A Monthly Publication of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



Giga-waabamin minawaa I'll see you again.

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INSIDE





QUARTERLY **REPORTS**

PRESORTED STANDARD US POSTAGE PAID BEMIDJI, MN PERMIT NO. 68



Dictured above is Chairwoman Jones testifying on behalf of the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School on Capitol Hill. Chairwoman Jones, Ustrict I Rep. Penny DeVault, District II Rep. Steve White and Secretary Treasurer Archir Larose traveled to Washington D.C. to lobby Congress for more school funding and to testify earlier this year.

Chairwoman Jones testified in front of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and the Environment. The Leech Lake Band has been lobbying Congress for school funding with the hopes that a safer and more state of the art facility will help offer an education to our younger generations so that they may be better informed about the world around them and take advantage of the opportunities that are offered to students who do well in school and advance to college and post graduate training. These opportunities lead to better jobs where our Band members can create a better life for their kids and offer them similar opportunities to have a better education and a chance at better employment opportunities so they can give their kids a better life with more opportunities.

The greater picture of why the Band's leadership is aggressively pursuing more education funding is to create a cycle of prosperity where better lives are attained through a more well-rounded education, and passing these opportunities on to generation after generation to come so that parents can keep giving more and more to the youth of our community, thus fulfilling an unwritten law of our culture which is to leave the world a better place than we found it.

Tribal Chair Carri Jones Quarterly Newsletter

A niin and greetings from the Tribal Chair's office. We have been working on many exciting projects and are excited to share our progress with the Band membership.

Collaborative Meeting with Foundation Partners

In February, the Leech Lake RBC met with the Blandin Foundation, Northwest Area Foundation, and the Initiative Foundation in St. Paul. The meeting was held between the four organizations in order to identify common areas of interest within the partnership, understand what has been accomplished and what remains, and identify next steps, partner responsibilities and commitments going forward. The three Continued on page 2



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Tribal Chair Carri Jones Quarterly Newsletter

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organizations offer many resources for the Band to utilize as Leech Lake has many issues unique to our community and people. I look forward to continuing communication and collaboration with Blandin, Northwest Area and the Initiative Foundation in the future on Leech Lake projects and concerns.

Yoobi Class Pack for K-5 Teachers



Need Kids in The Foundation donated over 54 Yoobi Class Packs for grade K-5 teachers at Cass Lake-Bena and King School in Deer River. The Yoobi Class Packs are given to a classroom teacher and provide supplies for up to 30 students. The pack includes 30 packs of crayons, 30 packs of pencils, 30 pencil sharpeners, and more. The Kids in Need Foundation is also interested in donating school supplies in the summer to Leech Lake for the Backpack Giveaways.

Leech Lake is eligible for this partnership as some area schools have 70% or more of their students getting free or reduced lunch. Leech Lake Legacy President Marilou Chanrasmi worked with the Band on obtaining this opportunity and helped transport the Class Packs from the Twin Cities to area schools.

LLBO Flag Dedication at Hibbing Community College

The Diversity Committee and Multicultural Club at Hibbing Community College requested the donation of the LLBO flag to be flown at the their college. Hibbing College undertook an endeavor to gather the flags of each student's homeland to be flown at the student commons – over 25 foreign countries, a dozen U.S. states and at least 12 Native American nations. Leech Lake happily donated our flag to Hibbing College with a dedication ceremony held on February 19th, 2015. Leech



Lake is honored to be included and represented at Hibbing Community College.

Governor Dayton's Transportation Proposal

On March 16th, I joined Red Lake Chairman Seki and White Earth Chairwoman Viznor for Governor Dayton's press conference in Bemidji to announce his transportation proposal. The Governor's proposal would make needed improvements to Highway 2 and 371, repair area bridges, and invest up to \$184 million in transportation in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Cass, Itasca, and Koochiching counties over the next ten years. The Tribal Chairs from the three Bands spoke of the importance to ensure Tribes are actively included in this proposal should it be passed by the Legislature. Specifically, I spoke of the importance to improve pedestrian safety along Highway 2. As many of our Band members use Highway shoulders to walk to stores and visit other homes, we highlighted the importance of constructing walking/biking paths in Bena, Ball Club, Cass Lake, and Deer River to name a few. I also expressed the need for flashing digital speed signing and other safety measures in various communities.

Bilingual Ojibwe/English Road Signs



In December 2014 the Leech Lake Band and Cass County signed a Memorandum of Agreement to identify and develop Ojibwe and English language road signs in surrounding communities. The first bilingual signs were posted in the Prescott community reading "Community Center – Maawanji'idiiwigamig". Tribal Roads plans to post similar signs in other Tribal communities around Cass County. Leech Lake is also currently finalizing a Memorandum of Agreement with Itasca County in order to post bilingual signs in communities such as S. Lake and Inger.

Prenatal Drug & Alcohol Exposure a Public Health Concern

Over the past year it has come to the Band's attention that an increasing number of newborn babies are experiencing negative side effects due to the mother's drug abuse. In 2014 Leech Lake Child Protection received a total of 343 reports where drug and alcohol abuse were the primary concern of the reporter. 167 of these reports met the minimum threshold to open a child protection assessment. It is reported 60 babies were born exposed to drugs and at least 18 of those babies experienced drug withdrawal systems in the hospital including convulsions, projectile vomiting, inconsolable crying and raw bottoms and mouths from the poisons exiting the body. Methamphetamine (meth) has now surpassed all drugs as the most frequently reported controlled substances found in newborn babies. The majority of women using substances during pregnancy do not follow through on recommended prenatal care. My office and the Leech Lake RBC seeks to approve a resolution declaring a public health emergency after receiving this report on newborns affected by drug and alcohol exposure. This resolution calls all Leech Lake divisions to make this health emergency a priority and use resources to develop solutions to this complex problem. We will work diligently to ensure the RBC does everything in its power to help the mothers, children and families exposed to drug and alcohol dangers.

Please be aware that, as an agency and following policy, Leech Lake Child Protection reaches out to extended families and communities to be a part of the solution. In most circumstances, Child Protection has a primary goal of working with families on a volunteer basis. If you have questions or are concerned about yourself, family or friend using drugs or alcohol, please contact Leech Lake Child Protection at 218-335-8270. Do not be afraid to ask for help!

ELDER EVENTS

Gwe Yak Mino Wisiin A Da

The Elder Service Provider Network (ESPN) along with LLBO administrative staff and the MCT SNAP-Ed Program hosted a traditional foods and storytelling event on March 12th in Bena. ESPN is a collaborative committee of MCT employees, LLBO Elder Advocates, and LLBO administrative staff working on hosting community events for our elders. Twenty-six elders attended the event enjoying storytelling by Elaine Fleming and a feast of baked white fish, wild rice, bannock with jam, and a diabetes friendly dessert of pineapple angel food cake.

Wisdom Steps Health Fair

Wisdom Steps and ESPN hosted a Health Fair for community elders in Bena on March 25th. Informative booths included MS Sure, MN Indian Area Agency on Aging, LL Diabetes Program, Massages and making fun hats to relieve stress. A free lunch was served along with door prizes and memory activities.

Indigenous Elder Abuse Awareness Conference 2015

The Elder Abuse Conference is an annual conference hosted by ESPN and various employees from the Ojibwe and Dakota tribes around Minnesota. This conference has been expanding and currently in its fourth year will be held at Mystic Lake Casino in Prior Lake, MN on April 30th and May 1st. While geared towards Indigenous elders, any enrolled or non-enrolled elder is welcome to attend. The two day conference will hold various workshops on topics including Healing through Art, Elder Abuse in Indian Country, and an ICWA panel for elders that care for young family members or grandchildren. Registration for the conference is free for elder aged 55+ and is currently open until April 17th, 2015. Contact your local Elder Advocate or Sadie Cooper at (218) 335-8585 if you wish to attend or for more information.

TESTIMONIES & LOBBYING EFFORTS

MN Indian Education Hearings Testimony

At the end of February, I submitted written testimony on behalf of the Band membership supporting the 2015 Indian Education Working Group's recommendations. Some of they key recommendations that the Leech Lake Nation supports includes:

Increasing funding to \$4.5 million to fund the Success for the Future (SFF). Historically, SFF has been a competitive grant school schools in Minnesota and thus the uncertainty is too great to do long-term planning. We recommend SFF becomes a program that benefits all eligible Native students. By increasing funding and removing the competitive nature of the grant, schools will be enabled to make long-term goals. Lift the \$1,500 cap on per pupil funding in Bureau of Indian Education Tribal School equalization formula, thus allowing more funding for the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig schools. With limited federal appropriated funds, we are unable to offer competitive wages. Additional funding will allow Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig schools to provide a just

and equitable education for our students.

ewCreate and fund new Early Childhood programs in Tribal communities as many are isolated and rural with many families lacking transportation.

Draft legislation to create a provision to allow flexibility for boards of charter schools operating within Tribal communities to determine their membership and board composition. The current language does not reflect the goals of Indian education as the legislation is written now. We encourage the State to draft charter school statutes through the lens of Native American educators.

Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Board Chair Rocky Papasodora provided verbal testminoy in front of the MN Senate and House Committees also concerning Indian Education. Mr. Papasodora focused his comments on the per pupil funding concerns in the BIE Tribal School Equalization formula. As Commissioner of Education Brenda Casseullius states, the average per pupil funding in Minnesota is approximately \$10,000 compared to the \$1,500 funding cap per BIE student in Minnesota. The lobbying efforts from Mr. Papasodora and myself continue to challenge this significant financial disparity between public school funding compared to BIE funding. Leech Lake is dedicate towards fighting these educational obstacles our Tribal schools face.

Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Lobbying Update

As you may have read in previous Quarterly Reports, we have continued our lobbying efforts at the State and Federal levels to funding to construct a new school. In January Governor Dayton submitted a letter to Dr. Charles Roessel, Director of Bureau of Indian Education, requesting BIE to seriously consider their funding appropriations for school construction. Dayton writes, "BIE schools in Minnesota are forced to operate with inadequate per-pupil-funding…the state should not be in the position of subsidizing broken federal promises".

Council representatives and I recently traveled to Washington where I provided written and Verbal testimony before the U.S. House Appropriations Committee on Interior and the Environment regarding the need to replace the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school. I was introduced by Congressman Rick Nolan and provided my testimony to the Committee which is chaired by Congressman Ken Calvert of California. Congresswoman Betty McCollum serves as Ranking Member and continues her tireless work to assist us on this matter.

In addition to providing testimony, a student representative, teacher, myself and Council Representatives met with Congressman Rick Nolan, Senator Amy Klobuchar, Senator Al Franken, Congresswoman Betty McCollum, and Chairman John Kline.

Recently, Chairman of the influential U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce, John Kline sent a letter to the appropriations committee supporting our efforts to replace the school.

We look forward to welcoming a number of representatives in the coming weeks, including Chairman Kline and Congressman Nolan, who will be able to help us as we continue our efforts.

Leech Lake Ambulance Testimony

Advanced Training Officer and Paramedic Joseph Beaudreau gave verbal testimony in front of the Minnesota Senate Finance Committee on behalf of the Leech Lake Ambulance Services in the beginning of March. Leech Lake Ambulance covers an area of 550 miles across four counties and has logged over 1,300 calls in the last year – a figure that we see increasing each year. Leech Lake gave testimony in front of the State in order to upgrade the provider level to Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (Advanced EMT) status with the eventual goal of becoming a certified Paramedic Service for our communities. Advanced EMT personnel are equipped with a wider knowledge concerning medication administration and caring for cardiac, trauma and medical emergencies. Paramedics have an even greater knowledge for monitoring cardiac arrhythmias and are also certified to give medications to manage those in pain or need sedation. *Continued on page 4*

Tribal Chair Carri Jones Quarterly Newsletter

Continued from page 3



Leech Lake Ambulances lobbies the state for needed equipment and training in order for these medical professionals to gain Advanced EMT or Paramedic status. The calls dispatched to Leech Lake Ambulance can be as far as 30 miles away with possible weather conditions making the route longer. The ability for Leech Lake Ambulance to obtain the equipment and training needed for advanced medical care would greatly enhance survival rates.

Homeless Supportive Services Lobbying Efforts

Tribal Planner Shannon Avery provided verbal testimony in front of the Health and Human Services Finance Committee in support of Homeless Supportive Services. Ms. Avery expressed the Band's support for H.F. 977, a bill that will address the longterm homeless supportive services concerns in Minnesota. With many families living in camp sites at the Leech Lake Veteran's and Ball Club Powwow grounds, we see the issue of homelessness continuing to grow each year. If the H.F. 977 bill passes, more funding will be available for Leech Lake to help curb homelessness throughout the Band membership. The finance committees will put together their omnibus bills the second week of April and we will have a better sense of the potential outcomes for the Homeless Supportive and Ambulance lobbying outcomes at this time.

Land Transfer Update

In Washington and as I previously reported, we are continuing efforts to secure additional federal support and funding to enable the replacement of the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig High School. In addition to advancing this important priority, we are working on a number of other extremely important initiatives. Of specific note, we are work to transfer back to the Leech Lake Reservation 17,000 acres of lands that were illegally transferred from our control in the 1950s through federal government action known as the "Secretarial Transfer process". Under this process, the Department of the Interior (DOI) sold allotted Leech Lake Reservation lands in violation of federal law and without the consent of all tribal heirs and transferred the lands to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Forest Service (FS) for inclusion in the Chippewa National Forest (CNF).

Respectfully submitted by:

Tribal Chair Carri Jo

Archie LaRose Secretary Treasurer Quarterly Report April 3, 2015

ACCOUNTING SUMMARY

The Annual Audit Report for fiscal year 2014 is complete and submitted to the Federal government by the deadline of March 31, 2015. The audit was conducted by McGladrey, Inc. and we will be reviewing the financial statements and findings at the next *Financial Advisory Committee* meeting. We will also schedule a meeting with the auditors and the RBC to review the audit report and the audit findings.

Fiscal year 2015 is coming to a close with a projected budget deficit of \$1.5 million for the Band's General Fund. This projected deficit combined with fiscal year 2014 deficit of \$2.2 million would require utilizing General Fund cash



reserves. We have implemented budget monitoring measures and will continue in order to bring the over-spending under control. The Fiscal Year 2016 Budgeting process is still underway and the deficits of fiscal year 2014 and 2015 will have a negative effect on that process.

Grants Budgets –

The Band receives grants from the Federal, State, and other local funding agencies. These budgets average about \$40 million per year but Federal budget allocations have experienced reductions that have trickled down to our level to an estimated \$38 million for fiscal year 2015.

Program Fees –

The Band's various health and human services divisions generate an average of \$20 million per year in billing revenue. This revenue source is dependent upon billing for services provided by the various programs within these divisions. The council had previously announced an initiative to consolidate these billing activities in order to maximize revenue from these sources. This project is in continuous development as we continue to experience many lost opportunities to capture this much needed revenue that otherwise could be utilized to provide additional services to the Band's citizens.

Minor Trust Fund -

We have paid out \$66,350 in payments to over 250 Leech Lake Band members turning 18 years of age for this fiscal year. These payments are for contributions made for years 2012, 2013, and 2014.

2015 BUDGET

This report gives basic information on the financial state of the band. Remember the band's finances change as we move through the year and there are also issues that impact our finances. The Band's 2015 fiscal year budget is comprised of the following revenues and expenditures.

General Fund currently has approximately \$8.6 million in cash reserves, this fund fluctuates going both up and down over the course of the year, this quarter the balance is \$10.5 million. These funds are comprised of previous lawsuit settlements and prior year additional sales tax revenues. These are funds held in reserve for future allocation as deemed necessary. This includes emergencies, grant cash matches, and capital projects that require additional funding.

Annual Revenues for fiscal year 2015:

- The Gaming allocation or funds to be transferred to the Governing body for the 2015 fiscal year were \$13.5 million; this has been reduced by \$700 thousand to \$12.8 million.
- The State of MN Hunting and Fishing agreement projection is \$2.8 million.
- The State of MN Tax agreement is also projected at \$3.5 million. This includes sales, gasoline, alcohol, and tobacco taxes.
- The Band receives approximately \$40 million in Federal, State, and other grants.
- Other income, which includes land leases, health and human services billings, TERO fees, and other miscellaneous billings revenues total \$31.9 million.
- Total projected revenues for fiscal year 2015 total \$101.7 million.

Projected expenditures for fiscal year 2015 include:

- The Band pays \$48 million in salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for over 900 full, part-time and temporary employees.
- Other operating costs total \$18.7 million. (Supplies, telephone, meeting, travel, equipment, insurance and repairs)
- Capital Improvements and contractual total \$36 million that includes the Roads programs and building projects for Opiate, Assisted Living Center, Hospital expansion, and Justice Center programs.
- <u>Total projected</u> expenditures for fiscal year 2015 equal \$102.4 million.

GAMING SUMMARY

Last quarter Leech Lake Gaming reported net income was down by about 1 million dollars primarily due to the loss of the Native Brand Tobacco sales. We lost revenue on both the government and gaming sides due to the unresolved 1995 State Tax Agreement issue (Native Brand Tobacco sales). Due to this reduction in net gaming income, the gaming allocation has been reduced from \$13.5 to 12.8 million dollars for this 2015 fiscal year. These are the funds we transfer from gaming to the government side to help cover operations costs. The report below shows we have moved revenues back up and hopefully this trend will continue.

Summary of Gaming Operations for Quarter Ending March 31, 2015

Revenue-

During the past year, there have been several negative pressures on Leech Lake Gaming revenue. With the much more mild winter, revenue has recovered to prior levels during this quarter. Revenues for January and February 2015 were up \$409,000 compared to Last Year. This increase in revenue is substantial as Gift Shop (Tobacco) Revenue was down over \$500,000 compared to Last Year when we were still selling Senecas. Primary revenue improvements include over \$800,000 for the two months in Slot Revenue which is the primary source of profitability to Leech Lake Gaming. March appears to follow a similar trend with increases compared to the prior year.

