

DeBahJiMon

A Publication of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

V. XVIV N. 9 - March 2004

Memorial Day Call/Page 7



Candidates Certified for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe March 30th Primary Election

At a Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Special Tribal Council meeting held on February 18, 2004, the following candidates were certified for the 4-year chairman position: Wallace W. Storbakken, George J. Goggeye, Jr., incumbent Peter D. White, Victoria (Vicki) F. White, Roger Buck, Delmar L. Jones, Jr., Terrance Roy White, Sr., Douglas D. Cloud, Alfred "Tig" Pemberton, Fred K. Jackson, Jr.,

Lenee D. Ross, and Diane E. White.

Sixteen (16) candidates vying for District III representative position

All sixteen candidates filing for the position of District III representative were certified by the Tribal Council and will appear on the primary election ballot. Those certified were

Richard Jones, Donald "Mick" Finn, Jennie (Wind) Reyes, Nancy M. Beaulieu, Martin "Mutt" Robinson, Eugene "Ribs" Whitebird, Leona Bedeau, Debra A. Isham, Randy G. Finn, Robert (Robbie) Budreau, Sr., Glen (Tuffy) Fisher, Jr., Doris M. Jones, Samuel "Rocky" Papasodora, Tracy Anderson, Bonnie Rock, and James Bedeau.

News Briefs

The Leech Lake primary election is slated for March 30, 2004 and the general election is set for June 8, 2004.

2004 Marks the 80th Anniversary of Indian Citizenship Act

By Shawn White Wolf, Helena Independent Record

As of now, there aren't many celebrations planned for the 80th Anniversary of the Indian Citizenship Act. Few American Indians became citizens until the General Citizenship Act of 1824. Later, the U.S. Congress awarded citizenship to World War I veterans. All Indians were granted citizenship under the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924.

"This year marks the 80th Anniversary of the ICA, which for the first time gave most Native Americans the right to vote," said Tex Hall, president of the National Congress of American Indians. Hall said he has taken the anniversary as a chance to mobilize Indian voters in Arizona, South Dakota, New Mexico, Alaska, Minnesota, Michigan, Oklahoma, California and Montana. He will have made two stops in Montana by mid-February.

Leech Lake Band Among Tribes Funded for Fish and Wildlife Projects

Interior Secretary Gale Norton recently announced that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is awarding 79 grants, totaling nearly \$14 million, to help 60 federally recognized Indian tribes conserve and recover endangered, threatened and at-risk species and other wildlife on tribal lands.

"Native Americans have a unique relationship to and understanding of the land and its wildlife," Norton said. "As part of the President's overall Cooperative

Conservation Initiative, the Interior Department is providing these grants to build on our partnership with the tribes to conserve tribal land and recover the wildlife, especially those species that are in decline."

Of the \$14 million, the Service is providing about \$4 million to federally recognized Indian Tribes to help fund 23 projects under TLIP. Contributions from tribes and other partners raise the total value of these projects to \$6.8 million. The grants were chosen through a competitive

process to address protection, restoration and management of habitat to benefit at-risk species, including federally listed endangered or threatened species and proposed or candidate species. The maximum award under this program is \$200,000 with a required minimum 25-percent match from non-federal funds.

Meanwhile, about \$10 million will help fund 56 projects under TWG. Contributions from tribes and other partners increase the total

Fish and Wildlife/Page 2

Leech Lake Education Division Hosts Another Successful Career/Job Fair

By Patsy Gordon

The new Northern Lights Convention Center was abuzz with a flurry of activity as several agencies and corporations operated their booths at the 2004 Career/Job Fair. Many high school students and others enjoyed the day while strolling from table to table accumulating information and useful little gadgets, pens and other things that were given away.

Several schools and colleges were there to represent themselves and to encourage students to apply for and attend college. Many of our own Leech Lake Divisions were also



Leech Lake Employees that modeled for Career Fair Fashion Show.

on hand to offer encouragement to the kids in attendance. Something unique to this year's job fair was the presentation of a fashion show. Leech Lake employees modeled for the "work attire" fashion show.

Career/Job Fair/Page 9

District 4 Endorsing Convention

District 4 Endorsing Convention will be held on Sunday, March 28, 2004 at Lincoln Elementary School in Bemidji, with set up at 12:00, 12:30 registration and meet the candidates. Convention begins at 1:00 p.m.

The agenda includes speeches from attending elected officials, election of officers for District 4, and endorsing candidates for both District 4A and 4B.

DeBahJiMon
6530 US Hwy 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Return Service Requested

PRSRSTD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bemidji, MN
Permit No. 68

Fish and Wildlife/Page 1

value of these projects to \$12.4 million. These grants are awarded to federally recognized Indian tribes to benefit fish, wildlife and their habitat including non-game species. Although matching funds are not required for these grants, they are considered to be an indicator of a tribe's commitment. The maximum grant award under this program is \$250,000.

"Indian peoples were North America's first stewards," said FWS Director Steve Williams. "For generations, they have lived close to nature, depending on wildlife for economic, cultural, and spiritual fulfillment. The Service, through

these two special grant programs, will strengthen its conservation partnerships with tribes across the United States on behalf of traditionally important wildlife species and their habitat."

"Indian country harbors vast pristine habitats, marked by a representation of an entire continental array of fish and wildlife species," said Ira New Breast, Executive Director of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society. "The two service grant programs will work to further raise the capacity of Indian people to meet the dynamic challenges facing sustainable Tribal management of this country's fish

and wildlife resources."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid Program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in

excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

Included in the grants awarded was \$133,858 for the Leech Lake Band for rare, threatened, and endangered species habitat enhancement and wetland projects and \$209,708 for wildlife habitat assessment with an emphasis on rare and culturally important species – including wild rice inventory.

For additional information, please visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's website at www.fws.gov.

Thank You, Maggie Day!

For no reason at all, Maggie Day will occasionally bring in a large pan or two of home made enchiladas for those of us that work in the RTC building. They are simply magnifico! Downright delicious! So we'd like to send out a big hearty THANKS to Maggie (who works with the Maintenance Division) for such thoughtfulness and taking time out of her busy schedule to do this for us. We love it! From the RTC Building staff and others who stop in to get a taste, we say thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Statement on the Bush Administration's Fiscal Year 2005 Budget Proposal:

By Russell Sossamon, Chairman, National American Indian Housing Council

The National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) urges Congress to recognize the immediate housing needs of Native Americans and Alaska Natives and ensure that the \$647 million proposed by President Bush in his FY 2005 budget for Indian housing under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is increased to a more appropriate amount. The federal government cannot continue to ignore thousands of Indian families living in unsafe, indecent and unsanitary homes and \$647 million a year is not meeting their needs.

Some presidential candidates are currently making an effort to reach out to Native Americans. One candidate noted that funding for Indian housing increased regularly under former President Clinton but has remained stagnant under the Bush Administration. What Native Americans deserve is a federal government that takes care of its historical trust responsibilities to tribes by providing adequate federal investment to achieve the ultimate goal of tribal self-reliance.

Civil Rights Commission: (Tribal Homes Far Below National

Average).

Last year, the release of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission report on unmet needs in Indian country was able to shed some light on the lack of support from the federal government. The study described the quality of some tribal homes as "far below the national average" and highlighted the fact that just 2.4 percent of the entire HUD budget goes to Indian housing. Once inflation and consecutive years are factored in, funding has actually decreased over time.

For the fourth year in a row, the Bush Administration has

forgotten Native Americans. As much as any other minority group, Native Americans deserve to be part of the President's plan to create 5.5 million new minority homeowners by the end of this decade. Native people are not being included. Our First Americans also deserve, as much as any foreign state, to have their economies and affordable housing industries cultivated. Instead they are being stifled. We urge Congress to remind the President of his responsibility to Native people by appropriating an adequate amount of funding for fiscal year 2005.

Minnesota Birth and Death Certificates Now Available in all Counties

Minnesota Department of Health

Certified Minnesota birth and death certificates are now available in person by going to local registrar offices around the state, due to a statewide vital records system implemented by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).

All counties – at 104 locations throughout the state – are linked to the MDH database and can provide certified certificates of births occurring in any Minnesota county from 1900 and later, and certified death certificates from 1997 and later. Previously, local registrar offices could provide only certificates for births or deaths that occurred within that county.

"The electronic system has improved customer service, making it easier than ever for citizens to obtain records from their local county office,"

State Registrar, Barbara Carter, said.

Certified birth and death certificates are used for legal purposes such as school enrollment or obtaining a driver's license or a passport. Demonstration of tangible interest – such as you are the subject of the record or you are the parent of the subject – is required to obtain a certified birth or death certificate. In addition, access to confidential birth records is restricted.

Requests for certified Minnesota birth certificates from 1900 to present can be made at all local registrar offices in Minnesota. Certified birth certificates from before 1900 can be obtained from the local registrar office in the county where the birth occurred.

Certified death certificates from 1997 to present also are

available at all local registrar offices in the state. For deaths that occurred before 1997, records are available from MDH and the local registrar in the county where the death occurred.

The MDH Web site at www.health.state.mn.us has a current list of local registrar offices, in addition to the formal application that must be completed in order to request a certified birth or death certificate.

Also available at the web site are instructions for obtaining certificates, changing a birth record and adding the father's name to the birth record; information regarding birth records after an adoption; and applications that must be completed to obtain these services.

The Indian Vote

Associated Press Questionnaire

The Associated Press asked the 2004 Democratic presidential candidates their views on American Indians. "What kind of plan do you have for improving the lives of American Indians?" Below is a summary of their answers.

Wesley Clark – Would improve access to education and health care.

John Edwards – Would work to ensure that tribal governments have access to capital and expertise to build and expand small businesses.

John Kerry – Would expand health care for Indian seniors and provide preventative health care to Indian Country. Would improve roads and housing and increase funding for school construction.

Howard Dean – Build partnerships among federal agencies to improve housing, water, sewer and utilities; support and fully fund the continuation of the Indian Head Start programs; reform and strengthen the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and rectify the mismanagement of Indian trust funds.

Dennis Kucinich – Would increase funding for health care, housing, environmental protection and education.

Leech Lake Department of Resource Management License Agents

Leech Lake Department of Resource Management has seven License Agents throughout the reservation that can provide services for eligible applicants. Services such as: Rule and Regulation Booklets, Dates and Limits on Hunting, Fishing, Ricing and Bough Harvest. They also sell and issue all permits. Here is a list of Agents that may help service your area:

Cass Lake & surrounding area

Monday - Friday 8:00-4:30
Leech Lake DRM Office
15756 State Hwy 371 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Cass Lake & surrounding area

Susan Headbird
2162 Finch Lane SE
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Bena & surrounding area

Shirley Young
619 1st Ave West
Bena, MN 56626

Ball Club & surrounding area

Robbie Howe
52208 Eagle Street
Deer River, MN 56636

Fed. Dam & surrounding area

Alvin White
10263 Sugar Point Drive NW
Federal Dam, MN 56641

Inger & surrounding area

Geraldine Howard
53795 Pine Tree Drive
Deer River, MN 53336

S. Lake & surrounding area

Gary Charwood
59975 County Road 4
S. Lake, MN 56681

Onigum & surrounding area

Lyman White
8667 Onigum Road NW
Walker, MN 56484

Subscribe to DeBahJiMon

This is a FREE subscription

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Check One:

- New Subscription
- New Address, If new address please include previous zip code: _____
- Remove from mailing list

Mail to:

DeBahJiMon
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
6530 US Hwy 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

DeBahJiMon

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

Peter White, *Chairman*
Arthur LaRose, *Secretary/Treasurer*
Burton Wilson, *District I*
Lyman Losh, *District II*
Richard Robinson, Jr., *District III*

Patsy Gordon, *Managing Editor*
Cari Tabor, *Graphic Designer*

E-mail: lltpaper@paulbunyan.net
Phone: (218) 335-8225 • Fax: (218) 335-8309
April 2004 issue deadline for articles is March 15



Shades of Custer, Black Hills Gold

Nick Coleman, Star Tribune

Two years before he lost his hair, George Armstrong Custer led an Army expedition into the Black Hills to look around and see if there was anything to all those rumors about gold being practically ready to pick up and stuff in your saddlebags.

Now, the state of Minnesota is fixing to follow in his path.

During Thursday's State of the State address, Gov. Tim Pawlenty opened a can of trouble: raising the possibility of radically changing the state agreements that allow Indian tribes to use gaming revenues to provide jobs, build infrastructure and have their voice heard in the halls of power.

For Indians, it's déjà vu, all over again.

It was greed that lured Custer into the Black Hills, which had been promised to the Sioux and Cheyenne for "as long as the grass grows" by the Fort Laramie treaty of 1868.

John McCarthy Testimony

Before the Government Operations Committee

February 1, 2004 – St. Paul, MN

Thank you Mr. Chairman and Members of the committee. My name is John McCarthy and I am the Executive Director of the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association.

Our Association represents nine of the eleven federally recognized Tribes within the State of Minnesota. Those tribes are

geographically located in rural communities throughout the state.

Mr. Chairman I want to thank you and the members of your committee for holding these hearings and for allowing me to share the perspective of the Tribal governments who are members of our association.

In 1988 I was fortunate to be one of the individuals asked by Tribal government to participate in the negotiation of the Tribal/State compacting process. At that time I was meeting on a regular basis with the member Tribes as well as with State officials.

