Public Health Officials Confirm First Case of COVID-19 Within Leech Lake Reservation Boundaries

CASS LAKE – On Monday, May 11, 2020, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (LLBO) Tribal Health Officials received notification of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the boundaries of the reservation.

LLBO Tribal Health and Indian Health Service, with guidance from the State of Minnesota Department of Health, is conducting contact tracing to identify anyone who has had contact with the infected person. The individual has known travel history with an infected family member. At this time, any individuals identified to have come into contact with the infected person will be asked to quarantine for 14 days.

Health Service Director Brian Brunelle shared his concern for the affected individual and emphasized the importance of partnerships. “Leech Lake has strong Leadership, Tribal Health and an Incident Management Team working everyday to keep our residents safe and healthy,” said Brunelle. “By working collaboratively with all reservation departments and state agencies, we’ll be able to better monitor and contain this outbreak and deliver needed resources and supplies to the people of Leech Lake”.

It is more important now than ever to practice the guidelines we have put in place. COVID-19 often causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia.

In addition to following social distancing recommendations, guidelines include:
- Staying home and avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Covering all coughs and sneezes with your sleeve or tissue.
- Wearing a cloth face cover or mask to protect others.
- Washing your hands frequently for 20 seconds with soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces and objects.

What should I do if I have symptoms or think I have been exposed to COVID-19?
Leech Lake Tribal Health, in collaboration with Cass Lake Indian Health Service, has set up a COVID-19 hotline. The hotline numbers are 218-335-3426 or 218-335-3427. The hotline is staffed from 8:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

MINNEAPOLIS — The years long battle over the naming of lake Bde Maka Ska ended Wednesday May 13.

The lake formerly referred to as Calhoun has been officially given the go ahead to return to its traditional name by the Minnesota Supreme court. The court ruled that the state Department of Natural Resources had the authority to rename the lake with its original Dakota name in 2018.

The 5-2 ruling ended a legal challenge brought by a group of homeowners surrounding Bde Maka Ska — who argued that former DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr lacked the power to change the name.

The group entitled “Save Lake Calhoun” based its case on a 1925 law they said prohibited the renaming of lakes and other bodies of water that had existed for more than 40 years. The Court of Appeals sided with the group last spring, and the state appealed the decision to the highest court.

The Supreme Court’s ruling came down to the statutory interpretation of that law. In the opinion, Justice David Lillehaug wrote the 40-year expiration only applied to county boards, not to the state.

The power to change the names of geographic features was further clarified when the law was updated. Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan who has been an advocate for the name change took to social media to share her joy in the court’s decision.

“This ruling acknowledges the history and value of Indigenous people. It’s an assist to parents and caregivers of Native kids trying to ensure our children grow up in a world that knows we have always been here,” said Flanagan.

The name change is now being acknowledged by the state Department of Natural Resources, and will be seen in maps in the incoming months.

Prescott Property Becomes Trust Land for Tribe
By Kayla Duoos

CASS LAKE — The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe’s application to place land into trust has been accepted by the United States Department of the Interior.

The application originally submitted by the band December 15, 2016 to acquire land known as the Prescott property within tribal reservation boundaries will now be held within the tribe’s name through the Department of Interior. The land which consists of 12 separate parcels of land all under 50 acres has undergone minimal development since purchasing.

The land sits south of Cass Lake near the band’s housing authority. The acquisition of the land is a huge step forward for the Tribe as it’s only maintained 5% of the original 677,099 acres once owned, moving the land into trust will also save the band over $64,000 in property taxes.

Leech Lake is actively engaged in the process of restoring lost and stolen land and does so with three intentions in mind: to reestablish the lost land base, provide band housing, and promote economic development and enhance the existing economy.

Updates on the Prescott property land development can be found at www.LeechLakeNews.com

American Indian Month

MINNEAPOLIS — May is American Indian Month in Minnesota.

In a proclamation signed May 1 by Governor Walz, he presented the honorarium to the public citing that the month is to celebrate traditional cultures, contributions, history, and art by the states Tribal Nations. The history of the state is interwined with the history of local Tribes, whose traditions are respected as part of a rich legacy throughout the region.

In the proclamation, Walz additionally took time to acknowledge notable and famous Tribal residents including: Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, Ojibwe, the highest elected American Indian woman in the United States; Henry Boucha, Ojibwe, Centerman for the Detroit Red Wings and one of six medaled Native American Olympic athletes; Louise Erdrich, Chippewa, author of fifteen novels, winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award, finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, and winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award; Ohiyesa, also known as Charles Alexander Eastman, Dakota, physician and famed published author.

Lieutenant Governor Flanagan who was represented in the notable residences list took time on social media to acknowledge the states proclamation.

“We’ve always been here. We are still here. We are a critical part of the future of Minnesota,” said Flanagan.
Logan Monroe, LLBO Band Member, recognized as one of UNITY’s “25 under 25 Native Youth Leaders”

MESA, AZ – UNITY is pleased to announce the fourth class of its “25 under 25 Native Youth Leaders” national recognition program that honors Native American and Alaskan Native youth. The program, launched in 2014, recognizes and celebrates the achievements of 25 outstanding Native youth leaders under the age of 25, every other year. These Native youth leaders exemplify UNITY’s core mission and exudes living a balanced life developing their spiritual, mental, physical and social well-being.

Logan Monroe, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Member, receives the National 25 under 25 Native Youth Leaders Award!

Logan is a senior and the valedictorian of his graduating class at Northland Community Schools-Remer, MN, and is the first Native American to receive valedictorian at Northland-Remer. Logan is Captain of the high school State Champion Ojibwe language quiz bowl team, lead singer of the Northland Eagles school drum group, National Honor Society member, Northland Community Schools UNITY chairperson, school WE Act member & Ogichidaa Club member with high school letters earned in; drum group, dance troupe, and Ojibwe language quiz bowl. Logan is son to Shawn & Leah Monroe and grandson to Kenneth Gale, Barbara Schwuchert, Larry McClimek, Patricia Monroe, Steve & Maureen (Bunny) Fox. Logan will attend Bemidji State University in the fall. Congratulations Logan, on your achievements!

“Our Native youth are doing wonderful work in Indian Country. UNITY’s 25 Under 25 program is just one way of recognizing these young leaders and acknowledging the passion they have to better their communities. There was an amazing response from outstanding youth applicants across the nation. A big congrats to the honorees and we wish nothing but the best to all nominees,” said Mary Kim Titla, Executive Director for UNITY.

Normally, the honorees are recognized at UNITY’s national conference, but due to the current Coronavirus pandemic, the in-person conference has been cancelled. However, a virtual conference is now planned along with a 25 Under 25 recognition event. In addition to the recognition, honorees will have an opportunity over the next nine months to experience training and networking that will support their work and endeavors.

The 2020 class of 25 under 25 Native Youth Leaders are:
- Adrien Pochel, 18, Wuskwi Sipihk First Nations Cree, IL
- Álayna Harkreader, 19, Cherokee Nation, OK
- Alyssa Coriz, 23, Kewa Pueblo, NM
- Angela Noah, 23, White Mountain Apache, OR
- Anthony, 20, Wuskwi Sipihk First Nations Cree & Sicangu Lakota, IL
- Autumn Adams, 23, Yakama Nation, WA
- Bianca Hernandez, 21, Gila River Indian Community, AZ
- Brook Thompson, 24, Yurok & Karuk, OR
- Caleb Dash, 17, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, AZ
- Claudia McHenry, MvSkoke, OK
- Dylan Baca, 17, White Mountain Apache, AZ
- Frankie Pedersen, 23, Listuguj Migmaq First Nations, IL
- Kaitlyn Pinkerton, 16, Cherokee, OK
- Kennise McGertt, 16, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, AZ
- Kylie Hunts-In-Winter, 17, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, AZ
- Logan Monroe, 17, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, MN
- Marco Ovando, 20, Shoshone Paiute, ID
- Nadira Mitchell, 19, Diné, AZ
- Niagra Rockbridge, 21, Diné, AZ
- Owen Oliver, 21, Quinault Indian Nation, WA
- Sareya Taylor, 18, White Mountain Apache, AZ
- Shayla French, 19, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, MI
- Timothy Benally, 21, Diné, AZ
- Wyomee Cooke, 17, Diné, AZ
- Yasmine Quiroz, 23, Gila River Indian Community, AZ

Applicants were judged by an independent committee who scored applications based on the strength of the application, nomination form, resume, supplemental information, and potential to impact Native America. Congratulations to all!

