Capital Christmas Tree Ceremonies in Washington

After a two thousand mile journey from northern Minnesota and stopping at several ceremonies along the way, the 88 foot White Spruce finally arrived at the U.S. Capital in late November. The tree lighting ceremony was held on December 3, 2014 with hundreds of people in attendance as the weather turned into a light mist on a chilly evening.

There were many student from across the Leech Lake Reservation in attendance that made the trip with teachers and chaperones. The Leech Lake Band’s Tribal Council was in attendance for the tree lighting ceremony as well as several other events during the week which included a Chief of the Forrest reception at the USDA building, a drum and dance ceremony at the American Indian Museum, President Obama’s Tribal Leader’s Summit, and a hand drum performance at the Botanical Gardens.

Earlier this fall, the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) announced its Native American top 40 under 40. Award recipients were selected based on several aspects of accomplishment and community involvement. The award recognizes 40 burgeoning American Indian leaders across the country that demonstrate direction, creativity, and commitment and made significant contributions in business and in their community.

Leech Lake’s Chairwoman, Carri Jones was a recipient of the award as a result of her nomination last summer. Carri is a mother of two, she is the first woman elected as the Chair for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe,

continued on page 3
Leech Lake Tribal College Announces Commitment to Expand College Access at White House Event

Leech Lake Tribal College President Dr. Donald Day was with President Obama, the First Lady, and Vice President Biden along with hundreds of college presidents and other higher education leaders to announce new actions to help more students prepare for and graduate from college.

The White House College Opportunity Day of Action helps to support the President’s commitment to partner with colleges and universities, business leaders, and nonprofits, to support students across the country to help our nation reach its goal of leading the world in college attainment.

In 2011, the Minnesota Education Nation Consortium was created between the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, the Red Lake Band and the White Earth Band of Ojibwe. The consortium later included Fond du Lac Band of Ojibwe. With each nation maintaining the charter of a designated TCCU (Tribally Controlled College and University) the intent of the Minnesota Tribal College consortium was to work together to make the following educational improvements: the crucial and urgent issue of Ojibwe language preservation, mutually agreed upon grants, partnering and grant endorsements, and mutually beneficial advocacy efforts. The Tribal Colleges will collaborate with each other using practices in the following areas to increase college graduation rates by 20% in 5 years (2020),

- Improve student retention & graduation rates
- Expand transfer opportunities
- Share academic resources & programs
- Increase access through technology infused education
- Impact the economic development of Tribal communities and
- Work to preserve Ojibwe language & culture

“Leech Lake Tribal College is honored to participate in the College Opportunity Day of Action hosted by President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. We represent a strong consortium of Tribal Colleges in Minnesota that are committed to increasing access and college opportunities to rural Tribal communities” said Dr. Donald Day, President of Leech Lake Tribal College. “We recognize our mission is to not only provide educational opportunities rooted in Anishinaabe values and culture, but to increase the number of college graduates as a result of economic growth and workforce impact.”

The participants were asked to commit to new action in one of four areas: building networks of colleges around promoting completion, creating K-16 partnerships around college readiness, investing in high school counselors as part of the First Lady’s Reach Higher initiative, and increasing the number of college graduates in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The President will announce new steps on how his Administration is helping to support these actions, including announcing $10 million to help promote college completion and a $30 million AmeriCorps program that will improve low-income students’ access to college. Today’s event is the second College Opportunity Day of Action, and will include a progress report on the commitments made at the first day of action on January 14, 2014.

Expanding opportunity for more students to enroll and succeed in college, especially low-income and underrepresented students, is vital to building a strong economy and a strong middle class. Today, only 9 percent of those born into the lowest family income attain a bachelor’s degree by age 25, compared to 54 percent in the top earners. In an effort to expand college access, the Obama Administration has increased Pell scholarships by $1,000 a year, created the new American Opportunity Tax Credit worth up to $10,000 over four years of college, limited student loan payments to 10 percent of income, and laid out an ambitious agenda to reduce college costs and promote innovation and competition.

David Parnell Speaks to LLBO Youth about the Perils of Meth

David Parnell is a public speaker, author, consultant, and advocate for drug endangered children. He has literally spoken to tens of thousands of people in over thirty states and in three countries during the past five years about the dangers of methamphetamine. Mr. Parnell spoke to kids at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school, Cass Lake Bena, and at the Bena community center.