Expenses-

Operating Expenses for Leech Lake Gaming were down over \$200,000 for January and February with similar results expected for March with a significant amount of the decrease directly related to decreased expenses such as increased heating, gasoline, and electrical costs.

Payroll Expense showed little change (increased \$5,000) during the past quarter compared to the previous year, despite an increase in the minimum wage from \$9/ Hour to \$10.25/Hour.

Net Income-

Net Income increased primarily due to the increase in Gaming Revenue (Increase of \$800,000) and decrease in Operating Expenses (Decrease of \$200,000). While Gaming Revenue increased, there is still a large offset to those increases due to the loss of Native Brand Cigarette Sales. Leech Lake Gaming has begun to sell

national brand tobacco at reduced prices to increase casino traffic and to positively affect the tax rebate from the State of Minnesota.

Forecast-

Revenues began to recover in Quarter 2 of FY 2015 and that trend has continued with very strong Revenue numbers, combined with controlled operating expenses to substantially improve Net Income in the 3RD Quarter compared to Last Year. With strong marketing plans in place, it is anticipated that Leech Lake Gaming should be able to sustain the current revenues through the coming fiscal year. With projected Revenue Growth and projected controlled Operating Expenses, Leech Lake Gaming is poised to finish FY 2015 with strong numbers. Based on continued economic growth projections and proposals to control additional spending, Leech Lake Gaming is projected to show slight revenue growth and modest increases in Net Income in the coming year.

OTHER ISSUES

Marijuana and Cigarette Issue

We are currently looking at the Marijuana industry especially medical. However this is seen as kind of a gold rush for Indian Country but the truth is that this is going to take time to develop. There is federal, state and industry regulatory issues that need to be addressed, there are going to be numerous development issues and any return on investment is not right away but sometime in the future. We will also have to deal with the state of MN and some of the same issues we have regarding our selling Native Brand Cigarettes. So I think the cigarette issue needs to be made a priority by this council.

Financial advisory committee

I formed to help monitor both the financial state of the band and our financial systems. The goal was and is to identify and address issues before they become problems especially in regard to spending, spending patterns and revenue shortfalls. Also to help identify financial policy needs, improve asset management, correct audit findings, and identify areas for overall system improvements. I am pleased to report that the committee has been focused and a number of areas are being looked at more in-depth for improvement.

Band priorities

The cotuncil met in mid-October 2014 to discuss band priorities and a follow up meeting December 29 where we discussed the need for an updated organization flowchart. The discussion continues in regard to both issues. The last program and service priorities were set in 1999 they were Social Problems, Land issues, Housing, Jobs, Education, and Capital Needs. I think these priorities are still relevant. We all know some of the areas that need attention are addictions, poverty, ICWA and Out of Home Placements, homelessness and affordable housing, economic development, job development and workforce training, youth development, and education.

We also had a meeting with Northwest Area Foundation, Initiative Foundation and Blandin on February 25 and 26, 2015. The areas identified by the reservation and the three foundations as priority(s) are.

- 1. Early childhood education
- 2. Economic development
- 3. Education/workforce development
- 4. Youth development/leadership
- 5. Capacity building

Miigwetch

Arthur "Archie" LaRose, Secretary/Treasurer

Penny DeVault District I Representative Quarterly Report 2015

Greetings fellow Band Members, family and friends. This quarter has been a busy and very productive period for the District I Office.

Community Development

I would like to begin this quarters report with information on a few long awaited project developments that we are excited to announce and be a part of are the installation of Wi-Fi capabilities at all of our community centers in District I. We have also recently installed facsimile machines at the S. Lake and Winnie Dam Centers.

The greatest project accomplishment that we are very truly honored to announce is the approval of the new S. Lake Community Center and Pow-

wow Grounds. We would like to commend the members of the S. Lake community for their patience and commitment throughout this whole process. As members of the most northeastern community sometimes they are the forgotten, but this shows that all of our communities are all equally deserving. S. Lake has always opened their community up for meetings and events, large or small, the accommodations were always very welcoming.

Lobbying

Another great new passion that has been occurring this quarter is lobbying. District I has been lobbying at the state and federal level in support of educational needs, the Bug School and Community needs. Going down to the State offices to lobby for funding for the Bug School was a wonderful learning experience; it was inspirational to see dedicated officials lobbying for our children and our future. I recently returned from our Nation's capital, where I had the opportunity to meet with Senator Franken, Senator Klobochar, Representative Nolan and other members of Federal Government. The efforts to secure a new Bug School has been a long road, paved years ago, which I am very heartfelt and humbled to continue the work towards achieving this.

Foundations

Along with lobbying our elected officials, I have also had the chance to meet with three top non-profit foundations, (Northwest Area Foundation, Blandin Foundation and Initiative Foundation). I was able to present the District I Community Priorities and Goals which is the result of the hard work and dedication of our District I L.I.C.s and the Planning Department. My presentation of the District I Priorities to the foundations was met with much enthusiasm. I would like to thank Richard Jones, Tami Jackson and Val Pacheco from Leech Lake Tribal Development for all of their hard work and attendance at our LIC Meetings. This is a great start to a wonderful future for District I.

Committees

As the third quarter of my first year in office comes to close, I feel my passions are really beginning to show in my current and past efforts. Two passions that I fully intend on pursuing are our tribal youth and education. I have recently been appointed to the Native Youth Alliance of Minnesota (NYAM) board. The goal of NYAM is to prepare our tribal youth as leaders to create new paths of strength and spirit by working side by side with tribal elders and leaders, community members and other tribal youth. In conjunction with NYAM I have launched a Leech Lake Youth Council proposal. I want to help strengthen the voice of our youth and give them a chance to

experience the roles and responsibilities of the Tribal Council in hopes of inspiring our future leaders.

I have also recently become appointed as a member of the Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC) along with our Post Secondary/JOM Grants Manager Dorothy Robinson and our Early Childhood Director Lee Turney. The TNEC is a group of tribally appointed representatives which advocates for the American Indian students in Minnesota. The mission of TNEC is to strengthen, protect, and advance the overall education experience and opportunities for all tribal students, families, and communities of Minnesota. TNEC advocates for positive change in areas including, but not limited to: curriculum review, student achievement, language revitalization, revision of the American India Education Act and teacher training.

Another endeavor I have recently joined is the Indian Child Welfare Commission. This is an area that will continually need a strong advocacy. Not only as a Tribal Representative but also as a parent, this is one area that will always have my wholehearted endorsement.

CDAP

I am please to be a part of the newly formed Community Drug Awareness & Prevention initiative. CDAP is comprised of a dedicated group of individuals who are working to combat the drug epidemic. CDAP meets monthly and also holds community events on a regular basis. CDAP has held events in Inger and Ball Club thus far, which have been very successful for bringing our people together for discussion and sharing. The next CDAP community event is scheduled for April 8, 2015 at the George Johnson Memorial Center in Winnie Dam from 5-8 p.m. For more information on how you can join and participate in this wonderful cause, please contact Patty Bittner, Methamphetamine Community Policing Coordinator at 218.335.7155 or toll-free 888.622.9225.



Leech Lake Legacy

The District I Office has begun a partnership with the Leech Lake Legacy Program. Leech Lake Legacy generously donated winter clothing for our 2nd Annual Winterfest which was held on February 28, 2015 in Ball Club. Leech Lake Legacy has also held an S. Lake Spay/Neuter Clinic (with transfer to Cass Lake) on March 21, 2015. The next collaborative event with LL Legacy will be the Ball Club Surrender Event and Spay/Neuter & Wellness Clinic on April 18-19, 2015 at the Lone Eagle Center. Preference will be given to District I Residents, however pre-registration is



required for the Spay/Neuter Surgery. Please call 612.702.6967 for more information or the District I Office. LL Legacy partners with the University of Minnesota SIRVS (Student Initiative for Reservation Veterinary Services) to host this event. Dog and Cat food will also be available. We would like to give a heartfelt thank you to Marilou Chanrasmi, Co-Founder of LL Legacy for all they have done for our community, everything is very much appreciated. In another successful endeavor through LL Legacy; the Kids in Need Foundation donated Yoobi Class Packs to our local schools, grades K-5, including the King Elementary School in Deer River. The Kids in Need Foundation's mission is to ensure that every child is prepared to learn and succeed by providing free school supplies nationally to students most in need. We hope to continue this collaboration into the next school year to coincide with our 2015-16 School Year Back-Pack Giveaway Events.

Regalia Classes

We are truly excited to announce the start of our first District I Community Regalia Class in S. Lake. We have a full class which is being taught by the very talented Annie Humphrey from Deer River. We are extremely honored to bring this opportunity to our community members. This was achieved through a partnership with the Blandin Foundation. Future plans are underway for classes in the Ball Club, Inger and Winnie Dam Communities, with our fellow community members as our instructors sharing their knowledge.

