Greetings Fellow Leech Lake Band Members:

In my continuing effort to keep our Band members well informed about the financial condition of the Leech Lake Reservation I have prepared a mid-year financial report for our Band members review. For this report I will focus on what we commonly refer to as the Bands Direct Funding, i.e. our gaming revenue, state tax revenue and our hunting and fishing rights agreement with the state of Minnesota.

This fiscal year we have budgeted approximately $15,726,000 in Direct Funding to the various programs and services of the Leech Lake Reservation. As a reminder the Leech Lake Reservation's fiscal year is July 1, to June 30, annually. Presently we are in the 8th month of our fiscal year and the magic number to remember is 62%, meaning that programs should have expended no more then 62% of their Direct Funding to date.

Initially I had sincerely hoped based upon our past efforts to improve the financial management of our Direct Funding budgets that I would have some positive and encouraging news to report. However I am sorry to inform you that I do not. Some of our Programs and Divisions continue to struggle with basic financial and budget management.

In February of 2009, in his last State of Indian Nations address, NCAI President Joe A. Garcia highlighted Congresswoman Betty McCollum listens to Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school students describe the conditions of their learning environment's disrepair and sees first hand how excited the student body is regarding a possible school upgrade.

In late January a small contingent of Leech Lake Band Leadership traveled to Washington D.C. for the National Congress of American Indians annual address. While there we took in several meetings on Capital Hill with American Indian advocates and Representatives from Minnesota in order to keep the Leech Lake Band and our issues on the minds of our elected officials. There's an old saying that goes: the squeaky wheel gets the grease, and no where is this more accurate than in Washington D.C. when it comes to pushing agendas and trying to get things done here at home. Our voices being heard and faces being seen in Washington are crucial if we are to advance the Leech Lake cause. We need this constant lobbying effort on a national level – and state level for that matter – so the elected officials who control the budgets for things like education, health care, resource management, culture/language preservation and a host of other issues see our leaders and listens to our leaders talking about issues like how Leech Lake needs a new hospital and a new Bug-O-Nay-Gee-Shig school. So when the time comes for new infrastructure funding they remember we were there talking about dilapidated schools and hospitals that have been on waiting lists for far too long.
On January 22, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced that it has selected 105 of its best and brightest interns and fellows for the NASA Student Ambassador Program. Included in this elite group is Leech Lake Tribal College student, Marie Kingbird-Lowry—the only Minnesotan selected for this honor. NASA managers and mentors nominated the recipients from the hundreds of interns and fellows engaged in research and education opportunities across the agency.

Marie, who completed a summer internship with NASA in 2009, partnered with the late Leann Dick on a research project—“The Potential Impact of the Proposed kV Transmission Line upon Heritage Resources within the Leech Lake Reservation”—which they presented at conferences in Bellingham, WA, Bismarck, ND, and Washington, DC.

As a member of the NASA Student Ambassadors virtual community, Marie will interact with the agency while sharing information, making professional connections, and collaborating with peers. The Student Ambassadors will also represent NASA in a variety of venues and help the agency inspire and engage future interns and fellows. Marie is the daughter of Gordon and Annabell Kingbird of Bemidji.

LLTC Students Named to Who’s Who

The following Leech Lake Tribal College students have been named to the 2010 edition of Who’s Who among Students in American Colleges and Universities, a national program recognizing college students for outstanding leadership, scholarship and service:


Only second-year students with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better qualified for this honor.
DeBahJiMon • February 2010

American Indian Gubernatorial Candidate Forum at BSU
By Chris Haugene

Dr. Don Day, Director of the American Indian Resource Center, as well as the ACLU-MN, Greater MN Racial Justice Project, Wellstone Action Fund’s Native American Leadership Program and Take Action Minnesota played host to an event for gubernatorial candidates in early January at Bemidji State University. The event was a first-time one-of-a-kind staging of candidates who have thrown their political hats into the ring and are trying to secure a DFL party nomination for Governor in this fall’s election.

The evening began with an invocation by Leech Lake Elder Mike Smith and statements from each candidate and proceeded to several round table discussions where each candidate was asked questions and shared opinions on American Indian issues. State gaming played a controversial role as it always will in Indian Country and every candidate made statements on the issue.

Candidates in attendance were: Margaret Anderson Kelliher MN Speaker of the House District 60A, Tom Bakk MN Senator District 06, Mark Dayton Former US Senator, Matt Entenza Former MN House Minority Leader, Susan Gaertner Ramsey County Attorney, Steve Kelley Former MN State Senator, John Marty MN Senator District 54, Tom Rukavina MN House District 05A, R.T. Rybak Mayor of Minneapolis, and Paul Thissen MN House District 63A. We would like to encourage you to research these candidates online as each of them mentioned state gaming in their introductory remarks. Mark Dayton has since said that he will support state gaming if elected as Governor, so, while it is important to participate in events such as these it is also important to keep track of the candidates on the issues as the election nears so we see who is staying the course and who is waffling on the issues.

There were several local representatives in attendance including BSU Council of Indian Student Reps. Petra Neadeau, Anna Goldtooth, Andrea Goodwin, and Greg Wood who were setting an example for other Indian students whose engagement in politics is increasing with each election cycle. Chairman LaRose and District III Representative Whitebird as well as Executive Director Rob Aitken were in attendance from the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe as well.

Meeting Locations:
Open 8:00AM - 8:00PM

District I
Inger- Community Center
Ball Club- Community Center
S. Lake- Community Center

District II
Bena- Old Tribal office
Sugar Pt. - Community Center
Smokey Pt/Kego Lk- Community Center

District III
Cass Lake- Old Tribal Office
Mission- Community Center
Onigum- Community Center
Cass River- Community Center
Oak Point- Community Center

Twin Cities
Mpls American Indian Center
1530 E Franklin

REMINDER TO CANDIDATES
Debahjimon Special Election Edition Coming in March
Submit an Essay 500 words or less on why you are seeking elected office.
Deadline is March 10th
They may be emailed to debahjimon@llojibwe.com or dropped off at our office which is located in the DQ Business Building in Cass Lake, MN. You may also submit a picture to be printed with your Essay or call us at 335.3618 to schedule an appointment to have one taken.

Meet and Greet the Candidates!
For: Secretary/Treasurer & District II Representative

Sunday March 7th
2:00 PM
Bena Community Center

Refreshments and Lunch served
Door Prizes

This event is sponsored by the Bena Local Indian Council
US Census Needs about 1000 people in Bemidji area to fill jobs

The U. S. Census Bureau will hire about a thousand people in the Bemidji area and surrounding counties between now and spring. This strong economic shot in the arm is like having several factories open up in this area! Up to a total of approximately 1,000 people will be on staff during peak times.

“This is the largest civilian mobilization of workers in the history of the United States”
- Dennis Johnson, Regional Director.

These are good paying, temporary jobs for the field positions of Recruiters, Crew Leaders, Field Supervisors, Census Takers and Census Clerks. Amount of pay depends on position and location. Work related mileage is reimbursed. There may be some opportunities for advancement. Positions are available in every community.

The U. S. Census Bureau encourages interested persons to apply for these jobs by calling the Toll Free Jobs Line at 1-866-861-2010.

Census = Money
By Chris Haugene

The U.S. Constitution stipulates that every ten years we count everyone. Our community of American Indians is the nation’s hardest population to count because of language and cultural barriers, travel issues, and a historic mistrust of government institutions and efforts such as these.

Counting everyone is critical; an accurate count means fair access to federal resources and fair representation in state legislatures and the United States Congress. But equally important, is that it determines the annual distribution to states and tribes, and our local communities i.e. children of more than $400 billion in federal funds annually over the next 10 years. This money is based on census statistics and is used for everything from schools and roads to health care for low-income residents, veterans and senior citizens.

