



U.S. Attorney, Thomas Heffelfinger, Visits Leech Lake



U.S. Attorney, Thomas Heffelfinger and Chairman Peter White.

National Priorities

United States Attorney, Thomas Heffelfinger, came to Cass Lake to meet with Leech Lake Tribal officials on January 20, 2004. Heffelfinger addressed the Tribal Council members and began with telling them that the U.S. has 5 national priorities that the nation, as a whole, is most concerned with.

The first and foremost national concern in the eyes of all Americans is the safety of the United States – homeland security. As we all know, since 9/11 the nation has remained on alert for potential terrorism acts.

Secondly, Heffelfinger stated he would like to address violence and crime in Indian country, "violent crime" being the nation's second

national concern. He stated that the chance of being a victim of crime on an Indian Reservation is two and a half times greater than off reservation. He also reported the following statistics. The crime rate is 54% higher for Native Americans than blacks. Domestic abuse crime is up amongst Native American women and children in the U.S. Drug abuse, gang activity and gun use has grown 10 times nationwide in the last 10 years.

Indian gaming concerns is third among national priorities according to Heffelfinger. In 2003, all Native Gaming organizations produced a revenue of 14.5 billion dollars. Heffelfinger reported that he is in support of the National Indian

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Leech Lake Tribal Police Safe and Sober Statistics

Recently, the Leech Lake Tribal Police Department (LLTPD) had participated in the federally funded Safe and Sober campaigns. The campaigns are intended to promote traffic and vehicle safety. The LLTPD in conjunction with the Cass County Sheriff's Department worked together to strictly enforce vehicle equipment and moving violations. For example, if a vehicle is missing proper equipment or if the headlights, tail lights are not working properly, the subject vehicle shall be subject to being stopped. This shall also apply to speeding, driving conduct, etc. More citizens are killed in the State of Minnesota due to traffic fatalities than all other deaths combined, except for natural causes. The main goal of the Safe and Sober campaign is to promote safety within the community, and let the citizens know that they are responsible for their own actions and the condition

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Eagle Lodge Transitional Center Holds Grand Opening

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Eagle Lodge held their Grand opening on Wednesday, January 14, 2004. The Eagle Lodge is located at 6216 Upper Cass Frontage Road NW in Cass Lake. Eagle Lodge will provide temporary assistance for homeless families living on the Leech Lake Reservation. The Eagle Lodge has been undergoing a four-month long period of renovations to complete an old hotel establishment into suitable apartment units. The Eagle Lodge personnel are processing intake applications for those interested individuals in need of temporary housing.

The Eagle Lodge will have 7 family rooms, 20 single rooms, 2 handicap rooms, resource center (in progress), kitchen, and family room (in progress).

The Eagle Lodge staff will be assisting those individual that are temporarily displaced with alternative opportunities in searching and

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News Briefs

Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Recieves a Visit from the Raptor Center



A rep-resentative from the Raptor Center in St. Paul came and gave students at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School a presentation on raptor birds. She brought in three different breeds of birds: a falcon, a red tailed hawk and an eagle. Her presentation was very informative and the students were impressed when she brought the birds out of their cages. The presentation ended with may interesting questions and answers.

Health Book for Native American Women

The Native American Women's Health Education Resource Center has released a new book, Indigenous Women's Health Book, Within the Sacred Circle, in a landmark effort to assist Native American women in developing self-advocacy skills to become active participants in managing their own health. Indigenous Women's Health Book, Within the Sacred Circle provides guidance in both Western and Indigenous health approaches to specifically address Native American women's health needs.

Topics covered range from traditional midwifery, pregnancy, the politics of reproductive health, contraception, domestic violence, barriers to Indigenous women's healthcare, health effects of environmental contamination, traditional herbs and remedies, Native American nutrition and weight loss, smoking, alcohol, drug abuse, and much more. Written by a group of compassionate Indigenous women, activists, health experts, and health care providers, this pioneering book discusses both physical and mental health issues from a variety of perspectives. For more information on this book, please visit www.nativeshop.org or contact Charon Aestoyer at (605) 487-7072.



Pictured here is a renovated room at Eagle Lodge Transitional Center.

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Election Announcement

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe hereby announces that a Regular Election will be held on June 8, 2004 on the Leech Lake Reservation.

This Regular Election provides for a March 30, 2004 Primary Election in the event there are more than two (2) eligible candidates for each open position.

Election positions to be filled are as follows:

A. Chariman - Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee - Four (4) year term.

B. Committeeman District III - Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee - Four (4) year term.

Candidates shall file with the Secretary/Treasurer or his designee during regular business hours beginning on February 5, 2004. Filing will close on February 17, 2004 at 4:30 p.m.

NOTE: Election Ordinance #9, approved December 30, 2003, provides that if a candidate receives more than half of the votes cast for that position in the primary, the candidate is the winner and no further election is required for that position.

FREELANCE WRITERS WANTED

Do you have a flair for writing? The DeBahJiMon is looking for a freelance writer(s) to write for the newspaper on a monthly/bi-monthly basis. It wouldn't call for a lot of your time, but if you are interested, please contact the newspaper office at 335-8225 for an interview or you can e-mail us at lltpaper@paulbunyan.net.

Freelance writer stipends are available.

DeBahJiMon

A monthly publication of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.
4,000 published monthly.

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March 2004 issue deadline for articles is February 15

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Election Calendar 2004

04/14/03	Last day to establish residency on reservation and district
01/07/04	Last day for sitting RTC member to notice resignation to file for other RTC office
01/22/04	Last day for sitting RTC member to notice resignation to file for vacated RTC seat
01/26/04	Election Announcement
01/27/04	Last day to post Election Announcement
02/05/04	Opening of period for filing for office
02/17/04	Close of filing period
02/19/04	Notice of Certification to TEC
02/25/04	Deadline for appointment of Election Boards and Judges
02/27/04	TEC provides ballots for Primary Election Notice of Primary Election From TEC to RTCs
03/30/04	Primary
03/31/04	General Reservation Election Board certifies Primary Results
04/01/04	General Reservation Election Board publishes Primary Results
04/02/04	Deadline for Request for Recount
04/06/04 5:00 p.m.	Deadline for Contest of Primary election
04/07/04	Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed (or April 5, 6, if Request for Recount is Filed before deadline)
04/16/04	Decision on Contest of Primary (or ten days from Notice of Contest, whichever is sooner)
04/19/04	Deadline for Appeal to Tribal Court of Election Appeals
04/22/04	Record of contest to Tribal Court of Election Appeals
04/26/04	Last Day for Hearing on appeal (hearing within 7 days of receipt of Notice of Appeal)
05/05/04	Last Day for Decision on appeal (or 10 days from hearing, whichever is sooner)
05/07/04	Notice of Regular Election TEC provides ballots for Regular Election
06/08/04	Regular Election
06/09/04	General Reservation Election Board certifies results of Election
06/10/04	General Reservation Election Board publishes Election Results
06/15/04 5:00 p.m.	Deadline for Notice of Contest
06/16/04	Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed. (or 15, 14 if Request for Recount is filed before deadline)
06/25/04	Decision on Contest (or ten days from Notice of Contest, whichever is sooner)
06/28/04	Deadline for appeal to Tribal Court of Election Appeals
07/01/04	Record of contest forwarded to Tribal Court of Election Appeals
07/05/04	Last day for Hearing on Appeal (hearing within 7 days for receipt of Notice of Appeal)
07/13/04	Winning candidates assume office by operation of law, unless sooner seated, or the election is subject of appeal to the Tribal Court of Election Appeals
Ten days from Hearing on Appeal	Deadline for decision of the Tribal Court of Elections Appeal
Day following Decision of Appeal	Winning candidate prevailing on appeal takes office

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Gaming Commission (NIGC) and says that he also represents the NIGC as their attorney. He encourages Leech Lake to prosecute criminals to ensure that Indian gaming offenders do get prosecuted, and to enforce federal criminal law. The Leech Lake Gaming Regulatory Board of Directors has been established to ensure adherence to applicable Federal, Tribal and State Gaming laws and regulations. The Leech Lake Gaming Regulatory Board of Commissioners Directors shall investigate alleged violations of Gaming Ordinance, Commission Rules and Regulations, Orders and Final decision. If a criminal related case should arise the Commission, with the assistance of law enforcement (Tribal, State Gaming Enforcement, County, and Federal Law Enforcement), may in some cases present the case to the U.S. Attorney General Office – Minnesota for prosecution on the federal level.

Heffelfinger told the group that Las Vegas casinos have an annual loss of 6% of their revenue due to theft, embezzlement, and other types of losses. He stated, "Indian gaming industry has not been victimized of organized crime", and that "It is important to prosecute criminals!"

Fourth in line of national priorities is white collar crime. White collar crime doesn't happen only in gaming, it happens in non-gaming industries, Tribal agencies and even in grant awards. In order to ensure that the Bands assets were protected and accounted for, a Central Purchasing Department was established and was designed to better serve the entire Band organization when purchasing products meant for Band/office use. In October of 2003, the Leech Lake Tribal Council formally adopted, by resolution, a new Purchasing Policies and Procedures Manual for the entire Band organization to follow. The Leech Lake Property Department also inventories and labels all Band assets.

The simplification and clarification of jurisdiction in Indian country ranks 5th on the national

priority concerns. Heffelfinger states that, "Race is a relevant factor." Also included in national priority concern number 5 is the quality of law enforcement serving Indian country. The Department of Justice is striving to improve law enforcement within the Bureau of Indian Affairs, FBI, and within Tribal Police departments. They are seeking Tribal accountability, evaluations of grants, such as COPS Grants. This will be done with the purpose in mind of improving the overall quality of Indian country. Heffelfinger stated, "There will be a reduction of COPS grant funds to be used more toward purchasing hardware such as cars and equipment, than in the hiring of additional police force".

Minnesota Priorities

Minnesota currently has two priorities within the state position.

Number one concern is gaming. A task force will be formed to focus on Indian gaming within Minnesota. Their focus will be on allegations of criminal conduct. When there are allegations within a particular casino, Heffelfinger states, "we will review". Cases with evidence, such as accounting records, surveillance tapes, etc., supporting possible criminal activity will go to federal or state court. Heffelfinger reported that NIGA is in the process of developing a data based that will track scams/scammers. He said "If you just kick the scammer out of the casino, he/she will just go to the next casino to scam, need to file criminal charges to stop them". People who witness criminal activity within Indian casinos are encouraged to report it to the local sheriff, Inspector General's office, the Department of Interior, the FBI, or NIGC.

The Leech Lake Gaming Commission Regulatory Board of Directors has been established to ensure adherence to applicable Federal, Tribal and State Gaming Laws and Regulations. Applicable Federal Laws that affect Indian Gaming include at least the following: I.G.R.A, Internal Revenue Code, Bank Secrecy Act and the Johnson Act.

The Leech Lake Gaming Regulatory Board of Commissioner Directors shall investigate alleged violations of the Gaming Ordinance, Commission Rules and Regulations, Orders and Final decision. If a criminal related case should arise the Commission with the Assistance of Law Enforcement (Tribal, State Gaming Enforcement, County, and Federal Law Enforcement) may in some cases present the case to the U.S. Attorney General Office - Minnesots for prosecution on the Federal level.

18 U.S.C. 1167 Theft from Indian Gaming Establishment.

- Crime to steal from Indian Gaming Establishment approved by N.I.G.C.
 - If amount stolen is \$1,000.00 or less, penalty is one year in jail and \$100,000.00 fine.
 - If amount stolen is more than \$1,000.00, penalty is 10 years in prison and \$250,000.00 fine
- ### 18 U.S.C. 1168 Theft by Officers or Employees of Indian Casinos.
- It the amount stolen is \$1,000.00 or less, penalty is 5 years in prison and

\$250,000.00 fine.

• If the amount stolen is more than \$1,000.00, penalty is 20 years in prison and \$1,000,000.00 fine.

Homeland security is priority number two within the state of Minnesota. All Tribal government is included in the homeland security concern, as well as city and county government too. Heffelfinger pointed out that a rise in gang/drug and gun activity is being seen on Minnesota reservations. Growth in these kinds of activities are more evident on Reservations than other surrounding areas. He also reported that Native Americans make up only 1% of the Minnesota population, but 6% of the Minnesota prison population.

Leech Lake is a participant of the Weed & Seed Project and the Project Safe Neighborhood endeavors. The Weed & Seed Project consists of a committee that collaborates with law enforcement to improve the community and the Project Safe Neighborhoods provides additional money for police departments.

HELP WANTED

Northwest TECHNICAL COLLEGE - Bemidji, MN

College Provost

Reports directly to the President, serves as the on-site administrative leader of the college, responsible for the day-to-day operation of the college.

Qualifications: Masters degree from an accredited college/univ., at least 5 years of leadership experience in higher education.

Preferences include an earned doctorate; teaching experience in higher education.

Deadline: 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 1, 2004.

Submit letter of interest, complete resume, 3 letters of recommendation, statement of educational and leadership philosophy and transcripts to:

Human Resources Office, MSCTC

PO Box 309, Perham, MN 56573

For additional accommodation contact Human Resources at 218-347-6245.

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obtaining a place to live. The Eagle Lodge personnel will be conducting a landlord and tenants rights and responsibilities training at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, 2004 at the Eagle Lodge. The Eagle Lodge personnel will also be providing social services information meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2004.

The Eagle Lodge personnel, and the Tribal Referral Program are

very proud that the Eagle Lodge Transitional Center has finally been renovated for the purpose of meeting the needs of the homeless on the Leech Lake Reservation. If you should have questions or need more information about the Eagle Lodge intake process, please contact Carla Littlewolf, Eagle Lodge Administrator at (218) 335-8817.

Tribal Economic Development: Finding opportunities and the often-overlooked source.

Over the years I have noticed a pattern that seems valid in all rural communities regardless of if they are reservation or not that is individuals from a community are often overlooked when mapping out an economic development plan. This can occur for a number of reasons including already being familiar with those in your community. It is in our nature to believe that what we have in our back yard will always be there and we tend to look beyond our area to bring in new opportunity. This analogy holds true for communities looking to increase their business growth and employment.