I believe that Mr. Williams did a remarkable job in his presentation yesterday but I think there were some additional details that were significant contributing factors relating to the intent and purpose behind the compact agreements later signed in 1989 and 1990. One of the major concerns of then Governor Rudy Perpich was the economy of out-states Minnesota. Governor

in Custer's time: Indians have something that is starting to look pretty good to us.

The governor hasn't revealed how far he wants to go in changing – or competing with – tribal gaming. But he is definitely pandering to those who don't think Indians should have the bounty to themselves. And by raising the possibility of revising the agreements, he is pouring gas on a bonfire of enviousness.

"The compacts negotiated with the American Indian tribes almost 15 years ago do not reflect current circumstances, and we need to address that issue," he said Thursday.

Prof. Donaldson might have been pithier: "The agreements we made with Indians were written BEFORE we knew how much money there is to be made."

The lie about Indian gaming is that the state gets nothing in return.

Perpich, not unlike Governor Pawlenty was of the opinion that one of the best ways to grow any economy was to develop good jobs. The Governor saw Tribal gaming as a perfect way to create jobs in rural areas where they were so badly needed. I understood that Governor Perpich or the state negotiators had no problem with the fact that the Tribal/State compacts provided for no revenue sharing or any sunset provision as they viewed those items as the cost for creating jobs. I hope that from Mr. Williams presentation that the facts are also clear that Minnesota is not the only State in the United States that has no revenue sharing provision in its Tribal/State compacts.

We applaud Governor Pawlenty's recent initiative to create jobs by offering tax incentives to businesses willing to create jobs. We hope that his initiative works as well as Governor Perpich's, which resulted in the creation of over 14,000 new jobs throughout Minnesota,

Really? It gets thousands of jobs. It gets millions in tax revenues. Millions in tourist spending. And it gets the Minnesota State Lottery, which has raised more than \$1 billion.

No one seems to remember that the state allowed the tribes to have casinos because it wanted to move into legalized gambling itself. The state got horse racing, expanded charitable gambling and the lottery. The tribes got what was seen as a risky but historic opportunity to help raise Indians out of the poverty to which they had been relegated by centuries of broken treaties.

Now Minnesota is getting ready to break another one. And Gen. Pawlenty is leading the charge. Too bad. Up until now, the state and the tribes have shared in the winnings.

The bounty won't last if the state gets greedy.

at no cost to the State and more importantly jobs in rural areas where they are scarce.

When we look at the whys and wherefores of what was in or not in the compact agreements we shouldn't over look those facts.

Another significant item that Mr. Williams pointed out, which I believe also helps us to better understand the intent and purpose of how the content of the compacts evolved relates to the fact that there were major concerns by both the Governor and the legislature at the time that these compacts would assure that gaming be contained and not be allowed to proliferate into every street corner and neighborhood. Again we see that the state did not intend to expand gaming and in fact took pains to insure that the compact addressed this concern. While it is unclear if anyone at that time would have thought that in 2004 there would be 18 Tribal casinos, it is

McCarthy/page 5

McCarthy/page 4

clear that the intent of the state was that the gambling that was approved would be confined to Tribal lands and would be limited to the games that were compacted for at that time. Our member Tribes have honored their part of the agreement and have not gone back on their word on any item agreed to.

With Tribal gaming there ate two constants, YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS: YOU KNOW WHERE IT IS.

During the presentation yesterday I recall Representative Hilty asking Mr. Williams about the tenor of the Legislature at the time that these votes were taken authorizing the Tribal/State compacts. As I recall Representative Hilty asked if this was a contentious issue. Mr. William's response was that it was not and then explained more about the concerns of the legislature at the time. My recollection was also that this was far from a contentious issue and out of curiosity I checked the votes in both the house and Senate and found that indeed it was not contentious with the house only having one dissenting vote and the senate voting unanimous approval.

The perpetuity issue seems to be one that has long confounded some legislators and has caused a great deal of misunderstanding. As I recall there was **not** a lot of debate at the time between the State and the Tribal negotiators over this issue. Again it may help to consider some factors that were in play at the time. From the Tribal point of view, most agreements that they had experience with such as treaties with the Federal Government, were in perpetuity. Hunting and fishing agreements for the most part were not agreements that has sunset clauses and called for both parties to agree to changes. Another fact to consider is that the State was taking no risk or putting any money up to assist in financing these developments and further considering that in order for the tribes to get anyone, to even look at a project let alone consider financing it, they would need to be able to provide long term guarantees that the investment would return a profit.

It's interesting to note that once again the tribes have entered into agreements that were supposed to be in perpetuity and once again they are being told that times have changed so the agreements should also be changed. I think it's also worth noting that the Racino bill passed by the house in the last session has no sunset provision but unlike the Tribal/State compacts does require a significant investment by the State. A final point on the issue of perpetuity that again I hope has finally been clarified and that is the misinformation that Minnesota is the only state in the United States that has no end date on their Tribal/State compact.

There has been a lot of discussion relating to what other States have done and how they have chosen to structure their Tribal/State compacts. First I believe that trying to compare what other states have done with what Minnesota has agreed to is like comparing apples and oranges. The circumstances involved in when, how and why decisions were made are very different. There can be no one formula that determines these matters. I remember then Chief of Staff Charlie Weavers response during the California Caucus when they were going through the recall process of their governor. A reporter asked Mr. Weaver if he thought that same thing could happen here in Minnesota and he replied we aren't California we're Minnesota. If you take a careful look at most of the States where they have allowed gambling to dominate their legislative agenda and where the gambling they do have is in a state of flux you will discover that these States have constant turmoil relating to gambling. States like California, Wisconsin, New York, Connecticut, Michigan, New Mexico, to name a few, are all embroiled in constant lawsuits. The political atmosphere in these States is volatile and in some instances like Connecticut is bordering on dangerous. Outside interest coming in and stirring the pot with promises of instant wealth by just allowing them to open a casino at no cost to the State. These get rich quick schemes that if they sound to good to be true they probably are.

Minnesota as usual is model for other states. The proof that we have done things right stands out in the stability that we have seen with Tribal gaming since the Tribal/State compacts were put in place almost 15 years ago.

Don't be fooled by those who say that Minnesota got a bad deal with those compacts. Here's what the State has gotten over the last 14 years from what some people call a bad deal.

14,000 jobs that the state didn't have to pay a dime to create.

\$2,781,680 in direct payroll and benefits paid to Minnesotans over the last 14 years.

\$1,866,330 in purchases from Minnesota vendors;

\$159 million in payments in lieu of taxes to local areas;

\$600 million in construction related costs to Minnesota contractors;

\$810.5 million in various payroll taxes to state and federal governments;

\$1,912,220 in money spent in Minnesota by out-of-state visitors;

\$298.6 million spent by tribal gaming to attract out-of-state visitors.

Tribal gaming spends about 7 times what the Minnesota Dept. of tourism spends annually to attract out-of-state visitors.

A gaming regulation system

that cost over \$50,000,000 to develop with an annual operating budget of \$5,000,000, at no cost to the state of Minnesota. Tribal Gaming in Minnesota has had no scandals connected to it; no ties to organized crime and are considered by most experts, including the MN Dept. of Public Safety, to be extremely well regulated and well run.

Reduced welfare costs in counties where Tribal gaming is located.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman and committee members I would like to say that I believe that the history surrounding the Tribal/State compacts is rich in long-term vision and that the decisions made at that time were well guided and well executed. While times might have changed the fact haven't, these agreements were a good deal for Minnesota in 1989 and they are still a good deal. The intent of these compacts then was to provide an economic opportunity for people who throughout history have been cheated, misplaced abused and denied. 15 years does not even begin to solve the problems that 200 years of neglect has created. There are approximately 55,000 Tribal people in Minnesota. Over these last 15 years maybe as many as 1000 of those people have been able to reach a level of solid economic stability. The other 54,000 are still struggling to make ends meet.

There's no place like home.



And we can help you get one!

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.

Group Questions State's Casino Inspection Efforts

Associated Press

State gambling inspectors dispute allegations that they haven't aggressively policed Minnesota tribal casinos and have mishandled some inspection records.

The efforts of the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division are being questioned by the leader of a new group called Minnesotans for Responsible Gambling. The group was founded by David Hoch, who has previously lobbied the Legislature to use state-sponsored gambling to help fund a baseball stadium.

The state was given limited powers over tribal casinos when it entered into compacts with the tribes in 1989. Those powers vary, but focus primarily on verifying that video games of chance such as slot machines pay out between 80 and 95 percent of what they take in, as required in the agreement. State inspectors, in quarterly visits, also inspect blackjack games.

Hoch has gone to lawmakers and reporters with complaints that the division can't provide inspection records from some of the largest

casinos in the state. He's posted the reports on his Web site, www.mnrg.org. Hoch also said he's concerned that state inspectors don't routinely remove slot machines from play when they fail state inspections.

"I believe they failed miserably in protecting the people of Minnesota," Hoch said.

According to the reports provided to Hoch, in three years of inspection reports covering 110 casino visits, about a third of all slot machines - usually selected by inspectors at random in blocks of five - failed to pass inspection.

Nearly all of the failures were because of minor hardware defects such as mechanical coin meters that didn't work properly. In a handful of cases, the software in the machines wasn't authorized for sale in Minnesota.

Norm Pint, special agent in charge of the reviews, said the failures were minor, and wouldn't by themselves have worked for, or against gamblers.

The coin meters are

"obsolete technology" that, due to advances since the compact was passed represent the "third level of redundancy" after software reports and electronic meters, he said.

Even then, Pint said, malfunctioning meters don't tilt any games in favor of the tribes.

In 15 years of inspections, he said, "We've never found an instance that I'm aware of where the payback percentage was off."

He said the state sends letters to tribes telling them of the problems with the machines, and in turn receives assurances from the tribes that the machines have been fixed. But inspectors do not verify that failed machines have been fixed, he said.

"They don't need to cheat," said Frank Ball, Director of Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement. "They'll take all of your money legally." Ball said tribes on the whole run good operations, and he said that, under the compacts, the casinos are primarily regulated by the tribes' own gambling boards rather than the

state. The federal government also has limited regulatory powers.

"We just don't find illegal activity," Ball said. "We find they're doing an exceptionally good job regulating their gaming."

Hoch isn't convinced. He said he is suspicious why the state could not produce copies of inspection reports from one of the state's largest tribal casinos, Mystic Lake, run by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community.

He's asked lawmakers to look at the agency and, partly, at their prompting, investigators for the legislative auditor have asked for inspection reports and are exploring whether to launch an investigation.

Ball said several years of reports for Mystic Lake and other casinos were lost when an inspector's laptop computer crashed during a software upgrade. He said, though, that the missing inspections didn't show any noteworthy problems.

Leech Lake American Legion POST 2001 Recognized by National Commander

Kenny Smith and Ken Perrault accepted a recognition award for membership achievement for the Leech Lake Legion POST 2001 of Bena, Minnesota. On Wednesday, January 28, 2004, John Brieden, the American Legion National Commander recognized the Leech Lake American Legion POST 2001 of Bena, Minnesota. The award is a recognition award for achieving a 2004 membership Goal/All Time High membership award presented to POST 2001 by the National American Legion Commander while he was touring the State of Minnesota on January 25-28, 2004. The award honors POST 2001 for increasing its membership each year from its beginning in 2001 to the present, and reaching an all time high membership in 2004. The award is signed by the Minnesota American Legion Membership Director Paul Peterson and Michael D. Neubarth,

the Minnesota American Legion Department Commander. The award will be placed in a frame and hung on the wall at the POST 2001 meeting place, Old Bena Housing Community Center.

POST 2001 was formed in 2001 by Indian veterans who felt left out of the local Legion Posts. Wilbur Humphrey was elected Commander and he, Leonard Losh, Slim Whitebird, Frank Humphrey, Ken Perrault, Walter Reese, Kenny Smith, Don Fairbanks, Terry Smith, Lyman Losh, Wallace Humphrey, Tony Jenkins, Bert Gale and others worked very hard to make the dream of having a legion post in Bena come true. Since the early beginnings with a few members, the POST has grown and now has 87 legion auxiliary members and is still gaining members. The present members are from the Leech lake Reservation, Bemidji, Walker, Deer River, the Grand Rapids area,

Minneapolis area and out of state. POST 2001 is open to all veterans. The POST 2001 would like to extend an invitation to veterans to join their post. The post has meetings every second Saturday at 10:00 a.m. in the Bena Old Housing Community center.

POST 2001 provides veteran memorial services upon the family's request. The POST 2001 also provides Memorial Day Cemetery Services with their Honor Guard on the Saturday before Memorial Day for 28 cemeteries located on the Leech Lake Reservation that other Legions have not provided services for, and on Memorial Day, the POST members help other Legions provide services for another 12 cemeteries. The POST also provides Honor Guards for powwows when requested to do so by the Powwow Committee. The POST is becoming involved in the community with cleanups and extends an offer to

local school districts to offer to come and talk with the youth about service opportunities in the military.

