Broadband Grant
LLBO has been awarded a Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Grant in the amount of 18.7 million dollars.

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Quarterly Meeting
Leech Lake Tribal Council and Division Directors recently hosted the Band’s Quarterly Meeting in Sugar Point.

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Gweyakmin wiisinidaa
LLBO Food Distribution and SHIP Team Members offer up a delicious beef taco with refried beans recipe for January.

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2022 Year in Review
A look back at the events and important dates that occurred in the year 2022 for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

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Neighboring Tribal Flags Now Displayed in Lobby of Bemidji City Hall

Leech Lake, White Earth and Red Lake Flags installed during ceremony on December 19, 2022.

By KAYLA DUOOS

BEMIDJI – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal flag was recently installed at Bemidji City Hall.

On December 5th, the Bemidji City Council approved three resolutions supporting the display of flags of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Red Lake Nation, and White Earth Band of Ojibwe at City Hall. The flags were installed Monday, Dec. 19th in the Bemidji City hall lobby.

The Bemidji City Council said the move to display Tribal flags is part of their initiative to “represent the relationships with each of the three neighboring nation’s governments and make city hall a more welcoming space for Bemidji’s Native American residents.”

The flag ceremony included an invocation, followed by a presentation of flags by the Leech Lake, White Earth, and Red Lake veteran honor guards. Little Bear Singers provided the flag and traveling songs. Tribal leaders, Bemidji City Council and community members attended the event.

Community members can visit Bemidji City Hall, at 317 4th St NW, Bemidji, MN 56601, M-F 8-4:30 to see the flags on display.

The three Tribal Flags on display in the City Hall lobby.

LLBO Chairman Jackson Appointed to MN Commission

By KAYLA DUOOS

ST. PAUL – Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Chairman Faron Jackson has been appointed to the MN Commission on Judicial Selection.

Jackson was appointed to the commission by Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan. The Governor’s appointees include six at-large members and 20 district members, two from each of the ten judicial districts. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor previously announced the reappointment of Erin Sindberg Porter as the chair of the commission.

The Commission on Judicial Selection solicits, considers, and recommends candidates to the Governor for vacancies in the district courts and the Workers’ Compensation Court of Appeals. The commission is comprised of nine at-large members, including the chair, and four district members from each of the ten judicial districts. Members are a mix of attorneys and non-attorneys.

The Governor appoints 27 members, and the Minnesota Supreme Court appoints 22 members to the commission.

Judicial Selection Commission:
- Chair, Faron Jackson Sr. – Onigum, MN
- Sheree Curry – Maple Grove, MN
- Patrick Mader – Northfield, MN
- Justin Page – Minneapolis, MN
- Nathanial Stumme – Duluth, MN
- Joshua Tuchscherrer – Lakeville, MN
- X. Kevin Zhao – St. Paul, MN
- Richard Gorman – Red Wing, MN
- David Metzen – Mendota Heights, MN
- Kenya Boddin – St. Paul, MN
- Julio Zelaya – St. Paul, MN
- Robert Gilbertson – Faribault, MN
- Dr. Jeffery Boyd – Rochester, MN
- Roxanna Gonzalez – Minneapolis, MN
- Shawn Judge – Minneapolis, MN
- Lynn Johnson – Slayton, MN
- Dawn Campbell – Mankato, MN
- Daniel Lew – Duluth, MN
- Dr. Timothy Myles – Floodwood, MN
- Kendra Olson – Elizabeth, MN
- Melvin Whitney – Dilworth, MN
- Brianna Zuber Beckwith – Glenwood, MN
- Timothy Lindberg – Morris, MN
- Caleb Dogeagle – Brainerd, MN
- Virginia Murphrey – Anoka, MN
- Sharon Van Leer – Woodbury, MN

Additional information about the Commission on Judicial Selection can be found on the Judicial Appointments website.
**GAA MIINIGOOWIZIYANG**

“What we were Given” by the Manidoo Ogitigaan Organization, on display at Bemidji Watermark Art Center.

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE – A new exhibit has opened at Bemidji’s Watermark Art Center, Miikinaan gallery.

The Miikinaan gallery which is home to the center’s Traditional art exhibits is hosting Gaa-miinigoowiziyang “What We were Given.” December 8, 2022 – February 18, 2023.

The exhibit features the work of Manidoo Ogitigaan Native Artists & Allies. Manidoo Ogitigaan is a Native grassroots organization based in Bemidji, Minnesota with connections spanning throughout the United States and Canada. Together with the Great Lakes Lifeways Institute based out of Michigan and Obashiong University, they teach, share and relearn land-based life skills that include birch bark canoe building, basketry, woodworking, and weaving.

Manidoo Ogitigaan and Great Lakes Lifeways Institute work together to revitalize art forms and cultural knowledge in a meaningful way while bridging gaps and building lasting relationships to rebuild a cultural legacy for seven generations to come.

The art featured in the exhibit will be from community members from various backgrounds who have attended the organization’s workshops and participated in their Artist Collective. Among those whose pieces are in the exhibit include Leech Lake, Red Lake, and White Earth band members.

“We are honored to build relationships with Indigenous people throughout Turtle Island and respect our relationship with the land and people from many walks of life who are connected to Anishinaabe communities through personal and meaningful relationships,” said the organization.

In association with the exhibit, Mary Moose, a first-language Ojibwe and Cree speaker from Nishnawbe-Aski Nation in Ontario will present Ojibwe Storytelling from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on February 3 and Ojibwe Star Knowledge with Joseph Sutherland from 1 to 3 p.m. on February 4 at Watermark.

Sponsorship for this exhibit comes from Minnesota Public Radio and is made possible in part by the Blandin Foundation and the McKnight Foundation.

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**Informational Signage Project Underway by LLBO and CNF**

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE- New signage acknowledging the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe will soon be seen within the Chippewa National Forest.

A team composed of Forest Service, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (LLBO), and Leech Lake Tribal College employees have been meeting to develop informational fliers for Chippewa National Forest (CNF) campgrounds and recreation areas that acknowledge LLBO’s relationship to the land in the past and present.

The project was initiated by LLBO and CNF staff, with participation of CNF campgrounds with signage could achieve.

An important part of this project is to directly connect Chippewa National Forest campgrounds with the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. The objective of the signs is to help visitors better understand that they are camping within the Leech Lake Reservation as well as on the National Forest.”

The first step in the project is to create informational fliers for each of the National Forest campgrounds. The second stage of the project will be to expand the information from the fliers and create permanent interpretive signs that will be placed at each campground.

The team is currently working on the fliers and hope to connect with the community to hear stories and learn more about the connections that Leech Lake citizens have with these places. The fliers will each include a welcome message, introduce the campground, and share information about the place from the perspective of the Leech Lake Band.

A community meeting on the signage was held, Thursday, January 12, 2023 at the Leech Lake Tribal College. Attendees learned more about the project and were given the opportunity to share stories about the CNF.

For more information on the sign or to offer your input, contact Marcie Gotchie at marcie.gotchie@usda.gov.

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**Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Police**

**2022 Illegal Drug Statistics**

SUBMITTED BY KEN WASHINGTON | TRIBAL POLICE CHIEF

In 2022 Leech Lake Tribal Police Officers continued to work with the community and its partner agencies trying to combat the sales of illegal drugs coming onto the Reservation. In a year that has seen an increase in Fentanyl overdoses being responded to, the daily fight to keep these harmful substances out of the Reservation continues. It is with the Communities help that the items listed below were able to be seized and removed.