While I was with the State of Minnesota working in helping communities develop economic development programs the most success came from businesses already located within the community that where expanding or from a former member of the community coming back to their home town to carry on there business interests. As a general rule people tend to return to the community they are from even after spending time in other areas where they may have learned a trade, profession and have saved some money.

In the case of Indian Country economic development can be achieved significantly through not only reservation sponsored business development but also individually owned businesses. In fact, one can

argue that the greatest resource a tribe can have is it's human resource. Not only the individuals already living on the reservation but those off reservation another words think out of the box when assessing tribal members abilities and desire to invest their resources.

The goal of economic development is to create a self-sufficient economy that offers as much opportunity as possible for members within the community to be as productive as possible and thus flourish. The creation of wealth through business opportunities and resulting jobs leads to fulfilling this mission. So the likely ones to want to aspire to create these business opportunities are those with some tie to the community.

If you were a member of an Indian Community the likely place for you to look first would be your reservation. The next issue is where to expand or start your business and a number of options exist. First, the use of fee land within the reservation is a common option with the main advantage of being able to freely transfer your interest and title to say new owners at some point in time. Second, the use of allotted land offers some property tax advantages however, unless you own an undivided interest you may have trouble getting the other fractional owners to agree to let you have it's use. Third, the use of band land can

offer the best solution for tax and user rights considerations however, in most cases in Indian Country land is not clearly set aside for business use, transferability can be a challenge, obtaining long term lease rights can be difficult to negotiate and financing depending on the need can be difficult because of the trust status.

Here is where an economic development strategy by the reservation can foster the growth of business and jobs. By creating an environment friendly toward encouraging the formation of individual community member capital the growth and outcomes that are desired can occur. By stream lining the process for the acquisition of land for business use through designating land use areas, assuring the availability of infrastructure to these areas, standardized lease documents, providing a recording system, establishing a corporation code, adopting a commercial code for the tribal court and providing law enforcement in building incentives and assurances for those considering making an investment.

Other incentives to lure business owners would be to formulate an idea as to where tribal purchasing could be used to help encourage business development. For instance the most tribes do a lot of printing and it is decided that this type of business is often best suited for an individual to have the

opportunity to provide the service. The tribe could put out a request for proposal for a business interested in setting up shop on the reservation to provide the service to them but also any one else in the community. Some times having enough business in a ready state can encourage people to make an investment to attempt to relocate or start a new business.

I was given an opportunity to set up a business office within a rented space on a Sioux Community near the Twin Cities which I took advantage of. This gave me the ability to service that client as well as build my other client network. In return the community received a rent payment and commercial traffic and activity at its establishments that it would not have received otherwise.

In ending the case of retaining and recruiting tribal members to assist in the growth of reservation economies continues to gain attention in Indian Country. Each tribal community can point to examples of tribal members in business that were assisted in some fashion or developed on their own. Tribal governments can speed this growth by providing the right conditions for growth.

By: John Herrera, Leech Lake Member, MBA and practicing Attorney at Law, hogrwoop@aol.com

Indian Arts And Crafts Board Introduces Toll-Free Number

The Indian Arts and Crafts Board (IACB), an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, announces a toll-free telephone number for inquiries and complaint filings regarding the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990 (the Act), Public Law (101-644).

A truth-in-advertising law, the Act prohibits misrepresentation in the marketing of Indian arts and crafts products within the United States. Under the Act, it is illegal to offer or display for sale, or sell, any

art or craft product in a manner that falsely suggests it is Indian produced, an Indian product, or the product of a particular Indian or Indian Tribe or Indian arts and crafts organization, resident within the United States. Under the Act, Indian is defined as a member of a State or federally recognized Tribe, or a certified Indian artisan. The Act protects Native American artist and craftspeople, businesses, and Tribes, as well as consumers. It also protects the integrity of Native American culture

heritage and the economic livelihood of Tribes and their members.

The IACB is the federal agency designated by Congress to screen complaints of violations of the Act and, when appropriate, refer for further investigation and possibly civil or criminal prosecution.

The new toll-free number allows both consumers and artists to dial 1-888-ART-FAKE or 1-888-278-3253 to request consumer protection brochures and related materials on the Indian Arts and Crafts Act.

Those individuals who are aware of a possible violation of the Act may also use the toll-free number to discuss the matter and/or file a complaint with and IACB staff member.

Information on the Indian Arts and Crafts Act, as well as other IACB related activities, is also available through the Internet at www.iacb.doi.gov, or by writing: Indian Arts and Crafts Board, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, N.W., MS 2058-MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240.

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development announces its 18th Annual National Reservation Economic Summit & American Indian Business Trade Fair (RES 2004)

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) is proud to announce its 18th Annual National Reservation Economic Summit and American Indian Business Trade Fair (RES 2004). RES 2004 is in its' 18th year of sponsorship by major US Corporations and is the premier business conference for American Indians in the country. RES 2004 will be held February 9-12, 2004, at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. This year's RES theme is "Indian America: Building Economies through Diversification, Tourism, and Technology". Conference highlights include:

- Procurement Pavilion - Wednesday, Feb 11, 2004 from 9:30am to 5:00pm - A full day with split sessions

so that more American Indian-owned businesses may have the opportunity to present to federal and corporate procurement representatives.

- Effective Conference Planning Workshop - Tuesday, Feb 10, 2004 from 3:30pm to 5:00pm - This is a must for tribal and corporate event planners. Topics include Events Pre-Planning, Submitting a Comprehensive RFP, Venue Selection, Marketing Promotions and Publicity, Contract Negotiation, Onsite Management, Financial Management and much more!

- Leisure Golf Outing - Monday, Feb 9, 2004 from 7:00am to 3:00pm - Play a leisurely 18 holes of golf at the Championship Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort! Since all avid golfers want to play a round in Las Vegas, we have

Leech Lake Band Among Those of Which Shakopee Mdewakanton Generously Donated

A dialysis unit, housing relocation, substance abuse treatment, medical research, college facilities, water lines, and holiday programs are just a few of the donations funded by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community this past year. The SMSC recently released its annual donation report entitled Strengthening Communities, which details over \$7.87 million donated in fiscal year 2003.

SMSC Chairman Stanley Crooks stated, "The Shakopee Dakota have a cultural tradition of assisting others who are in need. We recognize that we have a unique opportunity to help Native Americans, and indeed, non-Indians, as well. We have attained a significant level of self-sufficiency and are very thankful for the ability to help others through our charitable giving program."

The SMSC is a leader in promoting tribal government economic development through loans and grants. In FY 2003, the SMSC pledged \$1.5 million to the Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe

in northeastern Minnesota for economic development, and \$1 million each to the Lower Sioux Community (Minnesota), the Upper Sioux Community (Minnesota), the Santee Sioux Tribe (Nebraska), and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (Minnesota). The Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe (Minnesota) was awarded \$950,000. Other Tribes which received substantial donations include \$577,939 to the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe (South Dakota) for upgrades to their tribal schools including water lines, \$480,000 to the Turtle Mountain Band of Ojibwe (North Dakota) for housing relocation, \$150,039 to the Yankton Sioux Tribe (South Dakota) for a dialysis unit, and \$49,400 to the Woitanacan Empowerment Zone on the Oglala Lakota Reservation (South Dakota) for a road grader and agricultural equipment. Also in FY 2003, the SMSC loaned \$41 million to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. The loan assisted them in their efforts to improve poverty conditions through the provision of education and services for Leech Lake Band

arranged a fun filled day for our RES 2004 attendees on an Award Winning Championship, Pete Dye Designed Course.

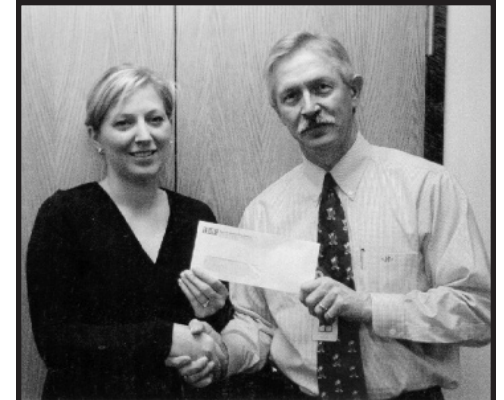
- American Indian Comedy Night - Tuesday, Feb 10, 2004 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm - Wind down and treat yourself to an evening of laughter and cheer with the top comedians in Indian Country.

The National Reservation Economic Summit conference is organized annually by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, which has its national headquarters in Mesa, Arizona. The gathering attracts American Indian entrepreneurs, tribal economic and business development professionals, government program representatives and purchasing agents from

Corporate America and the federal government – all with an interest in networking with American Indian suppliers and contractors.

"I enjoy RES because of the synergy created with hundreds of Indian businesses and qualified buyers under one roof - at one time. It's incredible!" says Clarence O'Berry, CEO of Tribally-owned Mandaree Enterprise Corporation, an awardee of a \$300 million contract as a result of attending RES.

Visit the NCAIED web site at www.ncaied.org for detailed RES 2004 registration and conference information or call the RES 2004 Hotline at: (800) 462-2433 Ext 243.



Jim Hanko, President & CEO of North Country Health services presents a check for \$2,500 on behalf of Bemidji Medical Equipment to the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Leech Lake Area. The donation will be used for ongoing programming expenses in 2004.

Leech Lake Native, Frank Bowstring, Joins Forces Overseas.

By Patsy Gordon

Although forty year old Frank Bowstring has not yet been informed of where the Army will be sending him, he does know that he will be shipped to his duty station overseas in March of this year. He will first report to the Reserve Center in Brainerd on the 27th of January, where he will spend a few weeks preparing for his deployment. As of this writing, Frank says, "I could be sent anywhere in the gulf area during this time period."

Currently, Frank belongs to Company A 367th Engineers of the Army Reserves, and has been a member of the Reserves for the past 13 years. Frank's job in the military will require him to do landmine excavation and demolition duties. He will also be operating heavy equipment machinery to expand an air field as well as helping rebuild the towns that surround his duty station.

Frank and his wife Toni reside in Cass Lake with their children, Jenna, 17, Meagan, 14, Bethany, 13, Joshua, 11, and Jillian 11. Frank is the son of Lewis and Agnes Bowstring of Inger, Minnesota.

Frank says, "I always knew that I would eventually be deployed sometime during the past year, but I didn't know exactly when. I believe that this is a mission that I must complete for the well being of our fellow American people. Without people serving in the military, ordinary people could not carry on their own daily duties for themselves and the families that they have here. I am very proud and honored to serve my country and the people of the Leech Lake Reservation. Historically, we have a very long and proud tradition of Native American men serving our country during a time of crisis. This is our land! This is our country. We were here long before anyone decided to acknowledge our existence."

The family understands why Frank must go. His wife Toni says, "the kids and I are okay with Frank's deployment. We have our good days and bad days in dealing with it, but I keep telling myself and the kids that Dad will be relieving another soldier who probably hasn't seen his family in over a year, and next year will be our turn for the big reunion! I am very



L to R: Megan, Jenna, Toni, Frank, Josh, Jillian, in the front, Beth and family dog, Peter.

proud of Frank, he has trained a long time, and he will actually get to put his skills to use. Like Frank said, we knew, it was just a matter of when. Our time together is winding down, and we are all spending every waking moment together, when not at work or school. Actually, I haven't seen this much peace in our household in

a long time, everyone is getting along and helping out with daily chores at home, and we have a lot of support from our families and friends. That is really nice to know!"

Frank's job with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Bemidji, Minnesota, as a Realty Clerk, will be waiting for him upon his return to the States.

Minnesota's Indian Bands Bringing Back Banishment

Renee Ruble, Associated Press

"The ultimate form of punishment among American Indians is returning to reservations in Minnesota as some Tribes seek more effective ways to deal with chronic trouble-makers. Banishment has long been a part of Indian folklore, with stories of tribal members being sent away, alone, into the forests or across the plains passed down from

one generation to the next. The Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe is just the latest band to return to the practice. It approved a banishment law in October after residents, concerned about gang activity, approached the Tribal Council. "When people cross that line and the community says we've had enough, it's a process we can use to deal with

it," said Norman Deschampe, Grand Portage Chairman. Banishment also applies to non-Indians who misbehave on Tribal land. It is one of the rare inherited rights Tribes have to deal with non-Indians," said Tom Sjogren, an attorney for the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe in Northern Minnesota...It has a great deal of weight," Lummi Chairman Darrell

Hillaire said. "Just by being Native American and not being able to come home, it hurts not being able to see family or friends." As Indians see it, to be banished means you no longer exist, so returning to the practice carries high stakes!

Plagued by Drugs, Tribes Revive Ancient Penalty

Sarah Kershaw and Monica Davey, The New York Times

For generations the Noland family has led a troubled life on the Lummi Indian reservation here. The Nolands have struggled with alcohol, painkillers and, more recently, crack. Seven family members are now jailed, several for dealing drugs, on and off tribal land. Their experience has been repeated hundreds of times on this sprawling, desperately

poor reservation of 2,000 Lummi, where addiction and crime have become pervasive. It is the reason that the Lummi tribe has turned as a last resort to a severe and bygone punishment, seeking to banish five of the young men in jail and another recently released. It is also the reason for evicting Yvonne Noland, 48, the matriarch of the

Noland clan, from her modest blue house on the reservation, because her son, a convicted drug dealer, was listed on the lease. Banishment once turned unwanted members of a tribe into a caste of the "walking dead," and some people criticize it as excessive and inhumane, more extreme than the punishments meted out by the world outside

and a betrayal of an already fragile culture. But a growing number of tribes across the country, grappling with a rise in drug and alcohol abuse, gambling, poverty and violence, have used banishment in varying forms in the last decade. Tribal leaders see this ancient response, which reflects Indian respect for community, as a painful but necessary deterrent.

Safe & Sober/Page 1

of the vehicle each time they operate the vehicle. The following statistics are from the Halloween and thanksgiving "waves".