District I Youth/Elder Spotlight

District I Elders, known, respected and cherished for their knowledg countless years of services to their family, friends and communities are honored by th District I Office with a Happy Birthday announcement monthly in the Debahjimon In addition, we mail them a Happy Birthday Wish, White Oak Slot Play & Foo Coupon. The second thing we do is submit an elder to be featured as the "Distri I Elder Spotlight" for the month, with an article and photo honoring them and their achievements and story shared in the Tribal newspaper. Each Elder Spotlight receives a thank you card and small appreciation. Our Elders have taken care of us, it is time we take care of them. District I Youth, our gifts from the Creator, our future, are also honored monthly by publishing a District I "Youth in the Spotlight" by sharing their photo along with a short article. We have many talented and ambitious young people in our Communities; this is a small appreciation to show the pride and hopes we have for them. Youth are selected based on their academic and/or athletic achievements and community involvement. Each honored Youth will receive a Subway Gift Card. Let us show our youth that we love and cherish them and wish them only the best in their future endeavors.



Community Assembly

The District I Offices has been holding Quarterly Community Assemblies, following the Band's Quarterly. This is our third Assembly, where we have a host community rotation schedule. We are able to cover a variety of topics and issues. The first assembly was focused on community concerns and development. The second assembly brought our Tribal Programs and Divisions out to you, our District I membership.

Our next Community Assembly will be held on Friday, April 10, 2015 at the George Johnson Memorial Center in Winnie Dam. This Quarters Assembly will be focused on a "Spring into Summer" theme. We will be sharing vital LLBO



Summer Program information, which will include a healthy garden demonstration, Summer Youth Employment Applications and Post Secondary information from Education, along with information on the Environmental Departments Summer Youth Experience. This is just a few of the agenda items we will be covering. We would like to extend an invite to all community members to attend.

DISTRICT I LOCAL INDIAN COUNCIL UPCOMING EVENTS

As always, our hardworking LIC's have been diligently planning upcoming events in their respective communities. Here is an upcoming schedule of events:

	BALL CLUB:	Easter Party	Saturday, March 28, 2015
		Ham Bingo Fundraise	er Sunday, March 29, 2015
81		Regalia Class	TBA, April 2015
	INGER:	Spring Celebration	Friday, April 3, 2015
		Spring Clean-Up	Week of April 27, 2015
		Community Picnic	Saturday, May 2, 2015
		Fishing Tournament	Saturday, May 9, 2015
ge,	S. LAKE:	Regalia Class	See Participant Class Schedule
the on. od		Easter Party	Sunday, April 5, 2015
		Waa Wiye Gaa Maag	June 19-21, 2015
ict	WINNIE DAM:	Easter Party	Saturday, April 4, 2015

For further information on any of the topics in this quarters report, feel free to contact the *District I Office at 218.335.3772 or 218.335.4444*.

Respectfully Submitted,

Penny DeVault

District I Representative

The Sioux Chef Comes to Walker School to Display Traditional Recipes

On January 15th, 2015 Sean Sherman, a professionally trained Chef, came to the Walker school to offer a look at some of his traditional cuisine. Petra Neadeau, an instructor from the Walker School District contacted Mr. Sherman and asked if he would be interested in offering the students and staff an informational display of what he has gleaned from his travels and experiences with traditional foods and modern food preparation.

Recently, his focus has been around the foods that Indian people had consumed before the organization of reservation life reaching back to a time where the gathering,



preparation, and consumptions of foods was simpler. Using his culinary training and cultural knowledge, Chef Sherman has been bridging the divide between a bygone era and modern cuisine. His demonstration gave everyone both a look back in time and a glimpse at modern flavor profiles in the hopes of capturing traditional yesteryear and fostering a change that is all but inevitable regarding traditional food experiences.

When asked why she wanted to bring Chef Sherman to the school in Walker where she teaches instructor Petra Neadeau said, "I thought it would be an opportunity for the students and the staff to see a part of American Indian life that doesn't always get featured with cultural stories. There's more to our history and traditions than what is typically taught to students and this was a great way to not only tell this side of it but to show people a snap-shot from the past and a look into the future, which is where a lot of our culture finds itself today."



DISTRICT I YOUTH SPOTLIGHT APRIL 2015

his month we would like to recognize Valarian "JoJo" Thompson. Valarian recently took 2nd place at the State Wrestling Invite in Rochester. Congratulations JoJo! JoJo lives in Deer River with his parents, John and Pam Thompson and four brothers; Ethan, Garret, Gus, and Miles. He is a fourth grade student at King Elementary school where he is involved in wrestling, baseball, and Webelos (Cub Scouts). In addition, JoJo enjoys spending time with



his family, fishing, boating, tubing, climbing trees, snowmobiling, four wheeling, art and playing football. JoJo likes to connect to his culture through drumming and singing, playing lacrosse, and going to Pow Wows. When he grows up he would like to become a truck driver so he can travel and see the country.

We wish you all the best in the future JoJo!

DISTRICT I ELDER SPOTLIGHT

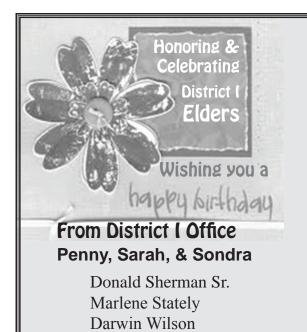
Donald Munnell from Ball Club turned 72 this month! We would like to honor him as our Elder Spotlight for the month of April. Although Don lives in Ball Club he actually grew up in the Bena area. He has four children, two girls and two boys, nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. When speaking to Don it is very obvious that his kids and grandkids are a passion of his and he enjoys spending time with them. Don has worked a variety of jobs in many different areas of the state; from factory and construction work in Minneapolis and the Iron Range to driving shuttle for Leech



Lake Gaming in his later years. Other than his spending time with his family, Don enjoys going to the casino and is involved in various elder events in the community. Don has attended the Wisdom Steps Conference for many years and will be attending his first Elder Abuse Conference in Mystic Lake later this month. He has also taken particular interest in fitness and health in the last couple years. He frequently visits the Ball Club Fitness Center or enjoys walking outside when the weather is nice. Happy Birthday Don and thank you

for letting us share your story.

Courtesy of Poilet-Independent of Walker, MN



April Birthdays

Hal Bowstring Walter Brown George Donnell Simon Garbow Clara Jackson Samuel Jenkins Jr. Donald Munnell Patrick Murphy Douglas Oothoudt Leonard Seelye Franklyn Sherman

FROM THE DISTRICT II OFFICE

If any District II Band members are unable to make it to our Cass Lake office or to any of the District II LIC meetings we can come to you for a meeting to discuss any issues that are of concern.

Please contact the District II office to make arrangements at:

218-335-8341 or at 218-335-8202.

LLBO WIC FOR May 2015

LLBO WIC Program will be holding WIC Clinics as follows:

WIC CLINICS AT THE NEST

Nutrition Education Sessions and Certifications by appointment only 8:15a.m.-11:30a.m. and 1:00p.m.-3:00p.m.

Monday- Thursdays are available for appointment in Cass Lake

WIC CLINICS AT OUTLYING CLINICS

1st Thursday, 7th - Onigum Community Center Appointments 10a.m.- 1p.m.

- **2nd** Thursday, 14th **Inger Clinic** Appointments 10a.m. 2p.m.
- 3^{rd} Thursday, 21^{st} Ball Club Comm. Ctr.Appointments 10a.m. 3p.m. 4^{th} Thursday, 28^{th} Bena ClinicAppointments 10a.m. 2p.m.

If you need to schedule a WIC appointment please call 218-335-8386 or 1-866-289-5995.

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, & Reffrences.

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CLOSE ON MAY 1st, 2015

3 Community Prg Assistant ~ Human Services ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-055 PT Billing Specialist/Medical Records ~ Opioid Treatment Prg ~Code: 15-054 1 Full-Time Driver ~ Opioid Treatment Program ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-052 LPN ~ Opioid Treatment Program ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-051 Compliance Officer ~ TERO ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-050 CHR Office Assistant ~ Health ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-156B

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CLOSE ON APRIL 24th, 2015

4 Seasonal PT EMT Attendent ~ Health ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-047 Emergency Manager ~ Tribal Police ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-049 Part-Time Security Officer ~ Security Department ~ Job Code: 15-044
2 Urban Case Mngs-Twin Cities Office ~ Human Services~ Job Code: 14-233C
2 Seasonal Wildland Firefighters~ Division of Resource Mng~ Job Code: 15-016B Bena Family Service Advocate ~ Early Childhood ~DOQ~ Job Code: 15-040 P-Time Mid Level Provider (NP/PA) ~ Health ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-167B
2 P-Time Pre-School Teachers ~ Early Childhood ~ Job Code: 14-169C

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Accounts Payable Clerk ~ Finance ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-035B Facilities Maintenance Manager ~ Facilities Maintenance~ Job Code: 15-037 Tribal Assistance Manager ~ Tribal Assistance ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-036 Cook ~ Early Childhood ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-235B 3 Part-Time Bena Homeless Shelter Advocates ~ Human Services ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-028 Domestic Abuse Re-Education (DAR) Program Coordinator ~ Human Services ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-208 3 Special Needs Teacher Ass. ~ Early Childhood ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 15-018 Cass Lake Pre-School Team Ldr~ Early Childhood~ Job Code: 14-171B Pre-School Team Leader Bemidji ~ Education ~ DOQ ~ Job Code: 14-143B

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

Bi-Partisan Support from Congress for Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig Funding

Wednesday April 9, 2015 – Congressional Representatives came together to support the Leech Lake Band's efforts to secure funding for a high school facility that is safe for the students and the faculty. Education funding for the American Indian community, specifically the Leech Lake Band's Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig high school, was what brought Reps. from both sides of the political spectrum together to talk safety in education. Representatives Rick Nolan D-MN, John Kline R-MN, and Todd Rokita R-IN took a walking tour of the school to witness the conditions of the former school bus garage that was converted into a temporary learning facility when enrollment increased in the early 1980's.