David spent twenty-three years abusing drugs, seven years of which he was addicted to methamphetamine. Under its influence, he even attempted suicide by shooting himself. He shot himself with an SKS assault rifle. Though he survived, he sustained severe injuries. David came out of the grasp of methamphetamine after a hard and prolonged struggle. As of June 23, 2010, he has 7 years and 4 months clean and sober. Now, he focuses on drug prevention by educating and warning people about the dangers of addictive substances, particularly methamphetamine, in part by using his own life as an example. He has received an overwhelming positive response for his efforts. David presents his lectures in schools, churches, community group gatherings, jails, and rehabs. His audiences include various sections of the society from students to people recovering from substance abuse. His personal story acts as both caution and inspiration to others. It cautions others to stay away from addictive substances and inspires people to get free from the spell of such substances. It also makes people realize how drug use affects everyone and leads them to get involved in the fight against drugs like methamphetamine.

MN Congressional Delegation Bombards OMB Director Shaun Donovan for School Funding

Congresswoman Betty McCollum, Congressman Tom Cole and Senators Franken and Klobuchar have all been ardent supporters of Leech Lake’s efforts to replace the high school building at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig campus. Congressman Nolan has also paid special attention to and visited the campus as the others have, and all of them have been sending the Director of President Obama’s Office of Management and Budget letters that detail the need for increased funding.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is the largest office within the Executive Office of the President of the United States (EOP). The Director of the OMB is a member of the executive office of the president. The main function of the OMB is to assist the President in preparing the budget.

The list of deficiencies include: fungus, heating and air filtration concerns, rodent infestation, electrical problems, sewer backups, mold infestation, lack of alarm systems, and exposed wiring to name just a few.

The Minnesota Representatives mention trust responsibilities that are being ignored and a list of 63 schools that the Bureau of Indian Education fund are similarly in a state of disrepair.

Every election year we hear how much education could be a silver bullet that could help deliver poverty stricken portions of society from such unfortunate circumstances as unemployment, homelessness, high levels of chemical dependency, and a lack of economic opportunity to name just a few. With efforts like ones mentioned above, hopefully Leech Lake will be able to turn the corner in the years to come regarding education.
A Letter of Thanks from Chairwoman Carri Jones

Dear Community Members and Concerned Citizens,

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe would like to express our deepest appreciation for the recent donations that the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School has received regarding the efforts to secure funding to build a new facility. Donations and support from very generous patrons helps the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School serve the many needs of the students and our community.

As showcased in recent newspapers throughout the country, the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig high school is in dire need of replacement. Though the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe believes the United States Federal Government has a trust responsibility to ensure a safe and structurally sound school, the donations received have been greatly appreciated.

By sending any donation, big or small, the donors have shown that they care about the students and the community. The donations that the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School has received will be put into the school’s Operations and Management Budget.

Also, as a result of being an Indian Tribe described in the Internal Revenue Code section 7871 and being listed in Revenue Procedures 2002-64, the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is determined by the IRS to be an organization to which contributions may be tax deductible.

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe would like to, once again, express our sincere gratitude for the generous donations and support given to the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School from across the nation.

Miigwetch,

Carri Jones
Tribal Chair
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

Chairwoman Picked for Top 40 Under 40 Native Leaders

Continued from page 1

and she is also a candidate for a Master’s Degree program studying healthcare administration, to name just a few of her many responsibilities. Carri is an alumnus of Bemidji State University, where she majored in both Accounting and Business Administration (emphasis in finance) with a minor in Financial Fraud Examination. She also chairs the Leech Lake Tax and Gaming Commissions, which are units within the tribal government structure that exercise the Band’s sovereign authority within Leech Lake’s territorial boundaries. Her other committee responsibilities include: Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (Member), MCT Legislative Sub Committee (Member), and the Midwest Indian Health-board (Member).

The 2014 Native American 40 Under 40 Awards were presented at NCAIED’s 39th Annual Indian Progress In Business Awards Gala (INPRO) was held October 8th at the Potawatomi Hotel & Casino.

Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Funding Gets National Attention

After years of lobbying and endless meetings regarding Leech Lake’s Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School and its state of disrepair, the efforts have garnered national attention. The New York Times released an article in November highlighting the Leech Lake School and paying a special focus to its need for replacement and Secretary of the Interior Jewel’s plan to change how funding is distributed to Bureau of Indian Education facilities. The plan is to shift funding to local leaders so that curriculum as well as funding can be controlled by those closest to the learning institutions essentially creating an opportunity for those with the most knowledge of the schools to have the greatest influence over the system instead of having leaders in Washington making decisions from thousands of miles away.

