

DEBAHJIMON

Newspaper of the
**Leech Lake
Band of Ojibwe**

January 2021 | VOL. XXXVII No. 7

MMIW Task Force

MN DPS task force released their findings this past month regarding MMIWG in Minnesota.

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LLBO Quarterly

Council and Division Directors recently hosted the bands Quarterly Meeting online via ZOOM.

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Year in Review

A look back to the events and important dates for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in 2020.

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LLBO Planning Community Vaccination Clinics for Band Members

By Kayla Duos

CASS LAKE – Across the reservation, vaccination clinics will be opening for IHS eligible patients to receive one of the two COVID-19 vaccines.

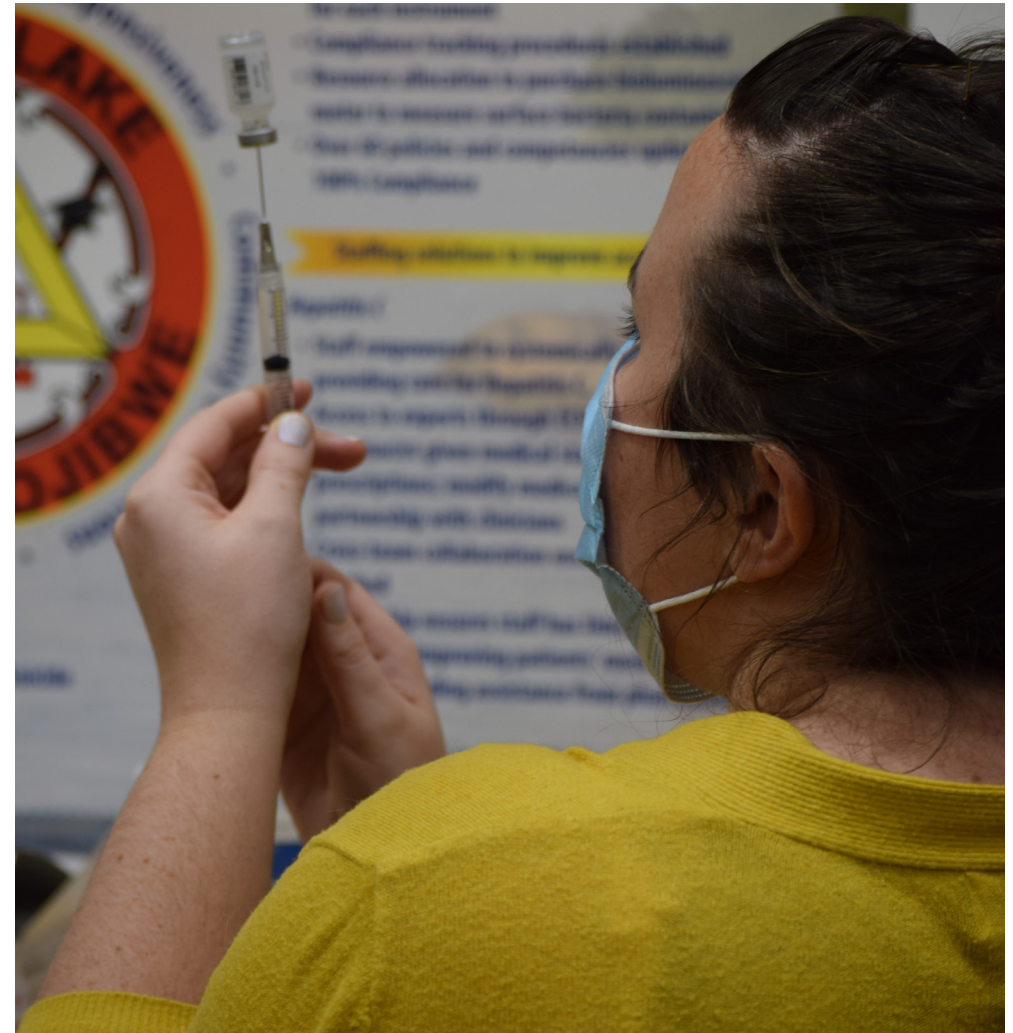
While vaccine type received will come at what's in stock, many wonder what's the difference between the two? The short answer: The vaccines are more alike than they are different.

Both vaccines use the same basic technology, known as mRNA. These vaccines essentially teach our cells how to make an immune response without using the live virus that causes COVID-19. Once the immune response is triggered through the vaccine, the body then makes antibodies that would help fight the infection if the real virus does enter our body in the future.

The most significant differences between both vaccines come down to the temperatures at which they are stored, how they are administered and the timetables for when patients need to get their shots.

Overall, both vaccines have been proven to be close to 95% effective at COVID-19 prevention and have been deemed safe by the FDA.

Throughout January the band will be host-



Cass Lake IHS Employees prepare to administer the first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

ing vaccination clinics at community centers across the reservation to receive one of these vaccines. IHS eligible patients 55 years and older are currently eligible for the initial round of vaccines. All others can sign up but will be added to a list for future clinics. Limited number of vaccines available at each site. Pre-registration is required. Additional clinics will be scheduled as the vaccine rollout expands

If you have any other questions on the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines or wish to be vaccinated, please call the IHS vaccine hotline at (218)-368-4763.

FAQ and full Pfizer/Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Outline

For Leech Lake Band Members

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VOL XXXVII NO 7

The *Debahjimon* is a free, monthly publication of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

Leech Lake Tribal Council

- » Faron Jackson Sr., Chairman
- » Arthur "Archie" LaRose, Secretary-Treasurer
- » Robbie Howe, District I Representative
- » Steve White, District II Representative
- » LeRoy Staples Fairbanks III, District III Representative

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Submissions

The submission of pictures, articles, announcements and letters is encouraged. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling, grammar, length and libelous content. Submission does not guarantee publication. The Editor reserves the right to reject any material submitted for publication.

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Deadlines

Feb. Issue.....1/29/2021
Mar. Issue.....2/26/2021
Apr. Issue.....3/26/2021



Bemidji, February 14, 2019, marches occur annually across the country to elevate awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

MMIW

State Task Force Reports Findings Regarding Crisis

By Kayla Duoos

MINNEAPOLIS – The Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) has released their official MMIWG task force findings.

The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) Task Force, created by the Minnesota Legislature and signed into law by Governor Tim Walz in 2019 is made up of state and tribal officials to identify disparities in violence against Native women and girls.

The task force discovered themes of accountability, uniformity and accessibility as they studied critical issues contributing to the crisis.

Task force findings include:

- Root cause of MMIW injustices are based in colonization, historical trauma, racism, and sexism and sexual objectification of Indigenous women and girls.
- Indigenous women, girls and two spirit people are not at increased risk of violence because of individual risky behaviors or poor choices, but rather systemic risk factors such as poverty and homelessness, child welfare involvement, domestic violence, sex trafficking and prostitution which place them in dangerous situations.
- Once an Indigenous woman or girl goes missing or dies under suspicious circumstances, the investigation, prosecution and sentencing processes that are supposed to serve justice often fail to provide equal and fair treatment for these Indigenous victims.
- The system does not include sufficient resources for adequate culturally responsive healing resources for Indigenous victims or survivors, families and communities.
- We're here for you now and

we're going to do what we can to make this better so that nobody has a mother, an aunt, or a grandmother, daughter or sister walk out the door and never know if they are going to see them again," Representative Mary Kunesh-Podein.

"Many of us have a story of a relative or loved one who has been missing or murdered," said Nicole Matthews, Executive Director of the Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition and Task Force Vice Chair. "This report with the included mandates is one more step that we are taking in Minnesota to address this issue and ensure that all our Indigenous relatives are safe."

The next steps for the task force include implementation of recommendations:

- Create an MMIW Office to provide ongoing attention to and leadership for this issue.
- Ensure adequate funding and resources to implement these recommendations.
- Address systemic racism.
- Focus on eliminating poverty and meeting basic needs.
- Nicole Martin Rogers, Wilder Research Senior Research Manager who worked on the study, said, "The report outlines clear actions needed to end the systemic violence experienced by Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit people."

"It's time to bring action. My hope is these recommendations, if implemented, will mean not one more woman trafficked, not one more woman abused."

–Task Force Member,
Roger Smith

"The Legislature only required the task force to develop recommendations," said task force member and Fond du Lac Tribal Council District III Representative Roger Smith. "At the end of this we will have spent 18 months working on a report, but it took 500 plus years to create this issue. It's time to bring action. My hope is these recommendations, if implemented, will mean not one more woman trafficked, not one more woman abused."

The report can be found on the Department of Public Safety Office of Justice website.

State COVID-19 Update, Restrictions Loosen

MINNEAPOLIS – Early January COVID-19 data continues to show stable, moderate growth in new cases and deaths.

However as vaccine roll out begins, many hope the numbers will see changes as more residents get vaccinated.

The Minnesota Department of Health says the state's total number of confirmed coronavirus cases is now at 438,867. Of them, nearly 418,610 no longer require isolation.

The state's death toll is now at 5,724 with 3,660 of those deaths involving cases in long-term care (LTC) facilities. Health officials say approxi-

mately 5,982,456 Minnesotans have been tested for the virus so far including 4368 on the reservation.

Other changes residents can see in the state is the reopening of bars, restaurants and other venues. These openings of course come with restrictions as COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations continued to decline in Minnesota. Bars and restaurants can resume indoor service at 50% capacity — but with 10 p.m. curfews and no more than six people at a table and two people in a group at the bar. Groups must stay 6 feet apart.

The governor announced the dial-back in the state's pandemic response, noting that bars and res-

taurants can operate at minimal risk if customers comply with rules that prevent viral transmission.

"The way we help them out is, let's not let the virus surge again. ... By wearing a mask and social distancing, that keeps your local bar and restaurant open," Walz said.

