

NINANDAMINWAAJIM

The Watermark Art Center Miikinaan Gallery is currently displaying artwork by painter Joyce Jackson Arndt.

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LLBO EMERGENCY SHELTER

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Emergency Shelter in Cass Lake recently celebrated their 4th Year Anniversary.

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FY 24 LLBO BUDGET

Follow-up to Band Member feedback regarding the Fiscal Year 2024 Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Budget.

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CANNABIS REGULATORY ACT

The LLBO RBC has passed the Cannabis Regulatory Act and responded to public comments received.

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What One School's Fight to Eliminate PFAS says about Indian Country's 'Forever Chemical' Problem

As the United States begins to crack down on PFAS contamination, Indigenous communities are getting left behind.

via ZOYA TEIRSTEIN | Grist.org

Laurie Harper, director of education for the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School, a K-12 tribal school on the Leech Lake Band Indian Reservation in northcentral Minnesota, never thought that a class of chemicals called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, would be an issue for her community. That's partly because, up until a few months ago, she didn't even know what PFAS were. "We're in the middle of the Chippewa National Forest," she said. "It's definitely not something I had really clearly considered dealing with out here."

Late last year, tests conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency revealed that her school's drinking water wells were contaminated with PFAS. Some of the wells had PFAS levels as high as 160 parts per trillion — 40 times higher than the 4 part-per-trillion threshold the federal government recently proposed as a maximum safe limit.

PFAS, also known as forever chemicals, are a global problem. The chemicals are in millions of products people use on a regular basis, including pizza boxes, seltzer cans, and contact lenses. They're also a key ingredient in firefighting foams that have been sprayed into the environment at fire stations and military bases for decades. Over time, these persistent chemicals have migrated into drinking water supplies around the globe and, consequently, into people, where they have been shown to weaken immune systems and contribute to long-term illnesses like diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and cancer.

After the EPA's tests came back, Harper, who oversees education for the whole Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, realized that some 300 students and faculty members at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School had been consuming PFAS-tainted water for an indeterminate amount of time, perhaps since the school's founding in 1975. Now, the chemicals are all Harper thinks about, and their presence in the school's water supply is a constant reminder of a problem with no obvious solution.

"We can't not provide education," Harper said. "So how do we deal with this?" Months after discovering the contamination, she's still looking for answers.

“
This is our land.
These are our
children. These
are our families.”

—Laurie Harper
LLBO Director of
Education



Beyond immediate concerns about how to get students clean water, the situation at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School raises larger questions for Indigenous nations across the United States: Is Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig the only tribal school with PFAS contamination in its water? And how pervasive are PFAS on tribal lands in general? But data on PFAS contamination on tribal lands is patchy at best. In many parts of the country, there's no data at all.

"There is very little testing going on in Indian Country to determine the extent of contamination from PFAS to drinking water systems, or even surface waters," said Elaine Hale Wilson, project manager for the National Tribal Water Council, a tribal advocacy group housed at Northern Arizona University. "At this point, it's still difficult to gauge the extent of the problem."

PFAS have been around since the middle of the 20th century, but they've only been recognized as a serious health problem in the past decade or so after a lawyer sued DuPont, one of the top U.S. manufacturers of PFAS, for poisoning rural communities in West Virginia. Since then, a growing body of research has shed light on the scope of the PFAS contamination problem in the United States — nearly half the nation's water supply is laced with the chemicals — and water utilities are finally taking stock of what it will take

to remediate the contamination. But for the 547 tribal nations in the U.S., there is nothing resembling a comprehensive assessment of PFAS contamination. Tribal water systems have gone largely untested because many of them are too small to meet the EPA's PFAS testing parameters.

"We can certainly say that PFAS is an issue for every single person in the United States and its territories, that includes tribal areas," Kimberly Garrett, a PFAS researcher at Northeastern University whose work has highlighted the lack of PFAS testing on tribes. The federal government has a responsibility to protect the welfare of all Americans, but it has a legal obligation to tribes. In the 18th century, the government entered into some 400 treaties with Indigenous nations. Tribes reserved specific homelands, or were forcibly moved to places designated by the government, and guaranteed rights like fishing and hunting, as well as peace and protection. Experts say that responsibility to tribes includes protection from contaminants.

"Every treaty that assigns land to tribes impliedly guarantees that land as a homeland for the tribes," said Matthew Fletcher, a law professor at the University of Michigan and a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. "Contaminated land is a breach of that treaty land guarantee."

If PFAS are as widespread on tribal lands as they are in the rest of the U.S., many reservations likely have a public health emergency on their hands. They just don't know it yet.

In some ways, Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig, known as the Bug School, got lucky. In December last year, the Environmental Protection Agency, armed with funding supplied by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed by Congress in 2021, approached Leech Lake leaders to ask if the tribe would like to have its water tested for PFAS. The agency had \$2 billion to help small or disadvantaged communities test their water supplies for emerging contaminants. The Bug School qualified as both.

When the tests came back positive, the school immediately started shipping in 5-gallon jugs of drinking water and the cafeteria started using bottled water to prepare meals. The school even paused a community gardening program meant to teach students about the value of fresh foods out of fear that the soil was contaminated.

The school knew that it had a contamination problem on its hands, but believed that the problem would be temporary — the measures it put in place were Band-Aids until a long-term solution was found. Months into the crisis, however, school administrators have yet to figure out a permanent fix. The...

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NINANDAMINWAAJIM

"I Seek to Tell a Good Story," work by painter Joyce Jackson Arndt, now on display at the Watermark Art Center.

By KAYLA DUOOS

BEMIDJI – A new exhibit has opened at Bemidjis Watermark Art Center, Miikinaan gallery.

The Miikinaan gallery which is home to the center's Traditional art exhibits is hosting "Ninandaminwaajim – "I seek to tell a good story, (a retrospective exhibit)" with work by painter Joyce Jackson Arndt, September 9 –November, 11 2023.

Jackson-Arndt (White Earth Nation,) was cut off from her cultural identity during much of her childhood. As a toddler, she was placed in foster care and became homeless as a young woman. Knowing that her identity as a



via WATERMARK ART CENTER Artist, Joyce Arndt.

Native American was portrayed negatively because of stereotypes and racism, she began to use art as a way to portray her people in a positive light.



via WATERMARK ART CENTER

Left to right: 2021 High Bush Cranberry Series 11 and 2022 Teaching One Another, Joyce Arndt.

Jackson-Arndt likes to work with watercolor, oils and acrylic. Her mural work has been featured in Wadena and Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. Arndt is retired now, but continues to use art to find her

way—always believing people have good intentions.

An artist's reception for the "I seek to tell a good story" exhibit will be held Saturday, September 15, 2023 at Watermark, 5-7pm.

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

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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

Oct. Issue.....9/29/2023
Nov. Issue.....10/27/2023
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« PFAS

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...school still doesn't know where the contamination is coming from, and the cost of cleaning the chemicals out of its water supply threatens to be prohibitively expensive.

PFAS remediation requires equipment, frequent testing, and dedicated personnel who have the capacity to monitor forever chemicals for years. Paying for PFAS cleanup is a tall order in large, affluent communities with the resources to address toxic contaminants. The midsize city of Stuart, Florida, discovered PFAS in its water supply in 2016 and, to date, has spent more than \$20 million fixing the problem. The PFAS in their water still aren't entirely gone.

On reservations, figuring out who's responsible for testing for PFAS and paying for remediation is an impossible puzzle to crack, mainly because no one seems to know where the buck stops.

Federal PFAS testing has largely bypassed tribal public water systems. That's because tribal systems are smaller, on average, than non-tribal public water systems. Every five years, the EPA tests the nation's drinking water for "unregulated contaminants" — chemicals and viruses that are not regulated by the agency but pose a potential health threat to the public. The EPA finally included PFAS in its testing for unregulated contaminants in 2012, alongside a list of metals, hormones, and viruses.

But it mainly tested systems that serve more than 10,000 people.

A study conducted by Northeastern University found that just 28 percent of the population served by tribal public water systems was covered by that round of PFAS testing, compared to 79 percent of the population served by non-tribal water systems. There were also no PFAS results for approximately 18 percent of the tribal water systems tested by the EPA "due to missing data or lack of sampling for PFAS," the study said. To make matters more complicated, many Indigenous communities get their water from private wells, which are not monitored by the EPA. A recent study suggests a quarter of rural drinking water, much of which comes from private wells, is contaminated by PFAS.

Data on PFAS in tribal areas, experts emphasized over and over again, is extremely scarce. "We don't know if PFAS is disproportionately affecting tribal areas," Garrett said. "We won't know that until we get more data."

What limited data exists is outdated. The Environmental Working Group, an advocacy organization that tracks PFAS contamination across the U.S., conducted a rough, preliminary PFAS estimate on tribal lands in 2021 using what data there was available at the time. It showed that there are nearly 3,000 PFAS contamination sites, like garbage dumps, within five-miles of tribal lands. The analysis is almost certainly an underestimate.

The lack of PFAS testing on tribal lands is compounded by the fact that there is no one entity responsible for testing and treating tribal water systems for PFAS. That's partly due to the fact that PFAS are a relatively new issue, but it also has a lot to do with the lack of centralized monitoring of tribal health in general. For example, American Indian and Alaska Native communities experienced some of the highest COVID-19 infection rates in the United States in 2020. But the siloed nature of tribal, local, state, and federal data collection systems means that no one has a real sense of just how many Indigenous people died in the pandemic, even years after the crisis began.

If history is any indication, Fletcher, the law professor, said, remediating these contaminants will be a game of push and pull between the federal government and tribes. In previous efforts to rid reservations of arsenic and lead contamination, he said, "usually the fights are the tribe insisting that the government do something and the government doing everything it can to avoid any kind of liability or obligation."

In the 1990s, Rebecca Jim, a Cherokee activist and former teacher who was instrumental in raising awareness about lead poisoning among children in Ottawa County, Oklahoma, had to navigate a complicated patchwork of tribal governments, federal bureaus, and treaties to finally get the government to clean up the Tar Creek Superfund site on the Quapaw

Nation — one of the agencies largest Superfunds. It took a decade for Jim and other activists to pressure the EPA into cleaning lead — the legacy of mining for materials used in bullets — out of Ottawa County, and she maintains that the EPA only started paying attention to what was happening in Tar Creek after a local masters student discovered that approximately one-third of children in a town in the county called Picher had lead poisoning.

"There's always a fight," Jim said. "It's all about money and where you're going to get the money to do the work."