The article goes on to outline the considerably lower reading assessment scores for students that attend BIE schools as opposed to their peers in public schools. Promises of a shift in funding and personal visits from the Secretary of the Interior are a far cry from being able to break ground on a new facility that will indeed help raise test scores, however. National attention, on the other hand, is something that the lobbying efforts by the Leech Lake Band’s leadership had yet to happen. Both the New York Times and the Huffington Post have covered these efforts, and hopefully will result in a change.

Bobby Rodriguez Inducted into the Minnesota Boxing Hall of Fame

Growing up in a family of boxers helped push Bobby Rodriguez to push himself. This local boy from Ball Club, having lived in North Minneapolis for years, had a couple role models that helped inspire his career as a young boxer reaching the upper levels of competition as a professional.

His Brothers Kenny, Rudy, John and Rafael, that rose in the ranks to fight Sugar Ray Leonard and has been inducted into the MN Boxing Hall of Fame himself, were all professional fighters and provided Bobby the tool necessary to secure his own trajectory that landed him to be inducted into the Minnesota Boxing Hall of Fame in early October, 2014.

Bobby won four championships in Minneapolis and subsequently fought in Los Angeles rising to the rank of 9th in the world with a record of 20-0. He has a couple of state titles to add to his accolades as well.

Congratulations Bobby, from the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe!
Leech Lake Tribal Council Special Meeting

October 16, 2014
New Gov't Center
Cass Lake, Minnesota

Chairwoman Carri Jones called the meeting to order at 9:11 am

Roll Call:
Carri Jones, Chairwoman Present
Archie LaRose, Secretary/Treas. Present
Penny DeVault, DI Rep. Present
Steve White, DII Rep. Present
LeRoy Staples Fairbanks, DIII Rep Present

Motion by Penny DeVault to approve agenda, second by Steve White. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Old Business:
Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve the October 6, 2014 Minutes, second by Penny DeVault. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Steve White to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. LD2015-48 authorizing settlement agreement between Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and Indian Health Service for unpaid contract support costs from Fiscal Year 2006 through 2011, second by Penny DeVault. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Anishinabe Bison Project Plan update.

Motion by Steve White to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2015-49 adopting the 2015-2018 Leech Lake Indian Reservation Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP) and approval of subsequent TTIP Agreement Retained Service Agreement (s) (RSA) and reference Funding Agreement (s) (RSA), second by Steve White. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2015-50 to update and adopt the 2015-2033 - 20 Year Long Range Transportation Plan, second by LeRoy Staples Fairbanks. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Motion by Steve White to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2015-51 concerning revision of the Homeless Shelter Resolution, second by Penny DeVault. Motion carried 4-0-0.

New Business:
TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS:
Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2015-52 concerning FY 2015 Self Governance Annual Funding Agreement, second by Penny DeVault. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Steve White to approve Tribal Council Resolution No. 2015-53 Loan Proposal to Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Finance Corporation, second by Penny DeVault. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Penny DeVault to table the Wilder Research 2015 Homeless Study Resolution, second by Steve White. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Steve White to approve application for Designation as a Promise Zone Collectively with Red Lake and White Earth Nations, second by Penny DeVault. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Steve White to table theRichard Hellickson and Scott Chapman lakeshore lease. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve the following home sites leases:
LD2015-95 Lindsy Windom, new lease, South Cass Lake area and
LD2015-96 Ronald Harrison, Jr., new lease, Buck Lake area, second by Steve White. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Penny DeVault, second by Steve White to table the Richard Hellickson and Scott Chapman lakeshore lease. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve the following lakeshore leases:
LD2015-97 Benjamin Tonce, cancel residential lease, East Stony Point area;
LD2015-98 Bruce Steward, recreational lease & assignment, East Stony Point area;
LD2015-99 Ron Staples, cancel residential lease, South Stony Point area;
LD2015-100 Barbara Smith, recreational lease, South Stony Point area;
LD2015-101 Terry & Karen Thelen, modification of recreational lease LD2012-121, Traders Bay area and

Leech Lake Tribal Council Special Meeting

October 30, 2014
New Gov't Center
Cass Lake, Minnesota

Chairwoman Carri Jones called the meeting to order at 9:10 am

Roll Call:
Carri Jones, Chairwoman Present
Archie LaRose, Secretary/Treas. Present
Penny DeVault, DI Rep. Present
Steve White, DII Rep. Present
LeRoy Staples Fairbanks, DIII Rep Absent

Motion by Penny DeVault to approve agenda with removal of the Wisdom Steps Program, second by Steve White. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Old Business:
Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve the October 16, 2014 Minutes, second by Penny DeVault. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Update on the ICWA Commission vacancies.

