Leech Lake Tribal College President Helen Zaikina-Montgomery, who testified before the MN Senate Higher Education Committee earlier this month in favor of the bill, says the possibility of receiving this level of funding is a huge deal for the college and that the support from the state and tribe is significant.

"This bill could be super transformative to our college, to have this support from the Tribe and the State shows their belief in our students and their futures," said Zaikina-Montgomery.

Zaikina-Montgomery says new changes at the college have increased their budget, like staying open over weekends and adding new cultural activities, such as wellness workshops, workforce and professional development opportunities, and community meals. Tribal Colleges unlike traditional community colleges and four-year colleges are funded only through grants and Bureau of Indian Affairs or Tribal Government fundings.

"Education is the foundation of our future, and the Leech Lake Tribal College plays a vital role in providing our young people with the tools they need to succeed. This legislation will not only benefit the college, but it will also benefit our entire community by investing in the education and growth of our next generation of leaders," said Jackson.

Minnesota constituents can show support for the bill by mailing letters or emailing their elected representatives and senators asking them to vote in favor of the bill.
“It Is Linked” by artists Joan Kuppi and Shaawan Francis Keahna, on display at Bemidji Watermark Art Center.

By KAYLA DUOOS

BEMIDJI – 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 Aanikosijigaade “It Is Linked,” March 6-May 20, 2023. The exhibit features the work of two Indigenous Artists, Joan Kuppi and Shaawan Francis Keahna. The exhibit is described as “the connecting of stories; things old brought to new, across generations, gender, and media.”

The featured artists bring their observations about identity and current culture into dynamic visual metaphors. Using humor, question, and poignancy, they challenge the viewer to think more deeply about the world they are part of.

An artist reception will be held March 18, 2023, 2-3pm at the Miikinaan Gallery.

About the Artists

• Joan Kuppi became an artist by happenstance or perhaps having the heart of an artist manifested the ability or maybe opportunity to call myself one. I am an Anishinaabe woman, mother, grandmother, auntie, great-auntie, employee and my best friend is a dog. I am also a Split Feather; an Anishinaabe adoptee from the 60’s. The Split Feather and Artist labels should merge flawlessly but they are like oil and water; imposter syndrome is the clear winner. Throughout my six decades I have experimented in many art forms and while I loved those, they didn’t keep my attention. Collage is different. There is the transformation of merging images and the image stories change. I love putting pieces together from different decades, sizes, photographs, illustrations, paintings, postcards and old worn out papers. This is a new beginning, a new story, a new place of acceptance that was self-created. The isolation of the pandemic afforded me time to watch and read about multiple art forms and I had to try my hand. June 2023 will be two years since this journey began and hopefully will be around for many years in the future.

• Shaawan Francis Keahna is a cross-disciplinary artist and musician. His comics have been published in A Howl by Native Realities, Butter Saint by YBI Studios, and the Asian Cyborg and Other Othered Bodies by Ellie Hyojung Lee. His words can be found in R.I.S.E Indigenous, the Vassar Review’s “Fact, Fiction, and Fabrication,” and the Indigenous LGBT Sci Fi anthology, Love Beyond Body, Space and Time. He performs with his father as Billy Jackass and by himself as Bogo La$ik. He is a transient twenty-something who currently resides in Northern Minnesota.
RBC BRIEFS • March 2023

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE — The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Business Committee (RBC) holds weekly briefings on Tuesdays, followed by RBC meetings on Thursdays.

RBC briefings are attended by all available council members alongside scheduled presenters and LLBO division directors. Agenda items are presented for discussion at the Tuesday briefings and then are voted on for passage at the Thursday meeting. Occasionally, due to time constraints, a combination briefing and meeting will take place on the same day.

Two meetings were held in February 2023. All RBC briefings and meetings are live streamed via Vimeo and are available to view on leechlakenews.com under “Videos.” Official meeting minutes can also be found on leechlakenews.com under “LL Tribal Council” and “Tribal Council Meeting Minutes.”

BRIEFING/METTING RECAPS

1. February 16, 2023 A briefing & meeting was held in the RBC Government Chambers. Recorded video is available for playback via Vimeo.

Presentations Given
- Art Chase, Tribal Roads — Presentation revolved around Bena Bike path finalizations, construction is set to begin in 2024.
- Lee Turney, Early Childhood — Early Childhood is seeking further funding for grants for 2024 for operational funds.
- Darla Johnson, Health — Mask requirements are to be removed at congregate living societies such as Cass Lake and Bena emergency shelters, and Ahnji-Be-Mah-Diz recovery center.
- Brandy Toft, Environmental — Amendment to increase funding for LLC contract for cleanup of Superfund site OU7 under Tribal Standards with EPA. Cleanup Consultations of sites OU1 and OU2 will take place in the near future.
- Terri Finn-Gogleye, Administration — The Band will sponsor the Minnesota State Governor’s fishing opener in Mankato.

2. February 23, 2023 A briefing & meeting was held in the RBC Government Chambers. Recorded video is available for playback via Vimeo.

Presentations Given
- Chris Murray, Legal — Remaining mask requirements are to be removed from Tribal Buildings, mask mandates are subject to change at notice.
- Ben Benoit, Executive Director — On behalf of the Department of Resource Management. DRM is looking to purchase a new vehicle for the Wild Rice program. Current Truck is in poor state and doubles as the department’s plow truck. Vehicle purchase goes over $50,000 which requires Tribal Council signatures.
- Mike Auger, Gaming — Gaming is in need of a replacement server to control all gaming operations including floor slot machines. Current server is old and will need to be replaced in the 23'-24' fiscal year. Current server will begin experiencing outages and service interruptions within the next six months. Three bids were sought on replacement servers. Purchase and Bid approval will need to be approved by Tribal Council.

LLBO Awarded Funding for New Cultural and Tourism Center in S. Lake Community

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE — A new cultural and tourism center will be built in the S. Lake community.

The new center’s funding comes from the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB) who awarded the Leech Lake Band $243,000 to build a new cultural & tourism center in the S. Lake community. The Leech Lake project will also upgrade an adjacent RV park and roundhouse facility, near the S. Lake cultural and tourism center.

The proposed 16-acre site is currently occupied by a former school that was scheduled for demolition in 2022. It is located directly on MN State Highway 46, which is designated as part of the Avenue of The Pines Scenic Byway. The proposed building will only take up a portion of the 16-acre site.

Once the center is completed, it could serve as an anchor for a larger park and tourism project that would include additional trails and cultural learning opportunities. Early plans are also underway for a multi-use trail through the S. Lake community, which would link to the cultural center.

Proposed Center Features
- Public Restrooms
- Small indoor interpretive and info center using both Ojibwe and English languages,
- Walking trail with art installation or information plaques in Ojibwe & English
- Space for community and cultural events
- Picnic shelters
- Pet Relief Station
- EV charging station
- WI-FI
- Bicycle parking
- Small or Little Free Library

Leech Lake was one of eight communities to be awarded a community infrastructure grant by the IRRRB. IRRB put forth over $34 million towards economic development funding in the state. The awarded projects are expected to increase the regional tax base, create permanent and construction jobs, provide essential services, improve education and expand outdoor recreation and mining. The infrastructure projects like the one Leech Lake is starting, are projected to impact 148 jobs and create 348 construction jobs.

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation is funded through taxes paid by Minnesota’s mining industry. The projects approved at the board meeting support the agency’s FY23 spending plan which focuses on leveraging capital, improving the quality of life andRetaining, and creating well-paying jobs. The agency supports businesses, communities and workforce development projects that make northeasterm Minnesota a desirable place to live, work and play.

Youth Activities Program Returns with New Name and Format in 2023, Gaa-Niigaaniziwaad: The One’s Who Will Lead

By KAYLA DUOOS

CASS LAKE — The LLBO program formerly known as Youth Activities Programs is coming back in 2023, with a new name and a new format.

