Battle of Sugar Point
Recount the events of The Battle of Sugar Point that made headlines across the Nation.

How to Vote MN
The Presidential Election is Nov. 3. Follow our in-depth guide to make sure your vote is counted.

LLBO Quarterly
Council and Division Directors recently hosted the bands Quarterly Meeting in Walker, MN.

2020 LLBO Inauguration held at NLC Event Center
Chairman and District III Representative | Leech Lake Housing Authority Board | Bug O Nay Ge Shig School Board

CASS LAKE – New Leech Lake monument signs were posted across the reservation Friday October 9.

The new signage which replaces the old entering and leaving signs, welcomes community members and visitors to the reservation at all 4 entrance roads. Department of Resource Management, Environmental Deputy Director Brandy Toft says the signs have been being worked on since 2017.

The new signs feature the Leech Lake boundary placed against a brown backdrop, with waters features splashed across the map. In red font the sign says “Gaa-zagaskwaajimekaag, Leech Lake Nation, Welcomes You.”

In the next month, landscaping will be added around the base of the new sign and solar downcast lighting for illumination.

The signs can be found on the West side of the Reservation on Hwy 2, Hwy 46, Hwy 371, and in Deer River on Hwy2.
WALKER – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe held their 2020 Inauguration, Friday October 9 at the Northern Lights Casino.

Being sworn in were both re-elected Reservation Tribal Council (RTC) members, Chairman Faron Jackson and District 3 Representative Leroy Staples-Fairbanks, as well as the Leech Lake Housing Authority Board and the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Board members.

The ceremony was opened by the Nut Hill drum group, the LLBO Color Guard and the blessing was provided by Mike Smith Sr.

Chairman Jackson, who was sworn in first, took his time to reflect on what it means to be a leader in the community, and how unity will always be a staple of his leadership. "We're not expected to see everything eye to eye, we're not all expected to agree on everything, we're not all expected to paddle the canoe down the same river, the same way. As Anishinabe people, we have a special uniqueness among all of us, among our families, and relatives…. But a lot of the same issues we encounter and deal with are similar in all three districts and we are better when we can be united. That's the way we were brought up… I hope we can look forward in unity," said Jackson.

The COVID pandemic was not far from everyone's minds, as it's shaped this year and Leroy Staples-Fairbanks after being sworn in by his family, took a moment to share his family's struggle after testing positive with Corona and how it has affected his style of leadership. "There are so many people who are dealing with this across the country and across the world...and these difficult decisions we're having to make are ones not even oldest elders have seen in life like this before. It's not easy to make these decisions sometimes, but... know my decisions that affect Leech Lake in regards to how we're dealing with this, come from first hand knowledge and first hand experience," said Staples-Fairbanks.

Later asking community members to know that every decision the RTC makes is done with the mindset of keeping the community safe and that they will continue to work forward to address problems in the community. "Now is not the time to hit cruise control, now is the time to put on some miles and evolve. We're still dealing with a lot of major issues, we need focus and we need all folks in leadership positions in Leech Lake to kick some butt,' said Fairbanks.

The event which had limited guests due to the COVID pandemic, was live streamed on the Band's Facebook page and is now available for viewing.

Congratulations to all elected Band Members and good luck on your upcoming terms.
On This Day in History:
The Battle of Sugar Point

By Kayla Duos —

On the early Wednesday morning of October 5, 1898 a handful of young Pillager men held off approximately 100 U.S. soldiers on the shores of Sugar Point. The firefight resulted in seven dead and ten wounded with no casualties reported on the Ojibwe side. The soldiers were eventually forced to retreat back to Walker, MN. This event has come to be recognized as the last military conflict between the U.S. and American Indians.

As with many conflicts, the tensions that led to the Battle of Sugar Point were varied. Lumber companies routinely swindled the Ojibwe people out of large amounts of money through usurious practices.

One of the most cited complaints among the Ojibwe at this time was a “dead and burnt wood” clause which allowed the lumber barons to purchase timber at a greatly reduced rate if it was in such condition. They would often start forest fires and then quickly harvest both semi-burnt and green wood and claim it all as “dead”, reaping massive profits at the expense of the Ojibwe.

In addition to practices such as these, timber was routinely appraised at a severely lower rate on the Reservations in Minnesota than it would have been elsewhere. Money received for the timber, which was intended to sustain the Ojibwe people was mishandled, misappropriated and frequently spent frivolously by Indian Agents on behalf of the Ojibwe. When the payments would come, they were notoriously late, much to the ire of the Ojibwe.

Mistreatment and injustices at the hands of U.S. Marshals and other agents also played a large role. Kickback schemes abounded between these federal agents and local hotel and railroad men, who were paid by the U.S. Government each time a witness or defendant was brought before the court in Duluth. Ojibwe were routinely rounded up and brought to Duluth on false charges to line the pockets of those involved in the scam.

Delayed payments and consistent arrests in weak, unsubstantiated bootlegging cases eventually led the leaders of the Pillager tribe to send a letter to the U.S. Government asking them to look into the ongoing injustices the tribe was facing.

“We, the undersigned chiefs and headmen of the Pillager band of Chippewa Indians of Minnesota, respectfully represent that our people are carrying a heavy burden, and in order that they may not be crushed by it, we humbly petition you to send a commission to investigate the existing troubles here.”

“The Chippewa Indians of Minnesota have always been loyal to the United States and friendly to the whites, and they desire this friendship to be perpetual.”

“We now have only the pine lands of our reservations for our future subsistence and support, but the manner in which we are being defrauded out of these has alarmed us.”

“We trust that you will protect us when the truth reaches you.”

The letter went unacknowledged by the U.S. Government, further perpetuating the poor relationship between the tribe and U.S. officials.

Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig (Hole-In-The-Day) was an elder Pillager man and one of the many Ojibwe who had first-hand experience of the downfalls within the U.S. justice system. In April 1898, Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig was arrested by a U.S. Marshal on bootlegging charges and brought to Duluth for court.

Once arraigned and let go due to insufficient evidence, Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig was left to make the 135 mile journey home on his own accord. Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig hitched rides on multiple trains, only making it so far in the journey before being repeatedly thrown off for not having a ticket. Leading him to eventually walk the last 40 miles home in his moccasins, wearing them down to his bare feet. It was at that moment he swore he would never allow himself to be arrested ever again, lest he may perish on his next forced journey home. He kept true to this word and never again sat before the U.S. Judicial system.

When Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig was called on to stand in Duluth as a witness for another bootlegging case a few months later, he ignored the U.S. Marshals warrant for his presence. He was then detained along with Sha-Boon-Day-Shkong, another Pillager man when they went to collect their annuity payments in Onigum. Recognizing the stakes at hand at the possibility of another trip to Duluth, Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig called out for help. The other Ojibwe in Onigum, hearing the pleas of one of their elders, surrounded, and gently, yet forcefully secured his release.