New Business:

Sustainability Tip for December 2014
By Halli Sevilla, MN GreenCorps
Member for the Leech Lake Band

Do it yourself all-purpose cleaner:
In a spray bottle mix 2 cups of water, 2 cups of white vinegar along with some cut up lemons. Smells good and is a healthier way to clean not only for the environment, but for you, too!
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court
In the Matter of the Welfare of the Children of:
Jerald L. Vos, Parent.
Court File No. CP-13-10

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on June 18, 2014, a Petition for Alternative Relief was filed in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the children of the above-named parent. Please contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for the next hearing date and time. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

This message is brought to you from the Methamphetamine Project Coordinator of the LLTPD

If you suspect someone is using Crystal Meth, “Glass, “G” or Ice” here is a list of signs and symptoms to look for.

- Dry mouth
- Dilated pupils
- Decreased appetite
- Rapid speech
- Irritability
- Restlessness
- Increased temperature
- Depression
- Insomnia
- Weight loss
- Nervous
- Violent
- Paranoia

How meth is ingested into the body includes: being smoked, snorted, injected and swallowed orally. Meth paraphernalia you might find:

- Hollowed out light bulbs
- Tin foil strips “foilies”
- Butane lighters
- Propane torches
- Syringes
- Spoons
- Glass pipes
- Pill grinders
- Straws cut in half
- Broken or taken apart pens
- Micro baggies w/ logos

If you have any questions regarding this or any other drug related questions please feel free to contact the Leech Lake Police Department’s Meth Project Coordinator. Your identity can remain anonymous if you wish.

Leech Lake Legacy
2014 Events*

*As of the date of this printing, all events are scheduled to be held at the Leech Lake Tribal Police Headquarters in Cass Lake. However, additional locations may be added so please check the Leech Lake website for the most current schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
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<th>December</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, October 11</td>
<td>Saturday, November 15</td>
<td>Saturday, December 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puppy Roundup</td>
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For additional information, please contact us at leechlakelegacy@gmail.com or 612-437-9073 or visit our website at www.leechlakelegacy.org

District III LIC Elections

LIC Elections for District III Communities will be held in February 2014 on the regularly scheduled monthly meeting date of each council.

District III Communities:
Bemidji, Cass Lake, Cass River, Mission, Oak Point, Onigum, Sugar Bush/Buck Lake

All enrolled LLBO members who actually live within the LIC area who are at least 18 years of age who have lived in the area for 30 days prior to the election shall be eligible to vote at the LIC elections.

Nominations and voting will be conducted at your meeting site. We invite all District III community members to participate in the Local Indian Councils to help serve our community’s needs and interests.

Feel free to contact District III Offices with questions at 218-335-8200, or attend our monthly forum on

December 23, 2014 from 3-5 pm at the Palace Birch Room
Along with the Leech Lake Tribal Council there were several Senate and Congressional Representatives from Minnesota in attendance as well. Senator Amy Klobuchar said, “we’re so proud of this tree. Its fitting that our state is providing this tree. I was there when it was harvested. This was a huge effort. We are letting everyone know about our natural beauty and cultural richness from Minnesota.”

Al Franken was invited to speak as well and he said, “It’s a big honor to be here. Minnesota children made ten thousand ornaments as we are from the land of ten thousand lakes. One of the ornaments is a dreamcatcher. They are to protect you as you sleep by only letting the positive through while catching the negative.”

The good Congressman from Minnesota’s 8th District Rick Nolan said, “On behalf of the Minnesota delegation, thank you for being here. I want to thank the Forrest Service and Chairwoman Carri Jones and the Leech Lake Band and their help with this tree. What’s really wonderful about this tree is that it sits in the middle of this area. There is nothing partisan about this tree. It reminds us all that we are one people, of one nation. It brings us together much like Christmas does.”

The next day was busy as the National Museum of the American Indian hosted drum and dance performances by several drum groups and many dancers. Pete White was the event’s M.C. explaining the significance of several of the songs and of a few of the dances as well. The Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Silver Eagles performed as well a Remer’s Northland Eagles and the Cass Lake drum.

