Wellness Court Celebrates 10 Years of Success

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe along with Cass and Itasca County celebrated the 10th Anniversary of their unique court partnership on December 8th.

Formed in 2006, the Leech Lake-Cass County Wellness Court was the first joint jurisdiction Wellness Court in the nation. The Tribe also went on to establish a second collaborative wellness court with Itasca County in 2007. This successful model has been replicated across the country by state and tribal jurisdictions in Alaska, California and most recently in Montana and New Mexico.

Korey Wahwassuck, former LL Tribal Court Associate Judge and current Itasca County District Court Judge and current Itasca County District Court Judge said “What started here was a seed that was planted, that’s grown and has gone forth and there has been so much healing.”

The event began with a blessing by Leech Lake Elder Mike Smith and featured an Honor Song and Traveling Song performed by youth singers from the Northland Remer School Drum Group. Leech Lake Tribal Court Judge Paul Day offered the invocation. The ceremony was presided over by current judicial members Megan Treuer (Leech Lake), Jana Austad (Cass County), as well as founding members Judge John Smith, Judge Korey Wahwassuck and Judge Jon Maturi (Itasca County). Cass County Judge David Harrington and Beltrami County Judge Shari Schlucter were also in attendance.

“No judge that I know of likes to see someone go to prison or go to jail, or to suffer the pain that we see daily. When we started this we needed help because we were struggling to find a solution to problems. Fortunately, we found Leech Lake, Judge Wahwassuck and members of the Tribal Council who were willing to work with us to try and come up with some solutions. They were small seeds but it has grown into a massive movement” said John P. Smith, former Cass County District Judge and MN Court of Appeals Judge.

A wide range of organizations were recognized and represented at the ceremony including Cass County Probation, Itasca County Probation, MN Department of Corrections, various treatment facilities and others.

Continued on Page 7
Leech Lake Receives Clean Energy Community Award

Three communities were recognized for planning: Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Cities of Pelican Rapids and Fergus Falls, and Chisago County.

Renowned Arctic explorer and educator Will Steger was keynote speaker at the awards event. As an eyewitness to the consequences of climate change, he shared stories, slides and videos from his many polar expeditions during the past 50 years. Steger also joined Commissioner Rothman and Deputy Commissioner Bill Grant in presenting the awards.

In addition to Steger’s keynote address and the awards presentation, the event included presentations by the winning communities and a panel discussion on resources and support available to help communities with clean energy initiatives.

The Clean Energy Community Awards are sponsored and coordinated by the Minnesota Commerce Department, with financial support from the U.S. Department of Energy and The McKnight Foundation.

2016 Minnesota Clean Energy Award Winner: Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

Minnesota Solutions to Energy Poverty

This initiative will deploy the first 100% low-income community solar installation in the State of Minnesota, and the first community solar installation in the nation on tribal lands. The installation will further provide a unique capacity-building occasion to support training and renewable employment opportunities for Leech Lake Band members. Select construction trades trainees will obtain their Registered Unlicensed Electrician license and receive hands-on training in solar installations, positioning them for a growing number of clean energy job opportunities across the state and beyond. The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is collaborating on this effort with the grantee, the Rural Renewable Energy Alliance (RREAL).

Commerce is the sponsor and coordinator of the awards program, with financial support from the U.S. Department of Energy and The McKnight Foundation. Award information is available online.

Continued on Page 4
Student Anita Cloud wins recognition for Leech Lake Tribal College at AISES National Conference

Leech Lake Tribal College Liberal Education STEM & Earth Systems student, Anita Cloud, recently represented the STEM dept. at a gathering of over 1800 Native American scientists, mathematicians, and engineers at the national conference of AISES (American Indian Science and Engineering Society) in Minneapolis from Nov. 9-12th.

Anita received a 4th place research award out of 86 submissions to AISES for her research work in the summer of 2016 and poster presentation. This work was done under the tutelage of LLTC grad Sheila Northbird in which they compared the impacts of growth and distribution of wild ginger (a traditional food and medicinal for Anishinaabe people) in blown down and undisturbed areas of the Chippewa National Forest. The frame of reference was that there are larger weather events occurring and that they are increasing with frequency.

Open forest canopies impact wild ginger growth and distribution. A side discovery was the presence of an invasive worm (Amynthas agrestis) which is called Asian Jumping Worm and had not been thought to have reached that far north. While all worms are not native to the northern woodlands biome, this one, along with earthworms, has the potential to cause erosion and run off issues as the worms destroy forest floor duff rapidly.

Anita plans on enrolling at Bemidji State in Environmental Science or the University of MN in Earth Systems Science and lives in Cass Lake, MN. Along with an honorarium, Anita was honored on stage at the AISES closing banquet for research scholars.

Other LLTC students who attended this inspiring conference were Adriana Kingbird, Josh Singleton, Thea Ogema, Katie Gould (sec/treasurer of LLTC AISES chapter) and AISES President Chris Stauffer.

A highlight was meeting NASA astronaut, John Herrington, who served on the space station. Herrington was selected as a Mission Specialist for STS-113, the sixteenth Space Shuttle mission to the International Space Station. During the mission Herrington performed three spacewalks, totaling 19 hours and 55 minutes. Herrington signed and gave away a “fresh off the press” book for children about his work with NASA as an astronaut.

For further information on the three STEM degrees offered by the Leech Lake Tribal College contact outreach director, Cate Belleveau, at 218-335-4225.