LLBO Stay at Home Order Lifted, Safety Measures Remain in Place

CASS LAKE – After weighing all possible options, the Leech Lake Tribal Council agreed to let the mandatory portions of the Stay at Home Order for the Leech Lake Reservation expire as of today, June 1, 2020. Vulnerable residents and their caretakers, especially those with underlying conditions, are strongly encouraged to continue staying at home and limiting all contact for the duration of the pandemic.

The Leech Lake Tribal Council would like to remind all residents of the reservation that the COVID-19 pandemic remains a very serious health risk to our community, the Stay at Home Order will swiftly be put back into place if necessary. Please continue to practice the good habits that have brought us this far through the public health crisis. Frequently wash hands or use hand sanitizer, maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet, wear masks when out in public and limit in person gatherings with people from outside of your household.

No changes are expected this week to government or business operations. Essential services will continue to operate at their current capacity. Tribal casinos are still at least three weeks away from resuming operations, patrons should expect significant changes that will ensure the safety and health of guests and employees. The COVID-19 situation on Leech Lake and throughout the State will be closely monitored in the next few weeks and will weigh heavily on any decision made.

Detailed plans for resuming operations have been drafted and will be finalized in the coming weeks. Public input is very important to this process, if you have not yet filled out the survey at https://arcg.is/1qOCfG8, please do so. Community members may also submit comments to news@llojibwe.net.

The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency remains in full effect, all health and safety guidelines also remain in effect and need to be followed. These include:
- Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distance as much as possible. If traveling, use current safety measures;
- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When soap and running water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with your hands;
- Wearing a mask is required in all common areas;
- Cover coughs and sneezes;
- Practice social distancing (at least 6 feet between people);
- Wipe down all frequently used surfaces after each use;
- Avoid entering another employee’s workspace (e.g., office);
- Stagger breaks and lunches, if practicable, to encourage social distancing.

Missed an issue?


Read past and current issues of Debahjimon online!
2020 Leech Lake Tribal Council Primary Election Information

Election Date: Tuesday June 9, 2020  •  Polls Open from 8:00AM until 8:00PM

Polling Places:

DISTRICT I
Ball Club
Community Center
31627 County Rd #39
Deer River, MN

Inger Community Center
53736 County Rd #146
Deer River, MN

S. Lake Community Center
59979 County Rd #4
S.Lake, MN

DISTRICT II
Bena Community Center
15032 Old Housing Drive
Bena, MN

Smokey Point-Kego Lake Community Center
6159 Kego Lake Trail NE
Longville, MN

Sugar Point
Community Center
10051 Battle Pt Dr
Federal Dam, MN

DISTRICT III
Cass Lake
Dikinaagan Center
16120 60th Ave NW
Cass Lake, MN

Mission
Community Center
Cass Lake, MN

Onigum
Community Center
8825 Onigum Rd NW
Walker, MN

Cass River
Community Center
1731 Scenic Hwy SE
Pennington, MN

Oak Point
Community Center
5468 170th St NW
Cass Lake, MN

BEMIDJI
Bemidji City Hall
Chamber of Commerce
317 4th St NW
Bemidji, MN

DULUTH
Dr. Robert Powless
Cultural Center
212 W 2nd St
Duluth, MN

LEECH LAKE TWIN CITIES
Leech Lake Twin Cities
Office
2438 27th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN

ABSOLUTE VOTING
GENERAL ELECTION BOARD
Che We Building (SE Corner)
115 6th St. Ste. E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Ballot Order
Determined by random drawing pursuant to MCT Election Ordinance Section 1.3 (f)

Chairperson
1. Faron Jackson Sr. (Incumbent)
2. Janice Gale-Dahmen
3. Peter Jackson
4. Stephen “Steven” Howard
5. Leonard “Lenny” Fineday

District III
1. Ronald “Ron” Hare
2. Rodney “Rod” Northbird
3. Leroy Staples-Fairbanks (Incumbent)

Leech Lake Election Board

Physical Address:
SE Corner Che We Building
115 Sixth St NW
Cass Lake MN 56633

Mailing Address:
PO Box 787
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Phone: (218) 335-7222
Fax: (218) 335-7248
Toll free - 1-877-577-7945

Election Board Members:
Sharon Wilson – Chair
Terri Boswell – Teller
Nancy Whitebird – Clerk
Jody Bellanger – Clerk
Jay Nordmarken – Clerk

ELECTION CALENDAR 2020

Election Date: Tuesday June 9, 2020  •  Polls Open from 8:00AM until 8:00PM

April 14  Notice of Primary Election and Posting.
April 15  TEC provides ballots for Primary Election.
June 4  Notify MCT on choice of appellate forum.
June 9  Primary (Polling places open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.)
June 10  General Reservation Election Board certifies Primary Results. (Prior to 8:00 p.m.)
June 11  General Reservation Election Board publishes Primary Results.
June 12  Deadline for Request for Recount. (Filed with General Election Board prior to 5:00 p.m.)
June 16  4:30 p.m. - Deadline for Appeal to Court of Election Appeals. Filed with the Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and with Reservation Tribunal rendering Decision. (or within 3 days of decision on Contest)
June 17  Deadline for Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed.
June 26  Deadline for Decision on Contest
June 29  4:30 p.m. - Deadline for Appeal to Court of Election Appeals. (Filed with the Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and with Reservation Tribunal rendering Decision).
July 2  Last Day for Hearing on Appeal.
July 6  TEC provides ballots for General Election.
July 16  Last Day for Decision on Appeal.
July 17  Notice of General Election.
July 17  TEC provides ballots for General Election.
August 18  General Election (Polling places open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.)
August 19  General Reservation Election Board certifies results of Election. Prior to 8:00 p.m.
August 20  General Reservation Election Board publishes Election results.
August 21  Deadline for Request for Recount. (Filed with General Election Board prior to 5:00 p.m.)
August 25  4:30 p.m. - Deadline for notice of Contest. (Filed with Reservation Election Judge and Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe).
August 26  Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed.
Sept. 4  Deadline for Decision on Contest for General Election.
Sept. 8  4:30 p.m. - Deadline for appeal to Court of Election Appeals. (Filed with Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and Reservation Tribunal rendering Decision).
Sept. 11  Record of contest forwarded to Court of Election Appeals.
Sept. 15  Last Day for Hearing on Appeal.
Sept. 25  Deadline for decision of the Court of Elections Appeal.
CASS LAKE – Leech Lake Tribal College is making the best of a difficult semester.

After the college cut its spring semester short due to the coronavirus pandemic, the college’s annual spring graduation later had to be postponed. In lieu of their typical festivities the college chose to still honor this year’s graduating class of 26 students including one PSEO highschool student with a drive through celebration.

The drive through celebration held May 22, took place over 2 hours, and let graduates drive through the campus a final time, take an official photo in their vehicle, and receive gifts that are typically handed out during the college’s graduation ceremony.

The college had a steady stream of cars throughout the event, and staff spent the day sharing messages from professors and Tribal college president Raymond Burns via social media about the graduates future—as well as a promise that they would see an official ceremony later this year.

“We will do something special for students later on when we’re able to, but this event is just to celebrate their accomplishments for this year” said Burns.

The college is currently aiming to hold a ceremony in late August.

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**Student Services**

**CONTACTS:**

Dean of Student Affairs, also Emergency Aid:  
jorge.mendoza@lltc.edu 335-4262

Emergency Food/fuel:  
Cass Lake  
roselynn.jones@lltc.edu 335-4211

Bemidji  
jorge.mendoza@lltc.edu 335-4262

Learning Center Support and Academic Tutoring:  
TUTORHELP@LLTC.EDU (text)

Learning Center:  
kim.dickson@lltc.edu 335-4242

Registrar:  
stacey.lundberg@lltc.edu 335-4262

Admissions:  
valerie.smith@lltc.edu 335-4286

Recruitment:  
delores.rodriguez@lltc.edu 335-4248

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**TEMPORARY VEHICLE REGISTRATION FOR VEHICLE TITLE/LICENSE PLATES THROUGH LEECH LAKE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES:**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the required response, the Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee has ordered the temporary closure of the LLDMV.

Due to the closure, LLDMV is unable to process title transfers or issue new license plates, or 2020 tags.

Leech Lake Tribal Police Department will temporarily be issuing registration notices, between the hours of 9:00 - 4:00 Monday - Friday. Please call 218-335-8277 if you are in need of the temporary registration notice.