If you are experiencing symptoms or have been exposed, please call the Cass Lake IHS COVID hotline at 335-3426 or 335-3427 Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If you are experiencing shortness of breath, please contact the Emergency Department at 335-3327 or dial 911.



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California displays the signed article of impeachment against President Trump in an engrossment ceremony before transmission to the Senate for trial on Capitol Hill. It's unclear when a Senate trial will start. Photo | Alex Brandon/AP

Trump 2nd Impeachment

By Kayla Duoos

WASHINGTON, DC – President Donald Trump is expected to be impeached a second time, after an attack on the capitol by his followers which many allege he encouraged.

The articles of impeachment introduced, Monday January 11th, include a single charge — incitement of insurrection. The House will begin debating on the charge, Wednesday January 13th, a week before Democrat and President-Elect Joe Biden is set to be inaugurated.

Unlike Trump's 2019 impeachment — for abuse of power and obstruction of congressional investigations — several House Republicans appear to be willing to support this effort due to the severity of the capitol riots, in which 5 people died.

If the impeachment resolution moves forward, Trump will be the first U.S. president to be twice impeached. While some have questioned impeaching the president so close to the end of his term, Democrats and others argue he must be prevented from holding future public office.



President Biden sits in the Oval Office at the White House after being sworn in as the 46th president of the United States on Wednesday. Photo | Jim Watson/AFP via Getty Images

President Biden Halts Pipeline Permit

By Kayla Duoos

WASHINGTON, DC – As a first day Executive Order, newly elected President Joe Biden has revoked a key permit for the proposed Keystone XL pipeline.

Biden cited the action as an effort to revoke any "permits signed over the past 4 years that do not serve the U.S. national interest."

TC Energy, the pipeline's developer, could decide to challenge Biden's move in court or through the new North American trade deal, as the company previously did in 2015 after President Barack Obama first scuttled the pipeline over environmental concerns.

In a statement released Wednesday January 13th, TC Energy said "as a result of the expected revocation of

the Presidential Permit, advancement of the project will be suspended," and it canceled plans to raise money to further pay for the project.

Even with the possibility of legal challenges, Biden's move away from fossil fuels and plans to rejoin the Paris Climate agreement has made many environmental activists ecstatic. The drive to kill the pipeline, which would have transported oil from Western Canada to refineries in the U.S. Midwest and Gulf Coast, became a defining issue for a new generation of environmental groups.

Pipeline activists, along with Native American tribes and landowners angry over pipeline developer TC Energy's plans to route the pipeline through their property, had been fighting the project since almost as soon as it was unveiled years ago.

Missed an issue?

Read past and current issues of Debahjimon online!



Visit WWW.LLOJIBWE.ORG/NEWS/NEWS.HTML

Quarterly Meeting Held online on January 15, 2021

CASS LAKE – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe held their Quarterly Meeting Friday, January 15.

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 was held online through video calls. For those who were unable to watch, a livestream of the event is available on the official Leech Lake Vimeo 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 in April 2021.

Quarterly Report Summaries

Tribal Court

- There were 89 new cases filed between September 1st, 2020 and December 2020.
- The court conducted 266 hearings the past quarter.
- 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
- Mid-November Tribal Court were approached by Anishinaabe Legal Services and Legal Aid Services of North Eastern MN out of Grand Rapids because those agencies received funding from the CARES Act to set up Kiosks throughout the reservation to assist band members with legal issues. There is a kiosk in each community on the reservation

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 pathways 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
- Construction is underway for a new child care facility, coordination is being done with

early child care division

- Work continues on promoting "mask up Leech Lake", distribution of food boxes and a community wide survey on COVID-19

Resource Management

- Work has begun with the US Forest Service to complete the final steps for the signed secretarial land transfer
- The Wild Rice season lasted for 29 days and 153,690 lbs were purchased from Band members during this time
- A letter has been sent to the MN DNR regarding Waterfowl regulations that could impact the waterfowl on the reservation
- DRM staff has been actively involved with the State regarding their new Grey Wolf Harvesting plan

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.
- Quarantine housing continues to be helpful for patients

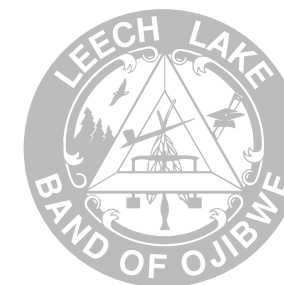
in need including those staying in the Emergency Shelter residence


Education

- Programs continued through COVID pandemic with limited capacity and staffing
- Distance learning models were developed for preschool and head start students, a plan for reopening classrooms for essential workers is being developed
- Returning staff are adapting to new teaching and classroom models

Housing


- Inspectors conducted 18 Unit Inspections during this reporting period
- Modernization Department renovated 13 homes during this reporting period
- Crews are currently not working in occupied units except in emergency situations.







Safely Adjusting the Dial

Loosened Restrictions Start January 11



Indoor Dining




50%
Capacity




150
People Max



Indoor Entertainment




25%
Capacity




150
People Max


Small Social Gatherings

Outside




3 Households




15 People Max


Inside




2 Households




10 People Max



Outdoor Entertainment




25%
Capacity




250
People Max


**Gyms,
Fitness Studios, and Pools**



25%
Capacity




150
People Max

≤25 People Per Class

Find all changes at mn.gov/covid19

STAY SAFE MN



90.1 FM THE EAGLE KOJB

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE

**THE OFFICIAL RADIO STATION OF
THE LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE**

Tribal Council Quarterly Reports

Secretary / Treasurer Arthur "Archie" LaRose



Governmental Activities Secretary/Treasurer's Summary Remarks delivered at the Quarterly Meeting on Friday January 15, 2021

Boozhoo, good morning to all. I hope everyone had a good Christmas and Happy New Year. This past year has been a very difficult time for our reservation and the people considering the Covid-19 pandemic and related financial, economic, health and welfare effects caused by the pandemic.

Even though our buildings remain closed to the public, essential services continue. On our December 17th payroll, we had 711 employees working onsite, 71 working from home, 16 on quarantine, 180 employees on paid administrative leave status (designated as vulnerable by being over 55 and/or having other serious health issues).

Our fiscal year 2020 budget has not yet been finalized. The preliminary budget includes \$11 million dollars from the State of Minnesota tax and license agreements, \$111 million in grants which includes \$43 million from the Cares Act funding, \$27.5 million in billings for services. We are also utilizing general fund reserves designated for emergencies of \$13.8 million. We have

not budgeted any Gaming revenue in this budget due to the casinos being closed for over 3 months and continue to operate on a limited level. The casino closures severely affected the net revenue and cash flow both of which are steadily being rebuilt to satisfactory levels. We will adjust our current budget if it is determined that we can receive revenue distributions from Gaming operations during the last half of this fiscal year. The revenue levels were originally estimated to be affected well into FY 2022 and beyond. This situation is the reason why there was not a "sales tax distribution" as in previous years. Without the Gaming revenue to support government activities and programs, sales tax revenue was needed to fund essential services. However, we were able to provide an economic stimulus assistance payment utilizing Cares Act revenue to subsidize households during the pandemic.

The \$43 million dollars we received in Cares Act funding continues to evolve as the uses for the funds become more clearer and there is more funding in the most recent Cares Act funding bill, specifically the Employee Retention Credit, which involves the Gaming revenue reductions. The date for which the funds can be spent has been extended to December 31, 2021. Utilizing this extension, we are still receiving and processing applications for the economic stimulus payments that were distributed in August and December of this past year. If you know of someone that has not received a payment, please notify them or us, so that we can get that to them.

Among the many projects that were funded with the Cares Act revenue, we placed 6 double wide manufactured homes within the city limits of Cass Lake to be used as quarantine sites for individuals and families. This was done as an emergency measure as we were running out of space internally and the hotels being used are expensive as they require advance monthly

payment in order to ensure availability for quarantine purposes.

We have also received late notices for food grants that needed to be spent so that allowed shifting of costs from the general Cares Act category to the more recent restricted grants. Mike Auger and crew have been doing a tremendous job in getting food boxes out to band members and working with the food shelves to assist their delivery land ordering of food products.

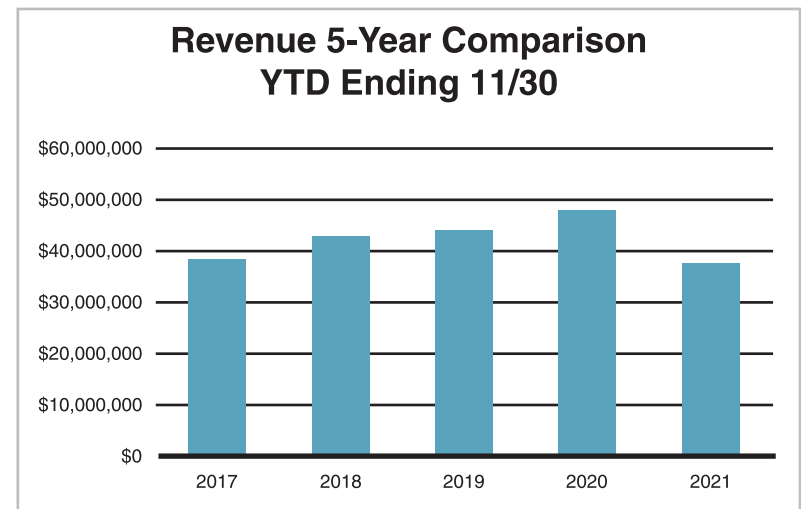
The Bands annual single audit continues as usual with the auditors working as remotely as possible. The rebuild and expansion of the Band's computer network, which was also paid for with Cares Act revenues, makes all our daily processes much more efficient and effective. We are now Paperless.

The overall financial health of the Band has remained stable through this pandemic with the assistance of the Cares Act funding but yet a considerable amount of reserve funds are being allocated to fund activities deemed essential to mitigating the effects of Covid-19. The reopening of the casinos was a major factor in generating sufficient revenue to keep the majority of gaming employees on the payroll during this epidemic. Again, this administration continues to seek as much federal funding to assist with this. Our long-term strategy to utilize as much external resources as possible to help mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 has been effective as we start the new year with a healthy balance sheet and renewed financial projections.