Jim said that testing for contaminants on tribal lands is generally the responsibility of the Indian Health Service, an agency housed within the National Institutes of Health, or falls to a given tribes' own environmental protection office. But it becomes the EPA's problem once the agency designates an area as a Superfund site, like Tar Creek was. Then, the EPA tries to go after the polluters responsible for the mess in the first place. If the agency is successful, Jim explained, there is generally ample funding for cleanup efforts. If a polluter can't be pinned, it falls on the EPA to fund the cleanup, which is a more laborious and less thorough process because there's fewer dollars to go around. And if the contamination occurs at a federally-controlled tribal school, like the Bug School, the Bureau of Indian Education is responsible. It's a veritable maze of jurisdiction — even finding where you are in the maze is a tall order. »

Laurie Harper's efforts to untangle the bureaucratic knot that governs decision-making and testing for contaminants at the Bug School may serve as a lesson to other tribal schools that discover PFAS contamination in their water supplies. In February, two months after the EPA approached the school to offer PFAS testing, the results came back. The agency called the school immediately and said it needed to shut down its water system, an urgent request that caught administrators off guard. "We were still like, what? OK, how long is this going to last? Do we open the water? What do we do with it?" Harper said.

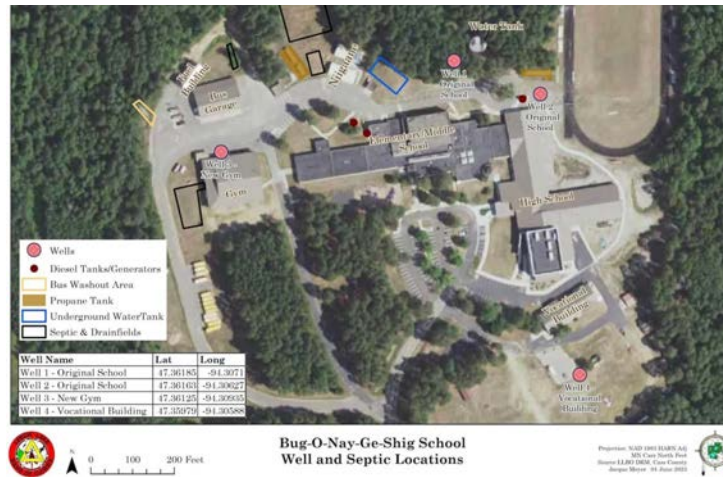
In March, desperate for answers, Harper traveled to Washington, D.C., and met with the director of the Bureau of Indian Education, or BIE, Tony Dearman, who heard her concerns about finding a long-term solution for the school.

What she didn't find out until later, however, was that the BIE had already conducted its own testing at the Bug School in November 2022, during what Harper and other school administrators had assumed was just the agency's annual compliance check. "They were already aware that the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school had tested high for PFAS," Harper said. "They didn't tell the school administration nor did they tell the tribe. They didn't even tell the EPA."

Unbeknownst to her, the BIE had sent a very short email to the school months earlier, in February, telling them that the bureau had found levels of two types of PFAS — PFOA and PFOS — in the school's water. When Harper finally tracked down that letter and read it, she was appalled by how vague the language was.

"We have received the PFAS (specifically, Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS)) results from the November 2, 2022 sampling event," it read. "There were several exceedances of PFOA at Wells 1, 2, 3 and 4 and PFOS detection at Well 3 all were above the State limit for and EPA Health Advisory for PFOA and PFOS, please see attached spreadsheet." The letter did not define what PFAS were or how dangerous they can be to human health. And it certainly did not make it clear to Bug School administrators that the school was in the midst of a public health crisis. "I'm an educator, not a hydrologist," Dan McKeon, the school's superintendent and the primary recipient of the letter. "There was notice of results that exceeded some standards, but no guidance about what that meant or what we should do."

The BIE concluded the letter by telling the school that it would be



via BUG O NAY GE SHIG SCHOOL
A map of well and septic location sites provided as part of the water quality evaluation of Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School.

conducting a second round of PFAS testing within 30 days to "confirm the analytical results" of its initial tests and then determine next steps, but the bureau didn't return for testing until April 2023 — more than five months after the initial test, and weeks after Harper's meeting with director Dearman. BIE, she was told by the bureau's own leadership, was putting out fires on multiple fronts. "You're not the only school that's testing high for PFAS," she recalls BIE's supervisory environmental specialist telling her.

In a written response to questions from Grist, a spokesperson for the BIE said the bureau is "committed to providing schools with safe drinking water" that meets federal standards and that it is in the process of collecting water samples from BIE-owned public water systems at 69 schools. The bureau did not respond to questions from Grist about how many tribal schools exceed the EPA's newly proposed 4-part-per-trillion PFAS limit.

In the past few years, Harper told Grist that two people who worked at the Bug School have died from cancer. Multiple female employees have thyroid issues. Harper knows that these diagnoses could be linked to hereditary, behavioral, or environmental exposures. But the deaths — the most recent, a man who died from testicular cancer just a year ago — have made solving the school's PFAS situation feel even more urgent. Harper has been meeting with EPA, BIE, BIA, and state agencies to get the problem solved. "I'm so frustrated with how bureaucracy works," she said. But she's in the fight for the long haul, whatever it takes. "It's the long-term solutions we're interested in, not just the quick fix."

Harper isn't working in a vacuum; 2023 has been a breakthrough year for PFAS awareness and remediation

nationwide. Earlier this summer, major manufacturers of PFAS, including Dupont and 3M, agreed to multi-billion-dollar settlements with cities and states across the country — the largest PFAS settlements thus far. At the end of July, the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, a tribe located about 115 miles south-east of the Bug School, filed a companion lawsuit, tied to those earlier settlements, against 3M for the cost of gathering data on PFAS, treating its drinking water supplies, fisheries, and soil for contamination, and monitoring the health of the tribe.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, a state agency that monitors environmental quality, has conducted a preliminary investigation into the PFAS contamination at the Bug School after school administrators alerted the agency to the problem, but that probe didn't reveal what the source was. The agency said it will conduct another, "in-depth investigation involving soil and groundwater sampling" at the Bug school in the fall.

Also at the state level in Minnesota, a bill introduced in the legislature this year would permit Minnesotans who are exposed to toxic chemicals to sue the companies responsible for producing the chemicals and force those companies to pay for the cost of screening for conditions that are caused by exposure. 3M has fought these kinds of laws as they've cropped up in state legislatures because a legal right to seek medical monitoring will likely lead to a situation in which the company will have to pay billions of dollars' worth of medical bills. But Harper is sure she can drum up support for the legislation. "I know I can convince other tribes to get behind a law that would allow medical monitoring in the state of Minnesota," she said. "This is our land. These are our children. These are our families."

RBC BRIEFS • September 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 in August 2023. All RBC briefings and meetings are live streamed via Vimeo and are available to view on lechlakenews.com under "Videos." Official meeting minutes can also be found on lechlakenews.com under "LL Tribal Council" and "Tribal Council Meeting Minutes."

BRIEFING/MEETING RECAPS

1. August 29, 2023 A briefing & meeting was held in the RBC Government Chambers. All resolutions and contracts presented were later voted on and discussed further on a second meeting August 31, 2023.

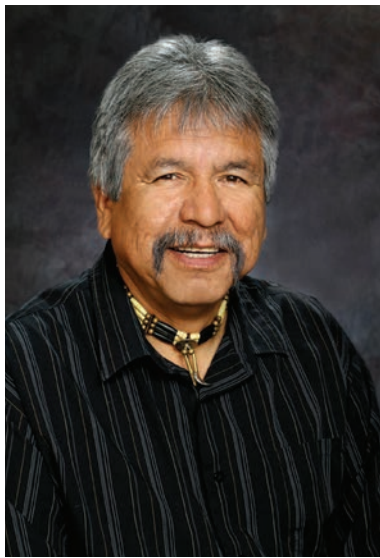
Presentations Given:

- **Harry Entwistle, Housing** — Presented information on the upcoming homeless population study and discussed what are the best ways to reach community members for active participation.
- **Brandy Toft, DRM** — Covered ongoing PFAS funding initiatives to get clean water at the Bug-o-nay-ge-shig school. The 2023-2024 school year will continue to operate with bottled water for staff and students until further notice.
- **Melissa McFarlane, HR** — Presented the updated HR policy regarding drug and alcohol use. Discussions regarding the policy change are ongoing.
- **Christopher Murray, Legal** — Presented a cannabis regulation structure and a full recommendation for the Band to move forward with owning and licensing a business to start before providing licenses to privately owned cannabis businesses on the Reservation.

Thursday Friday

Visit us at : 5
www.lechlakenews.com/events
to stay up to date and informed on
all events occurring around the
Leech Lake Reservation.

Chairman's Report



**CHAIRMAN
FARON JACKSON SR.**

Governmental Activities
Chairman's Summary

Monthly Report

Boozhoo, my relatives, friends, community members and all! The Leech Lake RBC Tribal Council is moving forward on our aggressive agenda before the U.S. Congress. Leech Lake has updated news on the MCT Enrollment question and S. 616 LLBO Restoration Act of 2023. The Tribal Council members continue to focus on a strategy in testifying and advocating for unmet need dollars for the Leech Lake Band. As we keep moving forward, here is some of the exciting news being reported to the great Leech Lake People.

Update on MCT Res. 32-15 – On August 23, 2023 the MCT, TEC Officers had a zoom meeting on discussions with a Secretarial Election on Enrollment. Chairman Jackson, Sr. is recommending that we simply amend the MCT Enrollment Ordinance. Past precedent had been established by minutes of the MCT, TEC that supports this process without a Secretarial Election. On December 14, 2021 the MCT, TEC Officers at a special meeting in St. Paul, MN had redrafted the Election Ordinance for at least the fifth time. The MCT, TEC Officers did not call for a Secretarial Election to change this ordinance. The point of this argument 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. Chairman Jackson, Sr. is requesting that the Leech Lake People have the inherent right to decide on their enrollment criteria—in a point of exercising self-determination.

Update on the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act of 2023 – A brief background on S. 616 has to do with illegal secretarial transfer of Leech Lake land in the Chippewa National Forest. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Indian Land Surveyor had completed an audit of land holdings in the CNE. The BLM Surveyor had discovered the illegal Secretarial Transfers were more widespread than initially estimated. The BLM Surveyor had

identified an additional 4,362 acres that's in the LLBO Restoration Act of 2023. In July of 2023, S. 616 was heard before the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. The position of Leech Lake has been the "Secretarial Transfers," were found to be illegal if transfer of land was made without sufficient consent by the owners.

U.S. Congress, S. Res. 194 – A Resolution Designating May 5, 2023, as the "National Day of Awareness for Missing Murdered Native Women and Girls" – Calls on the people of the United States and interested groups to commemorate the lives of missing and murdered American Indians, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian women whose cases are documented and undocumented in public records and the media; and to demonstrate solidarity with the families of victims in light of those tragedies.