**Must be able to pick up registration notice in person at LLTPD, via email, or have notice mailed to you**

**Please have MN Drivers license #, vehicle year/make/model, and LL plate # readily available**

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR**

**2020 GRADS**

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- Zachary Ryan Anderson  
  AAS - BUS
- Lana M. Bellanger  
  AA - LIBED & AA - BUS
- William D. Bowstring III  
  AA - LIB ED STEM
- Harley Brown  
  AAS - IRB
- Geraldine Chase  
  AA - LIB ED
- Parker Eugene Drift  
  AAS - LE
- Tonia Elizabeth Edman  
  AA - LIB ED STEM
- David Wayne Eischens, Jr.  
  AA - IL
- Olivia Ann Estey  
  AA - LIB ED
- Mikele Northbird Finn  
  AAS - BUS
- Arianna Ogimaakwe  
  Gogoleye  
  AA - LIB ED
- David Manuel Jones, Jr.  
  AA - LIB ED STEM
- Zachary Leo Jordan  
  AA - FOR
- Corrina Dawn Kingbird  
  AAS - BUS
- Tara Mae Lussier  
  AAS - BUS
- Lori Rose Martin  
  AA - LIB ED
- Brianna Lou Mitchell  
  AA - LIB ED STEM
- Sharon Elaine Paddy  
  AA - LIB ED
- Bryce Steven Premo  
  AAS - LE
- Delores Danielle Rodriguez  
  AAS - BUS
- Shawna Jean Semmens  
  AA - LIB ED STEM
- Diane M. Staples  
  AA - LIB ED
- Jonathan Staples  
  AA - IL
- Raquel Ashleigh Staples  
  AA - LIB ED
- Emily Marie Ward  
  AA - LIB ED
- Jamie Lynn Weise  
  AA - LIB ED

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**THE PUBLIC COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY IS POSTPONED UNTIL LATE SUMMER & WILL BE ANNOUNCED.**
**District III Elder Birthdays**

*June*

From the District III Office
LeRoy, Toni & Kari

- Joseph Aitken
- Linda Aitken
- James Allen
- Betty Avery
- Gloria Beaulieu
- Shirley Beaulieu
- Jathan Bebeau
- Kenneth Bellanger
- Tracey Benjamin
- Timothy Boisvert
- Evelyn Brown
- Sue Brown
- Glenda Bryan
- Anthony Budreau
- Melvin Burnette
- Annette Cloud
- Charles Dahl
- Carl Day
- Ramona Day
- Tony Donnell
- Muriel Ellis
- Holly Evans
- Aaron Fairbanks
- Ronald Finn
- Kathleen Frazer
- Michael Garbow
- Keith Gaston
- Barbara Haagen
- John Herrera
- Kenneth Hugh
- Ernest Howard
- Evelyn Howard
- Nanette Howard
- Gerald Humphrey
- Matthew Hunt
- Fred Jackson
- Michael Johnson
- Beverly Kamowski
- Francis Kangas
- Matthew Kangas
- Verna King
- Carol Kingbird
- Gregory Kleeb
- Timothy Littlewolf
- Linda Losh
- Sharon Lovelace
- Nina Martin
- Rhonda Michaud
- Edwin Monroe
- Tony Morris
- Janet Northbird
- Richard O’Brien
- Michael Olson
- Garr Pemberton
- Phyllis Pendleton
- Diane Pieri
- Dawn Purdy
- Sue Robinson
- Berton Rock
- Thomas Roy
- Ernest Ryan
- Paul Smith
- Rosetta Smith
- Carol Staples
- Charles Staples
- Connie Taylor
- Kathy Thompson
- Victor Thompson
- Kenneth Tibbetts
- Annette Vaughan
- Kevin Wakefield
- Carol White
- Claire White
- Peter White
- Phyllis White
- Rodney White
- Francis Wiggins
- Colleen Williams

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

- Faron Jackson Sr.
- Janice Gale Dahmen
- Leonard “Lenny” Fineday
- Peter Jackson
- Stephen “Steve” Howard

District III Representative Candidates

- LeRoy Staples Fairbanks
- Rod Northbird
- Ron Hare

**EDITOR’S NOTE:**

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in the Candidate Essays, located in this section, are those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Debahjimon Newspaper, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe or any of its entities. Submissions from the candidates are presented as received. The guidelines for submission included stipulations that authors include no libelous or slanderous statements and refrain from attacking any other candidates. Edits were made to essays citing March 31 to reflect the updated Primary Election date of June 9, 2020.
My name is Faron Jackson, Sr. I want to thank everyone for the honor given to me four years ago to serve as chairman. I live in Onigum with my wife of 44 years Laurel, we have five children, 24 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. We have been foster parents for 30 years and adopted five foster children. Our 30 foster kids over the years continue to be a part of our family.

When I sought the chairman position four years ago I thought then as now that we could do better. So I went door to door on the reservation and in the urban areas talking to our people about issues and concerns. We have numerous crises and a lot of heartbreaking social problems that needed immediate responses. We are all impacted by the issues; opioid/addiction crisis and overdoses, children in out-of-home placements, homelessness, a housing shortage, high unemployment, high poverty rate. The pipeline to prison for our men, women and even our juveniles when they get involved in the juvenile justice system, as well as reentry issues for those released from prison. The needs of parents due to personal issues who need to stabilize their lives including finding work and stable housing to get their children back. All of these issues and others, as well as the numerous negative statistics all indicate a people in distress. None of us personally, our families, our relatives are untouched.

Many issues we face are of very long standing, generational in fact as they have root causes going back in our history to U.S. genocide policies, forced relocations, forced boarding school, loss of our lands or more accurately the theft of our natural and economic resources that have by design left us destitute. The resulting historic and intergenerational traumas continue to disrupt lives. But we also have another history demonstrating over and over again that we are a people of resistance, determination, and strength; The Battle of Sugar Point, standing with Standing Rock, the takeover of the Dams by our members in the 80’s, our treaty demonstration a few years back at the Hole in the Day Refuge near Brainerd to protect our off reservation gathering rights. Our continued fights in their (U.S.) courts to protect our reserved rights.

We all know we have to live in today’s world. Even after all we have suffered we do not advocate hate or opposition but only to be treated fairly and honestly. For we too have dreams as individuals and as a separate people. As Native Americans we are not a minority group or just people of color. We are indigenous to this country and to this land, our homeland. We have political standing and our own governments, sovereignty, territorial rights and inherent rights that preexist the establishment of the United States, and reserved rights guaranteed through treaty. We have to walk in two worlds and that requires diplomacy and involvement with the United States government, the State of Minnesota and its political subdivisions. We have to protect our rights as citizens of the United States and as citizens of our own homeland and the Ojibwe Anishinaabe Nation.

I point out the above because I take extremely serious the responsibility of elected office, and all elected positions whether the chairman position, secretary/treasurer or district representative, as well as those at the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT/TEC). I see the need for setting a future, addressing long standing issues and current social problems affecting our people. Setting a focus on our youth and children, on our culture and language. I have spent the last 4 years learning while working on issues and solutions. I can say during this time we have accomplished much as an administration. However, it takes time to build a responsive and progressive system of government while dealing with crisis and the need to improve lives by providing opportunity and job creation. I think it is important to hold to a strategic course instead of potentially changing direction every two years.

While I am limited in this article for the newspaper, I hope that I have conveyed an understanding of the position of chairman and the need for us to continue to hold to the positive progressive direction that has been set for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe over the last four years. I will reach out to as many of our people as I can during this election. If you have concerns or want to talk reach out to me. I humbly ask for your continued support and vote in this election.