Because the American Indian and Alaska Native population is relatively small, every Native person who is counted makes a huge difference in getting the right count which directly results in possible new funding for our areas. Recent studies have shown that for every person not counted, the local community loses more than $1,000 annually. This is funding that goes toward every issue that we face from education, health care, resource management and child care to our elders the Tribal College and beyond.

Additionally, if you are out of work the Census is looking to local populations for workers in your area. Call: 1-800-861-2010 for more information about how to be part of the census.
Raising “Money-Smart” Children

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Development Division will be working with the schools to teach Band member children about financial literacy. One of the first topics will be developing a savings plan.

Learn to Earn Money: Pay a weekly allowance in return for doing family chores like washing dishes, increase the amount as they get older. Help them become young entrepreneurs, i.e., babysitting, pet walking, painting, car washing, tutoring, chores done for neighbors and elders.

Learn to Set Goals: Have them write a wish list and make regular savings deposits toward something they want. Show them how long it will take if they save money every week so they can plan. Consider matching their savings, so they are motivated by reaching goal quicker. Try to let them learn the good feeling of earning something: kids take better care of things they buy with own money than if it is just given to them.

Learn to Save Money: Pay allowances in quarters instead of dollars: have them put 50 cents to savings, 50 cents to decide for themselves (spend or save more). Other sources of money include birthday gifts, pow-wow dance money, gift for grades and attendance, etc. Once a month go together and deposit their savings money with them. Credit unions and banks have special savings accounts for children which help them save.

Learn to Enjoy Life without Spending: Help them find non-commercial places to be with friends. Plan family fun around no-cost activities, such as walks together, picnics, reading books aloud, playing board games, volunteering with seniors, getting books and movies from the library, gardening, inviting friends to a potluck party, starting a community garden plot, etc.

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104 Park Ave North
Park Rapids, MN 56470
(218) 237-4TAX (4929)

www.anytimetaxservice.com

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE
Summary of Job Openings

Closing March 5th, 2010

Finance Division:
File Clerk • Job Code: 10-025
2 FT Program Accountants • Job Code: 10-024

Reservation Services:
PT Custodial Maintenance • Bena • Job Code: 09-135

Open Until Filled

Human Services Division:
Child Protection Case Manager • Job Code: 10-018

Education Division:
3 FT ECD Family Service Advocates • Job Code: 10-020
11 FT ECD Infant/Toddler Teacher • $8.40/hr • Job Code: 10-014
2 FT Infant/Toddler Team Leaders • $10.00/hr • Job Code: 10-013

Full Job Descriptions available at http://www.llojibwe.org

Leech Lake Band Member preference, MCT, and other Native American preference applies. You may request a complete job description for any position listed. All positions require a valid MN driver’s license, current insurance or is insurable (Unless otherwise stated). All positions DOQ unless otherwise noted.

How to apply: Interested parties may come into the Human Resources office to pick up an application or they can download an application from our website at www.llojibwe.org. Interested parties may also send a letter of application, resume, credentials, and transcripts to:

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe HR
115 Sixth St NW, Suite E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

You may also fax your documents to HR, our FAX number is; #218-335-3697, or Email your documents to LLhumanresources@LLojibwe.com.

LLBO Policy: HR must receive your application documents before or no later than 4:30pm on the date the position is scheduled to close. Late applications received after 4:30pm on closing date will not be accepted. Call 218-335-3698 or toll free 1-800-631-5528 for more information.
# LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE
## IN TRIBAL COURT

6530 Highway 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-3682/4418
Traffic Division

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

YOU (THE DEFENDANTS LISTED BELOW) ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the Leech Lake Tribal Court and show cause why you should not be held in Contempt of Court for failure to pay court-ordered fines.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that pursuant to Leech Lake Traffic Code, Chapter, Section 304:

1. If you are found in Contempt of Court, you may be subject to an additional penalty not to exceed $500.00, said penalty for contempt shall be in addition to any fines or other penalties previously assessed by this Court.

2. You may also be subject to one or more of the following enforcement actions without further notice:
   a. Report violation to the State of Minnesota for entry on defendant’s driving record;
   b. Add the fine to the amount defendant must pay to renew or obtain Leech Lake vehicle registration or plates;
   c. Seize defendant’s vehicle registration plates;
   d. Seize the vehicle driven by defendant at the time of the violation;
   e. Suspend defendant’s fishing, hunting, trapping, ricing or other treaty rights within the boundaries and jurisdiction of the Leech Lake Band until defendant pays the fine in full.
   f. Garnish wages by the Leech Lake Band.

Korey Wahwassuck, Judge of Tribal Court.

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**APPEARANCE DATE:** February 16, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defendant</th>
<th>Case No.</th>
<th>Defendant</th>
<th>Case No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armstrong, Sandra Marie</td>
<td>TR-08-100</td>
<td>Ince Jeremy Clyde</td>
<td>TR-02-414</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beaulieu, Bonnie Marie</td>
<td>TR-08-99</td>
<td>Isham, Deborah Ann</td>
<td>TR-07-02</td>
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<td>Bellanger, Beverly Ann</td>
<td>TR-02-367</td>
<td>Isham, Deborah Ann</td>
<td>TR-06-187</td>
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<td>Cloud, Peter James</td>
<td>TR-09-28</td>
<td>Maxwell, Jonathan James</td>
<td>TR-08-784</td>
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<td>Dejarlais, William Gerald</td>
<td>TR-05-39</td>
<td>Moose, Jacklyn Kay</td>
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<td>Fairbanks, Chantelle Lynn</td>
<td>TR-08-87</td>
<td>Robinson, Thomas Alfred</td>
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<td>Gogleye, Sam Joseph</td>
<td>TR-08-102</td>
<td>Rusman, Daniel Joseph</td>
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<td>Gotchie, Robert James</td>
<td>TR-08-118</td>
<td>Swanholm, Scott Leonard</td>
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<td>Harper, Roger</td>
<td>TR-05-83</td>
<td>Tibbetts, Sara Lu</td>
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<td>Wilson, Terrance Joseph, Jr.</td>
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<td>Wind, Tommi Sue</td>
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**APPEARANCE DATE:** March 16, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.

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<td>Birt, Stephanie Ann</td>
<td>TR-09-167</td>
<td>Mellado, Gloria Jean</td>
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<td>Bowstring, Marilyn Kay</td>
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<td>Morris, Susan Lee</td>
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<td>Bryan, Mason Joseph</td>
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<td>Roberts, Karla Rose</td>
<td>TR-04-671</td>
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<td>Finn, Skippie Alana</td>
<td>TR-09-04</td>
<td>Staples, Clarence</td>
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<td>Gale, Matthew Lee</td>
<td>TR-04-758</td>
<td>Wright, Jacquelyn Lee</td>
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<td>Hardy, Jeffrey, Sr.</td>
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**APPEARANCE DATE:** April 20, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.

