

# DEBAHIJIMION

## NCAI ANNUAL CONVENTION

The National Congress of American Indians recently elected LLBO Secretary / Treasurer Leonard Fineday as Midwest VP.

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## WATERMARK ART CENTER

Endanakiyaan, "Where I am on the Earth" by Indigenous artist Kent Estey is now on display at the Miikinaan Gallery in Bemidji.

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## 2023 TAX REBATE

Information regarding distribution of the 2023 Band Member Tax Rebate on Thursday, December 7.

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## NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY

"Native Histories and Cultures Education Act of 2023," is a new bill meant to improve public education on Native History.

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**Happy Holidays**

LEECH LAKE  
BAND OF OJIBWE

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FARON JACKSON

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DISTRICT 3 REP.  
LEROY FAIRBANKS

SECRETARY / TREASURER  
LENNY FINEDAY

DISTRICT 2 REP.  
STEVE WHITE

FROM THE LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE  
TRIBAL COUNCIL

**VOL XL NO 6**

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

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Faron Jackson Sr.,  
Chairman

Leonard Fineday,  
Secretary-Treasurer

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**Submissions**

The submissions 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**

Jan. Issue.....12/29/2024  
Feb. Issue.....1/26/2024  
Mar. Issue.....2/23/2024



Kayla Duoos | DEBAHJIMON

The LLBO Diabetes Center in Cass Lake. Josh Redday of the LLBO Diabetes Program helps with the Fender Blender smoothie bike.

## Leech Lake Diabetes Program's Annual Expo Raises Awareness for National Diabetes Month

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE – In honor of National Diabetes Month, the Leech Lake Diabetes Program hosted their annual Awareness Expo, Tuesday, November 14.

Guests were able to try health treats, get their blood sugar checked, learn about type 2 diabetes prevention methods and management.

Diabetes Educator Kristen

Malm says the focus of this year's event was about spreading awareness of services and encouraging community members to reach out.

"Everyone is familiar with Diabetes. Throughout the communities—everyone has someone who they know who is affected whether it's a family member or friend. We really want people to know we are here for them and encourage them to call us, whether it's for them or



someone else," said Malm.

The Diabetes Program started with a federal grant awarded 20 years ago and has been serving the community ever since. They cur-

rently offer self-management education, insulin education and pump therapy. As well as a foot care clinic, nutrition education, and healing touch therapy.

According to the US Center for Disease Control (CDC), Native Americans (American Indians and Alaska Natives) have a greater chance of having diabetes than any other US racial group, making the prevention of diabetes and creating a care plan incredibly crucial for anyone currently affected by the disease.

To get more information on any of the services offered by the program, please call the Diabetes Center at, 218-335-4511.

## Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Secretary / Treasurer Leonard Fineday Elected to NCAI Executive Committee Position

via LEECH LAKE NEWS

On Tuesday, November 14, 2023, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Secretary/Treasurer Leonard Fineday was elected Midwest Regional Vice President for the National Congress of American Indians' Executive Committee at the organization's 80th Annual Convention. The National Congress of American Indians ("NCAI") is

the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization, serving as a unified voice for Indian Country and advocating for the broad range of issues confronting tribal governments and communities.

As NCAI's Regional Vice President, Fineday will lead NCAI's efforts in the Midwest Region and serve as a liaison between NCAI and the tribes throughout the

region. The Midwest region includes 36 tribal nations and the states of Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity and look forward to working collaboratively with other tribal leaders throughout the Midwest to advance tribal sovereignty and elevate the needs of tribal governments and communities," Fineday said.

Elected Secretary / Treasurer of the Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee in 2022, Fineday also serves on the Federal Reserve Bank's Center for Indian Country Development Leadership Council, on the Minnesota Children's Justice Initiative Advisory Board, as a member of the Cass Lake-Bena School Board and as Treasurer for the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe.





via WATERMARK ART CENTER  
 “Wiigwaas - Birches No. 1,” by Kent Estey.



via WATERMARK ART CENTER  
 “Remember Summer No. 2,” by Kent Estey.



via WATERMARK ART CENTER  
 “Summer Sunset No. 1,” by Kent Estey.

# ENDANAKIIYAAN

*“Where I am on the Earth” by painter and multimedia artist Kent Estey, now on display at the Miikinaan Gallery in Bemidji.*

By KAYLA DUOOS

BEMIDJI – A new exhibit has opened at Bemidji’s Watermark Art Center, Miikinaan gallery.

The Miikinaan gallery which is home to the center’s Traditional art exhibits is hosting “Endanakiyaan – “Where I Am On Earth” with work by painter and multimedia artist Kent Estey, November 18, 2023 - February 9, 2024.

Estey is an enrolled member of the White Earth Nation of Ojibwe. Kent’s preferred art form is painting with oils, acrylics, and inks. Most often, his paintings are about land, sky, and water. His bold and bright

colors reflect his feelings and emotions as he captures the beauty of his surroundings.

“I paint what I see every day,” says Kent. “It’s all I know and what I know best, so my paintings are about this piece of land, this sky, the colors and feelings as I walk through my gardens.”

Kent’s work has been exhibited in Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Bemidji, Grand Rapids, Wahpeton, North Dakota, Duluth, and other regional exhibitions and galleries in Minnesota. Kent was recently awarded the Region 2 Arts Council Artist Fellowship for 2023-2024. Kent has been an educator for most



via WATERMARK ART CENTER  
 Artist Kent Estey.

of his life, living and working in Naytahwaush, Minnesota.

An artist’s reception for the “Endanakiyaan-Where I Am On Earth” exhibit will be held Saturday December 9, 2023 at Watermark, 2-4pm.

## RBC BRIEFS • December 2023



By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Business Committee (RBC) holds weekly briefings on Tuesdays, followed by RBC meetings on Thursdays.

RBC briefings are attended by all available council members alongside scheduled presenters and LLBO division directors. Agenda items are presented for discussion at the Tuesday briefings and then are voted on for passage at the Thursday meeting. Occasionally, due to time constraints, a combination briefing and meeting will take place on the same day.

Two meetings were held within the last reporting month, October 31 and November, 21 2023. All RBC briefings and meetings are live streamed via Vimeo and are available to view on [lechlakenews.com](http://lechlakenews.com) under “Videos.” Official meeting minutes can also be found on [lechlakenews.com](http://lechlakenews.com) under “LL Tribal Council” and “Tribal Council Meeting Minutes.”

### BRIEFING/MEETING RECAPS

**1. Tuesday, October 31, 2023** A briefing & meeting was held in the RBC Government Chambers.

#### Presentations Given:

- **Mandie Aalto, Tribal Development** – Presented the official draft of the Leech Lake Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan. The plan is available for comments on the Leech Lake News website.

**2. Tuesday, November 21, 2023** A briefing & meeting was held in the RBC Government Chambers.

#### Presentations Given:

- **Ken Washington, DPS** – Presented the Cargill Grant Agreement for the Leech Lake Animal Wellness clinic for 1.2 million. The cargill grant would provide 1 million for construction costs and 200K for startup costs. The Leech Lake Animal Wellness clinic has been in development for several years. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2024.

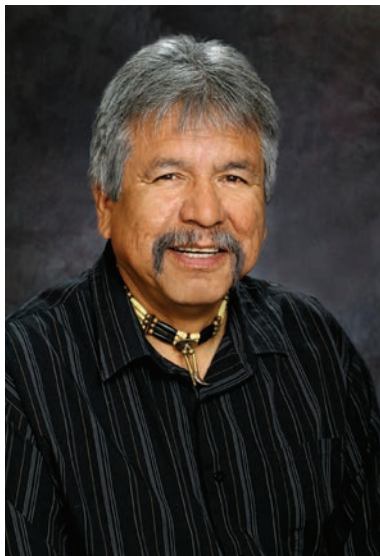
## Missed an issue?

Read past and current issues of Debahjimon **online!**



Visit [www.llojibwe.org/news/news](http://www.llojibwe.org/news/news)

# Chairman's Report



**CHAIRMAN  
FARON JACKSON SR.**

Governmental Activities  
Chairman's Summary

Monthly Report

approved \$500.00 dollars for the annually Tax Rebate for the Leech Lake Band members. This will be increased from last year's amount by \$250.00 dollars. A friendly reminder, normally this payment is made on the Rapid Debit Visa Card. If you had lost your card, please contact Leech Lake Accounting Department at (218) 335-3635. The Leech Lake Tax Rebate funds will be released on Thursday, December 7, 2023. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Leech Lake Administration at **218-335-8200**. Mii-Gwetch.



via CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

**Leech Lake Onigum Community and LIC Host Halloween Party** – On October 29, 2023 Chairman Jackson, Sr. had attended the OLIC Halloween Party in Onigum. The party had included a costume contest, music, a meal, trunk or treat, and a good spooky time for the children. The attendance for the Onigum Halloween Party had over 125 attendees to enjoy a fun occasion for the children dressed in their costumes. The winners for the best or scariest costumes had not been reported before this article was published. The

Onigum LIC Chairwoman had stated that the kids had a great time and the parents were proud of their little ones dressed up in their costumes.