The army officials who were in charge of the arrest of Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig that day, went forward to tell a tale of how they were surrounded by over 200 warriors and attacked, when in reality it was a small group of Pillager band members. Reportedly, less than 20 people, mostly women, aided in Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig’s escape.

Once the U.S. Army received word of Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig’s escape, they put out wanted notices for those reported to have been involved in his escape. To be certain those men were caught, they sent down an additional 77 soldiers from Fort Snelling.

The 80 soldiers began their quest that fateful morning and arrived on the shores of Sugar Point that afternoon. After failing to find Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig, the army set up base camp.

How the battle began has often been disputed throughout the years. The Pillager have held that the soldiers began firing on a canoe containing two women and a child as it rounded the corner of Sugar Point. The military claims that a rifle was accidentally discharged towards the Ojibwe side. Regardless, an intense firefight between the two sides erupted. The Pillager people went into that day not wanting to battle but were prepared if it came.

The battle continued into the night and no harm came to any of the Ojibwe people outside of Indian Officer Gay-Gway-Day-Be-Tung (George Russell), who was allegedly shot by mistake, by a soldier who assumed he was fighting alongside the Pillagers. The 3rd U.S. Infantry saw six casualties and ten wounded that night.

On the morning of October 7, 1898, the soldiers retreated from Sugar Point, battered, hungry and cold. Once back to safety in Walker, the commanding officer, General Bacon, would be quoted in newspapers as saying that he “scattered” and “whipped the indians good”, a poor attempt at saving face.

Further investigations revealed the damage that had been done to the Ojibwe at the hands of the logging companies, as well as during the first arrest of Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig and those who aided in his escape. Reforms in the management of timber on the Leech Lake Reservation eventually led to the establishment of the Chippewa National Forest.

None of the Pillager Ogichidaa who engaged in battle at Sugar Point ever were tried or received punishment for their involvement. Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig went on to live another 18 years in the area before passing peacefully. The U.S. Army never returned to the shores of Sugar Point on Leech Lake, the site of their final battle and defeat in the period now known as the “Indian Wars.”
WASHINGTON – The CDC has released new public health recommendations for celebrating Halloween amidst the pandemic. The public should know that wearing a Halloween mask does not replace or mimic the effectiveness of a cloth face mask, standard door to door trick or treating poses a larger risk of infection, and so does attending large community events. Celebrating virtually or with members of your own household poses the least amount of risk for spread.

In-person gatherings pose their own varying levels of risk and those risk factors should be evaluated before attending.
- Community levels of COVID-19 – Higher levels of COVID-19 cases and community spread in the gathering location, as well as where attendees are coming from, increase the risk of infection and spread among attendees.
- The location of the gathering – Indoor gatherings generally pose more risk than outdoor gatherings. Indoor gatherings with poor ventilation pose more risk than those with good ventilation, such as those with open windows or doors.
- The duration of the gathering – Gatherings that last longer pose more risk than shorter gatherings.
- The number of people at the gathering – Gatherings with more people pose more risk than gatherings with fewer people. CDC does not have a limit or recommend a specific number of attendees for gatherings. The size of a holiday gathering should be determined based on the ability to reduce or limit contact between attendees, the risk of spread between attendees, and state, local, territorial, or tribal health and safety laws, rules, and regulations.
- The locations attendees are traveling from – Gatherings with attendees who are traveling from different places pose a higher risk than gatherings with attendees who live in the same area.
- Higher levels of COVID-19 cases and community spread in the gathering location, or where attendees are coming from, increase the risk of infection and spread among attendees.
- The behaviors of attendees prior to the gathering – Gatherings with attendees who are not adhering to social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart), mask wearing, hand washing, and other prevention behaviors pose more risk than gatherings with attendees who are engaging in these preventative behaviors.
- The behaviors of attendees during the gathering – Gatherings with more preventative measures, such as mask wearing, social distancing, and hand washing, in place pose less risk than gatherings where fewer or no preventative measures are being implemented.

If you participated in higher risk activities or think that you may have been exposed during your Halloween celebration, take extra precautions for 14 days after the event to protect others, such as staying home as much as possible, avoid individuals who are more susceptible to infection or getting tested.

If you are notified that you were a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19, stay home for 14 days from the last time you had contact with that person. Monitor for symptoms of coronavirus. Get information about COVID-19 testing if you feel sick.

Halloween Activities by risk level as per CDC Guidelines
Many traditional Halloween activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses. There are several safer, alternative ways to participate in Halloween. If you may have COVID-19 or you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to trick-or-treaters.

Lower risk activities
These lower risk activities can be safe alternatives:
- Carving or decorating pumpkins with members of your household and displaying them
- Carving or decorating pumpkins outside, at a safe distance, with neighbors or friends
- Decorating your house, apartment, or living space
- Doing a Halloween scavenger hunt where children are given lists of Halloween-themed things to look for while they walk outdoors from house to house admiring Halloween decorations at a distance
- Having a virtual Halloween costume contest
- Having a Halloween movie night while people you live with
- Having a scavenger hunt-style trick-or-treat search with your household members in or around your home rather than going house to house

Moderate risk activities
- Participating in one-way trick-or-treating where individually wrapped goodie bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard)
- If you are preparing goodie bags, wash your hands with soap and water or at least 20 seconds before and after preparing the bags
- Having a small group, outdoor, open-air costume parade where people are dressed distance more than 6 feet apart
- Attending a costume party held outdoors where protective masks are used and people can remain more than 6 feet apart
- Having a costume mask (such as for Halloween) is not a substitute for a cloth mask. A costume mask should not be used unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and doesn’t leave gaps around the face.
- Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask.
- Going to an open-air, one-way, walk-through haunted forest where appropriate mask use is enforced, and people can remain more than 6 feet apart
- If screaming will likely occur, greater distancing is advised. The greater the distance, the lower the risk of spreading a respiratory virus
- Visiting pumpkin patches or orchards where people use hand sanitizer before touching pumpkins or picking apples, wearing masks is encouraged or enforced, and people are able to maintain social distancing
- Having an outdoor Halloween movie with local family friends with people spaced at least 6 feet apart
- If screaming will likely occur, greater distancing is advised. The greater the distance, the lower the risk of spreading a respiratory virus
- Lower your risk by following CDC’s recommendations on hosting gatherings or cook-outs.