Gaa-Niigaaniziwaad (the one’s who lead) will consolidate the services provided under the Youth Activities Programs and the program formerly known as YouthBuild.

The Leech Lake Education Division plans to hold youth focused listening sessions in each District over the coming months. They also hope to host a youth-led summit.

This has been a focused time of identifying specific cultural teachings, games and opportunities has also been an investment into our staff, so that our staff are able to expand their cultural awareness and teachings to share with our youth,” Director of Education, Laurie Harper stated.

YouthBuild, originally funded in 2007, was a comprehensive youth development program focused on providing young people whom didn’t finish high school a chance to earn their diploma or GED and develop job readiness skills.

The new program incorporates a more holistic approach to celebrating the youth of the area, focusing on their goals and reintroducing them to traditional cultural components.

The program will be split up into three separate cohorts for middle school, high school and a third cohort dedicated to young adults who have been pushed out of the education system. The program will run year round and be divided up by seasonal activities such as sugar bush camp, setting nets, learning local waterways, and berry picking.

Participants will also have the opportunity to work on their degree, or hold paid internships at Tribal businesses and partners.

While the cultural component is one of the focuses, Gaa-Niigaaniziwaad will also incorporate activities that are identified by youth through the listening sessions.

“What we want to create is a truly youth led movement of activities that bring our youth together throughout Leech Lake while sharing and strengthening with them our cultural ways of being and knowing,” Director Harper says the program’s revamp will help grow the band’s generational knowledge as a whole.

“Knowledge is power. Often our kids in education settings have become invisible, and if we don’t see them, then out of sight and out of mind. If we bring them in and share our knowledge with them, then 10 to 15 years later we will be seeking them out to share what they learned to the next generation,” said Harper.

The “Gaa-Niigaaniziwaad” program is set to begin operating in July 2023.
Chairman’s Report

Protection Agency (EPA) had issued an ACTION Requested letter to Leech Lake Chairman Faron Jackson, Sr. On December 22, 2022 the EPA had collected samples from the school's public water system. The EPA had requested that Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe issue a Consumer Drinking Water Notice received at 1:19 am on Saturday, February 25, 2023.

- On Saturday, February 25, 2023 Chairman Jackson, Sr. had issued a letter to the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Superintendent on ACTION Required. A Notice must be provided to the school, students, and staff not be able to drink the water. Water drinking stations will be made available at the school. Water will be provided to the kitchen for cooking purposes. We are not trying to alarm the public, the school students or school staff but provide a fair notice. Chairman Jackson, Sr. had further stated, "I am very concerned about the safety and health of the students and staff of the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School."

- At 9:00 on Monday, February 27, 2023 the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Superintendent and board member, three employees of the EPA, EPA Water Sample Contractor, Leech Lake DRM staff, Leech Lake Emergency Response Team, Leech Lake Tribal Council members, and administration had an urgent meeting discussing the EPA letter and ACTION Requested. The school board had issued a statement on Sunday, February 26 in support of the EPA Consumer Drinking Water Notice. The EPA and Leech Lake meeting had concluded that within the next week, the EPA Contractor will do a second water test sample and those test results will be completed in 30 to 60-day time frame, minimum. After the sample water testing is completed, the next steps in addressing the contaminants in the drinking water will finalize a PLAN of ACTION.

Huber Engineered Woods Mill Project

- On February, 2023 Huber Engineered Woods had announced they will no longer be in Cohasset. Announced by the company on Thursday, the decision comes three days after a Minnesota Court of Appeals ruling that stated the company had to reconsider the environmental impact of its review. The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe had challenged the city of Cohassett's decision to allow an environmental assessment. The Leech Lake Tribal Council has been in consultation with MIGA, lobbyists, and legislators on the original proposal, the new proposal, changes to the proposal, and counter offers by the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association Tribes. This story is in the infancy stages, as more information becomes available, it will be reported to the Leech Lake Band members.

Leech Lake Area Health and Wellness Center

- Leech Lake Tribal Council is requesting a $25,000,000 appropriation by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota. The grant will construct a new Leech Lake Wellness Center. On February 21, 2023 this bill was referred to the Capital Investment Committee; latest action on the bill.

State of Minnesota Legislature

- Leech Lake Tribal Council is supporting a bill related to higher education that will provide money for grants to Minnesota's Tribal Colleges. The grant amounts will be $3,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and 2025 for Tribal Colleges. The bill was referred to Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee, and last action had occurred on February 6, 2023 with author added.

Sports Betting Proposal

- The Minnesota Legislature has a bill that shall provide the Minnesota Tribes an exclusive right to have lawful sports betting that is supported by the professional team owners in Minnesota. However, the bill has stalled because Canterbury Park Horse Track is demanding a piece of the action. The Leech Lake Tribal Council has been in consultation with MIGA, lobbyists, and legislators on the original proposal, the new proposal, changes to the proposal, and counter offers by the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association Tribes. This story is in the infancy stages, as more information becomes available, it will be reported to the Leech Lake Band members.

Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act Modifications

- At 8:30 am on Tuesday February 14, 2023 the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe had all hands-on deck testifying before a joint meeting of the Minnesota House of Representatives & Senate Committee members on MIFA modifications. Rebecca McConkey-Green, Leech Lake Tribal Court Associate Judge had presented the modifications to the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFA). The MIFA modifications will mirror the ICWA law that protects the Tribes right to keep Indian children with Indian families.

- These MIFA modifications have become necessary because the constitutionality of the 1978 ICWA law is before the uncertainty of the U.S. Supreme Court. At the Minnesota Senate and House of Representative committees joint hearing, Chairman Faron Jackson, Sr. had testified, "I was born in 1955 and I come from a family of eight children, and we were living in our tribal homelands. My two younger brothers were removed at the age of four and five from our home in the 60's before the ICWA or MIFA laws were established. And it caused a lot of trauma in our family, and we can still feel it today. From past experience, a loss of a brother or sister for any reason in a family is like a death in the family."

Safety note, please keep the porch steps and walkways shoveled for safe passage, it will prevent slips and falls. Spring is fast approaching; the maple sap will be dripping into cakes and syrup!

Visit us at: www.leechlakenews.com/events to stay up to date and informed on all events occurring around the Leech Lake Reservation.

LEELCH LAKE MARKET
Salad bar now open!

$7.98 per pound
MON THRU SAT 10 AM - 7 PM
**Secretary Treasurer Monthly Report**

**Secretary / Treasurer**

Leonard Fineday

**Governmental Activities**

Secretary/Treasurer’s Summary

**Monthly Report**

Greetings my fellow Leech Lake Band Members! It is my honor and privilege to present the Secretary/Treasurer report to you for March 2023, regarding the activities undertaken the last month.

**BUDGET AND EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE**

As I reported last month, the RBC adopted the FY 23 budget in January and finalized an agreement with new external auditors at the same time. We are now working on getting caught up with our external audits and developing our FY 24 budget. This work is regular and ongoing, but we are slowly and steadily making progress.

In addition to our regular Budget Team meetings, we will also begin to hold monthly financial updates for the RBC, with our administrative and financial staff. The purpose of these meetings will be to hold regular check-ins on the financial health of the tribal government on an on-going basis, including reviewing short-term and long-term financial impacts of decisions and policy changes the RBC is considering. These meetings will also cover revenue and expenditure updates for both our enterprise operations and our governmental functions, including third party billing. These meetings will keep the RBC on the same page and on track with our spending as we move through the year.

**OPIOID / FENTANYL EPIDEMIC**

The RBC and the tribal government have been working together on our ongoing response to the opioid and fentanyl epidemic within our community. We are exploring options to assume jurisdiction over civil commitments, which would detain those deemed harmful to others or themselves due to addiction and place them into recovery programs. We are also developing a community navigator program, which would ultimately have a navigator in each community trained and knowledgeable in resources and programs available to help community members in times of crisis.