**MCT, TEC Delays Implementing Resolution 32-15** – On October 25, 2023 the MCT TEC member from White Earth had requested a delay to address the updating of their members addresses. The MCT, TEC Legal Counsel Brodeen had also expressed concerns with the Minnesota Midwest Regional Office not wanting to change certain language in the Secretarial Election process. Mr. Brodeen had stated that this MCT, TEC wants to follow the MCT Constitution, Article XII – Amendment states, "... if at least 30 percent of those entitled to vote shall vote. In the past MCT Secretarial Elections, the regulations only required registered voters, in which it makes it easier to pass an amendment to the MCT Constitution. Mr. Brodeen had requested help from the MCT, TEC members to lobby the Midwest Regional Office in changing the language to if at least 30 percent of those entitled to vote shall vote. Resolution 32-15 was passed with a vote of 11 for, 0 against, and 1 silent. The purpose of passing this resolution was to fairly count all Chippewa blood in enrollment eligibility. The MCT Resolution 32-15 had stated, "Minnesota Chippewa Indian Blood has been defined by the MCT TEC to be blood derived from one or more of the six constituent Bands of the MCT." In July of 2023 at the MCT TEC Quarterly Meeting, we had a motion to implement MCT Resolution 32-15 that passed with a vote of 7 for, 4 against, and 1 silent.

The purpose of this MCT Resolution 32-15 was to address the Wilder Research Report on population projections and methodology. The Wilder Research Report had a graph that showed Leech Lake's population in 2013 was 9,244 enrollees and by 2098, the enrollment numbers would be 3,152 to 5,914 enrolled members. We are systematically losing our Leech Lake Nation and its children from being enrolled under the present MCT Enrollment Ordinance.

As stated before, your Chairman's position is simple, Leech Lake is a sovereign and an independent Nation that exercised those rights before a treaty(s) was ever signed or the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe existed. Leech Lake is not asking the other five (5) Bands to change their enrollment process. As the Chairman, we have the inherent authority to decide our enrollment criteria as a point of exercising self-determination.



via CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

**Chairman Jackson, Sr. Helps Handout Candy at Northern Lights Casino Halloween Party** – On October 31, 2023 Chairman Jackson, Sr. and the Northern Lights employees had handed out Halloween candy for the Leech Lake kids at the N.L. Event Center. The Northern Light's General Manager Gotchie had stated that we had served over 1,200 kids. A

great number of attendees had expressed their gratitude for the Leech Lake Halloween Party being open for all kids. The kids that had attended the Halloween party had a great time and a lot of candy. Chairman Jackson, Sr. had stated, "This is great PR for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe because our people will always share in a good time for our children and supporting the community with the Anishinabe traditions."

**Chairman Jackson, Sr. Will Be Testifying in Washington, D.C.** – On November 30, 2023, Chairman Jackson, Sr. will be traveling to Washington, D.C. to testify before the U.S. Senate, Indian Affairs Committee on S. 616. The Leech Lake Restoration Technical Act of 2023. This bill is the technical corrections act for the LLBO Reservation Restoration Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-255). Since the enactment of P.L. 116-255, the Department had identified an additional 4,362.21 acres of land that met the same criteria as in P.L.255. S. 616 amends P.L. 116-255 to authorize the transfer of any additional lands in the CNF in Cass County, MN that are identified as having been sold without the consent of a majority of rightful landowners. Chairman Jackson, Sr. has also scheduled appointments to speak to U.S. Senators Smith & Klobuchar on the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School's contaminated drinking water. The purpose of the meeting will be on how slow the process has been addressing the PFAS issue and seeking U.S. Congressional support.

Safety note, as the weather changes quickly on the Leech Lake Nation, please check the fluids on your vehicle. It's that time to carry extra blankets, water, boots, gloves, and your winter safety kit. Please be safe and take care!

## January

District III Elder Birthdays

Leroy Aitkin  
Dorothy Beaushene  
Kenneth Bedeau  
Robert Bedeau  
Darlene Bellanger  
Lareatha Bradford  
Elizabeth Brown  
Larry Bryan  
Marcella Buck

From the District III Office  
LeRoy, Toni & Kari

Lillian Burnette  
Lisa Cariveau  
Deborah Chase  
Leona Cloud  
Mary Cloud  
Joseph Day  
Priscilla Day  
Anita Demarr  
Alice Donovan  
Marie Duncan  
Ernie Dunn  
Bonita Earth  
John Fairbanks



Brian Funk  
Stuart Gale  
Sylvia Gale  
Isabelle Gilman  
Robert Goggleye  
Alisa Goodshield  
Jeffrey Goose  
Leonard Headbird  
Tina Headbird  
Cheryl Holk  
Ramona Jackson  
Joseph James  
Gary Johnson  
Derek Kingbird  
Geneva Lawrence  
Connie Lewis  
Lance Lewis

Toby Losh  
Tonya Losh  
Daryl Lyons  
Frances Lyons  
Louise Masten  
Julian Molash  
Roger Monroe  
Edward Morgan  
Linda Morris  
Paula Morris  
Robert Morris  
Hazel Nordmarken  
Patrick Northbird  
Margaret Papisodora  
Avis Poupart  
Theodora Redwing  
Angela Reyes

Bryon Rock  
Carol Blue  
Bryon Sayers  
Joan Scorza  
Thelma Smith  
Anna Starr  
Alice Town  
LaVerne Wakanabo  
Nancy White  
Donald White

**ALL ELDERS ARE  
ENTITLED TO \$10 SLOT  
PLAY & \$10 MEAL  
COUPON THAT MUST BE  
USED WITHIN THE  
BIRTHDAY MONTH.**

# Secretary Treasurer Monthly Report



**SECRETARY / TREASURER  
LEONARD FINEDAY**

Governmental Activities  
Secretary/Treasurer's Summary

## Monthly Report

Greetings Leech Lake Band members! I hope and trust you are enjoying the Holiday season and able to spend time with family and loved ones. It is my honor to present this report of activities undertaken during the month of November 2023.

### BUDGET UPDATE

Work on the Amended Budget Ordinance continues, and a rough draft of an amended Ordinance will be forthcoming shortly. Please watch for the draft soon and provide your comments/feedback on how our budget process can best serve our community.

While we are working on the Amended Budget Ordinance, work is moving forward on the Fiscal Year 2025 budget, which will commence on July 1, 2024. The Division

Directors, Program Managers and the Budget Team are working hard to ensuring that we meet the deadlines outlined in the current ordinance. Initial budget submissions were due on November 22, and the Budget Team will meet in early December to continue work on balancing the requests that have been made by the programs.

### DEED CONSULTATION

On November 2, 2023, Leech Lake leaders met with Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Commissioner Matt Varilek and his leadership staff to discuss a number of priorities. Our discussion primarily focused on the State's efforts to build out broadband access and what the Band is doing to provide high speed access to every home within the boundaries of the Reservation. The Broadband discussion was focused on the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment ("BEAD") program, the focus of which is providing broadband access in rural areas.

Leech Lake leaders also questioned DEED staff regarding the news that DEED was considering a \$10 million forgivable loan to an out-of-state company to build a substantial cannabis grow and cultivation facility in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Commissioner Varilek confirmed that the proposal was not fully completed and was still under consideration by DEED. Overall, the conversation was fruitful and we are hopeful for continued positive developments in our conversations with DEED.

### NCAI UPDATE

From November 13, 2023 to November 16, 2023, Leech Lake leaders attended the National Congress of American Indians Annual Convention. At the conven-



Secretary / Treasurer Lenny Fineday meets with Pechanga Tribal Chairman Mark Macarro at the National Congress of American Indians Annual Convention. Fineday was elected NCAI Midwest Vice President and Macarro was elected NCAI President at the Convention.

tion, we worked on a multiple issues impacting Indian Country, including broadband access, the cannabis industry, IRS regulations and Public Safety concerns for tribal communities.

The Leech Lake delegation specifically had several discussions with other tribal leaders regarding the Leech Lake Reservation Restoration Act implementation, as well as the proposal technical amendment working its way through Congress. We also heard

from other tribes about various issues they are working on.

### RESTORATION ACT UPDATE

As mentioned above, implementation of the Leech Lake Reservation Restoration Act continues, as our collaboration with the National Forest Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs moves forward. The original proposed map outlining the specific parcels to be transferred back to the Band was published in August. Since that

time, and after the close of the public comment period, the Band has agreed to limit the initial transfer under the Restoration Act to fit more closely with the specific acreage authorized in the actual act ("approximately 11,760 acres").