Dist II Rep Steve White Received the "Outstanding American Indian Tribal Official" Award from the Minnesota Indian Education Association

Congratulations Steve!
National Native News Briefs

Trump selects U.S. Congressman Ryan Zinke to head the Department of Interior

Republican president-elect Donald Trump has tapped a lawmaker with a more favorable record on tribal issues to head up the Interior Department. Since joining Congress in 2015, Rep. Ryan Zinke (R-Montana) has supported tribes on water, taxation, health care, federal recognition, economic development, energy, violence against Native women, and sovereignty matters. If he is confirmed as Secretary of the Interior, he would be the key person in the incoming administration that deals with Indian issues.

"I will work tirelessly to ensure our public lands are managed and preserved in a way that benefits everyone for generations to come. Most important, our sovereign Indian Nations and territories must have the respect and freedom they deserve. I look forward to making the Department of Interior and America great again," said Rep. Zinke.

Navajo Looking To Develop Industrial Hemp Farming On Tribal Lands

The Navajo Tribe has signed a resolution to grow industrial hemp on tribal lands, another step undermining federal prohibition in effect. According to a report published in Forbes, the Navajo will work with CannaNative to develop industrial hemp farming. The organization assists tribes in developing hemp and cannabis-based economies on Native American lands throughout the United States.

"I believe that the Indian cannabis industry will far surpass the Indian gaming industry," said CannaNative chief executive officer Anthony Rivera. While hemp has been lucrative, it hasn't benefited all tribes and casino growth numbers are slowing. The Indian community sees industrial hemp as a revenue source that will level the playing field for all tribes.

As a next step, CannaNative officials will meet with the Navajo Agricultural Products Industries (NAPi) farms CEO to arrange for a signed MOU/Resolution to proceed. Rivera told Forbes his organization will work with closely with Navajo commerce and agricultural divisions. Tribal lands cover parts of New Mexico, Utah and Arizona. The farm where they plan to begin industrial hemp production is in New Mexico.

Audit Finds Taxpayer Funds Missing on Lower Brule

The Lower Brule in South Dakota misspent or couldn't account for roughly $1.4 million in federal funds for a rural water system, including thousands of dollars paid to officials for meetings they didn't attend and money spent on a backhoe that couldn't be found, according to a government audit report.

The Interior Department's Office of Inspector General reviewed roughly $2.6 million worth of grant money, interviewing federal and tribal employees and reviewing tribal financial documents.

The audit, launched after human rights organization alleged financial mismanagement in the Lower Brule Sioux tribe's government last year, found the tribe claimed $1.44 million in grant costs for the operation and maintenance of a water system between 2012 and 2015 that were unsupported, unallowable or unreasonable.

Celebrating Native American Heritage and Traditional Foods in FDPIR

Posted by Lindsay Williams, Food Distribution Division, USDA Food and Nutrition Service

Autumn is a time to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for, as we enjoy the harvest of nature's bounty during gatherings with family and friends. In Indian Country, culture and tradition are sustained through shared meals with family and the community.

Traditional foods are a powerful way for each new generation to connect with and honor its history and its ancestors, and participants in USDA's Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) have access to more traditional foods than ever this year.

November, Native American Heritage Month, is an especially fitting time to celebrate the addition to FDPIR of bison, blue cornmeal, wild rice, and wild salmon – foods that not only nourish a body but sustain a culture.

In collaboration with the FDPIR community, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service and Food and Nutrition Service have been working to identify culturally relevant foods to procure and offer through FDPIR, a program that provides healthy food and nutrition education to an average of 92,500 income-eligible individuals living on or near reservations across the United States each month.

The food package offers more than 100 domestically sourced, nutritious foods, including a variety of meat, poultry, fish, dairy, grains, and fruits and vegetables. In both fiscal year 2015 and 2016, USDA received an additional allocation of $5 million dedicated to traditional and locally-grown foods. This fund, authorized under the 2014 Farm Bill and subject to the availability of appropriations, has allowed the exploration of new culinary opportunities for FDPIR.

In late 2015, bison and blue cornmeal became the first traditional foods delivered through FDPIR. More than half a million pounds of frozen, lean ground bison meat have reached program participants throughout the country, with an additional one million pounds already on contract to be distributed over the next year. Two of the three bison vendors are Native American-owned small businesses. Tribes received whole-grain blue cornmeal during the 2015 holiday season, and beginning in mid-2016, have been able to receive this nutrient-rich product year-round.

In August 2016, USDA awarded contracts for two new traditional foods, traditionally-harvested wild rice and wild frozen sockeye salmon fillets. Deliveries of both products are anticipated to begin later this year.

The wild rice comes from the White Earth Band of Chippewa and Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Minnesota. Both of these tribes administer FDPIR in their communities. The tribes employ the traditional wild rice harvesting practices of hand harvesting and wood parching, and USDA is delighted to have these new USDA Foods vendors on board to provide this specialized product to FDPIR participants.