<p><i>FREE</i></p> <p>TAX PREPARATION SERVICE</p>
<p>Through April 15, 2004 Leech Lake Tribal College Music Room Thursdays 9:30 am - 3:30 pm</p>
<p>CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY. CONTACT: FRAN 335-4200 OR 1-888-829-4240</p>

Northern Lights Casino & Hotel Announce Food Drive

Casino representatives recently announced that they would support the Cass Lake and Walker communities with the 12th annual food drive in March 2004. Donations during the month of March are almost nearly matched from the Minnesota Food Share program, a food drive from the Minnesota Council of Churches (MCC). The MCC raises money and gives cash to local area food shelves based on a formula of the number of dollars and pounds donated during the month of March, and its annual consumption - based on numbers of people who use the food shelf. Donations during this time are critical to the food shelves, as they are magnified with the MCC cash. Donations to the Food Shelves are tax-deductible contributions.

"Our buying power is important to our operation," said Renee Wright. "We purchase meat, milk, diapers, bread, cheese, baby formula and a variety of other products that go directly to our food shelf applicants." Wright is the Food Shelf Coordinator at the Cass Lake Community Family Center. "In 2003, 300,000 pounds of food was given to the community. In 2002 it was 225,000 pounds used, so we watch the numbers go up annually because we're in the middle of a poverty pocket." Wight continued, "Canned

goods are a great donation, but cash or paper product donations can help us get other items needed by the people."

In March, the Northern Lights Casino will offer its guests a special offer for their contributions of three food donations of non-perishable foods, receipt of cash donation or paper product.

In the last three years, the donations from the food drive have been record numbers from the Northern Lights Casino. Last year local food shelves located in the Ah-Gwah-Ching Center in Walker, and the Cass Lake Family Center in Cass Lake, received the donations from Northern Lights Casino and Palace Casino and Hotel.

"We are aware that the casino's contribution exceeds expectations," said George Goggleye, Northern Lights Casino General Manager. "We also recognize we are just coordinators—our casino customers are generous in their giving and that is why this annual event is so successful."

"We are anticipating that our guests will come out to support this cause again," said Michael Michaud, Marketing Manager. "This undertaking is good for the community and it is an event that we have supported for 12 years."

Memorial Day Call

After the De-Bah-Ji-Mon featured a special page last year for Memorial Day in the month of May to honor loved ones who have passed on, we had several calls asking us to do it again for this year. So we will be doing the same thing again for the May 2004 issue. If you would like to have a photo of a family member who has passed away published in this section, you will have until April 15th

to get the picture to us with their date of birth and date of death listed.

Also, as a reminder, we will be more than happy to include, at any time, other special announcements too, such as birthdays, anniversaries, births, marriages, engagements, etc. Just bring a photo and appropriate information to us and we will see that it gets in the paper.



Leech Lake Band Receives Grant for Well Drilling Truck

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community has announced a grant, awarded to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in the amount of \$500,000. The grant will be used to purchase a water well drilling truck and equipment. The grant will assist the Tribal Council in their efforts to improve conditions on the reservation through the provision of increased services.

"We appreciate the desire of other Tribes to improve the quality of life in their communities," said SMSC Chairman Stanley Crooks. "We are grateful for the opportunity to assist others, as is our cultural and social tradition."

The donation to the Leech Lake Band for well drilling equipment will enable the Tribe to drill their own wells instead of contracting them out for the approximately 75 water wells per year. "With its own well drilling

program, Leech Lake will be able to invest more into affordable housing, our number one need," wrote Chairman Peter D. White.

Last summer the SMSC gave a \$1 million grant to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe for the tribal college, purchasing two vehicles for Heritage Sites Program, the Education Scholarship Program, and for the Insurance Trust Fund. The reservation primarily consists of forest, lakes, wetlands, few towns (none larger than 1,000 people), and 14 Indian communities that are separated by distances of up to 80 miles. More than 6,200 people live on the Leech Lake Reservation.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community has become a leader in promoting tribal sovereignty through economic development grants and loans.

V news

V-Day Cass Lake is Coming!

V-Day Minneapolis 2004 is a benefit production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" as part of the V-Day Worldwide Campaign.

VDAY

Palace Casino & Hotel
March 5, 2004
7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Admission: \$10.
Purchase tickets at Palace Gift Shop

Featuring an all American Indian Women Cast

One Performance Only!

vagina

Sponsored by: Palace Casino & Hotel; Casino Consortium, Ltd; The LifeSkills Center for Leadership; Chippewa Graphics.

V goal

To raise awareness to stop violence against women and girls and funds for our beneficiaries - Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition.

Thinking of Going into Business on Your Own for Independence and Controlling Your Own Time? Here are some important things to consider about these two aspects to the decision.

By John Herrera, MBA, Attorney at Law

It is a tempting feeling to think that your decisions are your own and you can set your own schedule. In reality, the customer will control your decisions and schedules leaving little room for independence. Each customer represents the person, business or other entity that you are selling a good to or providing a service for.

When you look at it from this perspective then you can see why going into business to avoid being held accountable is an illusion. Take the case of running a retail business that provides goods for resale to the public. Knowing the needs and wants of each customer is key to your success. You will be accountable to the customer.

In fact, much study goes into determining the buying characteristics of the consumer. Much of these characteristics are determined through watching the inventory that is turning over or being purchased. When you buy items at the grocery store your purchasing behavior is scanned and coded, thus the business owner understands the buying behavior of the consumer through technology.

However all the technology in today's market place is no replacement for one on one interaction with the customer. A business owner at the retail level always needs to stay in contact with his or her customers. In a small retail business, understanding the customer is key to survival especially where you are in competition with large chain operations.

How often have you gone into a large chain store and stood there not knowing where your item is and there is no one to answer your questions? Worse yet, how often have you been in the situation where there may be someone there but they don't know enough to be of any help? The small owner operator has the advantage of giving the consumer there full attention and knowing where and what products

they are looking for. How large do you want your business to become and still maintain adequate service to the customer?

Now that we have gone full circle with retail you can see that a business owner is accountable to many people. In the case of a larger operation, the accountability is transferred to the owner through their employees. You can't escape the customer behind poorly trained employees because your bottom line will suffer and this means you will in the end. You need to have well trained knowledgeable employees that will represent you and your business.

In a service business industry you are held even more accountable for what you provide and on a more personal level in most cases. A contractor for instance will most likely be held to a contract agreement with the project owner. At a contract's core is what is called a "meeting of the minds", this simply means that both parties have agreed upon a given performance by the contractor and the benefactor agrees to pay a sum after the performance is completed.

For me, contracts are a form of the service that I deliver and are challenging to negotiate and write. In general, they spell out the performance and schedule expectations of the contractor. In Indian Country the use of contracts has proliferated due in large part to the growth in tribal economies and the scale of business transacted.

Being a party to a contract in the case of a contractor business can be very restrictive, costly and should be entered into with full understanding and the advise of an attorney. In many cases the contractor is held to such exacting requirements that often exceed those of normal employee requirements. Also, the contractors performance determines how and if you will be compensated.

So as you can see the work

of the contractor who provides a service is held to a high degree of accountability. This accountability to the project owner in many ways may be more restrictive than if the contractor were performing the service as an employee. Also like the retail businessperson the service provider never escapes the accountability of reporting to the owner as the boss.

Like the discussion of reporting to others before the issue of time should be given some thought. There is a misconception that your time is your own as a business owner. True you may see a business owner out say fishing during what is considered the working day. However, if this person is providing a direct service they are most likely not getting paid for the time they are not working on say a client/customer matter. The success of your business will be a reflection of all your hard work.

If you are providing a direct service you are selling your time and there is only so much of it during a week. You have to be able to seek customers out in order to develop a relationship where you can then provide a service. During this time you are not being paid but have to consider this as an investment that will hopefully provide some income down the road.

When do you plan to work? Well forget a normal workday. In most cases you can expect to be on call twenty four/ seven because you need to respond to the opportunities when they present themselves. Look in the phone book and you will find attorneys that accept calls anytime of the day.

Well all right, what about a business that has employees? Does the owner then spend less physical time on the business? It depends, most businesses go through what is called a life cycle of birth, growth, maturity, decline and death. If you have a business in the mature point you can probably afford to take some

time off. You will reap the benefits of all your time spent building your business.

If you are at the mature stage your business has a solid base of customer/clients and you can schedule a reasonable amount of time off. Depending on the size of the business it may be possible to have managing partners or profit sharing managers run the business with little oversight. It is not easy to get to this stage and there is always the threat of decline posed by changes in customer behavior, competition and many other factors.

Many businesses at the maturity stage fail to see the changes taking place that may lead to their decline. For instance, competitors will push you harder or contribute to your decline. These stages are most common with privately held businesses that are owned by individuals or even families. A public corporation or tribal government structure has an advantage in that if they can survive the first stages and reach maturity they have a built in succession feature that can help them avoid decline and death by changing operations officials who run the business.

But this succession feature does not assure success. The new operations officials still are accountable to the customer and most keep reinventing the business to avoid the natural tendency of business decline and death. Again we have gone full circle and you can see that no matter how small or large the business is that every business is accountable to the customer and devotion of time and attention is a constant need.

If you're ready to take on the challenges, the rewards can be great. Just keep in mind the importance of customers/clients and make sure you or someone you trust is available to provide a great product and/or service. Remember Indians for thousands of years have been hard working opportunists!

Career/Job Fair/Page 1

"Appropriate" and "not appropriate" work attire was modeled and shown as a "how to" and "how not to" dress for success. Door prizes drawings were held and a box lunch was available to all in attendance.



Career/Job Fair participants were encouraged to enter the Poker Tournament at the Job Fair. Sweat-shirts and other prizes were given out to top 3 winners in each tournament.

Right: Liz Wakanobo and Patty Turney tend booth at Career Fair .



Vanessa and Darla Howard tend the Human Resources booth at Career Fair.



Family Center March Food Drive

On March 12 and 13, 2004 the Cass Lake Community Family Service Center will hold a clothing and school supply giveaway in conjunction with the Annual March Food Drive. At the giveaway we will have a bake and taco sale featuring some of the areas finest bakers. The food will be on sale both days from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Area organizations will be invited in on Friday, March 12 to divide up the clothing after 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Then on Saturday the community is invited to come and take what clothing their family may need. The hours on Saturday, March 13 are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Cass Lake Family Center's mission is 'Helping Communities Build Strong Families' and the Center serves everyone in need. Due to the Welfare to Work reform and the poor area economy, demand for services that have already been over worked and exhausted are increasing. In 2002 we served 10,100 individuals with 225,000 pounds of food, in 2003 we served 12,678 individuals 302,338 pounds of food. This was for over 3,000 families. Of this number the Leech Lake families served are 2,741, with 10,354 individuals and 214,080 pounds of food or 86% of all clients served.


The students from the Alternative Learning Center Horizons Program, who generously donate their time to us weekly in community service learning, from Cass Lake-Bena Schools evaluated our statistics in October of 2003. They found startling increases from 2001 to 2002. The numbers identified a 49% increase in households served with a 23% increase in children. Fifty (50) percent (4,962) of all clients are children. In 2003 the children served was 6,623. These numbers continue to grow in 2004 where we have already seen an increase in demand for service.

Yes, many families initially come to The Center for basic needs such as food, clothing, household

goods and/or furniture. Their reasons are many, perhaps a fire, job loss, no job, a poor paying job, loss of benefits, reduced benefits, addictions or an addition of family members unexpectedly from death or movement in our fluid community. The Center builds on this initial contact, developing a trust relationship with the families to help those families identify other needs that will assist in building resiliency and self-sufficiency. As evidence we helped 300 clients move into self-sufficiency and no longer need our services in 2002.

Our Center works to nurture and encourage resiliency and self-sufficiency in order to overcome all forms of poverty. Our work is accomplished through collaborative efforts and coordinated services that we have centralized and made accessible to all high-risk families. The basic external supports of healthy families compose our general mission: 1) Assisting at-risk children and families; 2) Making certain basic needs are met to increase family stability; and 3) Aiding in the search for employment, legal, medical and housing needs.

So today we ask you for assistance to come to the Clothing and School Supply giveaway on March 12 and 13, perhaps you can give a hand or make a donation. Either way you allow us a chance to maintain our commitment to this community and support the independence of our clients. We hope you will see your way to help us build the Basic Needs fund to the amount of \$30,000.00. Every dollar helps and yes it sounds large yet each year this community has dug deeper and deeper to help others or perhaps themselves in this worthy cause. We hope to hear from you soon in helping us help another 300 clients move into self-sufficiency. We are able to do this giveaway thanks to the generous donation of the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints and the Pikebay Township Board for use of Pikebay Town Hall.



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

Support our Tribal Businesses:
Che-We Gas:
Lowest Price in Town!

Elders Chair: Frank Hurd, 88 Years Young and Still Dancing

By Patsy Gordon

Nestled into their warm and modest 3-room house with their two dogs, "Nicki" and "Chico", Frank and Louise Hurd seemed content. Even without transportation, they seemed settled and satisfied with their lives even though they are limited to staying at home much of the time. The Hurds do not own a car and with no relatives living near, they are forced to depend upon a volunteer driver or Leech Lake Transportation to take care of their business, such as grocery shopping, medical appointments, attend the pow-wows, etc. The only trouble with that, Louise says, is they have to call a week ahead of time, sometimes 2 weeks, to get on their list which forces them to sometimes cancel their appointments and have to reschedule. They enjoyed and really made use of the Leech Lake Elders Division when someone from that office would come to their house to check in on them and take them to the laundromat or to the pow-wows.

