

DEBAHJIMON

Newspaper of the
**Leech Lake
Band of Ojibwe**

February 2021 | Vol. XXXVII No. 8

Boys & Girls Club

Chairman Faron Jackson Sr. among newly selected board members for B&G Directors.
Page 2

1855 Treaty

February 22, 1855. Treaty signed creating the Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Reservations.
Page 3

Nation-to-Nation

President Biden issues memo reaffirming relationship between Tribes and Government.
Page 4

COVID-19 in MN: Positive Tests Drop, Vaccinations Continue

By Kayla Duoos

MINNEAPOLIS – The positivity rate of COVID-19 testing has dropped to the lowest rate since June 24, 2020, and COVID-19 patients filling Minnesota hospital beds in February have seen some of the lowest counts since September, according to the MN Department of Health.

The state thanks residents for this update in numbers. Later, reporting in a press conference in mid February, that 759,747 people in Minnesota have received at least the first of two doses of COVID-19 Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, and 356,911 of them have completed the series leading officials to believe they have a positive outlook for the coming months.

Indigenous-focused Initiatives in MN Education Budget

MINNEAPOLIS – The Minnesota 2021-2022 Education budget calls for the inclusion of Tribal Histories, more Native-led programs, and scholarships.

In a press conference, Monday, January 25, 2021 Governor Tim Walz introduced his 2021-2022 education spending plan, called "Due North" which focuses on "a future where every child receives a high-quality education, no matter their race or zip code."

Walz presented the inclusion-based budget plan alongside Lt Gov. and White Earth Band Member Peggy Flanagan who led the discussion on why Tribal histories and better practices when teaching said subjects are so important.

The state estimates that more than 41% of senior citizens in Minnesota have received at least one dose. Seniors are prioritized for limited supplies of COVID-19 vaccine along with health care workers, long-term care facility residents and educators.

A look at the numbers:

- The Minnesota Department of Health says the state's total number of confirmed coronavirus cases is now at 479,591. Of them, nearly 466,311 no longer require isolation.
- The state's death toll is now at 6,433 with 4,038 of those deaths involving cases in long-term care (LTC) facilities.
- Health officials say approximately 7,178,713 Minnesotans have been tested for the virus so far including 4780 on the reservation.

If you are experiencing symptoms or have been exposed, please call the Cass Lake IHS COVID hotline at 335-3426 or 335-3427 Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. If you are experiencing shortness of breath, please contact the Emergency Department at 335-3327 or dial 911.



**VACCINE HOTLINE
(218) 368-4763**



**-Support 24 Hours a day, 7 days a week
-All callers must be IHS eligible**

Miigwech for your support and patience as we work through this process to make our communities strong and safe.

IHS eligible community members 18 years and older are now eligible to receive the COVID vaccine. If you are interested please call the COVID-19 Vaccine hotline and reserve your spot now at 218-368-4763.

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relevant pre-kindergarten learning for Tribal children, scholarships for Native students pursuing teaching careers and a new program to provide tribal relations training for school administrators.

In moving schools towards what the administration describes as an "accurate history of Minnesota's Indigenous people," Flanagan also wants to influence the develop-

ment of a new social studies curriculum in public schools.

These new initiatives make up \$8.9 million in proposed new spending over the next two years.

To read the states full budget proposal, visit: <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/about/plan>

VOL XXXVII NO 8

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
- » Robbie Howe, District I Representative
- » Steve White, District II Representative
- » LeRoy Staples Fairbanks III, District III Representative

Staff

Michael Chosa, Editor
Kayla Duoos, Journalist
Anthony Belgarde, Graphic Design

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.

Debahjimon

190 Sailstar Dr. NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

news@llojibwe.net

Ph: (218) 335-8200
Fax: (218) 335-8309

Deadlines

Mar. Issue.....2/26/2021
Apr. Issue.....3/26/2021
May Issue.....4/30/2021



Chairman Jackson Named to Board of Directors for MN Boys & Girls Club



Board Member
Faron Jackson Sr.



Board Member
Jeffrey Hayden



Board Member
Joe Gould

MINNEAPOLIS – The Minnesota Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs announced the addition of three new members to their Board of Directors last week including Tribal Chairman, Faron Jackson, Sr.

Board members serve two-year terms and oversee the operation and strategy of the twelve-member state advocacy organization for Minnesota Boys & Girls Clubs, and all Minnesota youth. "We are excited to add some great, knowledgeable voices to our board to help advocate for Minnesota kids," said Alliance Board president Tom Schnack, who is also a member of the Board of the Boys & Girls of the Twin Cities.

"The Alliance continues to diversify its board of directors, and the work it does to help our Clubs and kids. We're really happy to add two alumni and a local board member to our Alliance board," said Chad Campbell, CEO of Alliance member Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester

New Board Members:

Faron Jackson, Sr. is the Chairman of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Jackson has been in tribal government since 2014 and leads the administration of the more than 10,000-member Leech Lake Reservation, businesses and gaming. He is also Vice President of the unified Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. Jackson is a long-time foster parent

and was a member of Boys & Girls Clubs while growing up on the Leech Lake Reservation and in North Minneapolis.

Jeffrey Hayden was a Boys & Girls Clubs member in San Francisco and Minneapolis while growing up. He is a Senior Government Relations Specialist at Fredrickson & Byron P.A., and was a three-term state senator from Minneapolis. While serving as a Minnesota State Senator representing District 62, he was a member of the commerce and consumer protection finance and policy, human services reform finance and policy, finance, and health and human services finance and policy committees.

Joe Gould is a board member of the Boys & Girls of the Bemidji Area and a teacher at Voyageurs School in Bemidji, MN. He holds multiple degrees including a master's in public administration. Before teaching full-time, Joe was a legislative staff person at the Minn. House of Representatives. Joe was previously a city council member.

The Minnesota Alliance is a 501c4 nonprofit subsidiary of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. All Boys & Girls Clubs organizations in Minnesota are independent, 501c3 nonprofits, or part of Indigenous tribal governments, operated by local boards & staff.

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Secretarial Transfers Update

Submitted by Ben Benoit, DRM Environmental Director

On December 23rd, 2020 the United States President signed into law the Leech Lake Restoration Act. This bill directs the Chippewa National Forest to transfer 11,760 acres of forest service lands to the Department of the Interior to be held in trust for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe as part of the Reservation. The 11,760 acres to be transferred back to the Reservation were illegally transferred by the Interior Department to the Chippewa National Forest in the 1940s and 50s without consent of the Band or individual allottees.

During this period the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) wrongly interpreted an order from the Department of the Interior (DOI), which led them to believe they had the authority to sell Tribal lands without the consent of a majority of the landowners. The practice came to an abrupt end in 1959 when the Secretary of the Interior advised the BIA that they were illegal and ordered them to cease the transactions.

A 1986 Supreme Court Decision (UNITED STATES v. MOTTAZ, 476 U.S. 834) ruled that landowners who had lost land in this manner were prevented from seeking legal recourse due to a 12-year statute of limitations clause in the Quiet Title Act of 1972.