This new quartet of traditional foods seeks to meet the cultural preferences of tribes in various regions of the country. The addition of these wholesome foods to FDPIR not only benefits the program participants who receive them but also the Native American vendors who provide them, and USDA is proud to support both ends of the food chain in Indian Country.
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court

16126 John Moose Drive NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
(218) 335-3682 • (218) 335-4418

Honorable Paul W. Day, Chief Judge of Tribal Court
Honorable Megan E. Treuer, Associate Judge of Tribal Court

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN TRIBAL COURT

FAMILY DIVISION

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:
Rozelle Wilson and Dean Jourdain, Parents.
Court File No. CP-15-33 Date Filed: Aug. 24, 2016

Nitamiwabigo N. Brown, Richard A. Schulman, and
Darrell D. Jackson (Deceased), Parents.
Court File No. CP-14-22 Date Filed: June 7, 2016

Heather Gogleye and Ferris Jessepe, Parents.
Court File No. CP-14-38 Date Filed: Oct. 7, 2016

NOTICE
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on October 13th, 2016, a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody were filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the children of the above-named parents. Please contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for the next hearing date and time. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE IN TRIBAL COURT

CIVIL DIVISION

In Re: Estate of:
Jami Jo-Ann Headbird,
Decedent

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS

CASE NO. FA-16-178

DATED: October 18, 2016.

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Jami Jo-Ann Headbird, died 08/19/2016. A hearing was held before the Honorable Megan Treuer, Associate Judge of the above-named Tribal Court located in the Leech Lake Facility Center, Upper Level, 16126 John Moose Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 4th day of October, 2016 at 11:30 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Probate, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Shari Headbird-Archambault; surviving mother of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on October 4th, 2016, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Shari Headbird-Archambault,6745 Blue Granite Lane NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633, was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Jami Jo-Ann Headbird, decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all creditors having a claim against the estate are required to present the same to the Personal Representative or the Clerk of the Leech Lake Tribal Court within ninety days (90) days from the date of the first publication of the notice or claims will be barred.

DATED this 5th day of October 2016.
SNAP-Ed Program: "Educating the Community In Ways to Live Healthy Lifestyles"

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) is a program through the United States Department of Agriculture to help people and families on how to eat healthier, be healthier and stretch their dollar further when purchasing nutritious foods.

The Leech Lake SNAP-Ed program is a team of two, Danielle Sutherland the Nutrition Manager and Claire Tsuji the Nutrition Education Assistant. The SNAP-Ed Program has been housed at the Leech Lake Head Start for just over a year and has been doing a lot of exciting things. Some of these including getting their community garden started this summer and also the arrival of their Green House which was funded through Seeds of Native Health.

The two educators have stayed busy the last two months. Also, at the Head Start they have been able to step into a couple of the classrooms to assist with nutrition lessons and teach the kids all the ways that vegetables and fruits are helping their bodies grow! They also talk about what they’re tasting and how easy it is to add more nutrients to their everyday life.

The SNAP-Ed program has also been involved with the Leech Lake Head Start’s Pregnant Mothers program. Lessons on food safety and time saving food preparation has been shared with the program. Along with tricks on how to prep and make things easier in the kitchen for when their babies arrive.

The SNAP-Ed program has continued to service the youth at the Leech Lake Boys and Girls Club as well. They teach a nutrition lesson every Thursday at the Club starting at 3:15pm. The program has utilized all the elements of its program and generally teaches lessons that include a physical activity and also food preparation in their nutrition lesson. The kids love to learn how to prepare food and they have even been exposed to trying foods outside of their comfort zone that they were surprised to enjoy. They leave each session with a recipe and other relevant handouts to share with their family and other friends that weren’t able to attend.

The SNAP-Ed educators are always excited to share our nutritional information with our community. They are currently working on more outreach in the Leech Lake area as well as continuing what they have already established.

If your program is interesting in nutrition classes please contact us via email at Claire.tsuji@llojibwe.org or Danielle.sutherland@llojibwe.org. You can also reach us by phone at 218-335-8344.

BUG-O-NAY-GE-SHIG SCHOOL NEWS

Submitted by Mary Trapp, Superintendent

School Board Report:

The Board received for their review drafts of three choices for graduation to include course work and study for Indigenous Learning, Career and Vocational Studies, and College Prep. High School teachers met last spring for three days to develop the pathways and it is anticipated that teachers will continue to work on the courses identified and refine as necessary. Curriculum mapping was also started last spring.

Student attendance/enrollment reports at Bug O Nay Ge Shig, grades K-12, indicate 167 students enrolled, and attendance varying from 64.92% (Grade 11) to fourth grade with a 91.51% attendance rate. Bug O Nay Ge Shig has a very involved Family Liaison Contact who works with administration and teachers to track student attendance and student needs in order to assure that students are in school. Attendance concerns are also reviewed at Case Management meetings and recommendations are developed to meet student needs and parent concerns.

The school Native Star Leadership Team has developed four school-wide goals for 2016-2021:
1. All Bug O Nay Ge Shig teachers will analyze data from formative and summative assessments to systematically monitor and adjust instruction so that 20% of students in grades 2-9 show growth in reading and math by May, 2018, and then annually.
2. Native Star Leadership Team will develop a school readiness program by June, 2017, for children turning 5 by September 1 of year with program implementation by September, 2017.
3. The Bug O Nay Ge Shig School Staff will develop a K-12 report card aligned to CCSS by June, 2017.
4. Native Star Leadership Team will consolidate and align all school improvement initiatives by establishment of a school improvement process by January 31, 2017.

The school board received a copy of the current staffing levels and assignments for grades K-12.

We continue to anticipate the coming decisions about building contractors for the new high school. Recent communication with the project manager indicates that the early design process will begin after the Thanksgiving Break and will include LLBO staff, school staff, and students. Bug O Nay Ge Shig staff met recently with area foresters to discuss the removal of trees and the possible development of an orchard on campus. The water that supplies the old high school building has been moved to the north of the old high school. Discussions about the existing surveillance system communications and electronics and the phone system has been an on-going discussion with the network administrator and school teams. A critical concern is that the school’s phone system is at ‘end of life’ and the interest to retain the CISCO phone system for the new building. The school board will continue to receive updates about the design process for the new high school and will receive notices about confirmed dates with the project manager and new contractor.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) is a program through the United States Department of Agriculture to help people and families on how to eat healthier, be healthier and stretch their dollar further when purchasing nutritious foods.