Importantly, we agreed to slightly limit the total amount of acres to be transferred now with the understanding that we will ultimately receive all illegally taken "Secretarial transfers" lands back in near future. In the meantime, we will continue to press Congress to enact the technical amendment while the National Forest Service addresses its title and other issues with the parcels under consideration for transfer to the Band.

We are still hopeful the Restoration Act will be finalized and the conveyance of title back to trust status will take place very soon as it is priority for all involved.

### MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE UPDATE

Throughout the month of November, several meetings were held regarding a number of issues at the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. These issues surrounded personnel policy concerns and forward movement on the forensic audit. The Tribal Executive Committee decided to complete a comprehensive Human Resource Assessment, which will commence soon. Also, the forensic audit of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe is moving forward as initial interviews have been complete. The auditors believe that a final report should be ready in Spring 2023.

This concludes my report of November 2023. It is my privilege to serve each and every one of you and I hope you will reach out to me if you have any specific questions or concerns. Chi-Miigwech and Happy Holidays to all!

## 2023 Tax Rebate Information

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Council has approved the 2023 Tax Rebate amount of \$500.00 that will be distributed to all enrolled Leech Lake Band Members Rapid Paycards on December 7, 2023. The recipient needs to be enrolled as of October 25, 2023, and 18 years of age as of December 6, 2023.

Those 18 years of age as of or after December 7, 2023, will have their

funds deposited into Minor's Trust.

For those who are newly enrolled or have turned 18 since the 2022 Tax Rebate, a Rapid Pay card will be registered and mailed to you using the address Accounts Payable has on file. If you need to update your mailing address, please submit a completed W-9 to the LLBO Accounting office.

If an LL Band member is incar-

cerated at the time of payment and cannot receive funds through Rapid Paycard, a check will be distributed to their location. This is the only exception. All else will be funded to the cards.

### What if I lost or misplaced my card?

For those who have lost or misplaced their Rapid Paycard, please call Rapid Customer Service at 1-888-727-4314 to report it lost/stolen and request a

new card to be mailed to you.

Replacement cards may take 7-10 business days to receive once requested. Please note that replacement cards will only be available by contacting Rapid Pay; no cards are available through LLBO offices.

### ID Verification

To those with their Rapid Paycard, please be aware that ID Verification (SSN and a current issued ID, such as a Driver's

License or a Tribal ID) may be required from Rapid Pay if you have deposited third-party funds to your Rapid Pay account.

If ID Verification is required, this may cause a delay in receiving funds to the Rapid Paycard. Please contact Rapid Pay Customer Service at 1-888-727-4314 if you are unsure if this verification is required, and if so, submit the necessary documentation to Rapid Pay as instructed to verify your account to prevent any delays.

## Northern Lights Casino, Joe “Double J” Jackson Golf Tournament Raises Over \$22,000

via LEECH LAKE GAMING

WALKER – On Wednesday September 13, 2023, Tianna Country Club hosted the Northern Lights Casino-Joe “Double J” Jackson Scholarship Golf Tournament. The sold out tournament raised over \$22,600 that will be donated to Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Department of Education. Joe Jackson was employed with Northern Lights for nearly 33 years before passing away earlier this spring. He started his career off as a Security Guard and through the years worked his way up to Assistant General Manager. A position that he held for many years. After the tournament, General Manager Steve Gotchie stated, “Joe was admired and highly respected by not only our Team Members, but guests as well. Finding a suit-

able replacement for him will be a difficult one”.

Northern Lights Casino-Hotel & Event Center, in Walker, offers over 750 slot machines, blackjack & poker, two dining venues, Cabaret lounge, gift shop, 10,700 sq. ft. event center and 105 hotel rooms.

Leech Lake Gaming CEO Michael Michaud added, “Leech Lake Gaming has been hosting a scholarship golf tournament for the past few years, but we only saw it fitting to change the name of the tournament in remembrance Joe Jackson who was not only a valued casino team member, but an enrolled Leech Lake Tribal member as well. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Northern Lights Casino-Joe “Double J” Jackson Scholarship Golf Tournament will once again be held at Tianna Country Club. A 2024 date will be announced once it’s confirmed.”



via LEECH LAKE GAMING

LLBO Education Director Laurie Harper and LLBO Gaming CEO Michael Michaud.

## Leech Lake Gaming Serves Nearly 900 Veterans and Guests Over Veterans Day

via LEECH LAKE GAMING

CASS LAKE – Leech Lake Gaming CEO Michael Michaud recently announced that they served nearly 900 veterans and guests on Saturday, November 11, 2023. Northern Lights Casino - Walker, Cedar Lakes Casino - Cass Lake and White Oak Casino - Deer River offered all veterans and a guest a complimentary breakfast buffet and a twenty two ounce “All Gave Some, Some Gave All” beverage tumbler as part of their Veterans Day event.

Steve Gotchie, General Manager of Northern Lights Casino went on to say, “This event has been an ongoing event, for over a decade, in which we honor those who have served our great country and we will continue to host it.”

Northern Lights Casino-Hotel & Event Center, in Walker, offers over 750 slot machines, blackjack & poker, two dining venues, Cabaret lounge, gift shop, 10,700 square foot event center and 105 hotel rooms.

The General Manager of Cedar Lakes Casino, Richard Jones, agreed



with General Manager Gotchie and elaborated by stating, “This event is enjoyed not only by our veterans, but our Associates as well. Everyone has a great time.”

Cedar Lakes Casino & Hotel, Cass Lake, features over 650 slot machines, blackjack & poker, four dining venues, the Sand Bar, gift shop, 4,900 square foot event center and 100 hotel rooms.

Recently hired White Oak Casino General Manager stated, “We are is honored and humbled to thank all veterans for their service and appreciated giving us the opportunity of serving them on Veterans Day.”

White Oak Casino, Deer River, offers over 350 slot machines, blackjack, snack bar, gift shop and is within minutes of area hotels.

## New Bill Aims to Revolutionize Native American Education in U.S. Schools

By KAYLA DUOOS

WASHINGTON – A bill has been introduced to the US Senate to improve public education on Native American history.

The bill S3019 “Native Histories and Cultures Education Act of 2023” sponsored by MN Senator Tina Smith focuses on accurate, thorough education about Native people.

The education most students receive regarding Native history and cultures is woefully inadequate, and leads to belief in harmful stereotypes.

“It is unacceptable that so many Americans are under- and misinformed about Native peoples and their history,” said Senator Smith. “Teachers and Native groups around the country have been sounding the alarm and pushing for action on this issue for years, and it’s time we listened. This legislation would help develop an accurate and thorough curriculum for our schools so that harmful misconceptions and stereotypes do not persist.”

This legislation is inspired by the Understand Native Minnesota initiative, led by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, which aims to improve how the state’s schools



teach Indigenous history.

The Native Histories and Cultures Education Act is endorsed by: National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Education Association, American Indian Higher Education Consortium, Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute, National Indian Impacted Schools Association, American Federation

of Teachers, National Education Association, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Association of Elementary School Principals, and Teach for America Native Alliance.

For more information on the “Native Histories and Cultures Education Act of 2023” visit [www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3019/all-info](http://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3019/all-info).



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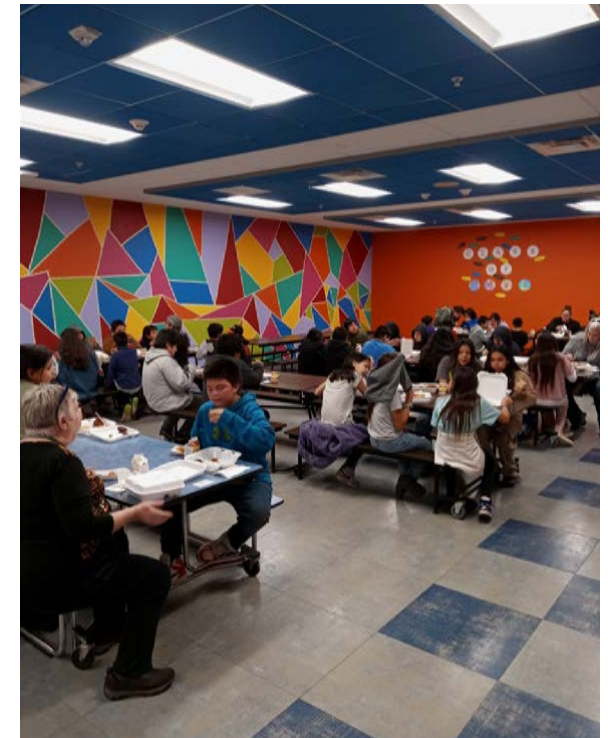
# BUG O NAY GE SHIG



# SCHOOL NEWS

15353 Silver Eagle Drive, Bena, MN 56626 | Phone: 218-665-3000 Toll Free: 1-800-265-5576 | [www.bugonaygeshig.org](http://www.bugonaygeshig.org)

▲ Bug O Nay Ge Shig students enjoyed a presentation by Jesse Smith, a motivational speaker and hip hop artist/dancer on Thursday afternoon. There was a short photo-opportunity after the presentation.