U.S. Congress, S. Res. 148 – A Resolution Recognizing the Heritage, Culture, and Contributions of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Woman in the United States – Whereas the United States celebrates National Women's History Month every March to recognize and honor the achievements of women throughout the history of the United States. American Indian women have helped shape the history of their communities, Tribes, and the United States, have fought to defend and protect the sovereign rights of Native Nations, and have demonstrated resilience and cour-

age in the face of a history of threatened existence, constant removals, and relocations. The United States Senate celebrates and honors the successes of those American Indian women have made and continue to make to the United States, and recognizes the importance of providing for the safety, and upholding the interests of American Indian women.

Congressional S. 2264 Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act – NCAI had reported on July 27, 2023 that the U.S. Senate had passed the (NAHASDA) Reauthorization bill as an attached amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act of 2023 by a vote of 86-11. NAHASDA, which has not been reauthorized since 2013, is the largest and most effective federal housing program that assists Tribal Nations in providing safe, quality and affordable housing to American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities. This passage represents strong bipartisan support efforts to recognize trust responsibility and further supports self-determination of Tribes. NAIHC and NCAI join all of Indian Country in thanking Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Chairman Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Vice Chair Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) for introducing amendment #1078 to reauthorize NAHASDA, and commend all of those who have worked on the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs over the years for their persistent efforts to improve the betterment of Indian Country.

Chairman Jackson, Sr. had attended the American Indian Substance Use Disorder Summit – Moving our relatives forward in a good way by the American Indian SUD Summit. Participants had

explored substance use in Indian Country and Minnesota, and develop an American Indian Strategic Plan to combat addiction. The goal of the American Indian SUD Summit is to identify and share information on the impact of substance use disorder (SUD) in Tribal and Urban Indian communities, as well as to develop an American Indian Strategic Plan aimed at addressing substance abuse issues, in particular the opioid epidemic. The summit was a joint effort of the American Indian Advisory Council on Chemical Dependency, Tribal, State, and Urban Indian leadership.

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe will be Hosting Tribal-State Relations Training on September 13-14, 2023 at Cedar Lakes Casino & Hotel – This 2-day course is designed to educate Minnesota State Agency staff about American Indian Tribal governments, histories, cultures, and traditions and to help state employees work more effectively with Tribal governments and American Indians.

The Leech Lake Administration has been extremely busy with the Leech Lake sponsored events. I am thanking the administration, employees and community members for their hard work in making these events happen within our communities when they benefit our children, elders, and families. Chi-Mii-Gwech!

Safety note, we are seeing a small uptick in a new strain of Covid-19. Please get vaccinated and stay up to date to have the best protection. If you are exposed to someone with Covid-19, wear a mask for 10 days. We want to protect our family members that are vulnerable and have immunocompromised health conditions. Please be safe and take care.

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Emergency Shelter Marks Four Years of Community Support

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Emergency Shelter celebrated their four year anniversary, Friday August 11.

The shelter was first approved by the Leech Lake Tribal Council in Spring 2019 and Hawk Construction broke ground on the site in April. Planning for the project was led by a team of employees from several Leech Lake divisions.

The celebration took place on the

lawn of the center and invited staff and community members out to visit the site. The event featured; an open house, information booths from several of Leech Lakes programs, a bouncy house, waterslide, a free meal, giveaways and donation items available to community members.

Staff members who helped open the shelter stand by the message they had when the shelter first opened.

"The shelter is more than a bed and a roof. We hope to provide

community members the tools and services they need in overcoming their barriers to stable housing."

The shelter has a capacity of 56; 10 beds in the men's dormitory, and 10 beds in the women's dormitory, as well as 6 family units capable of housing up to 6 family members each. In addition, there are three separate living areas for men, women, and families.

For more information, please contact the Leech Lake Human Services Office (218) 335-8273.



KAYLA DUOOS | Debahjimon
Bouncy Houses and informational booths lined the lawn of the shelter August 11.

Secretary Treasurer Monthly Report



**SECRETARY / TREASURER
LEONARD FINEDAY**

Governmental Activities
Secretary/Treasurer's Summary

Monthly Report

Greetings Leech Lake Band members! It is my honor and privilege to provide you with this report on the activities undertaken during the month of August 2023. I am pleased to report that the 2023 manoomin harvest is well under way throughout Ga-zagashwaajimekaag and all indications continue to point to a bumper crop this year! As of the writing of this report, we have purchased well over 100,000 pounds of green rice, and continue to see high rates of return on our finished product, upwards of 45%. We are thankful for this blessing and the countless others the Creator has bestowed upon us this year.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL UPDATE

On August 1, we met with the executive team heading up the billing taskforce to review initial numbers from Fiscal Year 2023, which ended on June 30, 2023. There is much work to do. We have to continue the work of updating our practices and our internal procedures to ensure that proper documentation is being provided to our billing team in a timely manner. We continue to see operating deficits in many of our billing programs (bringing in less reimbursements than expenditures) and this is not a healthy sign long term.

I am happy to report that due to the dedicated work of our team and the taskforce, revenue did increase by over \$1.2 million in a year-over-year comparison. This means we are headed in the right direction, but more work must be done. The work on billing continues with additional meetings throughout the month of September and the taskforce will be developing recommendations for outside assistance on upgrading our procedures and processes.

Work also continues on draft revisions to the LLBO Budget Ordinance. The executive team is working on recommended changes that will include more opportunity for LICs and Band members to have input into the budget priorities and throughout the budget formulation process. These revisions will be forthcoming and the goal is to have them presented and in place for the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget, which will commence on July 1, 2024.

PERSONNEL POLICY UPDATE

On August 10, 2023, the RBC adopted an amendment to the General Administrative Personnel Policies removing RBC approval from the personnel process, including hiring, firing and transferring personnel. These are things that should not require RBC approval and made the hiring process much more difficult. By removing the RBC's approval, we are streamlining the hiring process and showing faith in our division directors and executive team to follow the policy the RBC adopts.

Furthermore, on August 31, 2023, the RBC considered amendments to the Drug Policy within the General Administrative Personnel Policies. On a personal note, I feel that our Drug Policy has been too invasive and has needlessly created barriers to employment for our people. This is why we are looking at revisions to this policy to continue pre-employment and random testing for those in safety sensitive positions, but would switch to post-accident or reasonable suspicion testing for employees in all non-safety sensitive positions. More information on these proposed amendments will be forthcoming.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

On August 10, 2023, LLBO leadership and senior staff hosted Senate Majority Leader Kari Dziedzic in the RBC chambers for a discussion regarding the achieve-



via SECRETARY TREASURER'S OFFICE

On August 10, Secretary-Treasurer Lenny Fineday joined Chairman Faron Jackson, Sr. and other LLBO leadership in welcoming Senate Majority Leader Kari Dziedzic to Leech Lake.

ments of the 2023 Legislative session and goals for the 2024 session. The conversation was very useful and focused on the response to the opioid epidemic, homelessness, public health, elder services, and many other topics.

On August 27, 2023, LLBO leadership and senior staff hosted Representative Tina Lieblich, the Chair of the House Health and Policy Committee. Our discussion focused on health and human services programming, including elder services, public health and clinic services, reimbursements, and housing stabilization services.

We will continue to have ongoing dialogue with our partners in the Minnesota Legislature to ensure that our voices are heard and our priorities are addressed.

EARLY TEAL SEASON UPDATE

Minnesota held its final "experimental" early teal (duck) hunting season from September 2, 2023 to September 6, 2023. During this season, both the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the Minnesota DNR worked collaboratively with LLBO conservation and resource management officials to ensure the safety of

our manoomin harvesters on open and active wild rice beds. Throughout the middle of August in the lead up to the season, LLBO leadership and staff had several conversations with DNR and FWS officials to ensure the safety of our ricers.

While enforcement of our regulations this year was focused on education to keep everyone safe, there were a few calls during the early teal season of shooting taking place on an active rice bed. Appropriate action was taken by our conservation officers. We are thankful for the support from MN DNR and USFWS in helping us keep our ricers safe.

More follow up is needed to ensure the regulations are clear on all parties if the experimental early season becomes permanent next year. We will continue to keep you informed of calls our follow up conversations with state and federal officials.

ST. REGIS SUPERFUND SITE UPDATE

On August 24 and 25, 2023, LLBO leadership hosted the leadership from EPA Region 5 and

held government-to-government consultation, particularly surrounding the upcoming remedial alternatives for Operable Units 1 and 2 on the St. Regis Superfund site in Cass Lake. Staff from LLBO DRM and Environmental Department, along with some band member volunteers, took EPA leadership and staff ricing on August 24 and shared a meal with them. The consultation took place on August 25, 2023 with RBC members and the Regional Administrator, Debra Shore. The consultation was productive and next steps include the LLBO team offering additional remedial alternatives for the clean up of OUs 1 and 2. We will continue to keep everyone informed as we advocate LLBO standards for clean up of the site.

In closing, I wish to express my appreciation to each of you for the opportunity to serve in this position. There are many things happening, and together we are building the brighter future the next generation deserves. Miigwech and have a great fall season my relatives!

Budget Committee Follow-up to Public Comments on FY 24 LLBO Budget

By TERRI FINN | Executive Director
218-335-8200
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Boozhoo Leech Lakers, welcome to another year of budget management and planning. Over the past several months, the Budget Committee has been working diligently with Leech Lake Tribal Council and Division Directors to compile the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. Fiscal Year 2024 runs from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Throughout the month of June, Leech Lake Tribal Council members and staff hosted public meetings for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. These public meetings were to share the governmental budget with the Leech Lake Band Members and provide the opportunity for feedback and recommendations. Following those meetings, the Leech Lake Budget Committee convened to review comments and address feedback. This letter serves to provide a summary of the public comments received along with responses and feedback from the Leech Lake Budget Committee.

The 'Leech Lake Budget' is made up of three funds that are defined by their source and use: Special Revenue, General Fund and the Indirect Cost Pool. Leech Lake Tribal Council Resolution 01-26 enacted the Leech Lake Budget Ordinance that outlines the process and requirements of the annual Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe budget and establishes the Budget Committee to facilitate the process.

The Special Revenue Fund is monies that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe has agreed to obligate in a certain fashion, which is also known as "restricted funding," as there are limits on its use. Much of the Special Revenue funding comes from Federal and State Grants, where the LLBO has agreed to fund a certain project or program. Other special reserve funding is through our self-governance compact with the Department of Interior. In this compact the Tribe receives a sum of funding and can determine alloca-

tion to programs that the Tribe has agreed to provide. Billing revenue for Health and Human services is also included in the special revenue due to limitations on how that revenue can be spent.

