. He remembers being just a little guy at the first Mii-Gwitch Mahnomen Days Pow Wow in Ball Club. "Our community came together, we fundraised, sold raffles... it was a competition Pow Wow... it was great how our community came together to put on such a great Pow Wow," he recalls. Mii-Gwitch is the longest running Pow Wow in District I history, over fifty years and Gil has attended every year since its beginning. He grew up around the culture and is proud to be a member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Pillager Band, the "warrior band."

"I've had the most wonderful life, it's been remarkable. I love my community."
– Gil Applebee Jr.

LLTC Student & Faculty Spotlight

Bob Jourdain

From Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nations in Canada, I am Lynx Clan and am now in my twenty-first year of employment at Leech Lake Tribal College where I am the Ojibwe Language teacher.

I started as an English teacher, hired by Larry Aitkin and Jaime Robertson as an adjunct instructor, so I've never had to apply for work. Then in the fall of 1998, they informed me that I was now a full-time instructor.

In my time here at the Tribal College, I have taught many courses: English 101, English 102, English 250, Ani 100, and my favorite, English 096, a remedial type of class where students read and do composition.

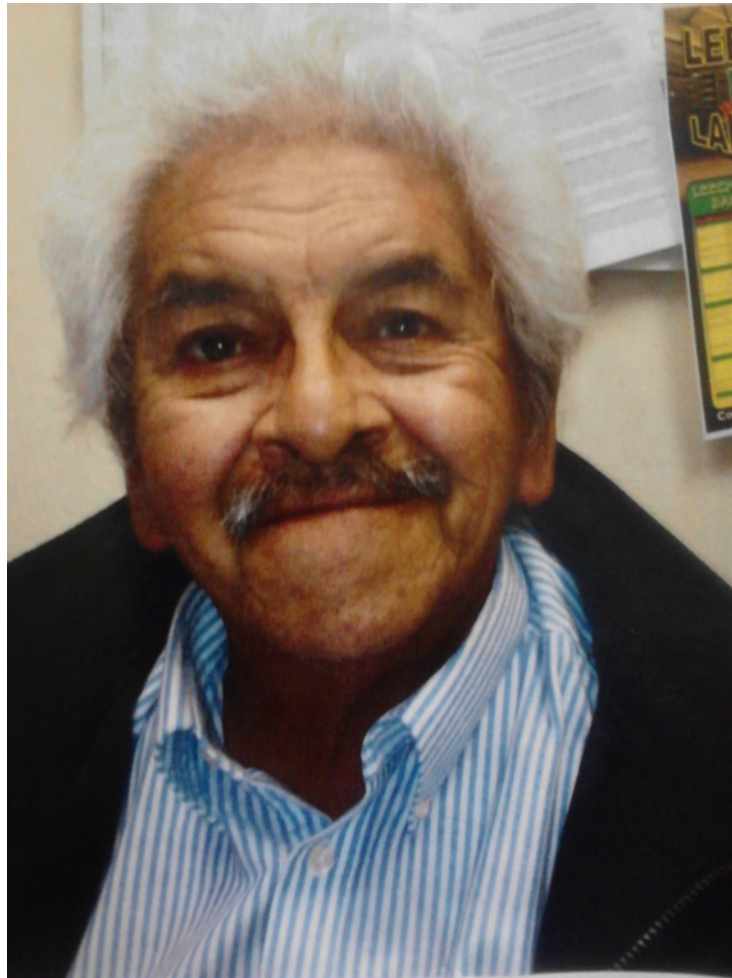
In addition to this, it has been my privilege to coach the Knowledge Bowl team for many years, so winning that event is on my bucket list. The closest we've come to winning is second place. Each year the Tribal College finances our trips to the AIHEC student conferences. Recently, Elaine Fleming has joined me in being the other coach.