During these efforts Leech Lake Tribal Police Officers also seized twenty-two (22) firearms, consisting of both handguns and long guns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Approximate total of seized drugs in 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Methamphetamine</td>
<td>384.71 grams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processed Marijuana</td>
<td>399.84 grams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fentanyl</td>
<td>461.73 grams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powder Cocaine</td>
<td>31.74 grams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabapentin Prescription Pills</td>
<td>187 pills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The approximate street value of the above listed drugs is $119,327. “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.”

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) 335-7118, or via tips@llpolice.org
Chairman’s Report

GOVERNOR TIM WALZ
- State of Minnesota Executive Department has a Notice of Appointment for Chairman Faron Jackson, Sr. The Notice of Appointment will be for the Ninth Judicial District Non-Attorney Member Commission on Judicial Selection that will be effective January 10, 2023. This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State. Signed and sealed January 5, 2023 with the Governor Walz’s and Secretary of State Simon’s signatures.

ENROLLMENT MEMBERSHIP
- At the October 28, 2022 Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Tribal Executive Committee meeting at Northern Lights Casino. Chairman Jackson, Sr. had a motion to approve resolution 32-15, second by Leech Lake Secretary-Treasurer, roll call vote of the MCT, TEC, and motion passed with 11 for and 0 against. In 2015, the MCT, TEC had passed Resolution No. 32-15 with a vote of 11-0 in favor had stated, “other Chippewa blood and that blood should not be excluded when determining eligibility for tribal membership.”
- After further review, the Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the MCT, MN, under Article II – Membership, Section 1., (a) Basic Membership Roll states, “All persons of Minnesota Chippewa Blood whose names appear on the annuity roll of April 14, 1941, prepared pursuant to the Treaty...the basic membership roll of the Tribe.” The MCT Constitution is very clear that the “Basic Membership Roll” is Minnesota Chippewa Indian Blood in 1941 and predates the MCT Constitution. Interesting enough, this section of the constitution does not state the specific Band(s), such as Leech Lake.
- On July 12, 2021, Chairman Jackson at the MCT, TEC meeting had stated, “Leech Lake had thought each tribe should be able to decide its own enrollment...I believe that is a sovereign right.” Other MCT Ordinances have been changed by a MCT, TEC vote and the Enrollment Ordinance just has to follow the MCT Constitution, Article II, Section 1., (a) Basic Membership Roll states, “All persons of Minnesota Chippewa Indian Blood.” This starting point will allow us to work in tandem with the MCT constitutional delegation committee to strengthen our enrollment process and procedures.
- The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe is a tribal organization that has been addressing the Enrollment question since 2015. The MCT, TEC can revise the Enrollment Ordinance by adding Chippewa Blood and/or adding the Band(s) individually shall determine their own membership requirements by just following the MCT Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 1., (a) Basis Membership Roll—Minnesota Chippewa Indian Blood.

AHNJI-BE-MAH-DIZ RECOVERY CENTER FUNDING
- United States Senators Tina Smith and Amy Klobuchar had drafted language in a Congressional Bill that will be authorizing $850,000.00 dollars for the Ahnji-Be-Mah-Diz Recovery Center. The funding will address significant facility deficiencies to the recovery center that includes a new roof, windows, doors, and enhanced security. This funding is “congressionally directed spending” included in the 2023 federal budget bill before Congress.

BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION INFRASTRUCTURE LAW
- The Leech Lake Band had been awarded $18,797,452.00 dollars for broadband infrastructure deployment project will install fiber and fixed wireless directly to 4,399 underserved Native American households, who qualify for broadband service (fiber to home). The Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration announced today it has awarded 2 grants, totaling more than $36 million. These grants will expand high-speed internet service network deployment and digital skills training to improve access to education, jobs, and healthcare on Tribal lands.

GIAN WOOD MILL
- Huber Engineered Woods is a wood mill factory that creates strand board or OSB. Huber is proposing a location that is near the border of the Leech Lake Reservation. Huber will consume 400,000 cords of timber annually or 200 square miles of forest. Huber has requested a meeting with the Leech Lake RTC to discuss any issues. The RTC has passed Resolution no. 2022-046 – Resolution to Oppose Constructing the Humber Frontier Project Absent & Avoidance of Negative Impacts to Treaty Rights, Forests, Wetlands, Wildlife, and Air Quality.
- Chairman Faron Jackson, Sr. had stated in a news article, “Huber wants Minnesotans to foot the bill for all of this too. Huber is seeking $80 million in state subsidies to pay to fill these pristine wetlands and to bring utilities to a completely underdeveloped site, despite the fact that there are former industrial sites all over Minnesota. Imagine your tax dollars, from your paycheck, being used to destroy your drinking water.”

Broadband Grant Awarded to Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

The Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Grant is meant to expand internet service networks and provide digital skill trainings.

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE — The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is the recipient of an 18.7 million broadband grant courtesy of The Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The grant comes from NTIA’s “Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP):” Leech Lake was one of only two Tribes to be a recipient of the program’s new grants, totaling more than $36 million. These grants focus on expanding high-speed Internet service network deployment and digital skills training to improve access to education, jobs, and healthcare on Tribal lands with funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

“The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to connecting all Tribal communities to affordable and reliable high-speed Internet service,” said Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo. “Our Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program is continuing its historic and unprecedented commitment to close the digital divide by investing in Native communities.”

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe plans to use the funds to install fiber and fixed wireless to directly connect 4,399 underserved Native American households with qualifying broadband service in remote areas on the Reservation that currently experience connectivity issues. The grant proposal includes 153 miles of planned fiber optic installation as well as constructing nine new wireless towers in the following communities: Noopiming, Mission, Prescott, Oak Point, Sugar Point, Inger, S. Lake and Boy Lake.

LLBO Tribal staff have been developing the grant proposal for past 18 months with assistance from the Blandin Foundation, Muralnet and Telexworx. LLBO Economic Development Planner Sally Fineday, and Wireless Manager Richard Schumann say the grant will help ensure internet for all and potentially create a new source of revenue for the Tribe through leasing of unused wireless spectrum.

“With the only access you have to broadband is your telephone, you are seriously limited in what you can and cannot do. It makes life so much easier when you have the right tools,” says Fineday.

Tribal Chairman Faron Jackson who approved the start of a broadband task force alongside fellow RTC members during a December 29 tribal council meeting, expressed his gratitude to the NTIA for the award and to the LLBO staff who worked on the grants application.

“I’m excited about this opportunity for our community in front of us, and the chance for us to do some good,” said Jackson.

LLBO will begin work on developing a broadband task force this month, and plan to release a report on the task forces findings in March 2023.
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, January Quarterly Meeting

The Band recently held its Quarterly Meeting January 6, this quarterly meeting was held at the Sugar Point Community Center.

By KAYLA DUOOS

SUGAR POINT – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe held their Quarterly Meeting in person Friday, January 6th, at the Sugar Point community center.

Tribe Chairman Faron Jackson Sr. gave the opening remarks followed by a financial report from Secretary-Treasurer, Lenny Fineday. 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.

The band also announced their designation of proxy to inform the development of a national native American language resource center. Leech Lake band member Leslie Harper will hold this title and further consultation meetings with Harper will take place January 10th.