Chairwoman Carri Jones spoke briefly at the event, “I’m proud to be a part of this event. The whole week will be something that lives in the memories of our students that worked so hard to get here. It will be something we can all look back on with the fondest of memories.

While the National Museum of the American Indian performances were taking place, President Obama hosted the sixth annual Tribal Nations Conference where the President released several new initiatives focused on helping Native youth including: New Native Youth Community Projects, New National Tribal Youth Network program, White House Native Youth Report, Cabinet Native Youth Listening Tour, and the White House Tribal Youth Gathering.

Along with these efforts the President is taking Secretary of the Interior Jewel’s order to restructure Bureau of Indian Education school funding seriously. “The Department of the Interior (DOI) is making progress to transform the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE). Since Secretary Jewell’s Secretarial Order directing Indian Affairs to restructure the BIE to serve as a support network to schools rather than a direct education provider, DOI, along with ED has made steady progress towards implementing the Administration’s vision of high-achieving tribally-controlled schools”. This quote was taken from the White House’s website “Fact Sheet” for the
Tribal Nation’s Conference.

There has been national coverage in the New York Times and the Huffington Post regarding the Bureau of Indian Education and the lack of attention that has been paid to these underachieving institutions, including Leech Lake’s own Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school, and it is nice to see these efforts having an effect.

“I’m happy to see things like the BIE (Bureau of Indian Education) being discussed at the Congressional level and by Cabinet Secretary Jewell and the President,” said District III Rep. LeRoy Staples Fairbanks, “however, the time for talk is coming to a close, and we need to start seeing some action when it comes to our students education as well as the greater trust responsibilities of the Federal Government.”

Below are more of the President’s priorities that are listed on the White House’s “Fact Sheet”:

- Supporting the academic achievement of all native American students
- Building stronger Tribal businesses and economies
- Improving Tribal Justice
- Supporting healthy, strong Native American communities
- Promoting climate resilience and land and natural resources
- Advancing the government to government relationship

As you can see the week was filled with festivities for everyone. When there wasn’t an event to go to the students were brought to several different Smithsonian museums as they are all free and there are several of them. They include: African American History Museum, The Culture Museum, The Air and Space Museum, The American History Museum, and the American Indian Museum to name just a few. The Botanical Gardens was the setting for one of the last events where the Northland Eagles Hand Drum performed an honor song for the attendees.
**Upward Bound ADVISOR**

This part-time (75%) MnSCU Academic Professional-1 position is a liaison advisor between Itasca Community College and the target schools in the three county area. Responsibilities include:
- Provide career, college, financial aid training to Upward Bound participants;
- Visit schools and provide essential skills for student’s success;
- Identify and recruit students into the Upward Bound program;

**QUALIFICATIONS**

Bachelor’s degree in Education or related field. Master’s preferred;
Knowledge or experience in student advocacy in an academic/career setting.

More information and application procedures can be found at:
http://www.nhed.edu/human-resources/icc.html

Deadline to apply: January 12, 2015

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**Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe**

**SUMMARY OF JOB OPENINGS**

www.llojibwe.org and may: **drop off or mail documents to:**
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe – Human Resources
115 Sixth St NW, Suite E - Cass Lake, MN 56633;

Fax documents to: 1-218-335-3697;
email documents to: andrea.jones@llbo.org

Call 218-335-3698 or toll free 1-800-631-5528 for more information.

Complete packet Includes: Application, Resume, Cover Letter, & References.

**THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CLOSE ON DECEMBER 26th, 2014**

- Kitchen Helper/Driver ~ Health ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-238
- Infant/Tdler Teacher-Onigum ~ Early Childhood ~ Job Code: 14-237
- CD Counselor Trainee ~ Human Services ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-236
- Cook ~ Early Childhood ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-235

**THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED**

- Part-Time Driver ~ Opioid Treatment Program ~ Job Code: 14-168C
- Domestic Abuse Re-Education(DAR)Prgm Coordinator ~Human Services ~JobCode:14-208
- Cass Lake Pre-School Team Leader ~ Early Childhood-Job Code: 14-171B
- Pre-School Team Leader Bemidji ~ Education ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-143B
- 3 Special Needs Teacher Assistants ~ Early Childhood ~ Job Code: 14-136
- Department of Revenue Director ~ RTC ~ Job Code: 14-013

**THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN CONTINUOUS**

- Pt Cashier/ NLE ~ Business Development ~ $10.25/hr ~ Job Code: 14-001
- Pt Cashier/Che-We ~ Business Development ~ $10.25/hr ~ Job Code: 14-000

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**District I**

**Quarterly Meeting**

Jan 16, 2015

Ball Club, Starts at 9:00 AM

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**Wishing District II Elders a Happy Birthday!**

District II Office

Steve, Michelle, & Lori

December Birthdays

Kenneth Brown
Henrietta Finn
Raymond “Zamen” Losh

Mary Helling
Myrna Whitebird

Happy Holidays & Many more Birthdays to come!

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**December Birthdays**

Delores Lindberg
Donna Tibbetts
Margaret Greenside
Jack Warner
Larry Fairbanks
Howard Sherman
Darrell Wilson Sr.
Joseph Warner
Donald Wayne White
Burton Aiger
Barbara Bellanger
Joel Bebeau
Brian Howard
Dorothy Robinson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY & MANY MORE TO COME!!
Sonny Rushman is the youth spotlight for December. The District I office chose Sonny because he was one of a few student to be picked to travel to Washington D.C. to see the Capitol Christmas tree lighting ceremony. Sonny had to write an essay, achieve a good GPA, have good attendance, and be in good standing at his school in order to go. Sonny is also a youth Representative on the Inger Local Indian Council and helped the District I office plan the kids Christmas workshop. Congratulations Sonny!
Dora Jean Wind

Dora Jean Wind, 58 years old, of Cass Lake, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, November 28, 2014 at her home in Cass Lake. She was born on May 7, 1956 in Cass Lake, the daughter of Alvin John Wind, Sr. and Roberta Jayne (Holstein) Wind.

Dora grew up and graduated from the Cass Lake High School in 1974. She attended BSU for some of her generals, then transferred to Duluth where she obtained a degree in Mass Communications. Dora was there for over four years before returning home to Cass Lake where she attended the Tribal College and graduated in 2007 with an Associates Degree in Teaching. She used this degree to teach children at the Head Start for over 18 years. Dora always enjoyed teaching and taking care of the kids. She was very good at beading and did some beautiful work. Dora liked making fry bread, beading, telling stories, taking care of her dogs, working with her plants and flowers, going to craft fairs, facebooking, and being with her family.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents; Alice and Levi Wind, Joe Holstein, Sr. and Marion Budreau-Folstrom, father; Alvin John Wind, Sr., brother; Martin Wind, nephew; Derek Brown-Wind, numerous aunts and uncles.

Dora leaves behind her husband; Daryl Clark, daughter; Nita Clark, mother; Roberta Wind, brothers; Alvin John Wind, Jr. (Freda Littlewolf), and Michael Morris, sisters; Jennie (Mark) Reyes, Marion Wind, Jody Wind, and Glenda (Roger) Bryan all of Cass Lake, other relatives and many friends.

Dora’s care has been entrusted to the Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be given at www.northerpeace.com

Marc Lindsay Lyons

Marc Lindsay Lyons, age 63 of Bena, Minnesota, passed away unexpectedly on November 22, 2014 in Bena. He was born in Deer River on May 16, 1951, the son of Shadow Beaulieu and Lucy (Lyons) Donnell.

Marc grew up and attended Cass Lake High School. During school, Marc was homecoming king and always a sharp dresser. Following high school, he attended tech school at the Staples Institute for heavy machinery. He worked with the Carpenters Union for over thirty years. Marc was a very avid outdoorsman/sportsman who enjoyed spending time, hunting, fishing, trapping, netting, and almost anything that had to do with the woods. He enjoyed playing the guitar, which he had a great talent for. Marc also dabbled in photography and spent many hours taking pictures. His true joy came with being a grandpa. He loved spoiling his grandkids. Marc was also a caregiver for the last few years, taking care of Luella and Davy Seelye.

Those family members Marc joins again include his wife; Janice Lyons, daughter Rachael Lyons, his mother; Lucy, and grandparents; Ernest and Margaret Lyons.

Family that Marc leaves behind to cherish his memory are his sons; Marcus and Dan Lyons, both of Bena, brother; George (Jacque) Donnell of Cass Lake, sisters; Dianna Donnell of Deer River, Ceece Donnell of Bemidji, and Mary (Andrew) Chandler of Deer River, grandchildren; Edward and Danielle Lyons both of Bemidji, many nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Marc’s care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be given at www.northernpeace.com

Regina Louise Smith

Regina Louise (Tucker) Smith, age 32 of Walker passed away unexpectedly Tuesday evening, December 9, 2014, at her home in Onigum.