Leech Lake Gaming Summary of Operations Quarter Ending December 2020

Revenue

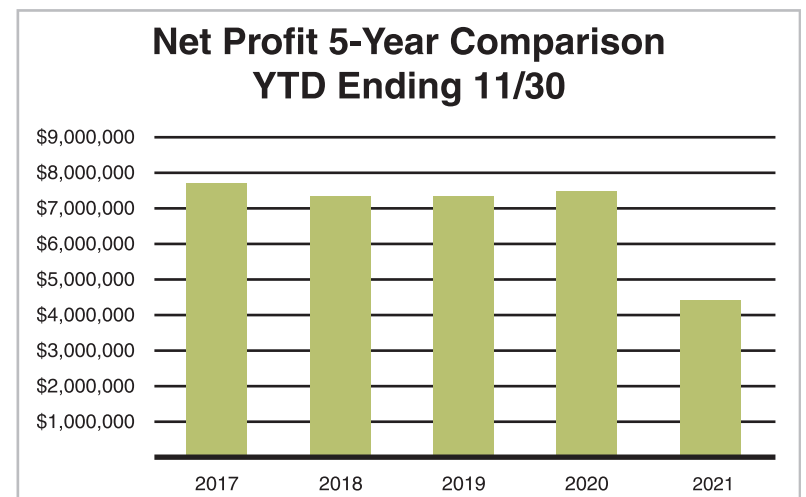
For the period from July 2020 through November 2020, Leech Lake Gaming brought in revenue totaling \$37.9 million. Compared to that same timeframe in 2019, revenue decreased by \$9.8 million,



as revenue was approximately \$47.7 million. This was the first decrease in revenue that Leech Lake Gaming has had looking at the 5-year comparison. Prior to fiscal year 2021, revenue had steadily increased year over year.

Expenses

The total of expenses from July 2020 through November 2020 was \$33.3 million. The previous year totaled roughly \$40 million, which is a \$6.7 million decrease. Cost of sales accounted for much of the decrease, \$3.4 million, as restaurants and other venues at the casinos are operating on a limited basis compared to previous years. Payroll and operating expenses decreased as well, by \$1.6 million and \$1.7 million respectively.



Net Profit

The bottom line after expenses for this period is \$4.6 million. This is approximately a \$3 million decrease from fiscal year 2020. When looking at the 5-year comparison, net profits held consistently around \$7.6 million. This is the first significant decrease that Leech Lake Gaming has seen over the years.

Forecast

The COVID-19 Pandemic that caused closures of our casinos at the end of fiscal year 2020, has continued impacts on Leech Lake Gaming operations, and ultimately affects our revenue. While we are monitoring expenses, it definitely has an effect on our bottom line. Leech Lake Gaming with continue to operate as effectively and efficiently as possible during these times.

Star Island Fire History

Submitted by Sean Dunham on behalf of the Star Island Fire History Partnership

The University of Minnesota (UMN), in partnership with the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (LLBO), Leech Lake Tribal College (LLTC), and the Chippewa National Forest (CNF), has embarked on a fire history project on Star Island (Windigomeinis in Ojibwemowin). This partnership brings diverse perspectives and knowledge that will enhance our understanding of the island from ecological, cultural, and historical contexts. This project has been made possible, in part, through a grant from the Minnesota Historical Society Heritage Partnership Program.

Star Island, located in Cass Lake (Gaa-zagaskwaajimekaag), is within the LLBO Reservation and the CNF. The island was chosen for this study for a variety of reasons, including: it's old growth red pine stands; it's historical and archaeological evidence for human occupation over the past 5,000 years; and the island's likely isolation from larger, regional fire events on the mainland.

The fire history is being reconstructed by examining annual tree rings (dendrochronology) preserved within fire-scarred red pine stumps as well as core samples collected from living red pine (bapakwanagemagoog). The trees are a unique window to the past, like artifacts or texts, documenting trends relating to climate, fire, and cultural activity. Fifty-five samples have been collected from the island and nearly half (27) have been processed and dated so far. We have developed a tree-ring record that extends back to the 1670s with fire-scar evidence for thirteen unique fire years between 1747 and 1902. The mean fire-free interval of these samples is 24.4 years with variation ranging between 5 and 101

years from individual stumps. No fires are apparent in the tree-ring record from ~1670 to 1745 or after 1902.

Review of the data reveals an increase in fire events between 1774 and 1866. Most striking is a cluster of four fires between 1790 and 1813 that were recorded on most of the sampled stumps (these are called synchronous fire events). These four fire years produce a mean interval of 10.3 years and 16 of the stumps included scars from at least 3 of these fires. There is another cluster of four fire years between 1830 and 1866. The 1866 fire is synchronous whereas the other fires are asynchronous in that these fires affected less than half of the sampled stumps and appear restricted to particular areas of the island.

The pattern of fire history, particularly the short fire intervals between 1790 and 1866, is likely the result of intentional, local human ignitions as opposed to lightning or climactic driven events. The fire record also corresponds with broader historical trends associated with Ojibwe settlement in the Cass Lake area. Fire activity increases with the easing of tensions with the Dakota in the later 18th century and ends following state and federal efforts to relocate Ojibwe to the White Earth Reservation in the late 19th century. Additionally, we have archeological and historical evidence of an Ojibwe community on Star Island, often referred to as Ozaawindib's village, during this period of high fire activity.

An important goal of this partnership is to share knowledge in order to better investigate and understand the interactions between traditional Ojibwe cultural practices and Star Island's vegetation patterns. One of the questions we are considering is how the fire history relates to the Ojibwe occupation and use of the island and how this pattern may help us better understand the



Searching for fire scars. From left Kurt Kipmueller (UMN), Sean Dunham (CNF), and Amy Burnette (LLBO). Photo | Marcie Gotchie



Evan Montpellier (UMN) sampling a fire scarred stump. Photo | Lane Johnson

broader cultural relationship with the landscape in northern Minnesota.

Next Steps include

1. Processing and dating the remaining fire-scar samples



Dated stump with labeled fire years. Photo | Kurt Kipmueller

2. Further discussions with LLBO elders concerning the history and cultural significance of Star Island, and the Cass Lake area
3. Visiting the island with LLBO elders
4. Developing educational and interpretive materials for the project (these steps have been complicated due to the Covid-19 Epidemic)

The project will facilitate longer term engagement and interaction between LLTC, LLBO, UMN, and the CNF. This relationship will benefit all participants by forging new pathways toward improving cross-cultural and interdisciplinary understandings of Minnesota's complex cultural and ecological history.



New Mexico Representative Deb Haaland Accepting the appointment of Secretary of Interior, January 10, 2021. Photo | Twitter @DebHaalandNM

Stauber Opposition to Haaland Cabinet Pick Prompts MN Tribes to Respond

By Kayla Duos

CASS LAKE – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, alongside five other Minnesota tribes have publicly denounced a MN congressman's attempts to derail President-elect Joe Biden's pick for Interior secretary.

As previously announced, President-elect Joe Biden's choice is Representative Deb Haaland, a Democrat from New Mexico. If confirmed, Haaland would be the first Native American to lead the Department of the Interior which has a broad oversight on Tribal lands.

The Congressman in question, Republican Rep. Pete Stauber, a member of the House subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples, has been publicly asking fellow lawmakers to join him in urging Biden's transition team to withdraw Haaland's nomination. Stauber, cites Haaland's opposition to oil and gas drilling on public land and her support for

the Green New Deal, legislation that aims to address climate change and economic inequality as reasons for contesting her nomination.

As a member of the House, Stauber has no say in approving the nomination.

The letter sent by LLBO and dated Jan. 14 and is signed Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa accuses Stauber of bowing to big industrial interests at their expense.

"This historic nomination is more important to us and all of Indian country than any other Cabinet nomination in recent history," the tribal leaders wrote in their letter. "Your opposition to the first and only American Indian ever nominated to a Cabinet position is likely to reverberate across Indian Country."

The Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes, which represents 35 tribal nations in the region, also wrote to Stauber, calling the lawmaker's campaign against Haaland "offensive, hostile and irresponsible."

The chairman of the alliance, Aaron Payment, said Stauber had "subordinated the interests of Indian tribes to the interests of those you represent in your letter without any consultation with the tribes."

BUG-O-NAY-GE-SHIG SCHOOL NEWS



Bug O Nay Ge Shig School recently presented Ellen Adams with a Lifetime Achievement Award as she retired after teaching at the school for 40 years. Ellen is a member of the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe and began her career in education as a Head Start teacher

there. Ellen moved to Bemidji and earned a GED at the age of 38. She then enrolled in Bemidji State University and with the encouragement of counselor Larry Aitken, she graduated with a bachelor's degree. Following that, she went on to earn a master's degree with an emphasis in early childhood education.

At Bug O Nay Ge Shig, she first taught many different grades, as well as language and culture classes. Then she helped design a kindergarten program at the school and taught kindergarten classes for many years.

Ellen has made lifelong friends through her years of teaching and has met many wonderful families who appreciate her efforts and have special memories of her.