These are just two items that tribal government has been exploring. We know that we must come together as a community to fully solve this problem. Toward that end, the RBC will be hosting a community meeting on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at Northern Lights Casino at 5:30 pm. Watch for announcements and information coming soon regarding the event, and please plan to participate if you can.

**AMENDED GAMING ORDINANCE**

On February 16, 2023, the RBC adopted an Amended Gaming Ordinance which has been sent to the National Indian Gaming Commission for approval pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Once approved by the NIGC, the amendments will go into effect.

The primary changes to the Ordinance include the following:

- Establishing the Leech Lake Gaming Regulatory Authority, which will oversee the regulation of gaming activities within the Leech Lake Reservation. This body will replace the current Leech Lake Gaming Commission (which was comprised of Leech Lake RBC members). The Gaming Regulatory Authority will be comprised of the current Regulatory Board, which includes the Compliance Director, Internal Audit Director, Health & Safety Director and Investigations Director.
- Asserting jurisdiction over all Class II gaming within the boundaries of the Reservation, regardless of whether that gaming is conducted by the Leech Lake Band or not. Class II gaming includes bingo, pull tabs, and non-banked card games. This assertion of jurisdiction is contemplated by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, but is something that our prior Gaming Ordinance did not expressly contain.
- Authorizing the licensure of non-tribally owned facilities within the boundaries of the Reservation to conduct certain Class II gaming activities, as long as 60% of the net revenue is income to the Band. More information will be forthcoming regarding the licensing and regulation of Class II gaming at non-tribally owned facilities.

These changes will not go into effect until the NIGC has approved the amended Gaming Ordinance. I will keep our Band members informed on the approval process.

**LLBO STRATEGIC PLAN**

On February 23, 2023, the RBC was updated regarding the Band's Strategic Energy Plan. This plan includes both regulating energy within the boundaries of the Reservation as well as exploring the feasibility of creating a tribal energy utility. The emphasis of the plan is to deploy sustainable energy solutions such as wind, solar and net-zero options. Work on the plan is on-going and more information will be made available to all Band members as the planning process progresses.

**INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

In closing for this month's report, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Benjamin Benoit, who has served the LLBO for the previous several years in various capacities, most recently as our interim Executive Director. Mr. Benoit’s administrative leadership was instrumental in progress made in the last several months on our FY 23 budget, third-party billing, and many environmental priorities, including cleaning up the St. Regis Superfund site, navigating the Band’s position regarding the Huber Engineered Woods proposal, and spearheading our relationship with the Chippewa National Forest.

Mr. Benoit will leave his current position at LLBO on March 3, 2023 for an assignment with the Chippewa National Forest as Deer River District Ranger. This is a first-of-its-kind arrangement between a federally recognized tribe and the National Forest Service under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970. The Agreement allows Mr. Benoit to be stationed at the Deer River District of the Chippewa National Forest for an initial term of two years with anticipated extensions. Under this arrangement, Mr. Benoit will be the first acknowledged LLBO member to be in a management/supervisor role within the Chippewa National Forest.

While I greatly appreciate the leadership and vision Mr. Benoit has brought to the LLBO tribal government, I sincerely wish him the best in this new position with the Chippewa National Forest and look forward to continue working with him in this new capacity.

To our Leech Lake Band members, it continues to be an honor and a privilege to serve all of you. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to my office. Miigwech!
The Bug O Nay Ge Shig Boys Basketball Team (pictured with their coach Petra Rodriguez, top left) celebrated their victory over Circle of Life Academy with a score of 61-22 on January 24. The girls game on January 26 was postponed due to unsafe roads.

Going into the final week of January and the start of February the Bug O Nay Ge Shig Girl's Basketball Team celebrated their victory over Circle of Life Academy. The SilverEagles won with a score of 39-13. They are shown with their coaches, Kyle Raisch and Linda Belgarde, in the photo top right.

Both the boys and girls teams celebrated victory on February 7. The Girl's Basketball Team defeated the Circle of Life Academy with a score of 53-21. The Boy's Team defeated COL Academy 64-36.

To finish their 2022-2023 season the Bug O Nay Ge Shig High School Basketball Teams went out with a double victory over Circle of Life Academy the third week in February. The girls won by 20 points, 57-37 while the boys won a hard fought match 54-47.

Bug O Nay Ge Shig School is pleased to announce that the Niigaane students pictured are winners in the Fire Safety Poster Contest sponsored by the Leech Lake Housing Authority. They are pictured above with their prizes.

The Bug O Nay Ge Shig Seasonal Activities Class recently went out on snowshoes in the woods near the school to look for rabbit trails. After setting a few snares, they were successful in their search for a meal.

The Bug O Nay Ge Shig Student Council organized a Valentine's Party for the High School and Middle School students at the end of the school day on February 14. It included snacks and activities such as karaoke, volleyball, cookie and card decorating, and basketball.
Gweyakmino Wiisinidaa!

Let’s eat the right foods!

Recipe of the Month by Chyrle LaDuke (Food Distribution), Josh Red Day (Leech Lake Diabetes Program)

Homemade Chili Macaroni

**Ingredients**

*Commodity Foods*

- 3/4-pound ground beef*
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 cup uncooked macaroni
- 1 can low sodium diced tomatoes* drained (15 ounces)
- 2 teaspoons chili powder, mild
- 1/2 cup of Garlic, Pepper, & Onion Mix (see below)
- salt (optional, to taste)

**Directions:**
Brown ground beef in a large skillet, and drain the fat. Add water, macaroni, tomatoes, chili powder, and seasoning mix. Stir. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to low, and simmer covered on low heat for 20 minutes or until macaroni is tender. Taste; add a small amount of salt if needed. (optional)

**Garlic, pepper and onion mix**

- 1 1/4 teaspoons black pepper
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley flakes
- 3/4 cup dried, minced onion
- 2 cups dried milk, non-fat*

**Directions:**
Combine all ingredients. Store in an airtight container. The recipe makes about 40 Tablespoons or 2.5 cups.

**Nutrition facts**

Calories 257, total fat 10g, saturated fat 4g, cholesterol 57mg, sodium 264mg, carbohydrates 21g, dietary fiber 3g, total sugars 7g, added sugars 0g, protein 21g, Vitamin D 0mcg, calcium 148mg, iron 3mg, potassium 622mg.

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.

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From the District III Office LeRoy, Toni & Kari

**District III Elder Birthdays**

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**April**

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ALL ELDERS ARE ENTITLED TO $10 SLOT PLAY & $10 MEAL COUPON THAT MUST BE USED WITHIN THE BIRTHDAY MONTH.
Minnesota Court of Appeals Delivers Significant Victory to Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Case Opposing Huber Engineered Woods Factory

By MICHAEL CHOSA

CASS LAKE – In an important win for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, the Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled Monday that a massive and controversial engineered wood factory proposed to be built near the Band’s Reservation must undergo additional environmental study.

The decision sends Huber Engineered Woods’ proposal back to the City of Cohasset for further review, reversing the City’s earlier decision to ignore the Band’s request for a more detailed environmental study in this matter — called an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Court ordered Cohasset to further study the proposal’s effects on wetlands and issue a new decision on whether an EIS is needed. The Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy represented the Leech Lake Band in this case.

In a first for Minnesota, the Court of Appeals also recognized that Tribal governments have expertise that must be considered when project proposals threaten Treaty rights: “Based on the Leech Lake Band’s sovereign status and environmental expertise, we accord significant weight to its comments [in environmental review] and arguments in this appeal,” the opinion stated.

“The court decision issued today is a major victory for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of respecting the sovereignty and treaty rights of indigenous nations,” said Band’s Chairman Faron Jackson, Sr. “The proposed OSB Mill project posed a clear threat to our sacred resources, including wild rice and wildlife, while bypassing an important step in the environmental review process. We are grateful for the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy’s unwavering support in this matter. We will continue to work towards protecting our resources, our environment and preserving our way of life for future generations.”