The two educators have stayed busy the last two months. Also, at the Head Start they have been able to step into a couple of the classrooms to assist with nutrition lessons and teach the kids all the ways that vegetables and fruits are helping their bodies grow! They also talk about what they’re tasting and how easy it is to add more nutrients to their everyday life.

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If your program is interesting in nutrition classes please contact us via email at Claire.tsuji@llojibwe.org or Danielle.sutherland@llojibwe.org. You can also reach us by phone at 218-335-8344.
Wellness Court Anniversary  Continued from Page 1

In addition to the anniversary celebration, the Wellness Court also held the graduation ceremony for four current members who have advanced to the final stage of the program. Current and past members of the program were recognized and introduced themselves and shared their current sobriety accomplishments which ranged from 30 days up to more than 3 years! Congratulations to all of the participants!

As part of the program requirements, participants are required to complete a 32 hour community service project. One participant, Joshua Singleton, crafted a traditional ceremonial pipe which was presented to Leech Lake Tribal Court Judge Megan Treuer, who received instructions from Elder Mike Smith on how to begin the process of becoming a traditional pipe carrier.

The event wrapped up with a midday meal for all of the attendees. The Debahjimon, on behalf of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe wishes to congratulate and thank all of the many individuals who founded and continue to promote this truly groundbreaking and much accomplished initiative. Miigwech!

Wellness Court Background

The vision of Leech Lake Justice System is to restore Minobimaadiziwin (the Good Life) for all people served by the Tribal Justice System, which will provide a progressive, non-judgmental path for juveniles and adults to health and forgiveness.

The mission of Leech Lake Justice System is to utilize traditional Ojibwe culture, practices, and values; to protect the rights of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe people; to preserve natural and band resources; and to promote peace, health and public safety within the Leech Lake Reservation.

The Wellness Court is a post-conviction, post-sentencing DWI Court founded on the 10 principles of drug courts. The court handles the cases of both tribal members and non-Indians. Its mission is to enhance public safety by providing hope and opportunities for appropriate treatment with accountability, thereby improving the quality of life within families and in the community.

The Wellness Court team consists of multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary core teams made up of representatives from tribal, county, state and other agencies. Wellness Court sessions run simultaneously in Cass Lake (in the tribal courtroom) and in Walker (in the district courtroom). Clients have the option of appearing for court hearings either in Cass Lake or Walker, whichever is most convenient, and the courtrooms are connected by interactive videoconferencing (ITV) for hearings.

This unique problem-solving court, billed as the first collaboration between a tribal court and state criminal court in the United States to combat drug and alcohol addiction, has won multiple awards, including an award for court innovation from the National Criminal Justice Association. After ten years both Wellness Courts continue operating to help community members get sober and stay sober.

The Wellness Court has also been the recipient of the Harvard Honoring Nations Award (Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University) and the National Association of Drug Court Professionals Cultural Proficiency Courage Award. It was also nominated for a United Nations Public Service Award.
KOJB Recently Celebrated Their 5th Anniversary

Three longtime employees, Frank Reese, Brad Walhof and Marie Rock (pictured below) were recognized for their important contributions in moving the Radio Station forward from a dream into reality. They each received a plaque thanking them for their contributions at the event. Congratulations KOJB!

LLBO Member Receives MAICC Scholarship

Miss Skyler Kuczaboski is a Senior at Harding High School and enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Skyler has an impressive GPA of 4.43! Skyler works hard taking several dual enrollment classes: accelerated and International Baccalaureate.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, American Indian Studies Distinctions Program Scholar, Editor in Chief for The Beacon, Harding High School Newspaper, among many other achievements.

The most notable accomplishment for Skyler is her pride in her LLBO Heritage and has been learning the language since she was a little girl, she dances, participates in Ojibwe Language Bowl, and enjoys beading. Skyler is an active volunteer and hasn't quite decided where she will be attending college, however, we are sure she will be successful.

Congratulations Skyler!

Diabetes Expo Held in November

The Diabetes Expo held in Cass Lake as part of Diabetes Awareness month drew over 115 participants.

Attendees had the opportunity to receive a free flu shot and visit more than 10 informational booths. Topics covered included Carb Counting, Smoking Cessation, Foot Care, Healthy Eating, Traditional Foods and more.

Guests also had the opportunity to sample a variety of healthy traditional foods such as: Baked Whitefish, Roasted Venison, Duck/Wild Rice Soup and more!
NATIVE HERITAGE NIGHT

Leech Lake vs Red Lake
Youth Game
Target Center
Minneapolis, MN
Melinda Neville is the Earth System Science Program Coordinator and Instructor at LLTC, and is passionate about air and water quality. She is teaching geology, meteorology and other Earth Science classes, and is designing the environmental monitoring network to support community research.

Neville returned to Minnesota after a decade of research in Maine on non-point source pollution (mercury and acid rain) and cyberinformatics approaches for legacy environmental data management.

Current projects here in the Northwoods include integrating environmental monitoring with classes. For example, the new LLTC weather station reporting directly from campus (https://rainwise.net/weather/LLTC56633) connects our observations of the weather with meteorological measurements.