District III Elder Birthdays

February

From the District III Office
LeRoy, Toni & Kari

Roger Anderson
Joanne Bellanger
Clifford Benjamin
Ruth Bongo
Mary Burnette
Leon Butcher
Theresa Cash
Maxine Charwood
Stanley Chief
Marlene Clausen
Ronald Cloud
Tina Cloud
Steven Day
Roberta Decker
Diana Eason
Carol Fairbanks
Georgianna Feigum
Sally Fineday

Sharon Finn
Stanley Hare
Wallis Humphrey
Bruce Johnson
Cheryl Johnson
Ronald Johnson
James Jones
Tara Jones
Elizabeth Kingbird
Brenda Kornezos
Pauline LaRose
Kenneth Losh
Fred Lovelace
Herbert Medina
Pamela Michaud
Timothy Moon
Michael Murphy
Tracy O'Brien

Richard Robinson
Alan Ruppelius
Henry Rushman
Bernie Smith
Stacy Smith
Keith St. Cyr
Karen Staples
Kenneth Staples
Ramona Staples
James Starr
Jacquelyn Tibbetts
Lois Tibbetts
Delcie Tonce
Lucille Wakanabo
Flora White
Beverly Whitebird
Patricia Wilson
Ruth Wind

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

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Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Police

2020 Drug Statistics

In 2020 Leech Lake Tribal Police Officers executed twelve (12) drug related search warrants specific to residences and vehicles. Officers seized fifteen (15) firearms, consisting of both handguns and long guns. Approximately \$12,763.00 of cash was seized, which investigators believe is tied directly to the sales and distribution of illegal drug sales.

Approximate total of seized drugs in 2020

Crystal Methamphetamine	1,381.43 grams
Processed Marijuana	1,630.67 grams
Heroin/Fentanyl	23.72 grams
Powder Cocaine	1.8 grams
Gabapentin Prescription Pills	43 pills

The approximate street value of the above listed drugs is roughly \$149,000.00. *Please note this is a rough estimate broken down to "Street Values" and that the prices on illegal drugs can fluctuate up or down on a daily basis depending on supply and demand in the local area.

	Methamphetamine	Heroin	Marijuana
2014	25.83 grams	1.4 grams	23.63 grams
2015	1,690.52 grams	11.42 grams	1,199.07 grams
2016	1,082.07 grams	105.96 grams	725.26 grams
2017	989.26 grams	201.85 grams	894.77 grams
2018	401.71 grams	52.42 grams	10,074.13 grams
2019	971.37 grams	313.93 grams	1,453.79 grams
2020	1,381.43 grams	5.82 grams	1,630.67 grams
	Cocaine	Gabapentin Prescription Pills	
2014	1 grams	78 pills	
2015	0 grams	952 pills	
2016	12.51 grams	437 pills	
2017	115 grams	359 pills	
2018	258.73 grams	377 pills	
2019	19.43 grams	577 pills	
2020	1.8 grams	43 pills	
	Fentanyl		
2020	17.9 grams		

CHIEF OF POLICE
Kenneth Washington

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF POLICE
Michael G. Robinson

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Natasha Thompson

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PO Box 187
Cass Lake, MN 56633

(218)335-8277 **Phone**
888-622-9225 **Toll Free**
(218) 335-8297 **Fax**



The Leech Lake Tribal Police Department will continue its proactive approach to protecting the community and continues to seek the public's help with obtaining information to crimes in the area.

If anyone has information related to the sales or possession of illegal drugs within the Leech Lake Reservation, please contact the Leech Lake Tribal Police Department Narcotic Investigator(s) at (218) 335-6315, or via tips@llpolice.org.

**Leech Lake Tribal Police Dept. Public Notice**

Recently, many communities in northwestern Minnesota have seen a significant increase in opioid related overdoses and deaths. Specifically, law enforcement within the communities of Beltrami County, the Red Lake Nation, the White Earth Nation, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and the City of Bemidji have responded to 62 overdoses since December 1st of 2020. Ten (10) of those overdoses have resulted in fatalities. While law enforcement works to find those people responsible for bringing these harmful drugs into our communities we also need help from the public to end these preventable tragedies.

Over the last decade the opioid epidemic has tragically affected individuals, families and communities. Tribal leaders, law enforcement officials, public health and community partners have taken steps to help people overcome their addictions and to save lives. An example is that law enforcement officers from these communities are all trained and equipped with the lifesaving medication naloxone. This has resulted in saving more than 100 lives in our communities. However, the significant increase recently may be attributed to synthetic opioids or fentanyl which naloxone has little effect upon. It is important to know that these drugs can be fatal upon the first use.

If you, or someone you know, is suffering from opioid addiction it is important to know there is treatment available in our communities. You can seek help from health care providers, public health organizations and treatment providers. There are also online resources available for addiction

through the Minnesota Department of Health. If you believe a family member may be abusing opioids, common symptoms of opioid abuse include: drowsiness, uncontrollable cravings, frequent flu-like symptoms, change in sleep habit and isolation. You may notice small folds of tin foil, small plastic baggies, random prescribed pills or the disappearance of your own prescription medication. These observations should not be overlooked and you should seek help.

Additionally, we all recognize that addiction is real and powerful. Overdose deaths are preventable. The U.S. Surgeon General has emphasized the importance of the overdose-reversing drug naloxone. For family and friends of people who have opioid use disorder, it is important to know how to use naloxone and keeping it within reach can save a life. Although we do not condone the use of illegal drugs, if you must use, make sure someone is with you. An opioid overdose results in the slowing of the respiratory system and in some instances it can stop your breathing. Without the immediate intervention of someone else the results can be fatal. Minnesota's Good Samaritan Law, statute 604A.05, provides immunity from prosecution for those individuals who call for help when someone else is suffering from an overdose. The goal of this statute, and ours, is to save lives in our communities.

Working together the leaders of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, the White Earth Nation, the Red Lake Nation, Beltrami County and the City of Bemidji seek to save lives and end the cycle of addiction that has tragically impacted our communities.

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month

This last year has been difficult for everyone but moving into 2021, remember that there are victims out there that are in need. In 2020, the Leech Lake Tribal Police Department opened 4 human trafficking cases, and investigated multiple Criminal Sexual Contact, Child Welfare reports, and runaways for possible trafficking ties. We look to you, the Leech Lake Tribal Community, to assist us in helping keep our reservation safe and free of this and all criminal activity.

If you suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking, call 911 or you can report directly to our offices at 218-335-8277 or, if you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact the Your Call Minnesota hotline at 877-966-6222, or text "Help" to 233733, or go to the following website for more information.

<https://yourcallmn.org/>

COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ

Prepared by Leech Lake Health Division

Who can currently get vaccinated?

All LLBO Healthcare workers, Long term care residents and dialysis patients were targeted for vaccination with the initial shipment. We are currently prioritizing all adults 75+ but are offering vaccinations to all elders 55+. We are also expanding the workforce vaccinations to include frontline essential workers in order to maintain essential services with minimal interruption.

We will continue to expand the vaccination program as vaccine supplies become available. The next target group will include persons 18-54 with high-risk medical conditions and all other essential workers.

How can I get vaccinated?

IHS eligible patients can call the COVID-19 vaccine hotline at 218-368-4763. The hotline is available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

Which vaccine is LLBO currently distributing?

To date all of the vaccines that have been distributed by LLBO have been the Pfizer vaccine. Fortunately, we have the equipment necessary to keep the Pfizer vaccine at the required storage temperature. We are equipped to utilize and distribute either vaccine.

Approximately 1500 eligible patients have been vaccinated to date.

Can a COVID-19 vaccine make me sick with COVID-19?

No. None of the authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines or COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

What are the differences between the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines?

	PFIZER	MODERNA
VACCINE TYPE	mRNA	mRNA
WHO CAN TAKE?	16 and older	18 and older
# DOSES	2	2
INTERVAL BEFORE 2ND DOS	21 days	28 days
EFFICACY (AFTER 2ND DOSE)	95%	94.1%
COMMON SIDE EFFECTS	pain at injection site, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, and fever	pain at injection site, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, and joint pain
SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS	Exceedingly rare	Exceedingly rare
STORAGE TEMPERATURE	-70°C (-94°F)	-25°C to -15°C (-13°F to 5°F)
STABILITY AT FRIDGE TEMPS	5 days	30 days

There are several different types of vaccines in development. All of them teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fever. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19.

It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity (protection against the virus that causes COVID-19) after vaccination. That means it's possible a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and still get sick. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection.

After getting a COVID-19 vaccine, will I test positive for COVID-19 on a viral test?

No. Neither the recently authorized and recommended vaccines nor the other COVID-19 vaccines currently in clinical trials in the United States can cause you to test positive on viral tests, which are used to see if you have a current infection.

If your body develops an immune response—the goal of vaccination—there is a possibility you may test positive on some antibody tests. Antibody tests indicate you had a previous infection and that you may have some level of protection against the virus. Experts are currently looking at how COVID-19 vaccination may affect antibody testing results.

Do I need to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others if I have gotten 2 doses of the vaccine?

Yes. Not enough information is currently available to say if or when CDC will stop recommending that people wear masks and avoid close contact with others to help prevent the spread of the virus that cause COVID-19.

Experts need to understand more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide in real-world conditions before making that decision. Other factors, including how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities, will also affect this decision. We also don't yet know whether getting a COVID-19 vaccine will prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to other people, even if you don't get sick yourself.

While experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, it will be important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic.

To protect yourself and others, follow these recommendations:

- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid crowds
- Avoid poorly ventilated spaces
- Wash your hands often

If I have already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, vaccine should be offered to you regardless of whether you already had COVID-19 infection. CDC is providing recommendations to federal, state, and local governments about who should be vaccinated first.

At this time, experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. The immunity someone gains from having an infection, called natural immunity, varies from person to person. Some early evidence suggests natural immunity may not last very long.

We won't know how long immunity produced by vaccination lasts until we have more data on how well the vaccines work.

Both natural immunity and vaccine-induced immunity are important aspects of COVID-19 that experts are trying to learn more about, and CDC will keep the public informed as new evidence becomes available.

Will a COVID-19 vaccination protect me from getting sick with COVID-19?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination works by teaching your immune system how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19, and this protects you from getting sick with COVID-19.

Being protected from getting sick is important because even though many people with

COVID-19 have only a mild illness, others may get a severe illness, have long-term health effects, or even die. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you, even if you don't have an increased risk of developing severe complications.

