

## MONTHLY REPORT

Chairman Faron Jackson Sr. provides a monthly report to Band members on the activities of the Chairmans office.

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## NIIZH MANIDOOWAG

June marks Pride Month in the U.S. as a time to honor and uplift our LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit friends and family.

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## MEMORIAL DAY POW WOW

Photos from the Annual LLBO Memorial Day Pow Wow held at the Veterans Memorial Grounds in Cass Lake.

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## ELDER & VETERAN PAYMENTS

Information and resources for the Elder / Disability and Veteran Payments to eligible Leech Lake Band Members.

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## Leech Lake Breaks Ground on \$42M Wellness Center and Shoreline Project



KAYLA DUOOS | DEBAHJIMON

Council Members and project leaders break ground on the new \$42 million Leech Lake Wellness Center, marking a major step toward shoreline restoration and improved health services for LLBO.

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe broke ground on May 28 on the upcoming 42-million-dollar wellness center. The center, which has been in development for a number of years, will feature: lake access, a pool, a basketball court and gym, chiropractic care, physical therapy, and a medical clinic.

The Tribe hosted an event announcing the project to the community. The event featured photo renderings of the spaces, lunch, prayer by Michael Smith Sr., and speeches from a number of Tribal and State officials. Tribal Chairman Faron Jackson Sr. opened the event.

“We’ve had a vision of this kind of building where we could promote healthy ways of living and make healthy decisions, talk about properly exercising and doing all these things that are going to let us live that good Anishinaabe way,” Tribal Chair Faron Jackson Sr. said. “Our babies being born into this world today have a right to have a good start in life.”

“They have a right to be born healthy, free of anything that’s going to hamper them on their life’s journey. That’s what buildings like this are going to be able to provide and teach.”



KAYLA DUOOS | DEBAHJIMON

Mockups of the future center were available for attendees to get a preview of what is to come.

The site upon which the wellness center will sit was once Cass Lake-Bena High School’s football field. A statement echoed by many of the speakers was that the wellness center will be more than just a building occupying land—it’ll be what the community puts into it and is a reclamation of the Leech Lake shoreline. Miles of which are owned by non-band members and outside businesses.

The State of Minnesota is investing \$19+ million in cash bonding dollars into the project



LLBO is seeking community input regarding the future Leech Lake Wellness Center. Scan the above code to participate.

alongside The LLBO who is leveraging several million dollars in new market tax credits, and another roughly \$14 million in 105(l) lease funds from the Indian Health Service, to pay for the project and a new facility in Ball Club and expansion of the Kego Lake Community Center.

The center is expected to open in 2027.

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# Leech Lake Behavioral Health News

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

## Leech Lake Tribal Council

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## Submissions

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

## DEBAHJIMON

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## Deadlines

Jul. Issue.....6/27/25  
Aug. Issue.....7/25/25  
Sep. Issue.....8/29/25



via LL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

## Foundation of Stability

by ANNY O'BRIEN  
LEECH LAKE  
HOLISTIC PRACTITIONER

On Friday, June 20, 2025; the sun will reach its yearly peak of the Summer Solstice, when it reaches its highest point in the sky and the day is longest. The crown chakra, located at the top of the head, named Sahasara is the energy center associated with; higher consciousness, divine connection, spiritual awakening, and unity with the universe. Many cultures see the Summer Solstice as a time when the veil between the physical and spiritual realms is thinnest, echoing the open, expansive energy of the crown chakra. This is a potent time for; meditation and prayer, receiving insights or spiritual guidance, letting go of ego-centered thinking, intentional fasting, and tapping into universal wisdom.

The sun is often seen as a bridge between the earthly realm and the spiritual realm, much like the crown chakra is the bridge between the body and spirit. The crown chakra and summer solstice both represent a peak in spiritual light, connection, and awareness. Aligning with the sun's energy during the solstice can help open the crown chakra, foster a divine relationship, and deepen your connection with a higher power of your choice.

June is also Pride Month honoring the LGBTQ+ community, there is a symbolic connection between Pride Month, the sun, and the summer solstice. Especially when viewed through a lens of light, truth, visibility, and self-expression. It's about living authentically, boldly, and without shame. Celebrating identity, visibility, love, encouraging being unapologetically "you", vibrant and liberated as two-spirited individuals. Short-term fasting can provide a needed reset in multiple aspects, its potential health and wellness benefits, and is practiced in many traditional cultures as a spiritual journey and physical discipline. Here are some benefits of short-term fasting.

## Health Benefits of Fasting up to 24 Hours

### Improved Insulin Sensitivity

- Fasting helps lower blood sugar and insulin levels, giving your body a break from processing food.



## Mission Statement

*"Leech Lake Behavioral Health is committed to providing holistic services that honor and promote the well-being of Anishinaabe people."*

The articles within our newsletter are intended to broaden perspectives of ways to seek healing. Healing comes in many forms and modalities. As individuals with unique experiences and unique needs, our hope is to provide guidance to find your own individualized treatment and healing.

## Cellular Repair and Autophagy

- After about 12–16 hours of fasting, your body starts autophagy, a process that clears out damaged cells and may reduce the risk of chronic diseases like cancer and Alzheimer's.

## Reduced Inflammation

- Short fasts have been shown to reduce inflammatory markers.

## Heart Health Support

- Fasting may lead to lower blood pressure, cholesterol, and triglyceride levels.

## Mental Clarity and Focus

- Many people report enhanced concentration, alertness, and even elevated mood during short fasts.

## Weight Loss and Fat Burning

- Fasting increases fat oxidation, helping the body shift from using glucose to burning stored fat for energy.

## Hormone Regulation

- Fasting can temporarily boost human growth hormone (HGH) levels, supporting muscle maintenance and fat metabolism.

## Digestive System Reset

- A fasting window gives your digestive system a rest, which may improve gut health and relieve bloating or indigestion.

## Cautions and Who Should Avoid It

**Short-term fasting is generally safe for healthy individuals, but**

## it may not be suitable for:

- People with diabetes or low blood sugar
- Those with a history of eating disorders
- Pregnant or breastfeeding individuals
- People taking medications that require food
- Always check with a health-care provider if you're unsure.

## Behavioral Health | Traditional Healing Program

Boozhoo, My Name is Bonnie Fairbanks-Stangel. I have been working at Leech Lake Behavioral Health as the Cultural Advisor, providing guidance to the staff, families, and our community since 2013. I am deeply committed to promoting our cultural lens and enhancing the wellbeing of our community. Mind, body, and spirit! I am a certified yoga teacher, and again offer mind, body, and breath connections. We are starting our next cycle of traditional healing which is open to our families and community for the next four years. I am a mom, grandma, and wife with a very large family that is amazing.

Favorite motto - Realize deeply that the present moment is all we have. Make the "Now" your primary focus!

## LEECH LAKE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION

**Mailing address:** 190 Sailstar Drive NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633

**Physical address:** 16123 61st Street NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633

**Office:** 218-335-3050 | **24/7 Crisis:** 1(888)215-8144



By KAYLA DUOOS

**CASS LAKE** – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Communications team will release weekly updates to keep our Band Members updated on Tribal projects/ divisions and anything from the federal level that may impact us. You can find the weekly updates on the official Leech

Lake Band of Ojibwe or [www.LeechLakeNews.com](http://www.LeechLakeNews.com). We will provide monthly recaps of these updates in the paper.

Employees and Community members can submit news, events, and updates to be included in that week's Friday update every Monday. Updates can be sent to [news@llojibwe.net](mailto:news@llojibwe.net).

## JUNE RECAP

### FRIDAY, MAY 2

#### Health Division Phone Lines

– During this week, Health Division phone lines went down. They went back up and running as of 4/24/25. You can contact the Leech Lake Health Division at (218)-335-4500

#### Summer Food Program 2025

– Registration is open now, the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federal program that provides free, healthy meals to children 1 year to 18 during school breaks and summer vacations. The program aims to ensure children in low-income areas continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session.

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

– Children are eligible when they are no longer receiving services from a pre-school/Head Start Program, Childcare/Daycare or attending summer school where meals are provided.

Those children ONLY become eligible once services have ended. Children attending Boys & Girls Club are eligible as long as they pick up their own meals. Once this form is submitted for each child, they will automatically be registered for summer meals. Meals will be available for pick up at the site you register them for. If you need to switch pick up location, please allow 1 week before meals can be picked up at the new site.