Please Vote Faron Jackson, Sr. for Chairman. Miigwech!
Chairperson Candidates
Four-Year Term 2020-2024

Candidate

Janice Gale Dahmen

A

rein (hello) my name is 
Janice Gale Dahmen, I am running for the honor of being 
Chairwoman, of the Leech Lake 
Reservation for 2020. I am the 
parent of his, mine and our kids all 
together 9 children, a blended 
family, I have been a single parent, 
and married etc...no family is per 
fected and I can honestly say that 
mine is what it is. All my kids that 
I have raised have gone off to col 
lege, finished highschool and 4 are 
left to graduate. With that point 
said, I support education, I sup 
sport single parents men or women, 
and know the struggles that we 
face as parents, elders, band mem 
bers and our children mostly. I see 
that our council works together 
and struggles together and often 
know it is impossible...so I am doing the videos on issues friend request me on facebook or 
messanger, I also want to hear about how are we handling our extinction of usas Native 
Americans and wonder how as a nation are we going to handle this? I may sound crazy but 
why are we the only nationality that has to prove this to have our children have health care 
education for the rest of their lives, for their native blood ¼ indian, I mean shouldn't 
our last name our last name be kept good enough and isn't that why other nationalities use 
their "family Tree's?" why can't the MCT keep track of that? And our band members, our 
children wouldn't have to worry about becoming extinct...why do we natives have to prove 
this, I wrote a paper in college for Elaine fleming on this and it angered me, there was a 
quote in it from Patrick Limerick, that we would extinct ourselves, I do not want this to 
happen to us, it also angers me why the society can sell fish in a store or a restaurant and 
then the government gets mad when us natives exercise our rights and set a net and try to 
give it away or make a buck we should they do. As much money as we spend at Walmart I 
hope they let us sell our wild rice and our fish to them too IN THEIR STORES, AND GIVE 
OUR CHILDREN LOTS OF SCHOLARSHIPS!!!

Get my point? Also our Native Crafts our casinos should be buying our owqn beaded ear 
rings hand crafts etc,,you get what I mean and support our people as well as our people 
men and women in prisons,jails, etc, artists writers, and I am last but least in support of 
our cannabis (420)and legalizing it what will we do to help our reservation prosper?

Vote Janice Gale Dahmen

Janice Gale Dahmen
12949 Hwy Ctly Rd 8 E federal dam mn 56641
janicegale@gmail.com
218-232-1954

Little history from myself, I am Bert and Lillian Gale's grand daughter, Ronald Gale (Sugar 
Point) is my father, Della Ann Gale Robinson(Ball Club) is my mother, Marilyne Bowstring 
(step-mother). I lived in Alaska and Green Bay for 12 years, I am a graduate of the Leech 
Lake Tribal College, Business Degree, I have worked many jobs throughout my entire life, 
learned many skills and developed business relationships with the Day Labor program, 
where yes I was terminated, and left before they walked me out, and know what it is to be 
hired/fired and trusted to run a large program for the reservation and to well watch all 
hard work as a team, slowly go away with no jobs at mill in town in Cass Lake, making 
actually regenerating monies for the program itself and put back into the program.

Years ago, I campaigned on why we couldn't start our own recycle center, at each district, 
picking up garbage for the US Army Core of engineers, at all parks that surround our 
waters, mowing contracts 8 a certifications and developing jobs for our band members 
through this program. Making it into what is was intended for a hand- up not a hand- out, 
now i am a handicapped disabled person with one leg due to diabetes, hospital care, and i 
hate asking them to come shovel or mow only when i really need it, and i ask for their help 
when i need it, and appreciate it. They all work hard and i support this program! I like the 
way everyone is taking initiative with our children and developing their own activities into 
their own communities by utilizing our community centers, and creating ways to outreach 
to our youth but we can do more, by developing handicapped accessible playgrounds pos 
sible for kids, more programs to outreach the outer centers where boys and girls clubs are 
not available to parents and our own youth division gets no blame, and are not babysitters, 
we need parent involvement yes, and I know I would like to see us in future develop 
Recycle Centers and Regenerate monies from just the garbage from our homes and our 
casinos to create jobs for our band members as well and take care of our land, Elders and 
Youth Divisions with helping our own two programs as well as communities with these 
monies from them. Why not? We face many issues yes and I want to visit everyone but

wonder about is it getting better or is it worse with sides and decision making on what 
very politician says when they campaign. Are you just a vote at election time .does your 
vote count and are they open with policies and procedures, can you go talk to them? Does 
your concerns for the reservation get to be heard and opinions voiced without reprimand. 

Greetings fellow Leech Lake Band members! It is with excitement and anticipation that I announce my candidacy for Chairman of the Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee. I did not come to this decision lightly or quickly, but only after much prayer and consultation with others. I do not seek this office because of what I think I alone can do, but what I know we can accomplish together as the Anishinabeg of the Leech Lake Reservation.

There are a number of areas where I would like to see Leech Lake take strategic action.

Healing for our People
Overall, we as a people need healing. We face many challenges, including drug and alcohol additions, family violence, abuse and neglect of children, human trafficking, and the list goes on. Over the years, we have done a lot of work in attempting to tackle these issues one at a time in various ways. This has largely proven ineffective because most of the strategies we have employed to date have failed to address the root problems our people face: we have lost identity over the generations, including the ability to connect with each other in healthy and meaningful ways. I would work to implement a holistic system that provides a continuum of care focused on restoring our Anishinabeg identity, promoting our way of life, and re-learning those healthy ways to connect with ourselves and with one another. The ultimate goal of this holistic approach is to bring healing to our people, balance to our families, and restoration to our communities. Utilizing this approach, we can confront and address the many problems that have plagued our families for years.

Constitutional Reform
As we work to heal ourselves, we also need to create a system of decision-making and governing that reflects who we are as Anishinabeg people and the realities of living in the 21st century. I have been very involved in the on-going Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitutional Reform process and will continue to promote the grass-roots efforts to reform our Constitution so it reflects who we are as a people.

Economic Development
This has been another on-going area that Leech Lake has struggled with. I believe we need to utilize an economic development corporation that will separate politics from business decisions and provide time for the corporation to grow. We are often very impatient and expect immediate results. Real and healthy economic development will take time, investment and planning.

Housing
Homelessness is a serious issue on the Reservation and providing safe, affordable and adequate housing is a necessity that we must better provide on Leech Lake. I commend our Housing Authority and feel that it has done the best it can within current limitations. But I will work with them and others to increase funding and bring more housing to Leech Lake. Another area of need that is often overlooked when discussing housing on Leech Lake is the need for affordable middle income housing. Providing places for working class people to live within our communities is very important not only to allow our people to stay on the Reservation, but is also important in helping to develop a healthy economy where dollars will circulate in our tribal communities before leaving the Reservation.

Education
In the 21st century, education is critical. Overall, we have an educational system we can be proud of on Leech Lake, from Early Childhood to the Bugonaygeshig School to the Tribal College, I will work to build upon our past successes and strengthen our educational system.

Natural Resources
We must always do everything we can to protect our natural resources. We are very blessed at Leech Lake to hold a territory rich in water, trees and medicines. We must always be very diligent to protect and preserve these resources, remembering they were passed on to us by our ancestors and we are merely holding them for future generations. I will work hard to ensure the Superfund site in Cass Lake is finally cleaned up to an acceptable level. I will stand against those outside forces that would use Leech Lake as a pipeline super-highway or pollute our waters. I will work to restore our land base and increase our decision-making when it comes to managing the Chippewa National Forest.

I know that the answers to the challenges we face are not within one person or within one group of people, they are within all of us as a community. My vision is for us to come together as one people and address our challenges so that together, we can leave a legacy of hope and healing, of opportunity and prosperity, of pride and identity, to those future generations both born and unborn. I know the only way for us to get there is by working together as one people.

I ask for your support. Please vote Leonard “Lenny” Fineday for Leech Lake Chairman on June 9, 2020! Please call me at 218-760-1712 if you’d like to talk more.

Chi miigwech!

Leonard “Lenny” Fineday

Leonard “Lenny” Fineday for Leech Lake Chairman, Proven Leadership to Move Leech Lake Forward.
You have been waiting for a green economy, but still your money is used in ways we can tolerate anymore because some want to benefit from divisive leaders, because issues that matter to most Leech Lakers are yet to be settled. Contamination and disease is running rampant through out our reservation. It’s like tentacles of illness that seeks and destroys every good idea and wants to create division and tension on our reservation instead of trying to find common ground and cooperation that will look at every problem we have in every community.

Some have said I was too polite to be a candidate and made me feel like it was a weakness, but I am running for Leech Lake Chairman thank you for this opportunity. I’m very happy to be running next to some great candidates. There is a wind of change a wind that blows through out the reservation a wind of renewal a wind that will breathe new life into our people.

Candidate

Peter Jackson

Hello my fellow Leech Lakers, my name is Peter Jackson, I am running for Leech Lake Chairman. I am ready to bring this change to Leech Lake so that our people will have a strong voice and a sense of pride and strength.

Our people are ready for this change my friends and family. I am ready to bring this change to Leech Lake so that our people will have a strong voice and a sense of pride and strength.

Some have said I was too polite to be a candidate and made me feel like it was a weakness but it takes a leader to listen to what you have to say and make a difference.