Will a COVID-19 vaccine alter my DNA?

No. COVID-19 mRNA vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way.

Messenger RNA vaccines—also called mRNA vaccines—are the first COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the United States. mRNA vaccines teach our cells how to make a protein that triggers an immune response. The mRNA from a COVID-19 vaccine never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA is kept. This means the mRNA cannot affect or interact with our DNA in any way. Instead, COVID-19 mRNA vaccines work with the body's natural defenses to safely develop immunity to disease.

At the end of the process, our bodies have learned how to protect against future infection. That immune response and making antibodies is what protects us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies.

Is it safe for me to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I would like to have a baby one day?

Yes. People who want to get pregnant in the future may receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Based on current knowledge, experts believe that COVID-19 vaccines are unlikely to pose a risk to a person trying to become pregnant in the short or long term. Scientists study every vaccine carefully for side effects immediately and for years afterward. The COVID-19 vaccines are being studied carefully now and will continue to be studied for many years, similar to other vaccines.

The COVID-19 vaccine, like other vaccines, works by training our bodies to develop antibodies to fight against the virus that causes COVID-19, to prevent future illness. There is currently no evidence that antibodies formed from COVID-19 vaccination cause any problems with pregnancy, including the development of the placenta. In addition, there is no evidence suggesting that fertility problems are a side effect of ANY vaccine. People who are trying to become pregnant now or who plan to try in the future may receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available to them.



Obituaries

Kenneth Mitchell



Kenneth Louis Mitchell, age 77, "Waabigoniigabo" which means "Standing Flower" of Cass Lake, Minnesota journeyed to the spiritual world on December 28th, 2020 from the Sanford Hospital in Fargo, North Dakota. He was born to Mary and Bert Mitchell on May 5th, 1944 on the Leech Lake Reservation.

Ken who is affectionately known by many and sometimes only as Grampa Crabby lived a life of giving and sharing. He spent his life always working to provide for his family and the many others that he cared for. After living in Minneapolis he moved back home to the Leech Lake Reservation, acquired his degree thru the Leech Lake Tribal College while single handedly raising his children Jesse and Joni. After he married his wife Sharon Enjady-Mitchell they made their home on East End Cass Lake. Together they raised their children and numerous others thru foster care and sometimes "just because they had nowhere to go". The house was always full!! Working hard right up to his retirement at Bemidji State University, Leech Lake Housing and his favorite was working as a driver transporting the Elders and community members to their appointments around the state. He did this until his retirement and freed up time for him to do his true passion!

In his rare and limited spare time Grampa Crabby really enjoyed taking his daughter

Joni around to any powwow that she wanted to attend and his favorite story was when she won First place at Ponema Powwow. He is well known for his candid ways of dancing and his umbrella hat, crow hat, socks hanging hat and of course stopping to do the Macarena dance "for the ladies". When not at powwows he truly enjoyed traveling to various ceremonies and just plain visiting anybody and everybody. He always had a stash of medicines and other objects for anyone who may need them at any given time. Many will also remember when he founded the annual Mother's Day Feast at the powwow grounds, founded the Gift of Love Christmas Toy Project, The Red Lake School Healing Run, the Denise "Grampa Duck" Memorial Run and many many other random acts of kindness to just spread joy, love and healing.

Grampa's greatest drive to live a long life was to greet his son Jesse as he made his way back home.

Family that welcomes Kenneth to the spirit world are his wife, Sharon Enjady-Mitchell; son, Trevor Bernard; parents, Mary and Bert Mitchell; granddaughter, Tanya Skinaway, all his siblings, all his aunts and uncles and numerous other relatives.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are his children, Jesse Tapio of Fairbault, Dana (Dave) Skinaway-Sam and Dalene Skinaway both of Mille Lacs, Joni (Ivan) Tapio of Minneapolis, Susan Moffett of Shakopee, Marilyn Westbrook and Gail Boswell both of Red Lake; special sisters, Bernice Mitchell-Diver and Bev Lee; special brothers, Ron Lee and Willis Burnette, 17 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, many more family members and friends.

An overnight wake for Kenneth will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 1st, 2021 and continue until his 10:00 a.m. traditional service on Saturday, January 2nd, 2021 all to be held at Kenneth's home, 012 Oak Avenue, Cass Lake, MN. Waa-maajaa'iwed is Steve Jackson. Pallbearers for Kenneth are Charles Stone, Jr., Jeffrey Mitchell, Daniel Isham, Tim Whitefeather, George Boswell and Ivan Guernsey. Alternate pallbearers are Steve Stone, David Sam and Trent Barthorpe. His honorary pallbearers are Bev and Ron Lee, Bernice Mitchell-Diver, Susie Ballott, Ellen

Adams, Willis Burnette, Charles Stone, Sr. and Jesse Tapio. Interment will be in the Boy River Cemetery at Boy Lake, MN.

Kenneth'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

Kimberly Diane (Harper)



Kimberly Diane (Harper) Libby, age 56, of Walker, MN began her journey to the spirit world on Wednesday, December 9th, 2020 from the Benedictine Living Community in Ada, MN. Kim was born on July 27th, 1964 in Chicago, IL to Marcella (Tanner) and John Harper.

Kim liked to spend sunny days at the beach with her kids and all her nieces and nephews, spending time with her daughter and her nieces and splurging at the Dollar Tree. Kim loved watching Grey's Anatomy (over and over and over) and the Minnesota Vikings. She loved to pick out the best gifts and wrapped them beautifully for her loved ones. Kim enjoyed working as a blackjack and poker dealer at the casino and with all the cute Head Start kids.

Welcoming Kim to the spirit world are her father, John Harper; step father, Sam Ardito; sisters, Evelyn, Theresa and Kelly "Bumper" Harper; grandmother, Evelyn Harper; grandparents, John and Mattie Harper; uncles, Richard, Lyman and Kenneth Tanner; auntie, Janice Tanner; her grand dog, Ruby and many more relatives.

Those she leaves behind to cherish her memory are her children, Donald Libby, Jr., Bryce Harper and Marcella Leske all of Walker; mother, Marcella Ardito of Walker; brother,

Kerry Harper of Walker; sisters, Michelle (Dan) Manos of Coon Rapids and Sammie (Eduardo) Rivera of Wisconsin; grandbabies, James Stinar and Irie Libby, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

Wake services for Kim will begin at 6:00 p.m., Saturday, December 12th and continue until her 11:00 a.m. traditional service on Monday, December 14th all being held at the Onigum Community Center in Onigum, MN. Ron Winters will be her Spiritual Advisor. Pallbearers for Kim are Buddy Braman, Donald Libby, Sr., William Tanner, Richard LaRoque, John Harper, Mark Libby and Danny Manos. Her honorary pallbearers are Kerry Harper, FireEagle DeWitt, Alex Braman, Jake Harper, Antonio Manos and Calvin Harper. Interment will be in the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery at Old Agency, MN.

Kimberly'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

Larissa "Baby Girl" Smith



Larissa "Baby Girl" Smith, age 37, of Ball Club, MN died tragically and began her journey to the spirit world from St. Mary's Essentia Health Hospital in Duluth, MN on Friday, January 8th, 2021.

Larissa Jean-Marie was born June 26, 1983 in Duluth, MN, the youngest daughter of Paul Wakanabo, Sr. and Terri Morrison. They lived in Duluth for some of her younger years. They later relocated to Ball Club, MN where Larissa and her siblings spent their childhood and adult years surrounded by many cousins and other close family members. Larissa attended school in Deer River, MN with many dear friends; Melissa, Jer,

Camille, Colleen, Amanda, Erin, and so many others. Larissa worked for Leech Lake Gaming, White Oak Casino, and Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe-T.E.P. Larissa had a vivacious personality, she was very outgoing, friendly and always made people around her laugh. Larissa made lifelong friendships everywhere she went. She was a very active community member, loved by many and was always lending a helping hand. Larissa "Baby Girl" was the center of her family, the glue to hold everyone together. Christmas of 2020 will always be one of our happiest memories, followed by family gatherings, picnics, barbeques and our Family Memorial Dinners. Memories we will cherish are the fierce "31" marathon games, our volleyball tourneys, six-mile/west bank/east bank rides and or course bungeeing down the roads.

Larissa Jean-Marie was a dedicated mother first and foremost. She treasured her children and loved every moment spent with them. No matter any obstacle she faced in life Larissa's strength carried her through. Her pride and joy were her children, guiding them and carrying them along with her.

Family that welcomes Larissa to the spirit world are her paternal grandparents, Hubert and Josephine, her maternal grandparents, Ray and Darlene and her brother Andrew Smith.

Those left behind to cherish her memory are her beloved children, Aliyah Gale, Jade Gale-Wakanabo, Hubert Wakanabo, Jaxon, Brantley and Destiny Grauman and our blessing of life and love Arianna Moe; her parents, Paul Wakanabo, Sr. and Terri Morrison; sisters, Melissa Smith and Jennifer (Ben Moe) Smith; brothers, Allen Smith and Paul Wakanabo, Jr.; aunts, Holly Fairbanks, Gina Smith and Tracy Bixby; uncle, Stuart (Gina) Smith, many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, too numerous to mention.

"And while I can't really believe that I have so much more of my own life ahead of me without my mother in it. I know that's not really true. So much of who I am is a reflection of who she was, and her example will continue to guide me as I become who I will be. Mom, you will always be a part of me. I love you." For you Mom, I am my mother's daughter.

Larissa, our Baby Girl, you will be eternally missed and forever loved. You were taken from us all way too soon, yet we will remain strong and carry your loving spirit within us. The world shall never forget our beautiful Larissa Jean-Marie. Another strong, independent Anishinabe Ikwe. She is and will always be her father's daughter.