Higher risk activities
Avoid these higher risk activities to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19:
- Participating in traditional trick-or-treating where treats are handed to children who go door to door
- Having trunk-or-treat where treats are handed out from trunks of cars lined up in large parking lots
- Attending crowded costume parties held indoors
- Going to an indoor haunted house where people may be crowded together and screaming
- Going on hayrides or tractor rides with people who are not in your household
- Using alcohol or drugs, which can cloud judgement and increase risky behaviors
- Traveling to a rural fall festival that is not in your community if you live in an area with community spread of COVID-19

2020 GENERAL ELECTION LLBO ENDORSED CANDIDATES
Federal & State Offices
The 2020 General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. We strongly encourage all Band and community members to exercise your right to vote. Starting Friday, September 18, 2020, we will have early voting available for individuals residing in most parts of northern Cass County at the Leech Lake Administrative Office (RBC headquarters) in Cass Lake, MN. Or you can request a ballot by visiting https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/ABRegistration/ABRegistrationStep1.aspx and filling out the information requested. For any further voter related questions, please contact the Secretary of State's hotline at 1-877-600-VOTE (8683)

U.S. President & Vice President
Joseph R. Biden and Kamala Harris (DFL)
Tina Smith (DFL)

U.S. Representative (8th District)
Quinn Nystrom (DFL)
Rita Albrecht (DFL)

U.S. Senator
John Persell (DFL)

State Senator (District 1)
Betty McCollum (DFL)
Leonard Alan Roy (DFL)

State Senator (District 2)
Mary Kunesh-Podein (DFL)

State Senator (District 4)
Jamie Becker-Finn (DFL)

State Senator (District 5A)

State Representative (District 42B)

State Representative (District 3A)

State Representative (District 3B)

State Representative (District 3C)

State Representative (District 3D)

State Representative (District 3E)
How to Vote Minnesota


Minnesota offers 3 easy ways to register, if you have not done so already. Minnesota citizens can do so through online voter registration, mail-in ballot or register to vote in person, the day of.

To register to vote in Minnesota you must:

• be a citizen of the United States
• be a resident of Minnesota for 20 days before the next election
• maintain residence at the address given on the registration form
• be at least 18 years old on election day
• if previously convicted of a felony, your felony sentence has expired or been revoked
• not be under a court-ordered guardianship in which the right to vote has been revoked
• not be found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote

Online Registration
Deadline Online: Oct. 13, 2020
You should know: you need either a Minnesota ID or the last four digits of your Social Security number and an email address to use Minnesota’s online voter registration system.

Mail-in ballot deadline
Deadline: By mail: Received by Oct. 13
You should know: You can register to vote via postage by using the Minnesota voter registration form. Be sure to read the instructions carefully and fill it out completely. Send the completed form to your local election official. You may also use the National Voter Registration Form, both forms can be found online. You are required to provide your Minnesota driver’s license or state ID number to register to vote. If you do not have a Minnesota driver’s license or state ID then you will have to provide the last four digits of your Social Security number. If you have neither, please write “none” on the form.

If you are registering to vote for the first time in your jurisdiction and are mailing this registration application, Federal law requires you to show proof of identification the first time you vote. Proof of identification includes: A current and valid photo identification or A current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or government document that shows your name and address.

Day of Registration
Deadline: In person: Nov. 3
You can also register to vote in person, with valid ID and proof of residence. Contact your local election office for information on when and where to register to vote.

Absentee ballot deadlines
Request: Received by Nov. 2
Return by mail: Postmarked by Nov. 3
Return in person: Nov. 3 by 3:00 p.m.

Early voting Sep. 18 - Nov. 2, but dates and hours may vary based on where you live.

Am I registered?
You can look up your voter registration record and verify that your information is correct using Minnesota’s voter registration lookup tool at mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx

If you need further assistance on checking on your registration status or finding your polling location, you can call 1-877-600-VOTE (8683) or contact one of the following county election offices listed below:

BELTRAMI COUNTY
Election official: JoDee Treat
General phone: 218-333-4175
Fax: 218-333-4246
Website: http://www.co.beltrami.mn.us/
Address: Beltrami County Auditor;
701 Minnesota Ave NW Ste 220
Bemidji, MN 56601-3178
Absentee Voting Contact:
Danielle Johnson
Phone: 218-333-8476
Fax: 218-333-4246
Email: danielle.m.johnson@co.beltrami.mn.us
Military and Overseas Absentee Contact:
Danielle Johnson
Phone: 218-333-8476
Fax: 218-333-4246
Email: danielle.m.johnson@co.beltrami.mn.us

CASS COUNTY
Election official: Pamela Smith
General phone: 218-547-7295
Fax: 218-547-7278
Website: http://www.co.cass.mn.us/
Email: cass.voter@co.cass.mn.us
Street Address:
Cass County Auditor-Treasurer’s Office
303 Minnesota Ave W
Walker, MN 56484
Mailing Address:
Cass County Auditor-Treasurer’s Office
P.O. Box 3000
Walker, MN 56484
Absentee Voting Contact:
Shari Spichal
Phone: 218-547-7275
Fax: 218-547-7278
Email: shari.spichal@co.cass.mn.us
Military and Overseas Absentee Contact:
Shari Spichal
Phone: 218-547-7275
Fax: 218-547-7278
Email: cass.voter@co.cass.mn.us

HUBBARD COUNTY
Election official: Kay Rave
General phone: 218-732-3196
Fax: 218-732-3645
Website: http://www.co.hubbard.mn.us
Email: elections@co.hubbard.mn.us
Address:
Hubbard County Courthouse
301 Court Ave
Park Rapids, MN 56470
Absentee Voting Contact:
Sue Wothe
Phone: 218-732-3196
Fax: 218-732-3645
Email: swothe@co.hubbard.mn.us

ITASCA COUNTY
Election official: Cari Ann Allman
General phone: 218-327-2849
Fax: 218-327-7426
Website: http://www.co.itasca.mn.us/
Email: cari.allman@co.itasca.mn.us
Address:
Itasca County Courthouse
123 NE 4th St
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Absentee Voting Contact:
Cari Ann Allman
Phone: 218-327-2849
Fax: 218-327-7426
Email: cari.allman@co.itasca.mn.us
Military and Overseas Absentee Contact:
Cari Ann Allman
Phone: 218-327-2849
Fax: 218-327-7426
Email: cari.allman@co.itasca.mn.us

Leech Lake RBC Recommends Continuation of Distance Learning for Area Schools

By Kayla Duoos

CASS LAKE – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe reiterates the recommendation to continue the Fall quarter in a distance learning model. We understand the complexities of learning in distance models and providing access to equitable education settings at any point in time. We, the Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee, have directed our programs and departments to work collaboratively, fully partnering with our students and families to ensure regular and timely attendance during the distance learning period. We will continue to partner with our Local Indian Education Committees to ensure continuity of services to our students during this time. Furthermore, the Leech Lake Education Department remains committed to partnering with the school districts to ensure our students receive the supports they need in order to be successful in a distance learning model.