What has amazed me over the years is that we have been able to keep the college family-friendly; that is, we still have children running down the hallways, and one can still hear babies crying in the next classroom. Let's keep it that way! Another thing which is awe-inspiring is our older students! They get into English classes, do all their reading, and put out nice MLA format papers using computers, all by the end of the semester! Many of these students had to learn to use computers! What about the younger students? While we were discussing their readiness to take over, one student said, "Don't worry, Bob. We're ready!"

I'm proud to be a part of the Tribal College and to have watched its growth, from its humble beginnings to what it is now, a sprawling campus of almost-forty-acres on Little Wolf Road.

Because I've been around Leech Lake since October of 1976, one of the Jackson ladies from Inger said that I was an assimilated Leech Laker!

My family is here, all of them. There are 29 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.



Branden Bowstring

The Leech Lake Tribal College Student of the Month is Branden Bowstring.

Branden is a second year student pursuing his degree in Early Childhood Education. He serves as the current Student Senate President, works as a Peer Tutor in the Learning Center, and plays a vital role as a Drummer for the Monday Drum event.

He serves on the Board of Directors for the Minnesota Indian Education Association (MIEA), and attended the 2016 MIEA Annual Conference at Treasure Island Casino in Welch, MN. He also played a leadership role for student participation at the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) Annual Conference in Rapid City, SD this spring.

After graduation from Leech Lake Tribal College this spring, Branden plans to complete his Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, MT.

Note from Branden:

Receiving this award is something I never really expected. It truly was an honor to receive student of the month from the staff and faculty here at the tribal college. It is a tough road trying to balance life and school but I've been able to somehow do it. I've had different accolades and awards in the past but this means the most to me because it is an accumulation of the hard work I have put in to my education.

This award means so much because it didn't come from just anyone it came from the staff and faculty here, which I consider to be family. I am so glad and grateful that I enrolled here at the tribal college. It was easily the best choice I have made in a long time. They provide you with a quality education and are extremely helpful if you need help with homework or just need someone to talk to. If you are sick of the same old repetition in life you should go and enroll because The Leech Lake Tribal College is a spring board to your future. Shout out to my favorite teacher Audrey, hopefully I'll get a few extra credit points lol jk mii-gwitch bizindaaawiieg

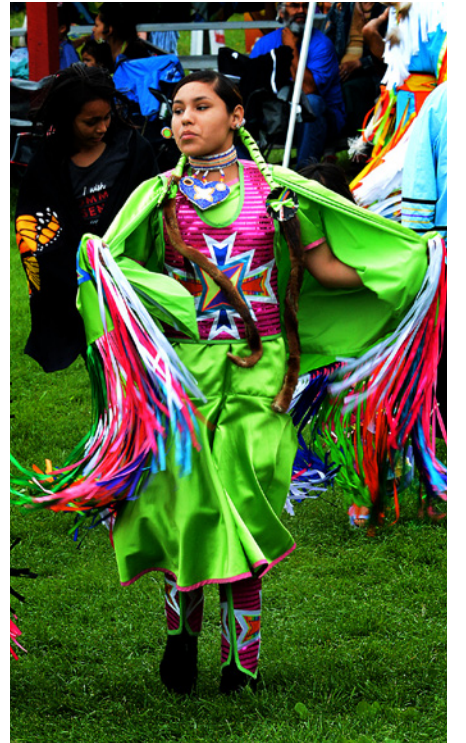
Branden Fabian Bowstring





*Waa Wiye Gaa Maag
S. Lake Powwow
June 16-18, 2017*







Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court

200 Sailstar Dr NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
(218) 335-3682 • (218) 335-4418

Honorable Paul W. Day, Chief Judge of Tribal Court
Honorable Megan E. Treuer, Associate Judge of Tribal Court