Regina was born December 6, 1982 at the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis to Richard Decorah and Lana Tucker.

Regina lived with her mother and two younger brothers, Keith and Russell, in Minneapolis until she was 12 years old. Her and her brothers went to live with Eli and Sue Hunt in Old Agency. Eli and Sue helped raise and support Regina, Keith and Russell. In October 2000 she met Dennis Smith. Together they had seven beautiful babies, Ruzzina, Mary Jo II, Dennis Jr., Natoria, Denzel, Isabelle and the baby Denelle Smith. On October 3, 2009, Regina and Dennis were married at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Onigum and were together until her untimely death. Regina was a really good mother who loved spending time with her children. Regina will be missed by all her babies who she had a very special bond with. She was an extremely hard worker who wasn’t afraid to work. For the past 6 months, Regina worked at the Northern Lights Casino in custodial maintenance, before that she worked in guest services. She also cleaned cabins at different resorts during the summers. She met a lot of people throughout her life so she always had a good story or joke to tell when she got home from work. Regina enjoyed working at the casino but loved going home to her babies and her husband Dennis.

Regina had a heart of gold. She was a beautiful Ojibwe ikwe and her smile could light up an entire room. Regina was very humorous and her silliness made her one of a kind-she lived to laugh and have fun. Her daughters remember her dancing and laughing and teasing their friends in a nice way. You can see and recognize Gina in all of her 7 children and they were her best friends. They remember shopping and the family vacations, especially to the Mall of America. Baby Nelle remembers all the piggy back rides and baby Isabelle remembers how protective and loving she was.

Regina had many friends and family who loved her unconditionally. She lives on in her babies and her spirit and memory will live forever.

Those welcoming her home are her brother Russell Tucker, her ‘dad’ Eli Hunt, grandpa Leslie Decorah, Sr., grandma, Lucille Bearchief, uncles; Leslie and Benjamin Decorah and auntie Loren Littlewolf.

Those she leaves behind to cherish her memory are her husband Dennis Joseph Smith, Sr., her babies; Ruzzina, Mary Jo II, Dennis Jr., Natoria, Denzel, Isabelle and Denelle, her parents; Richard Decorah and Lana Tucker, brothers; Keith Tucker, Noah Decorah and Richard Clark, sister; Patty Stone, many other relatives and all her friends.

Regina’s care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences may be given for the family at www.northernpeace.com
Shamelia Dee Wright

Shamelia Dee Wright 33, of Walker, MN died November 5, 2014 at her home. She was born on October 20, 1981 in Minneapolis grew up in Onigum, Minnesota.

Shamelia attended school at the Walker-Hackensack-Akeley School. She enjoyed pow-wows and playing Keno at the casino.

She was preceded in death by her infant and Aunt Linda Turney. Shamelia is survived by her mother Ruth Wright (Matt Hunt) of Walker; brothers: Donny Wright of Bemidji, Joey Wright (Loretta) of Grand Forks, Jacob Wright (Amber) of Luverne, MN, Jay Wright of Minneapolis, and Daniel Wright of Minneapolis, sisters; Jackie Wright of Walker, Rosanna Wright of Sioux Falls, SD, and Majesta Wright of Minneapolis, her four children; Rain Marie Headbird, Donovin Headbird, Asia Larac Headbird and Donald “Willie” Headbird, Jr., special friend; Steve Petersen of Whipholt, and her nephew Alex Lasley (Gilbert) of Walker.

Shamelia’s care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be given at www.northernpeace.com

Veronica Lee Jones

Veronica “Roni” Lee Jones, 60 years old of Cass Lake, passed away on Saturday, November 22, 2014 at the IHS Hospital in Cass Lake. Roni was born on February 25, 2014 in Cloquet, MN, the daughter of Mervel and Rose (LaRose) Jones.

Roni grew up Cloquet until she was 13 years old when her family moved to Cass Lake. She attended school in Cass Lake and obtained a two year degree following school. Roni enjoyed playing bingo. She and Robert would travel all over to go and play and stay at different casinos. She loved the time she would get with her family, friends and most importantly, her grandchildren. Each and every one had a great respect for grandma. Roni would spend time reading books and helping people out even if it meant giving her last dollar.