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<td>Hardy, Howard Maxwell</td>
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<td>Headbird, Peter Lee</td>
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<td>Brown, Jeffrey Damon</td>
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<td>Howard, Stanley Dean, Jr.</td>
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<td>Busse, Dennis Lee</td>
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<td>Johnson, John Albert</td>
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<td>Cross, Mary Ann</td>
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<td>Lindgren, Nathan Joel</td>
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<td>Cubank, Neil Curtis</td>
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<td>Littlewolf, Reba Rae</td>
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<td>Donnell, Jeff Scott</td>
<td>TR-08-71</td>
<td>Littlewolf, Rueben James</td>
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<td>Drift, Deborah Pearl</td>
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<td>Littlewolf, Rueben James</td>
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<td>Losh, Stephanie Dawn</td>
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<td>Maxwell, Patricia Rose</td>
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<td>Fairbanks, Benjamin G.</td>
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<td>Michaud, Suzanna Marie</td>
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<td>Fairbanks, Mark Leo</td>
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<td>Smith, Jeannie Marie</td>
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<td>Goose, Jeanne Louise</td>
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**LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE**

**IN TRIBAL COURT**

6530 Highway 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-3682/4418
Civil Division

Leech Lake Reservation
Housing Authority,
Plaintiff,
vs.
Gordon Dunn,
Defendant.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on June 12, 2009, a Complaint in Unlawful Detainer was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the property with an address of 9315 Gwe We Zance Loop NE, Unit #0518, Remer, Minnesota 56672. A Trial in this matter will commence on Friday, March 5, 2010, at 3:00 p.m., in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom located in the Leech Lake Facility Center, 16126 John Moose Drive NW, Cass Lake, Minnesota, upper level, to address the issue of default by defendant of responsibilities included in the residential lease agreement.

You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding or you are a person whose presence is important to a determination concerning the custody of your children. If you fail to appear in person for this hearing, the Court may enter judgment against you by default.


/s/ Patricia L. Pizzala, Court Administrator
NOTICE OF INTENT TO PROCEED BY DEFAULT

YOU (THE DEFENDANTS LISTED BELOW) ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe intends to proceed by default in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom located at the Facility Center, upper level, 16126 John Moose Drive NW, Cass Lake, MN, with regard to the alleged violation of the Leech Lake Traffic/Conservation Code, occurring within the boundaries of the Leech Lake Reservation.

Violation of this summons is subject to proceedings for contempt of court pursuant to Tribal Code, Title 1, Part VI. The Court may find you in contempt for failure to appear at a court hearing or for failure to follow court orders.

Dated this 8th day of February 2010.
Obituaries

Breyanah Wind

Breyanah Jean Wind, 5 months, of Fargo, North Dakota passed away Sunday, January 3, 2010 at her home.

Breyanah was born July 27, 2009 in Bemidji, Minnesota and raised in Cass Lake, Minnesota, and Fargo, North Dakota. She was very strong, and always high spirited. She loved to watch TV, play with her big sister, eat her toes, play with her rattles, listen to music, go for rides with her papa, meet new people, loved to be held, loved to twirl in her jumper, loved to laugh, talk and be tickled. She was always so energetic, but whenever times got tough she had a way of bringing people together. If she wanted or needed anything she’d never give up, and always remained strong.

Even though she has passed she will be remembered, loved, and missed dearly by many family members who loved her so much.

Breyanah is survived by her mother, Jeanie M. Jones, father, Lance D. Wind, special friend, Gerald A. Cross, sister, Brenda J. Wind, best friend, John Bezhig, special friend, Gerald A. Cross, sister, Jeanie M. Jones, father, Lance D. Wind, Breyanah is survived by her mother, Brenda J. Wind, best friend, John Bezhig, special friend, Gerald A. Cross, sister, Jeanie M. Jones, father, Lance D. Wind, Breyanah.

Emery & Mathew Dahl

Emery Mathew and Mathew Michael Dahl, both 5 month gestations, were brought into the world on January 2, 2010 at the U of M Fairview Hospital, Minneapolis. Though they were with us for only a moment, they will be in our hearts forever. Emery and Mathew are survived by their parents; Alicia Brown and Mathew Dahl, one brother; Ayden Dahl, grandparents; Mike Brown, Barbara Mountain, Jodine Orthman and Virgil Dahl.

wake services will begin at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 12, at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN and continue until the Wednesday service at 3:00 p.m. Pastor Gerald Algiers will officiate and pallbearers will be Sean English, Jodine Orthman, Mike Brown, Sr., Christina Lindbom, Stephanie Dahl and Barbara Mountain.

Arrangements entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN.

Henry Reed

Henry Lewis Reed, 75, of Cass Lake, MN passed away Wednesday, January 13, 2010. He was born on October 26, 1934 to Andrew and Kathryn (Weaver) Reed in Onigum, MN.

Henry enjoyed cooking, fishing, hunting, going to Pow-Wows, building things, landscaping, working on cars, watching sports with the Vikings and the Twins being his favorite and spending time with his friends and family.

Henry is survived by his wife Rose (Dick) Reed, sons Willard Reed (Tammie Adams) of Redwood Falls, MN, Henry Chapman Reed of St. Paul, MN and step-son John Dick of CA; step-daughter Sharon Ramirz of San Antonio, TX; sisters Frances Elmborg of Onigum, MN and Shirley Lindley of Crystal, MN; 29 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Henry was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, three sisters, a son, two daughters and a grandson.

Visitation was held January 16, 2010 at the Oak Point Community Center, Cass Lake and continued until the 1:00 p.m. service on January 18, 2010 at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Onigum, MN. Pallbearers for Henry were Willard Reed, Frank Beaulieu, Roberto Gomez, James Howard, Harold Fier and John Elmborg.

Arrangements entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN.

Brenda Dee Budreau

Brenda Dee Budreau, 49, of Cass Lake, MN, passed away on Saturday, January 30, 2009 at the North Country Regional Hospital in Bemidji, MN surrounded by her loved ones. She was born on June 23, 1960 in Cass Lake, MN to Milton and Loretta (Jones) Budreau. She dedicated the last several years taking care of her significant other, her grandson and nephew. She loved spending time with her children and grandchildren. She also enjoyed reading, attending concerts, playing cards, going to the casino and having family gatherings. Brenda lived her entire life in Cass Lake.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her significant other Robert (Bob) Morgan, daughter; Lena (Gil) Morgan, sons; Robert W. Budreau, Sr. and Eric Budreau, nephew; Elias Budreau, grandsons; Gilbert Littlewolf, Jr. and Robert W. Budreau, Jr.; and grand daughter; Deelia Littlewolf all of Cass Lake, grand daughter Falesha Budreau of Nay-Tah-Waush, 5 brothers, 2 sisters and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers for Brenda will be Elias, Lil Robert, Lil Gil, Deelia, Falesha, Tootie, Hatoe, Uncle Dopey, Lora Hicks, Sue Yates, Becki Pike, Marion Wind, Do-Do, Neva Mueller, Robin Budreau, Marilyn Littlewolf, Kim St. John, Nita Brown, Janice Morgan, Mary Kay and all her nieces and nephews.

Services entrusted to the Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN.

DeBahjiMon

A monthly publication of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.
4,300 published monthly.

Arthur LaRose .................................................. Chairman
Michael J. Bongo ............................................... Sec./Treasurer
Robbie Howe ...................................................... District I
Lyman Losh ....................................................... District II
Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird ................................. District III

Chris Haugene, Managing Editor
Mike Chosa, Graphic Designer
E-mail: debahjimon@llojibwe.com
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115 6th Street NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
Lucille Gamache

Lucille W. Gamache, 95, of Walker, Minnesota, died Sunday, January 17, 2010 at Cass Lake Indian Health Services. Lucille was born February 11, 1914 in Callaway, Minnesota to William and Albina (Bellefuille) Gallagher. She graduated from Mt. St. Benedict Academy in Crookston in 1931 and the Interstate Business College in Fargo in 1933. She began working as a secretary for the War Department at the newly completed Pentagon in 1941. She continued working for the War Department but moved from Washington, D.C. to California and lived there from 1943 – 1945. Lucille married Darwin E. Gamache in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota on January 17, 1946. In 1957 she was crowned the Harvest Queen at Cass Lake's celebration of the Minnesota State Centennial. She was widowed in 1967. In 1971 she began her employment with the Cass Lake School District where she worked as a secretary in the Superintendent's office, retiring in 1981. Lucille was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, and as a devout Catholic was a member of the St. Mary's Altar Society, and served as a board member of St. Charles Catholic Church in Cass Lake. Lucille always treated everyone with respect and kindness, and purposefully looked for strength. She was a tireless worker, always giving her best to others. She was fair minded, and made sure no one was left out. Hundreds of people called her "Grandma," and were influenced by her generosity and inner strength. She was a tireless worker, always growing and canning the produce from her huge garden. Her sense of humor and unselfish spirit will always be remembered as a large part of the legacy she has left.