▲ Bug O Nay Ge Shig students enjoyed an early Thanksgiving Feast thanks to a lot of hard work by the kitchen crew. All of the traditional foods were served including pumpkin pie.



▲ Veterans were honored at Bug O Nay Ge Shig School on November 9, with a Feast and gift. The food was prepared by the school's staff, especially the cultural staff and included walleye, wild rice, fry bread and many side dishes and desserts. The Student Council helped with serving and clean-up.



▲ Bug O Nay Ge Shig Elementary students enjoyed a presentation and tour of emergency vehicles. We had vehicles from the Leech Lake Tribal Police (car and truck), and the Cass Lake ambulance and firetruck. Miigwech to all of our public servants.



# Gweyakmino Wiisinidaa!

*Let's eat the right foods!*

Recipe of the Month by Chyrle LaDuke (*Food Distribution*), Josh Red Day (*Leech Lake Diabetes Program*)

## Vegetable Beef Noodle Soup



### Ingredients (\*Commodity Foods)

4-6 pounds beef roast\*or venison Salt & pepper 4 tablespoons oil\*  
 16 cups low sodium beef broth 2 envelopes of onion soup mix or homemade  
 1 teaspoon crushed dried rosemary ½ teaspoon dried thyme  
 6-8 cloves garlic, minced 2 ½ cups of cream of mushroom soup\*  
 4 large carrots\*, peeled & chopped 4 ribs of celery\*, chopped  
 1 package egg noodles\* Sautéed mushrooms, optional

### Directions:

Trim any large fat pieces from the roast and cut into 1" cubes. Add oil to a large pot over high heat. Season beef on all sides with salt & pepper. Add beef to the pot and sear on all sides. Stir in beef broth, onion soup mix, rosemary, thyme, and garlic cloves. Bring mixture to a boil, then reduce heat to low, cover and cook for 1 hour. Add mushroom soup, celery, and carrots and cook for another 20 minutes. Add egg noodles and cook for 5-10 minutes, until tender. (Optional stir in mushrooms before serving). Soup will last 3-4 days in refrigerator.

### Nutrition Facts

Roast beef is high in protein, which is an essential part of any healthy diet. It's what your body uses to build muscle and repair damaged tissue. Protein also helps to boost your metabolism, which is how your body breaks down and uses the nutrients in your food and burns the fat stores in your body. Venison is high in essential amino acids and in addition, a rich source of thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, iron, and zinc. Venison meat is a perfect choice of protein for those who suffer from cardiovascular disease and are searching for low- cholesterol and saturated- fat protein choices. Carrots promote healthy vision, balance your blood sugar, help with weight management, lower your risk of cancer, regulate blood pressure, reduce heart disease, improve immunity, and boost brain health. Celery contains dietary fiber, vitamin K, and small amounts of vitamins A and C, calcium and iron. Egg noodles have twice the amount of calcium than pasta, they also contain magnesium, iron, phosphorus, niacin, folate and folic acid. Egg noodles are also lower in calories, but higher in cholesterol. Rosemary has significant antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidant, anti-apoptotic, anti-tumorigenic, anticancer, and neuroprotective properties. Rosemary also shows important clinical effects on mood, learning, memory, pain, anxiety, and sleep. Garlic has the ability to fight bacteria, viruses, fungi, and even parasites. Mushrooms are exposed to ultraviolet light so they are a good source of vitamin D, an important component for bone and immune health.

For more recipes and resources on this delicious recipe contact Chyrle or Josh Red Day at the Leech Lake Diabetes Clinic at 218-335-4511 or stop by.

## LLBO Is seeking band members interested in serving on the Cannabis Regulatory Commission!

### REQUIREMENTS\*

- Age **21 or older**
- Not a member or office of the Tribal Council
- Not a judge or employee of the Tribal Court
- Not a convicted felon
- Able to establish and maintain eligibility to serve as a commissioner

\*Full position description and requirements are available from the Leech Lake Human Resources Department

**Three (3) applicants will be selected to fulfill the positions of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary. These positions will be the commissioners for the Cannabis Regulatory Commission. The Commission shall authorize and regulate cannabis businesses within the reservation.**

Interested applicants should submit a Letter of Interest by **Friday, December 15, 2023 at 4:30PM to:**

**Terri Goggeye, Executive Director**

*Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe*

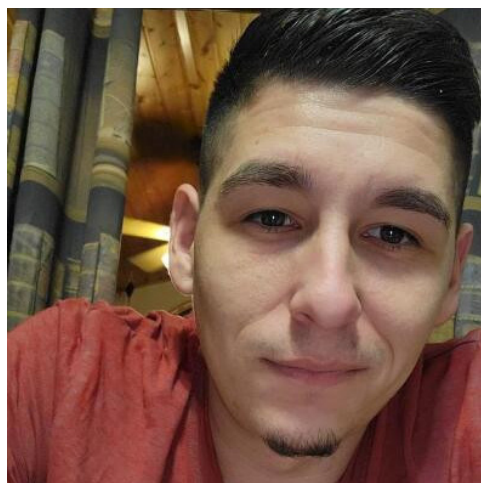
*190 Sailstar Dr NW*

*Cass Lake, MN 56633*



# Obituaries

## Eric Elletson-Smith



Eric Robert Garrett Elletson-Smith, “Oshimeyen-ishkwejaagan” meaning “Last Born”, age 29, of the Wolf Clan and Brooklyn Park, MN, unexpectedly journeyed to the spirit world on Sunday, November 12, 2023, from the Buffalo Hospital in Buffalo, MN. He was born on November 1, 1994, in Park Rapids, MN, the son of Bonnie Elletson and David “Kongo” Smith I.

Eric grew up, attended, and graduated from Buffalo High School in 2013. He was the brutally honest guy, hard on the exterior and a softy at heart. He loved his kids and was a great dad. Eric was a no-limits, lived life in the fast and if there was no fast lane, he made one. Eric was known to be funny, spontaneous, fun, wild, and even reckless, loyal, passionate, and generally a big kid who never finished growing up. A person never wondered if Eric cared for them, if he teased them, he cared. He was a social guy, always willing to help while still saying how it was in a stern, yet helpful way. He enjoyed family get-togethers, he could not be sat next to at a “serious” time. Everyone knew he was “Kongo’s” son for sure. He Loved fast cars and fast bikes. Eric would defend any member of his family to the end and be there at a moment’s notice to do so. Eric will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Those greeting Eric in the spirit world are his parents, Bonnie Elletson and David “Kongo” Smith I; brother, David Smith II; nephew, Alonzo Smith; niece, Domonique Smith; great-nephew, Watson Smith; grandpa’s, Dale Elletson and Robert Rice, Jr.; and grandma, Frances Jordan.

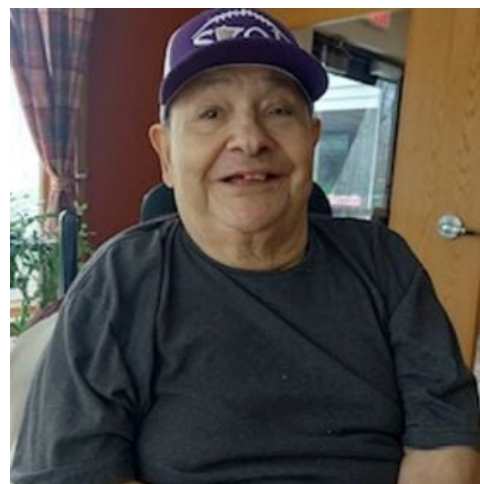
Those Eric leaves behind to cherish his memory are his fiancé, Bailey Bond; daughters, Monyka Elletson, Audrii Kirschenman, Nellie Jo Konickson; brothers, Jeremiah (Jennifer) Smith, Brandon Elletson, Justice Elletson, Conrad Smith; sisters, Emmilee

Smith, TahSheena Smith, Kateri Smith, Brianne (Andre) Smith, Precious Thompson; and grandma, Susan Elletson.

A two-night wake for Eric will begin on Friday, November 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. and continue until his Sunday, November 19, 2023, 10:00 a.m. service, all to be held at the Onigum Community Center in Onigum, MN. Eric’s Spiritual Advisor is Allen Hardy. Those helping to lay Eric to rest are Brandon Elletson, Trevor Rudeen, Demetrius Atchison, Tyler Hansen, Ben Lebaron, and Coy Coolen. Honorary pallbearers are all Eric’s nieces and nephews.

Eric’s care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be left at [www.northernpeace.com](http://www.northernpeace.com).

## Daniel “Taco” Ruiz



Daniel Arriaga Ruiz (Taco) beloved Father, Husband, Son, Brother, Grandfather passed away peacefully on November 22nd 2023 at age 80.