Given the surge in cases in our region in recent weeks, we see the need to proceed cautiously towards reopening. As a tribal government, we understand that many of our Leech Lake households live intergenerational, reciprocal, cooperative lives within our community. The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly altered and disrupted our lives in many ways; when our students and staff are required to work in-person, their exposure to COVID increases. As the exposures increase, our lives outside of school are equally disrupted including our familial cultural practices.

Proceeding cautiously will save lives within our community and will allow us to continue to focus on a science-based, Ojibwe cultural based decision as we continue to navigate this pandemic.
WALKER – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe held their Quarterly Meeting Friday, October 16 at the Northern Lights Casino.

Tribal Chairman Faron Jackson Sr. gave the opening remarks followed by a financial report from Secretary-Treasurer, Arthur LaRose. The report featured financial data from both government and gaming operations.

A number of resolutions concerning enrollment were passed at the meeting. These resolutions included new enrollments, ineligible enrollments, and transfers to and from the band. New employees hired in the past quarter were also introduced and welcomed at the meeting.

Last on the agenda, were presentations from Division Directors in attendance on their activities over the past three months. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the event had limited community attendance. For those who were unable to attend, a livestream of the event is available on the official Leech Lake Facebook page.

Quarterly Meetings are held every three months on a rotating schedule between each district on the reservation. The next Quarterly Meeting will be held via livestream in January 2021.

Quarterly Report Summaries

Tribal Court
- There were 171 new cases filed between January 1st, 2020 through September 1st, 2020.
- The court conducted 361 hearings these past three quarters.
- JDAI (juvenile detention alternative initiative) continues to be on holding during the pandemic.
- Child protection, child custody, guardianship, domestic violence cases were identified as essential cases that must be heard during full government shut down, all other cases filed as emergency situations were heard on a case by case basis.
- The COVID division safely plan to return to work training was administered to staff, August 11.
- Funding proposal submitted to BIA in August for additional staff was approved.

Tribal Development
- The Tribal Housing Development Initiative continues to be worked on to address the band’s needs for the next 20 years.
- A study done by Oweesta in October of 2019 shows the tribe is in a housing crisis. Currently 600 homes are needed to meet current low-income needs, and 1400 units are needed to be added over the next 20 years to continue to meet community needs.
- Work with the Minnesota Housing Partnership has begun, they will provide technical assistance to help address housing needs and secure funding for projects.
- Funding was received from Minnesota housing to hire consultants for land development, finalize plans for housing plans development, develop plans and policies for assisting residents with qualifying for housing program, begin establishing partners to home ownership for low-income residents.
- Application submitted to US department of commerce economic development assistance (EDA) to conduct/complete a project feasibility assessment for a workforce program that would build LLBO owned housing.
- Tribal Development continues to coordinate with the US census 2020 to assist with data collection for tribal members.
- Construction is underway for a new child care facility, coordination is being done with early child care division.
- Initial planning underway to determine feasibility to use or convert the Palace Casino Hotel into a treatment facility, this is being led by Human Services and A&D.
- Since COVID shutdown all but essential staff have been part of the Incident management team, staff worked in the planning section and the financial section writing grants, a few projects were kept ongoing within the main department.

Reservation Services
- Emergency home repair calls
- \D1: 57
- \D2: 67
- \D3: 243
- Program calls: 1
- Rough boxes: 44

Resource Management
- Spring quarter saw a successful annual tree planting occur, as well as a tree giveaway with social distancing guidelines in place.
- Summer quarter saw planning continue on a final orchard project on the reservation. Planning was completed and contracts are being put in place to an irrigated orchard in Ball Club, all other orchards received maintenance this year.
- The onigum beach project came to fruition over the last few quarters, funding has been secured and the department has moved ahead and begun tree removal, and securing items such as buoys, rope, anchors, signage, picnic tables, and grills. The name of the beach will be decided by onigum community members.
- Staff members who run GIS for the tribe worked with the Incident management team, and took charge in mapping, data set collection, and data management. They also

formed the elder care hotline to make sure needs were being properly met, and identified.

Human Services
- Programs began providing telehealth services during pandemic shutdown, basic operations continued with essential staff only, most programs continued to meet client needs and meet only for distribution of care essentials, all other meetings have continued to occur online.
- The LLBO mental health professional licensing act completed in joint effort by departments clinical director and legal department was presented to RTC who passed resolution. The Leech Lake Behavioral Health Licensing and Ethics Board was formed as a result of the passed resolution.

Health
- Cass Lake WIC clinic was open for 65 days all other sites closed due to COVID. Only doing visits over the phone.
- Home visits covered under the MCH and TANF block grants have resumed with PPE and social distancing in mind.
- Mass Covid testing events have begun taking place across the reservation beginning in September.
- Daily Reporting of COVID testing numbers is being delivered to RTC Administration.

Education
- Programs continued through COVID pandemic with limited capacity and staffing.
- Bug-o-nay-ge-shig staff underwent online and teaching workshop, new goals were set for distance learning for students and staff.
- Distance learning models were developed for pre-school and head start students, a plan for reopening classrooms for essential workers is being developed.
Tribal Council Quarterly Reports

Secretary / Treasurer Arthur “Archie” LaRose

Coronavirus Relief Funds received from the federal government.

The overall financial health of the Band has remained stable although the Band will utilize a large part of reserve funds to fund activities that deemed essential to mitigating the effects of Covid-19. The re-opening of the casinos was a major factor in generating additional revenue and keeping people employed during this epidemic. The Band continues to seek as much federal funding to assist with this.

Our long-term strategy is to utilize as much external resources as possible to help mitigate the effects of the COVID-19.

Leech Lake Gaming Summary of Operations
Quarter Ending September 2020

Revenue
Total revenue through August 2020 totaled $16.9 million compared to prior year which totaled $21.4 million. Revenue decreased by approximately $4.5 million compared to the previous fiscal year. Leech Lake Gaming had seen consistent increases when looking at the 5-year trend, until fiscal year 2021 where we saw a decrease. Indian Gaming all over the country has been impacted by the epidemic we are facing with COVID-19.

The following is a list (See right table) of projects and activities that were funded through the Coronavirus Relief Funds received from the federal government.

Governmental Activities
Secretary/Treasurer’s Summary
Remarks delivered at the Quarterly Meeting on Friday October 16, 2020

The last six months have been a roller-coaster ride in terms of cash flow to fund operations, subsidizing revenues received from the federal government (aka Coronavirus Relief Funds), emergency economic relief distributions to band members, continuing budget resolutions, just to name a few dynamic situations and issues affecting the band’s resources.

One of the largest issues from a public health and safety standpoint was the closing of all government buildings, including the casinos. This resulted in over half of all employees, government and gaming, being furloughed and drawing unemployment benefits from the State of Minnesota, which were also subsidized by the federal government.