A gas explosion, poor ventilation, water leaks, exposed wiring, heating and air issues, cramped classrooms, and the outdated sewer system are just a few of the problems that the representatives got to see first-hand as they were led through the facility.

After the tour the Reps. sat with students and staff as well as school board members and Leech Lake leadership to talk about where to go from here.

"It's time to honor our obligation and send the message to our students in Indian Country that their education and their success in life are important to all of us. Forcing them to go to school in facilities in utter disrepair simply does not send that message," said Congressman Nolan.

"The Leech Lake students deserve the opportunity to attend school in a safe environment that provides them with educational opportunities afforded to other students," Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Chairwoman Carri Jones said. "Instead, our students attend high school in a sub-standard, dangerous environment.

The tour concluded with a brief question and answer period between reporters and the Representatives. Stories on the event were covered by the Star Tribune, Bemidji Pioneer, Lakeland News and other affiliates.

The previous week staffers from Senator Franken's office visited the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig campus to see for themselves the state of disrepair that the high school has fallen into. Gohar Sedighi, an Education Policy Adviser, and Dan Solomon, a field representative from Senator Franken's office came to see for themselves what they have met with LLBO leaders about regarding the school.



John Parmeter visits with staffers from Senator Franken's Office



Kline and Nolan visit with Carri and Penny

Bemijigamaag Pow-wow Hosted at Sanford Center

Dozens of dancers and attendees flooded the Sanford Center recently for the first pow wow to be hosted at the event center. Tribal Chairs from Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth coordinated with local officials to begin the grand entry procession which began the event.

Governor Dayton was on hand to observe the event and offered remarks of solidarity. Chairwoman Carri Jones said, "It's nice to see so many participants in such a huge venue. Brining this many people together to participate in our cultural traditions is important, especially in Bemidji."

Flags were offered to Bemidji Mayor Rita Albrecht, a former employee of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, to be displayed at the Sanford Center. Mayor Albrecht offered the Tribal leaders tobacco and blankets in return. Hand drum contests and dance contests as well as a feast and another grand entry were part of the day's festivities. Hopefully more events that include the greater population from the area are in the making as these usually lead to a greater understanding of the of the area in which we all inhabit.



Steve White District II Representative Quarterly Jan-Feb-March 2015

Greetings

F^{irst I} would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter. I hope your winter was filled with lots of ice fishing and outdoor activities! This spring looks to be a very nice one coming up. I want to give you a few updates on what has and what will be going on in the District II area.

The Homeless Shelter that is located in Bena is in the last stages of completion. A shelter Manager has been hired so we will be having another homeless shelter meeting in the near future at the Bena community center. Watch for the flyer to be circulated. A tentative opening date will be in the middle of April. There will also be a grand opening when the shelter does open. The shelter will be named Lyman "DeDe" Losh Transitional Home. It



looks very nice inside the shelter! The transitional home will be a great opportunity for all. I would like to thank everyone involved with this project; this has been a huge success!

The Bena Pavilion has a tentative opening date for this summer. The pavilion is located between the Bena Community Center and Lake Winnie. It will be a fun place for all on the hot summer days approaching us fast. We will have a Grand Opening when it is completed so watch for that flyer also.

The District II Walking/Biking Trail Project near Bena, along Highway 2, is set to begin by July. Phase 1 of the trail will run from Old Housing Road to the Big Winnie Store. That will be complete by fall. Phase 2 of the project will extend the trail from Old Housing Road to the Big Fish Restaurant and should be complete by 2017. I do not want to see any more people get hurt along the highway so this project will ensure people's safety.

I am pleased to announce that the roads in Bena are going to be paved. The survey crew will be surveying within a month. This is a huge project and will take a few years to complete but the wait is well worth it. Tribal Roads gave me a tentative completion date of 2018. Also, Town Line Road is on the construction to do list in 2016; this will be a complete rebuild of the road.

Coming soon to the Sugar Point and Kego Lake Community Centers will be the Mobile Clinic. We hope to get the Mobile Clinic out to the centers by May 2015. We are collaborating with the Health Division to get the mobile clinic out in the District II communities.

The Elderly Nutrition Program started delivering meals to the Kego Lake/ Smokey Point area elders as of Monday March 16th, 2015. If you are interested in signing up for the program you can contact Dawn Jaspers at 218-335-8314 or 218-368-1844, she will then have the driver drop an application for you to fill out.

I am very proud to announce that Alisha Smith was selected as the Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College's Student of the Year. She was honored at the AIHEC Student Conference in Albuquerque, NM. Alisha lives in Boy Lake with her significant other Kyle and their beautiful baby girl, Amira. She graduated from Cass Lake-Bena School in 2012. Throughout her high school years she was selected to attend the Indian's into Medicine Summer Program at the University of North Dakota. She spent six weeks out of her summer there, while attending she changed her career but she still acknowledges the program for giving her the opportunity of the hands on experience of college life. She received a better understanding of the expectations and skills that are needed to be successful in college.

Alisha enrolled in Fond du Lac Tribal College in fall 2012, where she was voted into the position of secretary of the Student Council and has held this position until fall 2014. She is currently the President of the Student Council. Alisha has been an active student in various committees and school activities, which include coordinating the Annual Fall Student Welcome activities, Annual College Powwow and Spring Fling. She commutes back and forth to Fond du Lac twice a week to finish up her AA in Human Services and her certificate in Chemical Dependency; she is in her



final semester and is to graduate in May 2015. Alisha is also currently completing her internship with the Leech Lake Child Welfare. The District II Office would like to congratulate you in all your successes' in life Alisha and we are very proud of you!!!!

The first of three Regalia Making Workshops within the District II area will start soon. Eva White will be our instructor for the first class and it will take place at the Sugar Point Community Center. When we get the other two classes planned my assistants will send out a flyer and application for you to fill out. There has been a lot of interest in regalia making so we teamed up with District I to secure funds. This class is a great opportunity for people of all ages and all will benefit from it.

The Annual Kids Perch Jerk was held on March 7th, 2015 in front of Denny's Resort on Lake Winnibigosh. Over 700 kids and 300+ adults registered. This was the 2nd largest crowd ever in the history of this event. The day started off windy and cold but then turned into a pretty nice day when the sun finally came out. Dozens of volunteers came out to help with this event, without them this event would not be possible so I would like to thank all that helped out on this day. And I really do appreciate you all for taking time out of your busy lives to volunteer for the children.

The Leech Lake Legacy has been collaborating with the Leech Lake Reservation for almost four years now. I would like to thank everyone involved with this collaboration and let you know a little history about the Leech Lake Legacy (LLL). It was brought to Marilou Chanrasmi and Jenny Fitzer's (LLL co-founders) attention

in April 2011 that there was a dire need for assistance here on the reservation for the Leech Lake Impound. Marilou and Jenny met with Rory Haaland and two other officers. From there they transported nine dogs to the Twin Cities Area to have them vetted, spayed/ neutered and placed



up for adoption.

After that first transport Marilou and Jenny discussed what could be done to provide assistance to the animals of Leech Lake. Since then multiple volunteers along with Marilou and Jenny now provide many successful spay/neuter and vaccination/ wellness clinics here on different areas of the reservation.

Once again I would like to let everyone know that if you are unable to make it to my office in Cass Lake or to the Local Indian Council meetings to speak to me about the issues you may face, then contact my staff at 218-335-8202 or 218-335-8341 and they will be glad to set up a meeting time and date so we can address these problems together. I am more than willing to come to your house to meet with you.

Miigwetch

Steve White District II Representative



Leech Lake Band elder and author Dorothy Dora Whipple

At a Duluth LIC meeting in mid-February, the University of Minnesota Press's regional editor, Erik Anderson was presented a donation check for the publication of *Chi-mewinzha: Ojibwe Stories from Leech Lake*, by Dorothy Dora Whipple, a Leech Lake Band elder and author.

Dorothy is a 95 year old Leech Lake Band member who has complied stories from her life starting in the 1920's to the 1970's. She was raised with her thirteen brothers and sisters in the Boy Lake area, and moved to Minneapolis in the 1970's. Dorothy has worked on several language revitalization projects over the years in addition to documenting stories from her life. Her eldest sibling, Maude Kegg wrote a book called, *Portage Lake: Memories of an Ojibwe Childhood*.