The bill acknowledged this decision as well as recognized the ruling of a federal judge who stated that the land could be restored to Tribal trust status for Band members through an act of Congress.

Since the signing of this bill, a flurry of work has been ongoing at Leech Lake Division of Resource Management (LLDRM). To finalize the transfers within the 180 day timeframe as stated in the act, staff have been gathering the congressional required information to submit to the US Secretary of Agriculture. Currently work is ongoing in conjunction with the Chippewa National Forest to identify parcels, compile legal descriptions, identify land encumbrances and develop maps.

One question that has come up since is what will happen to these lands once transferred? Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe has a variety of existing plans that look to the future of our land holdings. Policies and plans exist already that outline Tribal priorities regarding housing, land acquisition, economic development, land and forest management.

For example, If particular parcels of transferred lands area adjacent to current communities, they could be developed into additional housing relatively soon; If a parcel is isolated and forested they would be incorporated in the Leech Lake's Forest Management Plan that examines conservation and timber management of Tribal owned lands.

Depending on proximity to our communities, viability for economic development and current land use these lands will fall into the planning and policies already developed and regularly updated by the Tribe that governs our land use.

The Leech Lake Restoration Act is a considerable step in correcting this historic wrong that resulted in the widespread theft of Tribal lands within the Leech Lake Reservation. Staff at LLDRM are excited and eager to be working on this monumental project and we hope to be out to the communities in the next few months to share all the work we are undertaking to restore these lands back to the Annishinabe.

Miigwech.

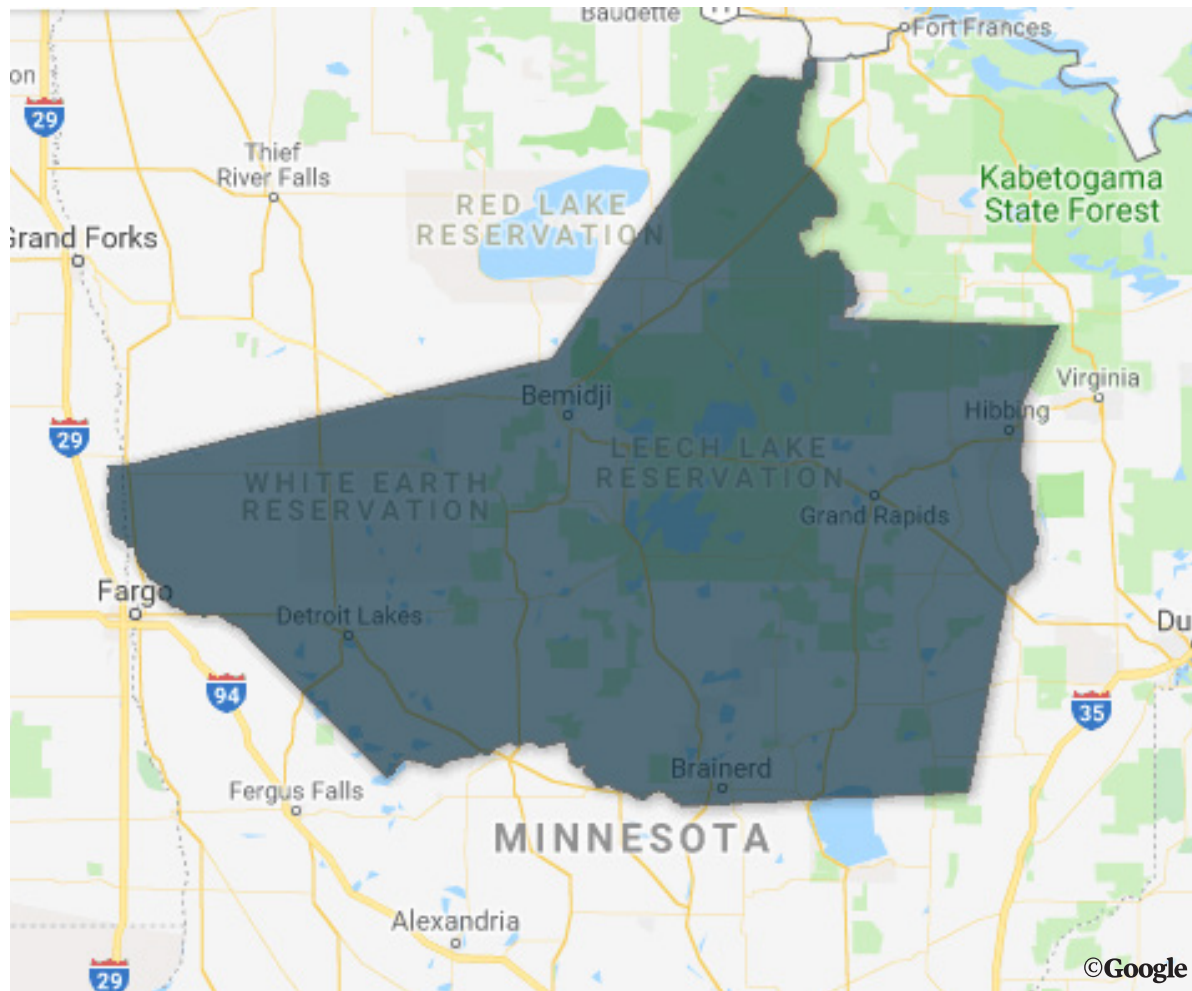
February 22nd is the Anniversary of the 1855 Treaty Signing

By Michael Chosa

The Treaty of Washington, commonly referred to as the 1855 Treaty, was signed on February 22, 1855 between the United States government and representatives of the Pillager, Lake Winnibigoshish and Mississippi bands of Ojibwe. This treaty established a reservation at Leech Lake for the Pillager & Lake Winnibigoshish bands and a reservation at Mille Lacs for the Mississippi bands. These reservations were established a full three years before Minnesota was admitted to the Union and recognized as a State in 1858. Much of the land in what would become Minnesota was acquired earlier through treaties with the Ojibwe in 1837 and 1854, and treaties with the Dakota in 1851.

The United States wanted further access to lucrative logging and mining opportunities in north-central Minnesota, the 1855 treaty fulfilled their desires. Hoping to avoid a similar situation to 1854 treaty negotiations, in which thousands of Ojibwe traveled to La Pointe to voice their concerns, the U.S. Government invited a small number of Ojibwe leaders to Washington D.C. The true purpose of their visit was kept secret from them until their arrival in the nation's Capitol. Negotiations were held for three days, from February 17 to February 20, 1855. In the end, a majority of the land in this territory was ceded to the United States with the exception of the newly established Leech Lake and Mille Lacs reservations. Treaty Rights While both the 1837 and 1854 included stipulations that the Ojibwe would retain their hunting and fishing rights in the ceded territory, the 1855 did not explicitly state this.

This led to legal battles that are still being decided in court cases between band members and various county and state agencies. At issue, are the usufructuary rights of Ojibwe band Members to hunt, fish and gather within the territories ceded in the 1855 treaty. In a highly publicized decision, the U.S.