An overnight wake for Larissa will begin at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 12th and continue until her 10:00 a.m. traditional service on Wednesday, January 13th all to be held at the Ball Club Community Center in Ball Club, MN. Waa-maajaa'iwed is Steve Jackson. Pallbearers will be Ben Moe, Doug Fairbanks, Harly Hines, Jeremy Gotchie, Mark Jimenez and Travis Gale. Her honorary pallbearers are Melissa Jenkins, Amanda Johnson and Colleen Rushman. Interment will be in the Townsite Cemetery at Ball Club, MN following her services.

Larissa'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

Michael Brown III



Michael Duane Brown III, 53 years old, of Cass Lake, Minnesota journeyed to the spirit world on Friday, January 1, 2021 from his home. He was born in Hawthorne, CA on October 23rd, 1967 to Georgianna King and Michael Brown, Jr.

Before anything else in Michael's life, his family came first. He was a family man who spent as much time with his family and friends as he could. Michael was an inspiration to many and was always offering his help to others. He loved and was always listening to music, he especially liked classic rock bands from 80's and Johnny Cash. When Michael got bored, he would head out to the woods or to the lake. He was a true outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, netting, gathering and bough picking. Michael also like tinkering with and working on cars in his spare time.

Family that welcomes Michael to the spirit world are his son, Aaron Michael Brown; mother, Georgianna King; sister, Michelle Brown; grandma, Ruth Johnson

and several other family members.

He leaves behind his children, Michael Brown IV of Cass Lake, Allen Brown of Bagley, Matthew (Roberta) Brown of Cass Lake and Alicia Dahl of Minneapolis; father, Michael (Josie) Brown, Jr. of Inger; brothers, Darrick Brown of Cass Lake and Scott Brown of Deer River; sisters, Lois (Ken) Keezer of Winnie Dam, Lisa (Rob) Hemachandra of Prescott and Tamera (Carlos) Guerra of Grand Rapids, aunt, Nancy Dudley; significant other, Chantel Plante, many grandchildren, nieces, nephews and numerous relatives and friends.

Wake services for Michael will begin at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 6th and continue until his 11:00 a.m. funeral service on Friday, January 8th all taking place at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Pastor Leonard Fineday will officiate. Pallbearers for Michael will be Vern Howard, Marvin Littlewolf, Scott Brown, Darrick Brown, Skip Lyons and Otto Reyes. Alternate pallbearers are Dennis Littlewolf, Ronnie Roy and Jerome Roy. His honorary pallbearers are all his children and grandkids. Interment will be in the Pine Grove Cemetery at Cass Lake, MN following his Friday service.

Michael'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

Richard Cutbank, Sr.



Richard Joseph Cutbank, Sr., "Bim-We-We", age 84, of Pennington, Minnesota went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, December 7th, 2020 from the Sanford Hospital in Bemidji, MN. He was born in Cass River, MN on November 3rd, 1936, the son of Sara and Harry Cutbank, Sr.

Richard achieved his Journeyman's license in 1968 from the Dunwoody Institute. He later started AC Electric and was the only

electrician on the Leech Lake Reservation until his retirement in 1996. Richard also used his knowledge to train many apprentices. He was very proud of his son-in-laws, Larry and Robin and his grandson John for following in his footsteps becoming electricians themselves. Following his retirement, he traveled the entire country and had friends from Alaska to Texas. Richard loved God and church and his true passion was his Lord and Savior. He enjoyed playing guitar, which he was self-taught, and singing for God and family. He held revival meetings from 1981 up until his passing. People would come from all over the country to be a part of these revivals. Richard helped out with music at the Assembly Church of Ebro and would take his worship team to various nursing homes and senior centers. He was proud to have his grandson, Jeff, help out with music. For several years he would sing and play at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds. He loved to eat, especially fry bread. Richard was also the founder of the Pennington Revival Center, Church of the Wildwood where he pastored for over twenty years. He was a member of the Leech Lake Ojibwe Hymn singers. Richard was loved by many and he had numerous friends. He loved and missed his family that had passed on before him every day. Richard will be missed by his family for all the teasing he did, especially to his wife Lila and all his grandchildren.

Family that Richard is reunited with are his wife, Angeline Benais Cutbank; only son, Richard Cutbank, Jr.; parents, Sara and Harry Cutbank, Sr.; grandson, Terry Loeken, Jr., all his brothers and sister, other grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He leaves behind his wife, Lila Cutbank of Pennington; daughters, Roselyn (Terry Sr.) Loeken of Pennington, Beverly (Jesse) Guernsey of Bemidji, Rebecca (Robin Sr.) Windom of Wilkinon, Bonnie L. Knutson of Pennington, and Angela B. (Lawrence) Starr of Cass Lake; step children, Catherine Adell (Mattingly) Torres and her husband Martin, Franklin P. Mattingly, Jr. and his wife Joy, and Margaret L.J. (Mattingly) Tilton and her husband Andy; 26 grandchildren, numerous great and great-great grandchildren, special friend and mentor, Dale Smith; his friend and pastor, Tim Brown and numerous nieces, nephews and relatives.

Wake services for Richard will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10th and continue until his 11:00 a.m. funeral service on Saturday, December 12th all to be held at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Pastor and friend Tim Brown will officiate. Pallbearers for Richard will be...



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
Child(ren) of Carla Gotchie

Court File No. CP-19-08

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on October 20, 2020, a **Suspension of Parental Rights was filed** in Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. The next hearing date is Monday, January 25, 2021 at 10:30 am. Please contact the Court for a copy of the Petition at (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re: Estate of: Ramona Rose
Jackson, DOB: 08/24/1959. Decedent.

Court File No. CV-20-59

NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Ramona Rose Jackson, died May 2, 2020. **A hearing was held before the Honorable David Harrington, Deputy Judge of the above-named Tribal Court**

located in the Leech Lake Tribal Justice Center, 200 Sailstar Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 24th, day of November, 2020 at 11:30 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Opalina Peralta, surviving daughter of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on November 24, 2020, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Opalina Peralta, 10141 Washington Ave. S. #8 Bemidji, MN 56601 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Ramona Jackson, decedent.

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

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Name Change of: K.J.S-S., Minor Child, DOB: 05/04/2012; G.J.S-S., Minor Child, DOB: 04/15/2014.

Michaela Fairbanks, Petitioner/
Applicant; Valerie St. Cyr and Steven Schaaf, Respondents

Case No. CV-20-67

CV-20-68

NOTICE OF HEARING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that **a(n) Hearing in the above-entitled matter will be held on February 25th, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.** in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom, Tribal Justice Center, in Cass Lake, Minnesota. The hearing will be before the Honorable David Harrington, Deputy Judge of Tribal Court. You are required to appear at the above time and place for the hearing.

If the petitioner fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, the matter may be dismissed by the Court.

If the respondent fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, default judgment may be taken against you at that time and the requested relieve may be granted to the petitioner.

You are served with this notice via legal publication in the DeBahJiMon in two consecutive issues (Leech Lake Judicial Code, Title 2, Part II, Rule 5, Section C(5)) because you are a party to this proceeding or you are a person whose presence is important to determination concerning your child.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re the Guardianship of: A.H., DOB: 06/06/2012. Sheila Lyons, Petitioner; Marilyn Wind, Intervenor, and Melissa Wakonabo, Respondent.

Case No. FA-19-26

NOTICE

OF HEARING TO: All Parties of Record, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that **a(n) Review Hearing in the above-entitled matter will be held on February 25th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom, Tribal Justice Center, in Cass Lake, Minnesota. The hearing will be before the Honorable David Harrington, Deputy Judge of Tribal Court. You are required to appear at the above time and place for the hearing.

If the petitioner fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, the matter may be dismissed by the Court.

If the respondent fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, default judgment may be taken against you at that time and the requested relieve may be granted to the petitioner.

You are served with this notice via legal publication in the DeBahJiMon in two consecutive issues (Leech Lake Judicial Code, Title 2, Part II, Rule 5, Section C(5)) because you are a party to this proceeding or you are a person whose presence is important to determination concerning your child.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re the Guardianship of: C.H.L., DOB: 01/09/2013. Terri O'Shea, Petitioner; and Gerri LaRose & Robert Holstein, Respondents.

Case No. FA-20-97

NOTICE OF HEARING TO: All Parties of Record, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that **a(n) Initial Hearing in the above-entitled matter will be held on March 9th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom, Tribal Justice Center, in Cass Lake, Minnesota. The hearing will be before the Honorable David Harrington, Deputy Judge of Tribal Court. You are required to appear at the above time and place for the hearing.

If the petitioner fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, the matter may be dismissed by the Court.

If the respondent fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, default judgment may be taken against you at that time and the requested relieve may be granted to the petitioner.

You are served with this notice via legal publication in the DeBahJiMon in two consecutive issues (Leech Lake Judicial Code, Title 2, Part II, Rule 5, Section C(5)) because you are a party to this proceeding or you are a person whose presence is important to determination concerning your child.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re the Custody of: V.R., Minor Child, DOB: 07/25/2016; V.R, Minor Child, DOB: 02/20/2018.

Joshua E. Wind, Petitioner, And
Winona Redday, Respondent.

Case No. FA-20-59

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on June 24, 2020, a **Petition for Custody and Parenting Time 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 February 25th, 2021 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 date and time may result in a default judgment being entered against you, the respondents, at that time for the relief requested in the Petition, and any other relief may be granted as prayed for by the petitioner.

You are served with this notice via legal publication in the DeBahJiMon in two consecutive issues (Leech Lake Judicial Code, Title 2, Part II, Rule 5, Section C(5)) because you are a party to this proceeding or you are a person whose presence is important to a determination concerning your child.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the
Child(ren) of: Sloane Dunn

Court File No. CP-20-27

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 14, 2020, a **Transfer of Legal Custody Petition 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 this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you.

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Stephanie Cloud and Lawrence Charette

Court File No. CP-09-28

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on October 26, 2020, a **Transfer of Legal Custody Petition 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 this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you.