All children must be registered before they can receive meals. Online Registration closes May 23, 2025. <https://forms.gle/ja2tJPRRt5TogyJYA> Questions contact Alisha at 218-335-8345

### FRIDAY, MAY 9

#### Minneapolis Shootings

– The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe joins the other eleven Tribal Nations of Minnesota in mourning the recent tragedies in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis. Leech Lake families have been directly impact-

ed. We ask our community to come together, check in on one another, choose peace, and support healing. Please read the full statement below.

To our relatives, families, and communities, on behalf of the eleven sovereign Tribal Nations of Minnesota, we extend our deepest condolences to the families, loved ones, and entire communities impacted by the recent and tragic acts of violence in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis.

We are devastated by the loss and harm caused in two separate shootings that occurred just hours apart.

Among those impacted are members of our Tribal Nations. Our hearts are heavy, and we stand in mourning with all relatives affected.

These acts of violence are not only tragic—they are a direct threat to our communities. We cannot allow harm to continue or deepen through retaliation or further conflict. Now is the time for unity, for reflection, and for immediate collective action.

As Native peoples, we have always known grief. But we have also always known strength. We are here because our ancestors cared for one another. That is how you are even here—because someone before you chose love, protection, and community over despair. That is how we honor them, and how we must continue forward: by protecting one another, by choosing life together, and by remembering that we are stronger united.

We call on all our relatives to stand together in this moment. Please check in on one another. Offer your strength. Encourage peace. And if you have information about these events, we ask you to come forward—whether to the Minneapolis Police Department, Crime Stoppers, or your own Tribal law enforcement. We recognize

that trust in law enforcement is not simple, and we respect each person's path toward sharing information. What matters is truth and accountability.

We have endured so much. The world has challenged us again and again. But we must not turn on one another. We must turn toward each other. Let us walk forward with grief, but also with strength. Let us honor those lost by rising in solidarity and care.

With deepest sympathy and unwavering unity, The Eleven Sovereign Tribal Nations of Minnesota

#### Phone Number Change

– Leech Lake Housing Authority has a new emergency phone number for the Maintenance Department. The former emergency line, (218)-888-2936 is NO LONGER in service! The new number is 218-851-4955.

### FRIDAY, MAY 16

#### Broadband expansion project

– The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is launching a major broadband project, funded by an \$18.7 million NTIA grant, to expand high-speed internet access across the reservation. The network will combine fiber-optic lines and 5G fixed wireless towers. Throughout May 2025, Tribal staff will attend Local Indian Council (LIC) meetings to present plans and gather community input on tower locations. Construction is set to begin in spring/summer 2026, with project completion expected by fall 2026. Community participation is encouraged to help guide the project. For questions, contact Tribal Planner Sally Fineday at [sally.fineday@llojibwe.net](mailto:sally.fineday@llojibwe.net).

#### Court Appointed Attorneys and Advocates Needed, Leech Lake Tribal Court

– The Leech Lake Tribal Court is seeking dedicated attorneys to represent indigent clients in child protection, family, and probate cases. Your expertise ensures fair legal representation for those who cannot afford private counsel.

#### Why Join Us?

- **Flexible Caseload:** Accept cases that fit your schedule.
- **Competitive Compensation:** Receive hourly rates and reimbursement for expenses.
- **Professional Development:** Enhance your court room experience and expand your practice. Access to free trainings.
- **Community Impact:** Play a vital role in upholding justice.



## RBC BRIEFS • June 2025

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.

All available council members, including scheduled presenters and LLBO division directors, attend RBC briefings. 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 conference will take place on the same day.

One meeting was held within the last reporting month, April 30 to May 22. All RBC briefings and meetings are live streamed via Vimeo and are available to view on [leechlakenews.com](http://leechlakenews.com) under "Videos." Official meeting minutes can also be found on [leechlakenews.com](http://leechlakenews.com) under "LL Tribal Council" and "Tribal Council Meeting Minutes."

### BRIEFING/MEETING RECAPS

**1. May 22, 2025** A briefing & meeting were held in the RBC Government Chambers.

- **Laurie Harper, Education** – Presented the LLBO updated education code, the code draft has preliminary approval and will be available for public comment soon.
- **Eric DeVault, Public Works** – Submitted the contract for the wellness center road, and the road contract was approved. An eagle's nest is on the opposite end of the construction site and will not be bothered, and no trucks will get close to the area
- **Matthew Jedlicka, Food Sovereignty** – Presented a construction contract for the new food sovereignty storage building. The contracts were approved, and the new building will be behind the health division, allowing for more vehicles to freely move about the space during future distributions.
- **Deanna McDaniel, Rose Robinson, ICWA** – Was asked to sit on the MN ICWA advisory council. Her appointment was then approved by the council. Chairman Faron Jackson also asked for the ICWA division to get a closeout report on the 13-year-old Leech Lake Band member who lost her life in a police chase in late April. The closeout report request will include asking for further prevention protocols to stop incidents from escalating.

#### Requirements:

- Licensed and in good standing with the state bar.
- Licensed or willing to become a licensed Attorney or Advocate in Leech Lake Tribal Court.
- Commitment to ethical and diligent representation.
- Willingness to accept cases as appointed.

#### How to Apply:

For inquiries, contact the Leech Lake Court Administrator, Jackie Wright. [Jackie.wright@llojibwe.net](mailto:Jackie.wright@llojibwe.net) or 218-335-3682.

**Northwest Minnesota Maternal and Child Health Summit Strengthens Regional Healthcare Partnerships** – Maternal and child health serves as the cornerstone for nurturing healthy families and communities across rural Minnesota. On April 29th, the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Maternal Health Program hosted its biannual Northwest Minnesota Maternal and Child Health Summit, drawing a record attendance of over 30 healthcare professionals.

See Friday Recap on Page 7 »

# Chairman's Monthly 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 a solid agenda with Leech Lake priorities before the U.S. Congress. We are continuing to identify our critical needs. The Tribal Council members continue to work diligently in lobbying for unmet need dollars for the Leech Lake Band and its People. As we continue to move forward, we are all in this together, here is some of the news being reported to the great Leech Lake Nation.

**Leech Lake Memorial Day** – On Saturday May 24, 2025 the Leech Lake Nation had recognized the Memorial Day is a time for visiting cemeteries, remembering loved ones and memorials to mourn family members and those that proudly served their country with honor and some gave the ultimate sacrifice with their life. The Leech Lake Honor Guard member Julian Molash had stated that 46 cemeteries had been provided a military service for our veterans and they proudly presented the colors for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Chairman Jackson, Sr. wants to graciously thank the Leech Lake Honor Guard for the military service and remembering the veterans by posting our flags. In addition, Chairman Jackson, Sr. wanted to thank Jeremy Ince and the Temporary Employment Program for cleaning and mowing the cemeteries at our communities.



via CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

**Leech Lake Head Start Niimiwin** – On May 15, 2025 Chairman Jackson, Sr. and the Leech Lake community had celebrated the outgoing royalty and past Head Start graduates. Chairman Jackson, Sr. had been a guest speaker at the Niimiwin that had a princess and brave contest, lunch, Honor Song, and Traveling Song. "I am honored to be here today with the Leech Lake Head Start graduates and the families. We have a beautiful moment to cherish when our children take that first step in the education process and their first graduation. We see the beginning of life with so much hope, their young spirits, and never-ending energy. I want to congratulate the Class of 2025 Head Start Graduates, the outgoing royalty and the new Princess and Brave for 2024-2025," stated Chairman Jackson, Sr.

**Update on President Trump's Big Beautiful Bill** – On May 21, 2025 the U.S. House of Representatives had narrowly passed Trump's Bill. The next step will require the U.S. Senate to approve the bill. The Leech Lake RBC Tribal Council has made many trips to Washington, D.C. to testify against the bill, speak to congressional leaders, strategize with our Federal lobbyists, and diligently work with our Native Allies, like NCAI, MIGA, and MAST for coordinated testimony in protecting Leech Lake Federal funding for health care, housing, education, public safety, and other programs. While a few programs, like Head Start and drinking water infrastructure, see modest gains, the overall budget reflects a significant rollback of critical resources for Tribal Communities.