Leech Lakers I cannot promise to be less of a good guy, but you know where I stand and you know I will fight for the priorities to defend families and elders. I am committed to do things differently in Cass Lake. I am committed to get results and not in years. People need help now that’s why I am committed to be your Chairman and I fully understand what this means it’s a Chairman’s job to bring people together and build bridges and making sure everyone is doing their part in trying to make a better reservation for everyone.

Some of the things I’ll change is to get a lot of swimming beaches built and maybe a lot of our own resorts cause we get a lot of visitors all year round. We need to expand our casinos that have a lot more machines and get affordable apartments or buildings. And we can make our own vegetation, farms and cattle. Farms and maybe more on to our own other shops – bait shops, pawn shops, and mechanic shops and I would like to get wind, solar, and LED lights to help save everyone a little bit mony. I’m trying to have more of our people get jobs they might like and be less people walking around looking for work.

I feel like when people look at our reservation they are judging us as if all we are dirty drunk junkies that can’t hold a job, but really its people not getting along at work.

In closing I’ll tell you a little about my self I’m a father of two awesome boys and a very smart niece that comes over all the time. I take care of my brother that stays with me. I’m a personal care assistant for him. I also work for Leech Lake Security checking over 26 reservation buildings to make sure their not vandalized or broken into. I grew up in Onigum and moved to Bemidji and then I found a place on the reservation. I have a lot of ideas that can improve the reservation. I hope that the best man wins.

Candidate

Stephen “Steve” Howard

For far too long Leech Lake has suffered, far too long have we waited to be treated fairly, that ends in 2020, stand up and be recognized.

The Biggest difference between myself and the other candidates is I’m willing to cross that line. We have various tax agreements with the State, each one is based on a formula designed to give the state a majority of tax revenue.

We were in the process of renegotiating these agreements when I was fired. Here we are four years later in trouble for over billing and our current administration will fold fearing retaliation from the State. We will never get anywhere until we can be recognized.

For 6-years I represented the Leech Lake Band as Executive Director and I was always available to listen to members, I will continue this because everyone needs a voice in our government.

We need a New approach for the Tribal Council, someone that has fought with the State, with tough negotiation skills.

Ask yourselves have we succeeded as a nation have we progressed in the last four years. Some say my approach is too radical, only with radical ideas can we ever hope to accomplish our goals.

I am sorry but talking about things and creating MOU’s has never resolved anything, we need to take back our sovereignty, I humbly ask for your support, Vote Steven Howard Leech Lake Chairman June 9th 2020.
I've been privileged to serve as your Representative for the last 8 years. There have been PRIORITIES that we must invest more in our people to build our next generation of leaders. Though the people of Leech Lake. What drives me is the importance of our future and realizing takes to fight through the struggles and I have not forgotten where I came from and who I tribal administration, and District III Representative. I have also volunteered with area last 19+ years. I have experience in residential construction, human services (case manage last and Stangel of Bena, MN and LeRoy Staples Jr. of Cass Lake, MN.

I have been working for Leech Lake in different capacities for the

I reside in the Mission community with my wife Becky and our five beautiful children. Becky and I have been together for 21 years (married for 16). My parents are Bonnie (Chad) Fairbanks Stangel of Cass Lake, MN.

I have been working for Leech Lake in different capacities for the

I’ve been privileged to serve as your Representative for the last 8 years. There have been ups and downs, but through it all I have always done my best to make the best decisions for the people of Leech Lake. What drives me is the importance of our future and realizing that we must invest more in our people to build our next generation of leaders. Though much has been accomplished, much more remains to be done.

PRIORITY

- Financial and governmental stability
- Increase our graduation rates and access to quality education
- Decrease out of home placements with our Leech Lake Children
- Addressing housing needs
- Create more jobs and economic progress
- More resources to address addiction
- Increase and secure our land base

For our communities

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Led efforts to provide funding and grant support for LLTC Library
- Initiated and secured funding for Elder Care Facility
- Secured funding and completed Mission Community Center
- Supported placing the Leo Jordan Fishing Pier in Onigum
- Supported Leech Lake Gaming minimum wage to $12.25
- Led efforts to conduct referendum vote for the Cedar Lakes Casino
- Completion of the Cedar Lakes Casino
- Led efforts for the completion of the Vets Cemetery
- Led efforts to work with Paul Bunyan Communications and Century Link to provide internet connectivity to our communities
- Co-founded Leech Lake Civics
- Led the efforts to prevent the reconstruction of Enbridge Line 3 pipeline from going through Leech Lake, established a mitigation plan to remove existing line 3 pipeline.
- Completion of Mission bridge fishing pier
- Completion of Shingobee on the Bay
- Led efforts to address our tax agreement with the State of Minnesota and secure all disputed payments to LLBO
- Completed purchase of a property for the Twin Cities Urban Office
- Completed purchase of a property for a Leech Lake Bemidji Area Office
- Supported the efforts to include Tribal Council in the drug testing process
- Led the efforts to successfully pass a resolution with the TEC to approve title 13,500 acres of land back to Leech Lake
- Supported the efforts to return our lakeshore back to Leech Lakers
- Successfully created LLBO Education Endowment fund
- Governor Walz appointee to the Children's Cabinet Task Force
- Led the efforts to host quarterly meetings in the Twin Cities Urban area
- Supported construction of 7 different solar panel farm sites across Leech Lake
- Led the efforts for the completion of the Onigum Community Center
- Supported the purchase of over 2200 acres of land to Leech Lake
- Completion of Tribal Justice Center
- Completion of Cass Lake Area Homeless Shelter
- Continue rigorous efforts to return Secretarial Land Transfer back to Leech Lake through the Land Restoration Act
- New treatment center at the Old Palace Hotel
- Continue to address MN DHS overpayment dispute
- Continue to support our Leech Lake Opioid Summits
- Continue to support our annual youth summits
- Continue working towards fair and equitable outcomes for the Superfund site
- Work on acquiring a property for the Duluth Urban Office
- Continue to work on the completion of the Wellness Center in Cass Lake
- Continue work towards an ICWA specific housing project to reduce families being split up
- Create a tribal Agricultural Dept.
- New Early Headstart Childcare facility

It has been an honor to represent you these last 8 years as your District III Representative. I believe that through hard work, determination, and honest & ethical decision-making, I have built a trust with the people that you can count on. My job is to ultimately improve the general quality of life for our people. The last 8 years we have had some amazing growth in areas of governance and strength of sovereignty. There is so much more work to build upon and I want to be apart of that growth. I ask in a good way for your continued support and help bring #LeechLakeForward
Rod Northbird

Boozhoo, Rod Northbird indizhinikaz. I am an enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and have lived my entire life in Cass Lake/Mission area. It is with much excitement and anticipation of the work that will be involved in meeting people during my outreach that I formally announce my candidacy for District 3 Representative of the Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee. This decision was arrived at after much thought and due consideration to advice and encouragement from family and friends with special emphasis and spiritual blessings from my late Grandfather to seek political office. In giving his blessing many moons ago he was clear in his directive that I use my gifts and heart to benefit the Anishinabe People and communities for sustainable strength and courage to combat disparities that we all face. To address them, I strongly feel we will need a tribal council that communicates and will work for the People for the collective benefits of all concerned.

The number of disparities as a Nation we need to address and take necessary action on range from preserving our Anishinabe Ways of Life from a cultural context by protecting, enhancing, preserving and reclaiming our use of traditions, customs and practices as they existed years ago. Other concerns I would like to tackle by working jointly with membership and Elders is the drug epidemic, addressing and developing strategies to combat domestic violence, to build an awareness and plan to educate how we address human trafficking of our People in particular our women. Other ancillary concerns that should not be forgotten is the protection of our natural resources and water. We are all aware of the housing crisis that needs a development plan and commitment to identify resources for implementation of the plan. Community member are crucial to this development for it they who will dictate who we as a Council will direct resourcing to meet the identified need. Lastly but not least, I would like to ensure State and Federal governments honor our treaty rights that our ancestors prioritized in their negotiations to make sure our generations and those to come retain those right for perpetuity. It will also be my priority to engage the community to revive and establish healthy cultural family oriented activities for our Band Members!