The shaded area shows the land which was ceded in the 1855 Treaty. Band Members retain Hunting, Fishing and other rights within this area.

Supreme Court affirmed these rights for the Mille Lacs band in their 1999 decision, see quote below. Established in 2010, the 1855 Treaty Authority is leading the fight to have these rights legally recognized. The group includes members from the Ojibwe communities of East Lake, Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, Sandy Lake and White Earth. Twenty or so members meet monthly to work on strategies to force a legal decision on the matter and put the issue to rest once and for all. Their most effective tactic to date, is public demonstrations of off-reservation hunting, fishing and gathering rights through out the ceded territory.

These demonstrations have included setting net and harvesting wild rice. The participating tribal members hope to receive citations from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources or county offi-

cial. The 1855 Treaty Authority then represents these Band members in state court, with the hope that a decision will be issued and elevated all the way to the United States Supreme Court in the same manner as the Mille Lacs Decision. "The Anishinaabe-Ojibwe derive these rights from Gitche Manidoo, the creator. These rights predate contact with the Europeans" says Bedonahkwaad, Dale Greene, 1855 Treaty Authority board member and enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, "The concept of land ownership was such a foreign idea to the Indians at that time, How can you own the land? Will you pick it up and bring it with you wherever you go?" He further states; "We maintained the right of occupancy, the right to exist off of our resources. The right to hunt, fish, gather and travel were unalienable to the Indians. The 1855 is important because it does

not state that we are giving up any of these rights in the ceded territories. That's the bottom line. We've already won, we are just waiting for the decision." Another crucial factor in the interpretation of the 1855 treaty is what is known as the reserved rights doctrine, which holds that any rights that are not specifically addressed in a treaty are reserved to the tribe. In other words, treaties outline the specific rights that the tribes gave up, not those that they retained.

The courts have consistently interpreted treaties in this fashion, beginning with United States v. Winans (1905), in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a treaty is "not a grant of rights to the Indians, but a grant of rights from them." Any right not explicitly extinguished by a treaty or a federal statute is considered to be "reserved" to the tribe.

"In 1837, the United States entered into a Treaty with several Bands of Chippewa Indians. Under terms of this Treaty, the Indians ceded land in present-day Wisconsin and Minnesota to the United States, and the United States guaranteed to the Indians certain hunting, fishing and gathering rights on the ceded land.

We must decide whether the Chippewa Indians retain these usufructuary rights today. The State of Minnesota argues that the Indians lost these rights through an Executive Order in 1850, and 1855 Treaty, and the admission of Minnesota into the Union in 1858.

After an examination of the historical record, we conclude that the Chippewa retain the usufructuary rights guaranteed to them under the 1837 Treaty."

**-Justice Sandra Day O'Connor,
U.S Supreme Court, 1999**

President Biden Issues Memorandum on “Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships”

WASHINGTON, D.C. – President Joseph R. Biden issued the following memo on January 26th which reaffirms the nation to nation relationship between tribes and the federal government:

January 26, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR THE
HEADS OF EXECUTIVE
DEPARTMENTS AND
AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships

American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Nations are sovereign governments recognized under the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, Executive Orders, and court decisions. It is a priority of my Administration to make respect for Tribal sovereignty and self-governance, commitment to fulfilling Federal trust and treaty responsibilities to Tribal Nations, and regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal Nations cornerstones of Federal Indian policy. The United States has made solemn promises to Tribal Nations for more than two centuries. Honoring those commitments is particularly vital now, as our Nation faces crises related to health, the economy, racial justice, and climate change — all of which disproportionately harm Native

Americans. History demonstrates that we best serve Native American people when Tribal governments are empowered to lead their communities, and when Federal officials speak with and listen to Tribal leaders in formulating Federal policy that affects Tribal Nations.

To this end, Executive Order 13175 of November 6, 2000 (Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments), charges all executive departments and agencies with engaging in regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have Tribal implications. Tribal consultation under this order strengthens the Nation-to-Nation relationship between the United States and Tribal Nations. The Presidential Memorandum of November 5, 2009 (Tribal Consultation), requires each agency to prepare and periodically update a detailed plan of action to implement the policies and directives of Executive Order 13175. This memorandum reaffirms the policy announced in that memorandum.

Section 1. Consultation. My Administration is committed to honoring Tribal sovereignty and

including Tribal voices in policy deliberation that affects Tribal communities. The Federal Government has much to learn from Tribal Nations and strong communication is fundamental to a constructive relationship. Accordingly, I hereby direct as follows:

(a) The head of each agency shall submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), within 90 days of the date of this memorandum, a detailed plan of actions the agency will take to implement the policies and directives of Executive Order 13175. The plan shall be developed after consultation by the agency with Tribal Nations and Tribal officials as defined in Executive Order 13175.

(b) Each agency’s plan and subsequent reports shall designate an appropriate agency official to coordinate implementation of the plan and preparation of progress reports required by this memorandum. These officials shall submit reports to the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy (APDP) and the Director of OMB, who will review agency plans and subsequent reports for consistency with the

policies and directives of Executive Order 13175.

(c) The head of each agency shall submit to the Director of OMB, within 270 days of the date of this memorandum, and annually thereafter, a progress report on the status of each action included in the agency’s plan, together with any proposed updates to its plan.

(d) The Director of OMB, in coordination with the APDP, shall submit to the President, within 1 year from the date of this memorandum, a report on the implementation of Executive Order 13175 across the executive branch based on the review of agency plans and progress reports. Recommendations for improving the plans and making the Tribal consultation process more effective, if any, should be included in this report.

Sec. 2. Definitions. The terms “Tribal officials,” “policies that have Tribal implications,” and “agency” as used in this memorandum are as defined in Executive Order 13175.

Sec. 3. General Provisions.
(a) Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed to impair

or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This memorandum shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This memorandum is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Sec. 4. Publication. The Director of OMB is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

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View the Memorandum on the official White House website here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/26/memorandum-on-tribal-consultation-and-strengthening-nation-to-nation-relationships/>

Leech Lake Diabetes Fitness Center

28th **MEMORIAL**
annual WALK RUN

Pre-register
FEB.22-APR.16
8AM - 4:30PM

Event Starts
MAY 17-MAY 27
8AM - 4:00PM

FOR MORE INFO CALL: Leech Lake Diabetes Center (218) 335-2081

Register with the Fitness Center
(335-2081)

to ensure that you will receive your t-shirt for the event.

There will be no registration during the event

Registered participants can stop by the Fitness Center at anytime during these dates to pick up their t-shirt and begin their walk/run.

If there is another group on the trail please allow for social distancing



State of the
Band Address

Delivered by Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Chairman Faron Jackson, Sr. Please join us as we reflect on the past year and take a look at what we can expect in the year 2021.

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE

STATE
of the
BAND
2021

This year's State of the Band will be presented online

MARCH 26
@11AM

Watch Live on our facebook page or leechlakenews.com

Construction Workforce and Home Manufacturing on the Horizon for LLBO

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Development Division (LLTDD) is asking for feedback as part of its feasibility study for a vertically-integrated construction workforce program. We are seeking survey participants with construction experience or those wanting to pursue a construction-related job and are open to working in Leech Lake Reservation (LLR).