Lucille is survived by her children; Diane (Neil) Benson, Thomas (Lori) Gamache, Janice Lyons, Elaine Gamache, Deborah (Dale) Cooper, Catherine Lyons, 17 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren, sister, Grace Burns, three sister-in-laws; Beryl Olson, Bernice Coomer, Viola Gamache, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Darwin ("Short"), stillborn daughter, Mary Catherine, granddaughter, Rachael Lyons, two sisters, and four brothers.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 11:00 A.M. at St. Charles Catholic Church in Cass Lake with Fr. Anselm Thevarkunnel, Fr. Paul Larson, and Fr. Lloyd Mudrack concelebrating. Visitation will be Friday, January 22, 2009 from 4-8 P.M. at St. Charles Catholic Church, and one hour prior to services. Interment will be in Pine Grove Cemetery, Cass Lake. The Dennis Funeral Home of Cass Lake assisted the family in making the funeral arrangements.

Jesse Fairbanks

Jesse Allen Fairbanks whose Ojibwe name is "Manido gee-zhik" which means "Great Spirit of the Day," was 19, of Guthrie gently passed away Friday, February 5, 2010 at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth.

Traditional Funeral Services were held Feb. 10, 2010 at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake. Interment next to his biological mother will be at the Porcupine Cemetery in Cass Lake under the direction of the Cease Family Funeral Home of Cass Lake.

Jesse is the son of William and Lorraine Klaus, Fred Fairbanks and Carolyn Oxtara. He was born September 13, 1990 in Bemidji, MN. At 2 years of age his family moved to Guthrie, and Jesse then attended school through the 10th grade at Laporte. Jesse attended several different high schools and eventually graduated from Grand Rapids High School in May of 2009. Jesse loved spending time with family and friends, especially doing outdoor activities. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, going to the races, but his favorite thing to do was shooting his bow. He had won several archery tournaments and was very proud of his archery trophies.

Jesse fit a lot of living into 19 short years and will be sadly missed but always fondly remembered by friends and family.

He is survived by Father- Fred Fairbanks of Cass Lake, Dad- Will Klaus of Guthrie, Mom- Lorraine Klaus of Guthrie, Grandmother – Irene Sherman of Bemidji Grandfather- George Klaus of Rochester, MN Sister- Jessica (Kevin) St. Marie of Laporte, Brothers- Kippy Wilson of Cass Lake Joe (Sherry) Fairbanks of Bemidji Travis (Tara) Oxtara of Bemidji and Numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother- Carolyn Oxtara, grandfather- Donnie Jacobs, Grandmother- Edith Vedbraaten, uncle- Lawrence Adams and aunt – Denise Dahl.

Casketbearers will be John Salazar, Nathan Hazelidine, Devin Wells, Ian Hurd, Derrick Gottchie, Zack Matt with alternates- Joe Fairbanks, Travis Oxtara, Will Klaus and Fred Fairbanks. Messages of condolence may be left at ceasefuneralhome.com.

Josephine Dunn

Josephine Harrison Dunn, whose Ojibwe name is "GiiWiitayaashiikwe" which means "Twirling Wind Woman", 77, of Cass Lake, MN passed away on Friday, February 5, 2010 at her home with her family by her side.

Traditional Funeral Services were held February 9, 2010 at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake with Spiritual Leader Lee Staples.

Josephine was born on October 28, 1932 at Oak Point, MN, the daughter of Amos and Daisy (Blaine) Woods. She lived in the Leech Lake area for 77 years. She attended the Mann School in Oak Point. She went on to work at CHR Health Division from 1969 to 1996, and then with the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School as an Ojibwe Language Interpreter for the NiiGaane program from 2007 to 2009. She married Richard John Dunn in 1962 and they were together until he died on March 11, 2000. She really loved playing bingo, sewing quilts, and socializing with friends. She made some of the finest fry bread at Pow-wows. She was loved by many, young and old.

She is survived by her 4 Daughters, Irene Harrison, Deb (David) Fairbanks, Mona (Kyle) Dunn, Cheryl (Rowa) Dunn Son, Erni (Val) Dunn Brother, Henry (Veda) Harrison Special Granddaughter she raised, Raeanne Dunn, And a namesake granddaughter- Kaylani-Amarie Hanson 5 Grandchildren, 13 Great-Grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Amos and Daisy (Blaine) Woods, her husband Richard John Dunn, and her brother Frank Woods. Honorary Casketbearers will be all of her numerous friends.

Active Casketbearers will be: Kyle Skenandore, Dennis Harrison, Kyle Dunn, Shane Dunn, Elden Gooden Dunn, and Gordon Harrison. Messages of condolence may be left at ceasefuneralhome.com.

Kathleen Hurd

Kathleen “Kathy” Margaret Hurd, 44, of Cass Lake, MN, passed away in her sleep Saturday, February 6, 2010 at her home. Kathy was born October 28, 1965 in Bemidji, MN to Robert Sr. and Bernice (Morris) Hurd.

She was preceded in death by her father, sister Patricia Morgan, brothers Jake Hurd, Sr. and Lowell Fisher, special aunt Barb White and one uncle Roland Morris.

She was a devoted mother and foster mother. She was a Personal Care Attendant for Bernice, through the Circle of Life. Kathy had a good sense of humor, always joking around. She loved to go fishing, play bingo, attending pow-wows and being with her family. She especially loved spending time with her son, daughter, and mother.

She is survived by her husband Shannon White of Cass Lake, sons; Lucas (Carissa) White of Cloquet, Eugene Lohnes and William Lohnes both of Cass Lake, daughters; Patricia (Brandon) Hurd and Taydria White, both of Cass Lake, brothers; Darrell Ryan, Robert Budreau, Terrence (Julie) Morris, Louis Fisher, Robert Hurd, Jr. all of Cass Lake, brother Samuel Morris of Minneapolis, sisters; Cindy (Vern) Hurd, Debbie Jones and Rhonda (Tim) Hurd all of Cass Lake, special niece Angie, other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Services were held Thursday at the Vet’s building. Spiritual leaders will be Rev. John Rock and Lay Leader Shannon Avery. Pallbearers for Kathy will be Darrel Ryan, Terrence Morris, Robert Hurd, Jr. Samuel Morris, Brandon Murray, Alex Whitefeather, Sr. and Archie LaRose. Interment will be held in the Prince of Peace Cemetery in Cass Lake, MN.

Arrangements are entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN.
Proclamation City of Walker

Whereas, American Indians have participated with distinction in United States military actions for more than 200 years. Their courage, determination, and fighting spirit were recognized by American military leaders as early as the 18th century.

And Whereas, It is estimated that more than 12,000 American Indians served in the United States military in World War I. More than 44,000 American Indians, out of a total Native American population of less than 350,000, served with distinction between 1941 and 1945 in both European and Pacific theaters of war. Battle-experienced American Indian troops from World War II were joined by newly recruited Native Americans to fight Communist aggression during the Korean conflict. The Native American's strong sense of patriotism and courage emerged once again during the Vietnam era where more than 42,000 Native Americans, 90 percent of them volunteers, fought in Vietnam. Native Americans saw duty in Grenada, Panama, Somalia, and the Persian Gulf and Native Americans continue to serve today in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the globe.