The next project is an Earth Systems Science blog, coming soon at www.gidakiim.com. We will feature local research, students, and environmental issues for the Leech Lake area, and hope that you’ll visit and contribute to our phenology archive in 2017.

Submitted by Priscilla Fairbanks, Distance Education Coordinator

Leech Lake Tribal College has an extremely impressive faculty. This month we are highlighting two instructors from the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) program. Instructors Melinda Neville and Katie Zlonis routinely host guest presenters, and schedule fieldtrips to enhance the learning experience.

Katie Zlonis

I am excited to be a new faculty member at Leech Lake Tribal College (LLTC) heading the Forest Ecology program. Since a young age, I have been enthralled by life outdoors, especially plant life. My career in plant science and teaching started at the University of Minnesota Duluth, where I taught biology labs and researched how plants respond to climate change as a graduate student. In addition to my education, I worked with the MN Department of Natural Resources as a student worker plant ecologist surveying old growth forests, and at UMD as a project manager for a nation-wide project to collect seeds for research. I am currently pursuing my PhD, researching rare arctic plant populations on the north shore of Lake Superior.

I feel privileged to have the opportunity to continue to study plants and share my love for the forested native plant communities of Minnesota with my students in the Forest Ecology program at LLTC. The Associate of Science in Forest Ecology is unique among our programs and similar degrees at other colleges. The program’s Ojibwe name, Gikenimindwa Mitigoog translates to “getting to know the trees.” This is an apt name for a program that teaches students the technical skills necessary to obtain entry-level employment, while gaining an understanding of northern Minnesota forests and the plants and animals that live within them that is grounded in Anishinaabe values.

My favorite part of my job here at LLTC is getting out into the field with my students. This semester we have done many fun field trips and field experiences including identifying plants at Big Bog State Recreation Area, banding ducks (see photo next page), learning about wildlife management techniques at a local Wildlife Management Area, and tracking hares using telemetry with Leech Lake DRM. Next semester, I am excited to teach classes in Dendrology (the study of trees), Geographic Information Science (GIS), Introduction to Forestry, and Ecology. If you enjoy the outdoors and learning about nature, and the types of things we do in this program sound interesting to you, a career in natural resources may be a good fit.

If you have any questions, want more information, or would like to enroll, please visit our website at www.lltc.edu and contact me (218-335-4272; katie.zlonis@lltc.edu) or the registrar (218-335-4222). I would love to see you in class this spring!

Chris Stauffer has been selected as the December Student of the Month for Leech Lake Tribal College. Chris was nominated by faculty member Audrey Thayer, Arts and Humanities Instructor.

Chris is recognized for his high standards, good grades and consistent attendance. He provides assistance to other students and is very active in campus activities.

Chris is a loving father, and is active in community events designed for families. Recently, he set aside financial support for the families at Standing Rock. It is a pleasure to recognize Christopher Stauffer as our December Student of the Month.

Karen Cary, Dean of Students
Leech Lake Tribal College students in the Wildlife Biology course learned to band ducks this fall with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Data from banded ducks helps researchers understand changes in duck populations, including health concerns, and helps managers make decisions regarding ducks and their habitat. Pictured above, on the left, is Minnesota DNR Waterfowl Research Biologist Matt Weegman; on the right is LLTC student Mike Kohler.

Contact the DRM Air Quality Program at 218-335-7429 air@lldrm.org to get more information. We are looking for both immediate and future projects. There is an upcoming cost share program to assist with potential wood stove change outs. We want to get the word out to Tribal Members and be apart of this upgrade opportunity.

Contact the DRM Air Quality Program if you answer YES to the following:

- Do you burn wood to heat your home?
- Is your wood stove old?
- Does it burn a lot of wood?
- Would you be interested in upgrading stoves?
Donna Elleen Beaulieu

Donna “Grandma” Elleen Beaulieu began her journey on November 26, 2016 at the age of 84. She was born in Fertile, Iowa on April 19, 1932 to Squire and Laura (Crowell) Parker. Donna grew up on the family farm in Iowa and graduated from Fertile High School in 1950. After high school she attended and graduated from bible college. She worked for the Bug-o-Nay-Ge-Shig School for many years before changing her career paths completely by taking a job as a telemarketer with Synergy for many years before changing her career paths completely by taking a job as a telemarketer with Synergy. She worked there for 17 years before retiring.

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

David Anthony Fineday, Sr.

David Anthony Fineday, Sr., 56 years old, “Gizihiwabinashe” which means “Rolling Thunder” of Pennington, Minnesota began his spiritual journey from St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul, MN on November 28, 2016. David was born in Cass Lake, MN on April 6, 1960, the son of Henry and Annie (Gibbs) Fineday.

David was an energetic, retired and an avid gambler who loved going for long walks with no planned destination. He was loved by all people and loved spending time with family. It was not uncommon to see Dave walking the roads. He loved spending time with his grandchildren as much as he could. He also enjoyed watching various ghost programs such as “Ancient Aliens” on T.V. with friends and family. Dave loved sitting at the park by the lake and watching the many different kinds of animals. His life was an adventure that took him to many places, where he met many new people and acquired many funny jokes along the way. Dave’s life was larger than life.

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

Kenneth Wayne Gale

Kenneth Wayne Gale, 66 years old of Federal Dam, Minnesota passed away on November 1, 2016. Ken was born in Cass Lake Minnesota on February 18, 1950, the son of Bert and Lillian (Johnson) Gale, Sr.