Roni was preceded in death by her parents; Mervel and Rose, sons; Peter John Jones and Jesse Lee Jones, sister; Roxanne LaRose, brother; Mervel Jones, Jr., and her grandparents.

She is survived by her husband; Robert Brown of Cass Lake, sons; Dwight Jones, John Jones, Robert Jones, and Cory Jones all of Cass Lake, daughters; Roxanne and Dawna Jones both of Cass Lake, brother; Tom Jones of Cass Lake, sister; Sandy (Alvin Roy) Woodward of Cass Lake, Carol Jones of Cass Lake, and Diana (Steve) Bakk of Minneapolis, 15 grandchildren, other relatives and many friends.

Roni’s care has been entrusted to the Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be given at www.northernpeace.com

Helen Catherine Cummings

Helen Catherine Cummings, age 85, of Cass Lake passed away at the Maple Woods Assisted Livings Facility on December 2, 2014. Helen was born on September 5, 1929 in Boy Lake, MN the daughter of Tom and Susan (Bear) Cummings.

Helen is a member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Pillager, Bear Clan. She worked at numerous places including Brainerd State Hospital and the Leech Lake CAP program. She and Mike Mitchell raised their children in Remer, MN. They raised many relatives, along with their children, including Ron Burnette and Thomas White. She graduated from Itasca State College as and LPN and later worked for Ah-Gwa-Ching. She married Dave Thompson and moved to several different states including Kansas, Wyoming, Arizona and South Dakota. Upon returning to Minnesota, she worked at the PHS Indian Hospital, then as WIC Director. She was involved in many local events and was co-founder of Wisdom Steps. She also served as Chairwoman of Cass Lake Local Indian Council. A former Governor appointed her to the Minnesota State Council on Aging. She was also on the Wisdom Steps Board of Directors and the National Wisdom Steps Board of Directors. She later married Cecil Ryan and together they traveled for enjoyment through several states and sometimes would take a few grandchildren along. She would also take grandchildren to places like Disney World in Florida. Helen enjoyed her life and brought good spirits and teachings wherever she could. She enjoyed pow-wows and dancing when she was younger. Helen loved watching movies at theatres and eating with her friends in the Birthday Club. She love family gatherings for picnics, baby showers and birthdays. Helen was a regular church attendee at various churches for prayers, singing, music and fundraising gatherings. She loved life and loved her.

Family that are welcoming home are her mother Susan Bear Cummings, father Tom Cummings, son Joseph Mitchell, sisters; Dorothy Smith and Alice Burnette, brothers; George, Walter and Mark Cummings, grandson; Tomah Lausche, husbands; Mike Mitchell, David Thompson and Cecil Ryan and nephews; Thomas and David White.

Those she leaves behind are her children; Vernon (Cindy) Mitchell, Bernice (Ernie) Mitchell, Terrance (Jolaye “Penny”) Mitchell and Maxine Manypenny, grandchildren; David Mitchell, Sommer Mitchell, Kyle Mitchell, Anthony Butcher, Wa-bi-gwah-neec Mitchell, Taleeya Lausche and Beeljay Smith, step-grandchildren Cerrone Baptiste, George Baptiste III and Derrick Baptiste and niece Christine Cummings, great grandchildren, numerous other relatives and many friends.

A wake service for Helen will begin at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, December 6, 2014 at the Veterans Memorial Building and will continue until the 11:00 a.m. service on Monday. Reverend George H. “Boomer” Collins will officiate. Inurnment will be held in Mokahum Chapel Cemetery at Cass Lake following her services.

Helen’s care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences for the family may be given at www.northernpeace.com
Gichi Manidoo Giizis
Traditional Pow Wow

Saturday January 10th 2015

Registration: 10am
Grand Entry: 1pm & 7pm
Feast at 5pm

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MC
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2014 Bena Elder’s Christmas Party!
Thank you for making this annual event possible,
Bena City Council & Bena Local Indian Council
Leech Lake Gaming Division & Leech Lake D.R.M.
Leech Lake District II – Steve, Lori and Michelle
Volunteers- Shannon Robinson, Katie Brown, Anayah & Avery
Matthews, Sophia & Jon Finn, aka Santa Claus!

Happy Holidays!

Leech Lake Tribal College
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Position Title: Security Officer
Position Title: Director of Finance
Position Title: Construction Electrician Instructor

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