Whereas, Native Americans have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups. The reasons behind this disproportionate contribution are deeply rooted in traditional American Indian culture.

Whereas, An American Indian warrior is to have physical, mental, and spiritual strength. A warrior must be prepared to overpower the enemy and face death head-on.

Whereas, Warriors are honored - honored by their family and their tribe. Before going into service and upon their return, warriors are recognized by family and community. Recognition takes place through private family gatherings, or through such public ceremonies as tribal dances or intertribal ceremonies.

Whereas, the warrior seeks wisdom. Wisdom, as used in this context, means the sum total of formal learning and worldly experiences.

Whereas, the requirements for successful military service -- strength, bravery, pride, and wisdom - match those of the Indian warrior.

Therefore I, Bradley J. Walhof Mayor of Walker, do hereby declare Sunday January 10, 2010 as Leech Lake Honor Guard and American Legion Post 2001 day in the City of Walker in recognition for their contribution of service to country, tribe, and our community.

Bradley J. Walhof
Dated 12/29/09
Mayor of Walker, MN

Veterans Upward Bound Program

Bemidji State University Veterans Upward Bound Program is a free grant funded TRIO program provided by the U.S. Department of Education. The program is designed to help veterans improve their academic skills so they can enroll in and be successful in college or other post secondary schools.

The Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) Program at Bemidji State University was recently funded for the next four years. The program is housed at Sanford Hall on the campus of BSU, however, we will help veterans prepare for any post-secondary institution they choose to attend.

VUB staff will assist veterans in improving and strengthening their academic skills through free tutoring and classes in areas of math, reading, English, science, computer basics and foreign languages. The staff will also help veterans by providing academic assessment testing, career exploration and guidance, applying for financial aid, all at no cost to the veterans. The hours and days of service are flexible, with veterans being able to study at their own pace and according to their own schedules.

Certain eligibility requirements are in place: Participants must meet the low income guidelines and/or be a potential first generation college student. Participants must have at least 180 days of active duty, unless released for medical reasons. Participants can also qualify if they had been a member of a reserve component called to active duty for a period of more than 30 days, or be a member of a reserve unit who served on active duty in support of a military operation on or after 09/11/01. All discharges qualify except dishonorable. The veteran must be a potential first generation college student (meaning that neither parent completed a four-year degree) OR meet low income guidelines.

Please contact the Bemidji State Veterans Upward Bound Office at 218-755-2559 or e-mail wpender@bemidjistate.edu for additional information and to complete an application. We would be happy to visit with any interested veterans.

Free services include:

- Assessment of academic skills
- Career/college exploration & advising
- College/Financial Aid applications
- English, math and science instruction
- Help with study and computer skills
- Individual tutoring and mentoring

The program is designed to help veterans improve their academic skills so they can enroll in and be successful in college or other post-secondary schools. The veteran must be a potential first generation college student OR meet low income guidelines.
Greetings! In the time of the namabini giizis

My name is Geeewaydenokwe, also known as Dr. Debra Meness the medical Director at Cass Lake Hospital. I am writing an update of IHS to be printed in the DeBahjiMon for the benefit of the Leech Lake community.

I arrived to Cass Lake a little more than one year ago. At that time the hospital had a shortage of doctors, no medical director, and a closed inpatient unit. I heard from many patients that there was much frustration about not being able to get an appointment in the clinic. I also heard about the long waits in the urgent care clinic and then seeing a parade of unknown temporary doctors once you were seen. There seemed to be two separate health systems on the reservation and a view that the IHS system was not responsive to the wishes of the community.

Then and now I see my role to restructure a health system that works closely in collaboration with the tribal health and social programs. We now work more together on community health issues. We openly share and dialogue and are creating a co-sharing rather than a competitive environment. We see our role at IHS as one in which we are here to shore up and strengthen the services at the tribal community clinics wherever needed. We are putting a children’s dental clinic in the grade school. We have also hired a mental health therapist to help with people requesting counseling/therapy. Also to provide services not provided in the tribal clinics such as dental, optometry, podiatry, physical therapy Diabetes education, nutrition, on-site pharmacy, Lab, x-ray, mammography, ultra sound and audiology.

I am pleased to state that the inpatient unit is open and here to serve the needs of the people who need admission when they are to sick to be home. We are proud of the special attention and caring we can provide to community members who find themselves as patients in the ward of the hospital. We are also strive to make family visitors feel welcomed when they are visiting family who have been admitted to the hospital. Equally important we are proud to care for those Leech Lake people who are getting ready to journey to the next world and need medical help that a hospital can provide. As an initial recognized community effort we have signed an agreement with the Beltrami Hospice organization.

We have expanded services into the alternative medicine area. We now provide osteopathic manipulation, provided by Dr. Meness to adjust and align your body. This form of holistic medicine can help decrease pain, and improve mobility. It is for all ages. Karen Davis, Our mental health therapist/counselor is incorporating flower essences that help with emotional pain and insecurities while getting talk therapy. If you are receiving talk therapy you can also get massages to help release emotional issues in the tissues of the body. We also now have acupuncture that is being provided in the clinic by Dr. Pittman.

We can continue to provide adult medicine for issues such as diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, thyroid issues and cancer, to name a few. We provide children and family medicine for health maintenance, immunizations, developmental children’s issues, smoking cessation, sports physicals, Women’s medicine for women’s issues, and prenatal care. We have specialty medicine clinics for OB-GYN, nephrology (kidney/dialysis) and surgery clinics. We also have a three bed Emergency department and a busy urgent care, which are open 24/7 365 days a year.

We are working to establish a constant and regular medical staff that includes Dr. Salter, Dr. Guimaraes (accepting new patients), Dr. Rith-Najarian, Dr. Heap-Chester (who works primarily in the tribal clinics), Tam Mahaffey (accepting new patients) and Sandra Erickson (accepting new patients), Amanda Pederson Nurse practitioners and Diane Bohn nutritionist, Brian Hudson optometrist, Paul Schaffer, physical therapist and my self Dr. Meness. We have hired Dan Lilliquist, David Pecora and John Diab in the ER/Urgent Care, in addition to Deb Reynolds. We have hired Al Rudnick, podiatrist, and Karen Davis, LICSW . Dr. Wang and Dr. Pittman have returned and both are accepting new patients. Roleen Walgenbach has retired and returned to Iowa. In dental we have Dr. Larson, Dr. Boza and Dr. Ellis and Debra Salulka, dental hygienist.

Getting patients in for scheduled appointments continues to be a challenge for the patients as well as scheduling by the hospital. We will keep working on this issue. Future plans include hiring a pediatrician. We plan to expand services for children and include children’s mental health and osteopathic medicine for children.

We are striving to improve the work environment inside the hospital. We are encouraging good will and respect to each other and to translate a good attitude, service and respect always to the community of Leech Lake.

Miigwech

Dr. Debra Meness
Medical Director
Lobbying Effort
Continued From Page 1

the need for a summit with Tribal Leaders and Obama administration officials including the President himself. On November 5, 2009 newly elected President of the National Congress of American Indians and Garcia successor Jefferson Keel thanked President Obama for living up to his campaign promise for holding the White House Tribal Nations Conference.