The survey is accessible at <https://arcg.is/1SfCmK0>, or you may scan the QR-code in the upper right of this article with your mobile phone. It should only take around 10 minutes of your time. You will be eligible for a \$100 prize by doing so (there will be five \$100 drawings).

If the vertically-integrated con-

struction workforce program is shown to be feasible; its development will help increase employment, housing development, and homeownership opportunities in our communities.

The Leech Lake Tribal College (LLTC) will provide four- to five-week construction trades training certification courses to educate the workforce laborers needed to manufacture home panels and to develop needed construction trades to build housing homes within LLR. Collaborations between LLTC and non-profit agencies and private sector contractors also ensure a path towards on-the-job trainings and apprenticeship programs.

The Leech Lake Financial Services (LLFS) role will be to assist poten-

tial homeowners with a budget, proper credit score, savings plan and guidance to keep them on the right path.

This effort being led by the LLTDD is funded by the EDA with the following partners: LLTC, LLFS, and regional and state networks such as Region 5 Development Commission, Widseth, Rural Minnesota Concentrated Employment Program, and Sweet Grass Consulting, LLC.

If you would like to chat with someone regarding this survey or project, please call Michael Brydge, Principal Director, Sweet Grass Consulting, LLC at 540-448-1826 or email at michael@sweetgrassconsulting.net.



Scan here with your smart device camera to be taken to the survey!

Jourdain Wins Special Election, Joins Thayer on Bemidji City Council

By Kayla Duoos

BEMIDJI – The Bemidji City Council now has two Native voices at the table.

Dan Jourdain, Red Lake Nation, won a special election on Feb. 9 by defeating Dave Larson, a former council member and mayor. Jourdain received 524 votes to Larson's 410 votes in an at-large council seat race. In November's general election, Jourdain came in second to Larson - 1,784 to 2,160 - in a race where the two top vote getters advanced.

Jourdain now joins a 7-person council that includes Audrey Thayer, White Earth Nation. Thayer was elected in November. Jourdain, 35, and Thayer, 69, were part of a recent wave of Indigenous candidates seeking public office in the Bemidji area.

Jourdain and Thayers terms will last 4 years, and both candidates platform's focus on helping Tribal to city relations.



Newly elected Bemidji City Council Members, **Top Photo:** Audrey Thayer (White Earth) and **Bottom Photo:** Dan Jourdain (Red Lake).

Enhanced Community Service Garage for LLBO Members

The community service garage in Cass Lake is now up to date, thanks to the Leech Lake Department of Resource Management.

The small vehicle garage provides repair services for automobiles for Leech Lake Band Members at no cost. The band's DRM department collaborated with multiple non-profit organizations to pro-

vide the garage free tools and a new parts washer.

DRM representatives say the goal of the partnership was to make repair jobs easier while encouraging the use of safer and more environmentally friendly cleaning products that reduce air pollution and thereby improve the air quality on the Reservation.

Band members can visit the Community Services garage at:

16095 60th Avenue NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

8-4:30pm Mondays - Fridays

Priority appointments are made for elders, and handicapped residents.

Watch out for COVID-19 scams.



STAY SAFE MN

Watch out for scams!

Public health officials or health care providers will never ask for money, your bank account, credit card, or social security number. Offers to sell or ship doses of the vaccine are also a scam.

If you believe you are the victim of a COVID-19 scam, visit: <https://www.ag.state.mn.us/Office/Forms/COVID19Complaint.asp>.

#StaySafeMN



Obituaries



Aaron Wind



Aaron Jeffery Wind, 42, from Bena, Minnesota started his journey to the spirit world from Sanford Hospital in Fargo, North Dakota on Sunday, January 10th, 2021. Aaron was born in Bemidji, MN on October 13th, 1978 to Deanna Wind and Wayne Wintermeyer.

Aaron grew up in the Mission area and enjoyed playing basketball for the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School. Anyone who knew Aaron, knew that he always put his family first. There was not anything he would not do for his children. A day never went by without a conversation with his special sister Kristi. He was always smiling and joking, having fun with his family. He loved playing pool and throwing darts on his league teams, going to casinos, staying home with his family, having movie nights with his wife and children. He was an excellent blackjack player, so good that one night he was accused of counting cards and thrown out of the casino.

Those that welcome Aaron to the spirit world is his father, Wayne Wintermeyer; sister, Thelma Adams; grandmother, Roberta Wind; grandfather, Dean Wind; aunties, Cecelia Drouillard and Terri Staples; and uncle, Dan Kingbird, Jr.

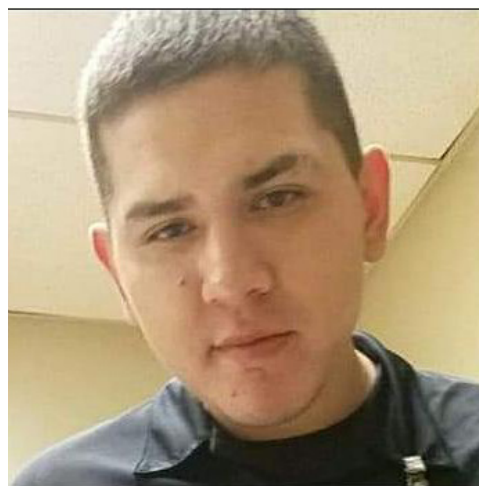
Those Aaron leave behind to cherish his memory are his wife of over fifteen years, Amanda Littlewolf; sons, Aaron Wind, Jr., Allen Wind, Ronin Cloud and Jason "Shoonie" Littlewolf, Jr.; daughters, Aaliyah Wind, Anna Wind, Makenna Wind, Adina

Headbird, Trina Headbird, Carlina Headbird, Larenz Cloud and Anavey Littlewolf; mother, Deanna Wind; brothers, Darryl Adams and Ron (Corrina) Hulett, Sr.; sisters, Kristi (David) Wind, Karla Wind and Kelly Wind; uncles, Joe (Shelly) Wind and Donald (Karyn) Wind.

A two-day wake will begin at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 14th and continue until his 1:00 p.m. funeral service on Saturday, January 16th all to be held at the Mission Community Center in Cass Lake, MN. Father Matthew Cobb will officiate. Pallbearers will be Aaron Wind, Jr., Allen Wind, Clarence Day, Jr., Ron Hulett, Sr., Doug Staples, Samuel "Munch" Staples III, alternates Rodney Headbird and Darryl "Duck" Drouillard. His honorary pallbearers are his wife, Amanda, sisters, Kristi, Karla and Kelly, mother, Deanna, Bobbi Norby and all his family and friends. Interment will be in Mission Cemetery at Mission/Cass Lake, MN immediately following his Saturday service.

Aaron'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

Wayne Goodman



Wayne Timothy Goodman, Waabishki Gekek of the Bear Clan completed his life on earth Thursday, January 28, 2021.