Louise said,

"Since they cut the elders program now, we just stay at home and behave. That's all there is to do."

Frank was born to Charles Hurd and Mary Lincoln on March 1, 1916. He was born at home in Boy River, Minnesota, but raised mostly around the Old Agency area in Onigum and Walker. Frank was proud to tell me that his mother was a full-blooded Chippewa, and he had 9 siblings, 4 brothers and 5 sisters.

Because Frank has always had trouble with his hearing and has lost much of his memories due to age, it was difficult for him to hear or understand me as I visited with him.

So Louise, his wife, filled in the blanks when Frank was unable to hear or did not understand. Louise told me

that Frank and she didn't have any children, but Frank did have two boys before he married her, who live elsewhere, and 2 daughters who are now deceased. Frank did tell me that he had a daughter that was born in the 1950's in Madison, Wisconsin, that he lost track of and he now has no idea of her whereabouts or if she is even still living. Together Frank and Louise raised a niece who was only 10 months old at the time the little girl came to live with them.

Frank lived in Tomah, Wisconsin for part of his life as a young boy and attended school there through the 6th grade. Since Frank's father was white and his mother was Ojibwe, Frank grew up speaking both Ojibwe and English.

When Frank became old enough to join the service, he said he went to enlist. He was disappointed when the Armed Forces wouldn't accept him because of his hearing difficulties. Frank says, "That's the only thing wrong with me is my one bum ear." Louise said Frank must take B12 shots on a regular basis, but otherwise he's healthy.

In 1989, Frank and Louise moved into the house where they live now. They bought the cabin from a resort and fixed it up, which is what they now call home. The house came with no running water and only a small bathroom. The Reservation put in running water for them and made the bathroom bigger which they are thankful for.

When I've attended pow-wows in the past, I recall seeing a thin, elderly man who was always dressed in his regalia and was

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.

out there dancing in the ring, and I would wonder who he was. Today, I know. Frank still gets dressed to dance and enjoys joining in the pow-wows whenever he can. Louise said Frank fell and broke his hip in 2001 and quit dancing after that, but still tries to dance, but is unable to stay on his feet for long periods of time now because of the injury.

Franks favorite past time is reading and playing cards. His favorite food is soup. Louise said, "He's a soup eater, he loves crackers, especially those little tiny ones, those Hi-Ho crackers." Frank likes to get out and exercise whenever he can, although it is hard for him to get out and do much in the wintertime. But in the summer months, he does get out and takes walks on the road near his home. Although Frank doesn't remember much about harvesting wild rice, picking berries, tapping trees, and other traditional activities, he mentioned a few times about playing the moccasin game. I gathered he was very fond of that game.

On February 6th, Frank and Louise celebrated their 50th (Golden) wedding anniversary.

Photo by Patsy Gordon



Tribal Elections 2004

- 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 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 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 |

The following are platforms of candidates that are running for the Chairman and District III Representative of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. All candidates were given ample opportunity to submit their statements. Those that did not respond are, of course, not published here.

Listen for upcoming candidate forums to be held in your area. You will be able to hear all candidates that participate in the forums orally state their plans.

Chairman

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

The following are platforms of candidates that are running for the Chairman of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Those that did not respond are, **Roger Buck, Douglas E. Cloud, Fred K. Jackson, and Delmar Jones.**

George J. Goggeye, Jr.



There are many areas that the people of Leech Lake are concerned about. One of the most talked about topics continues to be our financial status. The problems have become increasingly worse over time as we continue to use resources that we do not have. A candidate in the last election put it this way, "When we throw money at problems we really

do not solve the situation that we may be in." I agree that this only provides a temporary solution. Problems still resurface after the money is gone. Going in debt is also not the answer. As that particular candidate also stated, "This all began in 1998 when Gaming began as we see it now." The growing dependency on the gaming dollar is even more evident today as we squander what little we have left.

There are solutions to the misfortunes that we are experiencing today. In order for the Leech Lake Band to experience economic growth we must take the opportunity to come to the table, put all of our differences aside and work for the common good of all the people. Look at the Preamble of the Constitution of both the United States and our current Minnesota Chippewa Tribe,

both documents begin with the word "We". Remember that there was a time when this document worked for the people. I have taken the time to read our constitution and understand that there are some flaws. I have also read the United States Constitution, within that document we are also granted rights as citizens of this great country. That constitution has changed over time to meet the needs of its people, unlike our constitution which did not change as the peoples needs changed. So we are left with the current document, which has been, interpreted many different ways and often robbing the people of their constitutional rights.

I will bring experience as an Administrator in Casino Management and Financial Analysis. I would also bring strategic organizational planning experience. This process

when applied properly would basically be an examination of our communities/ reservation in both the present and also in the future.

Leech Lake is in need of a Strategic Plan because of a desire to bring about beneficial change, because we seek improvement, because we want tomorrow to be better than today. A well developed Strategic Plan for Leech Lake would involve five levels of our Government: Tribal Council, Local Councils, Administration, divisions and departments, and Band members.

Therefore I humbly ask the people of this great Anishinabe nation to exercise your constitutional right as a citizen and Tribal member. Please vote.

Alfred "Tig" Pemberton

I am announcing my candidacy for Chairman of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. As you know, these past few years have been trying times for my family, relatives, friends, and myself. I believe they have also been difficult times for all Leech Lakers and that is the main reason I am running for office, asking you once again for your vote of confidence as I seek this office.

I believe you all know me and I hope my past experience speaks for itself. With 18 years on the L.L. Tribal Council, I come with experience and will need no training for the job. I am knowledgeable, hard working, fair, a good listener, extremely qualified in

Tribal Government; I have an open door policy, and am a positive leader. I am drug and alcohol free.

I will run a clean campaign. I will address the needs of the Leech Lake members, as I have always demanded that their needs come first. Being a life long resident has allowed me to identify with problems our people face every day. I will focus on the problems of our elders, our families, our youth and all of our off reservation members. I believe I can make a difference in the day-to-day lives of our people by promoting housing, health services, education, extended social services and economic development, and jobs

for Leech Lakers.

As you well know, some years ago I made an error in judgment regarding an insurance issue. This error has cost my family and me dearly. I apologize to all Leech Lake people for this mistake. I believe in my heart that I did not mean to hurt the people of Leech Lake.

I believe that we as Leech Lake people must move forward and keep pace with the times we live in. I have been involved with Tribal, federal, state, county, city and other forms of government over the years. During that time, Leech Lake was viewed as one of the most respected Tribal governments around, we

can be proud of our heritage, history, our cultural ways and our sovereignty. In the end, that's what it's all about, proud people being given an opportunity to compete and contribute to society in a meaningful way.

I will abide by the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution and ordinances. I will develop a "Leech Lake Economical Financial Recovery Plan". I will implement a planning division. I will restore the powers to the elected officials to make decisions.

Lenee D. Ross

Once again, it is time to elect a chair. I hope that you will get out and vote you need to be heard! I found out in the last election every vote counts.

As your Chair, I will return to the people of Leech Lake a sense of pride in our leadership and the confidence that your voice is important and will be heard!

I have been the source of many rumors and gossip, the very

poison that is killing our reservation! I can only say talk to me; and those who dare to be my friends and you will find that I am a person with a clear head, a person of compassion and true to the hearts and minds of the Anishinabe.

I know the issues of the nation from being on the front lines of reclaiming land, of having my civil rights violated, testifying before congress, raising funds, building

projects, planning change processes, developing budgets, managing deficits.

I can make a positive and life changing difference for you and your families. I need your help! I will surround myself with wise, experienced, and good-hearted people, that will be accessible and accountable to me!

If elected the days of dead end jobs and phantom positions

are over! People will earn their promotions and positions, they will receive the training and education needed to get the jobs that will create a sense of pride and accountability to our people.

Together we can heal our nation, call me at 335-0141 or 766-6081 and let me know I can count on your vote!

Wallace W. Storbakken

My name is Wallace W. Storbakken, but many of you know me as Wally. Most of my family; my mother, my aunts and uncles, my brothers and my sister, have all transferred to Mille Lacs. One of my brothers and I decided we would remain enrolled at Leech Lake and we are Mississippi Band, White Oak Point Anishinabeg.

In 1992, I was bestowed with the honor of becoming the husband of Debra Ann Harteneck. Her maiden name is Wilson and she is of the Reese family. Her grandmother and great-uncles were Goulds. Debra is a Pillager and she is willing to prove it at any opportunity. We were wed in a

traditional ceremony, on the shore of Agency Bay, by the late Larry Cloud-Morgan.

Debra and I have three wonderful sons. I am not their biological father, but I have tried hard to be their dad. The two older ones look at me more as their stepdad, but the youngest one calls me "pops." Sometimes the middle one calls me his "pops" too. We have two grandchildren. David is almost eight and Skylar was just born on February 16, 2004. I haven't gotten to see her yet, but Debra tells me she is just beautiful. I'll get to meet her this weekend.

I have a Bachelor of Arts, in

Political Science, from the University of Minnesota, which I completed in 1991. I also have a Masters of Public Policy degree, from the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, which I completed in October 2001.

Through no fault of my own, I am not fluent in Ojibwemowin. If I could say it in Ojibwe I could probably say it better, but maybe if I repeat it in English often enough, I can get my point across. My issues and positions center around: Constitutional reform through a Convention; governmental reform at both the tribal and reservation levels; reservation bylaw reform to include duties for the district committeemen; removal of

concentrated power away from the five person RBC; empowerment of the people through their local councils, reduction of salaries and perks for government officials; and, adequate governing documents that serve the people and do not result in dysfunctional hierarchical governments.

I hope to convey the details at candidate forums in the various communities. I also hope to speak in person to as many of our members as will invite me into their homes. If you're tired of the same old same old, vote for me. If you want more of the same, then vote for someone else. Megwech!

Diane E. White

If you elect me as Chair, you will benefit by:

Complete financial reporting. Currently, you are only provided with an incomplete and inadequate income statement for government and gaming. You cannot determine the true state of financial affairs with this document. I graduated from B.S.U. with a Bachelor's degree in accounting and I will ensure your constitutional rights to know the Band's financial status is upheld, and I will ensure they are explained properly so that you understand where we stand financially.

Fair distribution of Tribal Resources: That means, jobs, contracts, education scholarships, opportunities, housing, social services, etc.

Ensure employment policies and procedures are utilized and followed. I will guarantee you fair job practices. Too many people have been fired without cause, without evidence, and without due process based upon ridiculous charges. I will guarantee all persons will receive due process and a fair hearing in employment matters.

Improved social services for

all ages and all situations. There are many people struggling to keep their families together and are dealing with issues surrounding poverty and substance abuse. I will ensure healthy work environments and will work to gain more day care providers. I graduated from B.S.U. with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and have studied how poverty affects us, people living near or on a reservation.

Poverty is a major problem on reservations. Any Tribes lack economic development and stable, employment, including

promotional opportunities. I will support recruiting and retaining tribal members into management positions; and management training programs for tribal members. Tribal members need to hold key executive positions in order to serve as role models to our youth and to ensure a better future for their family.

I would like to share with you personally my hope for a better future here. Call me (218) 547-3651 or email me at dewhite@paulbunyan.net.

Terrance Roy White, Jr.

Aaniin nij-Anishinaabedog Hello my fellow Indians.

I will be coming to you to ask for your vote on March 30th for Chairman of the Leech Lake Band

of Ojibway. I have a lot of major concerns that pertain as to where we, or your reservation is going to be in the upcoming years. Are we going to rely on gaming monies or are

we going to start a business so our children can prosper and hold their heads up and say we are making a change in our lives. I have big ears to listen to everybody that needs to voice their opinion about what

happens to their reservation. We need your response, youth, elders, and middle aged people. Stand up and be "heard".

Miigwech bizindawiyeg. Thank you all for listening to me.

Peter D. White (Incumbent)



Ahneen to my fellow Leech Lake Band members:

I want to begin by saying Chimegwetch for the honor of serving you as chairman of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and ask you once again, to give me a vote of confidence in the upcoming primary and general elections. My platform is simple and much of it is happening now and I will highlight some of the areas we have been working towards. As chairman:

I will continue to pursue an affordable housing program for our members.
 I will continue to emphasize the need for good planning in all of areas of our government.
 I will continue to demand accountability in our budgets with a goal of setting up a reserve fund for our future.
 I will continue to support land acquisition.
 I will continue to support our members in jobs and training, especially in Gaming.
 I will continue to support staff that protect our most vulnerable members, our children.
 I will continue to support the creation of I.C.W.A. Commission.
 I will continue to pursue funding for chemical dependency programs and enhance what we have.
 I will continue to demand for higher standards for educating our children and

enhancing cultural education.
 I will continue to support community education in all areas.
 I will continue to support the capital campaign of the Tribal College.
 I will continue to support adequate healthcare and easy access to pharmacy for our communities.
 I will continue to meet with county, state, federal, and tribal government officials to improve our quality of life.
 I will continue to support Department of Public Works.
 I will continue to support good community law enforcement.
 I will continue to support environmental protection.
 I will continue to support economic development.
 I will continue to aggressively push for the expanded jurisdiction within our boundaries, especially on Chippewa National Forest lands.
 I will continue to support

Local Indian Councils to be involved in the Government!
 I will continue to support economic developments based on recommendations of LICs.
 These are just a few of the ideas we have been working on and I want to end by saying none of this would be possible without the hard work of the whole Leech Lake staff in all of our programs. We have a good working team and are allowed direction governmentally and administratively through management planning and development. I am hopeful to meet with individuals throughout the whole reservation, but again the responsibilities and duties that I have committed to allow limited time to do so.
 I come to you with an open heart and mind and respectfully ask for your support in the upcoming primary election March 30th, 2004 and if allowed in the general election on June 8, 2004!