It is through efforts such as these where the NCAI’s constant presence in Washington D.C. helps carry American Indian issues to the forefront of the national political stage. And with Leech Lake’s own voice represented within the NCAI in Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, who was elected as a Regional Alternate Vice-President for the mid-western Tribes, there is an even more localized voicing of issues and concerns at the national level. So we are seeing promises being followed through with in President Keel attending and speaking for American Indian issues at the Tribal Nations Conference, and with Rep. Whitebird in his lobbying efforts in D.C. and voicing his opinions regarding Leech Lake and the issues we face here. Furthermore, we are seeing results from our efforts in Washington D.C. and not just through the NCAI – though their constant voice is crucial for Indian country – we are now seeing issues pressed at a Congressional level.

In October of 2008, then senate hopeful Al Franken sat down with me during his campaign stop in Cass Lake and we discussed a couple of issues that concern Leech Lake. We talked about Indian issues being easily forgotten after being talked up on the campaign trail and we talked about the disrepair that our Bug-O-Nay-Gee-Shig school is in, as well as health care and natural resources, to name just a few. Mr. Franken looked at me towards the end of the interview and said that he couldn’t wait to join the Senate and speak to these issues on a national level.

Dear Senator Franken:

It is with much sadness and regret that I find myself compelled to write this letter. For the past year and a half the Leech Lake Reservation Tribal Council has attempted to lobby Congress in hopes of securing funding for the construction of a new high school for our children.

In the process we have been patient but along the way we have continuously been given false information by the BIA/BIE. In numerous meetings with officials from the BIA/BIE we have been told that the Bug-O-Nay-Gee-Shig School was on this list or that list for new school replacement. In one meeting we were told that the Leech Lake Reservation was 3rd on what I can only characterize as a BIA/BIE mythical list and then suddenly 64th on another replacement list. As this has continued to play out our children are left to attend school in a substandard, rodent infested poll barn building.

As a people we have been asked to give up all that we are, our culture, our history, our language, our spirituality and religion and our land base. As reference I only need to mention the proposed Nelson Act Settlement as yet one more example of how the Leech Lake Reservation is again asked to bear the burden and make further sacrifices so that others may benefit.

During this time we are asked to break the cycle of poverty and dependency through education yet we are afforded just enough resources by the BIA/BIE to ensure our failure and our children are forced to attend school in an environment that can hardly be characterize as conducive to learning. Sadly as a nation and country we can appropriate billions of dollars annually on war and conflict while our children are left to continue to suffer in poverty and despair.

115 SIXTH STREET, NE  •  CASS LAKE  •  MINNESOTA  •  56633-3428
Office: 218-335-8200  •  Fax: 218-335-8309
www.llojibwe.com
During our meetings in Washington D.C. Leech Lake Band leaders met with Senator Franken’s staff and mentioned some of these same issues (health-care, education, and the Bug-O-Nay-Gee-Shig school’s state of disrepair) to the good Senator’s staff during their meeting. The very next day we sat in on a U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Hearing where Senator Franken mentioned Leech Lake, specifically the Bug-O-Nay-Gee-Shig school inquiring where our school was on the BIA's list of upgrades and new construction. Senator Franken asked Donald Laverdure - who works for the Bureau of Indian Affairs - about this list of schools that are to be slated for repair or new construction. Mr. Laverdure mentioned that the list had been sent over to Mr. Franken’s office, and after a brief consultation with some of his staff that were in attendance Senator Franken said that the list had not been delivered nor had his staffers seen any such documentation from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in recent days. Mr. Franken also mentioned this situation to Lillian Sparks who is President Obama’s nomination for Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans at the Department of Health and Human Services. “Transparency and accountability is very high on my list of priorities,” said Miss Sparks. “Making sure information is accessible and readily available for our constituents, for our grants and for our Tribal governments is important. It will certainly be one of my top priorities, if confirmed, to make sure we have all of the information available to both members of Congress but also to our grantees and those that we serve. And I pledge to continue working with you and your Tribes to make sure that we receive the information needed with regards to where the schools are on the list.”

It’s one thing to hear words from candidates during the campaign, but to hear them echoed during a Senate hearing brings the political process to a place where we as a Band have been
Lobbying Effort
Continued From Page 13
Looking to go for a long time. And those of us who supported Senator Franken should know that we made the right decision, and if you think you were wrong just ask yourself if Norm Coleman would be sitting on the Indian Affairs Committee speaking on behalf of Leech Lake and other Minnesota Bands. It’s a nice surprise to see someone live up to their word in the world of professional politics, and as a part of society largely forgotten within the national view this should bring every American Indian in Minnesota a sense of achievement and hope with regard to Senator Franken. What is encouraging to me when I write about Senator Franken or NCAI President Keel or even our own leadership here at Leech Lake, is that I am not only hearing the promises being made, but I am seeing efforts from our elected leadership to try and bring our issues into places like the U.S. Senate and the National Congress of American Indians and to the State Legislature. It’s happening; our leaders are striving to do the things they said they would in order to bring their vision of a better place home with them when they return from lobbying for us, be it on a Tribal, State, or Federal level. What is going to be difficult is to keep these officials on their toes by keeping Leech Lake’s voice a constant presence in these places so we are remembered when the time comes to allocate funding for new hospitals and schools.

Temporary Employment Program
Announces 2010 Rates/Fees

Spring/Summer
Lawn mowing, Raking-
Small-$20.00
Medium-$40.00
Large-$60.00
*fee includes leaf removal, if necessary

Brushing-
$100.00 per acre, plus mileage reimbursement @ $.60/mile
*removal of brush does include a fee of $25.00 per truck load

Garbage only-
$25.00 per truck load or $5.00 per bag, all garbage bags must be provided by tenant or there is charge for each bag provided by the program, $1.00 per bag. Any other miscellaneous items are subject to fees per item, ask for details

Winter
Snow shoveling-(driveways)
Small- $15.00
Medium- $25.00
Large- $35.00

Snow removal-(roofs)-$25.00

Miscellaneous Labor- Painting, construction, etc.
Rates will vary per job

*Elderly/Disabled are NOT required to pay a fee, services are provided at no charge
*All fees are to be paid in FULL before services are provided
*Payroll deduction is available

Financial Report
Continued From Page 1

As the Secretary Treasurer it is my duty to continue to stress the need and importance for proper fiscal management. Unfortunately some of our programs continue to exhaust their Direct Funding budgets first as opposed to their Federal and State grants. When we manage our limited assets and resources in this manner it means that we have less resources for other Band member services such as increasing our tax re-bate which we have the capacity to do provided we do a better job of managing our Direct Funding resources.

That said our current Direct Funding by program year to date is as follows:

Public Works Division:
Constituent Services 72% $280,000 (Over Budget to Date)
Well & Septic 86% $157,000 (Over Budget to Date)
Well Drilling 79% $23,000 (Over Budget to Date)
Operations & Maintenance 80% $71,000 (Over Budget to Date)
Heavy Equipment 78% $62,000 (Over Budget to Date)
Solid Waste 97% $168,000 (Over Budget to Date)

Division of Resource
Management Administration: 73% $38,500 (Over Budget to Date)

De-Bah-Ji-Mon 78% $39,000 (Over Budget to Date)
Veterans Services 88% $24,000 (Over Budget to Date)
Summer Youth Employment 69% $12,000 (Over Budget to Date)
Tribal Referral 64% $17,000 (Over Budget to Date)

Total to Date: $891,000 (Over Budget to Date)

The bottom line is that this is simply unacceptable and we must begin to immediately improve the financial management of our various program budgets, if not then those responsible must be held accountable.

An additional concern is the fact that we spent approximately $700,000 on the purchase of wild rice this past fall. While this was a direct benefit to our ricers and helped keep the price of rice up, it was a last minute decision by the Tribal Council and as such we did not plan or budget resources for this expenditure nor do we have a market for the resale of the rice. I characterize this as a ready, shoot, aim business philosophy. The end result is that we now have approximately 150,000 lbs. of finished rice and we are now scrambling to find suitable markets for resale in hopes of recapturing the $700,000 that we expended on the purchase of the rice.