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Tracy Jackson/Norman Goggleye

Court File No. CP-15-42

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on January 13, 2021, a **Review Hearing is scheduled**. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for the next hearing date and time. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you.

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Margaret Robinson

Court File No. CP-18-22

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on August 31, 2020, a **Transfer of Legal Custody Petition 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 this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you.

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Kelli Norton and Jared Norton

Court File No. CP-20-06

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on October 7, 2020, an **Emer-**

gency Child/Family Protection Petition 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 this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you.

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

In the matter of: Beverly Jacobs, Petitioner, and Pamela Jacobs, Respondent

Case No. CV-20-83

NOTICE

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT, **An Emergency Order for Protection has been issued** based on the Affidavit and Petitioner for Order for Protection in this matter. If you fail to respond to this petition, judgement 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 OR THE PROCEEDING DISMISSED:

- 1) RESPONDENT SHALL NOT COMMIT ACTS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE AGAINST THE PETITIONER.
- 2) RESPONDENT MUST NOT HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH PETITIONER WHETHER IN PERSON, WITH OR THROUGH OTHER PERSON, BY TELEPHONE, LETTER, OR ANY OTHER WAY.

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

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

In Re the Guardianship of: M.L.M., DOB: 02/23/2005. Amanda Caccia, Petitioner and Danielle Birt & David Staples, Respondents

Case No. FA-17-193

NOTICE

TO All parties of Record. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that **a(n) Permanent Guardianship Hearing in the above-entitled matter will be held on March 25th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom, Tribal Justice Center, in Cass Lake, Minnesota. The hearing will be before the Honorable David Harrington, Deputy Judge of Tribal Court. You are required to appear at the above time and place for the hearing.

If the petitioner fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, the matter may be dismissed by the Court.

If the respondent fails to appear at the Leech Lake Tribal Court at the above date and time for the hearing, default judgment may be taken against you at that time and the requested relieve may be granted to the petitioner.

You are served with this notice via legal publication in the DeBahJiMon in two consecutive issues (Leech Lake Judicial Code, Title 2, Part II, Rule 5, Section C(5) because you are a party to this proceeding or you are a person whose presence is important to determination concerning your child.

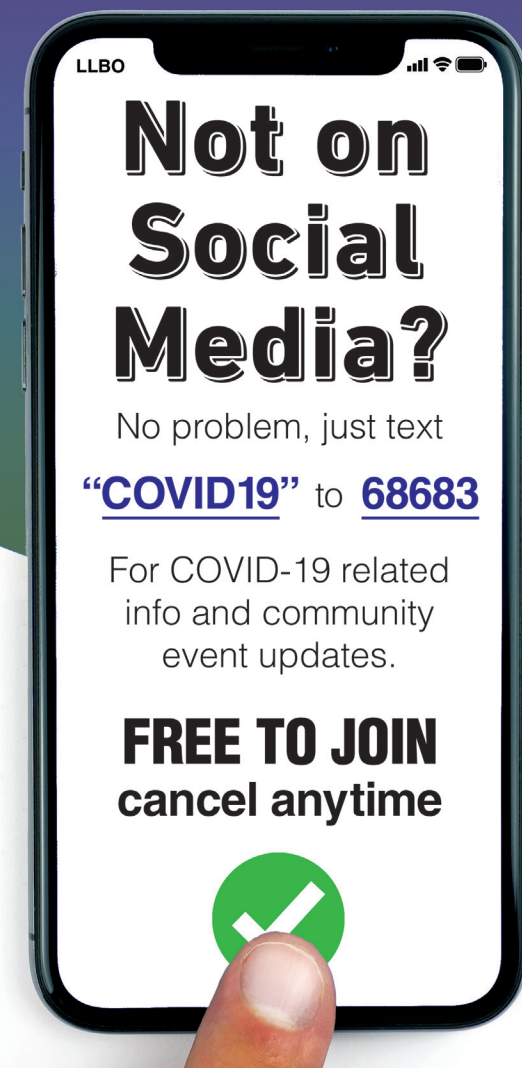


VACCINE HOTLINE (218) 368-4763



**-Support 24 Hours a day, 7 days a week
-All callers must be IHS eligible**

Miigwech for your support and patience as we work through this process to make our communities strong and safe.



January is National Radon Action Month!



Radon is a radioactive gas naturally produced from the decay of elements found in the dirt underneath our homes. Our homes on Leech Lake Reservation range from low to high levels. Even though we cannot see radon or smell it – Radon is real! It is an Invisible, odorless radioactive gas that is bad for our lungs. Radon is the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. for people who don't smoke. Radon is responsible for an estimated 21,000 deaths from lung cancer each year. Radon can cause lung cancer when exposed to it over a long time.

Many of us live in houses that are well sealed from the outdoor air. This can cause a problem since radon can build up to high levels in our homes. Your home might have high levels of radon and you wouldn't even know it. No matter what type of home you live in: brand new and airtight or old and drafty radon isn't picky. To date we have assisted almost 400 Leech Lakers in making their homes safer by reducing their radon. Join us in reducing radon across Leech Lake Reservation. Harm to our lungs can be prevented, we just have to test!

Protect your Family – Prevent Lung cancer – Test your Home.

Contact: Radon Technician at 218-335-3716 or DRM Air Quality Specialist at 218-335-7441

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Summary of Job Openings

www.llojibwe.org | drop off or mail documents to:

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe – Human Resources

115 Sixth St. NW, Suite E - Cass Lake, MN 56633

Fax documents to: 1-218-335-3697

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

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CLOSE FEBRUARY 5, 2021

Shelter Technician (Bena Shelter - Full Time) ~ Human Services ~ Job Code: 21-006

Shelter Technician (Bena Shelter - Part Time) ~ Human Services ~ Job Code: 21-007

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Accounting IT Systems Technician ~ Administration ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 21-002

Opioid Treatment Facilities Manager ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 21-003

Environmental Justice Liaison ~ Resource Management ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 21-004

Tribal Planner (2) ~ Tribal Development ~ D.O.Q. ~ Job Code: 21-005

Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders

January Birthdays

District I

Wanda Bellanger
Josephine Brown
Edward Howard Jr.
Sherry Jenkins
Helen Johnson
Samuel Johnson Jr.
Dianna Kingbird
Charles Morrison
Katherine Sheffield
Douglas Stately
Leona Wakanabo
Edith Wilson

From the
District I Office
Robbie, Stephanie, &
Zagajiw

District II

James Campbell
Richard Losh
Walter "Butch" Chase III
Bonnie Fairbanks-Stangel

From the
District II Office
Steve, Lindsey, &
Michelle



Delores Fairbanks
Johnny Fairbanks
Kathryn Fairbanks
Priscilla Fairbanks
Jewel Finn
Jennifer French
Cynthia Gale
Claircy Gonzales
Coleen Gullickson
Howard Hardy
Ronald Hare
Jeffrey Harper
Douglas Harrison
Loren Howard
Lorie Howard
Rosetta Howard
Teri Howard

District III*

Vikki Howard
Wallace Humphrey
Patricia Jackson
Carol Jenkins
Cheryl Johnson
Nancy Johnson
Annabel Kingbird
Margery Kumalae
Helen Lindemann
Francis Littlewolf
Rosalie Lovelace
Kim Lucero
Jeffrey Lyons
Deborah MacKinnon
Larry Madigan
Arthur Mainville
Betsy McCormack

Jerry Morgan
Ernestine Morgan-Johnson
Tracy Morrow
James Nason
Jay Nordmarken
Russell Northbird
Vernon Northbird
Roberta Olson
Lawrence Otto
Jacqueline Peltier
Barbara Perleberg
Teresa Northbird-Persell
Jerry Reyes
Carol Rober
Debbi Roberts
Larry Robinson
Bernard Rock

Eugene Rock
Lianne Ryan
Dewayne Smith
George Smith
John Smith
Samuel Smith
Alexander Stolitza
Wallace Storbakken
Victoria White
Nancy Whitebird
Gloria Wilson
Gregory Wright
Ricky Wuori
Todd Wuori
From the
District III Office
LeRoy, Toni & Kari

All coupons must be used within Birthday Month

S. Lake Community Center Plans Completed

CASS LAKE – The S. Lake community will soon have a new community center.

The area's original community center built in the early 90's, has been in need of substantial update, which led LLBO to replace the build and break ground on a new center in early November 2020.

The building which was designed, with input from LLBO and the S. Lake LIC is expected to feature a commercial kitchen, a half-court gym, an upgraded meeting space, expanded bathroom facilities and a sauna. Bringing the design to life is Hawk Construction, in coordination with LLBO's TERO program.

The community center is expected to be completed Summer 2021 and will be located at: 60162 Co. Hwy 4, S. Lake, MN, 56681

COVID-19 Testing Information for Leech Lake Reservation, provided by Cass Lake IHS

Cumulative as of January 25, 2021:

-4548 Total tested at IHS

-550 positive

-3998 negative

-0 pending results

Active cases on L.L. Reservation: 11*

Recovered cases on L.L. Reservation: 407*

***NOTE from IHS:** The active/recovered cases living on L.L. Reservation are cases that are tested positive both at Cass Lake I.H.S as well as positive test results that were performed at facilities off of the L.L. Reservation. We are starting to see more cases tested off of the reservation and there is a delay for us to receive these positive results. We will continue update the numbers each day as we get new cases both in-house and from off-reservation facilities/laboratories. Some cases that are initially active L.L. Reservation cases may be found to live off of the reservation during the interview and will drop off appropriately.

If you are experiencing symptoms or have been exposed, please call the Cass Lake IHS COVID hotline at 335-3426 or 335-3427 Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. If you are experiencing shortness of breath, please contact the Emergency Department at 335-3327 or dial 911.