Family welcoming David to the spirit world are his parents; Henry and Annie Fineday, grandparents; Hazel and Joseph Fineday, adopted son; Jose Washington, grandchild; Windy and Sunny Fineday and Blossom Reyes, many aunts, uncles and other relatives.

Those who will carry on David’s memory are his sons; David Anthony (Tracey Molash) Fineday, Jr. and Daniel Benjamin Fineday both of Cass Lake, daughter; April Lynn Hurd of Cass Lake, sisters; Claricy (Juan) Gonzales, Sally Fineday, Donna (Duane) Beaudreau and Delores Fineday all of Pennington, special brother; George Fineday, Jr., 10 grandchildren, one great grandson, other family and friends.

A wake for David began at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 1st and continued until his traditional service at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 3rd all held at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake, Minnesota. Richard Morrison was his Spiritual Leader. Helping to lay David to rest were George Fineday, Jr., Glen Fineday, Jr., Rick O’Brien, Franklin Sam, Juan Gonzales and Justin Chase. Alternate pallbearers were Matt Carley and Leith Chase. His honorary pallbearers were Mary O’Brien-Finn, Myron Fineday, Matthew Bryan, Brandin Fineday, Delores Fineday, Geraldine Chase, his close friends and family. Interment was at the Fineday Family Burial Grounds at Pennington following his Saturday service.

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

Kenneth Wayne Gale

Kenneth is welcome to by his parents; Bert Gale, Sr. and Lillian Gale, his brothers; Bert Gale, Jr., Alvin Gale, Vernon Gale, and Ronald Gale, his sisters; Betty Lou Mettler, and Dolly Kottmeyer.

Kenneth’s spirit will be carried on by his son Matthew Gale, his daughters; Renee Gale and Leah Monroe (Shawn), grandchildren; Al Gale, Sadie Geving, Logan Monroe, Landon Monroe, Bridgette Heine, and Aaliyah Gale, brother; Darrell Gale (Karmen Urecker) and sisters; Stella Mitchell and Lavina Marion (Frank Marion), many nieces and nephews. A Celebration-of-Life memorial service for Ken was held at 1 p.m., Saturday, November 5th, 2016 at his home at 10274 Sugar Point Drive Northwest Federal Dam Minnesota 56641. Honorary pallbearers for Ken were John Mettling, Fred Domas, Alvin White, Lloyd Fisherman, Earl Machart, Clint Newell and all his family and friends. In keeping with Kenneth’s wishes, his ashes will remain with his family.

Ken's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker.

Dennis Allen McClimek

Dennis Allen McClimek, age 43, of Minneapolis, began his spiritual journey on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at Abbott Northwestern Hospital. He was born on December 27, 1972 in Cass Lake, Minnesota the son of Lawrence Alec McClimek and Judith Ann (Babinseau) McClimek.

Dennis’ son “Little D” was his pride and joy and the light of his life. Dennis was the best brother that anyone could ask for. He was a very good hearted person, and would help anyone in need no matter what it was. Dennis was a “fixer”, there was nothing he couldn’t fix, but he especially loved fixing cars. He also enjoyed dancing and being around friends. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Family that Dennis joins again are his parents; Lawrence and Judith McClimek, and one brother; David McClimek. Those he leaves behind to cherish his memory are sons; Dennis McClimek, Jr., and Tyler Losh brothers; Patrick (Judy)
McClimek and Leslie McClimek, and many other relatives and friends.

A wake for Dennis was held Friday, October 28 at 6:00 p.m. and continued until his services on Saturday, October 29 at 12:00 p.m., all being held at the Bena Community Center in Bena, Minnesota. Father Steve Daigle officiated. Pallbearers for Dennis were Dennis “Little D” McClimek, Jr., Trevor McClimek, Tyrone Babineau, Frank Sharlow, Scott Babineau, and Dominic Babineau. Honorary Pallbearers were Charlie Babineau, Francis Martineau, Cameron Babineau, Robert Charette, and Del Matthews. Interment was at the Lakeside Cemetery in Bena after his services.

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

Samuel Joseph Wilson


Samuel loved playing guitar and free styling, going by the name “Danksta.” He enjoyed hanging with his bros and cousins playing and watching football. He was a line cook at the Dancing Fire restaurant at Northern Lights Casino. Samuel played basketball all the way through high school and was a 2011 graduate from Remer. He was currently a student at Leech Lake Tribal College for Natural Resources studying Microbiology. He wanted to find other resources like indigenous plants to help with medicinal medicine. He also enjoyed playing Call of Duty on his Xbox and spending time with his brother and sister. He helped part time with the Environmental Emergency Response Team.

The family members he joins again are great-grandmothers; Caroline Monroe and Rose Johnson, grandfathers; Samuel Goose, Jr., Emery Jenkins, Sam Johnson, and Grandpa Bill, grandmother; Louise Jenkins, aunts; Carol Goose, Norma Reich and Patty Monroe, uncles; Kevin Goose, Terrence “Chopper” White, Terrence Wilson, Sr., cousins; Tracy Gale and Terrell Wilson, baby brother; Joseph John Jenkins, nephew; Allen Brown III, cousin; Baby Thunder, and many friends, cousins and relatives.

Samuel leaves behind his mother; Tonya Wilson of Sugar Point, father; Jason McMurrin, Sr. of Walker; sisters; Tori “Sissy” McMurrin of Federal Dam, Brooke Jenkins, Tori Jenkins both of Deer River and Sarah McConaha of Berndji, brothers; Jason McMurrin, Jr. of Federal Dam, Emery Jenkins of Deer River, Eli and Bentley Jenkins of Hill City, aunts; Carrie, Rozelle and Elaina Wilson, Robbie and Lynn Howe, Christine and Liasney McMurrin, Renee, Anna and Kimberly Jenkins, uncles; Neil and Amos LaDuke, great uncles; Rick Goose, great aunt; Loretta Monroe, and cousin; David Chase.