Key Proposed Cuts to Indian Country: 1. 26.2% cut to Health

Human Services, affecting programs critical to health outcomes in Indian Country; 2. \$1.7 billion cut from Health Resources and Services Administration, leaving just \$6 billion for "priority activities"; 3. Elimination of the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program; 4. \$1 billion cut to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, including funding for Tribal Opioid Response; 5. \$674 million cut from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, though the proposal claims it won't impact recipients; 6. \$770 million cut from the Community Services Block Grant program; 7. 30.5% cut to the Department of the Interior; 8. Nearly \$1 billion cut from Bureau of Indian Affairs; 9. \$617 million cut from BIA programs supporting Tribal self-governance; 10. \$107 million cut from BIA Public Safety and Justice programs; 11. \$187 million cut from the Bureau of Indian Education construction account; 12. Elimination of discretionary awards under Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI); 13. Elimination of competitive NAHASDA grants; and 14. Cuts to Community Development Block Grants (CDBG).

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe RBC Tribal Council has made many phone calls to congressional leaders and written letters in opposition to the President's Big Beautiful Bill that threatens Treaty Promises and the U.S. Government's Trust Responsibilities to Indian Country. Presently, the Trump Administration is blocking funding owed to Native communities by eliminating staff from those agencies or "Defend the Spend," a sweeping new Trump policy that requires grantees to justify spending line by line, even for items that have already been awarded. Chairman Jackson, Sr. had stated

that the U.S. Government enjoys the fruits of the Treaties signed by Leech Lake in the 1800's that seeded millions of acres that are taxed every day, we are living up to our promises, and we ask President Trump to honor those treaties and the U.S. Supreme Court rulings that protect these sacred agreements.

**Leech Lake Wellness Center Ground Breaking Ceremony** – On May 28, 2025 Chairman Jackson, Sr. and the Leech Lake RBC members had celebrated the new home of the LLBO Wellness Center. Chairman Jackson, Sr. had stated, "We want to thank Governor Walz, the State of Minnesota, and other funding sources in helping with this groundbreaking ceremony. I also want to thank the many Leech Lake employees that worked tirelessly on this project over the years as we stand today with a shovel of dirt to kick off construction. This project will take 18 months to complete when construction formally starts this summer. We had envisioned a Wellness Center that will provide spiritual wellness, physical fitness, a place to gather, cultural activities, health programs, and place for our families to gather."

We had kept moving forward with an idea of a Wellness Center, I can still remember talking to Governor Walz as we had been fishing together on the Governor's tradition of picking a place to fish. Governor Walz had selected Leech Lake, I had thought this would be a great opportunity to discuss the Wellness Center in May of 2022. The previous year, the Minnesota Legislature in a narrow vote had declined to help fund the Leech Lake Wellness center. It was a great day of fishing on Winni, Governor Walz had finally caught his first walleye but on that day, my late wife,

Laurel Jackson (The First Lady) had caught more fish than the Minnesota Governor and the Chairman of Leech Lake. The Leech Lake People had an idea and we worked together, that anything is possible, and we are all in this together mentality had carried us to blessing this sacred ground. Mii-Gwetch.

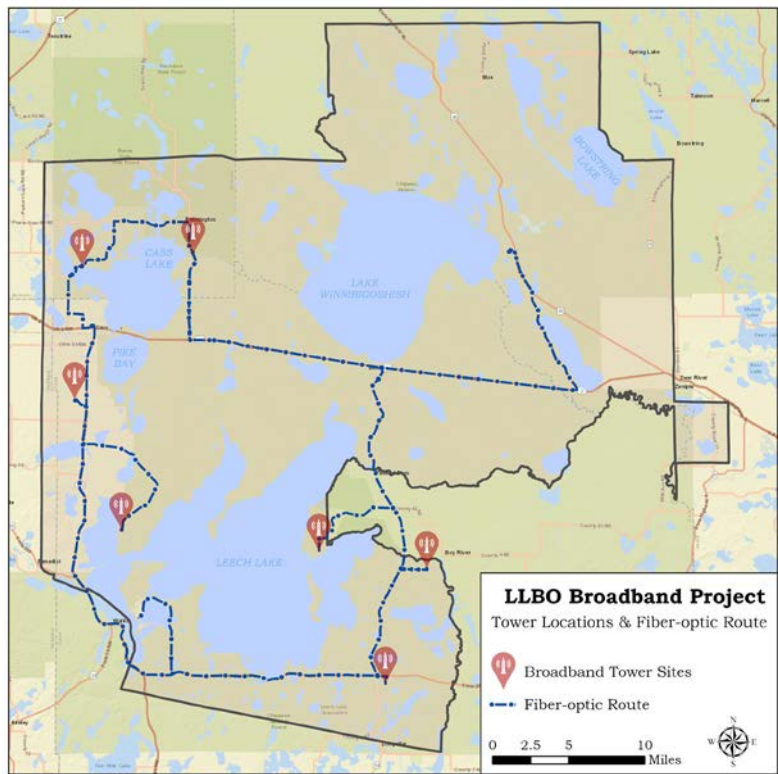
**Leech Lake Graduations in 2025** – It's that time of the year again, we have been busy attending 2025 graduations for Head Start, Walker/Akeley/Hackensack High School, Leech Lake Tribal College, BSU, Deer River School, Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School, Northland School, Blackduck, Northwest Technical College, Cass Lake/Bena High School, Bemidji School, Reimer School and other schools. I wanted to congratulate our graduates for their hard work in obtaining their degrees, diplomas, and the Head Start children will be taking the next step in public schools. As we look to our future, it is very bright, and we are proud of your accomplishments and dedication to your education.

**Leech Lake Housing Awarded \$6.5 Million** – On May 20, 2025 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development had provided grants for making housing accessible, affordable and safer for Native American Tribes. I want to thank the hard work of the Leech Lake Housing Authority and the staff for obtaining this funding that benefits our families and to carry our affordable housing activities.

**Safety note:** As summer approaches, we have new warning about air quality and fire dangers. Please be extra careful when burning leaves and old grass in your yards because the conditions are very dry. This time will allow us to check fire alarm batteries, service our furnaces, and repair our homes. Chairman Jackson, Sr. was the safety compliance representative for Xcel Energy before retirement. Please be safe and take care!



via CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE



# LLBO Broadband Expansion Project

*Community input sought as Leech Lake begins \$18.7M broadband buildout to improve internet access across the reservation.*

By MICHAEL CHOSA

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is launching a transformative broadband infrastructure project to bring fast, reliable internet access to our communities. Backed by an \$18.7 million grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), this project will include a combination of fiber-optic lines and fixed wireless towers to serve households and businesses across the reservation.

The network will include fiber routes and strategically placed wireless towers capable of delivering 5G fixed wireless internet. These towers will broadcast internet within a defined coverage area. Throughout May 2025, LLBO Tribal and Economic Development staff will attend Local Indian Council (LIC) meetings to share

plans, answer questions, and gather input on tower site locations. Community feedback is critical to ensuring this project reflects local priorities and needs.

**Project Timeline:**

- May 2025: Community outreach at LIC meetings
- Fall/Winter 2025: Environmental review & final tower placement
- Spring/Summer 2026: Construction begins
- Fall 2026: Project completion anticipated

We encourage community members to participate in the meetings and help shape the future of internet access across Leech Lake. For questions or comments, please contact: Sally Fineday, Tribal Planner [sally.fineday@llo-jibwe.net](mailto:sally.fineday@llo-jibwe.net)



## What is Niizh Manidoowag?

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASSLAKE – Leech Lake Tribal College held their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual pride and open house event, June 6, 2025

Pride month is June in the United States. A month to celebrate LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit (Niizh-Manidoowag) individuals. The Leech Lake Tribal College celebrated this event by holding a Pride-themed open house for the community. Their event is one of many held across the nation during June.

Several LLBO Divisions and local businesses from around the reservation and neighboring cities held booths, giving out program information and goodies. Food Trucks and cake were available at the event alongside inflatable obstacle races, photo walls, and a family-friendly drag show.

LLTC Student Drag and Show Organizer, Christian Taylor-Johnson, better known to the events audience as host Deja DuValle said tons of planning went into the drag show, as they recruited talent from around the state to perform. Taylor-Johnson said the event was important to show students LLTC was a safe place in the community.

“It’s important to have pride events in our community because bigotry and discrimination still out there. People are still prejudiced

against LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirited individuals, and education is the best tool we have against it.”

If you have questions about the college or if you’d like to tour the college, you can visit them at 45 Little Wolf Rd NW, Cass Lake, MN from 8am-4:30pm or call (218) 335-4200.

**What does Niizh Manidoowag mean?** “Two-spirit (Niizh-Manidoowag)” refers to a Native person who identifies as having both a masculine and a feminine spirit, and is specifically used as an identifier by Indigenous people to describe their sexual, gender and/or spiritual identity.