Danny was a remarkable soul who touched the lives of many with his boundless love, kindness, and big heart. His bright spirit and infectious laughter brought joy to all those around him. Danny had a heart of gold, he would take the shirt off his back for you whether he knew you or not. Let’s not forget his remarkable singing and dance moves. Danny loved being a custodial worker at the casinos hanging out with his friends at work. Ball Club was his home for the last 20 years of his life and he deeply cared for the community and the people. He will be deeply missed!

Preceded in death by Wife Bonnie Ruiz, father Bernardino Arreaga, mother Felicitas Ruiz, special friend Bonita Ruiz and Buddy Robert (Bobby) Rodriguez. Goddaughter Roberta Pepin.

Survived by children Danielle Ruiz (Paco), Diana Ruiz, Jonathan White (Lydia), Kristina Granroos, and significant other

Gladys Granroos.

Services, wake: Thursday, November 30, 2023, 5:00 PM, Lone Eagle Center, Ball Club. Funeral Service: Friday, December 1, 2023, 12:00 PM, Lone Eagle Center, Ball Club.

## Ernest “Butch” Belcourt



Ernest “Butch” Richard Belcourt, December 22, 1939 - October 23, 2023 (age 83).

Ernest “Butch” Belcourt of Bena, MN passed away October 23, 2023 in his home in Bena, MN.

Butch was Born December 22, 1939 in Minneapolis, MN, he was a Navy Veteran. Butch was always taking care of his grandchildren and like to drive.

Butch was survived by Violena Belcourt, Richard Belcourt, Jaylen LaRose, Leela Belcourt, Randall Belcourt & Michael LaRose.

Butch was preceded by wife Lillian, White, Children Tiffany Belcourt & Randall Belcourt, Parents Viola Costello & Ernest Richard Belcourt Sr.

Services, Funeral Service: Thursday, October 26, 2023, 10:00 AM, Bena Community Center by the post office, Bena, MN 56626. Wake: Friday, October 27, 2023, 6:00 PM, Bena Community Center, by the post office, Bena, MN 56626.

## Preston Urrutia

Preston Sloane Urrutia, “Giiwedín” meaning “Northern Wind” age 47, of San Francisco, California and the Eagle Clan unexpectedly journeyed to the spirit world on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, in San Francisco. He was born on April 15, 1976, in Bemidji, Minnesota, the son of Lorna (Gale) and Benito Urrutia, Jr.

Preston graduated from Fond du Lac Ojibwe high school and continued his education earning a master’s degree from the University of Minnesota and becoming a licensed mental health professional. He always enjoyed helping others, which led to his choice of a career. Preston enjoyed hiking, taking friends trips, going to the movies, going for coffee and out to eat with friends, traveling, and taking pictures. Preston loved being an uncle. He also loved Christmas. Horror movies were a favorite of his. Preston



loved family gatherings and hated how recent the gatherings are because of a funeral, he liked celebrating the holidays and having get together. He was a social guy and enjoyed trying new foods. Preston will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

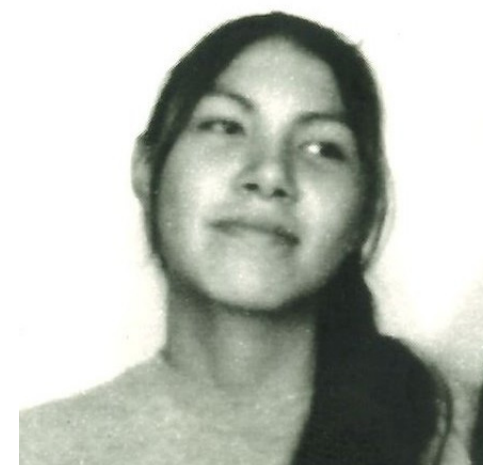
Those greeting Preston in the spirit world are his grandparents, Marlene J. (Robinson) and Leonard Stately, Josephine Kingbird Johnson, Benito Urrutia, Sr.; dad, Benito Urrutia, Jr.; cousins, Kimberly Bellanger, Renee VanNett, Hubert Urrutia, Michelle Urrutia; numerous other family members and friends.

Those Preston leaves behind to forever cherish his memory are his mom, Lorna Urrutia; brothers, Benito Urrutia III, Benny Urrutia, Sr.; sisters, Stephanie Goggeye, LeaRosa Urrutia; numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

A memorial service will be planned in the future.

Preston’s care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be left at [www.northernpeace.com](http://www.northernpeace.com).

## Jerrica Hardy



Jerrica Leigh Hardy, “Manidoo Aacinikway” meaning “Spirit Woman”, age 30, of the Bear Clan and Cass Lake, MN, unexpectedly journeyed to the spirit world on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, from Cass Lake IHS. She was born on May 17, 1993, in Bemidji, MN, the daughter of Davine Morris and Howard Hardy.

Jerrica grew up and spent her life living in the Wilkinson and Cass Lake areas. She loved to draw, go for walks, ride bikes, and go horseback riding. Jerrica had a huge, kind heart, full of faith and love. She was always trying to help others. Jerrica was Grandpa's baby girl and his boss, they were usually seen together, watching movies, going to the casino, or sharing a meal. She enjoyed baking and cooking, and was a joy to be around, she lit up the room when she entered. Jerrica had a love for animals, especially dogs, and had every kind of pet possible. She was funny and liked to joke around. Jerrica loved being with her children, they meant the world to her. She was an excellent listener and brought comfort to others easily and naturally. Jerrica will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Those greeting Jerrica in the spirit world are her mom, Davine; brother, Michael; sister, Leann; grandmas, Susie and Margaret; grandpa, Gary; auntie, Byrd and special friend, Devin.

Those Jerrica leaves behind to forever cherish her memory are her son, Josiah Howard; daughter, Annaleigh Villebrun; grandpa, Harry Morris; dad, Howard Hardy; brothers, Aaron (Angel) Morris, Donovan (Jennifer) Villebrun, Matthew (Leanne) Villebrun, Nathan Villebrun; sisters, Natasha Morris, Courtney (Cody) Morris, Krissy (Jose) Morris, Linzie Villebrun, Tonya (Berto) Luna; grandma, Linda Wilson; numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

An overnight wake for Jerrica will begin on Monday, November 20, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. and continue until her celebration of life service on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., all to be held at the Mission Community Center in Mission/Cass Lake, MN. Pastor Mark Little Elk will officiate. Jerrica's urn bearer is Natasha Morris. Honorary urn bearers are all of Jerrica's family. Inurnment will be in Prince of Peace Cemetery in Cass Lake, MN.

Jerrica's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be left at [www.northernpeace.com](http://www.northernpeace.com).

## Franklin "Frank" Bowstring



Franklin "Frank" Eugene Bowstring, "Ozhaawashko-bineshiinh" which means "Bluebird," age 63, passed away peacefully on the evening of Friday, October 20, 2023, at the

Veteran's Hospital in Fargo, ND. Frank was born in Cass Lake, MN, on November 7, 1959.

Frank was raised by his grandparents, Rose and Ernest Howard in Inger, MN. In 1980, Frank enlisted into the United States Army serving two years. Shortly after, he moved to the Brevik area, where he enjoyed the last 40 years and raised two daughters. Frank worked as a Conservation Officer for 30 years for the Leech Lake Reservation. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hunting, trapping, gardening, gathering, and harvesting of wild rice, venison, blueberries, and cranberries. He loved spending time with family and friends.

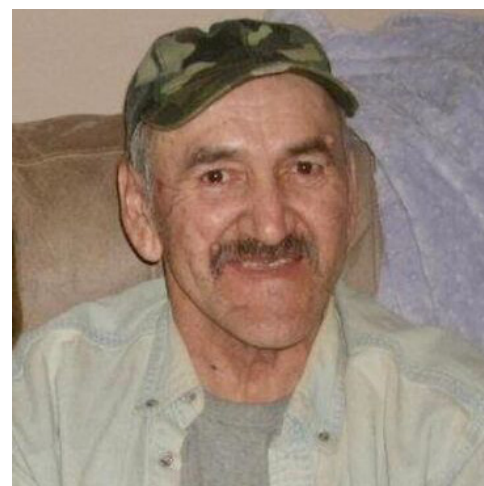
Frank is preceded in death by his mom, Evelyn Howard; grandparents, Rose and Ernest Howard; and brother, Elmer Bowstring.

Frank is survived by his daughters, Stephanie Bowstring and Tera Wilson; brothers, Hal, Marvin, William, and Ben Bowstring; granddaughters, Amira and Caroline; grandsons, Clinton and Julian; great-grandson, Norman; numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A Memorial service for Frank will begin at 2:00 p.m., on Saturday, October 28, 2023, with a two-hour visitation starting at 12:00 p.m., all to be held at the Walker Area Community Center in Walker, MN. Frank's Spiritual Advisor is Allen Hardy. Military honors accorded by the Leech Lake Veteran's Memorial Honor Guard. Those helping to lay Frank to rest are Denis Sward, Levi Brown, Paul Nordeen, Craig Nason, Erik Kern, and Julian Jones. Alternate will be Bill Bowstring. Honorary pallbearers are Leech Lake DRM Staff, Cass County Sherriff's Department, U.S. Forestry Department, Leech Lake Tribal Police Department, and the Department of Natural Resources Division of Enforcement. Inurnment will be on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the Inger Cemetery in Inger, MN.