Last on the agenda were presentations from Division Directors in attendance on their activities over the past three months. For those who were unable to attend in person, a livestream of the event is available on the official Leech Lake Vimeo and 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 in April 2023.

Quarterly Report Summaries

Tribal Court

- 113 new cases filed in court, 277 hearings conducted this quarter.
- Tribal staff traveled to Washington, D.C for the Supreme Court hearing on ICWA (Brackeen vs Haaland)

Implementation date is January 2023.
- TCO elders advocate computer systems installed in the Twin Cities office.
- EHDI has implemented grief support meetings in various communities that meet once per week.
- Leech Lake food distribution served 228 households and 283 people, and 93 elder deliveries.
- The elderly nutrition program has served 20,726 meals over the past quarter.
- Public Safety
- BIA grant for highway safety officers was renewed in the amount of $421,122.
- Staff is participating in National highway safety initiatives.
- Pets for life is extremely busy and had a larger number of animal intakes and serviced through the last quarter.
- Officers are continuing with new MN peace officer standards per MN legislation.
- LLTPD and other divisions have begun to host PHERT meetings to collaborate on resources to address fentanyl overdoses in the community.
- Applied and received EMPG grant to repair sirens and obtain dive team equipment for LLTPD.
- Applied and received a 1 year extension for HMEP hazardous materials training grant.

Resource Management

- Awarded 216K of BIL funding for brownfields survey and inventory of contaminated sites on the Reservation.
- Staff is working on official reservation Water Quality Standards (WQS) for Tribal council review in early 2023.
- Work continues on St. Regis Superfund site with EPA on OU7 areas. Comments were submitted to EPA on August 26, 2022.
- In August of 2022, Cass County excavated and moved potentially contaminated soils on the superfund site and off site. Staff is currently working alongside LL Legal on a letter to issue a remedial plan to Cass County.
- Staff hosted the EPA Regional Tribal Operations committee November 29-30. Event was attended in person and virtually.
- Staff hosted MN Subcabinet on Climate Change for a tour of LL sustainability project.
- LL hosted the State Tribal Relations training in October. The Interim Environmental Director participated and presented.
- Work continues on Huber frontier project review. LL staff hosted a multi-agency federal MOU meeting to discuss the project.
- New line 3 construction was completed in October 2021, off reservation. Removal of legacy line 3 within the reservation boundaries is currently being coordinated.
- BIA identified an additional 4,362 acres of land for secretarial land transfer legislation. Work will continue on land transfer with newly identified lands.
- DRM was awarded 250K via MNDOT for implementation of further EV infrastructure on Tribal lands, and to test use of electrical vehicles for the fleet.
- Wildlife staff hosted the first youth event, “ma’iingan in the moonlight” for an overnight trip to Ely, MN. Youth were able to explore what it’s like to be a wildlife biologist during the trip to the international wolf center and the north american bear center.
- Covid quarantine homes are set to be established in Districts 1 & 2.

Human Services

- LLBO has 6 transitional homes, all homes are currently being used by reunited families during their transition periods.
- Leech Lake Behavioral Health is at a caseload capacity. Community members are recommended to see clinic mental health services through alternative agencies.
- Tribal referral has assisted with 185 medical gas vouchers, 186 medical assistant checks, 31 heat loans and 184 applications for emergency rental assistance and 102 re-certifications.
- Energy assistance has logged, approved and denied a total of 721 household applications.
- The Cass Lake Emergency Shelter program had a total of 49 individuals, and 23 family intakes.
- On February 1, 2022 the Cass Lake emergency shelter program will be opening up to the public again and will be taking people at 5pm Monday thru Thursday and opening Friday at the same time for weekend duration stays.

Legal

- Legal Department is currently searching for an ICWA para-legal
- Work with DRM and special environmental counsel Ogden Murphy Wallace on St. Regis superfund site is progressing.
- Prince of Peace Lane litigation work continues as staff evaluate potential settlement of access. Outstanding issues are expected to be resolved in January 2023.
- The federal multidistrict opioid litigation is moving slowly but there are now Tribal government settlements that are being approved. Settlements with Johnson and Johnson and three major distributors have been approved and will provide 2.3 million to LLBO for use in opioid addiction treatment, opioid interdiction, related child welfare issues and opioid abatement. Johnson and Johnson payments will be 585,600 in two payments. Distributor settlements will be 1.7 million spread across 6 years.
- The MDL opioid cases settlements have resulted in the Huber OSB manufacturing facility.
Greetings and Happy New Year

Leech Lake Band Members! It is my honor and privilege to present the Secretary/Treasurer report to the people for January 2023, including a financial report for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2023, which ran from July 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022.

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Secretary/Treasurer’s Summary

QUARTER 1 REPORT

For the period ending September 30, 2022, the total revenue for the General Fund was $7,884,490, reflecting an increase of $2,316,677 over the same period last year, for a year over year increase of 41.6%. The substantial increase in General Fund dollars for this reporting period is due to tax agreement dollars from the State of Minnesota from last year coming into the Band during this quarter. Total General Fund expenditures for the period ending September 30, 2022 were $27,043,727, reflecting an increase of $472,323 over the same period last year, for a year over year increase in Special Revenue expenditures of 36%. A large portion of this increase from last year is due to last year’s temporary transfer of Tribal Police Department salaries from the General Fund to CARES Act funds. These salaries were transferred back to the General Fund after the CARES Act funds were expended by December 31, 2021.

For the period ending September 30, 2022, the total revenue for the Special Revenue Fund was $24,985,744, reflecting an increase of $1,003,558 over the same period last year, for a year over year increase of 4.2%. Total Special Revenue Fund expenditures through September 30, 2022 were $27,043,727, reflecting an increase of $472,323 over the same period last year, for a year over year increase in Special Revenue expenditures of 1.9%. While Special Revenue spending has increased minimally, there has been a large increase in revenue than spending. This is a pattern we need to continue to see in our Special Revenue Fund as we continue to work on systemic issues around our third party billing collections and grant management. This is especially important as we continue to see expenditures in excess of revenue for the reporting period.

For the period ending September 30, 2022, the total revenue for the Indirect Cost Pool was $2,938,510, reflecting an increase of $694,001, for a year over year increase of 30.9% for the same period last year. Total Indirect Cost Pool expenditures through September 30, 2022 were $3,595,861, reflecting an increase of $67,553 over the same period last year, for a year over year increase of 1.9%. Importantly, our Indirect Cost Pool is funded by our Indirect Cost Rate we negotiate with the federal government. Due to being so far behind in our audits earlier this year, we were not allowed to negotiate this rate. However, since we did complete the FY 2020 audit in September 2022, we have begun the process to negotiate our Indirect Cost Rate for the current fiscal year and will have the rate finalized soon.

GAMING FY 23 QUARTER 1 REPORT

On our enterprise side, for the first quarter of FY 23, Total Casino, Small Business and Gaming Administration revenue increased by 3.76% over the same period last year. The Total Cost of Goods increased by 59.2% over the same period last year. Total Payroll Expense for the period ending September 30, 2022 increased by 19.53% over the same period last year. Total Operating Expenses for the period ending September 30, 2022 increased by 10.88% over the same period last year. Total Net Profit from Casino, Small Business and Gaming Administration for the period ending September 30, 2022 decreased by 39.79% over the same period last year. These numbers reflect that the slight increase in revenue for this quarter was not enough to overcome the drastic increase in the cost of goods or in payroll. The cost of goods increase is indicative of national inflation and global supply chain issues. The increase in payroll reflects more people returning to work. We continue to monitor both of these areas to ensure the long term stability and profitability of our enterprises going forward. Importantly, our enterprises over all continue to be profitable, just not at the same level as last year for the same period.