I bring to this office integrity, compassion and understanding of the hardships we all face each day. With an approximate 25 plus years of experiential knowledge of cultural teachings learned from our Elders, I will endeavor to seek their guidance and those of community members to participate in community development planning forums to address the needs of District III and that of our Nation as a whole. My accumulated experience working for Leech Lake Gaming for over 18 years shall provide the basis of leadership skills needed to represent your interests coupled with numerous trainings in academic settings. Years of attending and participating in Traditional teachings and ceremonies ground me to provide the humility, love, respect, courage, compassion and understanding to effectively your interests.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me to bring your issues, concerns and voice of general support to my candidacy by calling me at: 218-308-3120. I assure you, your call will be honored and will not go unanswered but rather be looked upon as a valuable asset to get the feel of your interest and support in my intended representation.

In conclusion I want to reiterate how much of an honor it will be to represent the Anishinabe Peoples of Leech Lake Band. I hereby ask Leech Lake Band Members for your support for the beginning of this journey.

“Together we can make a difference, together we can make change, together we can enrich the lives of our Community Membership …… TOGETHER !!!!!

Miigwech Miigwech!!!!

Ron Hare

Hello. My name is Ron Hare. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you as your new District III Representative in 2020. I am an enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. I have 35+ years sobriety. I have been drug free my whole life. Since moving back to our Reservation in 1990 I have acquired experience and knowledge working with many divisions and programs. And have had the opportunity to become acquainted with and am on a first name basis with a lot of you, and employees of the Leech Lake Reservation programs.

I am not going to campaign and make promises that I cannot keep. Myself as one person does not have the power or authority to do this. Myself and other RTC members need to work toward making your needs and wishes become a reality. Progress needs to be made and many accomplishments can be ours with input from our LIC’s and community members young and old. It is my intention to work with you, the other RTC members and every program and division on our Reservation. As we are all aware, we have made a lot of progress in the past few years. We can accomplish many more things by working together.

If I am to have a successful run as our next District III Representative I will need your vote. I will always have an open door policy while I am in office. I will listen, and hear your wishes and suggestions. I want to work with you in resolving the need for housing. I will also work with you in accomplishing the construction of an Addictions and Dependency TX Program right here on our Reservation. I realize that these are just two of the needs of our people.

Thank you for your vote and the opportunity to represent you in 2020 and forward.
2020 Leech Lake Tribal Council
Primary Election Information

Election Date: Tuesday June 9, 2020
Polls open from 8 AM until 8 PM

Leech Lake
Election Board

Physical Address:
SE Corner CheWe Building
115 Sixth St. NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Mailing Address:
PO Box 787
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Phone: (218) 335-7222
Fax: (218) 335-7248
Toll free- 1-877-377-7945

Election Board Members:
Chair- Sharon Wilson
Clerk- Terri Boswell
Clerk- Nancy Whitebird
Clerk- Jody Bellanger
Clerk- Jay Nordmarken

Absentee Voting Information
In order to receive an absentee ballot, voters can fill out an absentee ballot request card provided by a candidate or submit a written request to the Election Board. Written requests MUST contain the following information:

- Full Name
- Mailing Address
- Physical Address (if different)
- Date of Birth
- Voting District

A District must be declared on your request in order to receive an absentee ballot, failure to provide one will lead to significant delays.

District cannot be changed without establishing residency (see “Establishing Residency” below).

If you are an out of state voter who has not declared a district in a previous election, you must declare a district to vote in.

Out of State voters are not eligible to select a new district if they have chosen one previously without meeting the residency requirements outlined below.

Voters can also cast an absentee ballot in person by visiting the Election Board office. Absentee voters must bring an acceptable ID when voting in person. Ballots are not permitted to leave the Election Board office. The only exception is if there is a voter that is unable to vote in person (handicapped, elder, etc.) Those voters are able to sign a form requesting assistance to vote and a minimum of two Election Board members will walk the ballot out and assist the voter.

Acceptable Identification for Voters
*Must have acceptable ID – No vouching

- The forms of identification that may be used by a voter who appears at a polling place to vote on Election Day include:
  - Official Valid Tribal Identification Card of Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; or
  - A current and valid photo identification card issued by the State of Minnesota or the United States government; or
  - Military ID; or
  - US Passport or US Passport Card

Establishing Residency
*Voter must have resided within that district for at least 30 days immediately preceding the election.

The forms acceptable to establish residency:
- An original or copy of a current utility bill; or
- An original or copy of a current bank statement; or
- An original or copy of a current government check; or
- An original or copy of current paycheck; or
- An original or copy of a current other government document that shows the voters name and current address.

LEECH LAKE TWIN CITIES
LL Twin Cities Office
2438 27th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN

ABSENTEE VOTING
GENERAL ELECTION BOARD

Che We Building (SE Corner)
115 6th St. Ste. E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

DISTRICT I
Ball Club
Community Center
31627 County Rd #39
Deer River, MN

Inger Community Center
53736 County Rd #146
Deer River, MN

S. Lake Community Center
59979 County Rd #4
S. Lake, MN

DISTRICT II
Bena Community Center
15032 Old Housing Drive
Bena, MN

Smokey Point-Kego Lake Community Center
6159 Kego Lake Trail NW
Longville, MN

Sugarcreek Community Center
10051 Battle Pt. Dr.
Federal Dam, MN

DISTRICT III
Cass Lake
Dikinaagan Center
16120 60th Ave. NW
Cass Lake, MN

Mission Community Center
Cass Lake, MN

Onigum Community Center
8825 Onigum Rd. NW
Walker, MN

Cass River Community Center
1731 Scenic Hwy SE
Pennington, MN

Oak Point Community Center
5468 170th St. NW
Cass Lake, MN

BEMIDJI
Bemidji City Hall
Chamber of Commerce
317 4th St. NW
Bemidji, MN

DULUTH
Dr. Robert Powluss Cult. Ctr.
212 W 2nd St.
Duluth, MN
New Grant Opportunities for LLBO Veterans and Spouses of Deceased LLBO Veterans

There is an opportunity through the MN. Dept. of Veterans Affairs to assist our Native LLBO Veterans and the Spouses of Deceased LLBO Veteran(s) that are affected by the COVID 19 Pandemic. This Grant opportunity will help in assist in the economic hardship all of us have had an effect on. This grant opportunity will assist with Three Thousand Dollars ($3,000.00) that will go directly to your utility companies, landlord/bank (for rent and mortgages). Insurance companies, and other entities that you need assistance with, please read the attached guidelines. If you read the eligibility requirements, and if you can get a letter from your Doctor/Physician stating your underlying health issues would be very helpful. I have extra forms located in my office and will have other fellow employees assisting me in helping you fill out the application and making sure it is filled out correctly, then ultimately submitting the application to the correct on-line department.

My office is located at the LLBO Facility Center, I am asking to please call and set up an appointment to assist you in filling out the proper paperwork. Please remember to bring with you a copy of your DD-214 and your driver’s license, or a Tribal ID. I can be reached at 218-760-4411. I am unable to reach all LLBO Veterans, so please pass the word on this issue to other Veterans.

Just a reminder, DO NOT WAIT TOO LONG, these monies are slated for first come-first serve basis, and in speaking with MDVA, when the funding runs out, it’s gone.

Thank you for your time and for your service.

For more information including eligibility guidelines, visit: https://mn.gov/mdva/assets/2020-04-03-covid-19-special-needs-grant-overview_tcm1066-426399.pdf

Trump Proclaims May 5, National Missing Murdered American Indians and Alaskan Natives Day

By Kayla Duoos

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump signed a proclamation declaring May 5, as National Missing Murdered American Indians and Alaskan Natives Awareness day.

Following a 21 minute meeting with Tribal leaders from the Navajo Nation who have disproportionately been affected by the coronavirus, Trump shifted talks away from the virus towards the proclamation.

Trump declared that the signing of the proclamation reaffirmed his administration’s commitment to ending violence against Indigenous people. The President also spent time on his trip asking Tribal leaders how their individual tribes have been impacted by the MMIW epidemic.

This is not Trump’s first move at addressing this crisis, last November the President announced the beginning of “Operation Lady Justice ” as a federal Missing, Murdered, Indigenous Women Task Force. The task force is set to look at developing new protocols to apply to new and unsolved cases. Other goals held by the taskforce include creating a multi-jurisdictional team from Federal and Tribal Law enforcement, as well as conducting an in depth review of federal databases to determine best practices for collecting data on MMIW.

An interim report on the task forces findings is expected November 26, 2020, with a final report due to the President November 26, 2021.

WHAT ARE MY CARE OPTIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

Right now, home is the safest place to be. But if you feel sick or need to see your doctor, you can still call your Care Team Monday-Friday 8:00AM-4:30PM at: Blue Team 335-3332 Purple Team 335-3222 Orange Team 335-3411 Green Team 335-3396. We are here to help you with the care you may need.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE SYMPTOMS OR THINK I’VE BEEN EXPOSED TO COVID-19?