Huber is seeking to build a 750,000 square foot facility — roughly twice the size of the Minnesota State Capitol — just one mile from Leech Lake’s Reservation boundary. The site is home to a highly sensitive wetland near Blackwater Lake, which contains more than 300 acres of wild rice, a sacred and critical resource for the Band. Also, the process heat needed for the plant would be produced by burning bark and scrap wood, which would emit enormous amounts of harmful air pollution.

Despite the clear and substantial risks posed by a development of this scale on Leech Lake’s way of life and natural resources, neither the State of Minnesota nor the City of Cohasset consulted with the Band about the proposal. In fact, the Band only learned of it when a press release announced that the State intended to try to excuse the proposal from laws that typically require projects of this magnitude to undergo an EIS due to their significant potential to disrupt the environment.

Instead, the press release indicated Huber only needed to conduct a cursory environmental review, called an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), and that the study would be reviewed and approved by Cohasset.

The Band filed extensive comments during the EAW process, alerting the City that the project would have significant impacts on its treaty resources and should be subjected to an EIS to learn more about how. When the City denied that request, the Band appealed, leading to today’s decision.

In the opinion, the Court specifically found that the City failed to consider the impacts of the project on wetlands at the site and nearby. The project site has two public waters wetlands that could be eliminated by the project. Public waters wetlands receive special protections under the law due to their environmental significance. The Court also recognized that wetlands downstream from the site, including the Blackwater wild rice bed, could be significantly affected by the project.

“We look forward to working with Cohasset as they reconsider the environmental review on these important issues,” said Ben Benoit, Leech Lake Band’s Interim Executive Director. “The Leech Lake Tribal Council is excited to discuss regional economic policy, creation of jobs, and bringing projects to our region, but not at the expense of our homeland.”

Marchers began at the lakefront by Paul Bunyan Park and gathered at the Beaux Arts Ballroom to share their stories, and join in dance and honor songs.

7th Annual MMIW Awareness Walk Held in Bemidji

By KAYLA DUOOS

BEMIDJI – The seventh annual Missing Murdered Indigenous Women’s walk was held Friday, February 14, 2023.

The march was hosted by MMIW 218, who began the walk at Paul Bunyan Park and continued to the Bemidji State Beaux Arts Ballroom, where attendees were able to listen to speakers, hear honor songs and share stories of their relatives.

The walk was held simultaneously with several other marches across the country to raise awareness for the rising number of Indigenous Women who have been victims of violence and have gone missing without data or media representation.

In a 2016 US Department of Justice study, it was determined that Native Women disproportionately are higher recorded victims of homicide and violence than peers of differing races. Murder is the third leading cause of death amongst Native American Women, and one in three Native American Women will be victims of assault or sexual violence at some point in their lifetime. Within the state of Minnesota, although Native American women and girls only make up 1% of the state’s population, 8% of all murdered women and girls are Indigenous.

Since the inaugural MMIW/R walk was held in Bemidji several years ago, a number of changes both nationwide and federal have been made to help combat figures represented including: the reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the passing of Savanna’s Act, the Not Invisible Act, and the introduction of the Presidential Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives.

More recent developments include the Department of the Interior’s recently established Missing & Murdered Unit (MMU) within the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office and the newly opened MMIW office in Minneapolis, MN.

Anyone with information about any of the MMIW cases in the area are asked to contact the Bemidji police department at (218) 333-9111.

2023 LLBO Pow Wow Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mii Gwitch Mahnommen Days</td>
<td>July 14 - 16, 2023</td>
<td>Ball Club, MN 56636</td>
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<tr>
<td>60th Annual Traditional Pow Wow</td>
<td>July 14 - 16, 2023</td>
<td>Ball Club, MN 56636</td>
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<td>Waa Wiye Gaa Mag 19th Annual T Pow Wow</td>
<td>June 16 - 18, 2023</td>
<td>S. Lake, MN 56681</td>
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<tr>
<td>Onigum 24th Annual Traditional Pow Wow</td>
<td>July 21 - 23, 2023</td>
<td>Onigum, MN 56484</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cha Cha Bah Ning 42nd Annual Traditional Pow Wow</td>
<td>August 25 - 27, 2023</td>
<td>Inger, MN 56636</td>
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<td>Sagasweiw 2nd Annual Traditional Pow Wow</td>
<td>September 8 - 10, 2023</td>
<td>Cass Lake, MN 56633</td>
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<tr>
<td>Battle Point 25th Annual Traditional Pow Wow</td>
<td>September 15 - 17, 2023</td>
<td>Battle/Sugar Point, MN 56641</td>
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For more info call: 218-335-3637 or visit facebook.com/llpowwows
New Bill Aims to Legalize Sports Betting in MN, Give Tribes Exclusive Rights

By KAYLA DUOOS

MINNEAPOLIS – A new bill to legalize sports betting has been introduced in the Minnesota legislature with the full support of the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association (MIGA). DFL Rep. Zack Stephenson who introduced the bill, said that Tribes would have an exclusive right to betting, and would keep both professional sports teams and the state’s two racetracks out of the action. The bill would allow Minnesotans to place bets at Tribal casinos or on mobile devices.

Lawmakers have failed to pass similar bills in the past. Thirty-six states and the District of Columbia have all legalized sports betting over the past five years.

In a press release, MIGA said as long as the bill would support the Tribes, they would stand behind it. “Were your bill to become law, MIGA Tribes believe the resulting mobile and retail markets operated by Minnesota’s Tribal Nations would not only support Tribes, but would also provide a well-regulated and accessible market for the state’s sports bettors and a competitive market that is important to our state’s professional sports teams and market partners.”

Additionally, the state’s sports teams issued a joint statement in support of the legislation and Tribal exclusivity, saying they’d reached agreement with MIGA on the bill and that they have a “strong desire” to help establish a “vibrant market that features as many betting brands as possible.”

The letter, signed by leaders of the Minnesota Lynx, Timberwolves, Twins, United, Vikings and Wild, also signaled that the teams would oppose allowing non-Tribal entities to obtain sports betting licenses. Each tribe would be allowed a license to partner with one mobile gambling platform, such as FanDuel, DraftKings or Caesars.

“We are happy to report that the state’s professional sports teams, including the Loons, Timberwolves/Lynx, Twins, Wild, and Vikings have come to an agreement with the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association in support of the draft sports betting bill that you have authored and intend to introduce to the House of Representatives during the current session,” the statement read in part.

“The bill needs to be vetted and win approval by six House committees and likely won’t be up for a floor vote before April.”

Niigaane Ojibwe Language Immersion Program

Words and sentences list for March

OJIBWEMOWIN

NIIGAANE OJIBWE (things)

AWEWEGIWEN I’IW?

ZHAAGANAASHIMOWIN

What is that?

Amewigen o’ow?

What is that over there?

Amewigen onow?

What are these?

Amewigen iniw?

What are those?

ANIMATE (people, animals, etc.)

Awenen wa’aw?

Who is this?

Awenen a’aw?

Who is that?

Awenen awedi?

Who is that over there?

Awenenaq onqow?

Who are they/these ones?

Awenenaq iniq?

Who are they/those ones?

Awenenaq iniqwedig?

Who are those ones over there?

Niigaane Ojibwe Language Immersion Program

15353 Silver Eagle Drive, Bena MN 56626

Phone: 218-663-3000

Toll free: 1-800-265-5576

www.bugonaygeshig.org

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

USDA Announces Cooperative Agreement with Leech Lake Band

via USDA

202-720-8998

PA@usda.gov

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) recently announced it has signed a cooperative agreement with the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe under the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA). Through LFPA, the tribe seeks to purchase and distribute locally grown, produced, and processed food from underserved producers.