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Expenses
Total expenses through August 2020 were approximately $14.7 million, which is approximately a decrease of $1.6 million compared to August 2019. Through August 2020, Cost of Sales equaled $2.6 million, payroll totaled $7.9 million and Operating expenses were $4.1 million. As we are seeing decreases in revenue, we are working to offset that with decreases in expenditures.

Net Profit
Net profit for the period ending August 2020 equaled $2.3 million compared to the prior year at $5.1 million. That is a decrease of approximately $2.8 million when comparing this year to last year.

Forecast
While revenue has been impacted by this National pandemic, Gaming will monitor expenses throughout this pandemic to help offset the decrease in revenue. Projections completed by other organizations show that this will have long lasting impacts to revenue and profits for years to come. Leech Lake Gaming has been monitoring the situation closely, and looking out for the health and safety of their guests and employees as much as possible while being open.
Dallas Pemberton Jr.

Dallas Gene Pemberton Jr., age 63, Indian name “Mukwa Nahbawid” Standing Bear, of Onigum, MN began his journey into the Spirit World on September 16, 2020.

He was born on August 5, 1957 to Charlotte Bedeau White and Dallas Gene Pemberton Sr. in White Earth, MN.

He attended school in Blaine, Mn and Aberdeen, Idaho then enlisted into the US Army and did his tour in Germany. Upon his return from his military duty he became an asbestos contractor stationed in Greenland, then went on to do Iron work. His specialty was in erecting scaffoldings in the construction industry keep him very busy until he became ill in 1999. He had one lung removed which also included various other lung issues. He became disable and lived the rest of his life in Onigum Minnesota with his mother Charlotte White, who took wonderful care of him over the years. He enjoyed the outdoors, fishing, photography and drawing.

Family that will be there to greet Dallas as he enters into the Spirit World are: Father, Dallas Sr., Brother Rodney Loper, Uncle John, Little John, Uncle Duane Bedeau and numerous other members of the Pemberton and Bedeau families.

Survived by his Mother: Charlotte White, Sisters: Diane Osceola and Christine Johnson, Brothers: Charles Pemberton, Garr Pemberton Sr, Paul Pemberton, Jeremiah Pemberton, Joshua Pemberton their families: numerous nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews: and many other relatives and friends.

Dallas will be missed and the families want to thank everyone for their support and love during this time of loss. Chi Migwech!

Nancy Fairbanks

Nancy Theresa Fairbanks was born on March 6, 1937 to Thomas Leith and Gladys LaRoque in White Earth, MN. Nancy peacefully died in her sleep at Bagley Medical Center on September 11. She grew up in Roy Lake/Naytahwaush and Cass Lake before moving to Minneapolis as a teenager. She was united in marriage to Herman S. Fairbanks, Jr., and they had four children. During the Indian ‘Relocation’ period they relocated to California, Wisconsin, Ohio, and Iowa before moving to Minneapolis. In 1979 she moved back to the Cass Lake/Bemidji area, where she worked for tribal and federal governments for many years. Nancy spent the last two years of her life under the great care of the staff at the Jourdain-Perpich Extended Care Center in Red Lake, MN.

She liked dogs, bingo, crosswords, painting, dancing, thrift shops, watching golf, and was an avid Minnesota Twins and Vikings fan. She was also a big fan of country singer Conway Twitty and once got to meet him after a concert. She was also a breast cancer survivor, donated a kidney to a younger sister, and helped raise her oldest grandson and oldest great granddaughter. Nancy especially enjoyed playing card games, ‘home bingo’ and joking and laughing with her sisters, nieces, daughters, friends, and other family members.

Nancy is survived by son Devery, grandchildren Melvin, Joseph, Derek, Kyle, Sandra, Thomas, Caitlin, and Evan, 12 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews, including beloved nieces Debbie, Vala, Wally, and Laurie. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, children Tamara, Thomas, and Guy, and sisters’ Sandra, Delores, Maxine, and Margaret, and three nieces. Peace and blessings to her soul in heaven.

The Wake will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at the Leech Lake White Earth Office in Cass Lake and will continue until the service at 1:00 p.m. at St. Charles Catholic Church in Cass Lake with Father Kuriakose Nediakala officiating. Interment will be at Pine Grove Cemetery in Cass Lake.

Casketbearers will be: Richard Sundahl, Calvin Sargent, Melvin Clark, Joseph Clark, Kyle Fairbanks, and Thomas Fairbanks, Jr. Alternate Casketbearers will be: Alden Fairbanks, Sr., and Evan Henry. Arrangements provided by Whispering Pines Funeral & Cremation Service of Walker, MN (www.whisperingpinesnorth.com).

Geoffrey Jones

Geoffrey Allan Jones, 58, “Baabiidaash”, Bizhew (Lynx) Clan of Duluth, Minnesota, a Leech Lake Band member began his journey to the spirit world on Monday, August 3rd, 2020 from Regions Hospital in St. Paul, MN.

Geoffrey was born in Brainerd, MN on August 17th, 1961 to Darlene (Morrow) Sanders of Sugar Point – Leech Lake Reservation and Louis Jones of the Mille Lacs Reservation. He grew up in Bemidji, Minnesota and attended elementary and secondary school there. Geoffrey furthered his education by attending St. Scholastica College in Duluth and Minneapolis Community College. He enjoyed playing softball for American Indian Services and volleyball for the Indian Health Board. Later, Geoffrey relocated back to the Duluth area to be near his family, residing at the San Marcos Apartments, where he made lifelong friends. He cherished the simple joys in life and did not take them for granted. Although his time on earth was limited by various health conditions, “Jeffrey” will be forever missed by his siblings, family and friends.

He is welcomed to the spirit world by his parents, Darlene Sanders and Louis Jones; brothers, Gregory, Thomas, and David Jones; sister, Audrey Jones; Maternal Grandparents: Lettie (White) and John Morrow of Sugar Point-Leech Lake Reservation; Paternal Grandparents: Florence (Jackson) and Fred Jones, Sr. of Mille Lacs Reservation; Uncles: Hartley White, Arthur, Walter and Max Morrow, Sr. of Leech Lake; Richard, Gaylon and Fred Jones Jr of Mille Lacs; Aunts: Caroline Morrow, Lettie (Morrow) Brown of Sawyer and LuAnn (Russell) Northrup of Sawyer and LuAnn Merrill of St. Croix, Wisconsin; Uncle: Jack Morrow; Aunts: Leona Shaugobay, Barbara Shipley and Dorothy (Jones) Aubid of East Lake, Minnesota; Niece: Naomi Northrup; Nephews: Jerron Jones, Rory Northrup, Cameron, Daniel and Austin Jones, many great nieces and nephews, relatives and friends.