The creation of the term “two-spirit Niizh-Manidoowag” is attributed to Tribal Elder Myra Laramie of the Fisher Cree Nation, who proposed its use during the Third Annual Inter-tribal Native American, First Nations, Gay and Lesbian American Conference, held in Winnipeg in 1990. The term is a direct translation of the Anishinaabemowin term, and is used to replace previous colonized terms.

**OJIBWE TERMS**

**Agokwa** “man-woman”

**Ogichidaakwe** “warrior-woman”

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE

# Quarterly Meeting



FRIDAY JULY 11 2025 • 10.00AM

## LEECH LAKE TWIN CITIES OFFICE

Please join us for the Quarterly Meeting of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Council. All Band members and employees are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**A free lunch will be provided following the meeting.**



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](http://www.bugonaygeshig.org)

▲ Second Grade students teamed up with Kindergarten and First Grade to soak up some sun and read a good book!



▲ Bug O Nay Ge Shig student and families celebrated the school year's finish with games, prizes, music, and a picnic. Enjoy a safe summer everyone!!



▲ Elementary students at Bug O Nay Ge Shig School enjoyed beautiful weather for their Track and Field event recently. Events included: long jump, softball throw, individual races, relays, egg toss, and tug-of-war.



◀ For the entire school year, five students from the Bug O Nay Ge Shig School rode to the Cass Lake High School several times a week to participate in the Robotics program led by Jesse Frost and Matt Wendland. Recently, our students were among those rewarded for their time and effort. Lorealea Antell, Cecil Redsky, Malachi Mitchell, Nantina Fineday, and Nokomis Fineday were given awards at the Honors Breakfast held at the Cass Lake High School on Wednesday, May 14. All five students earned letters for their letterman's jackets. Cecil earned a badge for academic achievement and Malachi was given a plaque for being voted Rookie of the Year for the boys' team. What a successful season!!



▲ Bug O Nay Ge Shig students are busy at Culture Camp this week with activities such as: Ojibwe Language Class, Archery, Birchbark Work, Drum Making, Cultural Crafts, Drumming, Beading and Traditional Games.



▲ Bug O Nay Ge Shig High School's Graduation Ceremony took place on Thursday 5/29 at the school. It included posting of the colors by the Leech Lake Honor Guard, tributes by staff, speeches by students, honor songs, and the awarding of many scholarships. Each graduate was presented with an eagle feather and blanket along with their diploma.



◀ Bug O Nay Ge Shig School's Niigaane Ojibwe Immersion Program celebrated the Graduation of four 6<sup>th</sup> graders from the program recently with their families.



« FRIDAY RECAP

Continued from Page 3

This gathering unites public health providers from tribal nations and county health departments to enhance maternal and child health services throughout the region. The 2025 summit saw unprecedented participation with representatives from White Earth Nation, Red Lake Nation, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and public health departments from Itasca, Beltrami, and Cass Counties.

Gary Charwood, spiritual advisor for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, opened the summit with a traditional smudging and prayer ceremony, setting a tone of cultural respect and collaboration. Amy Bowles, Beltrami County Public Health Director, presented updates on the Families First federal grant initiative, which addresses challenges contributing to adverse pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum outcomes in rural communities.

The summit featured practical demonstrations and cultural insights, including a car seat safety presentation by Katie Kelm, Maternal Child Health Program Manager for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Dorene Day, respected Indigenous midwife, shared her spiritual journey and knowledge of traditional Indigenous birthing practices, highlighting the importance of culturally responsive maternal care.

A briefing & meeting was held May 22, in the RBC Government Chambers. The meeting is available to watch in full on LeechLakeNews.com under "Videos." Official meeting minutes can also be found on LeechLakeNews.com under "LL Tribal Council". Full Coverage of

the RBC briefings can be found on page 3.

**FRIDAY, MAY 30**  
**Wellness Center** – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe broke ground, on May 28th on the upcoming 42 million dollar wellness center. The center, which has been years in the making will include; lake access, a pool, a basketball court/gym, chiropractic care, physical therapy, and a medical clinic.

A full story and photos of the groundbreaking event can be found on our front page.



**Applications Open for Head start** – Leech Lake Head start is now accepting applications for the 25/26 school year. You can contact head start at **218-335-8345** or by visiting: 16120 60<sup>th</sup> Ave NW Cass Lake, Mn 56633.

**Leech Lake Early Childhood serves Expectant Families**  
Children weeks - 5 years old

- Locations:
- Cass Lake
  - Ball Club
  - Bemidji
  - Bena
  - Onigum

**Fitness Center Summer Hours**  
– The Fitness Center will introduce new seasonal hours, effective June 2, 2025. The hours will be:

- 6am - 7pm M-F
- 9am - 12pm Sat



# Maternal Child Health

We are Registered Nurses who provide support and education to IHS eligible pregnant women, and children up to the age of 3.

Services Offered

- Prenatal Care Promotion • Infant/Child Education**  
**Lactation Counseling • Child Growth & Development**  
**Assessments Family Planning Assistance • Immunizations**  
**Substance Use Support • Home Safety Assessments**  
**Community Resources & Referrals**

**Phone: 218-335-4556 • Fax: 218-339-2511**

**Address: 420 Grant Utley Ave. NW Cass Lake, 56633**

## July

District III Elder Birthdays

- Aileen Allen
- Brenda Anderson
- Laurine Beaulieu
- Shelly Bebeau
- James Bellanger
- Deborah Brown
- Earlene Buffalo
- Pamela Burnett
- Nancy Cameron



- Hazel Cahse-Zimpel
- Darlene Cloud
- Rebecca Daniels
- Dawn Doherty
- David Fairbanks
- Dolores Fields
- Elaine Fleming
- Delores Goggleye
- Corinna Goose

From the District III Office Leon, Toni & Kari

- Bernadette Gotchie
- Gladys Granroos
- Manuel Granroos
- Francis Guinn
- Veda Harrison
- Karl Humphrey
- Thomas Humphrey
- Wilbur Humphrey
- Florine Iverson
- Faron Jackson
- George Jackson
- Roberta Jackson
- Valerie Jensen
- Thomas Johnson
- William Johnson

- Nancy Kingbird
- Adrain Libby
- Michael Libby
- Birdena Lyons
- Vernon Lyons
- Maxine Manypenny
- Loretta Meckel
- Bernice Mitchell
- Terrance Mitchell
- Florenstine Morgan
- Antonette Mountain
- June Mykkanen
- Jacquelyn Nelson
- Gerald Northbird
- Lois Northbird

- Shirley Preston
- John Raisch
- Marlys Rausch
- Paula Savage
- Richard Smith
- Stacey Smith
- Deborah Staples
- Margaret Steensland
- Joseph Stish
- Nona Wade
- Vivian Washington
- Delina White
- Melissa Wilson

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

# Obituaries

## Ricky Goose



Ricky "Chi Noodin Inini" which means "Big Wind Man" started his journey on March 2, 2025, in Deer River, MN. Ricky was born in Cass Lake MN., on June 16, 1959, to Samuel Goose Jr. and Caroline Goose (Monroe). He grew up in Battle Point, graduating from Northland Highschool in Remer, MN.

Ricky was a member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. He was an Army Veteran and was employed with Leech Lake gaming for many years. Ricky and his brother Samuel Kevin Goose III were golden glove boxers with the Leech Lake boxing program and received numerous trophies and awards for his accomplishments. He was a guitar enthusiast and loved to play along with his favorite rock band. Ricky and his family members loved to challenge each other in marathon Yahtzee games! He also played tackle football until he was 42!

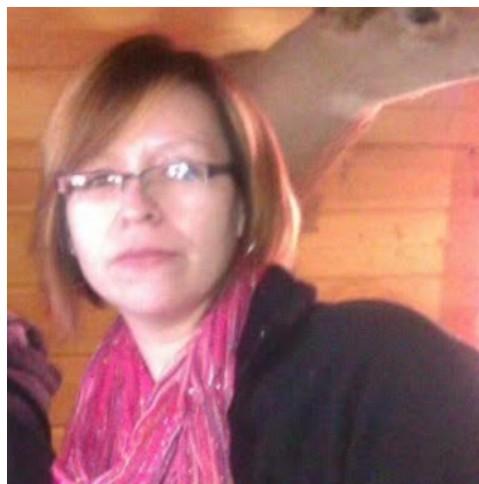
Those meeting Ricky in the spirit world are his parents, Samuel Goose Jr., and Caroline Goose, grandparents, sisters; Carol Goose, Patti Monroe, and Norma Monroe, brother; Samuel Kevin Goose III, and Terrance White.