Leech Lake is a proud supporter of Dorothy's and of not only the language revitalization effort but also of the revitalization of the local history that surrounds Leech Lake and the people who make up and keep those stories a part of our collective consciousness.



LeRoy Staples-Fairbanks District III 3rd Quarter Report

L IC Elections were held in District III communities. We are working to reinvigorate the mechanism to get information flowing between the community and the Tribal Council to allow the people to have more influence with decisions made by Council on our part. The first part is to elect the members to encourage folks to get active. The system is in place for the flow of information from Council to our people, but over the years it has not been applied to optimum effect. We are trying to start up the process once again so that we ensure more responsibility and to strengthen the flow of information so that communities are more aware of what we are doing as governing body. We will continue to



work with you to analyze the process and we are open to any suggestions on how to improve it.

EDUCATION:

There have been some great things going on at the Walker-Hackensack-Akeley School as a result of collaboration with entities of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Working directly with the office of District III Representative Leroy Staples-Fairbanks we were able to sign an MOU that provides Children's Therapeutic Services (CTSS) to students of American Indian Descent through the Leech Lake Behavioral Health Program. The collaboration has proven to be a successful venture for both the school and the Leech Lake Reservation as it has benefitted children by providing a much needed service within the confines of the school.

Also new to the school this year is a course offered through the English Department titled "North American Indigenous Arts". What is special about the course is that we have been able to access some very valuable cultural resources through working with The District III office. Former Niigaane Teacher Adrian Liberty (Naabek)



Ikwe Losh and Mit Liberty, March 16 2015. Testified before Legacy Finance Committee in support of Ojibwe and Dakota Langauge Preservation Projects in Minnesota. has been working directly with our students twice a week providing the opportunity for them to learn about their own culture and for others to learn about a culture that is indigenous to the region.

Leslie Harper, Assistant to the District Representative has volunteered her time in the classroom as well. Leslie providing the students is in the class with different perspective on the culture of the Anishinaabe in the form of historical leadership roles along with the roles of women and men in the original village setting. The students have been engaged through the use of technology and through the process of using the language to

teach about different topics from the origin of the Anishinaabeg to the Iskigamizigan.

In March, LLBO students provided testimony to the Minnesota Legacy Fund Finance Committee on the importance of continuing funding for Language Preservation in Minnesota. The students spoke with grace and dignity about the strengths and benefits of our Ojibwe language in today's world. The students answered questions from the MN House Members after presenting testimony, and represented our Band well. The LLBO's ongoing commitment to Protection of the Ojibwe Language, as stated in Resolution 2011-74 which declared Ojibwe as the official language of the Leech Lake Reservation, is a remarkable effort.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Earth Day - Gidakiiminaaniwi-giizhigad

Community cleanups in DIII communities during the week of Gidakiiminaaniwi-giizhigad (Earth Day) in April. Earth Day is an annual event, celebrated on April 22, on which day events worldwide are held to demonstrate support for environmental protection. It was first celebrated in 1970, and is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network and celebrated in more than 192 countries each year. Numerous communities celebrate Earth Week, an entire week of activities focused on environmental issues. District III offices will gather for community cleanups during Earth Week. Our relationship to the land of our ancestors and our responsibility to a clean environment continues in a climate of increasing urgency, as the effects of climate change become more apparent every day. We invite



Celebrated on April 22, 2015

you to be a part of Earth Day and Earth Week activities to be a part of channeling our energy into building a clean, healthy community for generations to come.

Youth Gathering SAMHSA April

Opichi Wadiswan is a project sponsored by SAMHSA grant award to the LLBO. One activity is to create a positive social media campaign for youth to influence other youth, families, and communities with a positive message about the core values of our Ojibwe bimaadiziwin. Opichi Wadiswan hold a youth Culture and Media camp on April 17-18 at the Cass Lake Boys & Girls Club. LLBO Youth Division is assisting with transportation for the youth involved. It kicks off on Friday night with an evening of music and an inspirational sobriety talk from Frank Waln of the Rosebud Sicangu Reservation. The following day, there will be opportunities for intergenerational learning, from an Elders' Panel in the morning and then moving into workshop sessions for students to create positive public art and social media pieces. Meals will be served. For more information contact Shawn MacGregor at 218-335-8371.

Leech Lake students and families: Remember to do taxes, FAFSA, and scholarship applications. There's still time to qualify for financial aid to continue your education in the coming year. Congrats to our upcoming graduates! We look forward to celebrating with you in the coming months.

Twin Cities Office

Leech Lake District III Representative is reaching out to our Twin Cities constituents in order to be more accessible for our off-reservation residents. One day per month, LeRoy will be at the Leech Lake Twin Cities office to ensure that he stays in touch with the issues and opportunities in the Twin Cities metro area. On the last Tuesday of each month, to coincide with the regularly scheduled LIC meeting, LeRoy will be in the Minneapolis Twin Cities office at 1113 East Franklin Avenue South in Minneapolis.

Public Forum

The next District III Forum will be held on Wednesday May 15 from 2:30-5 pm at the Palace Birch Room in Cass Lake. All District III members are welcome to attend for updates and to give input on our District III efforts.

Leech Lake Band Of Ojibwe Tribal Clinics				
Ball Club Clinic 30995 Arctic Drive Deer River, MN 56636 (218) 246-2394 Phone (218) 246-8695 Fax Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm Medical Provider 5 d/wk.	Bena Clinic (218) 665-5303 Phone (218) 665-5304 Fax Mon - Friday 10am - 4pm Medical Provider Monday & Tuesday only.	Onigum Clinic (218) 547-0521 Phone (218) 547-0522 Fax Please call for availabiltiy.		
Bemidji Clinic 705 5th Street, Suite D Bemidji, MN 56601 (218) 444-7186 Phone (218) 444-2460 Fax Mon - Thurs 10am - 4pm Friday - walk-ins a.m. only	Inger Clinic 53736 County Road 146 Deer River, MN 56601 (218) 659-2764 Phone (218) 659-2625 Fax Mon - Friday 10am - 4pm Medical Provider 4 d/wk	Nest Clinic 6055 161st Street NW Cass Lake, MN 56633 (218) 335-8315 Phone (218) 335-4578 Fax Mon - Friday 10am - 4pm Medical Provider 3 d/wk		

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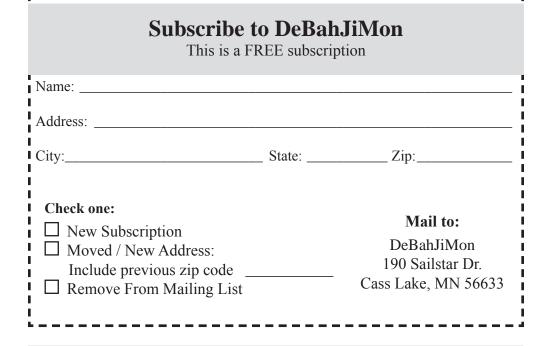
888.291.9811

Income Maintenance- Cass Lake Office Contacts: Cass County Health, Human & Veteran Services

Robin C. Eligibility Worker- Adult Unit Phone 218-335-3027 / LLBO Gov. Center Office #112

DeniseEligibility Worker- Family UnitPhone 218-335-3035 / LLBO Gov. Center Office #113

Cass Lake Contact hours are 8:00-4:30, Monday through Friday, by drop in or appointment. Both Robin and Katie determine eligibility for Income Maintenance programs. These programs include: **SNAP** (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), **Minnesota Health Care Programs** (including Medical Assistance), **Family Cash** (including **MFIP** and **DWP**), **Emergency Assistance, General Assistance (GA) and Emergency General Assistance.**



DeBahJiMon

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

Carri Jones	Chairwoman
Arthur LaRose	Secretary/Treasurer
Penny DeVault	District I Representative
Steve White	District II Representative
LeRoy Staples-Fairbanks	District III Rep.
Chris Haugene	Managing Editor
Starr White	Graphic Design

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NORTHERN LIGHTS EXPRESS



CONVENIENCE STORE GAS & DIESEL Starting Friday, February 13, 2015

Purchase \$25 & receive \$5 Northern Lights Casino complimentary SLOT PLAY

(Some exclusions may apply.)

6812 Y Frontage Rd. NW • MN-371S • Walker, MN 56484 (218) 335-3181

LEECH LAKE FOSTER CARE 6035 161st ST NW Cass Lake, MN 56633

We need Leech Lake Foster Care Homes. If you are interested in becoming a Foster Parent here are the basic requirements:

- ✓ Application
- ✓ Background check anyone older than 13 years old
- ✓ Pass UA
- ✓ Physical exam
- ✓ Health & Safety Home Visit

Options of types of Foster Homes:

- Regular Therapeutic
 - Relative Medically Fragile
 - Respite Emergency

Contact the L.L. Foster Care Department for more information:

Dorothea Cloud, Licensing Coordinator @ 218.335.3622 Natalie Wickner, Foster Care Specialist @ 218.335.7216 Diane Wright, Child Placement Advocate @ 218.335.3611



Congressman Nolan visits the new Library at Leech Lake Tribal College

Congressman Rick Nolan recently toured the new library and had an opportunity to speak with current students about the impact the Library is having on them. LLTC Student of fthe Year Audrianna Goodwin, who will intern for Nolan this summer in DC, was among the students present. "Congressman Nolan was very heartfelt in his visit and excited about the progress being made at LLTC," said Goodwin. "I'm really looking forward to a once in a lifetime opportunity to intern in his office."