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN TRIBAL COURT

In Re: Estate of:
Lyman William Lowry
DOB: 08/04/1959
Decedent

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS

Court File No. CV-16-18

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Lyman William Lowry died 08/07/2015. A hearing was held before the Honorable Paul W. Day, Chief Judge of the above-named Tribal Court located in the Leech Lake Tribal Justice Center, 200 Sailstar Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 29th, day of February 2016 at 1:00 p.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Genevieve Lowry, surviving sister of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on February 29th, 2016, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Genevieve Lowry, 1610 Irvine Ave. NW Bemidji, MN 56601 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Lyman William Lowry, decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all creditors having a claim against the estate are required to present the same to the Personal Representative or the Clerk of the Leech Lake Tribal Court within ninety days (90) days from the date of the first publication of the notice or claims will be barred.

DATED this 20th day of July 2017,

/s/ Amanda Richardson, Court Clerk, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN
TRIBAL COURT

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:
W.J.B., Minor Child, DOB: 12/08/2004
J.J.B., Minor Child, DOB: 06/14/2006

Kenneth Louis Mitchell, Petitioner, And
Charlene Boswell & Putative Father of
W.J.B. & J.J.B.

Court File No. FA-17-39

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on September 12th, 2016, a **Petition for Guardianship of a Minor** was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parent. You, the respondent herein, are hereby notified that you must file a response in the office of the Leech Lake Tribal Court on or before May 23, 2017 at 9:30 a.m., the date of the Initial hearing scheduled in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Judicial Center, Cass Lake, Minnesota. Failure to appear at the above date and time may result in the relief requested in the Petition, and any other relief may be granted as prayed for by the petitioner. Dated: February 23, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN
TRIBAL COURT

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:
Damon Lee Boyd, DOB: 12/17/1984
Louis A. Boyd, Petitioner,

Court File No. FA-17-08

Damon Lee Boyd & Other Interested Parties,

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on January 12, 2017, a **Petition for Appointment of Guardian (Adult)** was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the above-named person. Please contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for the next hearing date and time. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. If you fail to contact the court the Judge may find that guardianship is needed.

Dated: February 10, 2017.

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN TRIBAL COURT

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:
H.W., Minor Child, DOB: 11/11/2008

Paul Wakanabo, Petitioner, And
Brennon Patterson & Larissa Smith, Respondents

Court File No. FA-17-116

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on June 27, 2017 a **Petition for Appointment of Guardian (Minor)** was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child of the above-named parents. You, the respondent herein, are hereby notified that you must file a response in the office of the Leech Lake Tribal Court on or before October 10th, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., the date of the Initial hearing scheduled in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Tribal Justice Center, Cass Lake, Minnesota. Failure to appear at the above date and time may result in a default judgment being entered against you, the respondents, at that time for the relief requested in the Petition, and any other relief may be granted as prayed for by the petitioner.

You are served with this notice via legal publication in the DeBahJiMon in two consecutive issues (Leech Lake Judicial Code, Title 2, Part II, Rule 5, Section C(5)) because you are a party to this proceeding or you are a person whose presence is important to a determination concerning your child.

Dated: July 10, 2017

/s/ Amanda Richardson, Court Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN TRIBAL COURT

SUMMONS & Notice of Child Support Action:
Leech Lake Child Support Enforcement Program, by assignment of
Robin Butcher, Petitioners

vs.
Patrick Smith Jr., Respondent

Court File No. FA-16-161

YOU, Respondent, Patrick Smith Jr., ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear before the Judge of this Court for an Initial Hearing on **June 8th, 2017 at 2:30 pm**, in the Tribal Courtroom located in the Judicial Center, 200 Sailstar Dr NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota, then and there to answer to and defend against the Petition for Adjudication and Establishment of Paternity, Establishment of Child Support and Income Withholding filed the undersigned Clerk of Tribal Court.

You are hereby notified that judgment by default may be taken against you unless you file with the Tribal Court an Answer and appear for the Initial Hearing, at the date, time and place specified above.