Seat Belt	
Citations	15
Warnings	2
DAS/DAR/DAC	
Citations	12
DAC-IPS	
Citations	2
Speeds	
Citations	92
Warnings	130

No Drivers License	
Citations	5
No Proof of Insurance	
Citations	3
Driving Conduct	
Warnings	3
Expired Plates/DL	
Citations	1
Equipment Violations	
Warnings	22
Warrants	
Warnings	6
No Action Taken	
Warnings	11

The LLTPD will be conducting a mini-wave over the Super Bowl

weekend. These efforts will be concentrated on impaired driving.

The LLTPD during the 2003 year had concentrated its efforts on guns, gangs and drugs. The following statistics show the results of the concentrated efforts, etc.

Gangs	
Gang arrests	19
GANGNET Entries	36
Guns	
Stolen/Recovered	10
Illegal/Seized	12
Drugs: Seizures by type:	
Methamphetamine	64.0 gms

Marijuana	1,740+ gms (4 lbs plus 8 plants)
Cocaine	52.2 gms
Oxycontin	6,420 mg
Hydrococone	7,202 mg
Morphine (pill form)	3,950 mg
Misc. RX pills	100+
Arrests	
Felony	31
Misdemeanor	13

If you have any information related to a crime or crimes committed, please contact the LLTPD at 218-335-8277.

MDH Joins National Effort to Alert Families to Dangers of Radon

Residents urged to test homes for radon, second leading cause of lung cancer in U.S.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in a major effort to inform Americans about the dangers of radon exposure and the need to identify and fix radon problems in their homes. In conjunction with National Radon Action Month, MDH and its partners are conducting radon awareness events and testing throughout the state.

National Radon Action Month kicked off in January with a presidential message from the White House asking Americans to take preventative action on this health risk. In Minnesota, events will conclude with a free informational booth at the 2003 Home and Garden Show in Minneapolis in early February.

Radon is a naturally occurring, invisible, odorless gas that is harmlessly dispersed in outdoor air, but when trapped in buildings, can be harmful at elevated levels. It is present in elevated levels in about 35 percent of Minnesota homes, which compares with only 7 percent of homes nationally. Major studies

have indicated that exposure to elevated levels of radon causes lung cancer in humans.

"The science on radon has been formidable over the years, but never before have we had such overwhelming scientific consensus and robust data to support earlier findings about the harmful effects of radon exposure," said Dale Dorschner, MDH indoor air unit supervisor.

A National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report in February 1998 confirmed that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S., causing between 15,000 and 22,000 lung cancer deaths each year. "However," Dorschner said, "because you can't see or smell radon, people tend to minimize the health effects and ignore the possibility that it might exist in elevated levels in their homes."

Using simple, inexpensive kits, homeowners can test for the presence of radon in their homes and, if it is present, take steps to fix the problem. Radon test kits that meet EPA guidelines are available at city and county health departments, hardware stores,

home improvement stores, other retail outlets, or directly from a laboratory. Many are priced under \$20.

Radon problems can be fixed by qualified contractors, at a cost similar to that of many common home repairs such as painting or having a new water heater installed (anywhere from \$500 to about \$2,500).

"Radon is a serious public

health hazard," Dorschner said, "but it has a straightforward solution: Test your home and take action, if necessary, to keep radon out!"

For more information on radon, radon testing, and radon mitigation, call MDH at 651-215-0909 or 1-800-798-9050 or visit the MDH radon web site at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/indoorair/radon>.

KISS YOUR LANDLORD GOODBYE!



If you are an Enrolled Member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe call for an appointment with the

Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Housing Corporation for a low interest mortgage loan to buy or build an existing home.

Call 218-335-8582 or check out our website at www.mnchippewatribe.org for brochure or homes for sale.

Taking Steps to Stem a Preventable Tide of Diabetes

Jane E. Brody, New York Times

Many people seem to think they don't have to worry about a preventable disease, type 2 diabetes, that does not, at the outset at least, have serious consequences and that can be treated.

There are two things wrong here: First, this disease does indeed have serious consequences despite the availability of numerous drug therapies, and second, it is no longer an ailment that occurs almost exclusively in adults.

That's why the name has been changed to type 2 diabetes to distinguish it from the far less common kind of diabetes (type 1) that nearly always starts in childhood or adolescence and has a different cause. Because so many Americans eat too much and move too little, the nation is now in the throes of a type 2 diabetes epidemic that has spilled over into the childhood years.

Diabetes is a disorder of blood sugar regulation. In both types, glucose builds up in the blood to damaging levels and spills into the urine. Specialized cells in the pancreas produce the hormone insulin, which moves the blood glucose into cells where it can be used for energy or stored.

In type 1 diabetes, a form of autoimmune disease, these cells fail to produce adequate amounts of insulin. But in type 2, although

the body typically produces enough insulin at first, cells are resistant to its action. As blood glucose levels rise, the pancreas works overtime to produce even more insulin. Eventually, the pancreatic cells may wear out, causing an insufficiency of insulin that resembles type 1 diabetes.

A costly disease

Everything you eat sooner or later can be converted into glucose. But carbohydrates (the simple sugars such as the table sugar sucrose, corn syrup, honey, etc.) and refined starches such as white bread and pastries are most rapidly converted into glucose, causing a spike in blood sugar that demands immediate insulin action. Eating sugary foods and other simple carbohydrates does not cause diabetes, but once it develops it is usually necessary to limit -- but not eliminate -- consumption of such foods.

Type 2 diabetes is not a benign disease. It can and often does result in debilitating, life-threatening disorders. Both kinds of diabetes greatly increase the risk of heart disease, stroke, kidney failure and blindness, as well as circulatory disorders that can result in amputations.

Experts estimate that this disease and its consequences add up to \$100 billion a year in medical costs nationwide.

About 17 million Americans have diabetes (more than 90 percent of them type 2), with about a third of them unaware of their disorder and its potentially serious consequences. About 16 million have a condition called prediabetes and are on their way to developing the disease.

The incidence of diabetes has been rising in recent years, in children as well as in adults. Among adults, the prevalence rose

40 percent in the 1990s, from 4.9 percent to 6.9 percent of adults. By 2050, unless current trends are reversed, experts predict a further increase of 165 percent.

Even more disturbing is a new estimate of the lifetime risk of developing diabetes among boys and girls born in the year 2000. An analysis published in October in the Journal of the American Medical Association by scientists at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predicts the following for those born in 2000:

- During their lifetimes 32.8 percent of boys and 36.5 percent of girls will develop diabetes.

- Among all those in whom diabetes is diagnosed at age 40, men will lose an average of 11.6 years of life and 18.6 years of quality life, and women will lose an average of 14.3 years of life and 22 years of quality life as a result of the disease.

The reason for this frightening prospect is all too obvious: Americans are too fat and too sedentary. Being overweight, and especially accumulating fat around the waist, can cause insulin resistance and is the primary risk factor for type 2 diabetes. About three-fourths of people with type 2 diabetes also have high blood pressure, which further increases their risk of cardiovascular and kidney diseases.

A family history of diabetes is common among those with type 2 diabetes, so if your parents or grandparents had it, consider that a clue to your risk and take action now to prevent it. When a former colleague of mine, seriously obese for his entire adult life, was told he was on the verge of developing diabetes, he finally started taking his weight seriously and lost 100 pounds through a sensible diet and exercise. As a result, he lived in

good health to old age.

At first, diabetes may produce few or no noticeable symptoms, which typically develop slowly over the years. The disease can be detected through a routine urine or blood test and confirmed by a glucose tolerance test. A blood test for diabetes should be done at least once every three years for people 45 and older and starting at 30 for those considered at high risk.

Symptoms, when they become apparent, may include excessive thirst, frequent urination, fatigue, hunger soon after eating, blurred vision, slow healing of wounds, and numbness or tingling in the hands and feet. Women with diabetes may experience repeated or stubborn urinary tract or vaginal yeast infections.

Treatment and control

Once diabetes or prediabetes is diagnosed, the first order of treatment is weight loss, if necessary, and regular physical exercise. Both increase insulin sensitivity. Because people with diabetes are highly susceptible to cardiac and blood vessel diseases, controlling consumption of artery-damaging saturated fats and trans fats is as important as watching the intake of sugars and refined carbohydrates.

Because dietary fiber, both soluble and insoluble, slows the absorption of carbohydrates, people with diabetes are encouraged to consume mostly whole grains, along with vegetables, unsweetened fruit and low-fat protein and dairy foods. Fiber supplements often help, too. Consult the glycemic index of foods to learn which foods are more likely to cause spikes in blood sugar.

In addition to diet and exercise, most people with type 2 diabetes require medication to help control blood sugar levels.

NICHD Alerts Parents to Winter SIDS Risk

The cold winter months bring an increase in the number of infants who die from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS, according to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, one of the National Institutes of Health.

During colder months, parents often place extra blankets or night clothes on infants, hoping to provide them with extra warmth. In fact, the extra material may actually increase infants' risk for SIDS.

"Parents and caregivers should be careful not to put too many layers of clothing or blankets on infants, as overheating increases the risk of

SIDS," said Duane Alexander, M.D., Director of the NICHD. "Of course, parents and caregivers should always place infants to sleep on their backs at nighttime and at naptime.

For almost a decade, the NICHD has led the "Back to Sleep" campaign, which recommends that, unless there's a medical reason not to, infants should be placed on their backs to sleep, on a firm mattress with no blankets or fluffy bedding under or over them. If a blanket is used, it should be placed no higher than a baby's chest and be tucked in under the crib mattress. The baby's crib or sleep area should be

free of pillows and stuffed toys, and the temperature in the baby's room should be kept at a level that feels comfortable for an adult. Since the NICHD campaign began, the overall rate of SIDS in the U.S. has declined by more than 50 percent.

Despite this progress, SIDS claims the lives of roughly 2,500 infants each year. SIDS is the sudden, unexplained death of an infant in the first year of life. The causes of SIDS are still unclear, and while it is not yet possible to predict which infants might fall victim to SIDS, it is possible to reduce factors known to increase SIDS risk:

"Nutrition 411"

Submitted by Kim Jacobs, MN, RD, a registered dietitian for the USDA's food and Nutrition Service

Q. How do I know whether dietary supplements and other medicines are safe to use? N.R., WI

A. Dear N.R.,

The government agency that regulates certain drugs in the United States is the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). They approve over-the-counter drugs like cold medicines and pain relievers (ibuprofen, acetaminophen, aspirin), as well as prescription drugs that you get from your pharmacist. The FDA regulates dietary supplements (including vitamins and other "body enhancers") differently, however. It is the responsibility of the manufacturer of the supplement to ensure the product is safe and that it contains the ingredients listed on the label.

The FDA must take action against any unsafe product, but only once it has reached the market. That is why taking some dietary supplements can be potentially harmful.

If you choose to take dietary supplements, it is important to obtain information from a credible source (government agency or your physician) rather than a company that is promoting their product. Here is a list of 8 supplements and their potential side effects that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has advised people to avoid:

Aristolochic Acid: sold as "traditional medicines" or as ingredients in dietary supplements; consumption has been associated with permanent kidney damage,

sometimes resulting in kidney failure that has required kidney dialysis or kidney transplantation.

Comfrey: found in dietary supplements and can cause chronic liver failure.

Ephedra: naturally occurring substance derived from the Chinese herbal Ma Huang; can cause high blood pressure, strokes, heart attacks and is 200 times more likely to cause an adverse reaction than all other herbs combines.

Kava: linked to liver damage and subsequent liver transplantation in 11 people over the last couple years. LipoKinetix: dietary supplement weight loss product linked to liver damage.

PC SPECS and SPES: respectively

*Always place a baby to sleep on his or her back, even at naptime.

*Don't smoke around a baby.

*Don't smoke if you're pregnant.

*Place a baby on a firm mattress, such as in a safety-approved crib.

*Remove soft, fluffy bedding and stuffed toys from a baby's sleep area.

*Keep blankets and other coverings away from a baby's nose and mouth.

*Don't put too many layers of clothing or blankets on a baby.

*Make sure everyone who cares for a baby knows that infants should be placed to sleep on their backs and the other ways to reduce SIDS risk.

marketed "for prostate health" and strengthening the immune system, but contain undeclared prescription drug ingredients that could cause serious health effects if not taken under medical supervision.

St. John's Wort and Indinavir: may lead to decrease in ability to fight viruses.

Tiractricol: also known as triiodothyroacetic acid or TRIAC, a potent thyroid hormone that may cause serious health consequences including heart attacks and strokes.

Please send questions to: Kimberly.Jacobs@fnus.usda.gov or go to: <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/%7Edms/ds-warn.html>.

Help Support Breast Cancer

The makers of M&M candies has teamed up with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation to raise funds through the sale of their new "pink & white" M&M candies. For each 8-ounce bag of the special candies sold, the makers of M&M (Masterfoods) will donate 50 cents to the foundation. The next time you want a treat, please pick up a bag (now sold in stores nationwide) -- you will be donating to a great cause and satisfying your sweet tooth.

IHS Announces Hundreds of Scholarships to Fund Indian Medical Students

The Indian Health Service has announced the availability of approximately \$3,733,332 to fund scholarships for American Indians and Alaska Natives pursuing preparatory, pregraduate, and professional programs. Approximately 200 awards, 100 of which are continuing, will fund for at least 10 months and the average award to a full-time student is approximately \$20,000. In 2004 approximately \$1,500,000 is available for continuation awards and

approximately \$2,233,000 is available for new awards. Approximately 340 awards will be made under the Indian Health Scholarship (Professions) Program. Awards will be made to both full-time and part-time students. These awards are for 12-month duration and the average award to a full-time student is approximately \$23,500. Up to five percent of available funds will be used for part-time scholarships. These grants programs are intended to encourage

American Indians and Alaskan Natives to enter the health professions and to assure the availability of Indian health professionals to serve Indians. Deadlines for applying for these grants is February 28, 2004.

For more information, visit <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-26698.htm> or contact Mr. Jess Brien at (301) 443-6197. For grants information, contact Mr. Bernard Covers Up at (301) 443-5204.



Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Participates in Arctic Transect 2004

The Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School will be one of the pilot schools that will be participating in the following of the Arctic Transect 2004. The middle School students will be interacting with the explorers as they travel from Yellowknife across the Nunavut area in the Arctic. The Arctic Transect is an educational exploration of Nunavut to explore and document climate change in one of the most unique and threatened environments in the Arctic. John Parmeter was invited to the Will Steger base camp several times since August, to acquire information on

the 300 page curriculum that can be used by students and staff with out any charge and to exchange ideas with the explorers. On November 12, 2003, Paul Pregont (team member) presented a program on what the Arctic expedition will be like. Paul instructed the students in the use of the equipment, clothes and sled dogs. Paul Pregont and John Parmeter explained to the students how they can communicate with the explorers and talk to elders from the Inuit Culture. The Middle School has been preparing lesson plans to allow the students to gain experience on what

it would be like to travel in such a harsh climate. The students will try to track the explorers as they travel across the Arctic on the web site www.PolarHusky.com. The members of the expedition are Will Steger, Paul Pregont, Mille Porslid, Eric Dayton, Aaron Doering and Hugh Dale Harris.



Craig Cloud tests equipment.

Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School Awarded Learn & Serve America Grant

Corporation for National & Community Service

The Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School has recently been awarded the Learn & Serve America grant from the National & Community Service. According to the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993: Service-Learning combines service to the community with student learning in a way that improves both the student and the community. Service-Learning is a method whereby our K-12 students will learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in and meets the needs of communities.

With Learn & Serve America funding, the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School will be working in the eleven communities of the Leech

Lake Reservation. Our programs will explore local area history and strengthen the Ojibwe language while providing service to the community. A facilitator will be hired from each community to provide us with their community needs. Our students will be producing videos and voice recording's of the Ojibwe culture for the use of future generations. It will link youth to elders and will work with all K-12 students. Our goals are to increase knowledge of Ojibwe history and Tribal Government by 50% and to increase attendance rates to 90% over the next three years. In addition, hands on learning will raise self-esteem, increase self-awareness, and create a feeling of being an intricate part of our beautiful community.

Anishinabe Arts Grant Writing workshop

Next Grant Deadline: March 10, 2004

February 12, 2004
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Conference Room
Leech Lake Business Corporation
6280 Upper Cass Frontage Road, NW
Cass Lake, MN

Assistance will include (at no charge):
Step-by-step instructions on filling out the grant application
Tips and samples of successful grants
Answers to your questions

The purpose of the Anishinabe Arts Initiative (AAI) is to promote traditional and contemporary Native American arts in the region. There are three categories of AAI grants available:

Individual Artists Grants
School Residency Grants
Community Project Grants

Contact: Terri Widman, Region 2 Arts Council Executive Director,
218-751-4557 or 1-800-275-5447
www.r2arts.org
Delina White, Cultural Arts & Tourism Director, 218-335-4425

Region 2 Arts Council Grant Application Deadlines

Applications are available for the R2AC grants listed below. Please pay particular attention to the application deadlines.

R2AC Arts Project Grants may be requested to help any nonprofit, 501(c)3 arts or non-arts organization create or produce an arts project or event. Deadline: March 17, 2004.

Individual Artist Grants may be requested by individuals for assistance with projects that will enhance their careers or for mentorship projects. Deadline: February 11, 2004.

Anishinabe Arts Initiative Grants may be requested by individual Native American artists, by schools that wish to engage the

talents of an artist-in-residence, band by organizations for community project grants. Deadline: march 10, 2004.

Please note that term "arts" refers to music, creative writing, dance, visual arts, theater and other forms of creative expression.


To request an application form, write or call Terri Widman at the Region 2 Arts Council, 426 Bemidji Avenue, Bemidji, MN 56601, 751-5447 or toll free at 1-800-275-5447. You may also download an application from their website: www.r2arts.org. Staff assistance is available to all applicants to discuss ideas, select artists, or to assist in completing the application form.

WASTED TIME

By Aaron S. Hare (The One Who Cares)

A MESSAGE TO EVERYONE:

Wasted time is something we all have done,
Doing things that are stupid and far from fun!
We all know what I'm talking about,
We wish we could reverse time no doubt!
Now let's put this in the past,
When your chance comes to move on, you better move fast!
Once this stupid stuff is behind you, don't look back,
Because addiction is a hard break,
And its' far too easy to get thrown back off track!
For we all know that for goodness sake,
The power of addiction is far from fake!
And I hate to say it but it's a road most of our people choose to take!
We're all hiding problems, but in actuality,
Drugs are as far as we look - that's what we've seen,
We're just following the route others took!
I'm sure you know what I mean,
We're like a money see monkey do machine!
So once you do get a grip,
Lifestyle does a flip!
Teach as many youngsters as you can not to take the trip
And that drugs are far from hip!
Or at least that's my plan,
To give positive advice and be a drug free man!
Then maybe someday, we'll all be a drug free clan!



If you are a Leech Lake Band Member who writes or have an interested in writing, the DeBahJiMon would like to publish your work. Creative writing, such as poetry and short stories, as well as non-fiction, such as news stories and feature articles are welcome. Send your work via e-mail to: lltpaper@paulbunyan.net or by post to:
DeBahJiMon Newspaper
6530 US Hwy 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

2004 Summer Institute for Teachers in Tribal Colleges at the Newberry Library

In recognition of the central role tribal colleges play in the process of nation-building, The Newberry Library's D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History welcomes applications for its 2004 Summer Institute for Teachers in Tribal Colleges. The two-week institute will enable participants to study Indian sovereignty under the direction of Professor David E. Wilkins, one of

the nation's leading specialists in the field. His books include American Indian Politics and the American Political System, American Indian Sovereignty and the U.S. Supreme Court, Uneven Ground: American Indian Sovereignty and Federal Law (with Tsianina Lomawaima), and Tribes, Treaties & Constitutional Tribulations (with Vince Deloria, Jr.). Contact: mcnickle@newberry.org.

22nd Annual Johnson O'Malley/Title VII Indian Education Conference

Theme: Education - Embracing Global Cultural Perspective

April 29 & 30, 2004

Location: Fond du Lac Ojibwe School Fond du Lac Reservation Cloquet, Minnesota	Registration Fee: \$50 Adults (Non-refundable) \$20 Students (K-12) (Non-refundable) Booths: \$50 for first table \$10 for each additional table (Non-refundable)
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If you have questions, please call the MN Department of Education – Office of Indian Education, Roseville, MN at 651-582-8831 or 1-800-657-3927.

All registrations received by April 2, 2004 are guaranteed a t-shirt and conference gift. Registration fee and booth rental includes a meal.

Our Expression of Thanks

Gina M. Papasodora, Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

The Leech Lake Tribal Historic Preservation Office conducted an "Assessment Survey" for the program during the Leech Lake Job Sharing Fair of 2003. Held on November 21 at the Leech Lake Facility Center Gym in Cass Lake, MN.

Not only was it an enlightening event that provided a multitude of literature to the community and employees of the details of what Leech Lake has to offer in the vast array of programs but the Fair was also a great experience for everyone and one that made the employee booth representatives pleased with the amount of public involvement.

Our office would like to personally thank all of the tribal members that took the time to fill out the survey that covered numerous services our program would like to offer. There were several topics; Photograph Collection, Archiving Official documents for members, historic preservation education methods, as well as the need to develop a Cultural Center that focuses on the Leech Lake Historic past coupled with many aspects of preservation, research stations, reference library, a location that welcomes the community to seek

answers to their questions and to accept suggestions to meet the needs of the people here at Leech Lake.

We offered gift baskets as an incentive to individuals that filled out the survey and the names that were drawn are as follows: Leah Vasques, Caroline Roy, and Terri Johnson (pictured).

Due to the overwhelming support for these potential services, upon approval, we will strive to provide them for the Band to benefit its members in the near future.



Elders Chair: Leroy Fairbanks Enjoys Life Showing Cattle and Horses

By Patsy Gordon

Family Life

After being together for over thirty years, Leroy Fairbanks and his partner in life, Mary decided to make it a done deal and tie the knot. In July of just last year, they got married. Leroy and Mary had no biological children together, but, from previous marriages, they have 6 children, each having three of their own. Mary had two girls and one boy, Leroy had two boys and one girl. Their children have blessed them with a total of 15 grand children, and 3 great grand children.

Together they raised Erica, an adopted daughter, who today is 21 years old and has a little boy of her own named Angelo. When I entered the ranch house, I could hear 15 month old Angelo, screaming and wailing from a nearby bedroom, rebelling against his nap time, while Grandma Mary was trying to get him to sleep. Leroy says Angelo started his 'terrible twos' early, and then he told me about how Angelo's new puppy chases him up on a chair and refuses to let him down.

Born to Sam Fairbanks and Isabelle Angeline Fairbanks on July 30, 1925, Leroy was one of seven children, and was born at his parents home in Cass Lake. He was also raised and attended school through the 11th grade there, although he did spend summers with his grandparents at Winnie Dam. He had 3 brothers and 4 sisters, all of whom are now deceased, with the exception of one sister who lives in Cass Lake.

Growing Up

Some of Leroy's fondest memories of growing up is when the family got their first radio when he was about 15 or 16 years old. He also remembers the family home finally being equipped with electricity around this time too. Before that, him and his family used kerosene lamps for light, a wood stove and an air tight heater in their living room for heat. He recalls having to haul the wood and water in to the house. He said, "It would get so cold in the house in the winter time, that the

water bucket would freeze up." The family had no indoor plumbing, so they made use of an outside toilet.

Playing a trick on Leroy and his friends while they were playing outside, a neighbor told them that if they dug a hole in the ground straight down, they would reach China! So thinking that the family garden would be a good spot to start digging since the soil there was soft to begin with they dug about 2 to 3 feet down before deciding that this was going to be some pretty hard work and gave up. Leroy said, "We decided since we couldn't speak Chinese anyway, there was no use going there".

After successfully building a box kite out of butcher paper, old fish poles and borrowed clothes line, he and his friends thought they would see if the kite was sturdy enough to hold up a cat. So, they caught the cat and tied him in to the kite and sent him into the air. The boys thought, "Hmmm, let's try flying a kid in there!" But before they could send him up into the air, Leroy said, "His mother caught us anyway!"

Leroy also enjoyed sports and being athletic as a young boy. He recalled being on the baseball and football team as a high school student.

During the time of raising his horses and cattle and teaching Erica the trade, (which you shall read about later) Leroy went back to school and graduated from college at 60 years old! He started at the Metro Community College in Minneapolis and finished up at Bemidji State University where he received his degree. He then went to work at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School and started a dance group there, where he taught traditional dance.

Active Duty

During Leroy's senior year in high school in 1942, he joined the Navy, where after completing boot camp he was sent to the North Atlantic. His most memorable memory of his stint there was having his convoy duty ship

torpedoed. Following that tour, he was shipped off to the Pacific where he remained for four years.

After completing his tour of duty and he returned home, Leroy went back to school to complete his education. He received his general education degree at the Boys Vocational/Trade High School in Minneapolis.

Then in 1949, Leroy was called back to active duty and was sent off to fight in the Korean war. This is when he decided to make a career out of the armed forces. He served for 25 and a half years where he learned the electrician trade and served as an electrician with the Navy.

When the Viet Nam war started he was sent to serve on the U.S.S. Midway and was assigned to the Special Weapons Unit. Out of his 25 years, Leroy spent 3 years in Viet Nam, 1 year in Icor, North Viet Nam (non-combatant duty) and 2 years down in the Delta. He also served in the Mekong Delta and a place called the Perfume River where he recalls meeting a man in a helicopter ride named Tom Lussier, Jr. from Red Lake. It's a small world, isn't it? He also later learned that while he was serving in Can Tho,

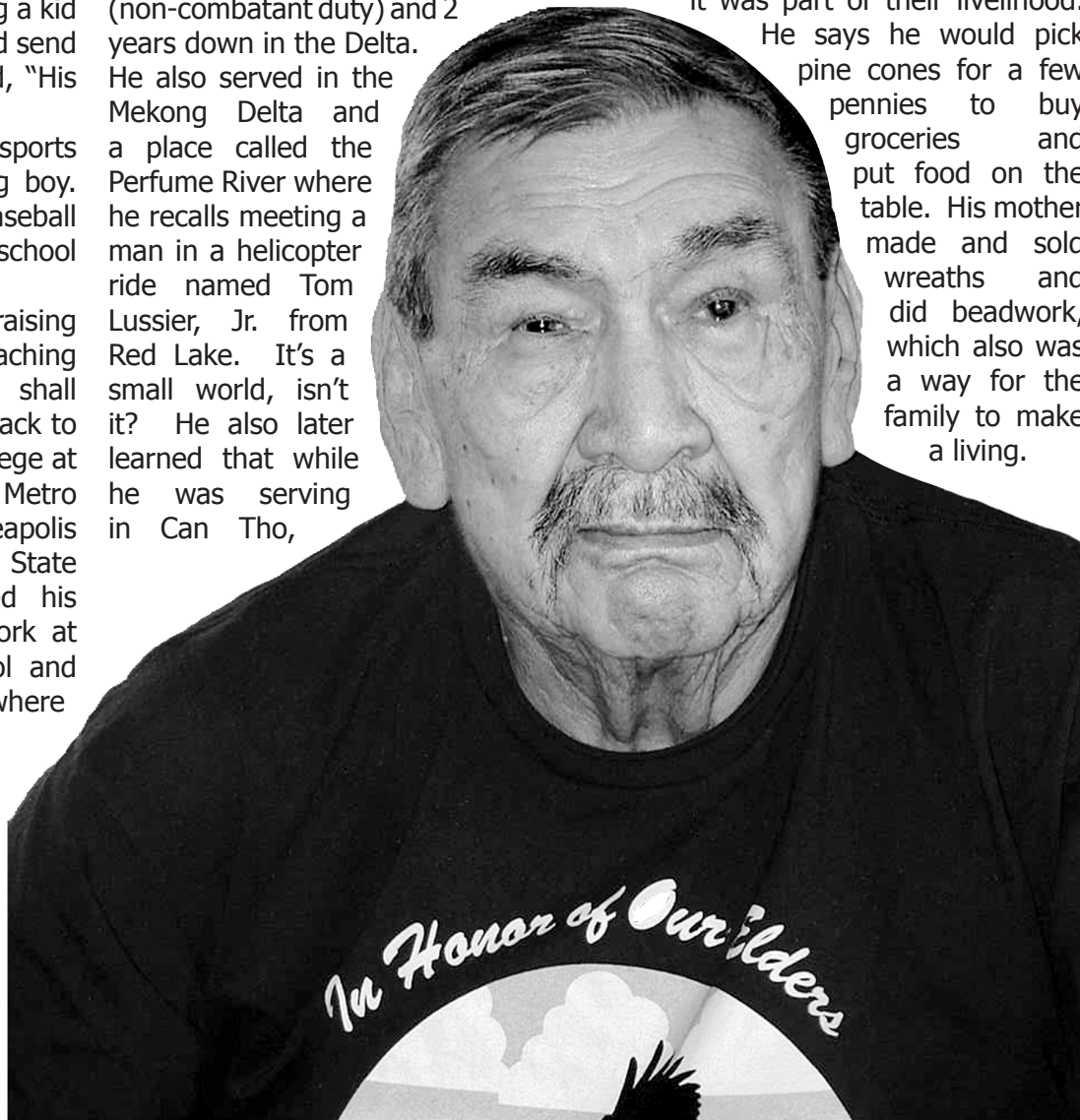
Cambodia, a cousin by the name of David Cronin was there at the same time, but never did get to see him while in Cambodia. In addition, after World War II ended, Leroy served in Subic Bay, Phillipine Islands, and in Okinawa, Japan.