Victoria F. White



Victoria F. White or Vicki as most people know her, has filed as a candidate for Chairperson of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. She is a resident of Onigum/Walker.
 According to news released Monday by her campaign committee,

White's qualifications include experience, education and civic involvement that will ensure a strong and stable leadership for the Leech Lake tribal members. Those qualities will help the Leech Lake Band move toward a more stable government and improve the quality of health and vitality of each tribal community.
 Vicki's current job as Economic Development Director for the Leech Lake Reservation has given her experience in long term planning and shown her the importance of including the people's ideas when creating a vision of what they want the Reservation to be tomorrow and into the future. She says she will promote better management at all levels of government and business to ensure honesty and to find ways to better serve the current needs of the people.

White has shown her commitment to her community by being involved on the Walker Area Community Center project, Walker Hackensack Onigum Transit Committee, the Leech Lake Boys and Girls Club and St. John's Episcopal Church Bishop Committee. She is currently coordinating the creation of a Boys and Girls Club in Onigum.
 White is currently a school board member of the Walker-Hackensack-Akeley School District. She also has been appointed to the Headwaters Regional Economic Commission and was appointed by Gov. Pawlenty to the state's Judicial Commission.
 She is a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis and received her undergraduate degree in business administration from the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul. Her

parents are Lyman and Shirley White of Onigum. Her three children, Brad, Carolyn and Janelle are all students who are involved in sports and extra-curricular activities.
 Responding to why she is running for the position of chairperson. White stated, "Now more than ever is the time we must make better decisions and create better communities for our young children, families and for our elders. The kinds of decisions and actions we make today will affect our children in the future. We need to focus on long term planning to improve our government, so we are all working together to create a better tomorrow". "I know that with great leadership comes great responsibility and I am committed to the Leech Lake Reservation as well as to the surrounding area".

Committeeman District III

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

The following are platforms of candidates that are running for District III Representative of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Those that did not respond are, **Tracy Anderson, James Bedeau, Randy G. Finn, Glen (Tuffy) Fisher, Jr., and Debra A. Isham.**

Nancy Beaulieu



I am a 36 year old Leech Lake Band member and the mother of five children. I'm a Bemidji High School

graduate, class of 1986. I graduated from the Northwest Technical College of Bemidji with A.A.S. in Retail Management and a diploma in metal smithing in 1997.
 My career includes home health care, flagger, children's advocate, research field interviewer, pull tab operator, and marketing. I also operated a home based respite care for two years. I've always worked hard and taken pride in my quality of work. My hard work and busy schedule is my determination to be self-sufficient and successful.
 I live on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation and I plan to reside here

for the rest of my life. It is home to my soul.
 I'm currently employed at the Palace Casino & Hotel as a marketing associate and with the University of Nebraska as a research field interviewer. I plan to open a business, a respite home for our Native children in June 2004. I've worked hard and had many sacrifices (long hours and \$) to accomplish this goal. I am very proud of myself.
 I enjoy writing poetry, crafts, camping, fishing and spending time with my children. I also enjoy helping others especially those who help themselves.

I plan to help others not by favoritism but by hard work, values and a determination to do good for my people. I need your support to make this possible. I will honestly respect and represent any support that you can give if you vote for me as your next District III Representative. I assure you that I will appreciate your support and will keep to my good word that I will honestly represent our district to the best of my ability. If given this opportunity, I plan to make you too, proud of me. It is in the good attitudes and strong voices of our people that can make a difference.

Leona Bedeau



In dizh-eni-cas Min-ah-wah Dah-be-dah-bun!
 For years, Leech Lake members have sat silently, watching our rez going down the tubes. Our word has yet to be implemented. The Shing-o-bee project was put on hold pending a referendum vote on March 30, 2004, but the Chair has given the go ahead that the project will be finished.
 Housing is in total chaos. Work isn't being finished or the wait is...

Power needs to be restored to the people. \$100,000 and \$80,000 salaries must be revisited and lowered. No one on this poor rez is worth \$100,000 regardless of their position. \$7.00 hour wages need to be upped. No one can live on \$7.00 an hour. The turnover rate on these jobs will affect our businesses and morale to the better.
 The Education Dept. and Elders programs need to be restored.
 Last, but not least, people who

have defrauded the government will face punishment, plus reimbursement and possible banishment. Top jobs will go to the qualified, not relatives. (So many other issues too numerous to address in a 300-word statement.)
 Please get out and vote. This government can't run without you. It's yours, so take good care of it and vote for the people who will work for you, not themselves!
 Vote March 30, 2004 – Leona Bedeau for District III

Robert (Robbie) Budreau



If you are looking for someone with honesty, integrity and accountability vote for me.
 Just a few reminders from the 2000 election. I said back then and I still believe to this day that the Reservation Business Committee members make too much money, especially the District Reps. I stated

on my platform back then that I would be more than willing to give back to the programs that would benefit the most, \$10,000 of my annual salary each year and every year I am in office, if elected. I also called on the other four members to match this offer. I am still making this offer; only this time I am pledging it

to the Elderly programs because our elderly are being forgotten.
 Drugs and Alcohol: I strongly believe and will fight 110% for an on reservation treatment center for our youth. A methadone program for our adults and in the not too distant future a treatment center for adults.

Robert Budreau/ Page 15

Crime and Violence: A youth/ young adult employment program, prevention programs, recreation/ education programs for after school, weekends and summer months.

Our Elderly: We need a nursing home for them.

Tribal Referral Program: As I stated before this program does not work. It should be abolished now. It has been over-hauled three or four times since it's inception and let's face

it people, it's a lost cause. All it does is create corruption and thievery for whoever is running the program at any given time. The responsibilities of helping an individual or family with crisis should not be put on the shoulders of the Dist. Reps.

Gaming: The last time I looked 70%-80% of the Department Heads and managerial positions in our casino's were filled with non-Indians. I say we take these non-

Indians to the side and tell them that they have to train the most qualified Leech Lake band member into their position and then offer them a lower position in the department.

Accountability: I don't know about the rest of you but myself I would like to see much more than a little plus-minus report in the Di-Bah-Ji-Mon every month about where our money is going. You don't see anything about the federal funding

we still receive or the money we borrowed from the Mystic Lake Casino. We have taken more strides on accountability, but our reservation is still a long, long way from letting our people know where the hell our money is being spent and by whom!

If you have any other questions or concerns please feel free to contact me, day or night, at (218) 335-5513.

Don "Mick" Finn

I would like to take this time to announce my candidacy for the District III representative of Leech Lake. Over the coming weeks I will do my best to talk to as many District III voters in person as I possibly can. For those of you I am unable to see personally I am sending out a letter outlining my positions on the issues that face our reservation.

As a lifelong resident of this area most of you already know me. Most people know that I spent some time as a deputy sheriff on the reservation; most know I did my best in this position to help our people both in and out of the

court system. After this I operated my own independent trucking business. As a business owner I have gained valuable experience that I look forward to using to promote responsible operation of reservation programs.

I have always strongly supported sports and recreational activities on our reservation by donating my time and financial support to coach and sponsor various basketball, softball, and bowling teams. I believe these sorts of activities are important to provide healthy outlets to both youth and adults in our community and should

be supported and encouraged by your Tribal Council.

Among my main goals are to be sure there are programs for the elderly as well as the young. As the population of our reservation ages we need to look to ways we can provide services to the elders in our community. We have to make sure they have access to quality medical and dental care, decent housing and the basic necessities. A vehicle maintenance program can be another way of taking care of our elders.

I also believe in traditional support for tribal members who have lost family members. These

bereavement services should be available to all tribal members even if they no longer live on the reservation.

There are many other issues facing our reservation, in the days and weeks ahead I look forward to discussing them with you and listening to your opinions and ideas on what is important and how we as a community should deal with them.

I thank you for your support and strongly encourage each and every one of you to participate in the tribal election process by casting your vote in the primaries and the general election.

Doris M. Jones

"Push the Bar off the Ground and into the Air"

In view of the current situations and political climate, there needs to be some immediate mandates made:

1) The stop of all unnecessary funding, get answers to where the money is going, with prepared balance sheets. Leech Lake Reservation is in debt millions of dollars, at this rate, the chances of per capita payments to our great grand children will never be seen.

2) Empower the Local Indian Councils and attend the monthly meetings. District Representative will be responsible to the LIC's.

3) Establish qualified teams to review all areas, including finances,

governmental, contracts and grants, and constitutional reform. Develop an internal control system with internal checks and balances.

4) Development and implementation of strategic long term/short term planning.

5) Planning department to write grant proposals that are in need, i.e. housing, health care, human resources, law enforcement, elder care, tribal college, social services, substance abuse, etc.

6) Reduction in force – 15% of gaming administrative staff.

7) Contribute additional funding to education for Leech Lake students and tribal college.

8) Restructure Human Resources, develop fair and consistent personnel policies, with the Tribal

Council to adhere to such policies. Currently, there is no due process for employees. Take the politics out of hiring and firing. Nepotism would not be tolerated. Hire qualified, competent individuals. There are qualified Leech Lake enrollees that will not work for Leech Lake because of politics. Adhere to the TERO ordinance, Indian preference/tribal preference, Band must state whether it wants the highest qualified person or simply wants Leech Lake enrollee to meet the minimum qualifications.

9) Take care of our elders! Provide services in the areas of health care, transportation, car repairs, nutrition, and home visitations.

10) Chemical dependence is destroying families, develop additional programs and services

that address this serious problem, i.e. in-patient referrals, out-patient, aftercare, parenting programs.

11) Work closely with Tribal Police to ensure the safety and policing of reservation. Assist that department in grant proposals for equipment and services.

It is time to "push the bar off the ground and into the air", establishing new standards of accountability, productivity and decency.

I would appreciate your vote. Please vote for the individual that can make changes, promote teamwork, maintain stability, treat people respectfully, and address the critical issues confronting the reservation.

Richard Jones

The following are some issues that we will need to fight for and stand together in achieving them for the betterment of Leech Lake.

Referendum – We must demand our fair share of the Treaty Resources and Tax Agreement Revenue. The simplest process would be a motion by the Reservation Business Committee or the time consuming process would be a referendum in accordance with a special election.

Sovereignty – We must continue the fight for our ancestral lands. We could allocate 5% of the gaming revenues for new land purchases. Establish a land task force committee that will identify

all lands that were illegally stolen by tax forfeiture or disposed by any other means created by the State of MN or the Federal Government. Finally, lobby Congress for a bill that recognizes the loss of our lands, and compensates us with land.

Chippewa National Forest –We must demand that our forest be returned to the Leech Lake people. Our treaty(s) is defined by the U.S. Constitution as the Supreme Law of the Land. Our defense will always be our treaties, which describe the agreements we made with the United States.

Social Remedies – We must provide programs that help our people and do not criminalize them

Samuel "Rocky" Papisordora



Gaming Commissions Board of Regulators, where he investigates violations of internal controls that are set by Tribal, State, and Federal law thus protecting the assets of the Tribe.

He was a key figure on developing the first ever Leech Lake Gaming Commission Board of Regulators, which includes a Director of Internal Audit, Director of Investigations, Director of Compliance, and the Safety Officer who oversees gaming regulations and laws within the Leech Lake gaming casinos.

The following are his

Rocky pledges to continue the proven record of his honor, integrity, loyalty, and his dedication to lead the Leech Lake Band to the highest possible standards.

Rocky is currently the Director of Investigations for the Leech Lake

Jennie (Wind) Reyes

I have a strong commitment to our tribal community and a strong belief in the direction the Band needs to be headed in order to protect the future of our people. I have lived and worked on the Reservation my entire life. I have been married to Mark Reyes, Sr., for 25 years and we have five children and eleven grandchildren.

I have made a strong commitment to improving the quality of life for Indian people in our Tribal communities by getting

involved with organizations that are focused towards the education of our children, housing for our people and fighting to get our environment cleaned up.

The Band is facing many critical issues that will shape our destiny. The time is now to have strong, honest, fair and caring leadership. One critical area that the Band must be strong is in the area of financial accountability. I have a strong accounting background (I am the Senior Accountant for the

for helping themselves.

Youth Programs – We must provide for a facility that addresses the needs of our youth.

Caring for our elders – The greatest wealth of knowledge is the elder; they understand the past and will guide us into our future as we presently plan for a better tomorrow. We must demand that the elder's age be lowered back to 55 and handicapped lowered to 50.

Economic Development – We must explore every opportunity to find other businesses that will locate on Leech Lake. One of the greatest benefits that Leech Lake could provide is a tax break and the work force for such an endeavor. We

commitments that he would like to pursue as District III Representative: FAIR AND IMPARTIAL GOVERNMENT – Jobs, housing, services, and funds to be made available and administered to Leech Lake Band members on a fair and equal basis following the enforcement of regulation of policy and procedure.