A wake for Samuel was held at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 1st and continued until his traditional service at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, November 3rd all at the Battle Point Community Center in Federal Dam. Spiritual leader for Samuel was Allen Hardy. Pallbearers were Enrique Goose, Dylan “White boy” Johnson, Larry Goose, Jr, Jerrin Wilson, Tyler Wilson, Raymond Geving, Donald Geving, Aaron Losh, Shawn Hofius, Wil Neurerer and Scott Dahmen. Honorary Pallbearers were Tori “Tip Tor” McMurrin, Jason McMurrin, IoLanthe ‘Kilo’ Wilson, Darwin Wilson, Chyanne Wilson, Ashley Wilson, “V” Tamara Wilson, Muriel ‘Lois’ Mitchell, Mr & Mrs. Joe Akre, Norma McMurrin, Rob Elmberg, A.J. Gale, Lynn Hofius, Ron Johnson, Josh Losh, Donnie Losh, Carl White, Jr, Dennis Banks, Carrie Johnson, Rozelle Wilson, Elaina Wilson, Robbie Howe, Lynn Howe, Loretta Monroe, Mary Lou Reich and Eva Mangum, Rick Goose, special friend Paris Nacazio and the Dancing Fire Staff. Interment was in the Battle Point Cemetery at Battle Point, MN.

Samuel’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.

Geraldine Lucille Chase

Geraldine “Puffer” Lucille Chase, age 49, of Bena, Minnesota passed away on Monday, October 31, 2016 at the Cass Lake IHS Hospital in Cass Lake. She was born in Cass Lake, MN on June 27, 1967, the daughter of Harry and Sandra (Leith) Chase.

Puffer loved spending time with her grandchildren, nieces and nephews. When she wasn’t spending time with family and friends she liked to go to the casino, fishing, hunting, swimming rummaging and playing games on her phone. Geraldine was a girly girl who loved her dresses, doing her nails and her make-up. She enjoyed taking walks, singing, dancing, joking around and teasing and occasionally “bustin’ some caps”. She will forever be missed and loved by all.

Family that welcomed Geraldine home are her parents; Harry Melvin and Sandra “Bing” Chase, Sr. and her brother; Leith Scott Chase.

She leaves behind to cherish her memory her sons; Ronald (Virginia) Staples, Jr. of Cass Lake and Andrew Charles Staples of Minneapolis, daughter; Randi Mae (Baby Daddy) Quagon of Haywood, WI, brother; Harry Melvin (Jerilynn) Chase, Jr. of Bena, sister; Genevieve Chase of Bena, grandbabies; Rylea Jo Staples, Raynie Dayz Gale, Ronald “Baby Biggers” Joseph Staples III and a grandbaby due in May, nieces; Cassie Brown, Jamie Kay, Ashley, Candace and Geri Chase, Leah and Angela White, nephews; Gerald Scott Northbird and Leith Scott Chase, numerous friends and other family.

Helping to lay Puffer to rest were Andrew Staples, Joseph “Weasel” Chase, Thomas Chase, David Chase, Sr., Ronald Staples, Jr., Arthur Chase, Jr., Dakota Jones, Nicholas Jones, Richard O’Brien and Edward Chase. Puffer's honorary pallbearers were Randi Quagon, Lawrence Quagon, Delores Fineday, Emmanuel and Bonnie Sargent, Nancy Chase, Ron Staples, Sr., Harry Chase Jr. and Genevieve Chase and all her grandkids and family. Interment was in the Lakeview Cemetery at Bena following her Saturday service.

Geraldine’s care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com.
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Independent School District No. 317, Deer River, Minnesota, is currently accepting applications for the following position:

**INDIAN EDUCATION ACADEMIC TUTOR**

For the remainder of the 2016-2017 School Year

Monday through Friday on student calendar days; 8:00am – 3:15pm

**Primary Duties:**
Provide academic support and Drum and Dance supervision to students grades K-12.

**Qualifications:**
Strong Math and Language Arts background. Valid MN Teaching license for American Indian Language & Culture preferred, but not required.

**Deadline:**
Applications will be accepted online until the position is filled.

**Salary:**
In accordance with education and experience.

To apply for this position please visit:

If you need assistance with the online application process, please contact Human Resources at 218-246-2420 x 60208 or email hr@isd317.org

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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**Foster Homes Needed**

on the Leech Lake Reservation

Leech Lake Foster Care is in need of loving foster homes within our reservation's boundaries. Please consider opening your hearts and your homes to ensure the safety and well-being of our children.