Finally, Leroy thought he was going home! Much to his dismay and surprise, the Navy had other plans for him, sending him off to China. Leroy said, "At least, I got the chance to see North China." He finally retired from the Navy in July of 1972.

Now, a Ships Reunion is being planned for this summer in Seattle, Washington. Leroy plans on attending, he says he's already been to several reunions that were held on the East Coast.

Traditional Activities

Harvesting wild rice and maple sugar, picking berries, wasn't just tradition for Leroy and his family, it was part of their livelihood. He says he would pick pine cones for a few pennies to buy groceries and put food on the table. His mother made and sold wreaths and did beadwork, which also was a way for the family to make a living.



ELDERS SEARCH

The DeBahJiMon newspaper is seeking elders to feature in a column titled "Elders Chair". If you know an elder who would be interested in being interviewed or if you are an elder who would be kind enough to share your story, please call with the name(s) and contact information:

(218) 335-8225

You can also e-mail at: lltpaper@paulbunyan.net

The DeBahJiMon would be more than happy to travel to meet the elder(s) for the interview.

Thank You!

Leech Lake Head Start
AOB Center Parent Committee

All children enrolled in Head Start this year received an extra gift for Christmas. Thanks to those who supported us through donations and purchases during the 12/12/03 Breakfast/Bake Sale and those parents who volunteered their time during this event:

Theresa Foster
Emily Munyer
Destiny Anderson
Chris Connor
Ruth Wind

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Elders Chair/Page 12

Leroy was an avid dancer in his younger years and as a grown man. He said back in the years when he was growing up there weren't to many pow-wows, and when there was one held, they were small. He said, "They aren't like the pow-wows they have now days. Traveling back then wasn't so easy. Now, people come from all over to attend pow-wows. When I was growing up, Bemidji was a big trip for me, which was quite a ride! I didn't even get as far as Brainerd until I was 16 years old!" At one time, Leroy said he did speak Ojibwe, but has lost much of his ability to speak it over the years. He says, "It still comes back once in awhile."

Leroy has been honored with 3 feathers in his roach. If you ever get your hands on a copy of the book titled, "The Smithsonian - a Chronicle of the Native American Indian", take a look. You will find Leroy in there, dressed in full regalia.

Raising and Showing Horses and Cattle

Many of you that know Leroy and his family also know that they take a mighty big interest in raising horses. They own 30 acres of land on "Tower Hill" between Walker and Cass Lake. Leroy originally started out raising cattle, ending up with 56

head of Scotch Highlanders. They also were one of the first families around to own Silver Highland cattle. Leroy's daughter, Erica was one of the very first young people to show cattle, taking three national championships in Denver, Colorado. Just last year in September they attended a Scotch Highland show at St. Croix in Wisconsin where they took the "Herdsman Award" for the year!

Yet even as a little girl, and with Leroy and Mary's encouragement and guidance, Erica became interested in showing horses at horse shows and rodeos, which has become her passion. She loves to ride her horses "riding barrels" in the shows. They travel all over the U.S. to take part in the events, pulling a trailer and taking their stock with them.

Sitting on the top of Leroy's hutch in his living room are many, many different trophies they have won from participating in the shows. Leroy said they also have over 400 ribbons they have won also in their collection of awards and memorabilia.

"We're starting in again" said Leroy. "We've got this little guy now (Angelo) we're gonna' get him started!" I'd be willing to bet he's gonna' make one mighty fine cowboy too!

January 12, 2004

Chairman Pete White
Leech Lake Tribal Council
6530 US Hwy 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Dear Chairman White:

The Wisdom Steps Board of Directors, Advisory council and staff would like to thank you and the Leech Lake Tribal Council and your staff at Northern Lights Casino Hotel for us on January 7-8, 2004.

The hotel rooms and meeting space were wonderful and the food you provided was very delicious and beautifully presented! Our Elders had a good time and would also like to thank you for your gift packets! Your staff and community treated us with much respect and were so gracious. Please thank everyone and tell them how much we appreciated our visit.

We look forward to working with you in the coming years as we develop our preventive health model projects in your community. Thank you for your support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation proposal and we will keep in contact with you.

Miigwech,

Patricia ELLS

Wisdom Steps Board of Directors Chairperson

Wisdom Steps
c/o MBA Indian Elder Desk
444 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-3843
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Have a WINNING WINTER!						
8 Sunday Spin 5pm-10pm	9 Coffee Club 6am-Noon Mystery Monday Noon to Midnight	10 NEW! Senior Fun Day 10am-6pm COUPON PACKAGE, HOURLY DRAWINGS!	11 White Oak Wednesday 6pm-10pm	12 49ers Day To Play 2pm-10pm	13	14 Valentine Duets! Register all day starting at 8am.
Have a WINNING WINTER!						
15 Sunday Spin 5pm-10pm	16 Coffee Club 6am-Noon Mystery Monday Noon to Midnight	17 NEW! Senior Fun Day 10am-6pm COUPON PACKAGE, HOURLY DRAWINGS!	18 White Oak Wednesday 6pm-10pm	19 49ers Day To Play 2pm-10pm	20	21
Have a WINNING WINTER!						
22 Sunday Spin 5pm-10pm	23 Coffee Club 6am-Noon Mystery Monday Noon to Midnight	24 NEW! Senior Fun Day 10am-6pm \$500 DRAWING!	25 White Oak Wednesday 6pm-10pm	26 49ers Day To Play 2pm-10pm \$500 Drawing	27	28
Have a WINNING WINTER!						
29 Winning Winter Drawings!				FEBRUARY 29TH \$250 - \$1,500 CASH DRAWINGS		

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BUSINESS

Northern Lights Casino and Convention Center Debt Consolidation / Loan Restructuring

The debt consolidation/ loan restructuring project did not happen overnight. The consolidation of the Northern Lights Casino loans (Senior Loan and Sub Loan) and the Hotel and Convention Center loans (Facility A and B), from 2001, and 2002, was a process that required five months of negotiations and meetings, with the Leech Lake Tribal Council, the Leech Lake Gaming Director and Controller, Business Corporation staff and Steve Erickson, of the Marshall Group Inc. to finalize.

The terms of the four old loans entered in the years 2001 and 2002, by the former Reservation Tribal Council and former Gaming Controller were the following:

Loan & Date	Loan Amount	Monthly Payment	Interest Rate	Date of Balloon	Amount of Balloon Pymt
Senior Loan 1/01	\$27 Million	\$234,872	7%	1/1/2012	\$11 Million
Sub Loan 1/01	\$3 Million	\$54,865	12%	11/1/2008	No Balloon
Facility A 12/02	\$9 Million	\$82,921	7%	12/1/2013	\$4.5 Million
Facility B 12/02	\$13 Million	\$136,478	7%	12/12/2012	\$3.8 Million
Totals	\$52 Million	\$509,136			\$19.3 Million

Disadvantages of Old Loans:

- High monthly payments.
- High interest rates.
- Many covenants and restrictions on the management of our gaming funds.
- Balloon payments due.
- Pre-payment penalty.

With the historically low interest rates now available, we were able to negotiate a refinancing package, which would free the Band from \$19.3 Million in balloon payments due in 8-9 years. The Tribe could have waited until the \$19.3 Million balloon payments were actually due, in 2012, and 2013, and refinance at that time, at unknown interest rates. Now, due to the currently low interest rates available we took advantage of this opportunity and capitalized while we could.

Terms and Conditions of New Restructured Loan

The terms of the new two loans entered in the year 2003 by the current Reservation Tribal Council and current Gaming Controller are the following:

Loan & Date	Loan Amount	Monthly Payment	Interest Rate	Date of Balloon	Date Loan Paid Off
Bremer Bank 10/03	\$7.5 Million	\$132,136	4%-6.6%	No Balloon	8/1/09
SMSC	\$41.5 Million	\$224,792	6.5%	No Balloon	10/1/23
Totals	\$49 Million	\$356,928		No Balloon	

- Monthly payments are \$356,928 for the 1st 68 months or until 8/1/09 and at this time, payments will decrease to \$224,792 for 12 months ending on 7/1/2010 and then will increase to \$390,004 until 10/1/23.

Advantages of New Loan Consolidation

- Monthly payments decreased.
- No \$19.3 Million balloon payments due in 2012, and 2013.
- Current debt consolidation loan locked in at extremely low interest rates of 6.5%, with no possibility of increasing over the life of the loan.
- No pre-payment penalty.

Again, due to the hard work and determination of the current Reservation Tribal Council, Gaming Controller, Business Corporation staff and Steve Erickson, the debt consolidation/loan restructuring project was completed. This financing package will benefit the Tribe for years and generations to come.



Che-We diesel pump receives a new camopy.

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
in partnership with Bemidji State University's
Council of Indian Students Presents:

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2001/2002 Annual Leech Lake Audit Report

Each year, included in the Annual Audit Report, is a section wherein the outside auditors report conditions they encountered during the audit where the Band is not following prescribed procedures or are using accounting practices that are less than acceptable. A copy of this report is sent to each of the gaming agencies. The agencies then prepare a series of questions and issues to which we must respond with solutions. Such was the case for the years 2001 and 2002 as follows in the report below.

The Tribal Council and the Accounting Division has discussed these deficiencies with the departments and individuals involved, arrived at solutions, and made changes in the internal tribal processing and internal controls. Comments were then submitted regarding the deficiencies to the Department of Interior for the two years cited above. The following letter is their final response after reviewing our answers. The Leech Lake Tribal Council is pleased that the Department of Interior has approved of the improvements listed.

MEMORANDUM

December 1, 2003

TO: Director, Office of Audit and Evaluation

FROM: Director, Office of Self-Governance

SUBJECT: Single Audit Report – Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (#02-1923)

We have reviewed this audit report for the year ended June 30, 2002, the Band's correction plan, and the Band's response to our inquiry. We report the following:

Finding 02-1 (Lease Agreements)

The auditor found numerous undocumented leasing agreements between funds. This was considered a MATERIAL WEAKNESS. It is also a recurring finding (01-1,00-1, 99-3, 98-8) and was considered a MATERIAL

WEAKNESS in 2001, 2000, 1999, and 1998. The auditor recommended that documents be prepared for all leasing arrangements, especially between various Tribal funds and enterprises. The Band's correction plan of March 28, 2003 states that it has hired a new facilities management director and he has begun to prepare new and revised lease agreements. The Band in its response to our inquiry about the 2001 audit report states that it now has signed leases for the use of tribally controlled space for fiscal years 2003 and 2004. **We consider the finding corrected.**

Finding 02-2 and 02-16 (Payroll/ Human Resources Files)

The number found that time cards were incomplete or inconsistent with the payroll and personnel files were incomplete. This is a recurring finding (01-2, 00-2, 99-5, 98-2). The auditor recommended that the Band implement policies and procedures to ensure correct timecards, payroll, and personnel files. The Band's correction plan states that it has implemented policies and procedures to do this, including new employee intake sessions to assure completed personnel files. All files for current employees are being reviewed in 2003. **We consider the finding resolved, with corrections underway.**

Finding 02-3 (Accounting Software)

The auditor found that the Band's accounting software package was not designed for fund accounting applications and does not meet the Band's needs, because it does not provide a subsidiary backup for grants receivable and deferred revenue in the special revenue funds. This was determined to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS. It is also a recurring finding (01-3, 00-3) and was determined to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS in 2001 and 2000. The auditor recommended that the Band continue its efforts to fully implement and utilize its new fund accounting software package. The

Band's correction plan states that it implemented its new software on October 1, 2002 and data will be completely converted by June 30, 2003. The Band's progress report provided in response to our inquiry about the 2001 report states that the last module was being converted in the end of 2003 and the system was completely installed and functioning for the 2003 audit. **We consider the finding corrected.**

Finding 02-4 (Due to/Due From Funds)

The auditor found that due to/due from other funds are not being reconciled and adjusted in a timely manner, until well after year-end. This is a recurring finding (01-4, 00-4). The auditor recommended that these accounts be reconciled and adjusted on a monthly basis and in a timely manner. The Band's correction plan states that these accounts will be reconciled at June 30, 2003. In response to our inquiry about the 2001 report, the Band indicated that during fiscal year 2003 these accounts were reconciled at the end of the third and fourth quarters, and during fiscal year 2004 they will be reconciled quarterly. **We consider the finding corrected.**

Finding 02-5 (Accounts Payable Recording)

The auditor found that some invoices were charged to accounts that did not begin until the next fiscal year. This is a recurring finding (01-5). The auditor recommended that attention be paid to recording expenditures in the proper accounting period. The Band's correction plan states that it will take particular precautions to ensure expenditures are coded to the correct programs and recorded in the correct accounting period. **We consider the finding resolved.**