LEECH LAKE TWIN CITIES REPRESENTATION – Give every opportunity for Band members to voice their concerns and needs to the Leech Lake District III Representative who will speak and advocate on the behalf of the Twin Cities Band

could also diversify our work force by developing a Day Labor program. The cottage industry must receive our highest priority in development. The arts and crafts that are created by Tribal members need an outlet that will provide them with fair market value of their products.

Constitutional convention – The MCT, TEC has authorized this process for the six Bands. We must propose that Leech Lake will take the lead on this issue, immediately declaring a Constitutional Convention at Leech Lake. We need to address the blood quantum issue. Many of our people are unable to be enrolled in the Tribe of their grandparents and ancestors.

members.

GAMING OPPORTUNITIES – Work with gaming division to create an opportunity for Leech Lake Band members to secure better jobs, higher wages, and more sophisticated training for employees to maintain pace with new technology and the expert scam artists.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Leech Lake Reservation community member is one of the highest priorities of our tribal government. The Tribe's communities need a more proactive force of sophisticated community policing to address anti-social and criminal matters.

will dedicate my time as District III to developing strong Reservation programs to deal with chronic social problems which has for years plagued our people. I will promote a drug free workplace and work toward developing programs to provide a safe and healthy living environment for our people. I will ensure that money is set aside for much needed land purchases which would enable the Band to build more housing for

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe where I have worked for 25 years) and if elected I will demand financial accountability. Band members will know how much, why, and where our Tribal funds are being used. A vote for me will only be the beginning not the end. I will not make promises that I cannot keep. I will make a commitment to be involved and stay involved with the different communities of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe people (including the off-Reservation Tribal communities). I

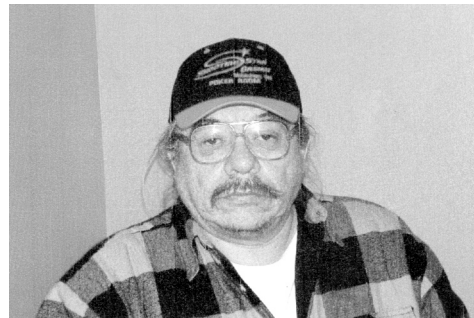
Jennie Reyes/Page 17

our people and to build suitable housing complexes for the elderly. I will support activities for youth and assisted living for the elders. I will support the Local Councils and Youth Councils to be involved with the Band. I have a lot of great ideas and I know a lot of Band members have a lot of

great ideas, so if we all work together we will succeed in anything.

Please join me in our quest for a bright future! Coming together as a people is a beginning, working together is progress, staying together is success. Miqetch.

Martin "Mutt" Robinison



I am running for District III Representative of the Leech Lake Reservation. I have been employed

with the LL Band for 28 years. I have a strong background in serving community members in various areas of our reservation. Currently, I serve on the boards of the Cass Lake/Bena School Board, the Local Indian Education Committee, the Board of Commissioners for Leech Lake Housing, the Leech Lake Pow-wow Board Committee as Chairperson, the Boys and Girls Club of Cass Lake, and am a member of the LLR Ojibwe Hymn Group. I have served

on the MCT/Leech Lake Reservation Constitution Revision and Enrollment Committee.

Our leaders have the responsibility of providing all community members with fair and equal support in striving for adequate housing, health care, quality education, and community services with assurances of high accountability for our people. Our leaders must possess the ability and knowledge to lead, be of high personal integrity

and professionalism, and must be positive role models.

Our tribal members of the community have the responsibility to elect the best candidate for the position. Our future is dependent on issues that our leadership provides, and good leadership decisions are made by qualified, competent, and knowledgeable people.

Bonnie Rock

(Boombaak, Maa'ingan nindoodem)

I will be running for the Leech Lake Reservation District III Representative position in the upcoming election. With the experiences I have had in and

around the reservation with people, I have come to know there are many issues and obstacles that need to be resolved. I am ready to work for you, to recover our reservation and to serve the people in order to remedy the needs. I know that major issues

of concern are our elders, veterans, children, and other issues regarding housing, health, and education. I will be visiting our communities and listening to you. I will work hard and do my best for you. Miigwech.

Eugene "Ribbs" Whitebird



My name is Eugene D. Whitebird, age 47, and a lifetime resident of the Mission area. I graduated from Cass Lake High

School in 1974 and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corp. I have one daughter, and presently work for the Leech Lake Housing Program.

My goals as your District Representative will be to see that all members are treated equally and that the MCT Constitution is followed. I will see to it that the powers are in the hands of the elected officials to make decisions that affect us all. I will make sure the people have been heard because I will work for you, the people.

I support all the social

programs that the LLRTC presently has and will continue to support them, such as employment, education, health services, gaming activities, Indian Child Welfare Act, youth and elderly programs, planning, housing and financial are the most important programs for the Reservation existence. I will concentrate on seeing that all our Leech Lakers are first when it comes to jobs and homes.

These are many areas in our Tribal Government that can be addressed. As I visit with you, the people, I will share with you the

ideas that I have and would like to implement, if I am elected to serve you as your District Representative. So please feel free to talk about the concerns you have and ideas.

I plan on visiting as many eligible members as I can during the primary before the general election. I want to know your concerns and would be honored to hear them. Let's make a positive exchange so that the people on the Leech Lake Reservation can be proud.


Please get out and vote, so your voice can be heard.

Wisdom Steps

Annual Awards Ceremony

Elders completing their Wisdom Steps Incentive Program will be invited to attend the annual Wisdom Steps "Honoring Our Elders" Awards Ceremony.

"Honoring Our Elders"



Tuesday, June 22, 2004

**Fond du Lac Reservation
Head Start Facility
Cloquet, Minnesota**

Wisdom Steps • c/o MBA Indian Elder Desk • 444 Lafayette Road • St. Paul, MN 55155-3843
Phone: 651-297-5458 • Fax: 651-297-7855

Also, join us for our First Annual Wisdom Steps Walk-A-Thon

First

Complete your health screenings for blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol and weight plus one other of the 15 screenings listed in your health record card.

Second

Attend a health fair, participate in an organized walk or do routine exercise.

Third

Return your completed Health Record Card to your Wisdom Steps Contact Person.
Before April 30, 2004.

Wisdom Steps Announces Annual Awards Ceremony

The Wisdom Steps preventative health program for American Indian elders will be holding its annual awards ceremony on Tuesday, June 22, 2004, at the Fond du Lac Headstart Center in Cloquet, Minnesota. The 2004 "Honoring Our Elders" ceremony will be by invitation only to those elders who have completed their Wisdom Steps incentive plan.

Elders have from May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2004 to meet their incentive plan which includes receiving health screenings for blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol and a weight check in addition to one other of the 15 health screenings listed in the health record card. In addition to receiving the above health screenings elders must have attended a health fair or documented walking in an organized walk or routine exercise. Health record cards and exercise records must be turned in to your Wisdom Steps contact person by April 30, 2004 to be eligible. The contact persons are Lila Brown, George Ross, and Helen

Cummings. The 2004 incentive for fourth year participants will be a turtle charm. First year incentive winners receive their Wisdom Steps pin and eagle charm. The wolf charm is given for the second year recognition and third year incentive winners receive their bear charm.

The first annual "Wisdom Steps Walk-A-Thon" is being held in conjunction with the Wisdom Steps Annual Walk on Tuesday, June 22, 2004, at Fond du Lac. Elders are asked to seek donations for walking in this year's event. Money will go toward the statewide development of preventative health programs and provide matching grant dollars. Elders will be asking for a flat donation for the walk, not the distance walked. Corporate, business and organizations donating will receive a Wisdom Steps certificate. Walk-A-Thon fliers will be available for elders at their elder nutrition centers, elder program offices or from their Wisdom Steps contact persons listed above.

2004 Spring Art Show

Attention Anishnabe artists living on or near the Leech Lake Reservation:
Get your art work together for the 2004 spring art show!

Hosted by:
Leech Lake Tribal College and Bemidji State University

Cash prize value totaling
\$7000.00 to be divided into 14 categories
and two best of show in contemporary and traditional.

The show will be on display in two locations:

First opening

Native American Resource Center
located on the campus of
Bemidji State University
April 26th through April 30th

Second opening

Leech Lake Tribal College
May 3rd through May 7th

The awards presentation and banquet will take place
Friday May 7th at LLTC

For further information you may contact:
Duane Goodwin at the LLTC 335-4265.

"The BEST Little Casino in Minnesota"

Just West of Deer River on Hwy 2
www.whiteoakcasino.com



WHITE OAK MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Coffee Club 6am-Noon Magical Monday 2 - 10pm	2 Senior Fun Day 10am-6pm COUPON PACKAGE, HOURLY DRAWINGS	3 White Oak Wednesday 6pm-10pm	4 49ers Day To Play 2pm-10pm	5	6
Care & Share Food Drive						
7 Sunday Spin 5pm-10pm	8 Coffee Club 6am-Noon Magical Monday 2 - 10pm	9 Senior Fun Day 10am-6pm COUPON PACKAGE, HOURLY DRAWINGS	10 White Oak Wednesday 6pm-10pm	11 49ers Day To Play 2pm-10pm	12	13
Care & Share Food Drive						
14 Sunday Spin 5pm-10pm	15 Coffee Club 6am-Noon Magical Monday 2 - 10pm	16 Senior Fun Day 10am-6pm COUPON PACKAGE, HOURLY DRAWINGS	17 Pot O' Gold Cash Grab 6pm - 10pm	18 49ers Day To Play 2pm-10pm	19	20
Care & Share Food Drive						
21 Sunday Spin 5pm-10pm	22 Coffee Club 6am-Noon Magical Monday 2 - 10pm	23 Senior Fun Day 10am-6pm COUPON PACKAGE, HOURLY DRAWINGS	24 White Oak Wednesday 6pm-10pm	25 49ers Day To Play 2pm-10pm \$500 Drawing	26	27
Care & Share Food Drive						
28 Care & Share Prize Drawing	29 Coffee Club 6am-Noon Magical Monday 2 - 10pm	30 Senior Fun Day 10am-6pm \$500 DRAWING!	31 White Oak Wednesday 6pm-10pm	CARE & SHARE Food Drive		

COMMUNITY WEEKS

Phone 800.653.2412

Proudly owned and operated by the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Management reserves the right to alter/suspend/withdraw promotions at anytime.

Beware False Medicine Men

by Becky Blanton, SierraTimes.com

Native American watchdogs are warning people about an increase in spiritual frauds and phony medicine men - which are leading to anything from financial scams to rapes and even murder. Darren McCathern, a spokesman for Comanche Lodge in Oklahoma, says the problem of false medicine men and Native American teachers isn't limited to just the west.

"In the last year or so there have been several instances of sexual assault and rape in connection with fake medicine men. "One case recently resulted in the conviction of a man in New Mexico that was guilty of hurting a pregnant woman with child, where he then left her for dead in the desert.

"This was done as a result of convincing the poor woman to undergo some type of fake nude healing ceremony that ultimately led to his conviction for rape," said McCathern. "The more informed the public is to these types of issues, the safer they are."

John Gisselbrecht, a spokesman for the Native American Resource Research & Cultural Center, in Kalispell, Mont., says he's concerned about visitors and residents to the

area who are being taken advantage of in the name of Native American spiritual and ceremonial walks of life across the United States. "We've had a number of medicine men/women and 'presto' spiritual leaders come to our attention. Their practices are absurd and some border on criminal," he said.

McCathern and Gisselbrecht offer the following tips to help people determine if those people teaching are legitimate or if they are fakes and wanna-be Native Americans.

1) There are never, under any circumstances, any charges or forms of payment for true Native American ceremonies or instruction. If anyone requests payment in monetary or material goods, they are a phony and you should run away as fast as you can. They cannot find a single native culture anywhere that takes money or donations for spiritual services or teachings. It is, however, a respectful courtesy to assist with travel expenses when bringing in an elder specifically to perform a ceremony.

2) If there are any sexual connotations or expectations up to and including a coed nude ceremony in sweat lodges, you have stumbled into the web of a sexual predator.

There is no such thing as a nude coed ceremony.

3) If the person leading the ceremony is mixing ceremonies such as the adding of crystals or gemstones to the use of traditional native ceremonial tools (such as drums or rattles), or peyote use in conjunction with the use of the sacred pipe, they highly suggest that you talk to a traditional elder. Native American traditional ceremonies are not a mix-and-match, anything-goes game.

4) There are no priests, shamans, kings, queens or princesses in the Native American culture. And those who claim to be are silently scoffed at. No matter what you are told, it is OK to question where their teachings originated and by whom and by what nation their authority was given.

"Without exception, the elders we have spoken with all say, 'Check out your spiritual teacher's traditional background,'" Gisselbrecht said.

"If they claim to carry animal 'medicine' they are not traditional." Gisselbrecht also said there are those who have conveniently found un-sanctioned Native American people, some of whom are still practicing drug users and alcoholics, to portray

themselves as medicine men, shaman, priests, lodge leaders, bundle keepers, and pipe carriers. Beware, he cautions, these people are dangerous.

McCathern and other Native American watchdog groups urge consumers to check out credible sources before becoming involved in Native American ceremonies.

"These are not games and when not done correctly can result in injury or death, not just looking silly," Gisselbrecht said. Be respectful of Native American spirituality and ceremony for your own safety and, if for no other reason, to not insult the elders.