Dated: March 9, 2017

/s/ Dynell Morris, Court Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN TRIBAL COURT

In the Matter of:**C.T., Child, DOB: 01/28/2014****M.T., Child, DOB: 07/29/2016****L.H., Child, DOB: 12/23/2008****Shirley Fisher-Roybal, Petitioner,
And****Dareck M. Thompson, Respondent,****CASE NO. CV-17-41****TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT,**

An Emergency Order for Protection has been issued based on the Affidavit and Petitioner for Order for Protection in this matter. If you fail to respond to this petition, judgement by default will be taken against you.

NOTICE OF RESTRAINING PROVISIONS

SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS MAKES THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO THIS ACTION UNLESS THEY ARE MODIFIED BY THE COURT OR THE PROCEEDING DISMISSED:

- 1) RESPONDENT SHALL NOT COMMIT ACTS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE AGAINST THE PETITIONER.
- 2) RESPONDENT MUST NOT HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH PETITIONER WHETHER IN PERSON, WITH OR THROUGH OTHER PERSON, BY TELEPHONE, LETTER, OR ANY OTHER WAY.

IF YOU VIOLATE ANY OF THESE PROVISIONS, YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS BY THE COURT.

Dated: May 11, 2017

/s/ Amanda Richardson- Court Clerk

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Summary of Job Openings

www.llojibwe.org | drop off or mail documents to:

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe – Human Resources

115 Sixth St NW, Suite E - Cass Lake, MN 56633

Fax documents to: 1-218-335-3697

Call 218-335-3698 or toll free 1-800-631-5528 for more info

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CLOSE ON AUG 4, 2017

Women's Halfway House Technician (3) ~ Human Services ~ \$12.00/hr. Job Code: 17-124

A&D Outpatient Driver ~ Human Services ~ \$12.00/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-123

Intake Worker ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-096B

Court Clerk ~ Tribal Court ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-055B

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CLOSE ON AUG 4, 2017

Pre School Teacher ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: Cass Lake (4) 17-132 & Ball Club 17-131

Cass Lake Pre School Team Leader (2) ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-130

AOB Cook ~ Education ~ \$12.00/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-129

Receptionist File Clerk ~ Human Services ~ \$12.00/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-128

Tribal Planner Developer ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-127

ENP Driver ~ Health ~ \$10.25/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-126

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Rule 25 Assessor ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-120

Culture & Language Specialist ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-091B

Claims Specialist ~ Finance ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-039B

Sugar Point Youth Activities Coordinator ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-115

Onigum Infant Toddler Teacher ~ Education ~ \$12.00/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-112

Cass Lake Special Needs Teacher Assistant (3) ~ Education ~ \$12.00/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-111

Onigum Family Service Advocate ~ Education ~ \$12.00/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-110

Inger Pre School Teacher ~ Education ~ \$12.00/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-109

Registered Dietician ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-104

Sugar Point Custodian ~ DPW ~ \$10.25/hr. ~ Job Code: 17-102

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-090

Registered Nurse (on call) (2) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-076

Program Accountant ~ Finance ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-072

Tribal Grant Writer ~ Tribal Development ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-068

PT/EMT Attendant (5) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-028

LPN ~ Human Services/OTP ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 17-025

Internal Audit Director ~ Administration ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-133

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATIONLEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN
TRIBAL COURT**In the Matter of the Welfare of the
Child(ren) of:**Caitlyn Roy, Joseph Littlewolf,
and Bradley Larsen, Parents.

Court File No. CP-14-44

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on February 8, 2017, a **Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody** was filed in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. Please contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for the next hearing date and time. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding.

If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you.

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATIONLEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN
TRIBAL COURT**In the Matter of the Welfare of the
Child(ren) of:**Sheila R. Garbow and Christopher
Wakonabo, Parents.

Court File No. CP-15-20

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on March 30, 2017, a **Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody** was filed in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. Please contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for the next hearing date and time. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding.

If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you.