Finding 02-6 (Travel Advances)

The auditor found that the Band was not enforcing its travel reimbursement policies regarding outstanding travel advances and repayment of advances that exceed the cost of the travel. This was determined to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS. It is also a recurring finding (01-6, 00-6, 99-6, 98-14) and was determined

to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS in 2001, 2000, 1999, and 1998. The auditor recommended that the travel policies and procedures of the Band be enforced. The Band's correction plan states that travel balances are being researched. Old balances will be referred to the Tribal Council for decision about collection efforts and means, and new travel advances are being more closely monitored to prevent the creation of new outstanding balances. The progress report provided a response to our inquiry about the 2001 report states that in 2003 the Band has reconciled its travel advances and strengthened both its travel advance policies and enforcement of these policies. The Band is also awaiting a Tribal Council directive regarding the status of "old" outstanding balances. This status was confirmed in the Band's recent response to our inquiry about this report. **We consider the finding resolved.**

Finding 02-7 (Outstanding Receivables from Members)

The auditor found that there were large outstanding balances in its travel advance receivables, tribal member loans, and tribal referral loans, with a large offsetting balance in the allowance for doubtful accounts. This was determined to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS. It is also a recurring finding (01-7, 00-7) and was determined to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS in 2001 and 2000. The auditor recommended that the Band review all outstanding monies owed to it and either attempt to collect it or write off any remaining balances that are old and not collectible. The Band's correction plan states that it will update the detail of these accounts before June 30, 2003, determined which might be charged to various grants, and seek guidance from the Tribal Council as to collection efforts. **We have no comment on the finding.**

Finding 02-8 (Inventory – Tribal College)

The auditor found that the college did not maintain an inventory account during the fiscal year not did it conduct an inventory at year-end,

resulting in the balance sheet not including the value of the inventory. This is a recurring finding (01-8). The auditor recommended that the College maintain an inventory record with regular inventory accounts, including a year-end inventory. The Band's correction plan states that the College has purchased a computerized fixed asset system that will be implemented as soon as a staff person can be hired and trained. **We defer to the Office of Indian Education Programs on this finding.**

Finding 02-9 (Endowment Fund – Tribal College)

The auditor found that the College did not comply with the BIA endowment requirements. This is a recurring finding (01-9). The auditor recommended that the Band do so. The Band's correction plan states that the College staff will make every effort to comply with the requirements. **We defer to the Office of Indian Education Programs on this finding.**

Finding 02-10 and 02-19 (Expenditure Documentation)

The auditor found that supporting documents for expenditures were missing or incomplete and did not include proper authorization. This is a recurring finding (01-20). The auditor recommended that (1) supporting documentation be kept together with a copy of the check,

(2) authorizations be obtained and indicated on invoices before they are paid, (3) purchased assets be recorded in the fixed assets records, and (4) direct assistance reimbursements be receipted and witnessed. The Band's correction plan states that it is striving to assure that the recommendations are implemented. **We consider the finding resolved.**

Finding 02-11 (Old Funds/Balance Sheet Accounts)

The auditor found that, although progress was made in the area in 2002, there were old funds in the accounting system that needed to be closed and some balance sheet accounts were not reviewed and adjusted in a timely manner. This is a recurring finding (01-13, 01-14, 99-7, 98-15, 97-14, 96-9). The auditor recommended that balance sheet accounts and old funds be reviewed and adjusted in a timely manner. The Band's correction plan states that the old fund balances are being reviewed and will be adjusted and closed out by June 30, 2003. In its response to our inquiry about the 2001 report, the progress report indicates that, although most of the old accounts were reviewed in 2003, the Band is still working on cleaning up the old fund balances. The Band's progress report provided in response to our recent inquiry states that its goal is still to have old fund balances reviewed and adjusted by the 2003 audit. **We consider the finding resolved with corrections underway.**

Finding 02-12 (Fixed Assets)

The auditor found that the fixed asset list contained many material errors, including incorrect acquisition costs, no recorded costs, and missing items. This was determined to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS. It is also a recurring finding (01-14, 00-15, 99-8, 98-6, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994) and was determined to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS in 2001 and 2000. The auditor recommended that the list be reviewed and prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The Band's correction plan states that it is continuing its efforts

to complete its list and costs of fixed assets and expects to complete the process by the end of April 2003. The Band's progress report prepared in response to our inquiry about the 2001 report states that the inventory and list have been completed and the cost information is being reviewed and compiled. The Band's progress report provided in response to our inquiry about this report states that the property department is doing the final research on the remaining undefined/ unlocated costs with a scheduled completion date of December 1, 2003. **We consider the finding resolved and acknowledge that it may recur in the 2003 report.**

Finding 02-13 (Voided Checks – Special Revenue Fund)

The auditor found that outstanding checks were incorrectly voided after the fiscal year was over. This is a recurring finding (01-15). The auditor recommended that outstanding checks be reviewed monthly and timely entries made to void checks. The Band's correction plan states that it is now doing this. **We consider the finding resolved.**

Finding 02-14 (Bank Reconciliations)

The auditor found that certain reconciliation errors were not reflected in the general ledger and recommended that all errors be fixed so that the reconciled balance agrees with the general ledger balance. The Band's correction plan states that the reconciling items will be resolved more timely in the future and at the end of the fiscal year 2003 (June 30, 2003) there will be no remaining unresolved items. **We consider the finding corrected.**

Finding 02-15 (Uninsured Deposits)

The auditor found the Band does not have adequate insurance on its bank deposits and is not in compliance with the requirements of the Interior Appropriations Act. This is a recurring finding (01-12, 00-12, 99-14). The auditor recommended that all deposits be insured or have adequate pledged collateral. The Band's correction plan states that

it received pledged securities and a surety bond for covering deposits in excess of FDIC insurance from the bank into which all of the Federal grants are deposited. **We consider the finding corrected.**

Finding 02-16 (See finding 02-2).

Finding 02-17 (Headstart Records)

The auditor found that participants' files were missing eligibility and health documentation in this HHS program. This is a recurring finding (01-17, 00-19, 99-12). The auditor recommended that all participants' files contain all required documentation. The Band's correction plan described its revised enrollment and documentation procedures. **We have no comment on the finding.**

Finding 02-18 (Indian School Equalization Program)

The auditor found that there was no supporting documentation to show that a background investigation was conducted for an employee, and recommended the background investigations be performed on all employees. Although this was not a finding in 2001, it occurred in the two prior years (00-18, 99-1). The Band's correction plan states that the school is going to initiate a background investigation on this particular employee. **We defer to the Office of Indian Education Programs on this finding.**

Finding 02-20 (Cash Management/Federal Accrued Balances)

The auditor found that there were large accrued revenue balances in various federally funded programs. This is a recurring finding (01-19, 00-17) and was determined to be a MATERIAL WEAKNESS in 2001 and 2000. The auditor recommended that reimbursements be requested in a timely manner in order not to use funding from agencies which provide advance funds. The Band's correction plan states that all grants draws will be brought up to date by June 30, 2003 and subsequently grants will be closed out within 90

days of the grant period. The Bands progress report admits that it has not yet met the 90-day closings that it is committed to, but it is improving. **We consider the finding resolved with corrections underway.**

Finding 02-21 (Financial Reports)

The auditor found that the financial reports to Indian Health Service for the two previous years were not submitted until this year and the program report "Report to the People" was not submitted. The auditor recommended that all required reporting be completed and submitted on a timely basis. The Band's correction plan states that this is being done. **We have no comment on the finding.**

Prior Year Finding 01-11 (Pell Grant Program – Tribal College)

The auditor found that federal refund calculations were not made not were repayments to the Department of Education for students who withdrew or dropped out. This was a recurring finding (00-16, 99-1, 98-4, 97-1). The auditor recommended that these calculations and repayments be made in a timely manner and, if necessary, funds applied to the requisite federal program. Although the finding does not appear in the 2002 audit report, the Summary Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings on page 60 indicates that the finding was not implemented. The Band's response to our observation states these calculations and repayments are now accomplished on a semester basis. **We have no comment on the finding.**

Observation (Use of Federal Funds)

We had observed that the cash assets did not exceed the cash liabilities in the Tribal College fund (company 21) on page 22 and requested that the Band provide the combining balance sheet for the contracts and grants portion of the Special Revenue Fund, which includes both company 20 and company 21. The Band has informed us that the software in use in 2002 cannot generate this information and this was one of the deficiencies that led to the purchase of the new

software. We will revisit this situation when we review the 2003 report.

Observation (Indirect Costs)

The Band will review its policy to our recommendation that a simple compliance sentence be included in Note 3 concerning the requirements of the Interior Appropriations Act.

Observation (General Fund Receipts of Self-Governance Funds)

The Band has confirmed that the transfers of Self-Governance funds will be identified in future financial statements.

Observation (Self-Governance Expenditures)

The Band has satisfactorily explained the apparent discrepancies in Self-Governance expenditures and transfers evidenced in the combining statements and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

Observation (Other Interior Expenditures)

The Band answered our question about the Other DOI Expenditures and indicated that the fund balance of \$155,731 is in the Tribal College Endowment Fund.

Observation (Other Disbursements/Transfers)

The Band also explained the apparent differences in the transfers/other expenditures in the Transportation Improvement/Road Construction and School Equalization programs.

Summary

Although there has been recent improvement in the Band's financial capability and performance, we remain concerned that these improvements result in fully implemented corrections to the Band's financial operations and management. Accordingly, our intention to designate the Band as a "high risk" grantee pursuant to OMB Circular A-102 (Common Rule) and 43 CFR 12.52 still depends on our satisfactory review of the Band's 2003 audit report.

Based on the above, we recommend that your review of this 2002 audit report be closed.

NCAI State of Indian Nations Address

Presented by NCAI President Tex G. Hall, National Press Club, Washington, D.C.

Dosha. Welcome leaders of the United States and Indian Nations, members of the press, and friends of Indian country – my greetings and thanks to you for joining us today as the National Congress of American Indians offers its second annual address on the State of Indian Nations in the U.S.

This morning, my colleagues and I watched as the nine justices on the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in the United States v. Lara, the latest in a series of watershed cases that hold the potential to redefine the very nature of tribal sovereignty in the U.S. today.

Over the past decade, the Court has wrongfully eroded our inherent sovereign rights within this nation in decisions that reverse hundreds of years of understanding in federal Indian law by limiting tribal jurisdiction on our lands.

These decision are more than jurisdictional setbacks: they have meant that we cannot prosecute an individual who is beating their spouse if they are non-Indian. They mean that our law enforcement officials lack clear authority to stop a drunk driver or shut down a methamphetamine lab on our lands.

We face jurisdictional challenges that stand to threaten the public safety of all people within our borders if not addressed.

As leaders of tribal nations that have exercised inherent sovereignty over our lands and people since long before the arrival of Europeans to our shores, we watch this process with the deepest of concern.

At the same time as our rights are being abridged in the courts, Congress and the Administration have demonstrated a reluctance to address the urgent needs of tribes nationwide – needs which the U.S. committed to fulfill in treaties and agreements with tribes that remain in force today.

I believe that if the leaders and citizens of this nation can be brought to truly understand our tribal

governments, they will recognize why the inherent sovereignty of our nations matters.

They will feel the weight of the treaties made between our nations and the United States. They will want to see this nation uphold its honor and meet its trust commitment to tribes.

Today I want to take the opportunity to begin this educational process by answering one question: Why tribal sovereignty?

One of the most important things to understand about American Indian tribes is the simple fact that tribes are governments – not non-profit organizations, not interest groups, not an ethnic minority.

We are only one of four sovereigns listed in the U.S. Constitution, alongside the federal, state, and foreign governments.

We provide many of the same services to our people that state governments do: tribal fire departments, tribal police, tribal schools.

We make governmental decisions to protect public safety, stimulate our economies, and ensure a bright future for our young people. Our tribal courts work to ensure that the rights of all are protected in our communities.

Our tribes have been self-governing for thousands of years – these are not new rights we are asking for, these are traditional indigenous structures of governance that we wish to uphold.

We must now dwell on history, but history informs the present – and we as a nation must understand the history between tribes and the U.S. government to move forward wisely and effectively in the present.

When you consider that every acre of this country once was under care of sovereign tribes, and that those lands provided all that was needed for our people, it is easy to understand the federal government's "trust responsibility" to tribal governments.

When the bulk of these lands

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were taken – by exchange or force – from tribes, the U.S. gave its solemn promise to protect the rights of tribes to govern themselves on the small remaining amounts of land that we hold as reservations, and to provide for the health, education, and well being of tribes.

That commitment, the “trust responsibility” is not a handout, but a contract – and that contract has been broken time and again by the federal government.

Recently, the bi-partisan U.S. Civil Rights Commission issued a report calling the shortfalls in federal funding for unmet needs in Indian Country a “quiet crisis”.

The Commission’s reports helps to underscore what we as tribal leaders have known for decades: the federal responsibility to tribes is being grossly disregarded.

The Commission found that under-funding of federal trust and treaty responsibilities and efforts to limit tribal sovereignty have perpetuated high poverty and unemployment rates, low high school and college graduation rates, shorter life expectancy, and higher rates of disease and illness in Indian Country.

The only way to turn around these dangerous trends is to affirm tribes’ right to self-government and to renew this nations’ commitment to fulfill its trust and treaty obligations to tribal nations.

As the President unveils his proposed budget for the 2005 fiscal year, we are issuing budget recommendations that summarize

well documented needs in key areas of concern to tribes. These are available here today and on the NCAI web site.

I want to particularly encourage members of Congress to consider these requests seriously as we move into this year’s appropriations cycle. We face a crisis that is growing louder each year, and it is time to commit as a nation to ending this ever-deepening scar in our nation’s honor.

This year marks the 80th Anniversary of the Indian Citizenship Act, which for the first time gave most Native Americans the right to vote.

On November 2nd, Native Americans will exercise this right in record numbers.

We will exercise this right because to do so is critical to our success in reclaiming other important rights – the right to adequate health care and quality education, the right to fully govern our lands, the right to protect our citizenry, the right to see our nation’s commitments to tribes fulfilled.