While on campus, Congressman Nolan visited a speech class, and even gave an impromptu lesson on projecting your voice, and speaking confidently in front of people. Leech Lake Tribal College Director of Institutional Advancement Bill Blackwell Jr commented, "One of the main goals of the Tribal College is to build lifelong learners and leaders. Providing an opportunity to meet a standing Congressman is a unique experience that some students may not have otherwise had."

Students of the Year Honored

The American Indian College Fund honored American Indian scholarship recipients at its 2014-15 Student of the Year reception at the American Indian Higher Education Consortium Student Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Leech Lake Tribal College is honored to announce Audrianna Goodwin as the 2014-2015 Student of the Year. Goodwin, who has been Student Senate President at LLTC for the past two years said, "I am more than honored to have been chosen as the 2014 - 2015 Leech Lake Tribal College Student of the Year. Chi – mii gwech to everyone who has supported me in my journey the last two years" As Student Senate President, Goodwin does volunteer work in a variety of capacities, from events held by Student Senate, community events, to college wide fundraisers. Goodwin, who will graduate this Spring with her A.A. in Liberal Education plans to continue her education after LLTC and get her Bachelor's in Political Science, and continue on to law school. In addition to being named Student of the Year Goodwin has just been informed she has been selected to Intern with Congressman Rick Nolan's office this summer in Washington D.C.

Additionally, Alisha Smith, who is a Leech Lake band member attending Fond Du Lac Tribal College, was selected as the Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College's Student of the Year. She was honored at the AIHEC Student Conference in Albuquerque, NM and is pictured above with the Leech Lake Tribal Colleges student of the year.



Students of the Year Audrianna Goodwin & Alisha Smith

The Library is open to the entire Community free of charge from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday- Thursday and 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Fridays.



Local Indian Council Meetings Schedule

Oak Point 1st Sunday 4:00pm Oak Point Center Ball Club 1st Monday 7:00 pm Ball Club Center Cass River 1st Monday 6:00pm Pennington Center Kego Lake Boy Lake Smokey Pnt 1st Wed. 7:00pm Kego Lake Cntr Bemidji 1st Thurs. 6:30pm-8pm Oshki Manidoo Center, Bemidji Winnie Dam 1st Thursday 6:00 pm Winnie Dam Center Cass Lake 2nd Monday 5:00pm Facility Center Sugar Bush Buck Lake 2nd Monday 6:00pm Palace Casino Inger 2nd Monday. 7:00 pm Inger Center Bena 2nd Tues. 6:00pm Bena Center Onigum 2nd Tuesday 6:30pm Onigum Center Sugar Point 2nd Wed 6:30pm Sugar Point Center S Lake 3rd Monday 7:00 pm S Lake Center Mission 3rd Monday 6:00pm Mission Center **Duluth** 3rd Thurs. 5:00 pm AICHO Building (Former YWCA) Deer River Last Monday 6:00pm Deer River Rescource Center or Legion Twin Cities Last Tuesday Women's Res Center. MPLS



Donald Joseph Smith, Jr.

D^{o n a 1 d} Joseph "Bud" Smith, Jr., "Mukwa", age 56, of Onigum, passed away on Friday, March 13, 2015 at his home with his family by his



side. He was born in Bemidji, on April 7, 1958 the son of Donald, Sr. and Mary Lou (Roberts) Smith.

Bud really loved living on the lake in his home he enjoyed so much. Watching sunsets and cooking outdoors would always bring him joy. He liked to fish, smoking fish, and long motorcycle rides on his Harley that he won with one raffle ticket in 2010. Bud also enjoyed taking trips, and going to pow-wows here in Minn. and in New Mexico. He and Laura went to Florida, New Mexico, Louisiana, and even stopped at Elvis Presley's home three years ago.

Bud recently married his longtime girlfriend and mother of their two sons, Laura L. Gould at their home on Saturday, March 7th. Together they have three sons, Brandon Smith, Samuel Smith and John Gould. He also have two step grandsons, Avion Brown and Jaycee-on Gould. February 22nd marked his second year anniversary as "Biker Don" on the "Eagle" KOJB radio shows. Bud has been a member of AA and March marked his fifteenth year of sobriety. He was very proud of his latest journey; going to college. His first year he studied to be an electrician, the second year was writing, and this year was Business Management. Bud worked many years at the Northern Lights Casino before retiring for his schooling.

He just recently went back to work at Gaming. Shortly after he started he was transferred to the RTC side as Facility Manager. Bud really enjoyed working with his staff. Bud touched a lot of lives and he will be sadly missed by all who knew him, especially "Willow", our dog.

Bud is survived by his wife Laura, sons, John Gould, Brandon and Sam of Onigum MN. Special Grandsons Avion and Jaycee-on Gould. Father Donald J Smith Sr. of Walker MN, Sisters Maureen (Robert) Headbird, Brooklyn Park, MN Ramona (Gary)Fife, Glenpool OK, Mary(Chuck) Smith, North St Paul. Anne (Ernest) Smith, Minneapolis, MN Brothers Sam and Paul Smith of Walker MN. Aunts Dorothy Walswick, Ruth Driggers and Evangeline Beaulieu. Uncles Larry Roberts and Walter Smith, Dennis Campbell. 9 Nieces and 4 Nephews. 4 Grand Nephews, 12 Grand Nieces.

He was preceded in death by his wife Victoria, Mother Mary Lou, Paternal Grandparents Joseph and Mary Smith, Maternal Grandparents Lawrence and Florence Roberts. (Maggie)

A wake service will be held on Sunday, March 15, from 4 to 8 p.m. at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Walker. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 1:00 p.m., Monday, March 16. Father Francis Kubiru will officiate. Pallbearers for Bud will be Steve Schimer, Jim Pitzen, Mel Hunt, Sam Arthur, Steve Krogen and Marty Judd. Honorary pallbearers will be Bruce Johnson, Wesley Johnson, Brandon Smith, Samuel Smith, John Gould, Donald J. Smith, Sr., Sam Smith, Paul Smith, and the rest of his friends who are too numerous to mention.

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

Lisa Marie Fisherman

T isa Marie Fisherman, 45, of Cass Lake, passed away at the Sanford Hospital in Fargo, ND on Tuesday, April 7, 2015. She was born on April 25, 1969

in Cass Lake, the daughter of Donald "Duck" Fisherman and Nancy Whitebird. Lisa loved to read, joke around and gossip. She would spend a lot of time with her grandchildren and you would always find her laughing. Lisa was a strong supporter of her daughter's basketball team. She liked taking road trips to go see the games. Lisa also liked to go to the casino and spending time with her family.

Lisa's family that she joins again include her dad; Donald "Duck" Fisherman, brother Donald "Skel" Fisherman, grandparents; William and Sarah Whitebird, paternal grandparents; Lizzie Fisherman and George Wilson, Sr., special nephew; Darian James Fisherman, Sr. and one special friend Sandy Beaulieu

Those she leaves behind to cherish her memory include her mom; Nancy Whitebird of Cass Lake, son; Eric Fairbanks of Cass Lake, daughters; Karmen (Challenge) Fairbanks of Bemidji, Nicole Fairbanks of Cass Lake, and Kari (Justin) Fisherman of Cass Lake, brothers; Scotty (Simone) Whitebird of Cass Lake, John Fisherman of Cass Lake, and Lloyd Fisherman of Sugar Point, sisters; Linda Fisherman of Cass Lake, and Pearl Battles of Minneapolis, three grandchildren Jeron Fairbanks, Jace Johnson, and Darian Fisherman Jr.

A wake service for Lisa will begin on Thursday, April 9, 2015 and will continue on Saturday, April 11, all held at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake. Rev. Mark R. Olson and Eugene "Ribs" Whitebird will officiate.

Pallbearers for Lisa will be Ernest Robinson, L.J. Howard, Kyle Whitebird, Lyle Howg, Ben White, Sr., and Jordan Miettinen. Alternate pallbearers will be Justin DeCoteau and Simon Howard. Honorary pallbearers will be Weedy Masten, Connie Littlewolf, Becky Littlewolf, Faith Littlewolf, Sarah Jones, Diane Whitebird, Patti Wilson, Delores Fairbanks, Kevin Fairbanks, Sr., Simone Fairbanks, Candace Jacobs, Sunshyne Kingbird, Bev Whitebird, and Hannah Dalton. Interment will be held in the Prince of Peace Cemetery at Mission/ Cass Lake following the service.

Lisa'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

Lois Marie Jourdain

ois Marie **L**Jourdain, "ozhaawashkobinesikwe" which means "Little Blue Bird Woman", age 58, of Cass Lake, began her spiritual journey on



Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at the Cass Lake IHS in Cass Lake. She was born on May 16, 1956 in White Earth, MN the daughter of Leonard and Leona (Goodman) Tanner.