"These men and women, who have practiced these ceremonies most of their lives, are deeply concerned when they see their sacred ways of life prostituted," Gisselbrecht said.

"Attempting to mimic these ceremonies with an 'anything goes attitude' is not a spiritual path, but one of disgrace and a display of lack of education. One Sunday Mass does not a pope make. One sweat lodge does not a medicine man make."

Swimmers at Mothers Against Drunk Driving at 1-800-438-6233, ext. 4570.

Since their beginning in 1980, MADD has worked to make roads and communities safer by preventing motorists from drinking and driving. It is estimated that nearly 270,000 lives have been saved since MADD began their efforts. MADD victim advocates offer emotional support and provided information. Many of the advocates have experienced a loss through drunk driving crashes.



Leech Lake Family Violence Program

6279 Lower Cass Frontage Road NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633

The Leech Lake Family Violence Program provides:

- Service to domestic violence victims
- Free, confidential help
- Safe, caring environment
- Individual support
- Emergency transportation to safety
- Weekly support group
- Education
- Orders for protection
- Harassment restraining orders
- Referrals
- Legal advocacy
- System advocacy

24 hour advocacy available:
1-877-766-0977
or call
MN Domestic Violence Hotline:
1-866-223-1111
(connects you to the nearest shelter)

Serving the Leech Lake Reservation including portions of Cass, Hubbard and Beltrami Counties.

24 hour notice required for transportation to support group, call Leech Lake Family Violence during regular office hours.

If you are in a violent relationship and need help, call 1-866-223-1111, the MN Domestic Violence Program.

Personal Safety Plan:

In case you have to flee, from a domestic violence situation, have the following available to take with you:

- Important papers such as birth certificates, social security cards, insurance information, school and health records, welfare and immigration documents, divorce or other court documents
- Credit card, bank account number and ATM cards
- Some money
- An extra set of keys
- Medications and prescriptions
- Phone numbers and addresses for family, friends, doctors, lawyers, and community agencies
- Clothing and comfort items for you and your children

If you are living alone, you may want to:

- Change locks on doors and windows.
- Install a better system – window bars, locks, better lighting, smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.
- Teach the children to call the police or family and friends if they are snatched.
- Talk to schools and childcare providers about who has permission to pick up the children.
- Find a lawyer knowledgeable about family violence to explore custody, visitation and divorce provisions that

protect you and your children.

- Obtain a restraining order or order for protection.

If you are leaving your abuser, ask yourself the following questions:

- How and when can you safely leave? Where will you go?
- Are you comfortable calling the police if you need them?
- Who can you trust to tell that you are leaving?
- How will you travel safely to and from work or school to pick up the children?
- What community and legal resources will help you feel safe? Write down their address and phone numbers; keep them handy.
- Do you know the telephone number of the local shelter?
- What custody and visitation provisions will keep you and your children safe?
- Is a restraining order or order for protection a viable option?

If you are staying with the abuser, think about:

- What works best to keep you safe in an emergency
- Who can you call in a crisis
- If you would call the police if the violence starts again. Can you work out a signal with the children or neighbors to call the police when you need help?

- If you need to flee temporarily, where would you go? Think through several places where you can go in a crisis. Write down the address and phone numbers and keep them with you
- If you need to flee, know the escape route in advance.

If you know someone who is being abused you can help by:

- Believing the person
- Taking the abuse seriously
- Not blaming the person on whom the violence was committed
- Realizing the severity and danger of the abuse
- Letting them know the assault is a crime
- Making yourself "safe" and available to the person and their children.

Do not give up on the person or stop giving support. If you are angry with them or you are hurt by they way you see them being abused, talk to someone about your feelings. Don't blame them for what is happening or leave them to deal with the problem alone...**THEY NEED YOU!**

If you are in a violent relationship and need help, call 1-866-223-1111, the MN Domestic Violence Hotline, or the Leech Lake Family Violence Program at 218-335-8065, or toll free at 1-800-442-3912.

"Nutrition 411"

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

Q. I have a bunch of questions related to calcium. Please help!! S.J., MI
A. Dear S.J., I hope this information helps.

What is calcium and why do I need it? Calcium is the mineral in your body that makes up your bones and keeps them strong; Ninety-nine percent of the calcium in your body is stored in your bones and teeth.

Am I getting calcium from my multi-vitamin? Maybe. Read the label. A multi-vitamin may provide additional nutrients and vitamins that your body needs, but if your diet is low in calcium, you need to take a special calcium supplement.

Remember, foods are the best sources of calcium. The non-fat dry milk and cheese from your Commodity Program food package are great options!

How much calcium do I need?	
Age Group	Dietary Reference Intake (DRI)
0-6 months	210 milligrams/day
6-12 months	270 milligrams/day
1-3 years	500 milligrams/day
4-8 years	800 milligrams/day
9-18 years	1,300 milligrams/day
19-50 years	1,000 milligrams/day
50+ years	1,200 milligrams/day

How can I increase my Calcium intake?

- No-fat or low-fat dairy products
- Broccoli, spinach, kale and sardines, especially with the bones included
- Processed foods fortified with calcium, including fruit juices, snack foods, and breakfast cereals.

Please send questions to: Kimberly.Jacobs@fnus.usda.gov or go to: www.nof.org/prevention/calcium.htm for more information.



READERS WANTED FOR

**Read Across the Rez
March 2-5, 2004**

Held at all Headstart classrooms
and the DiKinaagan childcare center.



Interested individuals please call the main office
and our secretaries will sign you up.



The toll free number is 1-800-551-0969
or (218) 335-8345 or 8251

"Read across the REZ"

Back in 1999 the Leech Lake Reservation Headstart Program took part in the "Read Across America Campaign." What we wanted to see as a program, was male participants and parents reading to the children in our Head Start program. Our thought behind this back then was to have at least two or three readers come in and read a book to the children.

Needless to say the turn-out was unbelievable!! Just by sending out letters and invitations to people we were overwhelmed by how much they wanted to share their talent of reading by coming in to the classrooms.

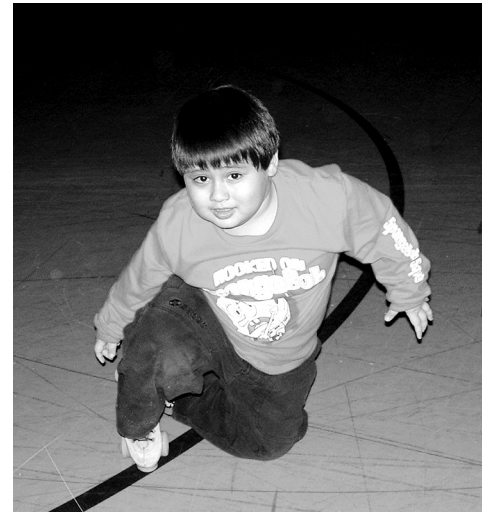
In this day and age, now we have to comply with the new mission statements that the President of the United States says. Our mission is the same for "Read across the Rez," to get people in our communities to read to the children in the classrooms. When a person comes in and reads to our children it not only enhances that child's life but I think yours as well.

When they see you in the community and know that you cared enough to come in and read to them in their class that only gives them a little more knowledge than what they had to begin with. Research shows that reading is critical to raising life long readers. Whether you're a parent, guardian, grandparent or a community member, you can help a child learn to love reading and also make a difference in their lives.

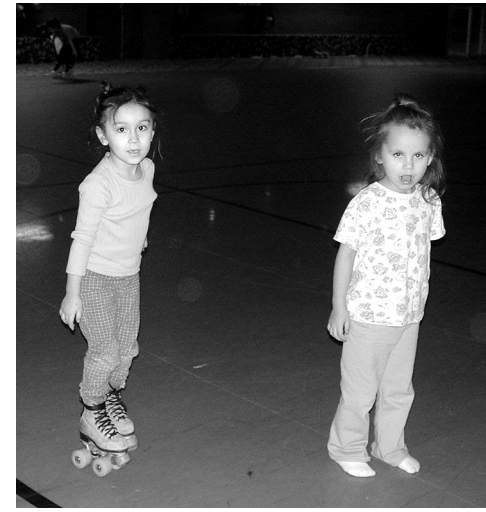
Now we hold this event every year and it is still popular today. Every year we get different people to come in and we still get a lot of community members from the surrounding area and also employees from all the Divisions that work on the Reservation. This year we would like to expand that and ask our tribal and public schools to come into our program and do some "buddy reading" with our children. So please be ready to read to the children to teach them that reading is powerful!

A Day at Roller World for Leech Lake Headstart Kids

Photos by Patsy Gordon



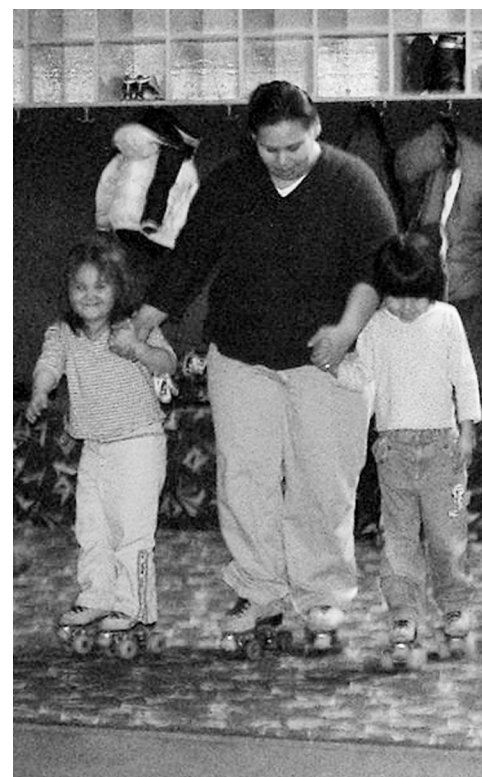
Llewellyn Grayhawk gets up after a spill.



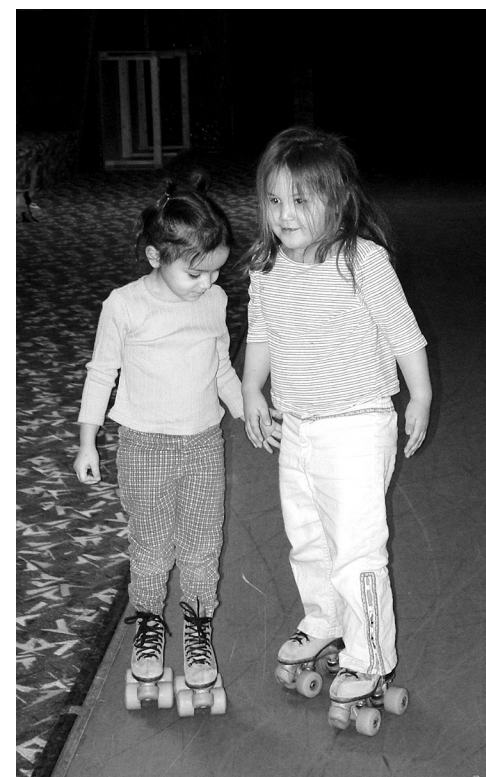
Grace Munyer & Toni Leigh Smith.



Leech Lake Headstart children at Roller World in Bemidji.



Ellen Jones (Center) helps Rickay Budreau (L) and Mari Cruz (R).



Grace Munyer & Rickay Budreau make their attempt at roller skating.

Season of Spring

First Day of Spring
March 20th
By Albert Theel

Springtime seems to fill the air with music all its own; Frogs and crickets come to life with such a pleasant tone. Flowers peek their tiny heads above the fertile ground;

No other season of the year can such beauty ere be found. Dear God, I am so thankful for this season you bestow; It fills my heart with gladness and it helps my spirit grow!

In Memory of... Roger Darrin Wakonabo

By Janice M. Garbow

January 2, 1964 – November 7, 1986
Joseph John Wakonabo
January 2, 1996 – November 7, 1986
Richard Wayne Wakonabo
February 16, 1967 – August 6, 2001

I want to tell you how I miss you so,
I remember the memories I hold in my heart,
the memories I can't let go.
I'm sorry that I never got to say goodbye,
I try to be strong,
but all I can do is cry.
So many more memories we should've shared,
to show you that I love you and that I really care.
Goodbye is a hard thing to say,
when I think of the morning of that black day.
All our time together vanished out of sight,
the day you were gone in the blink of an eye.
I didn't understand what would happen to you
if you were going to stay here,

or go to the sky so blue.
My brothers, my angels, you are on my mind.
I should've been the first to go,
but I am left behind.
You will always be in my heart,
you were always there right from the start.
I know you're with me as I catch a glimpse of your eyes.
Just remember that your sister loves you.
You are someone I could never say goodbye to,
I'll just wait for the day when I see you all again,
the day when all this pain will end.
This poem is for my brothers whom I love very much,
and miss dearly. I hold you all close to my heart.

YOUNG WRITERS WANTED

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

Youth Karaoke Contest

Sponsored by: My Heritage My Faith

Cass Lake American Legion Hall
Sunday's 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Feb. 29th - Mar. 28th, 2004


Categories
Age 5-9
Age 10-14
Age 15-19

1st and 2nd place each Sunday.
All finalists compete on March 28th.