Those left to cherish his memories are his daughter; Lacey Calver, Sisters; Eva Mangum, Mary Lou Reich, Iolanthe Goose, and Loretta Monroe, grandchildren; Becca and Meeka Smith, along with numerous nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life is planned for Ricky on March 7, 2025, at the Battle Point Community Center, in Battle Point, MN. starting at 1:00 p.m. His Spiritual Advisors will be Gary Charwood and Allen Hardy. Honorary urn bearers are Earl Machart, Ron Johnson, Tony Bozwell, Chris Reyes, Donald Geving, Alvin White, Ray Geving, and Adrian Reinoso. Along with all his family members and friends Ricky will be going home with family.

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

## Ashley Robinson



Ashley Jean Robinson, "Mindii'mooye" meaning "Old Lady", age 41, of the Bear Clan unexpectedly began her journey on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, from her home in Cass Lake, MN. She was born on December 31, 1981, in Bemidji, MN, the daughter of Lila (Allen) and Martin Robinson.

Ashley was a loving and caring mother, sister, grandmother, aunt, and friend to many. She was always happy, smiling, and laughing, and she was often heard before seen. She loved to bake cakes, especially her vanilla cakes with her vanilla icing! She liked to watch, "Yellowstone", play the slots at the casino, and go to the store to visit. Ashley was easy to talk to, warm, and open-minded, she never judged anyone. She made a lasting impression on all she crossed paths with. She loved raising her kids, nieces, and nephews, she was family oriented. Ashley was known to take her time, be on "Indian Time," she truly lived up to her native name, "Old Lady." Ashley was a beautiful person inside and out, Prom and Homecoming Queen, Captain of her cheer squad, and very popular growing up, from her ease of getting along with everyone. She made everyone feel comfortable to be around her. Ashley will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Ashley will be rejoining her parents, Lila and Martin "Mutt" Robinson; grandparents, Gladys and Richard Robinson, Sr., James Allen, Sr., and Vina Jones; mother-in-law, Carol Jones; and brother-in-law, Daniel Jones. Those Ashley leaves behind to forever cherish her loving memory are her son, Terrance (Trinessa) "TJ" Jones, Jr.; daughter, Karley Robinson; significant other, Terrance "Beeb"

Jones, Sr.; brothers, Aaron Brown, Sr., Andrew ("Bird") and Anthony Robinson; sister, Angela Brown; sisters-in-law, Dianna Jones and Missy Camacho; grandson, Tamir Jones; 11 nephews, 6 nieces, many more friends and family members.

A two-night wake for Ashley will begin on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., and continue until her funeral service at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 29, 2025, all to be held at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Those helping to lay Ashley to rest are Matthew LaDuke, William Ethier, Michael Jones, Blaine Reich, Jerome Johnson, Jr., Aaron Brown, Jr., Shiloh Brown, Johnathan Johnson, and Romondo Papasodora. Honorary pallbearers are Jessica LaDuke, Jessica Headbird, Jake Dunn, Jesse Papasodora, Candace Reyes, and all of Ashley's family and friends. Inurnment will be planned for June 2025 in Pine Grove Cemetery in Cass Lake, MN.

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

## Daniel Howard



Daniel James Howard "Ogemabinesi" born on June 12, 1982 in Cass Lake, MN, 42 years old, passed away May 7, 2025.

Survived by: Dan is survived by his parents Molly Fairbanks and Ronald Howard. His children Nora, Henrik, Kane and Elias Howard. The mother of his children Dawn Howard. His sister Kayla (Davey Jr.) Hager and their children Ava, Leonidas, Jaxon and Octavia. Numerous aunts and uncles.

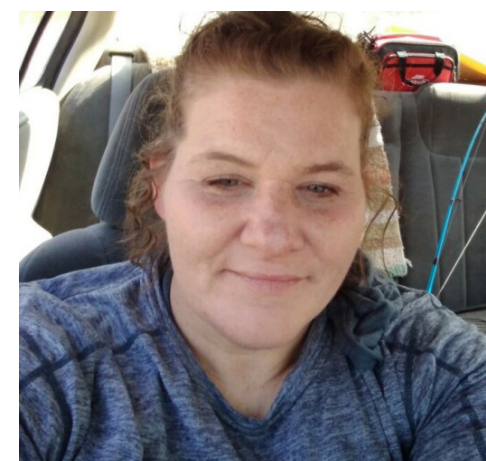
Preceded by: Dan is preceded in death by grandparents Laura Robinson, Benjamin (Bunky) Fairbanks, Stella and Thomas Howard. Uncles Scott Fairbanks, Greg Howard, Robert (Bobby) Howard and Mike Howard. His best friend, and cousin Bernard (BJ) Robinson Jr.

Visitation: Monday May 12, 2025 after 4:00pm at the Inger Community Center Service: Tuesday May 13th, 2025 at 9:00 am at the Inger Community Center

History: Dan was born in Cass Lake and graduated from Deer River High School in 2001 with perfect attendance. In school he excelled in many sports, including football,

basketball, track and baseball. Dan worked for Leech Lake Gaming for 16 years, and owned a small general contracting business, ending his career working with youth in mental health. Dan enjoyed outdoor activities including nature walks, family mushroom hunting and hunting to provide for his family. Dan spent his time away from work with his children, and enjoying their sports including archery, baseball, football and Taekwondo. Dan was often seen with a huge smile and welcoming personality that everybody loved. He'll be remembered and missed by many.

## Jodi Jacobson



Jodi Lynn Jacobson was born September 28, 1975, to Joann Losh and Theodore Jacobson at Grand Rapids hospital. Jodi passed on May 12th, 2025, at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth. Jodi graduated from Bemidji High School.

She had three children she adored: Joseph Nelson, Krissa Jacobson, and Sarah Baker. Jodi loved being outside, fishing, and was a huge dog lover and rescuer. Jodi had the best sense of humor, helped everyone she knew in any way, and was always so giving to her friends and family. Jodi also loved 80s music, arts and crafts, and spoiling her grandson.

Jodi is preceded in death by her mother, Joann Losh, father Theodore Jacobson, and twin brother Jeffrey Jacobson.

Jodi is survived by her son, Joseph Nelson, grandson Joseph Nelson Jr., Daughters Krissa Jacobson and Sarah Baker, Sister Jill Bergstrom, niece Emily Bergstrom, stepfather Lyman Losh, and Chucky Losh, Lindsey White, Becky White, Carla Losh, Stephanie Losh, and Michelle Johnson

A memorial service will be held for Jodi on Saturday May 24th at 2 pm at the Dave Morgan community center in Bena Minnesota, 15085 Old Housing Drive NE.

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

## John Whipple

John L. Whipple, age 70, began his journey to the spirit world on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 in Heron Lake, MN. John was born on May



14, 1955 in Cass Lake, MN, to Margaret Whipple and Robert Cross. He will be remembered by many family members and friends.

A traditional wake will begin at 4PM on Saturday, May 31, 2025, at the Oak Point Community Center and continue until the service at 10AM on Sunday, June 1, 2025 with Mike Needham as spiritual leader. Active pallbearers will be: Aaron Jones, James Dow, Darrell Kingbird, Elliot Whipple, Seneca Whitefeather, Eric Whitefeather. Honorary pallbearers will be his family and friends. Burial will be at the Googleye Cemetery in Oak Point. Arrangements provided by Whispering Pines Funeral & Cremation Service of Walker & Hackensack, MN.

## Ryan Staples Sr.



Ryan "Pye" William Staples Sr. Memengwesii "Little People" of the Maang and Makwa clans, age 37, began his journey to the spirit world on Thursday, May 22, 2025 in Cass Lake, MN.

Pye was born on June 25, 1987 to Dennis Staples Sr and Diane Fineday in Bemidji, MN. From a young age he enjoyed watching and playing sports as an avid competitor, especially basketball, volleyball and softball. Ryan Sr loved to watch UFC and play video games. He had a great sense of humor, always joking and laughing. You could always expect to be greeted this way and everyone gravitated to

him. There was never a dull moment with his infectious laugh! He liked to play cards, dice, and dominoes. Pye was a great helper to anyone in need and had a deep caring for his loved ones.

In 2007, Ryan met the mother of his children, Jaime Leigh Robinson. His pride and joy were his two children, Ryan Jr "Bro" and Ryleigh "Brat" Staples. Later in adulthood, Ryan learned and enjoyed beading by creating earrings, necklaces, rings, and especially medallions. You could always find Pye drinking a Baja Blast, eating Our Family gummy bears, pickles, and Bobbi's Frybread.