FY 23 BUDGET APPROVAL STATUS

I am disappointed to announce that we have not yet completed our FY 23 budget, despite now being half way through the fiscal year. In October, I reported that our new budget for the year was on track to be completed by December 31, 2022. It was scheduled to take place, but a power outage prevented the meeting from happening. As a result, the RBC approved a third temporary spending resolution authorizing government funding through January 31, 2023. A District I community budget meeting took place on January 5, 2023. The Budget Team also met on January 9, 2023 to review the public input and comment on the budget and spending priorities. The final step now is RBC approval and adoption, which as of this writing is scheduled to take place on January 24, 2023.

I once again apologize to the people of Leech Lake for not getting this budget completed and adopted in a timelier manner. However, due to the hard work of the Budget Team and our Administrative staff over the last few months, many systemic and long-term issues in our budget have been addressed and we should be able to have more timely approval and adoption of our budgets going forward.

EXTERNAL AUDIT STATUS UPDATE

Another on-going issue to report on relates to our external audits. In October, I reported that we had just finalized our FY 2020 audit on September 30, 2022, almost two years late. Since that time, the RBC has replaced our external auditors on the government side and we are in the final stages of approving a letter of engagement with our new external auditors. Our conversations with these auditors to date have gone very well and we are hopeful that we will be caught up on our FY 21 and FY 22 audits by this summer.

NTIA – BROADBAND GRANT

In December, the LLBO was awarded a grant from the National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) of over $18 million to expand our broadband capacity and access within the boundaries of the Reservation. At this point, the plan calls for laying fiber optic cable to each of our community centers and then installing towers at those centers to emit broadband signals. The goal is to provide high quality broadband service to all homes within the Reservation.

On December 27, 2022, the RBC authorized the creation of a taskforce to work toward the development of a Leech Lake Tribal Broadband Office that will oversee this project and ensure implementation to reach all community centers within the Reservation in the coming years, with the ultimate goal of providing high speed and wireless access to all homes throughout the Reservation.

OTHER GOVERNMENTAL MATTERS

There are a number of other areas the RBC continues to work on, including addressing the issues around our third party billing and capturing as much revenue as possible. The taskforce working on this project is moving forward and will be presenting more information to the RBC in the coming weeks about how to continue to monitor our programs for sustainability. This project directly impacts our Special Revenue Fund and will help ensure the stability and sustainability of our programs and services.

We are also lobbying in St. Paul and Washington, D.C. for our various state and federal priorities, including sports wagering and e-pull tab reform, tax agreement changes, and completing the land transfer authorized by the Leech Lake Reservation Restoration Act.

There is a lot happening for Leech Lake Band members and we are working hard to bring you the information and services you need. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at any time. Miigwech.
Bug O Nay Ge Shig School hosted its first Family Fun Day since pre-COVID on December 20. The Holiday theme included Santa and Ms. Claus, a delicious ham dinner, many games for the elementary students, door prizes for the students and for the families, and a crafts area. The School Pantry and Community Closet were also available to families. Gil Applebee provided the music and also was the Master of Ceremonies. Miigwech to the LLBO Tribal Council, Gaming and Programs for their donations. The students left on their winter break with full stomachs, gifts and big smiles!

Bug O Nay Ge Shig High School’s Senior Advisory recently had an Indian Taco Sale that netted over $600 which will go in their Senior Trip Fund. Their efforts were generously supported by Flossie from Ball Club, whose delicious fry bread is famous in our area. She volunteered to make the dough and fry it for the seniors. Miigwech Flossie.

The Holiday Store, an annual tradition at Bug O Nay Ge Shig School, is in full swing again. Each elementary student picks out a present for a loved one and the 7th grade student volunteers wrap them so they are ready to take home.

Bug O Nay Ge Shig School has partnered with the Cass Lake IHS Dental Clinic to provide services in-house at the school to students in grades K-4. Dental services provided include cleaning, exams, sealants and other preventive measures.
Recipe of the Month by Chyrle LaDuke (Food Distribution), Josh Red Day (Leech Lake Diabetes Program)

**Beef Tacos with Refried Beans**

**Ingredients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity Foods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 teaspoon oil*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-ounce can of black beans or pinto beans*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 lb ground beef*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 ½ tablespoons chili powder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 teaspoons ground cumin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 teaspoon smoked paprika</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 teaspoon onion powder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 teaspoon garlic powder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¾ teaspoon coarse salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ teaspoon black pepper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes (optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tacos**

- 8 count 8-inch corn tortilla or whole wheat tortillas, warmed*
- ½ cup plain yogurt
- ¼ cup shredded cheese*
- 1 tomato diced*
- ½ cup lettuce*

**Directions:**

Heat oil in a large skillet to medium. Add the beans and saute for 2-3 minutes. Use the back of a fork to mash the beans. Transfer the mashed beans to a bowl and set aside. Add ground beef to skillet and cook for 6 to 8 minutes or until ground beef is done. Break into small pieces. Stir in the chili powder, cumin, smoked paprika, onion powder, garlic powder, salt, black pepper, and crushed red pepper flakes. (If using) Fold in mashed beans.

**Nutrition facts**

1 taco Calories 226, sugar 2g, sodium 78mg, fat 9g, saturated fat 3g, unsaturated fat 6g, trans fat 0g, carbohydrates 20g, fiber 5g, protein 17g, cholesterol 41mg.

Beef provides protein, iron, thiamin, niacin, and zinc, as well as, other vitamins and minerals. Refried beans are a good source of nutrients like fiber, iron, magnesium, and zinc. They’re also relatively high in sodium.

For more recipes and resources on this delicious recipe contact Chyrle or Josh Red Day at the Leech Lake Diabetes Clinic at 218-333-4511 or stop by.
January 7, 2022
Tribal Council members and S. Lake community members celebrate the ribbon cutting ceremony and Grand Opening of the brand new S. Lake Community Center.

January 14, 2022
LLBO Quarterly Meeting held virtually online and broadcast via livestream.

February 9, 2022
Candidates for the 2022 Primary Election were certified at Cedar Lakes Casino Event Center in Cass Lake.

February 12, 2022
The Annual Wiij waagan Nimidim Round Dance was held at Cedar Lakes Casino Event Center in Cass Lake.

February 16, 2022
LLBO Tribal Council and Cass County Officials meet in Cass Lake at the Cedar Lakes Event Center in regards to the redevelopment planning of the St. Regis and Brownfield sites.

February 22, 2022
Anniversary of the 1855 Treaty Signing, which lead to the formation of the Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Reservations.

February 22, 2022
LLBO hosts public community meetings in Cass Lake, Walker and Deer River regarding the planned Huber Mill.

March 2, 2022
The LLBO Tribal Council and Beltrami County Board of Commissioners hold an inaugural meeting with plans for future annual meetings.

March 12, 2022
The 2022 Kid’s Perch Jerk was held in District II at Big Winnie Resort in Bena.

April 5, 2022
LLBO Primary Election takes place with Kyle Fairbanks receiving over 50% of the District I votes and Steve White receiving over 50% of the District II votes.