“USDA is excited to partner with Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe to promote economic opportunities for farmers and producers to increase access to locally sourced, fresh, healthy, and nutritious food in underserved communities,” said USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Lester Moffitt. “The Local Food Purchase Cooperative Agreement Program will improve food and agricultural supply-chain resiliency and increase local food consumption around the country.”

With the LFPA funds, the tribe will purchase culturally appropriate food from regional farmers, with a focus on those operated by indigenous people and nearby tribal nations. The purchased food will be provided to low-income tribal members in areas identified as a desert or those known to have chronic nutritional insecurities. The distribution will occur through the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Elderly Nutrition Program, community centers, and establishment of a food backpack program at area schools.

“The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is honored to participate in USDA’s LFPA program. This program will increase access to fresh, healthy food for tribal members and comes at a critical time as we work towards alleviating increased food costs and addressing food shortages. This is also an important step towards creating true food sovereignty for the tribe.”

Producers that are interested in participating in the program can call Bryan McCoy at 218-335-3769 or visit the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Development website.

USDA’s Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program provides up to $900 million through non-competitive cooperative agreements to enable state, territory and tribal governments to support local, regional and underserved producers, and maintain or improve food and agricultural supply chain resiliency through the purchase of food produced within the state or within 400 miles of delivery destination. Funding for the program comes from the American Rescue Plan and the Commodity Credit Corporation.

AMS looks forward to continuing to sign agreements under this innovative program that allows states and tribal governments to procure and distribute local and regional foods and beverages that are healthy, nutritious, and unique to their geographic area.

More information about the program is available on AMS’s Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program webpage.
Obituaries

Alexis "Dud" Rodriguez

Alexis "Dud" Rae Rodriguez, 28 years young, "Manidoo Ikwe" meaning "Spirit Woman" of the Migizi Clan and from Bemidji, Minnesota unexpectedly began her journey to the spirit world on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 from the North Memorial Hospital in Robbinsdale, MN.

Alexis was born the daughter of Sadonna Cloud and Gilbert Rodriguez on September 3, 1994, in Bemidji, MN. She enjoyed listening to music very much and loved being around her friends and family. Alexis’ personality was relaxed and outgoing and she always had a plan for everything.

She will be welcomed to the spirit world by many of her relatives.

Those left behind to forever cherish her memory are her children, Illyana, Brayden, Aaliyah; parents, Sadonna (Will) Cloud and Gilbert (Melissa) Rodriguez; siblings, Angelo, Emilio, Miranda, Antonio, Maurice, and Maricella; grandparents, Delores and Norman Gogleye; numerous other family members and friends.

An overnight wake for Alexis will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 25 and continue until her 10:00 a.m. traditional service on Sunday, February 26 all to be held at the Inger Community Center in Inger, MN. Allen Hardy will be her Spiritual Advisor. Pallbearers for Alexis will be McKinley Kingbird, Will Hart, Marvin Rainey, Denver Aragon, Jonathan Nubbe, and Aaron Fairbanks. The alternate pallbearer will be Matt Dudley. Her honorary pallbearers are the family of Alexis. Interment will be in the Inger Cemetery at Inger, MN following her Sunday services.

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

Andretti Bushey

Andretti De'Angelo Bushey, 25 years young, of the Crane Clan and from Onigum, Minnesota began his journey to the spirit world on February 9, 2023 from his work.

Andretti was born in Minneapolis, MN on December 31, 1997 to Dyana Bruce. He grew up in a very tight knit family and was raised in Onigum, MN by his mom and dad, Dyana and Mike. His competitive nature was obvious by his Jr. Brave Grass Dancer and twice Sr. Brave Grass Dancer titles; as well as his being a 2X Diamond Apex Predator gamer. Andretti was a talented rapper with an amazing sense of humor. He loved the winter and being outdoors whenever he could. Andretti was a hard worker, he worked as a cook for many different establishments; never going very long without a job. He will be remembered by his loyalty to his many friends and his love for his family.

Family that Andretti is reunited with are his grandparents, Suzanne and Walter Smith, Sr.; aunt, Bonita Bruce; uncles, Steve and Daniel Bruce; great uncles, Buck, Gus, and Hank Bruce and his best friends, Raymond Krasky and Alonzo Smith.

Those left behind to forever cherish his memory are his mother, Dyana (Mike Rice) Bruce; sister, Andrea Bushey; brothers, Anthony, Andrew, and Andros Bushey; the only love of his life, Marcy White; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and too many friends to list.

The wake for Andretti will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, February 17 and continue until his 11:00 a.m. traditional service on Sunday, February 19 all to be held at the Onigum Community Center in Onigum, MN. Frankie Graves will be his Spiritual Advisor. Pallbearers for Andretti will be Charles Oothoudt, Justin Nordmarken, Daniel Jones, Dion Jackson, Loren Gunthner, and Randall Beltz. His honorary pallbearers are Anthony Bushey, Andrew Bushey, Andros Bushey, Mike Rice, Kenny Rice, Robert Elmsberg, Sr., Walter Smith, Jr., James Jones, and William Pell. Inurnment will be in the Old Agency Catholic Cemetery at Old Agency, MN at a later date.

Andretti’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

Bernice Pemberton

Bernice Ann Pemberton, age 76, of the Loon Clan and Cass Lake, MN journeyed to the Spirit World on Sunday, January 29, 2023, from her home in Cass Lake, MN. She was born on July 5, 1946, in Cass Lake MN, the daughter of Alfred and Susan (Whitebird) Pemberton.

She grew up in Mission and attended school in Cass Lake after that she attended BSU/University of Minnesota where she received a master’s degree in education. Bernice was a very active educator, she loved to teach at several different schools. She also served as Principal at several schools in the area. She truly enjoyed helping her students get scholarships to college, as well as write grants for her schools. One of her favorite things to do was to write essays.

Bernice enjoyed travelling to various Casinos and visiting with the residents of that Community, she enjoyed playing Kenno while there. She loved being around her children, grandchildren, and family. She like to play scrabble and cribbage with her family and friends, as well as doing crosswords. When she wasn’t doing these things she enjoyed walks, picking Strawberries and potatoes. She also had a sweet tooth and enjoyed her pop at all the family gatherings.

Those greeting Bernice in the spirit world are her parents, Alfred and Susan; sister, Carol J Kingbird; nephew, Ray Pemberton; and niece Rita Pemberton.

Those Bernice leaves behind to cherish her memory are her daughters, Toni Pemberton and Sharon Vannett; brother, Alfred (Simone) Pemberton Jr.; grandchildren, Ryan Connor, Jennifer (Dion) Connor, Tianna White, Kay White, Justin White; great grandchildren, Parker Connor, Aaliyah Connor, Alakai Barrett, and Mina White; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The overnight wake for Bernice will begin on Friday, February 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. and continue until her Saturday, February 4, 2023, 11:00 a.m., Traditional Service, all to be held at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Officiating the wake will be Jeff Oakgrove, and Spiritual Advisor for the Traditional Service will be Allen Hardy. Those helping to lay Bernice to rest are Donald Headbird Sr., Bernard Brown Sr., Vincent Morris, Timothy Connor, Ryan Connor, and Justin White. Honorary pallbearers are, Carol Wittner, Beverly Whitebird, Nancy Whitebird, Elizabeth “Roomie” Kingbird, Francis Vannett, and Annie English-Deloe. Interment will be in Prince of Peace Cemetery, Cass Lake, in the spring.

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

Clarabel Kruse

Clara was preceded in death by her mother Susan, her father Ambrose, son Christopher Jones, and sisters Maryann Shed, Dolly Granger, Nancy Arnoux, and Karen Applebee. Also preceded in death by her brothers Alexander and Ronald Schaaf, and grandson Gage Kruse.