Lois enjoyed spending time with her family and children. She had numerous adopted grandchildren who she helped to raise. She liked beading, making jingle dresses, moccasins, big family gatherings and attending pow-wows.

Family Lois joins again include her parents; Leonard and Leona, son; Joseph Jourdain, Jr., brother; Leonard Tanner, Jr., uncle; George Tanner, and her grandparents.

Those she leaves behind to cherish her memory are her husband; Bob Jourdain of Cass Lake, sons; Tony (Dee) Mainville of Cloquet, Kevin (Evette) Mainville of Cass Lake, and Dean Jourdain of Cass Lake, daughters; Alexandra Tanner, Karen Jourdain, Theresa Jourdain, and Audrey Jourdain all of Cass Lake, Uncle Melvin Goodman of Pennington, Aunt Roxanne Goose of Bemidji, sisters; Alyce Graham of Fargo, ND and one sister in Detroit, MI. 29 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, special adopted grandchildren; Rodney, Cheylynn, Noah, Ethan, Lakota, Ken, Cody, Leon, and numerous others. Adopted sisters Della (Jim) and Birdie (Mike). Lois helped to raise; Joe, Jeremy, Danielle, Shantell, Michelle, Raquel, Justin, and Jasmine.

A wake service for Lois will begin on March 12, 2015 and will continue on Saturday, March 14, all at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake. Spiritual leader will be Mike Dahl. Pallbearers will be Noah Delapaz, Ethan Burnette, Joe Jourdain, Jeremy Jourdain, Rodney Johnson, Jr. and Art Jones. Alternate pallbearers are Andy Jones, Waase Lightfeather, and Matt Carley. Honorary pallbearers are Della, Birdie, Roxanne, all her adopted grandchildren, Roleen Walgenbach, and all the nurses that have taken care of her at IHS. Interment will be held at the Tanner Family Burial Grounds at Oak Point.

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

Marilyn Joy Hanson

Marilyn Joy Hanson, 61, of Bena, died January 3, 2015 at Sanford Health on Bemidji. Wake will begin at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 7th



at the Bena Indian Community Center. her funeral will be January 8th at 11:00 a.m. with Spiritual Leader Mike Meyers officiating. Interment will be in the Bena Cemetery at Bena, Minnesota. Marilyn was born in Cass Lake at I.H.S. to Walter and Tillie Chase on January 13, 1953. She attended school at Bena Elementary and Cass Lake High School. She later attended Bemidji Technical College. She was currently employed as a security guard at the White Oak Casino. She enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She loved going to casinos all over the state. She was always helping people out. Marilyn was a loving wife, mother, sister, grandmother, aunt and friend. She was preceded in death by her son Gary Lee Hanson, Jr., parents, three brothers and two sisters. She is survived by her husband of 41 years, Gary Lee Hanson, Sr., son; Tom Chase, daugthers; Crystal (Gilberto) Hanson, Kathy (Todd) Hanson and Shelly (Chancey) Hanson all of Bena, grandchildren; Richard Norton, Caleb "Bro" Duoos, Kayla Duoos, Leslie Hanson, Melissa Hanson, Braylon, Brayden and Angel Tiessen, Kaylen, Kylie and Aiden Tellstrom, one great grandson, four brothers, two sisters and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Active pallbearers are Art Chase, Jr., Caleb "Bro" Duoos, Seth Raines, Gerald "Huey" Northbird, Dylan Chase and Logan O'Brien. Alternate pallbearers are Joe "Weasel" Chase and Dusty Chase. Marilyn's honorary pallbearers are all her grandchildren, Gloria "Micky" Hanson, Birdie Lyons, Faye Headbird, Jean Bobolink and all of the White Oak Casino Staff. Marilyn's care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.northernpeace.com

Terrance Wayne Robinson, Jr.

Terrance Wayne Robinson, Jr., "Bubba", "Manna-Noons", 29 years old, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Cass Lake on

Thursday, April 9, 2015. He was born in Deer River, on July 15, 1985, the son of Terrance and Mary (Halterman) Robinson.

Terry loved hunting, fishing, ricing, working on cars and going to the Casino. You could always find him riding around and visiting family and friends. He was a very outgoing person who would show you that you were number one in his book. From working on cars to building things, you could count on Terry to be a perfectionist. He also had a special love for kids. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

The family members that Terry joins are his dad Terrance, Sr., and his sister Carrie Robinson, grandparents; Franklin John Robinson, Dollian Gale Robinson-Kottmeyer, Gordon Henry Halterman, great grandparents; Virginia Fisherman-Robinson, Raymond Fred Robinson, Bert Gale and Lillian Johnson Gale.

Those he leaves behind to miss him include his mom, Mary Robinson of Federal Dam, fiancé Meagan Bowstring of Cass Lake, sons; Terrance Robinson III, Ryan Robinson, Jake Robinson all of Bena and one son Carsyn Bowstring of Cass Lake, daughter; Layla Bowstring

207 2nd St. NW, Bemidji MN

NEW HOURS 10AM -7PM

CLOSED SUNDAYS

Business Number (218) 444-7296

of Cass Lake, sisters; Sherry Robinson of St. Paul, Beth Robinson of Cass Lake, Carmen Robinson of Federal Dam, and Alexis Anderson of Federal Dam, aunts; Vickie Reinhardt of Aitkin, and Judy Halterman of Amery, WI, uncles; Frank Robinson of Cass Lake, and Mark Halterman of Apple Valley, great uncles; Darrell and Kenny Gale both of Federal Dam, great aunts; Marlene Stately of Ball Club, Lavina Marion of Federal Dam, and Stella Mitchell of Federal Dam, grandma; Lucy Halterman of Maplewood, numerous friends, cousins and other relatives.

A wake service for Terry will be on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 and will continue hhntil the 10:00 a.m. service on Wednesday, April 15, all at the Sugar Point Community Center. Allan Hardy will be the spiritual leader. Pallbearers include Donald Geving, Jerrin Wilson, Sr., Josh Bowstring, Ray Geving, Mike Mitchell, Tatanka Banks, and A.J. Gale. Honorary pallbearers will be DeDe Losh, Frank Robinson, Kenny Gale, Darell Gale, Jimmy Campbell, Richard Mckenzie, Dennis Banks, David Chase, Gerald White, Miguel Arrow, Nate Lego, Kirk Kottmeyer, Deatrick LaPointe, Travis Gale, Justin Seely, Terry White, Jr., Tony Boswell, Shawn Monroe, Dan White, and Bruce White. Interment will be held at the Battle Point Cemetery following the service.

Terry'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

Kenneth J. Smith Memorial

Dad, it's been ten years you've been gone. I've tried to hide my tears when I say your name, but the pain in my heart is still the same. Though I smile and seem care free, there's no one who misses you more than me.

Rest In Peace, Dad. I miss you and love you very much.

Gii-GaaWaabaamin, Barbara-Jo

2015 Leech Lake Pow Wow Season

Memorial Pow Wow Traditional Pow Wow May 22-24, 2015

Palace Casino Drive Cass Lake, MN 56633 Vendor Contact: Anita Cloud 218-256-6163 nitacloud@yahoo.com Pow wow Information Contact: Rod Northbird 218-308-3120 rod.northbird@nwioic.org Leah Gale Monroe 218-760-3127 leahgale@hotmail.com

Waa Wiye Gaa Maag (Round Lake) 12th Traditional Pow Wow June 19-21, 2015

S- Lake, MN 56681 Pow wow Information Contact: Gary Charwood 218-760-7955 maang40@yahoo.com Margaret Charwood 218-398-5220 Vendor Contact: Linda Bryan 218-308-3163 linda.bryan@llojibwe.org

4th of July Traditional Pow Wow July 3-5, 2015

Palace Casino Drive Cass Lake, MN 56633 Vendor Contact: Anita Cloud 218-256-6163 nitacloud@yahoo.com Pow wow Information Contact: Rod Northbird 218-308-3120 rod.northbird@nwioic.org Leah Gale Monroe 218-760-3127 leahgale@hotmail.com

Mii Gwitch Mahnomen Days 53rd Traditional Pow Wow July 17-19, 2015

Hiring Head Security for the Leech Lake (Cass Lake)2015 Pow wow Season

Job Requirements :

- CPR or First Responder certified
- Supervisor qualifications
 Excellent communication skills
- Pass a criminal background check and submit to drug test
- Problem solving and multitasking
- Own Transportation/ Insurance
- Assist pow wow committee to keep and safe environment

Deadline: April 24, 2014 Please send Letter and Resume to contact information below

Leech Lake Pow Wow Committee 2015 Pow wow Season Security Leech Lake 2015 Summer Pow Wows Contact : LaVonne Thompson Leech Lake Pow Wow /Event Coordinator 6280 upper Cass Frontage Rd. N.W., Cass Lake Phone: 218-308-3680 Fax: 218-335-7527 Lavonne.thompson@ leechlakegaming.com

Memorial Pow Wow May 22-24 2015

4th of July Pow Wow July 3-5 2015

Labor Day Pow wow September 4-6, 2015