Conjoined Twins Separated with Help of 3D Technology

Originally Published by KARE11 News
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MINNEAPOLIS - From the moment Paisleigh and Paislyn Martinez entered the world together, on February 10, 2017, six weeks early, their twin bond was immediate.

The identical twin girls reached out and touched each other's faces in the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). They held each other's pacifiers. Their hearts beat in near unison.

"It was a miracle, it really was," said Paris Bryan, their mother.

But for Bryan and her fiancé, Ernesto Martinez, of Cass Lake, Minnesota, the biggest surprise was yet to come.

Around three months into Bryan's pregnancy, an ultrasound revealed her twin girls were conjoined, from chest to their abdomen, connected at the chest, heart and liver.

Conjoined twins occur in approximately one of 200,000 live births -- and depending on how they're conjoined -- up to one in a million births, according to University of Minnesota physicians, who diagnosed Paisleigh and Paislyn as thoraco-omphalopagus conjoined twins.

Conjoined twins with a connection between the heart faced the high-



est risk of death. The twins lacked a breastbone, and their livers were fused in the middle.

Dr. Thomas George, University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital neonatologist, said he had only seen conjoined twins once in his 25 years in medicine, and in that case, the twins did not survive.

"But this was an extraordinary experience, to see these girls come out, what

was amazing too, they clearly already had a relationship with each other, they reached out and touched each other," said Dr. George.

Doctors discovered Paislyn had a congenital heart defect, one of the most severe heart deformities possible, with one ventricle in her heart instead of two ventricles. Her condition is known as tricuspid atresia with transposition of the great vessels—made Paislyn's heart too weak

to pump blood on its own.

"It was extraordinarily shocking. We had many different conversations with Paris and Ernesto, we informed them that number one, we could lose one or both twins," said Dr. Daniel Saltzman, University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital pediatric surgeon.

At first, doctors believed their hearts were separate, but touching one another, but once doctors turned to breakthrough 3D technology, pioneered at the University of Minnesota, and used at only a handful of places in the world, they explored a new revelation.

A team of University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital doctors then spent months planning and performing a groundbreaking delivery and separation of the conjoined twins, using 3D printing and imaging technology to discover how the baby girls' hearts were intricately connected.

A wide range of physician specialists spent months studying the twins, and orchestrated elaborate simulations of how they would deliver the twins, and separate them when the babies grew stronger to withstand surgery.

Seeing Twins in a Third Dimension

To get a better idea of how the twins were conjoined, Dr. Saltzman's team worked with the University of Minnesota Medical Devices Center to create a 3-D reconstruction of the babies' hearts. A 3D printed heart model -- expanded in virtual reality -- allowed doctors to "walk" inside the heart, showing them what they couldn't see before, an actual connection, or "bridge," from one heart to the other.

"It felt like the future of medicine, it was really exciting," said Dr. Matthew Ambrose, University of Minnesota Masonic Children's pediatric cardiologist. "It was an amazing experience to go over and in three dimension, it was something we had to construct in our heads only up until that time."

The 3D imaging changed the surgical plan and changed how doctors would make an incision into their connected hearts. The technology also helped doctors understand another discovery, Paisleigh was acting as a heart, lung and dialysis machine for Paislyn, keeping her sister alive.

"She was doing everything for her sister to make sure she was okay, it was amazing," said Bryan.

More Health Complications

While doctors hoped to perform a separation surgery when the twins reached six months of age, it soon became apparent Paislyn's heart condition would threaten both of their lives.

"The problem with Paislyn's heart would have been life limiting for both of them, without separation, Paislyn would slowly succumb to that and take her twin with her," said Dr. Ambrose.

Less than a week before the scheduled separation surgery, Paislyn grew very ill. If she was going to survive the surgery, the medical staff had to act quickly.

"It's the one operation we will do that has a 200 percent mortality, or 200



percent chance of risk of death,” said Dr. Saltzman.