Traditional Funeral Services will be held at 10:00am, Thursday, February 4, 2021 at the Onigum Community Center in Onigum

with spiritual leaders Mike Dahl and Melvin Goodman. A wake will begin on Tuesday at 7 pm at the Sports Complex at NayTahWaush and then will continue at the Onigum Community Center on Wednesday. Interment will be at the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery.

Wayne was born November 21, 1993 as the son of Timothy and Nicole (Burnette) Goodman and spent the majority of his life on the White Earth Reserve. As soon as Wayne could walk he discovered his true passion for Powwow Dancing & Singing. Holding numerous titles as both Jr. & Sr. Braves and a Champion Contest Dancer. His truest pride and joy are the titles of SON, BROTHER, UNCLE and NEPHEW. Wayne will most often be remembered for his ability to visit and relate to anyone of any age, always bringing laughter and a confident ear. When hanging with his friends he was always listening to and making his own music. He will for ever be known for his smile, laughter, visits, hair and as "that boy that can dance"!

Wayne's memory and legacy will be carried on by his Mother Nicole Goodman, Sister Ashley (Donavin) Fineday, Brothers Devan (Brittany) Goodman, William "Billy" Goodman, Darius (Destiny) Pierre, Tayvin Goodman and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

First in line to welcome Wayne home is his Dad and best friend Timothy Goodman, Grandpa Ronald Coleman, Cousins Gina Goodman, Ashleigh Mountain and other relatives from around the powwow country!

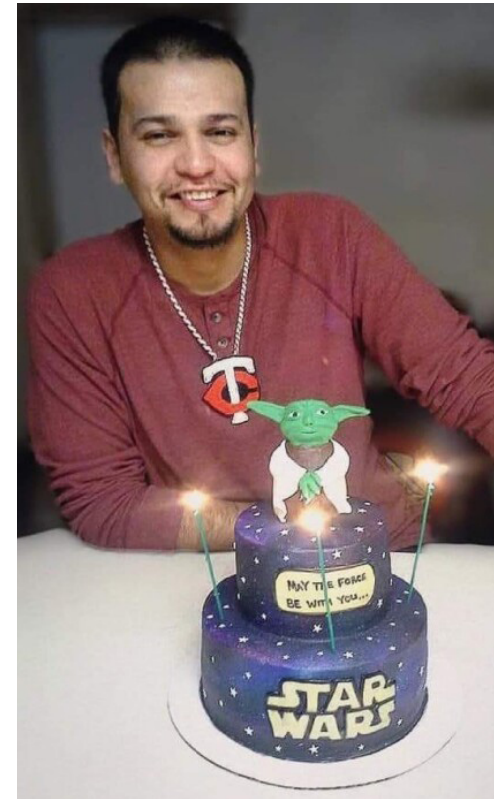
Casketbearers are Will Gagnon, Chase Gagnon, Hawky Lafrainiere, Damien Thompson, Devan Goodman, Donavin Fineday, Emil Hanks, Darius Goodwin, Honorary Casketbearers are Mary Gagnon, Lew Murray and all his family and friends.

Condolences may be left at ceasefuneral-home.com

LeRoy Gale, Sr.

LeRoy Eason Gale, Sr., 35 years young, of Onigum, Minnesota journeyed to the spirit world on Tuesday, January 26th, 2021 from his home. He was born on October 7th, 1985 to Holly (Gale) Rabbitt and Joseph Howard in Bemidji, MN.

LeRoy was a proud and loving father who enjoyed spending time with his children. He was also an amazing grandson to his Grandmother Freida and checked in with her often. LeRoy lived his life looking out for his loved ones and friends. Many will say



how often he leant an ear and a shoulder, how he gave advice and words of wisdom and courage. He opened his heart and home to many along his life's path and he did not hesitate to lend a hand to someone in need. LeRoy will be remembered by all these things, along with his amazing smile that lit up any room, his contagious laugh that was music to your ears, and his big hugs that comforted and resonated so much love. LeRoy was also an avid reader and a huge fan of Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, and The Hobbit, to name a few. While giving words of wisdom, he often shared quotes from his books or movies.

The following are some words of advice, given in true LeRoy form:

"That is the first steps of becoming one with the Force. Let go of the physical and emotional aspects of all that you fear to lose. Only then can you become worthy of owning one's self and being a slave to such decisions of desire." -L.E.G. our Jedi Master

He is loved and adored by many and is going to be missed by all.

He joins his son; Lyman Gale, parents; Holly Rabbitt and Joseph Howard, grandpas, Ray Oothoudt and LeRoy Howard; great grandma; Frances Gould, auntie; Rosalynda Oothoudt, uncles; Frank Oothoudt, David Smith I and Leo "Bart" Jordan, cousins; James ElMBERG, Jason Howard, Eric Rico, Alonzo and Dominique Smith and Lynda Morrison and many other relatives.

Family that he leaves behind are his children; Cecelia, Layla, LeRoy Jr. and Freida Gale and Brielle Reich, his siblings; Joe and Jade Gale, Amber Goode, Jasmine Howard and Dominick Goode, grandma; Freida Oothoudt and numerous more family members and friends.

A wake for LeRoy will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 31st and continue until his 11:00 a.m. funeral service on Tuesday, February 2nd all to be held at the Onigum Community Center in Onigum, MN. Pastor Paul Haddix will officiate. Pallbearers for LeRoy are Matt Frazer, David Smith II, Mike Washington, Joe Gale, Eric Alger, Jeremiah Smith, Deondre Gale and Conrad Smith. His honorary pallbearers are Charles Oothoudt, Roman Oothoudt, Damian Thompson, Randy Roberts, Jason Silcox, Chris Gould, Austin Jordan, Michael Morrison-Reese and Rob Elmsberg. Interment will be in the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery at Old Agency, MN following his Tuesday services.

LeRoy'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

Michael Morris



Michael Wayne Morris, "Gwi wi zens", 36, from Cass Lake, MN began his journey to the spirit world on January 12, 2021. He passed away from Covid 19 at his home near Aviano Air Force Base in Italy.

Michael was born on October 6, 1984 to Elverna "Byrd" Morris and Paul Armstrong. He grew up in the Cass Lake area and enjoyed fishing, wrestling, hunting, building tree-houses, and anything with a motor. He graduated from Cass Lake/Bena High School and attended Northwest Technical College before enlisting in the Air Force. He married Amanda Miller of Ball Club, MN in 2007 and they moved to Valdosta, GA where he was stationed at Moody Air Force Base, and where they welcomed their three babies, Matehya, Brayden, and Makenna. Michael loved military life and had served for 14 years

at the time of his passing. He was deployed three times to Iraq, two times to Afghanistan, and once to Sicily, Italy. His unit's motto was "We do the things we do so others may live" and he took that mission very seriously. He attained the rank of Technical Sergeant in the 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and was fondly nicknamed "Kickin Wing" by his unit. Major Christopher Clark, the Squadron Commander, said in a release, "Mike was well known and highly respected in our community. He was a friend to many and we'll miss him dearly." Whether at home or on base, Michael loved to joke and tease those around him, most especially his kids, nieces and nephews. They couldn't wait to have time with him and to take part in his antics. Michael's children were his pride and joy. He most loved spending time with Amanda and his children and also enjoyed fishing, hunting, wrestling, grilling, the Vikings, pets, the beach, and staying fit.