An overnight wake for Geoffrey will begin at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 6th and continue until his 10:00 a.m. traditional service on Friday, August 7th all being held at the Bena Community Center in Bena, MN. Rick DeFoe will be the Officiant. Pallbearers for Geoffrey are Jon Wright, Richard Cotter, Jolon Cotter, Jeremiah Cotter, Daniel “Bizhew” Jones and Clayton Rainey. Alternate pallbearers are Caide Northrup and Russ Northrup. His honorary pallbear-
Glenda “Baby Glen” Diane (Wind) Bryan

Glenda “Baby Glen” Diane (Wind) Bryan, age 57, of Cass Lake, MN began her journey to the spirit world on Monday, September 28th, 2020 from the Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, ND surrounded by her family.

Glenda was born on June 17th, 1963 in Cass Lake, MN, the daughter of Roberta Jane (Holstien) and Alvin John Wind, Sr. Glenda was known for her amazing bead work. Her husband, Roger, always jokingly told her she “had a degree in everything” because she always told you “how it was”. Glenda liked to bake and have cookouts with her kids. Some of her favorite things to do were listening to her “Sadie Bearskins” sing to her, her “Girl’s Days” with her daughters, going to see Dwa’s band play, watching her sons boxing matches and going to the casino; but her most precious times were the times she spent with her grandkids. She was an amazing woman, who will be missed beyond imagine.

Family that Glenda is reunited with are her parents, Roberta and Alvin Wind, Sr.; sister, Dora Wind; brother, Martin Wind; nephew, Derek Brown; cousin, Endonnis Baird; sister in-law, Dawn “BeBe” Wind; best friend, Willa Jourdain, several aunts, uncles and some friends.

She leaves behind her husband, Roger Bryan of Cass Lake; son, Joshua Edward Wind, Sr. of Cass Lake; daughters, Nicona Marie (Jeramy Cadwell, Sr.) Wind and Farren Marie (Richard Croaker, Sr.) Bryan both of Cass Lake, Paris Marie (Ernesto Martinez, Jr.) of Minneapolis and Shanna Masten of Bemidji; brothers, Alvin John (Feda Littlewolf) Wind, Jr. and Michael Patrick Morris; sisters, Jennie Lee (Mark Sr.) Reyes, Marion Alice Wind and Jody Ann Wind; aunts, Jan Morgan, Ruthie Thompson and Beulah Holstien; uncles, Eugene Budreau and Clyde Morgan; her fur babies, Otter and Smoke; 24 grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and many friends.

An overnight wake for Glenda will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 1st and continue until her 11:00 a.m. funeral service on Friday, October 2nd, 2020 all being held at the Mission Community Center in Cass Lake, MN. Her pallbearers will be Darren “Bill” Brown, Sr., Alvin Wind III, Richard Croaker, Sr., Jeremy Cadwell, Sr., Ernesto Martinez, Jr., Jarell Jacobs, Marion Reyes, Sr. and Joshua Wind, Jr. Her alternate pallbearers are Candace “Betty Boop” Jacobs, Beth “Dwa” Brown, Robyn Dosch and Jessica Jones. Her honorary pallbearers are her grandchildren William, Nicholas, Carlos, Ernesto III, Mauricio, Paisleigh, Paislyn, Aliana, Richard Jr., Castiel, Justice, Josh, Eva, Jaysiah, Jaylenn, Jackie, James, Virgil, Cente, Gabe, Dreswaide, Alayna, Jayden, Jorden and Auralia. At Glenda’s request, her cremated remains will remain with her husband Roger at their home.

Glenda’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

Guy Greene Jr.

Guy Downs Greene, Jr, age 82, of Federal Dam, Minnesota began his journey to the spirit world on Tuesday, September 8th, 2020 from Sanford Hospital in Bemidji, MN with his family by his side. He was born on July 26, 1938 in Kinmount, MN to Rachel (White) and Guy Greene, Sr.

Guy spent his childhood in Sugar Point, Federal Dam and Princeton before enlisting in the United States Army in 1956. He served in the 82nd Airborne as an Airborne Instructor, with the U.S. Special Forces and in a combat engineer unit as a Demolition Expert and Sharpshooter. Guy was honorably discharged in 1968. After his discharge from the Army, Guy became certified in welding and carpentry and went on to work construction. He was a naturally gifted craftsman and artist. Guy later worked as a fishing guide, served on the Leech Lake Fishing Committee and worked for Leech Lake Housing Authority for more than 20 years.

For many years, Guy looked forward to his annual fishing trip to Canada with the guys and had a lifelong passion for his maple sugar camp. He enjoyed, hunting, fishing, netting, rice, syruper, trapping, minnowing, gardening, and evening road trips and boat rides. Guy was known for having the best wild rice and smoked fish around. He also loved watching sports, especially boxing and football. Guy was always busy doing something or working until he no longer could. He was a world traveler, a storyteller and a jokester but always kept his doors open to anyone in need. Guy loved his grandchildren; they were the apple of his eye. He always enjoyed the treats his granddaughters would bring him. We will miss him always saying “it don’t cost a dime to smile”.

Family welcoming Guy to the spirit world are his parents, Rachel and Guy Greene, Sr.; sons, Thomas Lee Greene, Guy Greene III, Donald Knoll and Rayme Hefta; siblings, Georgia Daley, Everina “Peggy” Mettler, Gerald Bader, Ronald Burnette, Norman Card, Bill Chizek, Walter Chase and Rusty Lillyquist. Interment will be in Fairview Cemetery at Federal Dam, MN following his Wednesday services.

Guy’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

Kelly Harper

Kelly Lynne Harper, 53, of Walker, Minnesota began her journey to the spirit world on Friday, September 11th, 2020 from the University of Minnesota Medical Center in Minneapolis, MN. She was born to Marcella (Tanner) Ardito and John Harper on August 29th, 1967 in Minneapolis, MN.

Obituaries Continued on Page 11 ▶
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: Danielle Dahl and Jordan Kingbird, Parents
Case No. CP-18-11

NOTICE
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on July 15, 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 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.

LEGAL NOTICE
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Children of: Danielle Dahl, Gregory A. Lafreniere, and Andre Anthony Flowers, Parents
Case No. CP-18-11

NOTICE
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on July 22, 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 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.

LEGAL NOTICE
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Children of: Danielle Dahl, and Jordan Kingbird, Parents
Case No. FA-20-57

NOTICE
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on June 16th, 2020, a Petition for Appointment of Guardian (Minor) was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) 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 October 13, 2020 at 10:00 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 date and time may result in the relief requested in the Petition, and any other relief may be granted as prayed for by the petitioner.