Frank's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be left at [www.northernpeace.com](http://www.northernpeace.com).

## Roger Monroe



Roger George Monroe, beloved father, grandfather, uncle, brother, and friend, passed away peacefully on the evening of Tuesday, October 24, 2023, age 74, in Remer.

Roger was born in Cass Lake, MN, on January 4, 1949, to Isabelle (Aitken) Monroe.

Roger grew up in Onigum, the land he loved and always considered home, with his mother, siblings, and surrounded by family, friends, and community. He enjoyed being outdoors soaking in our beautiful Leech Lake lands spending time hunting, fishing, setting net, and ricing with friends and family. Roger was always ready and willing to help everyone out-from changing tires or motor oil, to completing household repairs, or even just giving some good advice, a smile, and good humor when some laughs when needed. His journey throughout his life brought him on many adventures, from spending time in Chicago with family, earning money to pay for his very first car - a Ford convertible-- to enlisting in the Marines for a time to serve his country.

Roger spent a large part of his life giving back to his family and community. He worked for many, many years at Leech Lake Housing Authority, sharing his time, talent, and care with families across our Leech Lake Nation. He was widely known for his smile, his caring nature and positive attitude to everyone that crossed his path. His pride and joy were caring for his family, and when he started having grandchildren and great-grandchildren his heart was especially full. Roger had a fondness for visits with family and friends, trips to DQ and KFC, enjoying his chocolate and Pepsi, and helping his people in any way he could.

Roger's wisdom, humor, love, his knack for knowing how to build or fix pretty much everything, the way his face lit up whenever he spent time with his grand babies and great grand babies, the way he loved his family, his friends, his community... all of this, and much more, will be so very missed. The values he instilled within us all to show compassion for one another, to seek wisdom and truth, and to be a good ancestor will continue to ripple through his children, grandchildren, and all who loved him-- for generations to come.

Roger is survived by his children, Roger Butcher, Shaun Butcher, Corey Butcher, Jenn Clarke, Christina McMurrin, Linsey McMurrin; and Jason McMurrin to whom he was always a strong father figure; 19 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; sisters, Eveyln Monroe, Elaine (Sam) Saccoman; brother, Edwin Monroe; special cousins, Glendora Ellis and Cheryl (Dave) Holk; and so many cousins, nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews he loved so dearly.

Roger is preceded in death by his mother, Isabelle (Aitken) Monroe; siblings, Harold, Calvin, Clyde, Adeline, Bernice "Bunny", Darlene "Doll"; special niece, Tonya; as well as numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and loved ones.

Please join us for Roger's Memorial Service on Monday, October 30, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the Onigum Community Center to celebrate his life, to share memories, tears, laughter, and a meal, as we say goodbye for now to our beloved father, brother, uncle, grandfather, and friend. Father William "Bill" Butcher will officiate. Honorary urn bearers are all of Roger's grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all who loved him.

Roger's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker,

MN. Online condolences for the family may be left at [www.northernpeace.com](http://www.northernpeace.com).

## Francis "Cowboy" Wind



Francis Dale "Cowboy" Wind, "Ogitchidaa" meaning "Warrior", age 65, journeyed to the spirit world on Thursday, November 16, 2023, peacefully, surrounded by family at his home in Cass Lake, MN. He was born on August 22, 1958, in Cass Lake, MN, the son of Ruth Marie (McKeig) and Theodore William Wind, Sr.

Francis spent the first 8 years growing up in Cass Lake and then the family moved to the Minneapolis area. He entered the Marine Core and served from 1976 to 1980, before returning and making his home in Cass Lake. He met Tina and they started a family. Cowboy worked for Leech Lake Head Start from 1994 to 2016, when he started working for Facility Maintenance. He enjoyed being part of the Leech Lake Honor Guard, going to pow wows and all the Head Start Events, fishing, hunting, and sweats. He loved living and learning the traditional ways with his cousins, George F. Wind and Vincent Morris. Cowboy loved to watch tv with his grandchildren, hang out with his sister Adeline and special nephew, Buck.

Those greeting Cowboy in the spirit world are his significant other, Tina Marie Headbird; father, Theodore Wind, Sr; stepdad, Rodney Thompson; grandmother, Alice Guinn; nephew, Todd "Tito" Rodriguez II; all his brothers-in-law, sister-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Those left behind to forever cherish the memory of Cowboy are his mother, Ruth Thompson; sons, Michael Headbird, Franklin (Alecia) Wind, Chavez Wind; daughters, Tommi (Paul) Lindgren, Stevie (Robert) Thunderhawk; brothers, Theodore (Christy) Wind, Jr., Kenneth Wind; special brothers, Robert Bailey, Timothy Huie; sisters, Debbie Gleason, Adeline Wind, Wanda Croaker; and 16 grandchildren.

A two-night wake for Cowboy will begin on Monday, November 20, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. and continue until his traditional service at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, all to be held at the White Earth Family Center "Old Legion" in Cass Lake, MN.



# 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 Amber Ahola **Associate Judge of Tribal Court**

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Guardianship of: V.L., Child, DOB: 08/15/2009. Shanelle Bowstring, Petitioners, And Starr Lanham & Valarian Kingbird, Respondents,

Case No. FA-23-85

## NOTICE

OF LEGAL PUBLICATION NOTICE OF HEARING YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on October 18th, 2023, a Petition for Appointment of Guardian (Minor) was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. You, the respondent herein, are hereby notified that you must appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on February 22, 2024 at 10:00 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 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.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re Estate of: Stanley Albert Chief Jr., DOB: 02/09/1943, Decedent.

Court File No. CV-23-135

## NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Stanley Albert Chief Jr., died September 9, 2023. A hearing was held before the Honorable Rebecca McConkey-Greene, Associate 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 20th, day of November, 2023 at 2:30 p.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs, and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Stanley Jones, surviving son of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on November 20th, 2023, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Stanley Jones, 8573 Traders Bay Rd. NW Walker, MN 56484 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Stanley Albert Chief Jr., decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all creditors having a claim against the estate are required to present the same to 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.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re the Custody of: T.L.F., Minor Child, DOB: 05/21/2009. Margret Headbird, Petitioner, v. Amanda K. Bush and Juel F Fairbanks, Respondents,

Case No. FA-23-84

## NOTICE

OF LEGAL PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF HEARING YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on October 18, 2023,

a Petition for Appointment of Guardian (Minor) and a Notice of Motion and Motion for Ex-Parte Guardianship and Request for Emergency Hearing were 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 January 25th, 2024 at 11:00 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 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.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re Estate of: Diane Frances Goodman, DOB: 09/03/1946, Decedent.

Court File No. CV-23-88

## NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Diane Frances Goodman, died November 30, 2020. A hearing was held before the Honorable Rebecca McConkey-Greene, Associate Judge of the above-named Tribal Court located in the Leech Lake Tribal Justice Center, 200 Sail-

star Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 7th, day of September, 2023 at 11:30 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs, and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Gary Miettinen III, surviving nephew of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on September 7th, 2023, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Gary Miettinen III, 16598 65th Ave., Unit B, Cass Lake, MN 56633 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Diane Frances Goodman, 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.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re Estate of: Duane Anthony Beaudreau Sr., DOB: 05/31/1937, Decedent.

Court File No. CV-23-95

## NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Duane Anthony Beaudreau Sr., died November 12, 2022. A hearing was held before the Honorable Rebecca McConkey-Greene, Associate 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 21st, day of September, 2023 at 11:30 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for

Formal Probate of Will, Determination of Heirs, and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Desiree Finn, surviving granddaughter of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all creditors having a claim against the estate are required to present the same to 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.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Clarissa Bobrowski and Darnell Johnson, Parents

Court File No. CP-21-04

## NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody has been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for any further questions and/or a copy of the documents. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. The next hearing in this matter is on January 18, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may transfer permanent custody of the children to the individual(s) named in the petition by default.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Children of Anevay Arlene Keezer and Lucas Michael Hilton Sr. (deceased), Parents.

Court File No. CP-23-18

## NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Petition to Transfer to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody has been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the children of the above-named parents. A hearing has been scheduled for December 14, 2023 at 2:00 PM in the Leech Lake Tribal Court. Please Contact Leech Lake Court Administration with any further questions and/or for copies of the documents. 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, by default, transfer permanent custody of the children to the individual(s) named in this petition.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Vanessa Smith (deceased) and Llewellyn Kingbird, Parents

Court File No. CP-22-11

## NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody has been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for any further questions and/or a copy of the documents. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. The next hearing in this matter is on January 24, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may transfer permanent custody of the children to the individual(s) named in the petition by default.