Family that welcomes Michael home are his parents, his grandfather Ray Hare, his great-grandmother Elverna Finn, his uncles Mike and Skip Finn, his cousin Leann Morris, and his friend Dwayne McFarlane, Jr.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are his wife, Amanda; his daughters Matehya and Makenna; his son Brayden; his grandmother Juanita White (Susie Finn); his grandfather Harry Morris; his sisters Krissy Morris, Deahna (Travis) Wiganowski, Brittany (Alex) Wienand/Morris; his brother Aaron (Angelle) Morris; his aunts Davine Morris and Pam Armstrong; his uncle Tony Morris his cousins: Courtney, Jerrica, Natasha, Jasmine, Tonya, and Dynell Morris; Curt, Joe and Alex Eichberg; nieces: Azaylegha, Kierra, Audrina, Peyton and Brynn; nephews: Holden, Damion, Anthony, Robert and Ashton; Amanda's parents Layne and Marilyn Miller, grandmother Henrietta and her siblings Layne Jr.(Krista) and Adrian Miller; his special uncle Mike Schmid and special cousins Jordan Robinson, Will Robinson, Anna Splady, Joe and JD Schmid; his special cousins Vin Brown, Christopher Phillips; and many friends.

A private service with full military honors will take place upon the return of his body to MN, with internment at the Leech Lake Veterans Cemetery.

A Special Thank You

The Michael W. Morris Family would like to thank the U.S. Air Force, the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, the Leech Lake Veterans Office, and the many friends and family for their support during this difficult time. Your acts of kindness were very much appreciated. Miigwech.

WE NEED YOUR HELP GETTING OUR ELDERS VACCINATED

If you have loved ones who have not received the COVID-19 Vaccine and are interested in getting vaccinated please assist them by contacting the Leech Lake COVID-19 Vaccine Hotline to reserve their place for upcoming vaccines

COVID-19 VACCINE HOTLINE
218-368-4763

District III Elder Birthdays

March

From the District III Office
LeRoy, Toni & Kari

Elizabeth Aitken
Wanda Headbird
Terry Smith
Marcella Ardito
Burton Howard
Linda Staples
Lois Armstrong
Melvin Hunt
Joel Stokka
Gloria Beaudreau
Patrice Jones
James Tibbetts
David Beaulieu
Beverly Jordan
Ronald Wakanbo
Donna Beaulieu
Steven Kmett
Terrance White
Douglas Beaulieu
Sharon Kotla
Charlotte White

Edward Beaulieu
Faith Littlewolf
Debra White
Marlyce Bellanger
Raymond Lyons
Natalie Wickner
Dawn Benjamin
Marjorie McCree
James Wilson
Janice Bryan
Valerie Meneely
Alvin J. Wind
Sharon Burnette
Franklin Michaud
William Windom
Ella Campbell
Michael Morris
Emily Woodfield
Gladys Chase
Karen Moses
Darlene Cloud

Alfred Pemberton
Janice Cloud
Beverly Raisch
Donald Day
Mary Lou Reich
Gloria Dudley
Elaine Saccoman
William Fisher
Betty Lou Sayers
Lila George
Boyd Schluter
Thelma Goodwin
Marlene Schulman
Timothy Goose
Bradley Senogles
David Hare
Iris Sherer
Jessica Harrison
John P. Smith
Brian Haugen
Kenneth Smith

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



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 Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Tracy Jackson/Norman Gogglye

Court File No. CP-15-42

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on January 13, 2020, a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody was filed in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the children 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

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re: Estate of: Ramona Rose Jackson, DOB: 08/24/1959. Decedent.

Court File No. CV-20-59

NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

above-named decedent, Ramona Rose Jackson, died May 2, 2020. A hearing was held before the Honorable David Harrington, Deputy 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 24th, day of November, 2020 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 Opalina Peralta, surviving daughter of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on November 24, 2020, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Opalina Peralta, 10141 Washington Ave. S. #8 Bemidji, MN 56601 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Ramona Jackson, 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 the Matter of the Guardianship of: C.D.L. DOB: 02/24/2009. Lindsey S. White, Petitioner, And Michelle Losh & Gerald St. John, Respondents.

Case No. FA-20-65

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on July 10, 2020, a Petition for Guardianship of a 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 file a response in the office of the Leech Lake Tribal Court on or before July 8th, 2021 at 9:30 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 the Matter of the Guardianship of: A.H. II, DOB: 05/01/2006; A.H., DOB: 04/14/2010. Steven & Rebecca White, Co-Petitioner, And Michelle Losh & Antonio Hanson, Respondents.

Case No. FA-20-76

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on August 7, 2020, a Petition for Guardianship of a 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 file a response in the office of the Leech Lake Tribal Court on or before July 8th, 2021 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 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 the Guardianship of: C.H.L., DOB: 01/09/2013. Terri O'Shea, Petitioner: and Gerri LaRose & Robert Holstein, Respondents.

Case No. FA-20-97

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: All Parties of Record, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a(n) Initial Hearing in the above-entitled matter will be held on March 9th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom, Tribal Justice Center, in Cass Lake, Minnesota. The hearing will be before the Honorable David Harrington, Deputy Judge of Tribal Court. You are required to appear at the above time and place for the hearing.

If the petitioner fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, the matter may be dismissed by the Court.

If the respondent fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, default judgment may be taken against you at that time and the requested relief may be granted to 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 determination concerning your child.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Sloane Dunn

Court File No. CP-20-27

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on March 22, 2021 at 9AM, an Admit/Deny Hearing is scheduled in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for any further questions. 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.



LLTC Student of the Year 2020

Kaylene "Kwe" Humphrey



Kaylene "Kwe" Humphrey has been selected as Leech Lake Tribal College's 2020 Student Of the Year. LLTC's Student of the Year honor-

ees are selected based on good grades and consistent attendance. Humphrey is a second year student in the Integrated Residential Carpentry program who is expected to graduate Fall 2021. Humphrey chose to attend Leech Lake Tribal College because of the trades program and the cultural aspects they put into their curriculums. Carpentry Instructor Rochelle "Rocky" Carpenter says Humphrey's impression on the school and program will be lasting.

"She came into the Integrated Residential Builder program with tremendous focus and intention, she challenged us (instructors) to create training situations that went beyond minimal subject

matter in carpentry- at each level of evaluation Kwe outperformed most trainees making her primed for employment with an industry contractor/owner -Kwe has overcome the discomfort of being a minority in the trades, has turned the tables on the outdated perception of women in non traditional careers by demonstrating her sustainable focus on her education and skill sets, we are forever shaped by her commitment and dedication to this community"

Following Graduation, Humphrey plans to transfer to use knowledge learned in the program to build a home for her son and help develop sustainable living situations in her community.