You may need testing to see if you have COVID-19. Call our dedicated COVID-19 Hotline at 218-335-3426 or 218-335-3427 from 8:00AM-4:30PM Monday through Friday. A collaboration between Leech Lake Health Division, Cass Lake IHS, and the Mayo Clinic has allowed us to provide drive through testing by appointment and provider order.

TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY, WE CONTINUE TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS TO LIMIT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19:

When you enter the Cass Lake Hospital you will be screened & given a mask. For your safety & the safety of others, you will be required to wear the mask while you are in the facility.

PHARMACY REFILLS:

If you require a medication refill please follow the normal process and call 24 hours in advance 218-335-3293 Monday–Friday 8:00AM-4:00PM. The pharmacy window is closed. All medications are available for pick-up curbside 8:00AM-6:00PM, Monday–Friday during this time period.

DENTAL:

Dental will remain open from 7:00AM-9:00AM Monday-Friday to treat patients with dental pain and/or infection only. 218-335-3230

PURCHASED REFERRED CARE (PRC):

If you have any questions related to PRC please call 335-3214 or 3206. We are ready to assist you.

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT:

The Emergency Department remains open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide emergency care.

HOW IS COVID-19 TREATED?

Treatment for COVID-19 is supportive care (treating the symptoms). There are no antiviral or vaccine options at this time. Remember to isolate yourself for at least 72 hours fever free or 7 days from when your symptoms started.

How can we prevent COVID-19 from spreading?

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home as much as possible.
- Put distance between yourself and other people at least 6 feet.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.
- Practice good respiratory and hand hygiene: Cough or sneeze into your sleeve or tissue. Wash your hands often (for at least 20 seconds) and use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water not available.

For more up to date information regarding COVID-19 and LEECH LAKE AREA RESOURCES VISIT: https://www.leechlakenews.com/coronavirus/
Obituaries

Hanneah Stebe

Hanneah Denise Joy Stebe, 20 years young, “Niizh Makwa” which means “Two Bears”, of Bemidji, Minnesota journeyed to the spirit world from her home on Friday, May 1st, 2020. She was born on June 7th, 1999 in Bemidji, MN to Desi (McArthur) and Brian Stebe.

Hanneah was known as “Sunshine” because she was a happy girl and her smile as bright as the sun. She loved art and crafts and spending time outdoors with her nieces and nephews. Hanneah was always telling jokes and making people laugh. She accepted and cared for everybody that crossed her path. She spent a lot of time making memories with her sisters. Hanneah loved her family and friends and she will be missed dearly. Love your sisters!!

Family that welcome Hanneah to the spirit world are her brother, Coty Stebe; grandma, Pookum; aunt, Trista Anderson; cousin, Shawna Stebe and several other relatives that traveled before her.

Those left behind to cherish her memory are her mother, Desi Stebe of Bemidji, FB; brother, Kohv Woehle; sisters, Breanna, Deacota and Keanna (Cole Beauchamp) Stebe; grandma, Sandra Stebe; grandpa, Ed (Joy) Rucinski; aunts, Tana (Doug) Krogsgen, Nikki Greenfeather and Donita McArthur-Peltier; nieces and nephews, Bentley, Royal, Major, Nathaniel, Elijah, Naomi, Iziah, Nindaanis and Namy; cousins, Mikah, Landyn, Tine, Bug, Lucas, Destiny and Tamera; special mom, Susan Bushman; special dad, Benji Woehle, numerous other extended family and too many friends to list.

An overnight wake for Hanneah will begin at 7:00 p.m., Sunday, May 3rd and continue until her 11:00 a.m. traditional service on Monday, May 4th all to be held at the Mission Community Center in Mission/Cass Lake, MN. Allen Hardy will be her Spiritual Advisor. Pallbearers for Hanneah are Mikah Seaboy, Landyn Seaboy, Randy Stebe, Pierre Okstad, Mike Roy and Cole Beauchamp. Her honorary pallbearers are Kohv Woehle, Bentley Stebe, Brayden Castonguay, Rob McKenna and Brandon McKenna. Hanneah’s cremains will remain with her family.

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

Linda Staples

Linda is survived by her son, Adrian Staples and daughter, Ashley (Jim) Brown, her grandchildren and great grandchildren as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Cecelia “Bone” Drouillard, daughter, Jessica “Jess” Staples, sisters, Louella “Anna” Drouillard and Barbara “Punkin” Drouillard.

An overnight wake for Linda will begin at 1:00 p.m., Friday, May 1st and continue until her 12:00 p.m. traditional service on Saturday, May 2nd all being held at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Dave Hare will be her Spiritual Advisor. Pallbearers for Linda will be her grandsons Adrick Hare, Caelob Staples, Adrian Staples, Jakobe Brown, Jaysiah Brown, Aaron Hare, Jr. and James Brown, Jr. Her honorary pallbearers are Patsy Gordon, Brenda Morrow, Yvonne Hardy, Hato Fairbanks, Marrian Wind, Debbie Adams, Roberta Jackson and Vanessa Budreau. Inurnment will be in the Fairbanks-Staples Cemetery at Mission/Cass Lake, MN at a later date.

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

Max Morrow Sr.

Max “Chief” Eugene Morrow, Sr., “Ogema”, age 84, of Bagley, Minnesota and the Loon Clan began his journey to the spirit world on Monday, April 27th, 2020 from Neilson Place in Bemidji, MN with his sister Leona Shaugobay at his side.

Max was a mischievous child, always getting into trouble and chasing squirrels up the trees. He liked boating, fishing, swimming and playing with his furry friends Pal and Mr. Bear. Max often walked across the garden to visit his grandma Jenny White. Max had various jobs, working at the casino as a maintenance worker and later at the dumpster in Bena maintaining waste products. He always greeted people on the phone saying “Yeow Wah” and then he would tell the person on the other end to say it too. Max was a very well-liked and respected person who will be missed by all.

Family welcoming Max to the spirit world are his parents, Lettie and John Morrow; sons, Max Jr., Reuben, Darrel and Gerald “Jerry” Morrow and Raymond “Doug” Cloud; sisters, Eunice, Darlene and Carolyn, brothers, Harty White, Arthur and LaVerne Morrow; uncles, Porkey, Tom, Dan Sr. and Simon White; aunt, Rachel Greene and others; a lot of nieces and nephews, too many cousins to mention and his special friend, Darlene.

He leaves behind his sons, Kenny Morrow and Joe Cloud; daughter, Theodora “Teddie” Redwing; brothers, Jack Morrow; sisters, Barbara Shipley, Janice Brown and Leona Shaugobay; daughter-in-law, Rebecca Henry-Morrow; several grandchildren, cousins, Guy Jr., Virginia and Irene Greene, Giiwedin Biindige and numerous 1st, 2nd and 3rd cousins.

An overnight wake for Max will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29th and continue until his 10:00 a.m. traditional service on Thursday, April 30th all being held at the Sugar Point Community Center at Sugar Point, MN. Giiwedin Biindige will be his Spiritual Advisor. Pallbearers will be Miiakwad Johnson, Benayshee Johnson, Andy Johnson, Jonathon Shaugobay, John Johnson and Randall Shaugobay. His honorary pallbearers are Leona Shaugobay, James Shaugobay, Joe Shaugobay and Terry Shaugobay. Intermment will be in the Battle...
**Violet Harper**

Violet Jean Annette Harper “Ogemakwe” left us to be with her beloved husband, Roger Dale Harper and our Lord in Heaven from Sanford Hospital, Fargo, ND on Monday, May 11, 2020.

Violet was born on the White Earth Reservation September 9, 1933. She was the first daughter of eight children born to David William (Arthur) Annette and Anna Bates Annette. She grew up in Pine Point in Ponsford and attended grade school there. She then went to high school in Park Rapids, MN. She later became the first Native American to become both a registered nurse and a certified dental assistant at the University of Minnesota.

Violet met and married Roger Harper and together raised 3 children, David William Harper, Joy Anne Annette, and Mary Catherine Harper. Later in life they raised another child, Rachel Lynn Harper. Violet was a very strong Christian woman who loved the Lord, her family, and her friends. She was a lifelong collector of Native American Art and Regalia which she would take into classrooms to teach children about the life of Anishinabe and other tribes. Not only did she spend hours in these classrooms, but she also taught her grandsons and Rachel as a homeschool instructor for many years. She was known for her generosity and love, working tirelessly to help others. She was a pillar in her church, skilled in tribal politics, and writer and editor of her own tribal newspaper. She had many hobbies including photography, poetry writing, rummage sailing, and casino hopping.