Our vote will make a pivotal difference this fall in Arizona, South Dakota, New Mexico, Alaska, Minnesota, Michigan, Oklahoma, and California – key states, key races.

In November we will stand up in force to support these republican, democratic, and independent leaders who have honored this nation’s commitments to tribes, and to send home those leaders who have disregarded us.

Our contributions have been great from the first days of this nation’s history through today. Yet as I attended the State of the Union Address last night, I was troubled that tribes once again went unmentioned.

This nation’s commitments to tribal nations are just as important as rebuilding Iraq or revisiting the moon. Our nation must square its soldiers and make this nation’s commitment to the First Americans a priority in the budget process.

To help our current and future leaders in Washington better understand the important role that tribal governments play in this nation’s fabric, I want to share some stories of how contemporary governments are exercising their sovereignty to improve the lives of all people living on tribal lands.

Law Enforcement, Public Safety, and Homeland Security

Our tribal nations provide law enforcement to protect the public safety and homeland security of hundreds of thousands of people, international borders, and sensitive sites of national importance.

We are proud citizens in these United States of America. We are patriots who have fought and been decorated for service in this country’s armed forces in greater numbers per capita than any other racial or ethnic group.

In the current conflict in Iraq I want to particularly raise up the contribution of Lori Piestewa, a young woman from the Hopi Tribe, and Sheldon Eagle Hawk of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, both of whom gave their lives – their lives, their futures, their dreams – in battle for this country. I want to acknowledge from my own tribe Delmar Crows Breast, who received the Purple Heart for his service in Iraq, where he was gravely injured.

I want to give my heartfelt thanks to all American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian service members who are putting their lives on the line in Iraq – know that you are on our minds, and we are praying for your safe return.

Our contributions have been great from the first days of this nation’s history through today. Yet as I attended the State of the Union Address last night, I was troubled that tribes once again went unmentioned.

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Our tribal nations provide law enforcement to protect the public safety and homeland security of hundreds of thousands of people, international borders, and sensitive sites of national importance.

Recently, NCAI held a

conference at the Gila River Indian Community near Phoenix, Arizona. In our time visiting this fast-growing reservation with a population of 17,000, I had the privilege of meeting some of the outstanding members of the tribally controlled police department at Gila River.

With a strong investment of tribal dollars and energy for expanded law enforcement staff and a focus of community policing, the department had developed innovative ideas to dramatically improve police and public safety response times on the reservation.

The tribe has reduced reservation crime rates at a time when rates of similar crimes were rising in neighboring Phoenix, and has increased its accountability to the government and citizens of Gila River Indian Community.

Just south of Gila River on the Tohono O’Odham Reservation, the tribe is working to guard 175 miles of our nations’ border with Mexico. The cost of these efforts is tremendous, but the tribe is receiving little in the way of support from federal or state homeland security funding.

With adequate federal funding and improved clarity of tribal jurisdiction within their boundaries, tribes throughout this nation can play a much needed part in this nation’s public safety network.

I call upon Congress and the Administration to join in advancing 50% increase in funding for tribal law enforcement. Such a commitment is necessary to supply the officers needed to provide for basic public safety in Indian Country. \$15 million is also needed annually for tribal courts to continue their critical operations.

This funding is particularly important in light of the central role tribal governments must play in providing homeland security to international borders, dams, power transmission lines, oil and gas pipelines, sensitive military sites, vast tracts of land, and over two million people

Education

Education is another key element of the trust responsibility to

tribes that has reached a crisis point in under-funding.

Today only 50% of Indian students finish high school. Fifty percent. We need to ensure that no Indian child is left behind for lack of classroom dollars, quality teachers, and meaningful, inspiring curricula.

Our tribal leaders are doing what they can with limited means they have.

For example, concerned by troubling student dropout rates, under achievement, and the decline of their cultural practices, the Chickaloon Village of Alaska in a path-breaking exercise of sovereignty established the Ya Ne Dah Ah, or “Ancient Teachings,” school in 1992.

At this innovative school, students are excelling in conventional studies of science, math, English, and social studies, as well as learning Athna Athabascan history, language, music, and art – topics and skills that community members help teach.

Many Natives are returning to the area so that their children can attend the Ya Ne Dah Ah School, where students are now scoring higher on standardized tests than their national counterparts.

This is a great example of local initiative and drive, but we should not have to do this alone.

The federal government runs only two school systems: the Department of Defense school system, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs school system.

But Bureau of Indian Affairs schools are allotted just over \$3,000 for each student annually. This is less than half of what public schools spend on average per student.

We need a national commitment to end this disparity and bring BIA school funding up to par with what students enjoy elsewhere in the nation. We also need support for the unique needs of Indian and Alaska Native students in our nation’s public schools.

Health, Social Services, and Community Needs

Health care is another federal trust commitment to Indian people that remains grossly neglected.

American Indians and Alaska Natives have a life expectancy of 5 years less than all other races in this country.

Diabetes has been a particularly destructive force among American Indian and Alaska Native people, with our mortality rates from diabetes at more than three times the national average.

Our tribes are stepping forward to take on the health care crisis we face. For example, the Winnebago Tribe in Nebraska has exercised its governmental authority to establish the Whirling Thunder Wellness Program to help end the scourge of diabetes that affects one third of Winnebago adults, and threatens nearly half of the tribe’s youth.

This field-based program is changing individual and community behavior on the reservation and helping to ensure a healthy citizenry for generations to come. A recent study conducted at the University of Nebraska suggests that the Winnebago Tribe is winning its battle against diabetes by reducing risk factors such as obesity.

Recent increases in diabetes funding will go a long way toward addressing this crisis – but we need a serious across the board commitment to meet the range of health care shortfalls we face in Indian Country.

In spite of the disproportionate health care needs we face, today the per capita expenditure for American Indian and Alaska Native medical services is less than one-third of the average annual expenditure for individual Medicaid assistance, and is even less than our nation’s per capita health expenditure for federal prisoners.

With full funding of the Indian Health Service, more tribes would stand a chance of making headway against the epidemic impacts of diabetes, heart disease, cancer, suicide, and alcoholism – each disproportionately severe in Indian Country.

I call upon Congress and the Administration to full fund the Indian Health Service by increasing its budget by \$2.3 billion this year – so that the problems we face do not

turn into even more costly epidemics a few years from today.

But individual and community behavior are not the only issues that must be addressed to improve disease prevention in Indian Country. We also need a commitment to take on the broader environmental issues that have been linked to higher rates of cancer and other health crises in our communities.

Lack of safe drinking water, adequate sanitation systems, and clean air in our communities places everyone in and near tribal lands at risk. These issues must be better addressed in the EPA budget in 2005.

Economic Stimulus and Infrastructure Development

I want to speak briefly about another key concern in Indian Country – the need for meaningful economic development, and the infrastructure necessary to lay the groundwork for development.

If we look back on the history of federal Indian policy in the Twentieth Century, it is not a coincidence that it has only been in the era of self-determination that a significant number of reservations have begun to break the cycle of poverty and dependence.

Sovereignty is one of the primary development resources tribes can have, and the reinforcement of tribal sovereignty through self-determination should be the central

thrust of public policy.

Basic infrastructure such as road construction and maintenance can go a long way toward facilitating development – or bringing it to a grinding halt where that infrastructure is lacking.

Each year, there are over 2 billion vehicle-miles traveled on roads in Indian Country, by tribal members and visitors alike.

Unfortunately, tribes receive far less funding for their roads than the rest of the nation: although tribal roads make up nearly 2.5 percent of the federal roads in the country, tribes receive only 0.5 percent of federal road funding.

While states spend an average of \$4,000 to \$5,000 per mile for road maintenance annually, the federal government spends only \$500 per mile for roads in Indian Country.

Because of this lack of funding, only 33 percent of roads in Indian country are paved, a full quarter of the bridges on tribal lands are structurally deficient, and 72 percent of the roads in Indian Country are officially rated as “poor”.

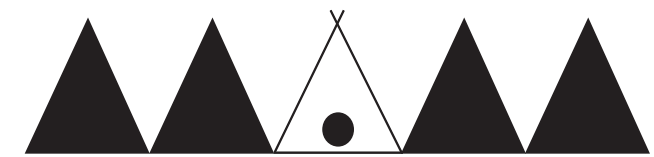
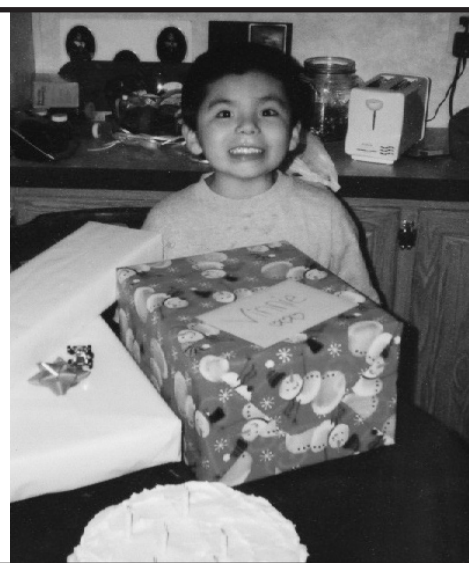
Because of these hazards, the Indian Health Service has found that the fatality rate for vehicle-related deaths on tribal roads is 400% of the national average, and is the leading killer of Native youth.

Last month, a tragic accident claimed the life of one of NCAI’s most energetic and promising youth leaders, Brandon James. Every

Happy Golden Birthday Honeyman!!!

February 7th

Love, Baby James



Che-Wa-Ka-E-Gon Complex

**Mini-Mart / Gift Shop
Bait Shop Now Open**

Open 7 days a week 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Greyhound Ticket Service
Gas, Food, Beer & Cigarettes
Phone (218) 335-8827

month in every tribe in this nation, there is a devastating loss to families as a result of vehicle deaths. This fully preventable crisis absolutely must end.

Development of safe and effective infrastructure is one aspect of governance that is absolutely critical in our communities. With reauthorization of this nation's federal transportation funding vehicle now before Congress, it is of life and death importance that Indian Country be addressed in this process.

Tribes are funding innovative ways to fund their road systems in the face of this neglect. Tribes such as Agua Caliente in southern California are issuing governmental bonds to fund road programs.

Several tribes in Alaska have joined together to pool their resources to better use the small amount of money they receive.

Tribes such as the Red Lake Band of Chippewa in Minnesota and the Kiowa Tribe in Oklahoma have joined forces with their states to share road funds and to build public transit programs.

We will continue to work together and with states to identify ways to fund our roads and transit needs, but we also expect and rightfully deserve more support from federal government to address the terrible shortfalls in our infrastructure.

Trust Reform

Finally, I want to touch upon another point of deep concern for tribes in the U.S. today – securing

meaningful reform of the badly mismanaged trust accounts by the federal government for individual Indian account holders and tribes.

The history of this issue is extraordinarily complex, but in essence, the U.S. government appointed itself as tribes' resource manager many generations ago – and ever since, they've been losing track of our money.

Today, the system is such a mess that independent estimates suggest that billions of dollars that belong to individual Indian people and Indian tribes have been lost by the federal government.

A study of the trust management processes within the federal government has just been completed. But the Administration moved forward a plan to reorganize trust functions BEFORE this important information was before them.

NCAI has called upon the Department of Interior to stop this ill-conceived reorganization and work with tribes to ensure a reorganization that will be more responsive to local needs. We do not need another top-heavy bureaucracy. Yet the Department has ignored our call.

Today I repeat my call to Congress and the Administration – place a one year moratorium on reorganization so we can do this right the first time. We should not waste taxpayer dollars on a reorganization that is bound to fail.

In my region of the Great Plains, we graze cattle. In the Northwest, they cut timber. The resource management functions

for trees and cows are different. We need trust management that is flexible and responsive to the local needs of individual and tribal trustees.

We need to redirect dollars to the local BIA functions that are necessary to meet the Department's trust responsibilities.

We call upon Congress to require the DOI to work with tribes to develop local organization of services that will meet the needs of each tribe and each region, and to develop independent evaluation mechanisms to tell us whether the trust reorganization is working or not working.

A "Declaration of Indian Rights" was drafted by the tribes who gathered there, the first official document to establish the principle that tribes must be informed and must give their consent before any legislation is passed that would affect their rights.

This "consultation" principle is very much alive today in Indian Affairs, but not many people know that it came from that NCAI document.

Termination was intended to be a nationwide policy that covered all tribes, but the termination movement was first blunted, and ultimately turned back through the efforts of tribes nationwide coming together in the unifying forum of the National Congress of American Indians.

I believe we must face a similar watershed today. We are in the midst of a quiet crisis that grows louder with each passing year. Tribes nationwide face increasing encroachments on their jurisdictional authority. Tribes in Alaska are faced with troubling efforts to drastically diminish their rights as tribal governments without their involvement or consent. Under funding of Federal trust responsibilities has reached new heights of negligence.

NCAI is working hard to address these challenges. We are working with state legislatures to help state governments understand that we are their neighbors and partners. We are seeking to better

Anniversary of NCAI's fight against termination of tribes in the 1950's. In early 1954, Congress was pushing twelve bills that would have terminated the Indian tribes of Florida, Texas, New York and California, as well as Klamath, Menominee, Flathead, Makah, Sac and Fox, Kickapoo, Potawatami of Kansas and the Turtle Mountain Chippewa. These tribes that existed as independent nations for centuries – wiped out with the stroke of a pen. Fifty years ago, NCAI held an emergency conference in Washington, D.C., and launched an offensive to stop termination.

We ask Congress to pursue a full and fair settlement of the Cobell lawsuit, which addresses the federal government's mismanagement of billions of dollars in Indian trust accounts.

I also ask that Congress and the Administration work together to place a moratorium on foreclosures in light of the Keepseagle lawsuit filed by American Indian farmers against the Department of Agriculture for discriminatory practices, until the case is resolved.

I hope that we can count on the support of the American people for fulfillment of federal trust obligations that will be effective, efficient, and will meet the unique responsibilities of the United States toward our Indian Nations.