The General Fund is monies where the spending discretion rests with the Leech Lake Tribal Council. This funding includes the gaming and small business profits, funding from agreements (MN DNR & DOR), earned interest and reserve funding.

The Indirect Cost Pool is monies for programs that support the organization where costs can be shared amongst all direct funded programs. Examples of indirect costs are building costs (maintenance and utility), accounting services and technical support. Each year the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe negotiates a rate with the Department of Interior to apply to the eligible special revenue and general fund expenditures.

Annual funding that comes into the tribal government includes the gaming and small business profits, the hunting and fishing agreement and tax agreement proceeds, and interest income. These dollars combined form the Direct Funding for the Leech Lake Band. The amount that is expected to be available for Direct Funding for Fiscal Year 2024 is \$26,376,700. The initial requests for Direct Funding from our programs and divisions came in at \$35,839,077 leaving a deficit of \$9,462,377. In order to resolve this

deficit, there were some one-time funds that were utilized to cover the capital requests and the tax rebate to band members in December. A 10.10% decrease to all other programs was then applied in order to balance the Direct Funding portion of the budget.

The tribal government formerly utilized the Opiate Reserve fund to fund programs such as: Elder's Services, Sports and Recreation, ENP, and other programs. This funding is now gone, and additional monies must be identified to continue operations of those programs. Program Managers are working on implementing new structure and procedures to help bring in additional billing and grant opportunities to keep these programs running. The Youth activities were brought up at all of the Public Hearings. Part of the Youth/Sports and Recreation was linked to this Opiate funding. The Youth Division has developed a plan that is going to increase activities for the youth across the reservation and communities where LLBO youth reside. Some other programs of concern that were discussed at all of the meetings are the Elder's Services and Elderly Nutrition Program. These programs are in the process of being combined and restructured to ensure that services remain intact. A plan has been implemented for staff to obtain certification as Community Health Workers (CHW). This will allow for an opportunity to bill for the services that are already being provided by Leech Lake staff. These plans will continue to be developed and improved to ensure that these programs, along with all other programs, remain sustainable and always looking for ways to bring in additional revenues to Leech Lake.

Discussions and concerns were brought up at all of the Public Hearings regarding Local Indian Council (UC) funds. The discussions ranged from the amounts allocated to each LIC, how those amounts are determined, stumpage funds and the amount currently budgeted being

insufficient for an entire year's worth of events. Some years back, an amount of \$125,000 was allocated to be distributed evenly amongst all 17 UCs, each LIC received approximately \$7,400. Each LIC would use this funding to provide stipends to the elected UC members and the remainder would be utilized to put on various events within the communities. To help address the shortfall in having enough funds for LIC's to hold events for their community, the FY 24 Budget included increases to each Lie's budget to \$10,000. The approval of these additional funds included a stipulation that the additional funds would strictly be used for events in the communities while stipends for elected UC members would remain the same. The additional discussions regarding how the amounts are determined remain under discussion with Tribal Council and management to try and better identify a process on how to allocate funds to each UC. An all UC meeting was held on July 31, 2023 to obtain additional input on this process and to have further discussion on the additional funds that were allocated through this year's budget process.

The discussion of Pow-Wows and how much funding is allocated to each Pow-Wow was also brought up at the meetings. There were questions on why some Pow-Wow's receive more funding than others. Another suggestion that was brought up was that the Leech Lake Days Pow-Wow should go back to being only traditional instead of a traditional/contest hybrid. These comments were delivered to Tribal Council and management for further consideration. It was also relayed that \$1,000,000 was allocated within the budget to help with repairs and upgrades to all of the Pow-Wow grounds across the reservation. Public Relations is setting up meetings with all Pow-Wow Committees to identify what improvements will be made to each of the grounds.

An increase in funeral benefits was also discussed. The proposal was to increase funeral benefits by \$2,500. Due to the amount of the proposed increase and time constraints in having the FY24 budget approved by Tribal Council before the start of the

2024 Fiscal Year, this increase was not included the final budget. However, the RBC have directed Management to look into this matter and have discussions with area funeral homes in order to revisit this increase in the near future.

Housing was another big topic of concern that was brought up at multiple meetings. Tribal Council agrees that this is an ongoing major concern for band members. Tribal Council will continue to work with the Tribal Development, Leech Lake Housing Authority and others to help continue addressing this ongoing need.

The last big item relating to the budget was inquiring on why Leech Lake Gaming does not present their budgets in this fashion. The Leech Lake Gaming financials and budgets are propriety information and need to be handled carefully to ensure that the competitive advantage is maintained with other entities.

There were some additional operational concerns that were brought within these meetings but do not have an immediate or direct correlation with the budget process. All of these concerns have been shared with Tribal Council and management. These are continuing to be looked into and addressed as quickly as possible.

We also communicated in the public meetings that our Budget Ordinance is a couple of decades old and doesn't help our processes today in the best way possible. Management is working with Tribal Council on updating the Budget Ordinance to ensure that it helps better obtain public input and identify priorities that the communities feel need to be addressed. We will continue to inform the community on updates to the budget ordinance and other concerns that were brought up in these meetings on an ongoing basis.

In closing, we would like to thank the Tribal Council Members, Division Directors, Program Managers, Program Accountants, for your cooperation as we worked together to develop the FY24 operating budget. *Chi-Miigwech!*

Terri Finn, Executive Director, on behalf of the Budget Committee.

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
Leech Lake Market
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
Bemidji IHS Building

LLBO Health Clinic
Bemidji State Univ. AIRC
Northwest OIC
Oshki Manidoo Center
Simonson's Station
Tesoro Station

The Debahjimon is a free, monthly publication.

LLRBC Approves Cannabis Regulatory Act

CASS LAKE - On August 31, 2023 the Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee adopted a new ordinance allowing for adult-use recreational cannabis businesses to operate on our tribal lands in northern Minnesota. Through the new ordinance, we've established a regulatory framework for cannabis sales and consumption, responding to the needs and preferences of our community members. While not enforcing separate criminal laws, we rely on existing authorities for enforcement.

The intent of our new ordinance is to foster entrepreneurship, with a cannabis commission overseeing licensing, which will eventually allow band members to explore business opportunities. We're exercising our tribal sovereignty to chart our unique path in regulating and supporting the cannabis industry, prioritizing the voices of our community members.

The preliminary plan is for the Band to open and operate at least one adult-use, recreational dispensary and use revenue generated from that business to help develop and fund the regulatory body needed to allow individual band members to own and operate cannabis businesses.

Leech Lake Legal Director Christopher Murray expands on these topics in the information below in response to public comments received during the comment period.

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

A general overview of the legal landscape will help set the stage for this topic. Federal Indian law provides that when a State regulates an activity as legal and does not prohibit the activity as a criminal act, then an Indian tribe within that State can regulate that activity according to the tribe's laws without regard to the State's regulations. This is based on the same legal theories that originally allowed Indian gaming and led to the creation of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to provide general regulations for Indian gaming to operate within. Cannabis is more complicated because under federal law cannabis is completely illegal; however, when States began experimenting with legalizing cannabis in different forms, the Department of Justice indicated that they would not pursue criminal investigations of cannabis businesses that follow State and/or tribal law and comply with enforcement priorities identified in memos to United States Attorneys. So, in order to operate legally, any cannabis business must follow the laws and regulations established by the state and/or tribe with jurisdic-

tion and must not violate the enforcement priorities outlined in the U.S. Attorneys' memos.

Minnesota explicitly recognized the sovereignty of Minnesota Tribal Governments in Minnesota cannabis laws, specifically providing for a compacting process that recognizes the authority of Minnesota Tribal Governments to regulate the cannabis industry within their jurisdictions. Minnesota laws provide that compacts may be entered, but that a compact is not generally required for Tribes to regulate cannabis according to their own laws. However, in order to avoid federal criminal interventions, the Tribes' laws must effectively prohibit violation of the federal DOJ enforcement priorities. The DOJ has indicated that it will focus enforcement efforts related to marijuana on the following priorities:

- Preventing the distribution of marijuana to minors;
- Preventing the revenue from the sale of marijuana from going to criminal enterprises, gangs, and cartels;
- Preventing the diversion of marijuana from states where it is legal under state law in some form to other states;
- Preventing state-authorized marijuana activity from being used as cover or pretext for the trafficking of other illegal drugs or illegal activity;
- Preventing violence and the use of firearms in the cultivation and distribution of marijuana;
- Preventing drugged driving and the exacerbation of other adverse public health consequences associated with marijuana use;
- Preventing the growing of marijuana on public lands and the attendant public safety and environmental dangers posed by marijuana production on public lands; and
- Preventing marijuana possession or use on federal property.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

The Band is planning to enact a Cannabis Code that will regulate cannabis business operation within the jurisdiction of the Band consistent with the DOJ enforcement priorities. The Band does not currently exercise any criminal jurisdiction and plans to rely on Minnesota law for limitations on individual possession and cultivation, cannabis distribution to minors, and other aspects of Minnesota law that are criminal-prohibitory in nature. Please refer to Minnesota laws for specifics regarding these limitations. The Band will

be authorizing Cannabis Businesses to operate within the Leech Lake Reservation according to regulations developed by a cannabis regulatory entity to be established by the RBC in compliance with the Code currently under consideration. Compliance with the DOJ enforcement priorities will be more difficult for Tribes to regulate while Minnesota lacks a regulatory structure and licensing for private cannabis businesses. These circumstances will make regulating private cannabis businesses difficult prior to Minnesota issuing cannabis licenses. Operating the cannabis business directly under Band management will ensure that the regulated entity is not attempting to circumvent regulation while the Band's regulator develops policy and builds capacity. Licensing private cannabis businesses under the Cannabis Code will be pursued when the regulatory capacity is well developed and the relationship with Minnesota licensees is better understood following the compacting process.

CANNABIS BUSINESS LICENSES

The most common questions regarding the Code relate to eligibility for cannabis business licenses. The current draft Code provides two (2) types of licenses that can be issued for cannabis operations. The Cannabis Business License allows retail operations and is required for any cannabis facility (physical operations related to cannabis production) within the

Leech Lake Reservation. The Cannabis Supplier License allows businesses licensed to provide Cannabis Goods or Services by another jurisdiction to provide Cannabis Goods or Services to a Cannabis Business licensed by the Band, but does not allow physical facilities with the Leech Lake Reservation. In the current draft of the Code, a Cannabis Business License would only be available to businesses wholly owned by the Band and not to any privately-owned businesses.