She is survived by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brothers, John Annette, Franklin Annette; sister, Carol Kramer; and many, many other relatives and friends. Violet has touched so many lives with her generous nature and love.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Roger Harper; parents, David and Anna Annette; brothers, William Annette, Harold Annette, and David Annette Jr.; sister, Emily Annette; granddaughters, Bethany Joy Harper, Jeanenne Violet Harper; and many other relatives.

She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. A memorial service will be held at a later date when it is safe to be together.

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

**Todd Pemberton Jr.**

Todd William Pemberton, Jr., age 28, of Minneapolis, Minnesota the eldest of three children born on August 21st, 1991 in Bemidji, MN to Roberta Wilson and Todd Pemberton, Sr. traveled to the spirit world on Monday, May 4th, 2020 from his home.

Jr. grew up in Cass Lake, MN spending a lot of time in the woods with his dad, uncle Craig and the boys. He later moved to Duluth and then to Minneapolis. Jr. was such a caring young man. He loved to travel and visit his many relatives. If you knew Jr. then you most likely have some good memories of him. He had to make everyone he met smile and was known for his huge hugs.

Todd’s care has been entrusted to Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, MN. Online condolences may be left at www.northernpeace.com.

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**Robert “Punk” Wakanabo**

*Birthday Remembrance*

May 10 1950 - June 5 2019

My dear child,

Today you would have been observing your 70th birthday. What a happy day that would have been. We know that you would have been here in spirit. We miss you so much babe. May the heavenly father bless you, we give thanks for his blessings.

We love you and miss you so much

Happy birthday my son.

Love Mom (Lucille) and Brothers Vern and Dood
**Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court**

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

Honorable Paul W. Day **Chief Judge of Tribal Court**
Honorable Amber Ahola **Associate Judge of Tribal Court**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Children of: Carolee Geving and Andre Flowers, Parents

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on May 11, 2020, a PETITION TO TRANSFER PERMANENT LEGAL AND PHYSICAL CUSTODY was filed in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the children of the above-named parents. Please contact the Leech Lake Tribal Court for future hearing dates on this matter. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. If you fail to appear, the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Children of: Bobbi J. Hislaw and Remberto Howard, Parents

**Court File No. CP-16-16**

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on May 4, 2020, a PETITION TO TRANSFER PERMANENT LEGAL AND PHYSICAL CUSTODY was filed in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the children of the above-named parents. Please contact the Leech Lake Tribal Court for future hearing dates on this matter. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. If you fail to appear, the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

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

In Re the Guardianship of:

**And Ross Littlewolf Sr. & Wabigwaninzs Mountain.**

**CASE NO. FA-19-152**

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on October 16th, 2019 a PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP OF A MINOR CHILD was filed in Leech Lake Tribal Court in regarding the child of the above named parents. You, the respondent herein, are hereby notified that you must file a response in the office of the Leech Lake Tribal Court on or before August 25th 2020 at 9:00 a.m., the date of the initial hearing scheduled in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Tribal Justice Center, Cass Lake, Minnesota. Failure to appear at the above time and place may result in the relief requested in the Petition, and any other relief may be granted as prayed for by the petitioner.

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

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

In the Matter of:
Jerrica L. Hardy, Petitioner,

**And. Stanley D. Howard,**

**Respondent.**

**Case No. CV-20-42**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT

An Emergency Order for Protection has been issued based on the Affidavit and Petition for Order for Protection in this matter. If you fail to respond to this petition, judgment by default will be taken against you.

NOTICE OF RESTRAINING PROVISIONS

SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS MAKES THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO THIS ACTION UNLESS THEY ARE MODIFIED BY THE COURT OF THE PROCEEDING DISMISSED:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT COMMIT ACC GTA OF DOMESTIC ABUSE AGAINST THE PETITIONER.
2. RESPONDENT MUST NOT HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH PETITIONER WHETHER IN PERSON, WITH OR THROUGH OTHER PERSONS, BY TELEPHONE, LET, OR ANY OTHER WAY.

IF YOU VIOLATE ANY OF THESE PROVISIONS, YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS BY THE COURT.

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**2020 LLBO POW WOW SCHEDULE UPDATE**

The Leech Lake Days Pow Wow scheduled for June 26-28, 2020 has been postponed until Labor Day Weekend.

The Labor Day Pow Wow event has now been canceled and will be replaced with Leech Lake Days for 2020 only. The normal pow wow schedule will resume in 2021.

For now, all remaining pow wows will remain on the schedule for 2020. However, we will continue to reevaluate them as they approach and will make the best decision that takes into account the health and safety of our community as well as the spiritual and mental well being that comes with attending our celebrations.

Miigwech for your patience and understanding as we navigate these difficult times.
Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders
May Birthdays

District I
Marion Bixby
Sandra Charwood
Robert Fairbanks
Carol Goggleye
Rose Gotchie
Kim Hanson
Lisa Jackson
Barbara Kannas
Michael Kirt
Detra Lyons
Ruby Rogers
Robert Roy
Melvina Sherman
Francine Smith
Candace White
Norma Wilson

From the District I Office
Robbie, Stephanie, & Zagajiwi

District III*
Robert Aitken
Kenneth Mitchell
Mark Allen
Clyde Morgan
Sheryl Babineau
Dawn Morgan
Leonard Budreau
Herschel Ogema
Muriel Crawford
Yolanda Oxford
Calvin Day
Bill Pell
Paul Day
David Quincy
Norma Ducheneaux
Marcella Roy-Sargent
Audrey Emineth
Carmel Roybal
Cynthia Fairbanks
Tim Schuman
Deanna Fairbanks
Donald Smith
Karen Fineday
Michael Staples
Diane Fisherman
Terry Yeo
Linda Fisherman
Robert Wakanabo
Marti French
John Whipple
Gordon Geving
Deborah White-Huesers
Lawrence Hardy
Edward Wilson
Patrick Jackson
Darrell Johnson
Orville Johnson
Roberta Johnson
Pauline Johnston
Joseph Jones
Bernadine Kangas
Genevieve Lowry

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

CASS LAKE – The Leech Lake Department of Resource Management recently held it's Annual Tree and Shrub Giveaway on May 8, 2020. The event was held at the DRM building in Cass Lake and distributed a variety of plants and trees to community members via curbside pick-up. Miigwech!

LEECH LAKE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT
Crime Victim Advocate Program

SERVICES OFFERED TO YOUTH
Teen Dating Safety Plan | Transportation to Court/Hospital
Order for Protection | 24/7 Crisis Call
Harassment/Restraining Order

Our services are 100% Free and confidential.

For any questions about or services:

Sheela Jourdain
218-515-0110
Shannon Moore
218-368-0701
Carol Rivers
218-513-8329
**Elder care hotline/survey**

**How it works** – Make a call to the hotline or submit a survey. An elder care hotline support specialist will return your call or survey submission within a day or two to confirm the need and gather additional details. From there, the elder support specialist begins to locate resources, provide information, or get the request to who it needs to go to.

**Some examples of requests**

- **Medicinal deliveries** – DPS will deliver medicine. To get this service you need to provide a birthdate that the officer gives to the pharmacy.
- **Food deliveries** – If there is need for food, DPS or CO’s will deliver. There are a few sources on food distribution. In some cases, a birthdate may be needed to apply for food.
- **ENP** – The application process is temporarily waved to receive ENP meals. If you provide the needed information to an elder care hotline support specialist, you will be added to the delivery list that ENP maintains.
- **Home Maintenance** – Due to limited staff, only emergency repairs will be addressed at this time.

**HOTLINE: 218-335-3003**

*View with your smartphone camera below to be taken to our ONLINE SURVEY*

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OR VISIT: [https://arcg.is/188nD8](https://arcg.is/188nD8)

**Aabijitooyang keyaa gaa-izhi-miinigowiziyang ji-ni-ganaweninidiyang**

(Using that which was given to us to take care of each other)

This is the philosophy and goal of the IMT; based upon this philosophy, we believe that our Elders are one of our greatest resources and treasures; they are the keepers of our wisdom and histories. The primary reason for the Elder Care Hotline is to ensure our elders get the resources they need without having to go out and risk exposure to COVID-19. We encourage you to utilize the hotline to keep you safe and healthy during this epidemic.

**Miigwech**