Conclusion

Our unique tribal governments and lifeways are a critical part of this nation's soul. I believe the nation as a whole suffered under past efforts at termination and forced assimilation of our people – as Felix Cohen, the modern founder of federal Indian law, once said,

The Indian plays much the same role in our American society that Jews played in Germany. Like the miner's canary, the Indian marks the shift from fresh air to poison gas in our political atmosphere; and our treatment of Indians, even more than our treatment of other minorities, marks the rise and fall of our democratic faith.

This year marks the 50th

document the needs of our communities face to help our nation's leaders as they choose budget priorities.

We are working to counter efforts to drastically diminish the authority of tribes in Alaska.

We are fighting ill-conceived efforts to place new taxes and barriers to tribal governments in their economic development ventures.

We have sought healing in places like Rhode Island where tribal and state governments have clashed.

But we need the nation's help.

Why sovereignty? What does federal funding of its trust commitments mean to a non-native person in Indiana? What does tribal jurisdiction to stop domestic violence in New Mexico mean to a family in Maine?

It means fresh air in our nation's political atmosphere. It means this nation is striving to keep its promises, to exercise the best of its ideals. It means that the First Americans will not once again be the last to realize the American ideal of "justice for all". It means the opening of possibility that our democratic faith can be made whole again.

I call upon President Bush, our leaders in Congress, our justices in the Supreme Court, and the people of this nation as a whole to come together to keep our country's promises. Take time to consider why we as a people want to remain whole and distinct, just as Texas and New Hampshire seek to maintain their identity as states with a unique heritage and local governance authority.

Take time to learn fact from fiction in what you understand of our people, so that you may be our partners in ensuring that we cannot just survive, but thrive as an integral part in this nation's rich fabric.

On behalf of the hundreds of member tribes and thousands of individual Indians that comprise the National Congress of American Indians, I want to thank all of you for taking the first step toward this understanding by joining us today.

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"Passed Into the Spirit World"

CLEMENT BELLANGER

Clement Bellanger, 81, of Squaw Lake, Minn., died on Monday, Dec. 29, 2003, at Havenwood Care Center in Bemidji.

The funeral was held on Wednesday, January 7, 2004 at St. Catherine's Catholic Church in Squaw Lake, with the Rev. Steven Daigle officiating. Burial took place at the Bellanger Family Cemetery in Squaw Lake under the direction of Cease Family Funeral Home of Blackduck.

Pallbearers were Thomas Bellanger Jr., Myron Lyons, Justin Bellanger, Michael Dunkley, Lucas Therriault and Nigel Bellanger Guinn. Honorary Pallbearers were his grandsons.

He was born on Jan. 22, 1922, to Antoine and Margarite (Crow) Bellanger at Squaw Lake. He was raised and attended school in Squaw Lake. He worked for a time in the Civilian Conservation Corps, and appeared on their commemorative stamp. He married Delise Jane Hart on Nov.1, 1965, at Watertown, S.D. He went on to make his living as a logger. He also was a license agent with the Leech Lake chapter of the Department of Natural Resources. He enjoyed ricing, berry picking, hunting, fishing and sugarbushing. He was a talented gardener with both vegetable and flowers. He was mechanically inclined, and loved animals especially his dogs. He enjoyed traveling and saw a lot of the country as a young man.

He survived by his daughters, Laura Therriault of Bemidji, Viola (George Guinn) Bellanger of Squaw Lake, Marcella Bellanger of Cass Lake, Wanda Bellanger of Bemidji and Linda Zeller of Blackduck; sister, Josephine Norcross of Grand Rapids; 26 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren; and numerous great-great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; daughter, Deanna Lyons; brothers, Tom Bellanger, Sam Bellanger, Dave Roy and Frank Rabbit; sisters, Louise Bellanger Charwood and Margaret Roy VanNett; and two infant sisters.

SELAM GEORGE FAIRBANKS

Fairbanks, Selam G., age 81 of Cass Lake, MN. (Indian name: AASHOWENCE) passed away Decmeber 26, 2003 at North Country Regional Hospital in Bemidji, MN. He was born October 24, 1922 at Squaw Point (Oak Point) also known as Gaa-mitigo-mi-zhiinsikaag. He was the son of George and Josephine Brown Fairbanks. Selam was raised by his grandparents John and Mary Ogema.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years: Frieda Nestling Fairbanks, formerly of Ponemah, MN, five daughters: Barbara Fairbanks of Bemidji, MN, Sharon (Anthony) Kotla of New Brighton, MN, Karen (James) Moses, Cynthia "Jane" Fairbanks and Judith Marie Fairbanks all of Cass Lake, MN. Numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, parents, one infant son, five sisters, three brothers, one infant grandson and one infant great grandson.

Selam served six years in the U.S. Army in the Asian/European Theater. He was honorably discharged in December, 1945. He worked in the woods as a skidder and lived off the land until he moved to Minneapolis where he worked as a custodian for 17 years at the American Indian Center. He then moved back to Squaw Point where he retired.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, December 30, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. at the Chippewa Bible Church at Oak Point, MN. Visitation will be on Monday, December 27, 2003 at Chippewa Bible Church beginning at 5 p.m., also 1 hour before the service at the church. Interment at the Chippewa Bible Church Cemetery.

Thomas-Dennis Funeral Home, Walker, MN handled the arrangements.

JEREMIAH "TODD" PEMBERTON

Jeremiah W. "Todd" Pemberton, 66, of Cass Lake, died January 12, 2004 at his home. The funeral was held on January 15, 2004 at the Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Cass Lake with the Reverend George "Boomer" Collins officiating.

Pallbearers were Hunter Pemberton, Jarred Pemberton, Oleg Iatic, Bill Brunelle, Bryan Lussier, Sr., and Craig Jackson. Honorary pallbearers were Daniel Morris, Douglas LaFriniere, Edward Jackson, Kenneth Anderson, Kent Beaulieu, Richard Beaulieu, and Todd Pemberton, Jr.

Jeremiah was born on April 8, 1937, to Alfred and Charlotte (Bryan) Pemberton in White Earth, Minn. He attended school at White Earth and Pipestone, Minn. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1954, serving until 1958 when he received his high school diploma. He held many jobs in various fields of construction. He married Katherine Beaulieu on Oct. 25, 1961. He received his Journeyman's electrical license in 1977 and was a member of the Local 292 IBEW of Minneapolis. He was employed in the construction field until retiring in 2001.

He and his wife made their home in Cass Lake where he enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was an avid hunter and fisherman.

He is survived by his wife; sons, Todd Pemberton, Jr., of Cass Lake, Craig (Polly) Pemberton of Cass Lake, Jarred Pemberton of Cass Lake, daughters; Karen Pemberton of St. Paul, Danielle (Oleg) Iatic of Cass Lake; brothers; Donovan, William, Jeff, and Wesley Jackson, all of White Earth, Minn; sisters; Sharon (Duane) Columbus of Bemidji, Minn. and Darlene Jackson of Pelican Rapids, Minn.

He was preceded in death by his parents, step father, Peter Jackson; and brothers, Peter Jr., Dennis and Maurice Jackson.

MEMORIAL DINNER

For

Hazel Hare &
Hal "Corky" Fairbanks
Saturday, February 7, 2004
2:00 p.m.

Veteran's Memorial Building
Cass Lake, MN

Everyone is Welcome

Please bring your favorite dish to share!

Oak Point LIC – 1st Monday of every month – 6 p.m. – Oak Point Community Center

Ball Club LIC – 1st Monday of every month – 7 p.m. – Ball Club Community Center

Onigum LIC – 1st Tuesday of every month – 6:30 p.m. – Onigum Community Center

Cass River LIC – 1st Tuesday of every month – 7 p.m. – Cass River Community Center

Kego Lake/Smokey Point LIC – 1st Wednesday of every month – 7 p.m. – Kego Lake Community Center

Winnie Dam LIC – 1st Thursday of every month – 7 p.m. – Winnie Dam Community Center

Sugar Bush/Ten Lake LIC – 2nd Monday of every month – 6 p.m. – Is announced at previous meeting

Cass Lake LIC – 2nd Monday of every month – 6:30 p.m. – Heritage Manor Lobby

Inger LIC – 2nd Monday of every month – 7 p.m. – Inger Community Center

Bena LIC – 2nd Tuesday of every month – 7 p.m. – Bena Community Center

Sugar Point LIC – 2nd Wednesday of every month – 7 p.m. – Sugar Point Community Center

Mission LIC – 2nd Thursday of every month – 6 p.m. – Mission Community Center

S. Lake LIC – 3rd Monday of every month – 7 p.m. – S. Lake Community Center

Deer River LIC – the last Monday of every month – 7 p.m. – Goodall Resource Center in Deer River

Leech Lake Twin Cities LIC – the last Tuesday of every month – 6 p.m. – MN Indian Women’s Resource Center – 2300 15th Ave. S. In Mpls. – ALWAYS POTLUCK!

Legal Notices

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Blaine Baird, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Blaine Baird, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 208.A.3, Speeding in excess of 10 mph over the limit.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Janel Lee Bryan, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Janel Lee Bryan, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 208.A.3, speeding in excess of 10 mph over the limit.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Miranda Butcher, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Miranda Butcher, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she

committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 215.C., Driving after revocation.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. David Allan Cronin, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **David Allan Cronin, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 208.A.3, Speeding in excess of 10 mph over the limit.

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YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Annette Day, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Annette Day, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 214.A., Failure to provide proof of insurance.
- Chapter 200, Section 216, Failure to use seat belts.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on

January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Jeanette Ellis, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Jeanette Ellis, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 215.C, Driving after revocation.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Taleeya Lausche, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Taleeya Lausche, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 215.C., Driving after revocation..

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Mikele Northbird-Finn, Defendant,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Mikele Northbird-Finn, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 217.A., Failure to stop for a stop sign.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Sheila Northbird, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Sheila Northbird, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 215.C, Driving after revocation.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Donna Regguinti, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Donna Regguinti, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 208.A.3.(C), Speeding in

excess of 20 mph over the limit.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Susan Sayers, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Susan Sayers, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 217.A., Failure to stop for a stop sign.
- Chapter 200, Section 214.C., Failure to provide proof of insurance.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Belinda Smith, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Belinda Smith, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 215.C, Driving after revocation.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Leroy Staples-Fairbanks, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Leroy Staples-Fairbanks, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 216, Failure to use seatbelts.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Dallon White, Defendant, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Dallon White, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **February 17, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

- Chapter 200, Section 208.A.3, Speeding in excess of 10 mph over the limit.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

- Failure to appear in court on January 6, 2004 pursuant to the summons duly served upon you.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to appear as required, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Local Alcoholics Anonymous/ Narcotics Anonymous and Alanon Meetings

MONDAY 5:00 p.m. – A.A. / N.A. / ABO Counselor / Caregiver – Closed Safe Haven, North on Palace Drive, 1st house of the left **7:00 p.m. – Alanon Meeting**

TUESDAY 7:00 p.m. – N.A. (young people) ALC/Drugs All Ages Welcome Old Faith Mission Church, Cass Lake **7:00 p.m. – Chemical Dependency** Support Group Old Faith Mission Church, Cass Lake **7:00 p.m. – A.A. / N.A.** Ahnji-Be-Mah-Diz Center

WEDNESDAY 10:00 a.m. – Early Bird Meeting Safe Haven **7:00 p.m. – A.A. Meeting** Winnie Dam Community Center **7:30 p.m. – A.A. Big Book Study** Safe Haven

FRIDAY 3:00 p.m. – Substance Abuse Relapse Prevention Support Group Old Faith Mission Church, Cass Lake For more information call 760-4572 **9:00 p.m. – A.A. Candle Light Meeting** Safe Haven

SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. – Open A.A. Meeting Onigum community Center **6:00 p.m. – A.A. / N.A.** Ahnji-Be-Mah-Dis Center

SUNDAY 6:00 p.m. – A.A. (12x12) Meeting Safe Haven – North on Palace Drive – 1st house on left. 335-0147 **6:00-8:00 p.m. Sobriety Feast** Every 3rd Thursday of the month

All meetings are held on a weekly basis. For more information please contact 335-2219.

All area kids welcome to
the 1st Annual

“KIDS PERCH JERK”

Big Winnie - Bena, MN
February 21, 2004
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

CATAGORIES AND SPONSORS

White Oak Casino		Palace Casino		Northern Lights Casino	
Ages 0-5		Ages 6-10		Ages 11-15	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1. \$75.00	\$75.00	1. \$100.00	\$100.00	1. \$125.00	\$125.00
2. \$60.00	\$60.00	2. \$80.00	\$80.00	2. \$100.00	\$100.00
3. \$50.00	\$50.00	3. \$60.00	\$60.00	3. \$75.00	\$75.00

THE BIGGEST UGLY FISH CONTEST

Catch an eelpout, dogfish, bullhead, sucker,
old shoe or tire and win!!!
\$50.00 for each age group.

FREE!! NO ENTRY FEE!!

Kids 15 years and under.

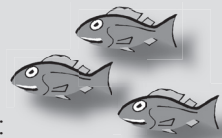
Bring your jig pole. Limited amount available.

Bait and ice holes provided. Dress warm!!

Parent or Guardian must accompany chil(ren).

Free hotdogs and pop for kids. Other food available.

Fun for the entire family.



For more information contact:
Jim Michaud (218) 760-4334
Terry Jordain (218) 335-3000
Bruce Dahl (218) 335-3000

SPONSORED BY THE LEECH LAKE TRIBAL COUNCIL

LEECH LAKE RESERVATION CAREER/JOB FAIR 2004



*“Connections to Your Future: It’s About Time:
to Learn, to Work, to Set Your Goals for Your Future”*

**February 13, 2004
9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Northern Lights Casino & Hotel

Opening Ceremony will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.

Open to :
High School Students,
grades 10-12
General Public

Information from:

Service Providers

Colleges and Universities

Funding Agencies

Technical Colleges

Military Services

Employers

Employment and Training
Programs

Door Prizes will be
given away (must be
present to win)

Lunch will be provided

Applications/Resumes/Financial Aid Applications
may be accepted

For more information contact:
Leech Lake Reservation Education Division
1-866-638-7738
fax: 218-335-8339