Clara left home early in life to obtain an education by attending Haskell Nations University where she studied business & office management, earning a degree in 1958. Clara then joined the “Indian Relocation Act” where she relocated to Oakland, California to begin her career. Clara sought further education and attended the University of California Berkeley where she studied and became an activist in Native American sovereignty and treaty rights, participating in the “Occupation of Alcatraz” in 1969. Clara also participated in the American Indian Movement AIM protest in 1970 creating awareness surrounding the illegal arrests occurring in the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation where the State of Minnesota illegally arrested natives on the Leech Lake reservation for hunting, fishing, and wild rice harvesting. This protest sanctioned by the then tribal council resulted in the state of Minnesota, Supreme Court Decision Leech Lake Band of Chippewa vs. Herbst, ordering the state to cease all legal actions against Leech Lake Band
of Ojibwe which generated self-regulation over inherent tribal rights.

Clara was employed for several years at Mille Lacs Band Casino in the slot department. She enjoyed playing bingo with her sisters and was an avid reader of books.

Clara is survived by her daughters D.D. Simula (Erik) and Jane Harstad, her sons Patrick (Terri) and Martin Kruse, brothers Bill (Barb), and Frank Schaaf, and sisters Suzanna Schaaf and Marilyn Whitney. Clara is also survived by Grandchildren Kevin Fairbanks Jr., LeAnn Fairbanks, Brian Fairbanks, Timothy Bradford, Shannon Thomas (Jeremy), Jacob Harstad, Jessica Ahlers, Joesette Harstad, Devlin Moose, Kendric Kruse and Conner Kruse. Great Grandchildren Aubree Villeneuve, Danica Fairbanks, Trey Fairbanks, Jayden Fairbanks, Greyson Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Keenan Fairbanks, MaKenzie Fairbanks, MaTaya Fairbanks, MaCoy Fairbanks, MaKai Fairbanks, MaKotah Fairbanks, Paxton Fairbanks, Greyson Fairbanks, Nikaan Blackwell, Julian Harstad, and Great Great Grandson Zander Geving.

Visitation for Clara will be held at the Mille Lacs D1 Community Center on Tuesday, February 28 starting at 6:00 pm. and her funeral will be held at the same location starting at 10:00 am on Wednesday March 1.

Gloria Dudley

Gloria Jean Dudley, "Makoonce" meaning Little Bear, was called home on February 16, 2023, with her family by her side. She was born on March 7, 1948, to James E. Allen, Sr. and Vina (Bongo) Allen.

Gloria grew up in the Walker/Onigum area. After high school, she attended Haskell University and Bemidji State University. Her passion for working in the educational field was reflected in her career. Her membership with the Ojibwe Hymn Singers was an important part of her religious life committing herself to helping families when a loved one was lost. Gloria was passionate in her relationships with others, always emphasizing the positives in others. The love she had for her family, relatives and friends was much greater than can be imagined and she always stressed to show their love to one another.

Family that welcomes Gloria home are her parents, James Allen, Sr., Vina (Bongo) Allen; brothers, Gary G. Allen, Rodney D. Allen, sister, Lila (Allen) and many relatives. Leaving behind to cherish her memory are her husband and lifelong companion, Thomas William Dudley; children, Michelle (Zac) Larsen, Sharon Dudley, and Gary Allen, grandchildren, Bradley Dudley, Tyler Larsen, Sylas Dudley, and Essence Dudley; siblings, James Allen, Jr., Margaret Allen, Betsy (Ernest) Allen, Aileen (Brady) Allen and Michael Allen, and Godson Jackson. And a special mention to the Michaud family members.

Preceded in death by his "Papa" Duane Holmes, brothers Wayne, Rich, Billy, Michael & Jimmy. Also preceded in death by his grandparents George & Mamie Humphrey, and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Ottawa was born on December 6, 1961, in Minneapolis, MN. He graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1980 and moved to the Cass Lake area. Ottawa lived his life as an avid outdoorsman, hunting & fishing. He joined the Minnesota Chippewa Softball team in 1981 where he won most valuable player at the national tournament. He went on to win several awards on the softball circuit where he was known as "Ottomatic". In 2014 he was inducted into the Inaugural Class of the United Tribes Softball Hall of Fame.

Ottawa enjoyed introducing others to the outdoors like his Uncle Wallace. Pallbearers: Donovan Haaland, Jackson Haaland, Dan Morris, Eric Nelson, John Wind, Kenny Clark, John Charnoski.

Lawrence "Baby Lar" Norquay Jr.

Helen Lindemann (White)

Helen Theresa Lindemann (White) Ga-Gii-we-EQuay, Raven Woman, was born December 8, 1938, into the Bear Clan and began her spiritual journey home on January 7, 2023, at the age of 84. Helen was one of sixteen children born to Dan White and RoseMary Mitchell White. She was born at home in Boy Lake MN, Helen was raised and educated in the Boy Lake area. She is survived by four children, daughters: Vivian White of Crestline CA, Rosebud Cultur of Osmond NE, Sabrina Culver of Federal Dam MN, and Son Matthew Duosu (Jody) of Deer River MN. She is also survived by numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren and special friend Faith Littlewolf of Cass Lake.

Helen led a remarkable life filled with many changes. She got sober in 1980, and went on to raise three of her granddaughters from infancy to adulthood. Helen was powerless when it came to driving past a rummage...
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court

200 Salistar Dr. NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218.335.3882 • 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 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 Salistar Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 22nd day of September, 2022 at 10:30 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by George Wind, surviving Parent of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all creditors having a claim against the estate are requested 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 Guardianship of: K.A.T., Child, DOB: 02/12/2007. Derrick Therriault, Petitioner, And Jamie Peterson & Zachary Therriault, Respondents,

Case No. FA-21-107

NOTICE OF LEGAL PUBLICATION NOTICE OF HEARING YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on August 12th, 2021, a Petition for Appointment of Guardian (Minor) was filed with the Leech Lake Tribal Court regarding the child(ren) of the above-named parents. You, the respondent here, are hereby notified that you must appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on May 24th, 2023 at 1:30 p.m., the date of the Permanency Hearing, for the hearing of this matter.

LEGAL NOTICE
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court

In Re Estate of: Leonard Bruce Parks Sr., DOB: 08/28/1967, Decedent.

Court File No. CV-22-25

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Leonard Bruce Parks Sr., died December 20, 2021. 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 Salistar Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 9th, day of June, 2022 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 Madeline Dorothy Parks, surviving spouse of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on June 9, 2022, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Madeline D. Parks, 1144 Poccupine Rd. SE Cass Lake, MN 56633, was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the estate of Leonard Bruce Parks Sr., decedent.

LEGAL NOTICE
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Tribal Court


Court File No. CV-22-154

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named decedent, Patricia Lynn Wade, died July 3, 2022. A hearing was held before the Honorable Rebecca McConkey-Greene, Associate Judge of the above-named Tribal Court located in the Leech Lake Tribal Justice Center, 200 Salistar Drive NW, in Cass Lake, Minnesota on the 25th, day of January 2023 at 10:30 a.m., upon the filing of a Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Formal Appointment of Personal Representative by Bryan Finn, surviving significant other of the decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the Initial Probate Hearing held on January 25, 2023, in Leech Lake Tribal Court, Bryan Finn, PO Box 62 Ben, MN 56626 was appointed to act as Personal Representative of the Estate of Patricia Lynn Wade, decedent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all creditors having a claim against the estate are requested 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 Welfare of the child(ren) of: Dominic L. Meeshenow and Alyssa N. Beaulieu, Parents

Court File No. CP-23-02

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 February 23, 2023 at 1:00 PM 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.