*Obituaries Continued.*

Francis' Spiritual Advisors are George Wind and Vincent Morris. Those helping to lay Francis to rest are Randolph Headbird, Jr., Amos LaDuke, Daniel Wind, Jordan Headbird, Bradley Croaker, Reuben St. Cyr, Robert Thunderhawk, Sr., and Paul Lindgren, Sr. Alternates are Robert Bailey, Timothy Huie, and Christopher Headbird. Honorary pall bearers are Leech Lake Head Start and Facility Maintenance Crews. Interment will be at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, in the Pine Grove Cemetery in Cass Lake, MN.

Francis' care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be left at [www.northernpeace.com](http://www.northernpeace.com).

## Steven O'Brien



Steven Lee O'Brien, the son of Hazel Chase-Zimpel and Richard O'Brien Sr. passed away on October 20, 2023. Steven was born on November 3, 1963.

Steven loved to spend time with all his

children, grandchildren, and family. He truly enjoyed the summer cookouts with his family and friends. He enjoyed going to the casino and playing slots.

Steve traveled all over this beautiful country driving truck with his good friend Richard Mix. When he wasn't driving truck, or out just cruising with his kids, he loved to be a bouncer at different establishments. He was known as the "Mayor" due to his love for storing telling.... You never quite knew if he was telling you the truth or a good tale. He truly loved to be around people. He was known for having a big heart and helping anyone who asked him. Steve was also an avid Vikings fan.

Those greeting Steven in the spirit world are his dad; Richard O'Brien Sr.; Grandma Tillis Chase, Grandpa Walter Chase Sr.; and his wife Mary Wittner-O'Brien. Along with several Aunties and Uncles.

Steven is survived by his mother; Hazel Chase-Zimpel; son's Stevie (Nicole) O'Brien Jr., Elliot Robinson and Michael Robinson, daughter Stephanie (Ben) O'Brien, Myra (Keith) Robinson, and Leah (Carter) Wittner; brother, Richard (Moe) O'Brien Jr.; Sisters Tracy O'Brien, Mary (Robbie) O'Brien, Michelle (Rod) Headbird, and Mel O'Brien; along with numerous grandchildren.

A 2 day wake for Steven will begin on Tuesday October 24, 2023 at the Dave Morgan center at 6:00 p.m. and continue until Thursday October 26, 2023 11:00 a.m. traditional service, all to be held at the Dave Morgan Community Center in Bena Minnesota. Genevieve Chase will be the spiritual officiant. Those helping to lay Steven to rest are Hunter O'Brien, Waylon O'Brien, Daniel Fineday, Joseph "Weasel" Chase, Tracy O'Brien, and Richard Mix. Honorary Pallbearers are Richard O'Brien Harry "son son" Chase Jr., Stevie O'Brien Jr., Stephanie O'Brien, Dennis Haas, Jeromy O'Brien and all his family and friends.

Interment will be immediately follow-

ing his service at Lakeview Cemetery in Bena, Minnesota.

Steven's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, Mn. Online condolences may be sent to [www.northernpeace.com](http://www.northernpeace.com).

## Warren White



Warren Kyle White, "Makaday Ginew" meaning "Black Eagle" age 43, from Bena, MN, and the Eagle Clan journeyed to the spirit world on Friday, November 10, 2023, from Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, ND. He was born on April 29, 1981, in Cass Lake, MN, the son of Paula White and Raymond Floyd Losh.

Warren grew up in Ryan's Village and the Bena area. He was a very happy and funny child, always joking and laughing. He attended the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School. Warren traveled a lot with his mom and stepdad. He loved ricing, bough picking, gathering birch bark, beadwork, and making jewelry. Warren had a love for being in nature, a true woodsman, hunting, fishing, spearing, and trapping. He enjoyed going to pow wows and casinos, play-

ing Halo and watching movies on his Xbox. Warren always considered himself a "Jack of all trades" and loved teaching anyone who was willing to learn. He enjoyed being a Minnesota Wildland Firefighter who fought wildfires on the West Coast. He and his big Blue Dodge Truck were always helping those who went in the ditch get out. Warren worked on his carpenter degree, EMT training, he was a huge asset to Evergreen Industry, and later worked for many years at Deer Trail Resort. Warren was a great father to his stepchildren and taught them well and was an excellent role model to his nieces and nephews. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Those greeting Warren in the spirit world are his dad, Raymond Losh; grandparents, Irene and Charles Losh and Mark Cummings.

Those Warren leaves behind to forever cherish his loving memories are his mom, Paula White; stepdad, Lewis Bowstring; spouse, Nicole Drift; son, Robert Gibbs, Jr.; daughter, Rosalie Drift; brother, Carl White; grandma, Clarice White Rockboy; many other family members and friends.

An overnight wake for Warren will begin on Saturday, November 18, 2023, at noon, and continue until his 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, November 19th, 2023, all to be held at the Dave Morgan Community Center in Bena, MN. Warren's Spiritual Advisor is Tony Jenkins. Those helping to lay Warren to rest are Carl White, Sr., Carl White, Jr., Stefan White, Eric White, Lucas White, Eli Goose, Jeromy O'Brien, and David Bismark. Honorary pallbearers are Paula White, Nicole Drift, Rosetta Marlene Smith, Christine Cummings, Clarice White Rockboy, Lucille and Mick Kjar, Chyanne White, Alea Richardson, Becky Losh, Shannon White, Steve Richardson, and Eric White. Interment will be in Ryan's Village Cemetery in Bana, MN.

Warren's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be left at [www.northernpeace.com](http://www.northernpeace.com).

**Gigiyoosemin: We hunt.**

It allows you to define what you're eating. Diet is so much more. Like everything you do. It's an empowering thing too. You're not dependent on other sources.

District III Rep, Leroy Staples Fairbanks III

### The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is seeking a Full Time Chief Judge

Applicants must possess a Juris Doctorate from an accredited Law School and be admitted to practice in the state of Minnesota or any other state.

Successful applicants will have a minimum of 10 years' experience as an attorney. Possess judicial experience that may include experience as a tribal judge, administrative law judge or other similar experience.

The Chief Judge shall demonstrate a depth of understanding of the legal process and an understanding of tribal codes, tribal traditions and customs, restorative justice practices and be of good moral character.

Well-rounded litigation experience and a thorough understanding of Indian law,

sovereignty and especially jurisdiction.

Must have excellent oral and written communication skills.

Must not have been convicted of a felony or crime involving dishonesty nor ever been disbarred by any jurisdiction.

Pre-employment Drug Testing is mandatory for all Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe positions.

**Salary is DOQ.**

**Please submit a cover letter with curriculum vitae and a copy of your current Attorney License to:**

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  
Jacquelyn Wright, Court Administrator  
190 Sailstar Drive NE  
Cass Lake, MN 56633

**Or email to:** [jackie.wright@llojibwe.net](mailto:jackie.wright@llojibwe.net)  
Closing Date is December 22, 2023 4:30pm

Join Our Team!

## BUSINESS CONSULTANT

Are you in search of an exhilarating career dedicated to the advancement and nurturing of local businesses and entrepreneurs? All the while, you'll have the opportunity to contribute to our community. The Itasca Economic Development Corporation has the perfect job for you, featuring exceptional flexibility, attractive benefits, and a welcoming work environment.

### Business Consultant

This position will report to the IEDC Director of Business Development. This position will dedicate 75% of their time to direct client work including preparation time and consulting. The remaining 25% will be instructing or assisting with training programs and other special activities.

### Qualifications

- B.A. or B.S. degree in business, economics, accounting, or related field.
- Excellent communication skills, strong analytical ability.
- Minimum of 3 years of relevant business experience.
- Experience in business management, and or financial business analysis.
- Meet the ASBDC/MN SBDC Core Competencies (within 1-2 years)
- Complete the Basic Economic Development Course (within 1 year)
- Desire for ongoing education.



### Job Duties

- Provide direct client consulting assistance.
- Preliminary screening and evaluation of new ventures and business expansion plans.
- Prepare comprehensive business loan packaging, financial analysis and marketing plans.
- Maintain required client reporting in designated database system.
- Help develop SBDC training programs.
- Represent and promote the regional SBDC office.
- Work with IEDC staff to develop business development strategies for Itasca County.
- Outreach into rural Itasca County, meeting with owners of local businesses.
- Other responsibilities as assigned by management.

### Employee Benefits:



\$55K - \$65K Based on Exp.



Competitive Benefits Package



Great Working Environment

Send your cover letter and resume to Kayla Swanson at [kswanson@itascadv.org](mailto:kswanson@itascadv.org) by Friday, December 8th, 2023.