April 15, 2022
LLBO Quarterly Meeting held virtually online and broadcast via livestream.

April 21, 2022
LLTC hosts it’s inaugural Ojibwe Language, Art and Tradition Competitions at the Sanford Center in Bemidji.

April 22, 2022
The LLBO DRM holds the Annual Earth Day Celebration at the Boys & Girls Club in Cass Lake.

April 24, 2022
LLBO hosts a Nationwide LIC meeting in Bena.

May 7, 2022
The 15th Annual Spirit Run takes place in S. Lake at the newly constructed Community Center. The run ended in Cass Lake at the Veteran’s Memorial Grounds on May 8.

May 9, 2022
LLBO hosts Cass Lake Community Meetings regarding redevelopment of the St. Regis and Brownfield sites.

May 12, 2022
The 2nd Annual Mental Health Awareness Walk takes place in Cass Lake.

May 14, 2022
Leech Lake holds the 2022 MN Governor’s Fishing Opener on Lake Winnibigoshish. Chairman Faron Jackson Sr. accompanied Gov. Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan for the event.

May 19, 2022
Leech Lake Head Start holds it’s annual Pow Wow at the Veteran’s Memorial Grounds in Cass Lake.

May 19, 2022
The LLBO DRM held it’s Annual Tree and Shrub Giveaway in Cass Lake at the DRM building via drive through.

May 22, 2022
LLBO hosts a Nationwide LIC meeting in Bena.

May 27, 2022
The Annual Memorial Day Pow Wow was held at the Veteran’s Memorial Grounds in Cass Lake.
Elizabeth “Lisa” Spence

Elizabeth “Lisa” Alberta (Aiktin) Spence, age 56, of Duluth, Minnesota began her journey to the spirit world on Wednesday, November 30, 2022, from the Bayshore Residential and Rehab Center in Duluth, MN. Lisa was born on February 20, 1966, in Denver, Colorado, the daughter of Georgnianna Aiktin and Robert DeMars.

Lisa was a wonderful mother, daughter, sister, auntie, and friend. She enjoyed going for walks on the boardwalk in Duluth, having Barbeques with friends and family, and seeing her grandchildren. Lisa excelled in her academics in the nursing field and loved to read. When she was younger, she liked to travel the United States, she would help her friends out whenever she could. Lisa was always one to joke with people and always have a smile on her face. Lisa had a bit of a green thumb, enjoyed playing Bingo, and most of all just staying home and watching a good movie. Lisa lived life to the fullest and will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Family that Lisa is reunited with are her grandson, Jayce Spence; father, Robert “Butch” DeMars; grandparents, Hattie and Joseph Sr.; aunts, Betty, Alberta, Bernice, and Loretta; uncles, Joe Jr. and Leroy Sr.; and significant other, Don.

Those left behind to cherish her memory are her children, Jerrel (Jess) Spence, Daniel Spence and Sarah Spence; parents, Georgianna and John Feigum; brothers, Leroy Aiktin, Jr., Mark Allen and David Perry; sisters, Ann Aiktin and Roxanne Perry; 15 grandbabies, numerous nieces, nephews, other family members and many friends.

A Celebration of Lisa’s Life will be held on Monday, December 5, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at the Mission Community Center in Cass Lake, MN. Father George Ross will officiate. The urn bearers for Lisa will be her sons, Jerrel and Daniel Spence. Her honorary urn bearers are all her 15 grandkids. Her final resting place will be with her children.

Lisa’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.

Darrin “Bill” Brown, Sr.

Darrin "Bill" Wayne Brown, Sr., “Manidoo Innini” meaning ‘Spirit Man,’ age 35 of the Bear Clan and from Mission, Minnesota started his journey to the spirit world on Thursday, December 22, 2022, from his home. Bill was born March 2, 1987 in Bemidji, MN, the son of Evelyn Brown and Alvin J. Wind, Jr.

Bill grew up in the Mission area and attended the Cass Lake-Bena High School and graduated in 2005. He played basketball for the Cass Lake-Bena Panthers, helping them take 3rd place in the State Tournament in 2005, he also played for the Leech Lake Tribal College. Bill enjoyed playing softball and going to the Mission Center to play basketball. Bill was a huge Minnesota Vikings fan and witnessed, in person with family, the greatest comeback in NFL history. He enjoyed listening to music, Kevin Gates was his favorite because he “don’t get tired”. Bill was a quiet man but one that could always make you laugh. He enjoyed doing scratch-offs, spending time with the family dog, Dexter and with all his family. He loved spending time with his nephews Davian and Kyson and taking care of his mom. He always made sure the house and the yard were right, it always had to be perfect for his Mama. Bill’s pride and joy were his sons Bill Jr. and Kobe, he loved his boys.

Bill will enter the spirit world joining his grand-

parents, Loretta and Frank Brown and Roberta and Alvin “Bunny” Wind, Sr.; brother, Derek John Brown; aunts and uncles, Scott Brown, Debbie Kingbird, Dodie Martin, and Marion Wind, and Glenda Bryan and several other relatives.

He leaves behind parents, Evelyn Brown and Alvin J. Wind, Jr.; two children, Darrin "Lil Bill" Brown, Jr., and Kobe Scott Brown; siblings, Kristin, Alvin (Roman), Monica, and Jackie Brown, Nate Seelye, Jr., Jenny, Martin (Jordan) Alvin (Antonia), Anika, Joseph, Theodore and Shoni Wind; aunts and uncles, Bernie, Koola, Frank, Sandy, Jennie, Jody and Mike; nieces and nephews, Nate Jr., Krisalyyn, Davian, Derek II, Brandon Jr., Kyson, Brandon W., Ayana, Aubrey, Dakota, Bella, Jordine, Haven, Martin Jr., Halen, Alvin IV and Ayvin, numerous other family members and many friends.

The wake for Bill will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 26 and continue until his 10:00 a.m. funeral services on Wednesday, December 28 all to be held at the Mission Community Center in Cass Lake, MN. Father George Ross will officiate. Pallbearers for Bill will be Kellen Brown, Ken Staples, Jr., Kevin Hanks, Alvin Wind III, Martin Wind, Byron Ninhm, Brady Fairbanks, Jesse Tapio, Kyle Raisch, Rodney Spears, Jr. and Curtis Brown, Jr.

The alternate pallbearers are Anthony Robinson, Nate Seelye, Sr., and Nateseelye, Jr. His honorary pallbearers are The Class of 2005 Basketball Team, the Native Sons, Razor Sharp, Sota Boys, Mission Eagles, Big Boyz, Bombers, Chiefs, and the MN Chipps. Interment will be in the Prince of Peace Cemetery at Mission, MN.

Bill’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.

Clyde Tibbetts

Clyde Charles Tibbetts, 74, of Cass Lake, MN, passed away on December 7, 2022.

Clyde was born on April 4, 1948, to Elmer and Irene Tibbetts. Clyde served 3 tours in Vietnam and received a purple heart medal. When he returned home, he had two sons with his first wife. Years later, he met Debbie, and their love story and combined family began.