LEGAL NOTICE
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Guardianship of: S.L.K. III, DOB: 08/04/2019

Kelli Fisherman, Petitioner, And Bonnie Zamora & Shane Kingbird Jr., Respondents,

Case No. CP-15-48

NOTICE
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on July 28, 2020, a PETITION TO TRANSFER PERMANENT LEGAL AND PHYSICAL CUSTODY was filed in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for the next hearing date and time. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. If you fail to appear for the next hearing date and time may result in the relief requested in the Petition, and any other relief may be granted as prayed for by the petitioner.

ALL ELDERS ARE ENTITLED TO $10 SLOT PLAY & $10 MEAL COUPON THAT MUST BE USED WITHIN THE BIRTHDAY MONTH.
Kelly was a very loving and smart woman who enjoyed hosting family cookouts and holiday events. She was known at work for her smile and kindness to everyone. Kelly spent her free time living it up at the casinos and was a huge Minnesota Vikings fan. She enjoyed a nice cold Miller Light on her porch while visiting with her family and friends when they stopped by or called. She will be missed by many.

Family that welcome Kelly to the spirit world are her father, John Harper; stepfather, Sam Ardito; sisters, Evelyn and Theresa Harper; auntie, Janice Tanner and cousins, Tish, Ronny and Evelyn.

She leaves behind her children, Alexander Braman, John Harper and Maya (Josh) Braman all of Walker; mother, Marcella Ardito of Walker; brother, Kerry Harper; sisters, Michelle (Dan) Manos, Kim Libby and Sannnie (Eduardo) Rivera, several nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

A wake for Kelly will begin at 4:00 p.m., Sunday, September 13th and continue until her 11:00 a.m. traditional services on Tuesday, September 15th all to be held at the Onigum Community Center in Onigum, MN. Ron Winters will be her Spiritual Advisor. Pallbearers for Kelly will be Alex Braman, John Harper, Levi, Losh, Antonio Manos, Bryce Harper and William Tanner. Her honorary pallbearers will be her children. At Kelly’s request, her cremated remains will be cherished by her family. Kelly’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

Shirley, Dora and two infant sisters; brothers, Charlie, Peter, Frank, Fred, Robert and Jacob; grandma Mary and many other relatives.

He leaves behind his son, John (Lori) Raisch III of Cass Lake; daughter, Toni (Wayne) Brunette of Mahnomen; brother, Richard Raisch; grandchildren, Bonnie, Adam Sr., Kenneth, Jenna, Bethany and Jillian; special grandson, Tristen Robert Staples; great grandchildren, Blaze, Benjamin, Anissa, Adam Jr., Alissa, RuthAnn, Kaden, Adrik, Jalen, Vayda and Kashton; numerous nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

An overnight wake for Joey will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26th and continue until his 1:00 p.m. traditional service on Thursday, August 27th all to be held at the Mission Community Center in Cass Lake, MN. Pallbearers for Joey are Joe Burris, Chuck Raisch, Billy Masten, Michael Masten, Jr, Brandon Masten, Sr. and Clem May. His honorary pallbearers are Robert Headbird, Jr., Bobby Headbird, Richard Schulman, Shannon Northbird, Darrell Borth, Louis Fox, Sr., Kent Beaulieu, Don Wind and James Littlewolf. Interment will be in the Prince of Peace Cemetery at Cass Lake, MN following his Thursday service. The family requests that everyone please wear a mask.

Family that welcome Joey to the spirit world are his parents, Agnes and John; sisters, Theresa and Evelyn; brother, Jerry; and nephews, other relatives and many friends.

John “Joey” Raisch

John “Joey” Joseph Raisch, Jr., age 78, of Cass Lake, Minnesota journeyed to the spiritual world on Friday, August 21st, 2020 from the Cass Lake IHS Hospital in Cass Lake, MN. Joey was born at home in rural Cass Lake (Oakpoint), MN on July 8th, 1942 to Agnes (Reed) and John Raisch, Sr. He was first speaker of Ojibwe and was fluent in it all his life. Joey drove truck for many years which took him to all the lower 48 states. He also drove logging truck and was a shuttle driver for Cedar Lake Casino. Joey even drove to Alaska. He liked to go to the casino, visiting with his friends, ricing, cruising around and playing music on his guitar. Joey was always willing to help others whenever he could.

You may call your local Native Vote Alliance of Minnesota, Contact:
Eva Wilson 218-252-3373
Sally Fineday 218-368-1766
Veronica Smith 218-428-6918

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Important Dates
September 18 – Mailing absentee ballots to voters who requested them. Request mail in ballots online at mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us
October 15 – Registering to vote closes, but reopens on Election Day
November 3 – Election Day and last day to mail or drop your ballot off at your county office.
Your ballot must be postmarked by November 3 to be counted.
November 10 – Your mail in ballot must be received in the County Office by November 10.

Voting Rules
- You may register to vote online at the Secretary of State's website (mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us) until October 15, 2020 with a MN Driver's License and an email address or the last four digits of your social security number. You may also register on Election day at your county office or voting precinct with a MN Driver’s License and you will need to bring a current utility bill that has your current address (electric, phone, gas, water, cell phone, etc.).
- Anyone may request an absentee ballot at Secretary of State’s website beginning September 18 to November 2nd and you can track your ballot. You do not need to provide a reason for absentee voting. Any legal voter may request an absentee/mail in ballot. Your mail in ballot must be post marked by November 3rd and received by November 10th to be counted.
- Mail in your ballot or take it to your county office before 3:00 p.m. on Election Day
- Election Day (November 3) most polling places are open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Please call your county office to find out when your polling places is open.
- If you have registered at least 21 days before Election Day (October 15) you do not have to bring another form of ID to the polling site or county office.
- For any questions you may visit the Secretary of State Website at www.sos.state.mn.us

Your Native vote counts!

2020 Get out the Native Vote Minnesota
CASS LAKE – “We need both, we need people who are going to change the system from the inside out and people who want to burn it down.”

Is a phrase the late Marvin Manypenny once told Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan before her run for office, and one that stayed on the forefront of the elected leaders mind during a Native American voter engagement event.

The event held, Friday October 16 outside of the District III Housing office, played host to not only RTC Tribal leaders, but Minnesota Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan, DFL Party elected officials, local candidates seeking election and community voters. All who stressed the importance of voting this year and why the Native vote matters more than one would think.

Lieutenant Governor Flanagan, who spoke following local candidates, used her time to endorse Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden. Citing him as someone who will be able to improve tribal relations with the federal government, as well as understand and respect tribal sovereignty and treaty rights, if elected.

“I don’t need to tell you about what the stakes are with this presidential race. The last four years for everybody -- but for Native folks in particular -- have been incredibly difficult under the leadership of Donald Trump, or the lack of leadership from Donald Trump,” Flanagan said.