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### Mail to:

Debahjimon  
190 Sailstar Dr.  
Cass Lake, MN  
56633

# Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders

## December Birthdays

### District I

Sandra Fairbanks	Dorothy Robinson	Darrell Wilson Sr.
Delilah Jackson	Bonita Cloud	Margaret Greenside
Donna Tibbetts	Milton Gotchie	Brian Howard
Burton Alger Sr.	Howard Sherman	Douglas Harrison
Joseph White Jr.	Joel Bebeau	Julie Johnson
Cecelia Braford	William Bowstring	Helen Jackson

From the District I Office Kyle, Amanda & Janelle

### District II

Kenneth Brown	Anthony Boswell
Mary Helling	Melodie White
Myrna Whitebird	Ronald White
Mary Greene	

From the District II Office  
Steve, Lindsey, & Michelle



### District III\*

Debra Adams	Ronald Hare	James Nason
Yvonne Amundson	Jeffrey Harper	Jay Nordmarken
James Baker	Douglas Harrison	Russell Northbird
Vernon Barsness	Loren Howard	Vernon Northbird
Beverly Beaulieu	Lorie Howard	Roberta Olson
Carol Blue	Rosetta Howard	Lawrence Otto
Sharon Brown	Teri Howard	Jacqueline Peltier
Arlen Buckanaga	Vikki Howard	Teresa Persell
Robert Budreau	Patricia Jackson	Carol Rober
Leroy Campbell	Carol Jenkins	Debbi Roberts
Edward Chase	Cheryl Johnson	Larry Robinson
Valerie Chase	Nancy Johnson	Bernard Rock
Lloyd Dahl	Annabel Kingbird	Eugene Rock
Rowa Donovan	Margery Kumalae	Lianne Ryan
Loretta Duncanson	Helen Lindemann	Dewayne Smith
Sherry Elmberg	Francis Littlewolf	George Smith
Delores Fairbanks	Roselie Lovelace	John Smith
Johnny Fairbanks	Kim Lucero	Samuel Smith
Kathryn Fairbanks	Jeffrey Lyons	Alexander Stolitza
Priscilla Fairbanks	Deborah MacKinnon	Victoria White
Jennifer French	Larry Madigan	Nancy Whitebird
Cynthia Gale	Betty McCormack	Gloria Wilson
Claircy Gonzales	Jerry Morgan	Gregory Wright
Coleen Gullickson	Tracy Morrow	Ricky Wuori
Howard Hardy		Todd Wuori

From the District III Office LeRoy, Toni & Kari

*\*all coupons must be used within Birthday Month\**

# Niigaane Ojibwe Language Immersion Program

## Words and sentences list for December

OJIBWEMOWIN	ZHAAGANAASHIIMOWIN
biidoon	bring it
minikwen	drink it
miijin	eat it
biinitoon	clean it
aatebidoon	turn off the light
waazakonebidoon	turn on the light
agoodoon	hang it up
mamoon	take it, pick it up
gojitoon	try it out
atoon	put it in a certain place
dakobidoon	tie it
boonitooon	leave it alone, quit it

**Niigaane Ojibwe Language Immersion Program**  
 15353 Silver Eagle Drive, Bena MN 56626  
 Telephone: **218-665-3000**  
 Toll free: **1-800-265-5576**  
[www.bugonaygeshig.org](http://www.bugonaygeshig.org)

Developed by Camille Naslund, Ed.D.,  
 Niigaane Program Director / Teacher

### OJIBWE SOUND CHART

VOWELS	OJIBWE SOUND	ENGLISH EQUIVALENT
a	asemaa (tobacco)	about
aa	omaa (here)	father
e	esiban (raccoon)	way
i	bine (partridge)	pin
ii	niiwin (four)	seen
o	opin (potato)	obey, book
oo	oodenaa (town)	boat, boot

CONSANANTS	OJIBWE SOUND	ENGLISH EQUIVALENT
b	bakwezigan (bread)	big
ch	gichi-oginiig (tomatoes)	chin
d	doodooshaboo (milk)	dog
g	gaag (porcupine)	go
h	hay' (oops)	hi
j	maajaan (go)	jello
k	mikinaak (turtle)	kite
m	mamoon (take it)	milk
n	bine (partridge)	name
p	baapiwag (they laugh)	pig
s	es (clam)	sun
sh	waagosh (fox)	bush
t	anit (fish spear)	time
w	waawaan (egg)	woman
y	babagiwayan (shirt)	yell
z	mooz (moose)	zebra
zh	niizh (two)	measure
'	ma'iingan (wolf)	oh – oh (glottal stop)

#### Notes:

The English letters and sounds of f, l, q, r, u, v, and x are not part of the Ojibwe alphabet.

The Ojibwe alphabet contains the additional double-letter symbols of aa, ch, ii, oo, sh, and zh.

The glottal stop, which is represented by an apostrophe, is a sound made by a release of air from your throat, similar to when someone punches you in the stomach.

# Toys4Tots



Online sign-ups  
 open now until  
 December 4!

Scan the QR code in this image or follow  
[form.jotform.com/233185380117150](http://form.jotform.com/233185380117150)

Distribution dates / times / locations  
 to be posted at a later date.



Open to LLBO Band Member Households (parent or child enrolled in LLBO).



**CEDAR LAKES**  
CASINO · HOTEL



**Shingobee**  
ON THE BAY  
SPORTSBAR MARINA

# PROMOTIONS & EVENTS

1-844-554-2646



## 2024 NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

### \$22,000 IN CASH

**\$1,000 DRAWING EVERY THIRTY MINUTES 2PM-10PM** + **\$5,000 DRAWING AT 1AM**

Earn one entry for every 10 points December 3 - December 31, 2023.

» BALLOON DROPS AT 12PM & 12AM «

**HOLLYWOOD LEGENDS**

Marilyn Monroe, Elvis and Neil Diamond tributes in the River of Stars Cabaret starting at 4pm. Free admission.

Dancing Fire and Northstar dinner specials.

**MARILYN MONROE**

Blackjack \$100 cash drawings every thirty minutes 3pm-10pm and \$500 at 1am.

Pub 33 dinner specials.

Gourmet Hors d'Oeuvres at 7pm.

## BANK ON US

7PM-10PM SATURDAYS IN DECEMBER

### WIN UP TO \$4,000

TIMES	CASH
7PM	\$500
7:30PM	\$500
8PM	\$500
8:30PM	\$500
9PM	\$500
9:30PM	\$500
10PM	\$1,000

\*Must be present to win. Unclaimed cash prizes will be added to the 10pm drawing.

Earn one entry for every 10 points November 26 - December 28, 2023. See Player's Club for rules and complete details. Management reserves all rights. Subject to change.

## TRAIL INTO THE NEW YEAR

**PLAY TO WIN** JANUARY 1ST, 2024\*

2024 POLARIS SPORTSMAN 570 PREMIUM VALUED AT \$10,900, 1 POLARIS FOUR WHEELER AND \$2,500 IN CASH GIVEN AWAY AT EACH CASINO.

**\$500 CASH** EVERY 30 MINUTES 1PM-3:30PM

**2024 POLARIS 4PM**

\*Must be present to win. Earn 1 entry for every 10 points, December 3 - January 1, 2024. See Player's Club for rules and complete details. Management reserves all rights.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE OUT ON THE TOWN

DECEMBER 31, 2023

King Crab Legs Tenderloin Garlic Mashed Potatoes Asparagus Carmel Lava Cake <b>\$75</b>	Halibut with Lemon Dill Sauce Garlic Mashed Potatoes Asparagus Carmel Lava Cake <b>\$43</b>	Lobster Mac & Cheese Toast Points Carmel Lava Cake <b>\$35</b>
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Reservations recommended: 844-554-2646  
Regular menu items also available.

**DINNER: 5PM-9PM**  
**LIVE DJ: 9PM-1AM**

Walker, MN  
shingobeeonthebay.com

## MILLION POINT MADNESS

ONE DAY » ONE FREE SWIPE

DECEMBER 28, 2023  
8AM-8PM

All Player's Club members get one chance to win their share of a million points.

See Player's Club for rules and complete details. Management reserves all rights.

## SNOWBALL FIGHT

**SWIPE PLAY & WIN**

**WIN UP TO \$200 IN FREE PLAY**

6PM-12AM FRIDAYS IN DECEMBER

For the first 30 points earned each Friday, swipe your Player's Club Card at a promotional kiosk. (max one swipe per week)

See Player's Club for rules and complete details. Management reserves all rights.

NORTHERN LIGHTS CASINO & HOTEL  
Walker, MN • northernlightscasino.com

CEDAR LAKES CASINO & HOTEL  
Cass Lake, MN • cedarlakescasino.com

WHITE OAK CASINO  
Deer River, MN • whiteoakcasino.com

SHINGOBBE ON THE BAY  
Walker, MN • shingobeeonthebay.com