Debahjimon
Debahjimon can be found at the following locations:

District I
Ball Club Comm. Center
White Oak Casino
Cenex Station
Max Mart
Inger Comm. Center
Deer River School

District II
Bug O Nay Ge Shig School
Bena Community Center
Bena Store
Sugar Point Comm. Center
Kego Lake Comm. Center

District III
Cass Lake Rest Area
Che We Station
Leech Lake RTC

Tribal Justice Center
Facility Center
Dairy Queen
Cass Lake IHS
Cass Lake Dental Clinic
Leech Lake Market
Shell Station
Diabetes Clinic
Women’s Halfway House
White Earth Office
Child Welfare Office

Financial Services
Woman’s Services
Opioid Clinic
Leech Lake DRM
MCT Headquarters
Cass Lake-Bena H.S.
Cedar Lakes Casino
Leech Lake Gaming
Junction Station
Leech Lake Tribal College
Men’s Halfway House

Leech Lake Health Division
RBC Building
Tribal Development
Leech Lake Housing

Bemidji
Sanford Center Box Office
Teso Station
Bemidji Public Library
Social Services Building
Bemidji IHS Building

LLOBO Health Clinic
Bemidji State Univ. AIMC
Northwest OIC
Osaki Manido Center
Simonson’s Station
Tesoro Station

The Debahjimon is a free, monthly publication.
Obituaries Continued.

...sale sign. It would not happen. She loved thrifting and rummaging and could spend entire days stopping at one rummage sale after another. Helen was also an extraordinary seamstress, beadworker, and regalia maker of the highest order. Her unique and stunning beadwork was unforgettable and recognized by those who saw it. It was best remembered by her magnificent black shell dress that she created from a dream of her Grandmother wearing it. This dress she wore for many years dancing in Pow Wows. Helen was an extremely independent and strong woman. For many years, she powered her own chainsaw to cut her own firewood. In her younger days, she loved to hunt. She shot many deer right out of the woods. Helen loved rendezvous and living the summer of 1979 and they were married on August 21, 1985. Ray loved spending time picking berries, gathering birch bark, and just enjoying the sound of the woods. Helen loved rendezvous and living history events. She spent many years traveling with her sister Ruth and son Matt to events all over the state of Minnesota and surrounding states. She slept on the ground in her own birch bark lodge until she was 68 years old at these events. Helen spent time working for the Leech Lake Boys Youth Lodge in Cass Lake in the late 70’s. In 1982, she purchased a home on Portage Lake, south of Cass Lake. That is where she would live her life while raising her grandchildren. Helen is greatly loved and will be missed by all who knew her.

The wake will begin at 1:00 P.M. on Friday, January 13, 2023, at the Pointe Point Community Center in Sugar Point MN, and continue until the service on Saturday, January 14, 2023. Casketbearers will be family and friends. Interment will be in the spring at the Bear Clan Cemetery, Arrangements provided by Whispering Pines Funeral & Cremation Service of Walker & Hackensack, MN (whisperingpinesnorth.com).

Phyllis Ann Day, "Manidoo Binesikwe" meaning 'Spirit Thunderwoman,' of the Eagle Clan and Cass Lake, MN, age 69, started her journey to the spirit world peacefully on Sunday, February 19, 2023, with family by her side. She was born on May 12, 1953, the daughter of Loretta and Edward Clark in Lengby, MN. Phyllis lived in Cass Lake most of her life. She attended Cass Lake School and worked at the dik-oh-nah-gin and Tot Stop. She loved taking care of others. Phyllis loved to be with her grandchildren, her dogs, and having family barbeques and gatherings where she would dance and let loose. She enjoyed going to pow-wows and the casino. Her personality was one of a kind, her humor was dirty at times, with no filter she was definitely outspoken. She loved to laugh. Phyllis opened her house and heart to anyone in need. Phyllis will be greatly missed by all who loved and knew her.

Family Phyllis leaves behind are her husband, Jimmy Day; a blessed second set of parents, Georgianne and John Fiegum; son, James (Kathy) Littlewolf, Jr.; daughters, Toni (D) Littlewolf, Tiffany Littlewolf; sister, Donna Frazer; her dogs, Makwa, Athena, and Oreo; 26 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; with number 34 on the way; 1 great-great-grandchild; numerous family members and friends.

Those greeting Phyllis in the spirit world are her parents, Loretta and Edward; brother, Roger Wells; granddaughters, Rose Wind, Niibin Skye, Elina Rose; daughter, Tina Clark; sisters-in-law, Dianna Brown, Margaret Smith, Iva Day; auntie, Iva LaDuke; father of her children, James John Littlewolf, Sr.; close friends, Darlene Johnson and Bonnie Kingbird.

A two-night wake for Phyllis will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 23, 2023, and continue until her Saturday, February 25, 2023, 11:00 a.m. service, all to be held at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN, Phyllis’ Spiritual Advisor will be Allen Hardy. Those helping to lay Phyllis to rest are Justin Littlewolf, Nick Littlewolf, Kenny White, James Littlewolf III, John Fiegum, Aaron Smith, Brian White, Jr. Honorary pallbearers are all Phyllis’ loving grandchildren. Her final resting place will be at home with her family.

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

Raymond “Ray” Jenkins

Raymond “Ray” Wayne Jenkins, Sr., 62, of Cass Lake, Minnesota began his journey to the spirit world on Sunday, January 29, 2023, from Duluth, MN. He was born on June 27, 1988, in Minneapolis, MN, the son of Neva Mueller and Simon White, Jr.

Ray was born on November 7, 1960, in Cass Lake, MN to Susan (Littlewolf) and Louis Jenkins, Sr. Ray met his wife Cherlene the summer of 1979 and they were married on August 15, 1985. Ray loved spending time with his nine grandchildren, who were his pride and joy. He had nicknames for all nine of them. Ray also enjoyed spending time hunting, fishing, and riding. He was an avid Minnesota Vikings fan and in his younger years enjoyed playing softball, basketball, volleyball, horseshoes and playing in the local pool and dart tournaments. When Ray wasn’t spending time with his family, he loved playing Keno. Ray will be deeply missed by his family.

Family that will greet Ray in the spirit world are his son, Raymond “B-Ray” Jenkins, Jr.; his father, Louis Jenkins, Sr.; brothers, Richard “Dickie” Littlewolf, Louis Jenkins, Jr., Robert Jenkins, Robert McKennet and Duane Jenkins; sisters, Jennifer Jenkins and Louise McKennet; many other relatives and friends.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are his wife, Cherlene; daughter, Shauna (Matt) Fourstar; mother, Susan Jenkins; sister, Shannon Jenkins; nine grandchildren, Kaidance, AJ, Naomi Fourstar, Rashawn, Raelynn, Anishatah, Ameera, Raymond III, Creed Jenkins, and Julius Huesers, many nieces, nephews, and other family members.

An overnight wake for Ray will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 1 and continue until his Thursday, February 2 all being held at the Mission Community Center in Cass Lake, MN. Jeff Oakgrove will officiate. Pallbearers for Raymond will be Mike Burris, Deion Burris, Matt Fourstar, Devin Butcher, Marvin Staples, Jr., and Robert Butcher. Alternate pallbearers are Devin Rushman, Allen Brown, and Dominick Jenkins. His honorary pallbearers are his grandchildren Kaidance Fourstar, AJ Fourstar, Naomi Fourstar, Rashawn Jenkins, Anishatah Jenkins, Ameera Jenkins, Raymond Jenkins III, Raelynn Jenkins, Creed Jenkins, Julius Huesers and The Mission Eagles. Interment will be in the Fineday Family Cemetery at Pennington, MN in the spring.

Raymond’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

Samuel “Sam” White

Samuel “Sam” Kyle White, 34, of the Bear Clan and Cass Lake, MN, started his spiritual journey on Thursday, February 16, 2023, from Duluth, MN. He was born on June 27, 1988, in Minneapolis, MN, the son of Neva Mueller and Simon White, Jr.