► Obituaries Continued

...Daniel Loeken, John Loeken, Neil Cutbank, Christopher Miettinen, Sr., Wakon Windom, Shaun Windom, J.T. L. Knutson, Jeff Oakgrove and Jack Cutbank. His honorary pallbearers are Gary Miettinen, Jr., Christopher Miettinen, Jr., Scott Miettinen, Robin Windom, Jr., Kyote Windom, Deland Starr, Walter Chase, Archie LaRose, Nancy Daugherty, Judy Northbird, Jay Northbird and Cody Orlando Knutson. Interment will be in the John Brown Cutbank Cemetery at Pennington, MN following his Saturday service. Richard's family requests that if you are not feeling well to please stay home and if you attended services please wear a mask. The family would also like to thank the Leech Lake Tribal Council and other friends from RTC for all your support and help.

Richard'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

Margaret "Mackie" Madeline



Margaret "Mackie" Madeline (Beaulieu-Lincoln) Smith, age of 77, from Cass Lake, Minnesota was called home to her Lord and Savior on Saturday, December 12th, 2020 from the Sanford Hospital in Bemidji, MN. She was born on September 23rd, 1943 in Cass Lake, MN to Delores Butcher-Beaulieu and Joseph Lincoln.

Margaret lived her early years in Red Lake, Walker, Onigum and Bemidji. She worked for the Leech Lake Reservation, at the Shooting Star Casino and for Beltrami and Cass County Human Services. When she was not working, she was busy raising numerous grandchildren and three of her great grandchildren. Margaret enjoyed going to country music concerts and she loved, and I mean loved her Elvis Presley.

She watched the Minnesota Vikings play football every Sunday ...but her favorite teams were the Dallas Cowboys and the Green Bay Packers. She also enjoyed watching the WWE every week.

Family that Margaret is reunited with are her husband, Kenneth Joseph Smith; daughter, Brenda; parents, Delores Day and Joseph Lincoln; grandparents, Elizabeth Aitken LaJeunesse and Arthur Butcher; siblings, Curtis, Bonnie, Iva and Robert and a granddaughter, Jaime.

She leaves behind her children, Bonnie (Joe) Beaulieu and Beverly Beaulieu both of Cass Lake, Robert Beaulieu of Bemidji, Kenneth Smith, Sr. and Dallas Smith both of Cass Lake; sister, Diana Fisherman; brother, Jim Day, 16 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A wake for Margaret will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 16th and will continue until her 1:00 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, December 18th all to be held at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Pallbearers for Margaret are Brandon Beaulieu, Darrick Beaulieu, Ken Smith, Jr., John White, Michael Dunkley III and Jordan Beaulieu-Gawboy. Alternate pallbearers are Scott White, Ralph White and Aaron Jones, Jr. Her honorary pallbearers are Evie Monroe, Gloria Jean Beaulieu, all her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Interment will be in the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery at Old Agency, MN.

Margaret'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.

Lloyd Fisherman

Lloyd C. Fisherman, age 68, of Cass Lake, MN passed away on Friday, December 25, 2020 at his home.

Lloyd was born on October 30, 1952 in Cass Lake, MN to Christina Rosebear and Donald Fisherman. He grew up near Ball Club and Sugar Point. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1973. After his honorable discharge Lloyd returned to Northern Minnesota. Lloyd was a ladies man and enjoyed travelling around making beautiful children. He enjoyed going to Pow Wows and dancing. He was quick to laugh, loved music and hanging out with family and friends. He also liked going to the casino and fishing.

He is survived by his step-mother, Nancy

Whitebird; three sisters: Pearl (Ronald) Battles, Linda Fisherman and Lori Gale; numerous daughters, sons and grandchildren as well as numerous other relatives and friends who loved him dearly.

Lloyd was preceded in death by his parents, his adoptive parents: Frank and Dolly Robinson; two brothers: John Fisherman and Skel Fisherman; three sisters: Lisa Fisherman, Tracy Gale and Patti Gale; and three grandchildren: Syrai Blue, Rael Fisherman and Sammy Wilson.

The wake will begin at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, December 30, 2020 at the Veterans Memorial Building in Cass Lake and continue until the service at 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, December 31, 2020. Masks will be required and please practice social distancing. Casketbearers will be: Eric Fairbanks, Jay Fisherman, Neil LaDuke, Scott London, Trayshawn McMorris and Leonard Beaudreau. Honorary casketbearers will be Lloyd's children and grandchildren. Interment will be at the Veterans Cemetery in Cass Lake. Arrangements provided by Whispering Pines Funeral & Cremation Service of Walker (www.whisperingpinesnorth.com).

Homer Hough, Jr.



Homer Glenn Hough, Jr., 80, peacefully passed away, Sunday, December 6, 2020 at his home in Laporte, MN, from metastatic cancer. He is survived by his 3 children, Jeffrey (Peggy) Hough, Coon Rapids, Melanie Hough, Laporte, and Stacy Goodwin (Charles Lussier) Pennington; his sister Lavina Brogger, St. Paul; 8 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Karen, his parents Homer and Nellie(Waldrop) brothers George, Jack and Joe., and sisters Martha, Jeannette, Margaret and MaryAnn.

Due to COVID-19, a Celebration of Life will be in the Spring/Summer when we can gather graveside as friends and family for interment of both Homer and Karen, date and time to be arranged and announced at a later date.



2020 A Year in Review

A look back to the events and important dates in 2020 for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

JAN

January 10, 2020
LLBO Quarterly Meeting held at Ball Club Community Center.

January 11, 2020
Leech Lake DRM begins Hosting Saturdays on the Ice for area youth.

FEB

February 7, 2020
LLBO Tribal Council holds candidate certification meeting for 2020 Elections.

February 14, 2020
Annual MMIW Solidarity Walk takes place in Bemidji, MN.

February 15-17, 2020
Children's Winterfest held across three sites within Leech Lake: Cass Lake H.S., Deer River H.S. and Bug O Nay Ge Shig School.

MAR

March 6, 2020
LLBO State of the Band and Quarterly Report at Northern Lights Event Center.

March 12, 2020
LLBO Tribal Council declares COVID-19 threat a Public Health Emergency, establishes Incident Management Team.

March 15, 2020
Enacting proactive measures along with the State, LLBO closes Bug O Nay Ge Shig School and all Early Head Start programs.

March 18, 2020
LLBO Tribal Council unanimously votes to temporarily close it's gaming sites due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

March 24, 2020
MCT postpones 2020 Tribal Elections.

March 26, 2020
Following State's lead, LLBO announces Stay at Home Order requiring all Reservation residents to shelter in place due to COVID-19.

APR

April 11, 2020
LLBO extends Stay at Home order for all Reservation residents.

April 22, 2020
LL DRM hosts Virtual Earth Week celebration providing activities and info for families to help our planet.

MAY

May 8th, 2020
LL DRM holds Annual Tree Shrub Giveaway with curb-side pick up service.

May 8, 2020
LL DRM holds Annual Tree Shrub Giveaway with curb-side pick up service.

May 11, 2020
First COVID-19 case confirmed within Leech Lake Reservation boundaries.

May 22, 2020
LLTC holds drive through celebration for Spring Graduation.

JUN

June 1, 2020
LLBO Tribal Council lifts the Stay at Home order put in place in March.

June 2, 2020
LLBO Council Members along with staff and volunteers visit Minneapolis and the locals who patrolled and protected Native spaces during George Floyd /police brutality protests.

June 9, 2020
MCT Primary Elections take place for LLBO Chairperson and LLBO District III Representative.

June 10, 2020
MCT Primary Election results are certified declaring Faron Jackson Sr. Chairman winner and LeRoy Staples-Fairbanks District III winner.

June 22, 2020
LLBO prepares phase 1 of a three phase plan in re-opening tribe's gaming operations.

June 29, 2020
After many postponements, LLBO Pow Wow Committee cancels all remaining 2020 Leech Lake Pow Wows.

JUL

July 16, 2020
LLBO issues resolution requiring face coverings for all staff and patrons in public areas and buildings.

July 22, 2020
LLBO prepares Emergency Relief Assistance Program for Band members.

July 29, 2020
LLBO Housing Authority hosts it's Annual Two Spirit Celebration Event via Facebook Live.

AUG

August 8, 2020
LLTC holds 2020 Graduation Ceremony.

August 18, 2020
LLBO holds General Election for Housing Authority Board, Bug O Nay Ge Shig School Board and Local LIC's for Districts I, II and III.

August 22, 2020
Leech Lake DRM opens lakes for beginning of 2020 ricing season.

SEP

September 2, 2020
District I hosts meet & greet with Local State Candidates for upcoming U.S. General Election.

September 23, 2020
LLBO DRM concludes the 2020 ricing season for Leech Lake.

OCT

October 9, 2020
LLBO holds the 2020 Virtual Inauguration Ceremony for winners of the 2020 Tribal Elections.

October 12, 2020
Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations take place in Bemidji, MN.

October 16, 2020
LLBO Quarterly Meeting held at Northern Lights Casino Event Center in Walker, MN.

October 16, 2020
LLBO Council Members, staff and Local Candidates take part in DFL Early Vote Engagement Event for upcoming Elections.

October 31, 2020
LLBO holds Treat for Tots drive thru event for Leech Lake across 4 sites, Walker, Cass Lake, Deer River and Bena.

NOV

November 4, 2020
LLBO Tribal Council approves direct mail gift cards in place of the Annual turkey and wild rice giveaway with COVID-19 safety in mind.

November 19, 2020
LLTC celebrates Give to the Max Day with online auctions and donation drive.

DEC

December 3, 2020
U.S. House of Representatives passes Leech Lake Restoration Act returning Forest Service Lands back to Leech Lake Trust.

December 14, 2020
Cass Lake IHS receives first doses of COVID-19 vaccines.

December 20, 2020
LLBO holds Annual Toys for Tots Program supplying area families with gifts for the Holiday Season.

December 21, 2020
District III holds event to distribute gift bags to District III Elders in drive thru service.