Ryan is survived by his children: Ryan Staples Jr and Ryleigh Staples; Parents: Dennis "Helm" (Margaret) Staples and Diane Fineday; Siblings: Jamie Lee (Travis) Staples, Aleigha Fineday, Constance White, James Staples and Emma Staples; Nephew: Brady Gale; Niece: Denelle Staples; Mother of his children: Jaime Leigh Robinson.

He was preceded in death by brother: Dennis "June" Staples Jr; Nephew: Dante Staples; grandmothers: Cecelia "Bone" (Staples) Drouillard and Barbara Fineday; grandfathers: Cecil Ryan, Louis A. Junco, John J Wind Sr, and Gordon "Gabby" Headbird.

A traditional wake will begin at 6pm on Sunday, May 25, 2025 at the White Earth Community Center and continue until the service at 10 am on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 with Spiritual Advisors Zoogii komig and Nin Nay Gaytee Gabow. Active Pallbearers are Travis Gale, Jarret Wind, Reeko Antell, Waus Staples, Corey Drouillard, Alfred Desjarlait, Jacob Morris, Richie Budreau, Danny Drouillard, Nicholas Budreau, and Randy Drouillard. Honorary Pallbearers are Brady Gale, Gordon Fineday, Ivan Wind, Shana Drouillard, Bobbi Norby, Vanessa Budreau, Charlie Wind, Jaime Robinson, Jaymz-Dawn Desjarlait, Patty Staples, Shontel Michaud, and Charles "Chuckie" Kingbird Jr. Burial will take place at the Fineday Burial Grounds in Pennington, MN.

In keeping with a traditional service please no cut flowers (Plants only). Also we ask that young children do not attend. Thank you.

## Melvin Northbird



Melvin Richard Northbird, 75, Wii-ni-si-Mzi-mon meaning "Hair Snake," of the

Eagle Clan, began his journey home, Friday, June 6, 2025 at his home in Bemidji.

According to Melvin's wishes, a Traditional Private Immediate Family Service, under the guidance of Spiritual Leader Alan Hardy, will be held. Interment will be at the Ernest Northbird Family Cemetery in Pennington, MN under the direction of the Cease Family Funeral Home in Bemidji.

He was born on October 31, 1949, in Cass Lake, MN, the son of Ernest and Angeline (Bugg) Northbird. He was raised in Cass Lake, where he attended the Buck Lake Country School until its closure. He attended schools in Bemidji, starting at Central Elementary, and later graduating from Bemidji High School. He was drafted into the US Army, and received an Honorary Discharge after his service. He returned to Cass Lake, MN, from the military, and logged with his father and brother Ronald. He moved to Minneapolis and attended the Dunwoody Institute, where he received his certification as an Electrician. Melvin loved to play basketball, while living in Minneapolis, Melvin and his brother Ron founded and were captains of the Minneapolis Chargers, a local basketball team that played in numerous tournaments across the Upper Midwest. He worked for Minnegasco, and a number of construction companies, before being hired by the Leech Lake Band. He worked for the Leech Lake Band in numerous positions. He also had his own work crew who bid, and did construction and remodeling projects. He was an outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, and harvesting Wild Rice. He enjoyed art, making birch bark crafts and beadwork. He was an avid fan of the Minnesota Twins and the Vikings. He enjoyed classic country music, western movies, older TV comedy shows especially The Andy Griffith Show, and going to the Casino to play Keno. He loved having bonfires with his family. He loved to joke and tease his family, especially his nieces and nephews. Melvin's family would like to extend a special Miigwech to the staff, techs, and nurses at Davita Dialysis of Cass Lake, MN for their care.

He is survived by his: Sisters, Marie (Garry Mason) Northbird, Darlene Cobenais, Janet (Dean Davis) Northbird, Brother, Vernon Northbird, Sister-in-law, Judy Northbird, Sons, Michael and Dylan, Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents Ernest and Angeline Northbird, brothers Ronald Northbird Sr., Gary Northbird, sisters Barbara Paquin, Diana Meyers, and his son Corey Northbird.

## Keely Headbird-Huesers

Keely Nanette Headbird-Huesers, "Nenookaasi" meaning "Hummingbird", age 35, of the Bear Clan and Cass Lake, MN journeyed to the Spirit World on Monday, June 16, 2025, from Essentia Health St. Mary's in Duluth, MN. She was born on January 18, 1990, in Bemidji, MN, the



daughter of Susan Headbird and Charles Huesers.

Keely loved adventure and traveling. She was full of high energy, hardworking, and driven. She enjoyed going to the casino, going for walks, and fishing. She proudly served in the United States Army before an early honorable discharge due to medical. She was a social butterfly, loved cooking, and was known for her steak and lemons. Keely was a fashionista, with a girly aesthetic, who liked to get dressed up and look good. Above all, Keely loved spending time with her 3 daughters. She will be tremendously missed by all who knew and loved her.

Keely is preceded in death by her parents, Susan and Charles; grandparents, Helen and Emmanuel Headbird, Delima and Donald Huesers; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and other family members.

Those Keely leaves behind to forever cherish her loving memory are her 3 daughters, Nantina and Nakomis Fineday, and Rosa Lopez; brothers, Charles Huesers and Jordan (Rosella) Headbird; close aunties, Wanda Croaker and Nancy Cameron; close cousins, Stevie "Rea" (Robert) Thunderhawk and Tommi (Paul) Lindgren; numerous other family members and friends.

A two-night wake for Keely will begin on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. and continue until her 10:00 a.m. funeral service on Friday, June 20, 2025, all to be held at the Mission Community Center, in Mission, MN. Father William "Bill" Butcher will officiate. Those helping to lay Keely to rest are Brad Croaker, William Croaker, Randolph Headbird, Christopher Headbird, Travis Huesers, and Thomas Huesers, with alternates; Michael Headbird, Franklin Wind, Chavez Wind, James Baird, Jon Schneider, and Robert Thunderhawk. Honorary pallbearers are all of Keely's family and friends. Military honors accorded by the Leech Lake Veterans Memorial Honor Guard at Prince of Peace Cemetery in Mission, along with interment.

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

2025 LEECH LAKE  
**MEMORIAL DAY**  
TRADITIONAL POW WOW  
Memorial Day Weekend May 23, 24, 25





### Elder/Disability & Veterans Payments – July 2025

The Elder/Disability & Veteran Payment applications may be submitted to Tribal Assistance starting in June.

Submitted applications are in the process of currently being paid out. Due to the Holiday, there will be no disbursement on July 5. The next disbursement after July 1 will occur on Saturday, July 12. Weekly disbursements will resume after July 12, with completed applications due by 10:00 AM each Friday to be processed for payment the following Saturday. The payment amount has been set at **\$300.00**.

Some important information to be aware of:

- ALL Elder Payments will be applied to the Elder's Rapid Pay card.
- The Rapid Pay card that is active on June 18, 2025, will be the card loaded on July 1.
- If the enrollee's Rapid Pay card was lost, stolen, or misplaced, please call the Rapid Pay Customer Service number at 1-888-727-4314 to request a replacement card.

**Please contact the respective offices if assistance is needed:**

- Tribal Assistance at (218) 335-3626
- District I at (218) 398-3107
- District II at (218) 407-4011 or (218) 839-4760
- District III at (218) 368-0116 or (218) 513-7804
- Twin Cities Area at (612) 729-0554
- Duluth Area at (218) 481-7412

Checks are not an alternative form of payment for this disbursement.

Please be aware that Rapid Pay may require ID Verification (SSN and a current issued ID, such as a Driver's License or a Tribal ID) if you have deposited third-party (PayPal, Cash App, Venmo, etc.) funds to your Rapid Pay account.

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

Your completed application and W-9 form can be returned to Tribal Assistance:

**Via U.S. Mail** to Leech Lake Tribal Assistance, 190 Sailstar DR NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633.

**Hand delivered** to the front desk or the mailbox located outside the Tribal Assistance Office at 115 6th ST NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633 (DQ Building).