Sam was always smiling. He was a loving, caring, and loyal young man. He loved hot sauce on everything, listening to music, especially music by "Lil Durk", and was a smooth talker. Sam was always dressed with style. He enjoyed being outdoors, chilling by the lake, and hanging with family, especially loved time with his nieces and nephews. Sam was very photogenic. He loved his mother more than anything in this world, she was his rock. He liked playing chess, cards, basketball, and Xbox with family. He was a great artist and drew many wonderful pictures. Sam and his brothers were known as the "Three Amigos" as that’s what their mom always called them. Sam will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Those Sam leaves behind to forever cherish his memory are his dad, Simon, Jr.; son, Caise Ruhanen-White of Duluth, MN; brothers, Robert (Renee) Budreau, Jr., Anthony (Lena) White, Simon White III, Jacob Budreau, Sr.; special brother, Michael "Squid" Siweert; sisters, Brittany (James) Budreau, Leah (Clinton) Jacobs; and numerous other family members and friends.

Greeting Sam in the spirit world are his beloved mom, Neva Mueller; grandma, Beverly Thompson; grandpa, James Mueller; sisters, Deena Budreau, Nina Roberts, Janelle Kingbird; and too many other relatives to list.

An overnight wake for Sam will begin on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. and continue until his Thursday, February 23, 2023, 11:00 a.m. service all to be held at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake, MN. Sam’s Spiritual Advisor will be Allen Hardy. Those helping to lay Sam to rest will be Alden Fairbanks, Jr., Kyle Fairbanks, Sr., Jason Poitra, Gilbert Littlewolf, Romney Olson, Simon White III, James Baird, and Brian Stillday. Jr. Honorary pallbearers are all Sam’s family and friends. Interment will be in Prince of Peace Cemetery in Cass Lake, MN.

Sam’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

Samuel “Sam” White

Samuel “Sam” Kyle White, 34, of the Bear Clan and Cass Lake, MN, started his spiritual journey on Thursday, February 16,
Chippewa National Forest

YOUTH ARCHAEOLOGY EXPERIENCE
EAGLE NEST LODGE

— NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS —

The Chippewa National Forest will be hosting a Youth Archaeology Workshop at the Eagle Nest Lodge near Deer River, MN. The purpose of the Workshop is to offer local youth an opportunity to learn about archaeology as well as the fascinating history of the Chippewa National Forest through hands-on experience working with professional archaeologists engaged in archaeological research. We are planning for a small group of 8th and 9th grade students (either entering 8th or 9th grade in the fall or who completed 7th or 9th grade this year).

Participants will spend three days working alongside the Forest Service archaeologist, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Heritage Sites Program archaeologists, and other National Forest staff. They will be exposed to the techniques of archaeological excavation, data collection, and artifact analysis. The goal of this workshop is to teach local youth to respect the social practices, belief systems, and values of peoples and cultures through the study of the material objects they left behind.

Join us in June!

Share with 8th or 9th graders interested in archaeology!

CAMP DATES:
June 6 - 8, 2023
Eagle Nest Lodge, Deer River, MN

For more information and application contact Sean Dunham at:
(218) 467-1110 or email: sean.b.dunham@usda.gov

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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 ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED
Alcohol & Drug Counselor (2) ~ Human Services ~ $22.65/hr ~ Job Code: 23-003
Paralegal II ~ Legal ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-004
Family Support Specialist ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-005
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 Professional (3) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-013
On-Call Crisis Response Mental Health Practitioner (5) ~ 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 Family Services Advocate (2) ~ Education ~ $17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-018
Pre School Teacher/Family Services Advocate (3) ~ Education ~ $17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-020
Pre School Teacher (6) ~ Education ~ $17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-021
Mental Health Professional ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-022
Anishinaabe Language & Culture Development Coordinator ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-024
Gekónwaamagew (Teacher) (4) ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-025
Naagamniz Gekónwaamagew (Lead) ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-026
Infant Toddler Teacher (Onigum) (2) ~ Education ~ $17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-029
Infant Toddler Teacher (Ball Club) (2) ~ Education ~ $17.20/hr ~ Job Code: 23-030
Pre School Team Leader ~ Education ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-031
Community Food Systems Coordinator ~ Health ~ $19.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-032
Food Distribution Support Aide ~ Health ~ $15.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-033
Solid Waste Yard Attendant ~ DPW ~ $15.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-034
Lead Nurse (A.R.C) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-035
Cook (A.R.C) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-036
Truancy Case Manager ~ Human Services ~ $24.70/hr ~ Job Code: 23-037
Community Health Representative (2) ~ Health ~ $15.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-038
Shelter Technician (Bena Shelter) (3) ~ Human Services ~ $16.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-040
Intake & Assessment Mental Health Case Manager ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-041
Watercraft Inspector (2) ~ DRM ~ $15.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-042
Seasonal Invasive Species Crewmen (2) ~ DRM ~ $15.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-043
Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) (4) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-045
Administrative Office Manager ~ Tribal Development ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-046
Planner/Developer (2) ~ Tribal Development ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-047
Advocate (Family Violence Program) ~ Human Services ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-048
Driver (Part Time) (OTR) ~ Human Services ~ $16.75/hr ~ Job Code: 23-049
Driver (A.E.D) ~ Human Services ~ $16.75/hr ~ Job Code: 23-051
Billing Specialist ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-052
Patients Benefits Coordinator ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-053
WIC & Nutrition Registered Dietician (2) ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-054
Advanced Practice Provider ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-055
Security (A.R.C) ~ Human Services ~ $18.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-056
Billing Specialist ~ Human Services ~ $22.00/hr ~ Job Code: 23-057
Adolescent & Maternal Child Health Manager ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-058
Maternal Child Health RN ~ Health ~ D.O.Q ~ Job Code: 23-059

For a full list of employment opportunities with LLBO please visit:
https://www.llojibwe.org/jobs/lbojobs.html

Honoring & Celebrating Our Elders
March Birthdays

District I
Margaret Bryan
Nancy Raisch
Rose Robinson
Guy Cloud
Marlene Fairbanks
Richard Armstrong
Linda Bibeu
Laurie Holden
Lawrence Gotchie Jr.
Adeline Bowstring
Scott Johnson
Marilyn Bowstring
Vicki Smith
Vernon Howard Sr.
Sarah Jackson
George Goggleye Jr.
Kathleen Thiesen-Agan
Benjamin Bowstring
John Hodder
Terry Oothoudt
Elton Bowstring

From the District I Office
Kyle, Amanda & Jenelle

District II
Walter Chase
Gerald Chase
Geraldine Chase
Deborah Tibbetts
Doreen Morgan

From the District II Office
Steve, Stephanie, & Michelle

District III
Elizabeth Aitken
Marcella Ardito
Gloria Beaudreau
David Beaulieu
Donna Beaulieu
Douglas Beaulieu
Marlyce Bellanger
Dawn Benjamin
Ian Bonna
Joseph Bowstring
Janice Bryan
Sharon Burnette
James Carpenter
Amanda Cloud
Darlene Cloud
Janice Cloud
Donald Day
Gloria Dudley
Mark Evans
Dawn Farr
Donald Finn
Deborah Fisher
William Fisher
Lila George
Mary Goggleye-Cross
Thelma Goodwin
Timothy Goose
David Hare
Jessica Harrison
Brian Haugen
Wanda Headbird
Burton Howard
Melvin Hunt
Cindy Hurd
Patrice Jones
Beverly Jordan
Steven Kmett
Sharon Kotla
Faith Littlewolf
Raymond Lyons
Eva Mangum
Marjorie McCree
Barbara McLove
Valeria Meneely
Franklin Michaud
Wallace Morris
Max Morrow
Karen Moses
Lori Osterloh
Beverly Raish
Mary Reich
Elaine Saccoman
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Marlene Schulman
Bradley Sengoles
Emmett Sheehy
Iris Sherer
John Smith
Kenneth Smith
Michael Smith
Terry Smith
Leon Staples
Linda Staples
Joel Stokka
James Tibbetts
Ronald Wakanabo
Charlotte White
Debra White
Terrance White
Natalie Wickner
Mary Woodfield

From the District III Office
LeRoy, Toni & Kari

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