The intent of only licensing Band owned businesses for retail operations at the beginning is to allow the Cannabis Commission, established to regulate the cannabis industry within the Reservation, to develop a robust regulatory structure and, in the future when the regulatory capacity is matured, expanding Cannabis Business License availability to businesses owned by Band members. Anyone interested in helping develop the regulatory structure, especially anyone with knowledge of the industry, is encouraged to remain engaged as the RBC selects Commissioners for the Cannabis Commission. There will also be opportunities to get involved with developing a Band owned Cannabis Business to operate retail and other cannabis related business opportunities as planning moves forward.

It currently is not clear when Minnesota will make cannabis licenses available to the general public, but Band members will be able to pursue licenses through Minnesota when they become available. However, whether can-

nabis businesses licensed by Minnesota will be able to operate within the Reservation is an outstanding question. The Minnesota cannabis laws provide for approval of cannabis businesses licensed by Minnesota within reservations, unless a compact providing general approval is negotiated. The intent is currently to negotiate compacts that would allow Band licensed businesses to interact with Minnesota licensed businesses without needing a Minnesota license, but limit the number of Minnesota licensees as appropriate. If a compact of this nature is achieved, then licensing Band member owned businesses to operate in the cannabis industry will be pursued.

CONCLUSION

Similar to Indian gaming, nothing in federal, state, or tribal law authorizes individuals to operate cannabis businesses without some form of government license. The Band needs to gain experience regulating cannabis businesses operated under Band management to ensure that regulatory capacity can effectively regulate private businesses in an emerging market with potential criminal liability if regulations are not enforced effectively. At this time, the reasonable path forward for establishing a cannabis industry on the Leech Lake Reservation is to authorize and pursue a cannabis business owned, operated, and regulated by the Band. The RBC plans to pursue licensing cannabis businesses to operate within the regulatory jurisdiction of the Band in the future.

ATTENTION LLBO BAND MEMBERS



The LLRBC will be seeking Band Members to sit on the Cannabis Regulatory Commission.

A formal announcement will be made within the next few months and interested Band Members are encouraged to apply at that time.

Follow

www.facebook.com/LeechLakeBandOfOjibwe
and www.LeechLakeNews.com

to stay up to date, miigwech.

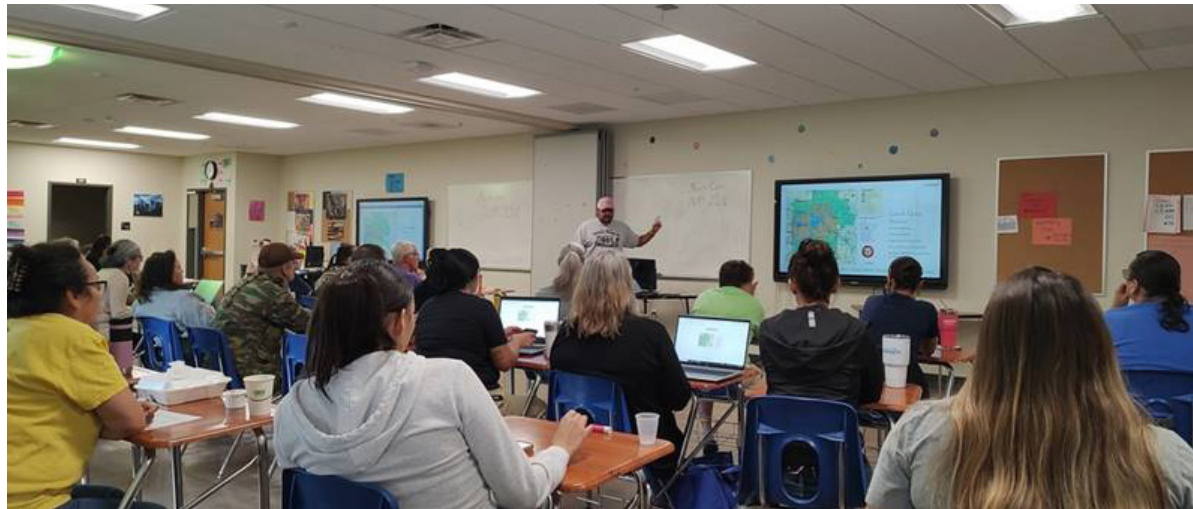


PRESERVING THE PAST, EMBRACING THE FUTURE

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

▲ Miigwech to Levi Brown for presenting to the Bug O Nay Ge Shig Staff. The presentation focused on LLBO history and current issues. We look forward to using the information we learned to enrich our students in the knowledge of their homeland.



▲ Miigwech to Dan Ninham for coming to work with our staff on August 29. We learned about Indigenized physical activity breaks for students!



▲ Bug O Nay Ge Shig School Staff held their first day of workshops on August 24 focusing on last year's data on attendance and achievement scores. In-service days will continue until August 31 with sessions on setting priorities for the 23'-24' school year, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Civics and History, student support and handbook updates, team meetings, and Indigenous classroom supports. School begins on September 5.



▲ Bug O Nay Ge Shig Seasonal Activities classes came back to school and found that their efforts at making a traditional garden paid off. A few of the harvested vegetables are pictured. High School students will have the opportunity to participate in Wild Rice Camp this week.



The current Minnesota State Flag and Seal.

via SOS.STATE.MN.US

Minnesota Begins Journey to Create New State Flag and Seal

By KAYLA DUOOS

MINNEAPOLIS – Work has officially begun on designing a new state flag and seal for the State of Minnesota.

House File 274 which was presented earlier this year called for a commission to be created for a redesign of the state flag and seal to accurately represent Minnesota. The commission has now begun meeting to recommend new designs for the official state flag to the legislature and governor. The commission has 16 members, which includes Senator Mary Kunesh (Standing Rock-Sioux) who authored house file 274, and members of Minnesota's Indian affairs Council.

The push for a new design dates back to many believing the current flag/seal doesn't represent the State and features callbacks to racial prejudice against Indigenous peoples. One of the main elements of Minnesota's state flag includes a

prominent state seal against a blue background. The seal depicts a Native American riding off into the sunset while a white settler plows his field with his rifle leaning on a nearby stump.

The present state flag was adopted by the 1957 legislature. The flag is royal blue with a gold fringe. Pictured in the center of the flag is the state seal. Three dates are woven into a wreath of the state flower: 1858, the statehood year; 1819, the year Fort Snelling was established; and 1893, the year the original flag was adopted. Nineteen stars ring the wreath, symbolizing the fact that Minnesota was the 19th state to enter the Union after the original 13. The largest star represents the North Star and Minnesota.

New designs for the flag and seal are expected to be shared Jan 1, 2024. The new emblems will automatically become official on April 1, 2024, which Minnesota observes as Statehood Day.



2nd Annual Ma'iingan in the Moonlight Event

The LLBO DRM recently held the Annual Ma'iingan in the Moonlight event. 15 youth along with DRM staff visited the North American Bear Center and International Wolf Center in Ely, MN. Youth learned about these important species and other wildlife of the northwoods.

This trip was supported by a BIA grant and the DRMs Fish and Wildlife Program.

October

District III Elder Birthdays

Robert Banks
Robert Bartel
Charles Bobolink
Jill Brown
Sherman Brown
Thomas Cloud
Darlene Cobenais

From the District III Office LeRoy, Toni & Kari

Sharon Declusin
William Donovan
Myron Drummond
Michael Escobedo
Kenneth Fairbanks
Roger Fairbanks
Richard Fineday
Patsy Fisher
Leon Garbow
Geraldine Goodwater
Beverly Guernsey
Monica Hooker



Christina Howard
Evelyn Iler
Frank Isaacs
Doris Jones
Robin Jordan
Marcia Kleeb
Geraldine Littlewolf
Marvin Littlewolf
Keely Losh
Thomas Lyons
William Masten
Gary Mitchell
Beverly Molash
David Morgan
Jane Munnell

Emily Munyer
Melvin Northbird
Freda Oothoudt
Samuel Papasodora
Louis Paquette
Steven Rejholec
Jennie Reyes
Alvin Roy
Richard Schulman
Michael Shaw
Henrietta Sherer-Nason
George Smith
Dale Tatro
Jane Valencia
Frances Van Nett

Shannon Washington
Cheryl White
Lois White
Jeanne Whitwam
Machell Wiltse
Margaret Wind
Doris Wittner

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



Obituaries



David "Dave" Smith



David "Dave" Francis Smith II, age 36, "Miskowananiisi" meaning "Red Tail Hawk" of the Ma'iingan Clan and Cass Lake, MN, journeyed to the spirit world on Saturday, August 19, 2023, unexpectedly. Dave was born on August 20, 1986, in Bemidji, MN, the son of Priscilla (Thompson) and David Francis Smith.

Dave grew up in the Old Agency and Onigum areas and liked playing Stars Wars with his cousins. He loved being outdoors, fishing, and wearing one of his many hats. Dave had a great sense of humor, any room he entered was sure to not be silent. He was an awesome loving dad, who did everything for his wife and kids. He was a hard worker, enjoyed pow wows, and teaching his kids the traditional ways, recently he taught his boys how to filet fish. Dave loved his food, eating and cooking. His favorite meal was spaghetti, or as Dave said, "Sghetti". Dave enjoyed family get togethers, he was the life of the party and kept all entertained and laughing. Dave will be greatly missed by all who loved and knew him.

Those greeting Dave in the spirit world are his dad, David Francis Smith; grandparents, Robert and Frances, Harold and Hope; aunts, Valerie, Wendy, Frieda; uncles, Bart and John; close cousins, LeRoy and James; niece, Dominique; nephews, Alonzo and Damin; great-nephew, Watson; close friend, Jeremy Flackus; and numerous other friends and family members.

Those Dave leaves behind to forever cherish his memory are his wife, Natasha; mom, Priscilla; sons, Michael, Markis, Kaius, Kylo, David III, Deacon; daughters, Kaleena and Kareena; brothers, Jeremiah, Conrad, Eric; sisters, Emmilee, Lynzie, TahSheena, Kateri, Brianna; numerous friends and family.

A two-day wake for Dave will begin on Friday, August 25, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. and continue until his Sunday, August 27, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. service, all to be held at the Onigum Community Center in Onigum, MN. Dave's Spiritual Advisor is Allen Hardy. Those helping to lay Dave to rest are Conrad Smith, Jeremiah Smith, Angelo Smith, Malakai Smith, Kenneth Smith, Jr., Robert ThunderHawk, Cody Parks, and Donald Geving. Honorary pallbearers are all Dave's nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, Leech Lake Housing Crew, Northern Lights Casino Custodial/Grounds Crew, and TERO Crew. Interment will be at a later date in the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery in Onigum, MN.

Dave'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.

Jared Eason



Jared William Eason, 31, of Bemidji, MN died Saturday, August 12, 2023 at his home in Bemidji.