Cass Lake Boys & Girls Club Employee of the Year 2020



Ladies and gentlemen, we present to you the Cass Lake Unit's employee of the year for 2020, Patty Graves (Ms. Patty).

Patty is a licensed teacher and the Assistant Unit Director at the Cass Lake Unit. During 2020 when the pandemic arrived in our communities, the schools moved to distance learning and our clubs shifted from after school programs to childcare centers for essential workers. Our childcare centers filled with distance learners from the Cass Lake Bena schools, some of them being special needs learners. Patty showed her dedication to our community by ensuring that all the distance learners completed the school work as she often gave them the one on one attention they needed.

Patty also facilitates our grant driven programs including OJJDP mentoring, literacy programs (Power Hour) and TRAIL Behavioral Health (Suicide prevention).

Congratulations and Chi-Miigwech Ms. Patty!

REGIONAL NATIVE PUBLIC DEFENSE

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PO BOX 487
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Cass Lake, MN 56633

Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders February Birthdays

District I

Wanda Bellanger
Josephine Brown
Edward Howard Jr
Sherry Jenkins
Helen Johnson
Samuel Johnson JR
Dianna Kingbird
Charles Morrison
Katherine Sheffield
Douglas Stately
Leona Wakanabo
Edith Wilson

From the
District I Office
Robbie, Stephanie, &
Zagajiw

District II

Giiwedini Biindige
Rose Marie White
Lawrence Seelye
Carol "Penny" Stangel

From the District II Office
Steve, Lindsey, &
Michelle



District III*

Roger Anderson
Joanne Bellanger
Clifford Benjamin
Ruth Bongo
Mary Burnette
Leon Butcher
Theresa Cash
Maxine Charwood
Stanley Chief
Marlene Clausen
Ronald Cloud
Tina Cloud
Steven Day
Roberta Decker
Diana Eason
Carol Fairbanks
Georgianna Feigum
Sally Fineday

Sharon Finn
Stanley Hare
Wallis Humphrey
Bruce Johnson
Cheryl Johnson
Ronald Johnson
James Jones
Tara Jones
Elizabeth Kingbird
Brenda Kornezos
Pauline LaRose
Kenneth Losh
Fred Lovelace
Herbert Medina
Pamela Michaud
Timothy Moon
Michael Murphy
Tracy O'Brien

Richard Robinson
Alan Ruppelius
Henry Rushman
Bernie Smith
Stacy Smith
Keith St. Cyr
Karen Staples
Kenneth Staples
Ramona Staples
James Starr
Jacquelyn Tibbetts
Lois Tibbetts
Delcie Tonce
Lucille Wakanabo
Flora White
Beverly Whitebird
Patricia Wilson
Ruth Wind

From the District III Office
LeRoy, Toni & Kari

**All coupons must be used
within Birthday Month**

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Summary of Job Openings

Due to COVID-19, interested parties are encouraged to print employment applications and submit them via email to danica.staples@llojibwe.net, when possible.

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

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe – Human Resources
190 Sailstar Dr NW - 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 MARCH 5, 2021

Assistant Property Manager ~ Purchasing ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 21-028

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Opioid Treatment Facilities Manager ~ Human Services ~ Job Code: 21-003

Environmental Justice Liaison ~ Resource Management ~ Job Code: 21-004

Tribal Planner (2)~ Tribal Development ~ Job Code: 21-005

Shelter Technician (Bena Shelter – Full Time) ~ Human Services ~ Job Code: 21-006

Shelter Technician (Bena Shelter – Part Time) ~ Human Services ~ Job Code: 21-007

CNA/Home Health Aide (3)~ Health ~ Job Code: 21-008

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Attendant (4) (Part Time) ~ Health ~ Job Code: 21-009

Transportation Vehicle Operator (3) (Part Time) ~ Fleet Management~ Job Code: 21-010

Transportation Dispatcher (Part Time) ~ Fleet Management~ Job Code: 21-011

Dispatcher (Full Time) ~ Tribal Police ~ Job Code: 21-012

Preventive Service Representative ~ Health ~ Job Code: 21-014

Public Maternal Child Health Nurse (2) ~ Health ~ Job Code: 21-015

Tribal Roads Director ~ Tribal Roads ~ Job Code: 21-016

Government Relations Manager ~ Administration ~ Job Code: 21-017

Mental Health Professional (4) ~ Human Services ~ Job Code: 21-018

Professional Development Coordinator ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-019

Pre School Teacher (Sugar Point/Remer) ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-020

Pre School Teacher (Onigum) (2) ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-021

Pre School Teacher (Bemidji) ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-022

Infant Toddler Teacher (Onigum) ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-023

Cook (Cass Lake) (2) ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-024

Cook (Bena) ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-025

Family Service Advocate (Cass Lake) (2) ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-026

Family Service Advocate (Bemidji) ~ Education ~ Job Code: 21-027

Trump Acquitted by U.S. Senate in Second Impeachment Trial

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Senate acquitted former President Donald Trump on an impeachment charge of inciting an insurrection, Saturday February 13, 57 to 43, including seven Republicans. But two-thirds, or 67 votes, was needed to convict. It was the second time Trump was acquitted in an impeachment trial.

The acquittal comes more than a month after an angry mob stormed the U.S. Capitol as lawmakers were counting the electoral results that certified Trump's loss in the 2020 presidential election. Five people died in the riot, including a police officer.

A majority of senators voted to convict Trump —

Trump is the first president in U.S. history to be impeached by the House twice, and the first to be tried for impeachment after leaving office.

The lack of a conviction has left the door open for the former president to hold government office again in the future.



Photo | Mandel Ngan/AFP via Getty Images

The former President was impeached a second time for inciting the insurrection that occurred at the U.S. Capitol January 6, 2021.

DEBAHJIMON

Debahjimon can be found at the following locations:

District I

Ball Club Comm. Center
White Oak Casino
Cenex Station
Max Mart
Inger Comm. Center
Deer River School

District II

Bug O Nay Ge Shig School
Bena Community Center
Bena Store
Sugar Point Comm. Center
Kego Lake Comm. Center

District III

Cass Lake Rest Area
Che We Station
Leech Lake RTC
Tribal Justice Center
Facility Center
Dairy Queen
Cass Lake IHS
Cass Lake Dental Clinic
Teals Grocery Store

Shell Station

Diabetes Clinic
Woman's Halfway House
White Earth Office
Child Welfare Office
Financial Services
Woman's Services
Opioid Clinic
Leech Lake DRM
MCT Headquarters
Cass Lake-Bena H.S.
Cedar Lakes Casino
Leech Lake Gaming
Junction Station
Leech Lake Tribal
College
Men's Halfway House
Leech Lake Health
Division
RBC Building
Tribal Development
Leech Lake Housing

Bemidji

Sanford Center Box
Office
Tesoro Station
Bemidji Public Library

Social Services Building
Federal Building
LLBO Health Clinic
Bemidji State Univ. AIRC
Northwest OIC
Oshki Manidoo Center
Simonson's Station
Wal-Mart
Tesoro Station

The Debahjimon is a free, monthly publication.