Surgeons created a needed hole between the upper chambers of Paislyn’s heart using what is known as transcatheter intervention techniques—another a groundbreaking procedure, because never before had this kind of surgery been performed on a set of conjoined twins, according to Dr. Gurumurthy Hiremath, a pediatric cardiologist who performed the procedure.

Dr. Hiremath used a balloon catheter, navigating through her heart, and essentially ripping a large hole between the two upper chambers to stabilize Paislyn’s heart for surgery, as the twins were now days from separation.

Separation Day

On May 25, 2017, a team of more than 40 people filled the operating room in the early morning hours.

Bryan and Martinez barely slept, worried about their baby girls’ survival.

“It was the most terrifying journey ever. Seeing them leave the room, that scared the crap out of me because didn’t know if I would be seeing them again, or just seeing one of them,” said Martinez, through tears. “That was probably the scariest thing of my life, right there.”

What they didn’t know, after months of research and rehearsal, the team of doctors were confident the separation would be successful.

“We were psyched. I didn’t sleep the night before I was so excited,” said Dr. Saltzman.

The operating room divided into two teams, half wearing blue hats for one baby, red hats for the other baby. They tracked details down to their tiny toes, painting one baby girl with blue toenail polish, and then other with pink to properly identify each twin.

“It was a surreal experience, everyone working in harmony and concert, it was one of the greatest moments of my surgical career to be honest with you,” said Dr. Saltzman.

Surgeons first separated the chest wall



and fused livers. Then, Dr. Anthony Azakie, head of pediatric cardiothoracic surgery at the University of Minnesota, made the final incision, delicately separating the baby girl’s linked hearts.

“Paislyn and Paisleigh’s mom showed a tremendous amount of maturity and understanding and in some ways, she was very supportive and comforting, while we were trying to support and comfort her,” said Dr. Azakie. “After having done thousands of operations I think about that incredible trust parents have handing their babies over to us, it continues to move me.”

The operating room filled with applause and tears when the girls were finally separated, as Paisleigh was wheeled to recovery, and Paislyn stayed in the operating room for a subsequent surgery to repair an artery in her heart.

An estimated 15-hour separation surgery was completed in nine hours.

“The euphoria after separation was palpable. People were on top of the world because we had done something really, really amazing,” said Dr. Saltzman.

University of Minnesota doctors believe the 3D modeling and imaging used to see the twins’ connected hearts now has many other applications and will be used in medical journals, and future cases beyond understanding conjoined twins.

“They’re Not Done Fighting”

Today, the twins recover in separate rooms, both still need breathing support and have a significant amount of healing still needed from their major chest incisions.

“They are not done fighting, they are not. They still have a long road,” said Paris Bryan, standing over her daughter Paisleigh, watching her chest rise and fall quickly, breathing heavily.

“She still tries, after the separation, she still tries to work for Paislyn. She still breathes too fast, she’s still tries to work for another body, but she’s not there,” said Bryan.

Each girl has a photo of her twin above her bed, and sleeps with a stuffed bunny with the other’s scent on it. They have been reunited once, and when the girls are upset, the care teams have placed mirrors in front of each baby to calm them, mimicking what they have always known.

“It looks like they are looking at their sister but they are really looking at themselves. It’s so heartbreaking, it’s unreal, it really still is,” said Bryan.

Paislyn will need several more heart surgeries ahead and has faced more critical ups and downs since separation. The babies will be hospitalized up to four or five more months, and when they go home will have continued complex care, each needing to wear what doctors describe as “turtle shells” or protective gear to protect their hearts since they lack a breast bone.

“In our culture, they always say they only give you as much as you can handle, that’s where girls come in. They knew we could make it through and we did,” said Bryan, gaining strength from her family’s heritage on the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

Her family now holds tight to dreams for the lives than began in unison, those twin hearts with a connection that will always be one-of-a-kind.