**Emailed** to [marissa.ortiz@llojibwe.net](mailto:marissa.ortiz@llojibwe.net) or [sharyl.washington@llojibwe.net](mailto:sharyl.washington@llojibwe.net)

**ELDERS APPLICATION:** <https://shorturl.at/91Hum>

**VETERANS APPLICATION:** <https://shorturl.at/NBq4U>

**FORM W9:** <https://shorturl.at/7eijq>



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56633



# Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court

200 Sailstar Dr. NW  
Cass Lake, MN 56633  
218.335.3682 • 218.335.4418

Honorable Rebecca McConkey-Greene **Chief Judge of Tribal Court**  
Honorable David Harrington **Deputy Judge of Tribal Court**  
Honorable Michael Harrelson **Deputy Judge of Tribal Court**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court**

In Re: Estate of: Peter John Hunt, DOB: 11/23/1953 Decedent

Court File No. CV-24-122

NOTICE  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Peter John Hunt, died September 12, 2024. A hearing was held before the Honorable Megan Treuer, Deputy Judge of the above-named Tribal Court located in the Leech Lake Tribal Justice Center, 200 Sailstar Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 4th, day of November, 2024 at 10:30 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Dwight Jones, surviving child of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on September 12, 2024, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Dwight Jones, 927 Roosevelt Rd. SE Bemidji, MN 56601 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Peter John Hunt, 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: Leo Anthony

Gotchie Sr., DOB: 03/25/1935. Decedent.

Court File No. CV-24-136

NOTICE  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Leo Anthony Gotchie Sr., died November 26, 2001. A hearing was held before the Honorable Megan Treuer, Deputy Judge of the above-named Tribal Court located in the Leech Lake Tribal Justice Center, 200 Sailstar Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 27th, day of January, 2025 at 2:00 p.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Candace Partridge-Gotchie, surviving spouse of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on January 27, 2025, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Candace Partridge-Gotchie, PO Box 463 Deer River, MN 56636, was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Leo Anthony Gotchie Sr., 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: Annette Cloud, DOB: 06/20/1953. Decedent

Court File No. CV-24-157

NOTICE  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Annette Cloud, died March 28, 2024. A hearing was held before the Honorable Megan Treuer, Deputy Judge of the above-named Tribal Court located in the Leech Lake Tribal Justice Center, 200 Sailstar Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 6th, day of January, 2025 at 11:00 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Probate of Will, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Jennifer Cloud, surviving child of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on January 6, 2025, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Jennifer R. Cloud, PO Box 162 Cass Lake, MN 56633, was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Annette 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: Henry William Rushman, DOB: 02/20/1959. Decedent

Court File No. CV-25-22

NOTICE  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent,

Henry William Rushman, died December 8, 2023. A hearing was held before the Honorable Rachel Weis, 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 13th, day of March, 2025 at 11:00 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Probate of Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Selena Rushman, surviving child of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on March 13, 2025, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Selena Rushman, 20564 Jenkins Rd. SE Cass Lake, MN 56633, was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Henry William Rushman, 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: Kenneth Gene Lyons Sr., DOB: 06/04/1938. Decedent

Court File No. CV-24-162

NOTICE  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Henry William Rushman, died January 18, 2019. A hearing was held before the Honorable Rachel Weis, 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 March, 2025 at 11:30 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Probate of Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Kevin J. Lyons Sr., surviving child of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on March 10, 2025, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Samuel J. Lyons, Duluth Bethel, 23 Mesaba Ave. Duluth, MN 55806, was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Kenneth Gene Lyons Sr., 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: Lewis Gilbert Bowstring, DOB: 01/25/1939. Decedent

Court File No. CV-25-33

NOTICE  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Lewis Gilbert Bowstring, died November 27, 2024. A hearing was held before the Honorable Rachel Weis, 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 22nd, day of April, 2025 at

10:00 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Probate of Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Tami Jackson, surviving child of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on April 22, 2025, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Franklin Bowstring, 37112 County Road 39 Deer River, MN 56636, was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Lewis Gilbert Bowstring, 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 Welfare of the Child of: Reba Cross and Michael Brown, Parents.

Court File No. CP-25-06

NOTICE  
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Child/Family Protection Petition, Motion for Emergency Custody and Affidavit in Support of Emergency Custody have been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child of the above-named parents. The next scheduled Court date has been set for May 5, 2025 at 11:00 AM. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for any further questions, and/or copies of the documents. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice by way of publication because you are a party to this proceed-

INDIAN TRUST SETTLEMENT

Are you an Heir of an Individual Indian Money Account Holder?

\$38 MILLION IS AVAILABLE TO PAY HEIRS. THE DEADLINE TO FILE A CLAIM IS JUNE 30, 2025.

A \$3.4 billion dollar settlement was approved in a class action lawsuit, called *Cobell v. Salazar*, that claimed individual Indian land, funds and other assets were mismanaged by the federal government. \$38 million is available to pay heirs and awards could be significant.



Who is eligible?

You are eligible for a money award if you are an heir of one or more of the over 17,000 Individual Indian Money (IIM) account holders whose *Cobell* settlement awards were not distributed. You must submit a claim form with proof that you are an heir. Claim forms can be submitted online or can be downloaded and mailed to the administrator by **June 30, 2025**. More details are available on the website.

Here's what you need.

Heir eligibility proof includes any of the following:

- A state or tribal probate order identifying estate heirs; or
- A last will and testament approved by a probate order; or
- A small estate document from an approved state in accordance with small estate procedures; or
- Documentation showing the appointment of an estate Executor, Administrator, or Personal Representative; or
- A federal probate order that directs distribution of trust funds or trust lands.

A copy of a tribal, or state, or federal probate order is needed to establish whether the Settlement Administrator can pay the heir(s) directly for the estate's Settlement award.

If you do not have a tribal or state probate order but a personal representative or executor has been named for the estate, funds may be released to the representative or executor and they will be responsible for distributing the funds according to the wishes of the deceased Class Member.

You must act quickly.

The deadline to file is June 30, 2025.

After the deadline, all remaining funds will be distributed to the Cobell Scholarship Fund, which is managed by Indigenous Education, Inc.

LEARN MORE

CobellSettlement.com  
800-961-6109

Indian Trust Settlement  
c/o Kroll Settlement Administration  
P.O. Box 5324  
New York, NY 10150-5324

ing. If you fail to appear in these proceedings, the Court may proceed on behalf of the child(ren) by default.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Miranda Wilson and any man who may claim paternity, Parent(s).

Court File No. CP-22-04

NOTICE  
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody has been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the children of the above-named parent(s). 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 July 10, 2025 at 1:30 PM. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may trans-

fer permanent custody of the children, by default, to the individual named in the Petition.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child of: Lillian R. Rushman and Jerome D. Roy, Parents.

Court File No. CP-24-16

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 of the above-named parents. A Review Hearing has been scheduled for May 21, 2025 at 1:30 PM. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration to respond to any questions and/or to obtain copies of the documents. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to

this proceeding. If you fail to appear in these proceedings, the Court may proceed on behalf of the child by default

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Mariza Brown and any man who may claim paternity of minor child, A.W.

Court File No. CP-22-19

NOTICE  
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Petition to Suspend Parental Rights has been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child 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 April 16, 2025 at 1:30 PM. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may act in the best in-

terest of the Child.

LEGAL NOTICE  
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child of: Alicia Immonen and Cody Strandberg, parents of minor child LS, previously known as LT.

Court File No. CP-23-05

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 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 June 4, 2025 at 10:00 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 of: Brandi Lee Brown, and any man who may be the father, Parents.

Court File No. CP-25-02

NOTICE  
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Child/Family Protection Petition, Motion for Emergency Custody and Affidavit in Support of Emergency Custody have been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child of the above-named parents. The next scheduled Court date has been set for February 10, 2025 at 2:00 PM. 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 by way of publication 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 children of Anita Rose Dunn and Lucas Alan Woodward, Parents of the minor children: D.D. (DOB: 03/21/2009) and D.D. (DOB: 06/09/2010).

Court File No. CP-18-47

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 children of the above-named parents. Please Contact the Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for any questions and/or copies of the documents. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682. You are served this notice because you are a party to the proceedings. The next hearing in this matter is April 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may transfer permanent custody of the children.