Memorial Services will be held at 1:00pm, Saturday, August 19, 2023 at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Visitation will be from 11:00 am until 1:00pm, Saturday, August 19, 2023, at the Veteran's Memorial Building. Arrangements are with the Cease Family Funeral Home in Bemidji.

He was born in on April 17, 1992, in Minneapolis, MN, the son of Brian and Diana (Tatro) Eason. He was raised and educated in Bemidji, where he attended Trek North High School. He worked in carpet installation and flooring before working in the Shipping Department of Northland Fishing Tackle in Bemidji. He enjoyed watching MMA and football, working out with friends, running with Beano, fishing, playing

pool, listening to music, going to the Casino, and he loved riding bike with his daughters. He enjoyed helping others, and loved to make people laugh and smile.

He is survived by his: Parents, Brian and Diana Eason of Bemidji, MN, Children, Izailya Eason, Eliana Eason, Leshawn Tibbetts, Wife, Jackie Guinn of Bemidji, MN, Siblings, Briana (Poncho Cecena) Eason, Joseph Eason, Daniel Eason, all of Bemidji, Father-in-law, Francis Guinn Sr., Mother-in-law Palma Kise, Mother-in-law Roberta Hamilton, Sister-in-law Karina Guinn, Brothers-in-law Elyjah Guinn, Joseph Guinn Sr., Francis Guinn Jr., Jonathan Wakonabo, Best Friend Zach Suratt, Good friends Frank Bigbear, Eric Cecena, Nieces Aaliyah Eason, Faith Eason, Izzy Cecena, Camilla Cecena, Camilla Chavez, Nephews, Darren Eason, and Jacob Eason.

He was preceded in death by his: Grandparents Robert and Joan Eason, Brother Matthew Eason, Uncle Tim Miller, Aunt Diane Tatro, Grandfather Clinton Bruce, Grandmother Thea Wakonabo, Grandmother Muriel Muller, and friend Kenny Hanson.

Timothy Stangel



Timothy Lee Stangel, 59, of Minneapolis MN, began his journey to the spirit world on Friday, August 4, 2023, from Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis MN. Tim was born on January 20th, 1964, in Cass Lake MN to Gloria Reier and Felix Stangel. He spent most of his early years in the Bena, Cass Lake, and Walker area.

Tim loved the outdoors, he really enjoyed ricing, and picking boughs. He enjoyed going thrifting and refurbishing what he found to make it new again. He truly loved his Minnesota Vikings and CCR's music. Tim was a traditional man and practiced the traditional ways of his teachings. He believed in the teachings of living off the land.

Tim adored his 14 grandchildren and spent as much time with them as possible.

Tim is reunited with his parents, Felix Stangel and Gloria (Barney) Durkee; brothers, Eugene Stangel, Ritchie Stangel, and Todd Stangel.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are his wife, Teresa Stangel; stepsons', Austin

Leger, Adlore Leger; stepdaughters, Amber Leger; daughters, Savannah Taylor, Amanda Palacio, Brittney Palacio, and Gabrielle Palacio; brothers, Robert Stangel, Brad Stangel, and Stacy Stangel; sister, Gloria Jean Schnecker; and 14 grandchildren.

An overnight wake for Tim will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 12 and continue until his 11:00 a.m. traditional service on Sunday, August 13, 2023, all being held at the Dave Morgan Community Center in Bena, MN. The spiritual advisor will be Allen Hardy. Pallbearers for Tim will be Austin Leger, Adlore Leger, Devon Keiser, T.J. Stangel, Michael Stangel, and Eagen Stangel. His honorary pallbearers are Cory Stangel, Cody Stangel, Tristan Taylor, Jaxon Taylor, Dakota Taylor, and Kelvin "KJ" Franklin, Jr. Interment will be in the Lakeview Cemetery at Bena, MN immediately following him Sunday services.

Tim'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.

Ayasha Wind



Ayasha Kimora Wind "Manidoo Ikwezens" Spirit Girl born on May 29, 2023 (6 days old) started her journey to the Spirit World on Sunday, June 4, 2023 in Cass Lake. She is the daughter of Antonia Archambault and Alvin Wind III.

Ayasha will enter the Spirit World joining her great-grandparents Alvin and Roberta Wind, Donnie Harrison and Ruby Losh, Larry Smallwood, Delora Downwind and Calvin Sayers; grandmother Dawn (Bebe) Wind; uncles Derek (Deke) Brown and Darrin (Bill) Brown Sr; and aunt Emily Stevens.

She leaves behind her parents; brothers Alvin IV and Ayvin Wind; grandparents Renee Sargent, Robert Budreau Jr, Stacy Archambault (Nicole), Alvin John Wind Jr (Freda); great-grandmother Laurie Sargent; uncles Roman Brown, Martin Wind (Jordan), Joseph Wind, Theodore Wind, Calvin Sargent (David), Jauquin Sargent, Najeh Budreau, Stacy Archambault Jr, Shane Archambault; aunts Kristin Brown, Monica Brown, Jenny Wind, Anika Wind, Shoni

Wind, Natalie Archambault, Cianna Archambault, Naliyah Archambault, Jackie Brown, and Shianna Smallwood; along with numerous great aunts and uncles.

The wake will begin at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at the Mission Community Center and continue until the service at 9:00 AM on Friday, June 9, 2023 with Spiritual Leader Alan Hardy. Active casketbearers will be Roman Brown, Martin Wind, Jauquin Sargent, Najeh Budreau. Honorary casketbearers will be the Wind, Brown, Sargent and Archambault families.

Arrangements provided by Whispering Pines Funeral & Cremation Service of Walker & Hackensack, Minnesota.

Lance "Animal" White



Lance "Animal" White, 53, "Waabishkaanakwad", which means "White Clouds," of Walker, MN began his journey to the spirit world unexpectedly on Monday, August 14, 2023, at his home.

Lance was born Wednesday, May 27, 1970, in Cass Lake, MN to Ruth White and Tim Oothoudt, where he grew up surrounded by the lakes and the trees nurturing his zest for life and love of animals. Attending Walker-Hackensack High School, one of Lance's many crowning achievements was placing second at the State High School Wrestling Tournament. After graduation, Lance attended Bemidji State University, where he lived life to the fullest hanging out with his cousin, Jenn "Niffer" Clarke, his very best friend, Chris Kubat, and so many other friends who called him "Animal" because of the constant adventures. "Go big or go home!" He loved anything and everything outdoors and you could often find him on a bike, a snowboard, camping in the woods, or with a golf club in hand. He often said he was most spiritual and connected when the wind was in his face or at his back. He easily made friends with his larger-than-life personality, tremendous sense of humor, and a large smile.

Lance's work reflected the life he loved. No matter where he went chasing the next adventure, he could find a job in the kitchen prepping and cooking. Following his passion for the outdoors, Lance worked for the US

Forestry Wild Firefighter on the west coast, then moved back to Minnesota to be with his daughter. He went back to school and earned his associate degree in photography from Hennepin Technical College and proudly started his own business, Lance White Photography, and is a published artist. On the side, Lance worked for Erik's Bike Shop as a bicycle mechanic which rekindled his love of BMX, and you could find him racing around the BMX track earning countless titles and championships. Many will remember when he combined his two loves for his photo series "Crap I Find on the Road."

And anyone who knew Lance in the past 17 years, also knew his soul mate, his constant companion, his faithful sidekick, Eddie Dawg. Whether riding down the road on his bike with Eddie running next to him, or driving down the road with Eddie in his lap, or just hanging out by the campfire with Eddie at his feet. Where there was Lance, there was his loyal friend. Often, people recognized Eddie first and knew Lance was close by.

The family there to greet Lance on his journey are his grandparents and his partner-in-crime for adventures, cousin, Bob White (Elvis costumes on the golf course ring a bell?), and many family members.

Remembering him now are his parents, Ruth White and Tim Oothoudt, his daughter, Kylee (Daniel) Huss and their two children, John and Bev, and Kylee's mom- Trudy Kirk, countless family members and friends, and his best little dog Eddie.

A celebration of life will take place Friday, August 18th at Battlepoint Community Center in Federal Dam starting with a visitation at noon, followed by a time of commemoration and lunch. Lance will be interred at the Boy Lake Indian Cemetery in Federal Dam. For those who can attend, please dress in the attire that is comfortable to you and known to Lance, band t-shirts and Vikings jerseys for the man who bled purple are highly recommended! Be prepared to share your favorite memory!

Lance'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 Fox

Michael Lee Fox (Waagoosh) of the Mukwa Clan, age 37, began his journey to the spirit world on August 18, 2023. Waagoosh is the son of Brenda Rice (Ken) and Matt Hunt (Ruth). He was born on June 8, 1986, in Park Rapids, MN.

Michael grew up in Onigum and attended school at WHA, later in Fond Du Lac. He began and completed training in fire fighting at FDL Natural Resources. Michael loved spending time with his family, especially his children. He also enjoyed playing sports including golf, softball, and baseball, he was known for his wicked left-hand swing. Michael was a free spirit and loved to travel all over, visiting, and staying with family. If you were around Mike, you always had some good bumps to listen to, as he loved his music. He liked to tease and joke with his nephews, they



all looked up to him and wanted to grow their hair after Uncle Mike. Michael enjoyed fishing, netting, hunting, ricing, and anything do with his Anishinaabe culture. Michael was his brothers and sisters keeper. He had a big heart and never let his family and friends stand alone. He was a loving son, brother, nephew, and dad, and had many favorite cousins.

Those Michael leaves behind to carry on his legacy are his children, Felix Fox, Jason Sam, and Naveah Fox; siblings, Natasha (Kris) Cloud, Anthony (Erin) Wright, Cassandra Wright, Jonathan Wright, and baby sister, Jessica (Joe) Peterson; brothers, Paul (Leila) Jourdain, and Tim St. Clair.

Michael is reunited with his maternal grandfather, Ken Fox Sr., maternal grandmother, Genevieve Hanks; paternal grandparents, Phyllis and James Hunt; his sister, Michelle "Meesh" Hunt; special cousins, Robert Bueno, Jr., Dicki Doo Littlewolf Jr., and many more loved ones.

A two-day wake for Michael will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, and continue until his 10:00 a.m. Friday, August 25 traditional service, all will be held at the Onigum Center in Onigum MN. Michael's Spiritual Advisor is Ricky DeFoe. Those helping lay Michael to rest are Paul Jourdain, Joe Bruce, Justin Moshier, Ken Rice, John "Bullhead" Diver, and Forest Bruce. Honorary pallbearers are all of Michael's many family and friends. Interment will be at the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery in Onigum immediately following his Friday service.

Michael'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.

Cherie Russette

Cherie Lynn Russette, 41 of Minneapolis Minnesota, began her journey to the spirit world on Tuesday August 22, 2023 from Minneapolis, MN.