They got married on April 12, 2011. Clyde worked at the IHS, on the barges, as a mailman, for Christianson Construction and Leroy’s Minnows. He was always buying and selling cars, his favorite salesman pitch when you asked, “How does it run?” He would say “Like a thief in the night!” Clyde was a family man with a huge heart and a great sense of humor. Every chance he got, he would get the family together for cook outs to show off his grill master skills and his marinated steak was always on the menu. It didn’t matter the time or the day, if you needed a place to escape to, that place was Clyde’s. If you ever wondered if anything was going on, all you had to do was drive by and see if the light was on in the dining room. You would walk in and hear lots of laughs, good music and the sound of dice or cards being played with a fog of smoke in the house. He loved his Budweiser, Windsor and his smokes. He always had a cold one ready for his niece Patsy Kay and freezies for the grand kids. His favorite song was “Smoke Rings in the Dark by Gary Allan”. He also listened to Elvis Presley, Roy Orbison, John Fogerty and Jim Croce. You knew he liked his tunes cause you could hear him humming along every time. Clyde loved to paint and would gift his family with beautiful pieces that he had painted himself. At the casino you would either hear his “YEEEEEUP!”, making all the nosy people look or find him at his Piggies or the Lock-it-Link machines. He loved his rummages, auctions, family road trips, boat rides, racing, netting, hunting and taking drives in the woods. Clyde was a MN Vikings fan and always got on a football board. His handheld poker game was so old the writing had worn off it a long time ago but he didn’t want a new one. He watched his Storage Wars, Pawn Stars and River Monsters. Clyde had a sweet tooth and always had the best snacks on his counter and if a grand kid asked he would go grab the really good ones out of his stash in his room. You would never catch him drinking water or milk. He loved Deb’s homemade spaghetti and those expensive watermelon spears. Most of all he loved his family and dedicated his life to helping them better their life.

Family that Clyde is reunited with are his parents, Irene and Elmer Tibbetts; wife, Debbie Tibbetts, son, Brian Northbird; brothers, Elmer “Gene” Tibbetts, Warren Tibbetts; sisters, Patricia Tibbetts, Shirley Dunn, Clarice Murphy, Barbara Maas; father-in-law, Larry McMurrin; special friends, Manny Sargent, Delbert Braman; and too many loved ones to count.

Those Clyde leaves behind to cherish his memory are his sons, Troy Tibbetts, Travis (Nicole) Tibbetts, Gene Northbird, Jr., Shannon Northbird; daughter, Becky (David Jones, Sr) Northbird-Jones; brothers, Roscoe “Rocky” Tibbetts, Kenneth “Pinky” Tibbetts; sister, Norma (Wayne) Knapczyk; sisters-in-law, Annie McMurrin, Susan McMurrin, Laura McMurrin; mother-in-law, Norma McMurrin; special niece, Patsy Kay, grandchildren, Jocelyn, Derek, Ayla, Aiden, Evan, Elias, Ryder, Jasmine, David, Jr., Trevor, Dylan, Aleighcia “Peanut,” Daniel “Charlie,” Sr, Justine, Amber, Taisha, Ciarra and 19 great grandchildren.

Clyde’s service will be held on Tuesday,
December 13, at 11:00 a.m. at the Mission Community Center, visitation will be Monday, December 12, from 11:00 am to 10:00 pm. Reverend Bill Butcher will lead the prayer service at 7:00 pm. Pallbearers will be David Jones, Sr., David Jones, Jr., Eugene “Umsy” Tibbetts, Jeff Tibbetts, Paul Maas and Kirby Finn. Alternates will be Rob Finn, Travis Tibbetts, Troy Tibbetts, and Wayne Knapczyk. Honorary pallbearers are Robert “Pumkin” Pemberton, Kenneth “Pinkie” Tibbetts, Roscoe “Rocky” Tibbetts, Ken Fahlstrom, Stan Chief Wilson, Shirley Stiyer, Beverly Starr & Uncles; Rocky Tibbetts, and Wayne Knapczyk.

Eric Little Crow

Eric Matthew Little Crow, “Waabninoodin” meaning “Eastwind”, age 42, of Cass Lake, Minnesota left his earthly life on Monday, December 19, 2022 from Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, North Dakota. He was born on September 9, 1980 in Denver, Colorado, the son of Darlene Bellanger and Matthew Little Crow.

When Eric was 3 months old, he moved with his family to Minneapolis, MN. In 1983 the family moved to Cass Lake. Eric attended the Bug School and completed junior and senior high school in Walker, MN before enrolling in the Leech Lake Tribal College. Some of Eric’s favorite things to do were making jewelry, planting flowers and yard work. He enjoyed mo-town music and stargazing, which lead to his fascination with UFO’s and the paranormal. Eric looked forward to spending time with his family and friends whenever he could.

Family that Eric is reunited with are his dad, Matthew Little Crow and his grandparents, Irene Bellanger and Edward Bellanger; his beloved brothers, Ronald J., Jr. & Andre Bellanger. Also his aunts; Mary Jane Wilson, Shirley Stiyer, Beverly Starr & Undes; Bennie, Donald & Mikey Bellanger.

He leaves behind his mother, Darlene Bellanger, his Uncle Kenneth, his big sister, Jessica Couch and numerous nieces and nephews.

An overnight wake for Eric will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 23rd and continue until his 10:00 a.m. funeral service on Saturday, December 24th all to be held at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Father Bill Butcher and Father George Ross will be officiating. Pallbearers for Eric will be Aaron Hufstedter, Cobe Nabor, Daryl MacFarlane, Clyde Reyes, Wade Robinson, and Jay R. Robinson. Alternate Pallbearer Chris Reyes. His honorary pallbearers are Lorreena Hart, Lori Rock-Yanez, Rhiannon Hufstedter, Kirsten Turner, Kelsie-M. Robinson and Jessica Couch. Interment will be in the Prince of Peace Cemetery at Cass Lake, MN.

Eric’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.

Janessa “Nessa” White

Janessa “Nessa” Andrea White, age 23, of the Crane Clan and Bemidji, MN journeyed to the spirit world on Saturday, December 24, 2022, in Bemidji. She was born the daughter of Jennifer Chosa and David White in Bemidji, MN, on February 22, 1999.

Nessa was a loving, outgoing, charismatic, beautiful young lady. She enjoyed being around family and friends, playing card games, Pokemon, and listening to music. She cherished her two beautiful daughters more than life, so much that she was recently changing her life around for her beautiful girls. If you looked up “Nessa” in the dictionary, you would find “life of the party”. Everywhere she went she turned heads and broke necks. Quiet wasn’t in her vocabulary. For her young age, Nessa didn’t believe in things when you told her “NO” she always just made it happen. Nessa loved doing her hair, makeup, and dressing up. Nessa was never seen without her phone in her hands. She was bossy, even from a young age. Nessa will be missed greatly by all who knew and loved her.

Greeting Nessa in the spirit world are her grandma, Seraphine Chosa; grandpas, Mike Ware and Dale Smith; dad, Jim Harrison, Sr.; aunts, Leslie and Daley Smith.

Those left behind to cherish the memory of Nessa are her mom, Jennifer Chosa; dad, David White; daughters, Khamari and Jordynn Budreau; father of her girls, Kenny Budreau, Jr.; special aunts, Sophie (Jeremy) Cochrane, Bryanne Chosa, Stephanie Chosa; brothers, Mark Dorman, Jr., Tyler Dorman, Aaron Brown, Jr., Jaymeson Chosa-Brown, Shiloh Chosa-Brown, Migizi Chosa-Brown, Jimmie “Big Jim” Harrison, Jr., Jimmie “Fat Boy” Harrison, Richard Warner, David White, Jr.; sisters, Rikki Harrison, Emily Dorman, Halle Harrison, Ruby Harrison, Sara Harrison, Lydia Sargent, Heather Fineday, Brenna White, Rainey Smith; numerous other family members and friends.