**BASIC REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:**
Residence on/near Leech Lake Reservation, Member of Federally Recognized Tribe App., Home Safety Assessment, Physical Exam, Background Check, & Drug Screening

**TYPES OF FOSTER HOMES NEEDED:**

**Regular**
**Relative**
**Emergency**

**Therapeutic**
**Medically Fragile**
**Respite**

**PLEASE APPLY AT:**
L.L. Child Welfare Foster Care
6035 161st St. NW,
Cass Lake, MN 56633
Main Office: 218-335-8270

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**LEECHE Lake BAND OF Ojibwe**

**Summary of Job Openings**

[www.llojibwe.org](http://www.llojibwe.org) | drop off or mail documents to:
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe – Human Resources
115 Sixth St NW, Suite E - Cass Lake, MN 56633
Fax documents to: 1-218-335-3697
Call 218-335-3698 or toll free 1-800-631-5528 for more info

**THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CLOSE ON DECEMBER 23rd, 2016**

Benefits Specialist ~ Human Resources ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-178
A&D Men’s Outpatient Driver ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q. Job Code: 16-177

**THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED**

RN MN Choice Assessor ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-176
Twin Cities Office Supervisor ~ Administration ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-168
YouthBuild Construction Manager ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Jon Code: 16-167
Youth Program Manager ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-166
Nutrition Counselor ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-162
Lead Carpenter ~ DPW ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-161
Bena Pre School Team Leader ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-157
Child & Teen Checkup Outreach LPN ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-149
Sugar Point Youth Activity Coordinator ~ Education ~ $1200/hr. ~ Job Code: 16-148
Kege Lake Youth Activity Coordinator ~ Education ~ $1200/hr. ~ Job Code: 16-147
Mid-Level Provider ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-145
Onigum Infant Toddler Teacher ~ Education ~ $1200/hr. ~ Job Code: 16-136
Internal Audit Director ~ Administration ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-133
Pre School Team Leader ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-131
Cook – Sugar Point ~ Education ~ $10.25/hr. ~ Job Code: 16-111
Environmental Health Specialist ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-104B
Cass Lake Pre School Teacher ~ Education ~ $10.25/hr. Job Code: 16-101
Bemidji Pre School Teacher ~ Education ~ $10.25/hr. Job Code: 16-156B
Budget Team Leader ~ Finance ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-098
Cash Management Team Leader ~ Finance ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-097
Ball Club Special Needs Teacher Assistant ~ Education ~ $10.25/hr. ~ Job Code: 16-052B
Registered Nurse ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-047C
Part-Time EMT Attendant (7) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 15-137B
Cook - Cass Lake ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 15-087D
Mental Health Therapist ~ Human Services/OTP ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 15-171
AOB Infant/Toddler Teacher (2) ~ Education ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 16-032B
Ball Club Family Service Advocate ~ Education ~ $10.25 hr ~ Job Code: 16-032B
Program Accountant (3) ~ Finance ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 15-120C
Child Protection Case Manager (2) ~ Human Services ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 16-018B
Full-Time LPN (2) ~ Human Services/OTP ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-097
Mental Health Professional ~ Human Services ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-081

**THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN CONTINUOUS**
Pt Cashier/Che-We ~ Business Development ~ $10.25/hr ~ Job Code: 16-000
Pt Cashier/NLE ~ Business Development ~ $10.25/hr ~ Job Code: 16-001
December Birthdays

Larry Fairbanks
Sandra Fairbanks
Delores Lindberg
Howard Sherman
Darrell Wilson Sr.

Brian Howard
Burton Alger
Joel Bebeau
Joseph Warner
Donna Tibbetts

William Bowstring
Barbara Bellanger
Dorothy Robinson
Margaret Greenside
Donald Wayne White

From District I Office Penny, Sarah, & Sondra

Wishing District II Elders a Happy Birthday!

December

Kenneth Brown
Henrietta Finn

Mary Helling
Myrna Whitebird

From District II Office Steve, Michelle, & Amos

Apply Today

Contact our Admissions Office today to start your application process for the upcoming semester!

Natural Sciences & Technology
- Forest Ecology, Associate of Science
- Earth Science Systems, Associate of Science
- Liberal Education w/ STEM, Associate of Arts

Career & Technical Education
- Law Enforcement, Associate of Applied Science
- Business Management, Associate of Applied Science
- Integrated Residential Builder, Associate of Applied Science
- Residential Carpentry, Diploma

Arts & Humanities
- Early Childhood Development, Associate of Arts
- Indigenous Leadership, Associate of Arts
- Liberal Education, Associate of Arts
PURCHASE TICKETS:
Call 1-877-544-4879
or visit
northernlightscasino.com

All tickets include $5 casino Free Play offer:

**The Country Revolution Tour**
Saturday
December 10th
Tickets: $25/$29/$39

**UFC 207**
Nunes vs. Rousey
DEC 30 FRIDAY ON PPV
Doors open at 5pm
PPV begins at 5:30pm

**Kim Russo**
The Happy Medium
Saturday
January 7th
Tickets: $20/$34/$39

**Jerrod Niemann**
Saturday
Jan. 21st
Tickets: $25/$35/$45

**CASH IN on the New Year**
Saturday, December 31st
FREE PLAY
Earn 50 points from 6am-2pm and swipe your card to win up to $500 in free play.

HOT SEAT DRAWINGS
$1,000 hourly from 5pm-Midnight
& 1am-2am
One lucky guest will win $2,017
between Midnight & 1am

**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR’S BUFFETS**

**CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**
$11.95 • 9am-3pm

**CHRISTMAS DINNER**
$15.95 • 5pm-10pm

**NEW YEAR’S EVE DINNER**
$24.95 • 4pm-11pm

**NEW YEAR’S DAY BRUNCH**
$11.95 • 9am-2pm

**CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER**
$12.99 • 5pm-8pm

**NEW YEAR’S EVE DINNER**
$18.95 • 5pm-10pm

**NEW YEAR’S DAY BRUNCH**
$12.95 • 9am-2pm

**WALKER, MN**
northernlightscasino.com

**CASS LAKE, MN**
palacecasinohotel.com