**Nycklemoe & Ellig P.A.**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**INJURED?  
CALL JOE.**

**Personal Injury, Work Comp.,  
Wrongful Death, Car Accidents,  
Construction Accidents,  
Social Security Disability**

**A LOCAL attorney  
who cares about YOU  
and where WE live.**

**218-736-5673**

## Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Summary of Job Openings

**www.llojibwe.org** | drop off, mail or e-mail documents to:

**Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe - Human Resources**

**190 Sailstar Drive NW - Cass Lake, MN 56633**

**JOBS@LLOJIBWE.NET**

Fax documents to: 1-218-335-3697

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

*Licensed Assisted Living Director ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-003*  
*Clinic Nurse Supervisor (Red Cedar Assisted Living) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-004*  
*Home Healthcare RN (2) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-035*  
*Police Officer (Full time) (3) ~ DPS ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-058*  
*Mental Health Professional (2) ~ Behavioral Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-065*  
*CTSS Mental Health Practitioner (4) ~ Behavioral Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-066*  
*Advanced Practice Provider (Tribal Clinics) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-102*  
*Bailiff (Part time) ~ DPS ~ \$26.50/hr ~ Job Code: 24-118*  
*Police Officer (Part time) ~ DPS ~ \$26.50/hr ~ Job Code: 24-137*  
*Gekinwaa'amaaged (Teacher) ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-173*  
*Associate Child Welfare/Family Wellness Attorney ~ Administration ~ \$41.00/hr or D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-200*  
*Staff Accountant II ~ Finance/Accounting ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-202*  
*Assessor (O.T.P) ~ A&D ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-211*  
*Energy Grants Manager ~ DRM ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-213*  
*Diabetes Registered Dietitian ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 24-214*

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

## Norman Goggleye 2024 Freshman Academy Program Male Student of the Year - Cass Lake / Bena High School



For recognition in his accomplishments on the Honor Roll, leadership rolls within various activities, active in multiple sports in each season including: Football, Basketball, and Baseball. Congratulations Norman!

# Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders June Birthdays



## District I



Peter White  
Calvin Howard  
Lisa Gullickson  
Donna Gotchie  
Mary Bebeau  
Philip Thompson  
Jeffrey Howard

Sheila Gotchie  
Leonard Howard  
Gilbert Applebee Jr.  
Darwin Wilson Jr.  
Brenda Bellanger  
Timothy McDonald  
Sharon Wilson  
Myron Fairbanks

Shelley Wilson  
John Smith  
Constance Wilson  
Todd Tibbetts Sr.  
Michael Lelonek  
Loretta Cloud  
Joseph Whitebird Jr.

From the District I Office Kyle, Amanda & Janelle

## District II

Ronald Burnette  
Charlene Dahl  
Roxanne Drumbeater  
Barbara Shipley

Robert Veilleux  
Kathy Thompson  
Jim Allen  
Beatrice Dunn

Lorraine Johnson  
Ricky Goose  
George Hawkins  
Jean Howard

From the District II Office Steve, Stephanie, & Michelle



## District III\*



Joseph Aitken  
Linda Aitken  
James Allen  
Betty Allen  
Gloria Beaulieu  
Shirley Beaulieu  
Jathon Bebeau  
Kenneth Bellanger  
Tracey Benjamin  
Timothy Boisvert  
Evelyn Brown  
Sue Brown  
Anthony Budreau  
Melvin Burnette  
Annette Cloud  
Charles Dahle  
Carl Day  
Ramona Day  
Tony Donnell  
Muriell Ellis  
Holly Evans  
Aaron Fairbanks  
Ronald Finn  
Kathleen Frazer

Michael Garbow  
Keith Garton  
Barbara Haugen  
John Herrera  
Kenneth Hough  
Ernest Howard  
Evelyn Howard  
Nanette Howard  
Gerald Humphrey  
Michael Johnson  
Beverly Kamrowski  
Francis Kangas  
Matthew Kangas  
Verna King  
Carol Kingbird  
Gregory Kleeb  
Timothy Littlewolf  
Linda Losh  
Sharon Lovelace  
Nina Martin  
Rhonda Michaud  
Edwin Monroe  
Tony Morris  
Janet Northbird

Richard O'Brien  
Michael Olson  
Garr Pemberton  
Phyllis Pendleton  
Diane Pieri  
Dawn Purdy  
Sue Robinson  
Berton Rock  
Ernest Ryan  
Paul Smith  
Rosetta Smith  
Carol Staples  
Connie Taylor  
Kathy Thompson  
Victor Thompson  
Kenneth Tibbetts  
Kevin Wakefield  
Carol White  
Claire White  
Peter White  
Phyllis White  
Rodney White  
Francis Wiggins  
Colleen William

From the District III Office LeRoy, Toni & Kari  
*\*all coupons must be used within Birthday Month\**

## Absolute PCA is Expanding

Absolute PCA is a homecare agency that is currently in the process of expanding to rural and underserved areas as well as reservations in Northern, MN. At Absolute PCA we consider all our employees and caregivers' family. Our office team is on call 5 days a week to make sure everyone is supported every step of the way. Absolute PCA's mission is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to remain independent in their homes, no matter where you are located or what services you need. Our services include: PCA, CFSS, ICLS, Homemaking, Respite, and Night Supervision.

**Absolute PCA**  
HOME CARE  
Agency

**YOUR LOCAL NURSE OWNED AGENCY**  
Great Pay, Bonuses, and Benefits!!

**\*\*Accepting New Clients & Caregivers\*\***

Our Services  
PCA • CFSS • Home Making • Respite • Night Supervision

CALL OR EMAIL US TODAY TO FIND OUT MORE!!!

Absolute PCA  
[www.absolutepca.org](http://www.absolutepca.org)  
218.301.0461  
[info@absolutepca.org](mailto:info@absolutepca.org)

Our mission is to provide a quality and creative approach to individual and community-based exercise programming to ultimately control and prevent diabetes in our community.

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Mon-Fri 7:00 - 6:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 - 12:00pm

### Services we offer

- Cardio, free weights and weight machines
- Orientation for new members
- Fitness assessments
- Personal exercise plans
- Blood pressure and blood sugar checks  
(pre and post exercise or as needed)
- Help obtaining Medical clearance (if needed)
- Group exercise classes
- Pool use at Northern Lights and Cedar Lakes Casino
- Bike Rental for the Migizi Trail

PHONE (218) 335-2081 FAX (218) 335-6252

LOCATION 21 Grant Utley Avenue Cass Lake, MN 56633



# INTRODUCTION TO WELDING



INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO WELD?

Minnesota North College - Customized Training Solutions in partnership with Leech Lake TERO and The Forge is offering two sessions of **Introduction to Welding**

Two 20-hour Classes will be offered:  
July 14 - 17, 2025 & July 21 - July 24, 2025  
9 AM - 2 PM    Location: **The Forge** in Grand Rapids  
Instructors: AWS Certified MN North Faculty

Contact Leech Lake TERO:  
[miguel.reyes@llojibwe.net](mailto:miguel.reyes@llojibwe.net)  
218-839-0002

Contact MN North College with questions and to register:  
[CTS@MinnesotaNorth.edu](mailto:CTS@MinnesotaNorth.edu)  
218.293.6920

**\*All Welding Materials included**

✓ MEDICAL, VISION & PRESCRIPTION INSURANCE

✓ DENTAL INSURANCE

✓ LIFE INSURANCE

✓ LONG & SHORT TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE

✓ ACCIDENT & CRITICAL ILLNESS INSURANCE

✓ 401(K) RETIREMENT PLAN & EMPLOYER MATCHING

✓ PERSONAL FINANCIAL ADVISOR

✓ PAID TIME OFF AND PAID HOLIDAYS

✓ FREE GYM MEMBERSHIP

AT LLBO WE OFFER COMPETITIVE WAGES AND HAVE AN AWESOME BENEFITS PACKAGE!

QUESTIONS: [JOBS@LLOJIBWE.NET](mailto:JOBS@LLOJIBWE.NET)

FIND OUR JOB SUMMARY AND JOB APPLICATION HERE:



[HTTPS://LLOJIBWE.ORG/JOBS/LLBOJOBS.HTML](https://llojibwe.org/jobs/llbojobs.html)



# Annual Niimi'idiwin (Powwow)

## The Healing Power of Heritage

Thursday, August 21 • 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Sanford Bemidji Medical Center

11:30 a.m. **Registration**  
1 p.m. **Grand Entry** (All dancers must be registered and dressed in regalia.)  
**Committee Dance Specials (Juniors, Teens, Adult)**

- Men's and Women's Traditional
- Men's Grass
- Women's Jingle

**Spot Dances**

- Royalty and Veterans encouraged to attend

4:30 p.m. **Community Feast**

Indigenous craft, art and food vendors, contact [stephanie.skaret@sanfordhealth.org](mailto:stephanie.skaret@sanfordhealth.org)

# EVERYONE WELCOME

**Master of Ceremonies:**  
**Darrel Kingbird**

**Arena Director:**  
**Gary Charwood**

Thank you to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe for providing the wild rice and the Red Lake Band of Chippewa for providing the walleye for our community feast.



## SANFORD HEALTH

652-735-539 Rev. 5/25