An overnight wake for Nessa will begin on Friday, December 30, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. and continue until her Saturday, December 31, 2022, 10:00 a.m. service, all to be held at the Facility Center in Cass Lake, MN. Nessa’s Spiritual Advisor is Allen Hardy. Those helping to lay Nessa to rest are her brothers, Big Jim Harrison, Richard Warner, Aaron Brown, Jr., Mark Dorman, Jr., Jimmie “Fat Boy” Harrison, and Jeremy Smith. Honorary pallbearers are all her siblings.

Nessa’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 “Grandma Heart” Nason

Margaret M. “Grandma Heart” Nason, age 69, passed away on Sunday, December 11, 2022, in Minneapolis, MN.

Margaret was born on November 9, 1953, in Cass Lake, MN, to Julia and Fredrick Nason, Sr. She lived in the Ball Club area all her life. Margaret worked as a chef for many years, but her children and family were always her top priority. She loved spending time with children and grandchildren, teaching them how to fish and hunt. She was warm and loving, had no problem speaking her mind and was quick to correct her children and grandchildren when needed. She loved music of all kinds, including, county, John Fogerty, and pop wow music. Margaret enjoyed trips to the casino to try her luck at the slots, had a great sense of humor and was always joking around.

She will be lovingly remembered by her children: Althea (Anthony) Colgrove and Matthew Hvezda; sister, Kathy Scheffield; eight grandchildren: Alicia, Christopher, Banu, Teisha, Ally, Lopeta, Savanna, Angel, Desshawn, Jayden and Matthew, Jr.; several great-grandchildren; as well as many other relatives and friends.

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents; children: Grace, Julia and Christopher Hvezda; and several siblings.

The wake will begin at 3:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 15, 2022, at Ball Club Community Center and continue until the service at 2:00 P.M. on Friday, December 16, 2022, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Ball Club. Active casketbearers will be: Banu Rivas, Anthony Colgrove, Tim Lintinen, Amos LaDuke, Geraldio Rivas, Alicia Colgrove and Craig Nason. Honorary casketbearers will be Margaret’s nieces and nephews. Burial will be at St. Joseph’s Catholic Cemetery in Ball Club. Arrangements provided by Whispering Pines Funeral & Cremation Service of Walker & Hackensack, MN, whisperingspinesnorth.com.

Nicole Northbird

Nicole Marie Northbird, “Ginew Ikwe” meaning “Golden Eagle Woman”, age 30, of the Eagle Clan, from Cass Lake, Minnesota began her journey to the spirit world with her family by her side at Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, North Dakota on Thursday, December 22nd, 2022. Nicole was born to Cathy Littlewolf and Louis Northbird Jr. in Bemidji, MN on October 31st, 1992. Nicole “Biggin” which her daughter affectionately called her, grew up in Cass Lake and graduated from Cass Lake High School in 2011. She was a very outspoken, tell it like it is girl and was always ready to ride out on someone. She had a loud voice, and her mother would tell her to talk in a low voice in which she responded, what’s that? Nicole always had a big cheesy smile on her face all the time. During her high school years, she played softball and was a cheerleader for football and basketball. As a teen she also boxed and loved to play 60 with the strawberry field crew. In 2008 Nicole was selected to be the 2008 Leech Lake Senior...
LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re: Estate of Rose Marie Wind, DOB: 08/04/1992. Decedent

Court File No. CV-22-113

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Rose Marie Wind, died August 3, 2022. A hearing was held before the Honorable Paul W. Day, Chief Judge of the above-named Tribal Court located in the Leech Lake Tribal Justice Center, 200 SailStar Drive NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633.

GIVEN that on November 17, 2022, a Petition for DNA Genetic Testing/Paternity was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named custodian and parents. A hearing has been scheduled for February 27, 2023 at 9:00 AM in the Leech Lake Tribal Court, 200 SailStar Drive NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding or a parent to the children involved. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may adjudicate the Petition by default.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

Case No. CV-22-101

SUMMONS & NOTICE OF LEGAL PUBLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on July 29, 2022, a Civil Petition was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court. 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 March 23rd, 2023 at 9:00 a.m., the date of the 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.

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 Anna M. Sheffield, Legal Custodian and Caitlyn Roy, Joseph Littlewolf, and Bradley Larsen, Biological Parents

Court File Nos. CP-22-06 & CP-14-44

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Second Amended Child and Family Protection Petition, Motion to Vacate the Permanent Transfer of Legal and Physical Custody in CP-14-44, and Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody have been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named custodian and parents. A hearing has been scheduled for February 27, 2023 at 9:00 AM in the Leech Lake Tribal Court. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for any further questions and/or a copy of the documents. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding or a parent to the children involved. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may adjudicate the Petition by default.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

Summons & Notice of Complaint in Unlawful Detainer was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court.

In Re: Estate of Rose Marie Wind, 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

Case No. CV-22-130

SUMMONS & NOTICE OF COMPLAINT IN UNLAWFUL DETAINER ACTION

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on September 30, 2022, a Summons and Complaint in Unlawful Detainer was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court under Court File No. CV-22-130. A continued initial hearing on the matter is scheduled for February 7, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. before the Honorable Rebecca McConkey-Greene. You are asked to contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration located at the Tribal Justice Center, 200 SailStar Drive NW, Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633, at 218-335-3682 for further information. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the court may proceed on the merits of the complaint through a finding of default, and enter an order that may enter a judgement against you on behalf of the plaintiff.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of Mariza Sheffield, Legal Custodian and Alan M. Sheffield, Minor Child.

Court File Nos. CP-22-06 & CP-14-44

NOTICE

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that an Emergency Child Protection Petition, Motion for Immediate Custody and Affidavit in Support have been filed in the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. An admit/deny hearing has been scheduled for January 30, 2023 at 11:30 AM in the Leech Lake Tribal Court. Please Contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration for any further questions and/or a copy of the documents. 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 adjudicate the children as in need of protection by default.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

Petition for DNA Genetic Testing/Paternity was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court. A hearing has been scheduled for February 27, 2023 at 9:00 AM in the Leech Lake Tribal Court, 200 SailStar Drive NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding or a parent to the children involved. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may adjudicate the Petition by default.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of Katrina S. Page, Legal Custodian and Gary C. Page, Minor Child.

Court File No. CV-22-136

SUMMONS & NOTICE OF COMPLAINT IN UNLAWFUL DETAINER ACTION

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on October 13, 2022, a Summons and Complaint in Unlawful Detainer was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court under Court File No. CV-22-136. A continued initial hearing on the matter is scheduled for February 7, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. before the Honorable Rebecca McConkey-Greene. You are asked to contact Leech Lake Tribal Court Administration located at the Tribal Justice Center, 200 SailStar Drive NW, Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633, at 218-335-3682 for further information. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the court may proceed on the merits of the complaint through a finding of default, and enter an order that may enter a judgement against you on behalf of the plaintiff.