Recently I meet with fellow Leech Lake Band member Dennis Banks, who has contacts in Japan and has graciously offered to try an assist us in finding a short and hopefully long term market for the resale of this rice. However until such time as we resell the rice we have an additional revenue short fall of $700,000 in our 2010 budget.

An additional revenue short fall has also been created through the sale of Seneca cigarettes. Essentially the State of MN alleges we are selling the Seneca cigarettes without collecting state taxes we are accused of being in violation of the State Sales Tax Agreement. This agreement has been in place since the mid 70s. Because of this situation the State of Minnesota has with-held the first two quarterly sale tax reimbursement payments to the Leech Lake Reservation for gas, cigarettes and...
liquor which I estimate to be approximately $562,000 for the first half of fiscal year 2010. To date we have generated approximately $138,000 in tribal tax revenue from the sale of the Seneca cigarettes.

This is a highly complex issue and we are presently engaged in discussions, dialog and negotiations seeking both a political and administrative solutions. While I am hopeful that we can reach a settlement with the State of Minnesota on this issue and the tax rebate owed to the Reservation will ultimately be paid, I can not say this for certain and we could very well be headed for a long and protracted legal battle. As I stated earlier this is a very complex issue but is yet one more example of how we failed to fully analyze the potential impact of our decision. The end result is that we are now facing yet another revenue short fall exchanging approximately $562,000 in guaranteed tax revenue for $138,000 in cigarette tribal tax revenue.

As a result of these factors, over spending of our Direct Funding budget $891,000, the unplanned purchase of $700,000 worth of wild rice, and the temporary loss of the State Tax reimbursement payments of $424,000 we have created an overall revenue shortfall of $2,015,000 to date. We have five months left in the fiscal year and needless to say we must recapture this revenue by discontinuing the practice of over-spending our program budgets, find suitable markets for the resale of our wild rice, and resolve the standing tax dispute with the State of Minnesota.

The final item that I would like to cover is to provide you with an up-date on the number of Band members assisted on a monthly basis by the Secretary Treasurer’s office. At the quarterly meeting last month Richard Johnson, raised the question as to why the Secretary Treasurer had two assistants, a very good question. To answer this question, unlike the other Tribal Council positions, the Secretary Treasurer position has a number of specific job duties to include safe guarding the Band’s assets and resources, budget management, supervision of the Accounting Department, management of information released to the public, etc. and of course meeting with Band members when they have issues or problems. As part of my monthly report I have decided to also include Band member office visits.

For the month of January 2010, I had 104 office visits from Band members seeking assistance with various personal issues. 23 Band members were seeking employment of which we were able to assist 6 with gaining immediate employment at an average hourly wage of $8.50 hour. The remaining 17 are either awaiting interviews or still searching for employment. We had 14 Band members seeking financial assistance with emergency health related issues and 71 Band members were seeking assist with various financial and utility related issues to included homelessness, housing issues, utility bills, and a host of other personal related issues. Overall I was able to assist 71 Band members requesting financial assistance ranging from $300 to $15.00.

As I stated I have two assistants, Nissa Peltier, deals with all of the employment related issues assisting with getting Band members interviews and following up on their progress and status. Tera Wilson is my Administrative Assistant and her primary duties and functions are maintaining my daily schedule, processing requests for financial assistance, taking and processing all Tribal Council minutes and resolutions, processing messages from Band members and in general trying to keep me organized and on target, which is no easy task. Any of our Band members who have stopped by my office clearly see that it is a very busy place and we try to do our very best to meet the needs of our Band members and make them our top priority. To the degree possible we try our very best to help our Band members provided they are making an attempt to help themselves. Our only limitation is limited resources and I do try and be as resourceful as I can be in finding resources to help our Band members, however I would like to remind our Band members that in terms of limitations, each Council member has a limited budget of $3,300 per month to provide emergency assistance to our Band members. Once we reach this budgeted amount our line items are shut down for the remainder of the month.

Because of the workload and the need to better serve our Band members is my primary reason for having two assistants.

Should anyone have any questions regarding my report or any other questions related to the Leech Lake Reservation, please feel free to contact me at your convenience. I may be reached at (218)-308-0704.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Bongo
Secretary/Treasurer
Leech Lake Band Of Ojibwe
Leech Lake Tribal Council  
Special Meeting  
November 12, 2009  
Tribal Chambers  
Cass Lake, Minnesota

Chairman Arthur “Archie” LaRose called meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

Present: Robbie Howe, Lyman Losh, Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, Michael Bongo and Archie LaRose.

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Ribs Whitebird to approve agenda with additions. Carried 4-0-0.

Old Business:

Motion by Ribs Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve minutes for October 22, 2009. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Ribs Whitebird, second by Robbie Howe to deny Ted Bogda resolution. Carried 4-0-0. Ted Bogda to work through Frank Bowstring.

New Business:

Motion by Robbie Howe, second by Ribs Whitebird to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-83 concerning Leech Lake Housing Authority Homeless Programs. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Ribs Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-84 concerning Hauling Enbridge Row Pine & Aspen to Mill and Hardwoods to a Single Dropsite in Cass Lake. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Mike Bongo, second by Robbie Howe to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-85 concerning Funding for Forestry Technician Wages, Fringe & Indirect. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Ribs Whitebird to table Tobias Shotley resolution. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Robbie Howe, second by Lyman Losh to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-86 concerning Mental Health Professional License. Carried 3-0-1. (For the record Mike Bongo is silent).

Merge Health & Human Services. Mike Bongo will not support this resolution. Lyman Losh will also not support this resolution. Robbie Howe concerned about community clinics. Mike Bongo wants input from everyone in the Health Division and Human Services Division before agreeing on moving forward. Ribs supports approving resolution.

Motion by Ribs Whitebird, second by Robbie Howe to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-87 concerning the Merger of Health Division and Human Services Division into the Health & Human Services Division. Carried 2-2-1. (For the record Robbie Howe has would like to change/delete the 8th whereas). Archie supports resolution. Breaks the tie. Carried 3-2-0.

Land Resolutions:

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Ribs Whitebird to approve the following Home site leases: 
LD2010-65 concerning Theodora Redwing, new lease, Football Lake area; 
LD2010-66 concerning Carol Roy, rescind Resolution No. LD08-92, North Cass Lake area; 
LD2010-67 concerning Michael P. Lemon, new lease, North Cass Lake area; 
LD2010-68 concerning Kelly Anderson, rescind Resolution No. LD03-78, South Cass Lake area; 
LD2010-69 concerning Jeanne Goose, rescind Resolution No. LD06-219, South Cass Lake area; 
LD2010-70 concerning Angeline Losh, new lease, South Cass Lake area; 
LD2010-71 concerning Alana Gross, new lease, South Cass Lake area. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Robbie Howe, second by Lyman Losh to approve two items on agenda. Carried 3-0-0.

Discussion: Sarah Waybenaik lakeshore lease. Allow Robert Michaud to live in household which will be go back to Leech Lake if he were to move. Bill of Sale for Robert Michaud. Discussion: John Smith lease.

Other:

Motion by Robbie Howe, second by Lyman Losh to table New World Systems. Carried 4-0-0.

Shingobee Project tabled until Monday work session.

Motion by Ribs Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to transfer and demote Doris Jones. Carried 2-2-1. Archie breaks tie. Carried 3-2-0. Put on administrative leave, no supervisory authority.

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Ribs Whitebird to terminate Emily Bakken. Carried 3-1-0. (For the record Mike Bongo opposed. Bernadette Gotchie to be added to next agenda for possible hire on Emily Bakken position).