Keep up to date with the latest news within the Leech Lake Reservation and the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe at home or on your mobile device by visiting:

www.leechlakenews.com



Also be sure to visit and "like" us on Facebook by visiting:

www.facebook.com/LeechLakeBandofOjibwe

Prosecution of Hate Crimes in S.D. Expanded with New Bill to Include Protections for Two-Spirit Indigenous Peoples

By Kayla Duoos

SOUTH DAKOTA – The South Dakota State Senate unanimously passed amendments February 1 approving protections for Native American Two-Spirit individuals, a move unlike any other in American History.

The bills 166 and 190 were introduced and sponsored by State Senator Red Dawn Foster, an Oglala Lakota Democrat representing District 27, which includes counties on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

The bills, if approved, will expand the prosecution of hate crimes to include race, color, ethnicity, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or identification as a Native

American Two-Spirit, making it a Class 6 felony if a person maliciously and with specific intent to intimidate or harass any other person or group of persons in whole or in part because of that person's or group of persons' actual or perceived class.

This is the first time the term Native American Two-Spirit has been up for discussion in an official capacity in a state government.

South Dakota law does not prosecute hate crimes based on gender identity or sexual orientation. Federal law has protected both categories since 2009, when the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act was signed into law by President Barack

Obama. Hate crimes committed on the basis of the victim's sexual orientation or gender identity can be prosecuted in federal court.

"South Dakota's existing Hate Crimes Law is woefully deficient, leaving out many vulnerable communities that are the target for bias-motivated crimes," said South Dakota State Senator Red Dawn Foster while introducing Senate Bill 166 to the Senate Judiciary Committee. "This bill would add protections for those who identify as LGBTQ and Native American Two-Spirit to our hate crime law."

The bill is up for a full debate and vote in the South Dakota State Legislature early March.

COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ

Prepared by Leech Lake Health Division, Updated February 2020

Who can currently get vaccinated?

All IHS Eligible patients, 18 years of age or older, are now eligible to receive the vaccine.

Elders 55+ and those with underlying medical conditions will still receive priority when making an appointment.

How can I get vaccinated?

IHS eligible patients can call the COVID-19 vaccine hotline at 218-368-4763. The hotline is available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

Which vaccine is LLBO currently distributing?

We are currently distributing both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, subject to availability. Most of the initial vaccines received were the Pfizer vaccine. The Moderna vaccine is being used more and more as the rollout has progressed. Fortunately, we have the equipment necessary to keep the Pfizer vaccine at the required storage temperature. We are equipped to utilize and distribute either vaccine.

Approximately 3,030 eligible patients have been vaccinated to date.

Can a COVID-19 vaccine make me sick with COVID-19?

No. None of the authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines or COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

There are several different types of vaccines in development. All of them teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fever. These

symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19.

It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity (protection against the virus that causes COVID-19) after vaccination. That means it's possible a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and still get sick. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection.

After getting a COVID-19 vaccine, will I test positive for COVID-19 on a viral test?

No. Neither the recently authorized and recommended vaccines nor the other COVID-19 vaccines currently in clinical trials in the United States can cause you to test positive on viral tests, which are used to see if you have a current infection.

If your body develops an immune response—the goal of vaccination—there is a possibility you may test positive on some antibody tests. Antibody tests indicate you had a previous infection and that you may have some level of protection against the virus. Experts are currently looking at how COVID-19 vaccination may affect antibody testing results.

Do I need to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others if I have gotten 2 doses of the vaccine?

Yes. Not enough information is currently available to say if or when CDC will stop recommending that people wear masks and avoid close contact with others to help prevent the spread of the virus that cause COVID-19.

Experts need to understand more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide

in real-world conditions before making that decision. Other factors, including how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities, will also affect this decision. We also don't yet know whether getting a COVID-19 vaccine will prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to other people, even if you don't get sick yourself.

While experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, it will be important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic.

To protect yourself and others, follow these recommendations:

- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid crowds
- Avoid poorly ventilated spaces
- Wash your hands often

If I have already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, vaccine should be offered to you regardless of whether you already had COVID-19 infection. CDC is providing recommendations to federal, state, and local governments about who should be vaccinated first.

At this time, experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. The immunity someone gains from having an infection, called natural immunity, varies from person to person. Some early evidence suggests natural immunity may not last very long.

We won't know how long immunity produced by vaccination lasts until we have more data on how well the vaccines work.

Both natural immunity and vaccine-induced immunity are important aspects of COVID-19 that experts are trying to learn more about, and CDC will keep the public informed as new evidence becomes available.

Will a COVID-19 vaccination protect me from getting sick with COVID-19?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination works by teaching your immune system how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19, and this protects you from getting sick with COVID-19.

Being protected from getting sick is important because even though many people with

COVID-19 have only a mild illness, others may get a severe illness, have long-term health effects, or even die. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you, even if you don't have an increased risk of developing severe complications.

Will a COVID-19 vaccine alter my DNA?

No. COVID-19 mRNA vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way.

Messenger RNA vaccines—also called mRNA vaccines—are the first COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the United States. mRNA vaccines teach our cells how to make a protein that triggers an immune response. The mRNA from a COVID-19 vaccine never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA is kept. This means the mRNA cannot affect or interact with our DNA in any way. Instead, COVID-19 mRNA vaccines work with the body's natural defenses to safely develop immunity to disease.

At the end of the process, our bodies have learned how to protect against future infection. That immune response and making antibodies is what protects us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies.

Is it safe for me to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I would like to have a baby one day?

Yes. People who want to get pregnant in the future may receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Based on current knowledge, experts believe that COVID-19 vaccines are unlikely to pose a risk to a person trying to become pregnant in the short or long term. Scientists study every vaccine carefully for side effects immediately and for years afterward. The COVID-19 vaccines are being studied carefully now and will continue to be studied for many years, similar to other vaccines.

The COVID-19 vaccine, like other vaccines, works by training our bodies to develop antibodies to fight against the virus that causes COVID-19, to prevent future illness. There is currently no evidence that antibodies formed from COVID-19 vaccination cause any problems with pregnancy, including the development of the placenta. In addition, there is no evidence suggesting that fertility problems are a side effect of ANY vaccine. People who are trying to become pregnant now or who plan to try in the future may receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available to them.

What are the differences between the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines?

	PFIZER	MODERNA
VACCINE TYPE	mRNA	mRNA
WHO CAN TAKE?	16 and older	18 and older
# DOSES	2	2
INTERVAL BEFORE 2ND DOS	21 days	28 days
EFFICACY (AFTER 2ND DOSE)	95%	94.1%
COMMON SIDE EFFECTS	pain at injection site, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, and fever	pain at injection site, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, and joint pain
SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS	Exceedingly rare	Exceedingly rare
STORAGE TEMPERATURE	-70°C (-94°F)	-25°C to -15°C (-13°F to 5°F)
STABILITY AT FRIDGE TEMPS	5 days	30 days