“...But at the same time it’s not too often we’ve had natives reach the level of office we’ve had within the last few years,” said Staples-Fairbanks who went on to list the changes and benefits of this turn of involvement has had on Indian Country.

If you are not yet registered, Minnesota offers same day registration at your local polling office. Please contact your local election office for more information.
MINNESOTA – The holiday which replaces Christopher Columbus Day in the state of Minnesota, and various cities throughout the state is meant to focus on how Indigenous communities have persevered despite history. This year marks the fifth anniversary of the official holiday recognition for the city of Bemidji and the state.

The official change to replace Christopher Columbus Day with one honoring indigenous people in Bemidji came about in 2016. The change was made through a grassroots effort by Bemidji State Professor Vivian Delagado and students in a previous Indigenous treaty and law course who brought their pitch to city council.

The state of Minnesota signed their proclamation replacing Christopher Columbus day that same year. Governor Tim Walz has renewed former Governor Dayton’s proclamation since being elected.

The history of Indigenous Peoples Day is a long one with an uphill battle still continuing. The day which was first proposed in 1977 at the United Nations-sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas is currently only officially recognized by five other states outside of Minnesota.

Photos and Article by Kayla Duoos

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Continue to Rise Across Minnesota with Increased Testing

MINNEAPOLIS – Minnesota's COVID-19 numbers continue to show cases surging at a high level, with nearly 1,000 new cases confirmed on Monday, October 5.

Monday's spark in cases is the 5th consecutive day of newly confirmed cases near or above 1,000. The recent elevated numbers of newly confirmed cases have been largely driven by high testing volumes with young adults in their 20’s making up the highest bracket of confirmed cases.

The Minnesota Department of Health says the state's total number of confirmed coronavirus cases is now at 105,740. Of them, nearly 95,614 no longer require isolation.

The state's death toll is now at 2,087 with 1,488 of those deaths involving cases in long-term care (LTC) facilities. Health officials say approximately 1,502,736 Minnesotans have been tested for the virus so far including 1,640 on the reservation.

Savannas Act and Not Invisible Act Pass Congress, Address MMIW Crisis Across U.S.

WASHINGTON – Congress has passed two bills aimed at addressing the missing, murdered Indigenous women crisis in Indian Country.

On Monday, September 21 “Savannas Act” finally saw the house floor after years of delays and now is headed to President Trump’s desk to be signed into law. Savannas act named after Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, an Indigenous woman who was abducted and killed in North Dakota in 2017, seeks to boost coordination and data collection between Tribal, Local, State, and Federal law enforcement.

The bill also requires federal agencies to seek out Tribal input on how to enhance safety precautions for Tribal Members, and follow specific guidelines when handling these cases. Also moving forward is the “Not Invisible Act” a bipartisan bill that requires the Federal Government to step up its responses to Indigenous missing person cases.

Both bills are one of many initiatives we have seen come to fruition within the last few years since the MMIW movement has gained public traction. There currently are MMIW task forces in states across the country, including Minnesota and a Federal task force sponsored by President Trump. While they are notable steps forward, Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), who sponsored both the not invisible act and Savannas act after its senate loss in 2018, said the passing of Savannas bill is only the beginning of the work needed to be done.

“The issue of Missing or Murdered Indigenous Women has been a crisis for such a painfully long time… We are now not just making headway, we are taking the necessary steps to make real, lasting change,” said Murkowski.
Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders
October Birthdays

District I
Shari Bebeau
Viola Bellanger
Milton Campbell
Francis Garbow
Thomas Howard
Steven Jackson
Tami Jackson
Wilfred Korpela
Geraldine Nason-Dodge
Linda Nason
Florence Parker
Bernard Robinson
Perry Sherman
Gerold White

From the District II Office
Robert Banks
Robert Bartel
Charles Bobolink
Jill Brown
Robert Brown
Sherman Brown
Thomas Cloud
Darlene Cobenais
Sharon Declusin
William Donovan
Myron Drummond
Michael Escobedo
Kenneth Fairbanks
Roger Fairbanks
Richard Fineday
Patsy Fisher
Leon Garbow
Geraldine Goodwater
Beverly Guernsey
Monica Hooker
Christina Howard
Evelyn Iler
Frank Isaacs
Delmar Jones
Doris Jones
Robin Jordan
Marcia Kleeb
Geraldine Littlewolf
Marvin Littlewolf
Kelly Losh

District III*
Thomas Lyons
William Masten
Gary Mitchell
Beverly Molash
David Morgan
Jane Munnell
Emily Munyer
Darryl Northbird
Melvin Northbird
Freda Oothoudt
Samuel Papasodora
Louis Paquette
Steven Rejholc
Jennie Reyes
Alvin Roy
Richard Schulman
Michael Shaw
Henrietta Sherer-Nason
George Smith
Dale Tatro
Jane Valencia
Frances Van Nett
Shannon Washington
Cheryl White
Lois White
Jeanne Whitwam
Gary Wilson
Machell Wiltse
Margaret Wind
Doris Wittner

*all coupons must be used within Birthday Month*

From the District I Office
Robbie, Stephanie, & Zagajiwi

From the District II Office
LeRoy, Toni & Kari

University of Minnesota Extension
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Beltrami County (Bemidji)

SNAP-Ed Educators lead communities to design and implement solutions to improve individual and community health by promoting healthy eating behaviors and physical activity in low-income communities.

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Cass Lake Bena School Board Elections 2020

Vote Rebecca "Becky" Graves!

Choose her to be Cass Lake-Bena next School Board Member.

She stands for education, community, and students.

Learn more about her: elect Rebecca "Becky" Graves on Facebook

Editor’s Note: This is a Paid Advertisement

Leech Lake Twin Cities Office Tribal Identification Cards

Tribal Enrollment will be on-site the following days to provide Tribal ID’s for Band Members.

October 26th & October 27th
LLTCO
2438 27th Ave. S.
10AM - 6PM

To receive a card the applicant must provide one of the following:
- Minnesota Identification Card
- Valid Driver’s License
- Social Security Card
- Certified Birth Certificate
- Name Change - Bring Documents of Proof

The cards will be valid for four (4) years after date of issue.

One Time Only-Fees Waived

Tribal Enrollment will be on-site the following days to provide Tribal ID’s for Band Members.

October 29th, October 30th & November 2nd
Cedar Lakes Event Center
6268 Upper Cass Frontage Rd NW
10AM - 12:30PM
1PM - 6PM

To receive a card the applicant must provide one of the following:
- Minnesota Identification Card
- Valid Driver’s License
- Social Security Card
- Certified Birth Certificate
- Name Change - Bring Documents of Proof

The cards will be valid for four (4) years after date of issue.

One Time Only-Fees Waived