Motion by Ribs Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Carried 4-0-0.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that this is a true record of the Leech Lake Tribal Council, Special Meeting, held on November 12, 2009 at Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Michael J. Bongo, Secretary/Treasurer

Leech Lake Tribal Council  
Special Meeting  
December 7, 2009  
Tribal Chambers  
Cass Lake, Minnesota

Chairman Arthur “Archie” LaRose called meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

Present: Archie LaRose, Michael Bongo, Lyman Losh and Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird.

Leech Lake Tribal Council  
Special Meeting  
November 12, 2009 – Meeting #2  
Tribal Chambers  
Cass Lake, Minnesota

Chairman LaRose called meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

Motion by Robbie Howe, second by Lyman Losh to approve two items on agenda. Carried 3-0-0.

Present: Arthur “Archie” LaRose, Robbie Howe, Lyman Losh and Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird.

Absent: Michael Bongo

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Robbie Howe to approve Jerry Chizek Contract extension to June 2010. Carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Robbie Howe, second by Ribs Whitebird to approve full time new hire of Bernadette Gotchie, Nursing Program. Carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Robbie Howe, second by Ribs Whitebird to adjourn. Carried 3-0-0.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that this is a true record of the Leech Lake Tribal Council, Special Meeting, held on November 12, 2009 at Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Michael J. Bongo, Secretary/Treasurer

Leech Lake Tribal Council  
Special Meeting  
December 7, 2009  
Tribal Chambers  
Cass Lake, Minnesota

Chairman Arthur “Archie” LaRose called meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

Present: Archie LaRose, Michael Bongo, Lyman Losh and Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird.
Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve agenda with the deletions and additions. Carried 3-0-0.

Old Business:
- Employees who received any raise after July 1, 2009 will not receive the Cola.
- Archie LaRose recommends 2.5% raise retro to July 1, 2009.
- Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird to approve Child Support

Motion by Mike Bongo to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-92 concerning 2.5% raise to July 1, 2009. Carried 3-0-0. (For the record Mike Bongo opposed).

Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird recommend put Enbridge dollars in bank.

Mike Bongo opposed.

-Retro check to be ready December 17, 2009.

New Business:

Human Resources: 7 new hires, 1 transfer, 3 increases approved (Kelly Anderson will go back to $10.00 when April returns, 1 demotion approved, 1 decrease approved, 8 separations approved.

Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve Mutch’s Forestry Service Contract. Carried 3-0-0.

Discussion: Duluth Local Indian Council, Che-We EPA spill, Enrollments (rebate checks).

Motion by Mike Bongo, second by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-92 concerning Enbridge Energy Right of Way Timber (firewood) provided to the Leech Lake Reservation. Carried 3-0-0.

Discussion Band credit card, Bob Goggleye.

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird to approve agenda with additions. Carried 2-0-0.

New Business:

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-99 concerning Waiving Sovereign Immunity for Army Corps of Engineers Section 569 Project. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Robbie Howe to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-96 concerning Purchase of Truck for Well & Septic Program through the First National Bank of Bemidji. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-100 concerning Sanctioning the Anishinabe Bison Project. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-97 amending Tribal Council Resolution No. 2008-112 concerning Leech Lake Limited Partnership #6 A/K/A Leech Lake Homes VI. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-98 concerning Purchase of Truck for Well & Septic Program through the First National Bank of Bemidji. Carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Lyman Losh, second by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-101 to License (Rule 31) Safe & Sober at Schley, a Safe, Culturally Conducive Transitional Housing Facility for Native Americans within Leech Lake Reservation. Carried 4-0-0.

New Business:

Tribal Council Resolutions:

Motion by Robbie Howe, second by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2010-93 concerning Funding for Forestry Snowplow and Tires. Carried 4-0-0.
February 23, 2010

Chairman Arthur LaRose
Leech Lake Tribal Council
115 Sixth St. NW Ste. E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Dear Archie,

We are writing on behalf of ACLU-MN, Greater MN Racial Justice Project, to thank you for your leadership this past year on issues of racial and economic equity.

Organizing Apprenticeship Program, and ACLU-MN, GMRJP would like to invite you to a press briefing on the Legislative Report Card on Racial Equity to be held this Friday afternoon, February 26th, 2010, at the Bemidji City Hall meeting room, 317 4th St NW. Gathering will begin at 3:30pm, with the press briefing from 4:00-5:00pm.

As you know, the ACLU-MN, GMRJP mission is to provide public education regarding racial justice issues through community outreach, court monitoring, and intake services. We represent all people in our seven county area with a focus on our Native American communities.

As we move into 2010 and beyond – we hope to work with you again to advance equity in our state. It is important that we invest in the communities our children will inherit – and that, even in tough times, we do what is needed to build our shared future.

Again, thank you for your leadership on racial equity in 2009!

We hope to see you this Friday at Bemidji City Hall at 3:30pm.

Sincerely,

Audrey Thayer
Project Coordinator
ACLU-MN, GMRJP
athayer@paulbunyan.net
218-444-2285
Frank Bebeau – Jones case, jurisdictional issue is band’s interest only. – Not representing R.J., following jurisdictional determination of court. Discussion.

Resolution for a quorum to be present to conduct business discussed. Any changes in doing business involves Ordinance I Amendment.

Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Robbie Howe to adjourn at 12:08 p.m. Carried 4-0-0.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that this is a true record of the Leech Lake Tribal Council, Special Meeting, held on December 17, 2009, Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Chairman Arthur “Archie” LaRose calls meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Present: Archie LaRose, Lyman Losh and Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird.

Absent: Robbie Howe and Mike Bongo excused.

Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve agenda. Carried 2-0-0.

Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve Cottingham & Butler Broker Services. Carried 2-0-0.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that this is a true record of the Leech Lake Tribal Council, Special Meeting, held on December 21, 2009 at Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Michael J. Bongo, Secretary/Treasurer

Chairman Arthur “Archie” LaRose calls meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Present: Archie LaRose, Lyman Losh and Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird.

Absent: Robbie Howe and Mike Bongo excused.

Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve agenda. Carried 2-0-0.

Motion by Eugene “Ribs” Whitebird, second by Lyman Losh to approve Cottingham & Butler Broker Services. Carried 2-0-0.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that this is a true record of the Leech Lake Tribal Council, Special Meeting, held on December 21, 2009 at Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Michael J. Bongo, Secretary/Treasurer
Esther Bogda Announces Candidacy for District II Seat

Esther Bogda is announcing her candidacy for the District II Representative for the Leech Lake Indian Reservation Tribal Council. She is seeking the honor of representing the people of District II on the Leech Lake Tribal Council. I am seeking and asking for your support.

Esther was raised in a traditional Indian home in Bena with Ojibwe cultural and Traditional values and maintains these values in her everyday life. She has lived most of her childhood and adult life on the Leech Lake Reservation.

Esther Bogda has worked for the Leech Lake Reservation for 26 years as a social worker, chemical dependency counselor, school counselor for the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School, medical social worker for the Cass Lake Indian Hospital, Mental health Program manager and most recently as the Division Director of Human Services for the Leech lake Reservation.

The experiences of living on the reservation as a child and as an adult and being able to work for the Reservation in various positions has given Esther knowledge of the wants and needs of the Leech lake people and the programs that serve them. Through her work experience she has gained skills in working with band members, budgeting for programs, staff management and supervision skills and leadership skills that would help her be the people's representative for District II and the Leech Lake Reservation. Most importantly, the experiences of growing up in a traditional Indian home and her reservation work experiences has taught her humility, humor, generosity, respect, integrity and has given her the wisdom to work for the people of District II and the people of the Leech Lake Reservation.

This is a paid advertisement.

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