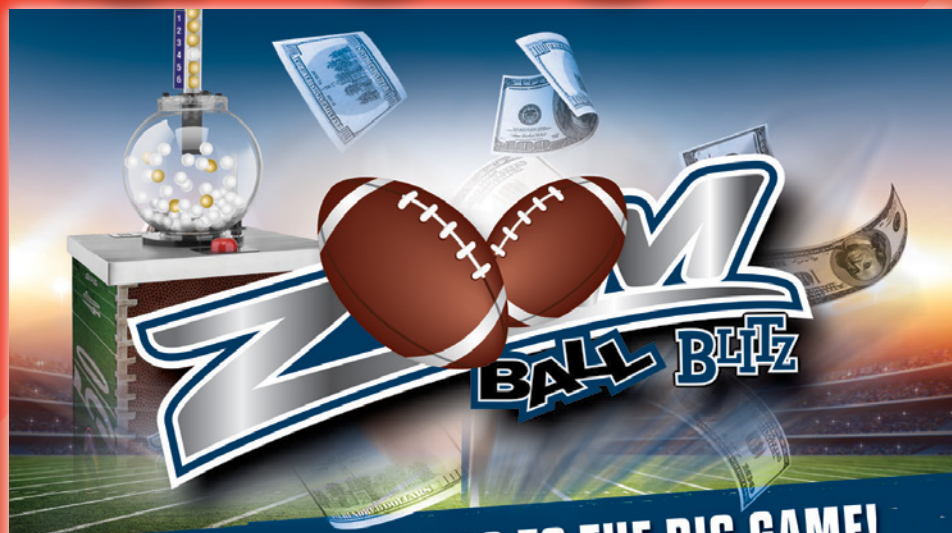
“It made me appreciate my kids’ life even more. Knowing we could lose one of them, it makes me cherish the time more than ever,” said Martinez. “Every moment counts.”

Bryan and Martinez have several older children. A fundraising page (<https://www.gofundme.com/baby-girls>) has been created to support the family’s medical bills and lost wages, since they’ve needed to relocate to the Twin Cities for care, living at the Minneapolis Ronald McDonald House at the University of Minnesota campus since February.





PROMOTIONS & EVENTS



WIN CASH & TICKETS TO THE BIG GAME!

WEEKLY DRAWINGS

Thursdays & Fridays
Through Sept. 8

6pm-11pm

**Win Up To
\$100,000 Cash**

10 winners each night

GRAND PRIZE NIGHTS

Northern Lights - Sept. 10

White Oak - Sept. 11

Palace - Sept. 12

5pm-10pm

**Win Up To \$100,000 Cash
Or A Football Package
To The Big Game Worth
Over \$23,000***

Earn one entry for every 10 points earned.
*2018 US Bank Stadium Football Package valued at \$23,514.22.
See Players Club for rules and complete details.
Management reserves all rights.



KEEP THE CASH OR MULTIPLY THE AMOUNT IN FREE PLAY*

PREFERRED &
PREMIUM
LEVEL

2X
SLOT PLAY

ELITE &
AURORA
LEVEL

3X
SLOT PLAY

**MULTIPLIER
MADNESS**

HOT SEATS

Saturdays, 12pm-12am
Through Aug. 26



**GET A
GIFT
SUNDAYS**

**Earn 50 points
from 2am-11pm
and receive a
featured gift.***



*While supplies last. Free Play will be given if gift is unavailable.
Management reserves all rights.

FLO RIDA
Rob Base • Biz Markie
DJ Kool • Sky (formerly of LMFAO)

KICKIN' IT OLD SKOOL 3

SATURDAY
JULY 29TH

Tickets: \$49/\$59/\$69

WALKER, MN

ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK

Saturday
Aug. 5th

Tickets: \$29/\$39/\$49

WALKER, MN

3 DOORS DOWN

Saturday
Aug. 26th

Tickets: \$29/\$39/\$49

WALKER, MN