Cherie was born on June 24, 1982, in Minneapolis MN., to Peggy White and Robert Russette.

Cherie loved to dance at POW WOWs and was getting back into fancy shawl danc-



ing. She enjoyed doing crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles and coloring.

Cherie was a very outgoing and funny person. She loved to be around lots of people and make them laugh, if you were down Cherie would have you laughing and happy in no time. She was known to be a hard worker, if you needed help she was there. She loved to be with her family and to be outdoors.

Family Cherie is reunited with are her dad, Robert Russette; grandparents Hartley and Lillian White; sister's Lori Lynn Russette, and Robin Russette

Those she leaves behind to forever cherish her memories are her sons Cortez Machen and Franklin Russette, daughters Jasmine Russette and Bella. Brother Raymond Russette. Sisters Joni Russette, Jennifer Russette, Pamela Russette, Louanne Russette, and Jayme Russette. Aunts Linda Morris, Donna White, Jean Howard, Faith Saddler, Rosie Saddler, and Edwina Saddler. Uncle Hartley White Jr.

An overnight wake for Cherie will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday August 25 and continue until 10:00 a.m. traditional service on Saturday August 26 all to be held at the Bena Community Center in Bena MN. Helping to lay Cherie to rest are Kenneth Machen III, Eddie Lopez, Jahho Ellis, Keith Camona, Nathan Howard, and Larry Wade. Her honorary pallbearers are Cortez Machen, Jayden Ingram, Barbara Machen, Jennifer Russette, Pamela Russette and all of her loved ones. Interment will be in the George Johnson Memorial Cemetery in Winnie Dam MN.

Cherie'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.

Brandon Johnson

Brandon Corey Johnson on August 14, 2023, age 40, began his untimely journey to the spirit world. Brandon was born on May 18, 1983, to Cynthia (Cindy) Johnson and Bryan Misquadace, in Minneapolis, MN. Brandon was a proud citizen of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, with ties to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe on his maternal side, and the



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: Delores Rose Kingbird-Tibbetts, Scott Ambrose Roy and Darrin John Wakonabo, Parents

Court File No. CP-23-14

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Child/Family Protection Petition, Motion for Immediate Custody and Affidavit in Support of Immediate Custody have 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. If you fail to appear in these proceedings, the Court may proceed on behalf of the children by default.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Janice Skinaway, Juan Blanco, Alfredo Gil-Onfre, and Antonio Snow, Parents

Court File No. CP-20-29

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 October 12, 2023 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

Leech Lake Housing Authority v. Shallah Washington

Court file No. CV-23-70

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint in Unlawful Detainer has been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding Unit 23 – 16190 John Moose Drive, Cass Lake, MN 56633. A hearing has been scheduled for November 7, at 1:30pm in the Leech Lake Tribal Court. 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. 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: Debra Elaine Beaulieu, DOB: 08/25/1957, Decedent.

Court File No. CV-23-84

NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Debra Elaine Beaulieu, died Feb-

ruary 2, 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 10th, day of August 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 Jesse Beaulieu, surviving son of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on August 10th, 2023, in Leech Lake Tribal, Court, Jesse Beaulieu, PO Box 175 Bena, MN 56626 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Debra Elaine Beaulieu, 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: Daniel Charles May, DOB: 12/01/1993, Decedent.

Court File No. CV-23-64

NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Daniel Charles May, died April 2, 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 3rd, day of August 2023 at 2:30 p.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Probate of Will, Determination of heirs, and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Penny Jones, surviving significant other of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on August 3rd, 2023, in Leech Lake Tribal, Court, Penny Jones., PO Box 1022 Cass Lake, MN 56633 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Daniel Charles May, 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: Leona Elizabeth Cloud, DOB: 01/09/1936, Decedent.

Court File No. CV-22-144

NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Leona Elizabeth Cloud, died September 29, 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 27th, day of July 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 Colleen Gullickson, surviving child of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on July 27, 2023, in Leech Lake Tribal, Court, Merrill Cloud, OID #169024 MCF – Moose Lake, 1000 Lake Shore Drive Moose Lake, MN 55767 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Leona Elizabeth Cloud, 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: David Bruce Seelye, DOB: 01/25/1953, Decedent.

Court File No. CV-22-114

NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, David Bruce Seelye, died February 2, 2015. 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 2nd, day of March, 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 Jesse Seelye, surviving nephew of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on March 2, 2023, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Jesse E. Seelye, PO Box 83 Bena, MN 56626 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of David Bruce Seelye, 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: B.A.R., Child, DOB: 04/12/2007; B.J.R., Child, DOB: 05/18/2008 Frances Krumrey, Petitioner, And Natasha Cournoyer & Alan Randberg, Respondents,

Case No. FA-21-167

NOTICE

OF LEGAL PUBLICATION NOTICE OF HEARING YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on December 3, 2021, 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 November 16th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., the date of the Permanency Hearing scheduled in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Tribal Justice Center, Cass Lake, Minnesota. Failure to appear at the

Obituaries Continued.



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe on his paternal side. Brandon was living in Kego Lake, on the Leech Lake Reservation at the time of his passing. Brandon was known to laugh, and loved to fish and visit the casino. He also enjoyed spending time with his relatives, listening to music, and watching the Minnesota Vikings and Minnesota Twins. During his lifetime, Brandon had a long career in the construction field, and worked with his maternal grandfather, David Johnson, from time to time. He held various positions, including labor and most recently roofer.

Brandon leaves behind his children and

their mothers: Owen (20), Quincy (17), with their mother, Crystal Swenson; Anthony (16), Shawn (15), Janessa (10), Julianna (6), Dalton (4), Dawson (2), with their mother, Jessica Moore.

Other relatives Brandon is survived by are his mother, Cynthia Johnson; sisters: Angela Johnson, Sara Misquadace, Kayla Johnson, Elizabeth Big Bear, Chelsea Farah, and Shania (Josh) Ruark; brothers: Darin Misquadace and Devin Misquadace. Maternal grandfather, David Johnson and paternal grandfather Stanley Chief. Maternal aunt Pamela Johnson and maternal uncle David Johnson, Jr.; paternal aunts Wanda Misquadace and Anita Misquadace, and paternal uncles Brian Pippett and Keith Dahlberg.

Brandon is being welcomed in the spirit world by his beloved maternal grandmother, Patricia Johnson, paternal grandmother Agnes Chief, his father, Bryan Misquadace, and paternal uncles Brad Misquadace and Walt Misquadace.

The traditional Ojibwe ceremony will begin on Saturday, August 19, 2023, at 1:00 PM at the Onigum Community Center, 8825 Onigum Road NW, Onigum, MN 56647, and the funeral will begin on Sunday, August 20, 2023, at 9:00 AM, with Allen Hardy officiating. Burial will be in Onigum following the funeral.

Vincent Lowry

Vincent Wayne Lowry, 67 "Misko-Miigwan" which means "Red Feather" of Cass Lake, Minnesota who was of the Ojibwe and Ho



Chunk Nation, began his journey to the spirit world on Thursday August 10, 2023.

Vincent was born to Benjamin Lowry Sr. and Margaret Lowry. He spent his entire life in Cass Lake MN.

He was well known for his woodwork and crafts. He made all types of canes and would decorate them by doing in-lays, carvings, and wood burning pictures into them. He designed and made all types of dream catchers. He gifted a Warrior Breastplate, that he made, to his sister. His artistic skills were not just in those areas, but in leather work, birch bark canoes and drawing. He passed his

drawing talents onto his children; they are all good artists as well.

Come summer you would find Vincent camping in the woods with his friends. They would stay out in the woods until it got cold in the fall then come back home. He enjoyed all outdoor activities, especially hunting and ice fishing. When he was younger, he enjoyed boxing, running, and keeping fit and in shape. He loved to work out throughout his entire life.

Family Vincent will be reunited with are, his parents, grandparents, brothers; Lyman "Bobe" Lowry, Benjamin Lowry Jr., and Wayne Carlson. Many aunts' uncles and cousins.

Those he leaves behind to cherish his memories are his sons Patrick Lowry, and Matthew Lowry; daughters Tiffany Lowry, Britney Lowry, and Andrea Morgan; sisters, Sharon (Frank) De Clusin, Ruby Lowry, Genny Lowry and Shirley Preston; Auntie Sharon Butterfly and all of his grandchildren, nieces, nephews' friends and cousins.

A visitation for Vincent will begin at 10 a.m. on Tuesday August 15, 2023 at the Veterans Memorial Center in Cass Lake MN, with a service to follow at 1 p.m. Helping to lay Vincent to rest are Keith St. Cyr, Casey "KC" Cody, Robert Lowry Sr., Alex Lowry, Benny Lowry Jr., and Fred K. Jackson III. Honorary pallbearers are All his friends, and all his children. Vincent will be laid to rest at Pine Grove Cemetery at Cass Lake MN., immediately following his Tuesday service.

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

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: T.C. Jr., Minor Child, DOB: 12/08/2008 Z.C., Minor Child,

DOB: 04/12/2017. Tashina Mountain, Clarice Mountain, & Dr. Giniwgiizhig, Co-Petitioners and Wabigwaninzs Mountain & Thomas Casey Sr., Respondents,

Case No. FA-23-09

NOTICE OF LEGAL PUBLICATION YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on January 26th, 2023, a Petition for Guardianship of a Minor was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parent. You, the respondent herein, are hereby notified that you must file a response in the office of the Leech Lake Tribal Court on or before November 14th, 2023 at 10:30 a.m., the date of the Review 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: Shirley Jane Young, Pe-

itioner, v. Nicholas Boyd Sherman, Respondent,

Case No. CV-23-27

NOTICE OF LEGAL PUBLICATION AND HEARING TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT, An Emergency Order for Protection has been issued based on the Affidavit and Petition for Order for Protection in this matter. You are hereby required to appear before the Judge of this Court on June 6th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., in the Tribal Courtroom located at the Tribal Justice Center in Cass Lake, Minnesota. If you fail to appear, judgement by default will be taken against you.

NOTICE OF RESTRAINING PROVISIONS

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

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

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

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Lillian Rushman, Jonathan Wakanabo, Sr. and any other persons claiming paternity of minor children I.G.H and/or B.J.H., Parents

Court File No. CP-20-15

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 December 7, 2023 at 11:30 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.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Carla Gale (Deceased) and Jerome Anderson, Parents.

Court File No. CP-17-11

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. A Hearing is scheduled for December 6, at 10:00 AM, in the Leech Lake Tribal Court. 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. 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.

Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders

September Birthdays

District I

Franklin Bowstring Sr.
Wanda Howard
Russell Stangel
Marella Dodson
Patrick White
Leo Gotchie Jr.
Richard Donnell Jr.
Terrance Hodder
Phyllis Wade
Mary Jo Gotchie

Marvin Bowstring
Alan Mainville
Harold Goggleye
Curtis Bowstring

James Michaud
Myrna Hardy
Ronald Howard
Zelda Lyons

From the District I Office
Kyle, Amanda & Janelle



District II

Melvin Losh
Ruth White
Robert Losh Sr.
Terrance Hodder
Lavina Marion
Rodney Johnson
Happy Wenell



From the District II Office Steve, Stephanie, & Michelle

District III*

Lucy Aitkin
Betsy Allen
Robert Beaudreau
Larry Beaulieu
Elaine Benoit
Curtis Brown
Myron Buffalo
William Butcher
Patricia Cook
Jimmy Day
John Dunn
Iris Fairbanks
Michael Fairbanks
Donald Finn
Kirby Finn
Robbie Finn
Patsy Gordan
Teresa Gunter
Anthony Hare
Terrance Hark

Marilyn Harrison
Beverly Hensley
Helen Jacobs
James Jones
Norman Lawrence
Ruby Lowry
Aubrey Lyons
Sharon Mainville
Ronald Mitchell
Marcia Morgan
Reagan Morgan
Dorothy Oakes
Barbara Ornelas
Angelo Pantazies
Robert Pemberton
John Raisch
Elizabeth Reese
Victoria Reich
Vincent Rock

Michael Roy
Linda Sailor
Robert Schaaf
Michael Smith
Terrence Smith
Jerry Smith-Jordan
David Sokolik
Kimberly St. John
Dennis Staples
James Taylor
Michael Troy
Janice Waddell
Valerie Washington
Thomas Whipple
Patrick White
Russell White
Gary Wickner
Virginia Wiesehan
Richard Wilson
George Wittner

From the District III Office LeRoy, Toni & Kari

all coupons must be used within Birthday Month

Niiqaane Ojibwe Language Immersion Program

Words and sentences list for September

OJIBWEMOWIN

dewe'igan
opwaaqan
miiqwan
manidoo(q)
qizhe-manidoo
nookwezigan(an)
asemaa
wiingashk
waabanong
zhaawanong
ningaabii'anong
giiwedinong
aadizookaan(aq)
wiikondiwin

ZHAAGANAASHIIMOWIN

drum
pipe
feather
spirit(s)
kind spirit
sacred medicine(s)
tobacco
sweet grass
to the east
to the south
to the west
to the north
sacred story/sacred stories
spirit dish

Niiqaane Ojibwe Language Immersion Program

15353 Silver Eagle Drive, Bena MN 56626

Telephone: **218-665-3000**

Toll free: **1-800-265-5576**

www.bugonaygeshig.org

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

THE OFFICIAL RADIO STATION OF
THE LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE



KOJB 90.1 FM
THE EAGLE
LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Summary of Job Openings

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

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe - Human Resources
115 Sixth St. NW, Suite E - Cass Lake, MN 56633

Fax documents to: 1-218-335-3697

Call 218-335-3698 or toll free 1-800-631-5521 for more info

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED

- Alcohol & Drug Counselor (2) ~ Human Services ~ \$22.65/hr ~ Job Code: 23-003
- Mental Health Professional (4) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-008
- Mental Health Targeted Case Manager ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-009
- CTSS Mental Health Practitioner ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-010
- Mental Health Clinical Trainee (4) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-011
- On-Call Crisis Response Mental Health Professional (3) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-013
- On-Call Crisis Response Mental Health Practitioner (5) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-014
- ARMHS Mental Health Practitioner ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-012
- Program Accountant (2) ~ Finance ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-015
- Infant Toddler Teacher ~ Education ~ \$17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-016
- Infant Toddler Team Leader ~ Education ~ \$21.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-017
- Pre School Teacher/Family Services Advocate (3) ~ Education ~ \$17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-020
- Pre School Teacher (3) ~ Education ~ \$17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-021
- Mental Health Professional ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-022
- Gekinwaaamaaged (Teacher) ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-025
- Infant Toddler Teacher (Ball Club) (2) ~ Education ~ \$17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-030
- Lead Nurse (A.R.C) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-035
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Attendant (4) (Part Time) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-044
- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) (4) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-045
- WIC & Nutrition Registered Dietician (2) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-054
- Advanced Practice Provider ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-055
- Adolescent & Maternal Child Health Manager ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-058
- Maternal Child Health RN ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-059
- Home Healthcare RN ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-061
- Registered Dietitian (Diabetes Program) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-063
- Driver/Operator ~ Tribal Roads ~ \$19.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-075
- Police Officer ~ DPS ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-076
- Foster Care Coordinator ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-087
- Family Skills Worker ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-092
- Clinic LPN ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-098
- Security Guard (OTP) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-101
- Counselor (A&D Men's Outpatient) (2) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-102
- Technician (A.R.C) (2) ~ Human Services ~ \$16.75/hr ~ Job Code: 23-106
- Shelter Technician (Bena Shelter - Full time) (2) ~ Human Services ~ \$16.75/hr ~ Job Code: 23-107
- Shelter Technician (Bena Shelter - Part time) ~ Human Services ~ \$16.75/hr ~ Job Code: 23-108
- Employee Relations Associate ~ Human Resources ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-109
- Pre School Teacher (Gekinwaaamaaged) (2) ~ Education (A.O.B) ~ \$17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-111
- Family Support Specialist (Urban Office) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-115
- Cook (Opioid Treatment Program) ~ Human Services ~ \$18.75/hr ~ Job Code: 23-117
- Facilities Maintenance Manager ~ D.PW ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-118
- Plumber (Facilities Maintenance) ~ DPW ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-121
- Human Resources Director ~ Human Resources ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-122
- Dispatcher (2) ~ LLTPD ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-124
- Maajijigin Center Manager ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-123
- Adoption Specialist ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-125
- Accounts Receivable Team Leader ~ Finance ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-126
- Internal Auditor ~ Internal Audit ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-127
- Case Manager (2) ~ Child Welfare ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-130
- Office Manager (KOJB Radio) ~ Public Relations ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-134

For a full list of employment opportunities with LLBO please visit:
<https://www.llojibwe.org/jobs/llbojobs.html>



LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE

Class II Gaming

PUBLIC MEETING

JOIN US

Tues, September 26

5PM

Cedar Lakes Event Center

THE LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IS HOSTING AN OPEN DISCUSSION FOR BAND MEMBERS REGARDING THE CLASS II GAMING ROLLOUT.

Band members may also comment via email at: comments@llojibwe.net

BAND MEMBERS ONLY

For More Information: 218.335.8200

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CEDAR LAKES
CASINO · HOTEL



Shingobee
ON THE BAY
SPORTS BAR · MARINA

FALL OF FORTUNE

SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 28

FRIDAYS: 6PM-12AM	SATURDAYS: 6PM-10PM												
KIOSK SWIPES WIN UP TO \$200 FREE PLAY FOR EVERY 30 POINTS EARNED	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>TIME</th> <th>CASH</th> </tr> <tr> <td>6PM</td> <td>\$100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7PM</td> <td>\$150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8PM</td> <td>\$200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9PM</td> <td>\$250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10PM</td> <td>\$300</td> </tr> </table>	TIME	CASH	6PM	\$100	7PM	\$150	8PM	\$200	9PM	\$250	10PM	\$300
TIME	CASH												
6PM	\$100												
7PM	\$150												
8PM	\$200												
9PM	\$250												
10PM	\$300												

PICK A LEAF MULTIPLIER AND WIN UP TO \$600 IN FREE PLAY OR \$1,500 IN CASH.





Earn 1 entry for every 10 points, September 30 - October 28, 2023. See Player's Club for rules and complete details. Management reserves all rights.


\$20K PAYDAYS

\$20,000 IN CASH GIVEN AWAY AT EACH CASINO

WEDNESDAY DRAWINGS*

TIMES	CASH
7pm	\$2,500
8pm	\$2,500
9pm	\$5,000
10pm	\$10,000

NORTHERN LIGHTS - NOVEMBER 1
 CEDAR LAKES - NOVEMBER 8
 WHITE OAK - NOVEMBER 15





*Must be present to win. Earn 1 entry for every 10 points August 1 - October 31, 2023. See Player's Club for rules and complete details. Management reserves all rights. Subject to change.

GET A GIFT!

Sunday or Monday

SEPTEMBER 2023

NEW!
SUNDAYS OR MONDAYS WITH ONLY 30 POINTS EARNED.

SEPTEMBER 3rd or 4th Earth Elements 9.5" Fry Pan.	SEPTEMBER 10th or 11th Earth Elements 11" Fry Pan.
SEPTEMBER 17th or 18th Earth Elements 2.5 QT. Sauce Pot with Steamer.	SEPTEMBER 24th or 25th Earth Elements 4 QT. Stock Pot.

Earn 30 points until 10pm on Sunday or Monday and receive a featured gift of the week.
(Redeem from 8am-11pm Sundays or Mondays.)

*Only one gift per person per week. While supplies last. Dates of gift distribution subject to change. Free Play will be given if gift is unavailable. See Player's Club for details. Management reserves all rights.





FREE Bar Bingo

UP TO \$1,450 IN CASH PRIZES





7PM-MONDAYS (Pub 33)
 SHINGO BINGO RETURNING IN THE FALL
 7PM-THURSDAYS (River of Stars Cabaret)

- 5-20/20 games.
- 7-regular session games with \$50 cash prizes.
- \$1,000 progressive coverall. (Starting at 47#s) with \$200 consolation prize.
- Limited seating, arrive early.

Swipe your Player's Club card at a kiosk, starting at 5:30pm on the night of bingo, to receive your free bingo voucher.
Lost or misplaced Free Bingo vouchers will not be replaced.

Subject to change. Management reserves all rights.

75¢ WINGS*

SUNDAYS: 10AM-10PM

AND ALL VIKINGS GAMES

FLAVORS
 MAPLE GLAZE
 BUFFALO
 GARLIC PARMESAN
 BBQ
 SWEET CHILI
 MANGO HABANERO


 Walker, MN
 shingobeeonthebay.com

*75¢ each wing. Minimum 3 wings per order. 12 wing max on to-go orders.

GABRIEL "FLUFFY" IGLESIAS

SEPTEMBER 8

TICKETS: \$89/\$79/\$69/\$59

OUTDOOR EVENT - RAIN OR SHINE



AFTERMATH ACS COMBAT SPORTS

SEPTEMBER 30

TICKETS: \$59/\$54/\$49



HUNKS

THE PERFECT GIRLS NIGHT OUT

NOVEMBER 4

TICKETS: \$20/\$15/\$10