LEGAL NOTICE

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

Petition for DNA Genetic Testing/Paternity was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court. A hearing has been scheduled for February 27, 2023 at 9:00 AM in the Leech Lake Tribal Court, 200 SailStar Drive NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633. The telephone number is (218) 335-3682 or 3586. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding or a parent to the children involved. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may adjudicate the Petition by default.
Randall Stangler

Randall James Stangler, age 40, of Cass Lake, Minnesota began his spiritual journey from the Cass Lake IHS in Cass Lake, MN on Friday, November 25, 2022.

Randall didn’t care how little we had for ourselves, he just always wanted to give and share. He wanted the work effort and love that came with what he put out. Randall made sure that everyone was included in everything he did, and he wanted every family visit to feel like a party. He showed his love in weird and different ways, but he always made sure everyone was taken care of. The way he checked in on you would leave you speechless and yet you could never get enough of him. He wanted every moment to be everlasting and unforgetable; so that nobody could ever forget him… as if that would ever happen. Randall was an untamed soul, a true force to be reckoned with. THE RAMMAN.

Family that Randall is reunited with are his grandparents, Percy and Eunice Fineday and Willard and Marcella Stangler; aunt, Gloria Mellado; uncles, Charles Fineday, Doug Bryan, Sr., Donald, Elmer and James Whitebird; and his cousin Russ Bryan III.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are his wife, Janelle Stangler; daughter, Landra Stangler; parents, Karen Fineday and John Stangler; sister, Renae Harrison; brothers, Ronald Harrison Jr. and Robert Harrison; aunts, Gloria Fineday, Margaret (Russ Jr.) Bryan, and Karen Mellado; niece, Marissa Fineday; nephews, Allen Brown and Jayden Harrison; cousins, Janel Bryan-Jenkins, Jennifer Fineday, Doug Bryan, Jr. and Morgan Bryan; numerous cousins and other relatives and too many friends to list.

An overnight wake for Randall will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29 and continue until his 11:00 a.m. traditional service on Wednesday, November 30 at 11:00 a.m. at the Mission Community Center in Cass Lake, MN. Rev. Myron Evan will be the Spiritual Advisor. Pallbearers for Randall will be Doug Bryan, Jr., Doug Bryan III, DeAndre Bryan, Bezhig Hardy, Martin Kingbird, Scott Whitebird, Chris Bryan, and Matt Carley. The alternate pallbearers are Riley Mellado and Ross Mellado. His honorary pallbearers are his brothers, Robert and Ronald Harrison. Burial will be in the Fineday Burial Grounds at Pennington, MN.

Randall’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.

What is Radon? Radon is a radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer. It is a gas that we cannot see, smell or taste. Radon is produced naturally by the decay of elements found in the soil underneath our homes. In Minnesota 2 of 5 homes have a radon issue. Radon can be a problem for all types of homes including old homes, new homes, drafty homes, insulated homes, homes with basements, crawlspaces, and homes without basements.

Radon is a carcinogen. When exposed to radon over a long time, it can cause lung cancer. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. for Non smokers. The EPA estimates that 21,000 lung cancer deaths each year are caused by radon. The only way to know if your home has a radon problem is to test it!

Our Homes tested for radon on Leech Lake Reservation range from low levels to high levels. These days, many of us live in houses that are well sealed from the outdoor air. This can actually be a problem if radon enters our home, trapping the radon indoors and possibly causing radon to build up to high levels. No matter what type of home you live in: brand new and air tight or old and drafty radon isn't picky. Your home might have high levels of radon and you wouldn't even know it. Harm to our lungs can be prevented, we just have to test!

Get informed! Test your home! Tell your family and friends to test their home!
Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders
January Birthdays

District I
Corrine Nason
Karen Bowstring
Lorna Urrutia
Andrea Price
Marilyn Joyce Roybal
Frances Nason
Kevin Fairbanks Sr.
Louis Bowstring
Marilyn Wilson
Francis Grauman
Judith Margaret

District II
James Campbell
Walter “Butch” Chase
Bonnie Fairbanks-Stangel

From the District II
Office Steve, Lindsey, & Michelle

District III*
Leroy Aitkin
Dorothy Beaushene
Kenneth Bedeau
Robert Bedeau
Darlene Bellanger
Lareatha Bradford
Elizabeth Brown
Larry Bryan
Marcella Buck
Lillian Burnette
Lisa Cariveau
Deborah Chase
Leona Cloud
Mary Cloud
Joseph Day
Priscilla Day
Anita Demarr
Alice Donovan
Marie Duncan
Ernie Dunn
Bonita Earth
John Fairbanks

From the District III
Office LeRoy, Toni & Kori

*all coupons must be used within Birthday Month*

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 1-800-631-5521 for more info

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CLOSE ON JANUARY 20, 2023
Alcohol & Drug Counselor (2) ~ Human Services ~ $22.65/hr ~ Job Code: 23-003

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED
Driver (Women’s Outpatient) ~ Human Services ~ $18.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-001
Child Welfare Department Manager ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-002
Paralegal II ~ Legal ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-004
Family Support Specialist ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-005
Assessment Worker ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-006
Case Manager (2) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-007
Mental Health Professional (4) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-008
Mental Health Targeted Case Manager ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-009
CTSS Mental Health Practitioner ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-010
ARMHS Mental Health Practitioner ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-012
On-Call Crisis Response Mental Health Practitioner (5) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-013

On-Call Crisis Response Mental Health Professional (3) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-014

Program Accountant (2) ~ Finance ~ Job Code: 23-015
Infant Toddler Teacher (5) ~ Education ~ $17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-016
Infant Toddler Team Leader ~ Education ~ $21.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-017
Infant Toddler Teacher/Family Services Advocate (2) ~ Education ~ $17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-018

Niigaane Ojibwe Language Immersion Program

Words and sentences list for October

OJIBWEMOWIN
Aaniin ezhi-à还可以?
Nimino-àà. Giin dash?
______ indizhinikaaz. Giin dash?
Niminwendam ji-naqishkoonaan.
Niminwendam ji-qikeniminin. 
Aaniindi wenjibaayan?
______ indoonjibaan.
Gidaa na omaa?
Gaawini. Indanokii omaa.
Apeqish miinawaa waabaminaan wayija. I hope to see you again soon.
Gíga–waabamin naaqaaj.

ZHAAGANAASHIIMOWIN
How are you?
I am fine. And you?
My name is ______. And you?
I am glad to meet you.
I am glad to know you.
Where do you come from?
I am from ______.
Do you live here?
No. I work here.

Niigaane Ojibwe Language Immersion Program
15353 Silver Eagle Drive, Bena MN 56626
Telephone: 218-665-3000
Toll free: 1-800-265-5576
www.bugonaygesh.org

Developed by Camille Naslund, Ed.D.,
Niigaane Program Director / Teacher

No matter who we are, where we live, or what we do, we’ve all been exposed to scams. But there are ways to avoid scams if you know how to spot them.

Here’s how to spot three common scams.

- Someone calls and says they’re from the IRS — but they tell you to pay by gift card. That’s a scammer. The real IRS doesn’t work that way.

- You meet a love interest online — but they ask you to send them money for some reason that sounds legit. But that’s what scammers do, and then vanish with your money.

- Something you bought online never showed up — and now the seller won’t email or call you back. That seller may be a scammer.

Report scams to the Federal Trade Commission at ReportFraud.ftc.gov

Each report helps the Federal Trade Commission find scammers and spread the word about the scam — so the people you care about can avoid it, too.

Learn how to spot and avoid scams at ftc.gov/scams