For more information contact:
James Allen 218-335-3915
cntryjim@hotmail.com /
cntryjim@webtv.net

HELP WANTED

 **The Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School in Bena, MN, is looking to fill the following positions:**

Speech Pathologist
Full-time position for all grades. Must have a Masters Degree in communication disorders and be MN licensed in Educational Speech Language Pathologist. Salary: \$39,400-\$46,800/yr DOQ. Position open until filled.

Bus Monitor
Full-time position. Must have or be willing to have certification in CPR and Basic First Aid. Coverage area for: Sugar Point/Kego Lake/Boy Lake. Salary: \$7.86/hr. Position open until filled.

All positions required to pre-employment drug testing and State and Federal Background checks.

To apply, submit applications and/or resume with three (3) references, credentials, transcripts and licensure certificate to:

ATTN: Personnel
15353 Silver Eagle Dr. NW
Bena, MN 56626
Telephone: 1-800-265-5576
employment@bugschool.bia.edu

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For a complete job description please contact the Human Resources Office at 218-335-3698. Most jobs require a valid MN Driver's License.



Leech Lake Band Member preference, MCT, and other Native American preference applies.

- Teen Leadership Advocate, Youth Division
- Secretary/Receptionist, TERO Division
- Security (Eagle Lodge), Tribal Referral
- Solid Waste Attendant, DPS
- TERO Director, TERO
- Receptionist/Office Assistant, Human Resources
- Wildland Firefighters, Div. Of Resource Management
- On-Call Receptionist, Human Resources
- Water Well Driller, Public Works
- Field Director, Div. Of Resource Management
- Program Director, Div. Of Resource management
- Accounting/Budgeting Team Leader, Accounting
- Public Health Nurse-RN, Health
- Community Health-LPN, Health
- LLDCEP Community Health LPN, Health
- LLDCEP Diabetes Screening Nurse-LPN, Health
- Civil Engineer (Tribal Roads: Construction), Public Works
- LLDCEP RN / Diabetes Nurse Educator, Health
- LLDCEP Special Diabetes Coordinator, Health
- Mid-Level Care Provider (PA/NP/NMW), Health
- Teacher Assistant – Headstart, Youth
- Entry Level Child Care Assistant-Day care, Youth

Submitted by Suzanne Northbird, Employment Specialist, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

HOW TO APPLY

Application Intake Sessions are on Monday at 10:00am and 1:00pm, Facility Center, Cass Lake MN. Or send a letter of application, resume, credentials, and transcripts to: LLBO – Human Resources Department – 6530 Hwy. #02 NW - Cass Lake, MN 56633. Call 218-335-3698 or toll free 1-800-631-5528 for more information.

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Court

The following Rules of Procedure for the Peacemaker Division has been adopted by the Chief Judge of the Tribal Court on January 15, 2004. The order adopting the rules is in pursuant to Judicial Code, Title 2, Rule 58 investing the authority of the Chief Judge to establish a Peacemaker Division. The following Rules of Procedure for the Peacemaker Division are hereby adopted as the rules for all civil cases wherein the parties consent to have their case heard and decided by the Peacemaker process rather than an adversarial process in Tribal Court.

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE JUDICIAL CODE

TITLE 6. Rules of Procedure for Peacemakers Division

1. Scope of Rules.

These rules shall govern the procedures of the Peacemaker Division of the Tribal Court, which is established pursuant to Rule 58, Rules of Procedures, Title 2, Judicial Code, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

2. Liberal Construction.

These rules shall be liberally construed to secure a just and speedy determination of all disputes referred to the Peacemaker Division for resolution in accordance with the Band's laws, traditions and customs.

3. Purpose.

The purpose of the Peacemaker Division is to provide a non-adversarial way to resolve disputes by establishing and reestablishing justice through healing and restoring harmony to the parties, their families and the community. The Peacemaker Division is intended to reflect the Band's tradition of using respected members of the community to heal conflicts.

4. Composition.

A. The Peacemaker Division shall be composed of one or more persons appointed by the Reservation Tribal Council or by the Chief Judge, to conduct peacemaking conferences in accordance with these rules and shall be designed to carry out the purpose stated herein.

B. Each person appointed to a case

as a Peacemaker shall execute and file with the Court Administrator an acceptance of such appointment including a statement that they meet the qualifications set forth herein and are willing and able to perform the duties listed in these rules. Any vacancies which may occur in the panel by reason of death, disability, resignation or removal shall be filled in a like manner.

C. The Court Administrator shall maintain a current list of panel members together with the orders of appointments, written acceptance, and any letters of resignation or orders for removal.

D. A single peacemaker shall be appointed for each case unless there is good cause to appoint additional peacemakers. In such cases, up to two (2) additional peacemakers shall be appointed.

5. Qualifications.

A Peacemaker shall be at least twenty-five (25) years of age, and known and respected for her or his integrity, honesty, humanity and ability to work with Band members and other Indians to resolve problems. No Peacemaker shall serve if she or he has been convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor involving violence during or within the last three (3) years prior to her or his appointment.

6. Duties of a Peacemaker.

A. Peacemakers shall work to resolve non-violent civil disputes between family members, neighbors, and others within the community. To do this, Peacemakers shall, as needed:

1. Schedule and conduct informal conferences of the parties and participants to the dispute;

2. Provide adequate notice to the parties of the date, time and place such informal conferences may be held. Peacemaker conferences may be held in the Leech Lake Tribal Courtroom, administrative conference rooms, any community center, or other location agreed upon by the parties and the assigned peacemaker.

3. Ensure in each such conference that all relevant facts are presented and that all parties and

participants have an opportunity to speak and are encouraged to do so;

4. Inform the Tribal Court and the parties to the dispute of any financial, familial or legal conflict of interest on the part of the Peacemaker which may adversely affect her or his ability to fairly act;

5. Encourage the parties to reach an agreement that is acceptable to all of them and which also tends to heal the conflict leading to the dispute;

6. Recess and reconvene such conferences from time to time as may be necessary to facilitate an agreement being reached by the parties;

7. Reduce to writing the terms and conditions of any such agreement and make certain that it is understood and consented to by each of the parties and that they have executed the same and have received a signed copy thereof. Date, sign and file the original of the executed agreement with the Court Administrator;

8. In the event the parties are unable to reach an agreement as to some or all of the issues in dispute or, if one or more parties refuses or fails to participate in good faith, having previously agreed to the peacemaker process, the Peacemaker(s) shall proceed to an award or decision which best reflects the Band's traditions and is in keeping with the concept of "restorative justice". A written summary of such award or decision shall be filed with the Court Administrator and made part of the Court file.

B. If requested to do so, furnish the Chief Judge from time to time with written or oral reports of the status of such disputes as are pending for resolution before the Peacemaker.

C. Attend training at Court expense as requested by the Chief Judge.

7. Use of Peacemaker Division

The Peacemaker may be used to resolve any civil dispute between Band members or other parties subject to the jurisdiction of the Tribal Court, and/or any civil action pending in the Tribal Court other than disputes or causes of actions

arising out of domestic violence or those to which the Band, itself, is a party. Use of the Peacemaker shall foreclose any further proceeding(s) in the Tribal Court as to the issues in dispute except as may be necessary to enforce any award or decision of the Peacemaker.

8. Initiation of Peacemaking Proceedings

A. Any party to a civil dispute between parties or a pending Tribal Court civil action who desires to have the dispute or action resolved by the peacemaking process shall file a written request for referral to the Peacemaker with the Court Administrator.

B. The written request shall be executed in the presence of the Court Administrator or a notary public and shall set forth the following:

1. The name, address and phone number of the party requesting referral;

2. The name, address and phone numbers of all other parties to the dispute or civil action including the name, address and phone number of legal counsel, if any, representing said parties;

3. The Tribal Court case number of pending civil actions, if any, which the party is requesting be referred to the Peacemaker for resolution;

4. A brief statement of facts as to the nature of the dispute and the relief which the party seeks;

5. An affirmation that the dispute does not arise from acts of domestic violence nor involve the Band as a party;

6. An acknowledgment that the party fully understands that use of the Peacemaker is voluntary on the part of all parties, that such use forecloses any further proceedings in the Tribal Court except as may be necessary to enforce an award or decision of the Peacemaker and that any award or decision of the Peacemaker is final and not appealable, and

7. The specific Peacemaker(s) desired, if any.

C. A copy of the request for referral shall be served upon each of the

parties named therein in the same manner as provided by Rule 5, Title 2, Rules of Procedure, Judicial Code, together with a brief explanation of how the peacemaking process works, the names of available Peacemakers, and a consent form to be returned and filed with the Court Administrator within fifteen (15) days of service of the request for referral.

D. The consent form, if executed and so returned, shall be sworn to in the presence of the Court Administrator or of a notary and shall contain:

1. A statement consenting to the use of the peacemaking process;

2. Changes, if any, to the address and phone number of the party consenting;

3. A brief statement as to the facts in dispute, if different from that of the party initially requesting relief, and the relief sought by the consenting party;

4. An affirmation that the dispute does not arise from acts of domestic violence nor involve the Band as a party;

5. An acknowledgment that the party fully understands that use of the Peacemaker is voluntary on the part of all parties, that such use forecloses any further proceedings in the Tribal Court except as may be necessary to enforce an award or decision of the Peacemaker and that any award or decision of the Peacemaker is final and not appealable;

z6. The specific Peacemaker(s) desired, if any, and if different from that selected by the requesting part.

E. If all of the parties have consented in writing to use of the peacemaking process and the same has been filed with the Court Administrator then, in such an event, the Chief Judge shall assign the matter to the Peacemaker(s) agreed upon by the parties, or if none has been agreed upon, to the next available Peacemaker(s) who shall schedule a conference and provide notice of the time, date and place of such conference to each of the parties.

9. Representation

No party to a peacemaking conference may be represented by legal counsel at any such conference(s). Parties may be permitted to consult with

their counsel during adjournments or recesses, if any, if the Peacemaker deems that such consultation might facilitate a resolution of some or all of the issues in dispute or if legal counsel is deemed necessary to reduce an agreement to writing.

10. Conclusion and/or

Termination of Peacemaking Process

A. The peacemaking process shall conclude when the parties have entered into a written agreement resolving the dispute and the same has been filed with the Court Administrator.

B. At any point in time when the Peacemaker feels that no further conferences should occur between the parties as they are unable or unwilling to resolve all or some of the issues, or a party is refusing or failing to participate in good faith, or a party is acting in a manner not conducive to harmonious resolution then, in such event, the Peacemaker shall terminate the process and make an award or decision resolving the dispute which best reflects the Band's traditions and is in keeping with the concept of "restorative justice". A written summary of such award or decision shall be filed with the Court Administrator and made part of the Court file.

11. Enforceability of Agreements, Awards and Decisions

All written agreements between the parties filed with the Court Administrator pursuant to these rules and all awards and decisions by the Peacemaker filed with the Court Administrator pursuant to these rules shall be enforceable in the same manner as all other orders and judgments of the Tribal Court.

12. Appeals

No appeal shall be allowed from any Peacemaking proceeding or from any agreement, award or decision thereof.

13. Confidentiality of Peacemaking Conferences

Except for those papers filed with the Court Administrator pursuant to these rules including requests for referrals, consents, notices, agreements, awards and decisions of the Peacemaker, whatever transpires at a peacemaking conference shall

be confidential and shall not be used in any other Court or administrative proceeding.

14. Amendment

These rules may be amended by the Chief Judge or the Reservation Tribal Council as necessary to ensure fundamental fairness, substantial justice and further promote the concept of traditional peacemaking.

15. Severability

If any provision of these rules, or the application thereof, to any person is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the provisions or applications of these rules which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, and to this end the provisions of these rules are declared severable.

16. Effective Date

These rules will take effect on the first court work day after the date these rules are adopted by the Chief Judge of the Tribal Court pursuant to Rule 58, Title 2, Judicial Code, Rules of Procedure and certified by the Court Reviser as provided for in Title 1 of the Judicial Code.

Are you interested in being a Peacemaker for the Tribal Court?

The Tribal Court is seeking interested individuals to be a peacemaker. There is a short application that is required to be filed with the Court Administrator; for inquiries contact the Tribal Court at 1.800.442.3903, ext. 3682 or 218.335.3682. Training will be provided at Court's expense and, appointed peacemaker will be compensated with a stipend plus travel expenses for services provided.

What Does a Peacemaker do and what are the qualifications?

Purpose and Use of Peacemaker : The purpose of the Peacemaker is to provide a non-adversarial way to resolve disputes between people through healing and restoring harmony to the parties, their families and the community. The Peacemaker is intended to reflect the Band's tradition of using respected members of the community to heal conflicts among its members. The peacemaker process may be used to resolve any civil dispute between parties or a pending civil action in

Tribal Court who desires to have the dispute or action resolved by the peacemaking process.

Appointment of the Peacemaker :

The Peacemaker shall be composed of one or more persons and is appointed by the Reservation Tribal Council or by the Chief Judge to conduct peacemaking conferences. Each person appointed shall file with the Court Administrator acceptance of her or his appointment including a statement that they meet the qualifications and are willing and able to perform the duties of a Peacemaker.

Peacemaker Qualifications:

1. Be at least 25 years of age.
2. Known and respected for her or his integrity, honesty, humanity and ability to work with community members and resolve local problems.

Disqualification:

1. If she or he has been convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor involving violence during or within the last three years prior to her or his appointment.

Duties of a Peacemaker:

1. Shall work to resolve non-violent civil disputes between family members, neighbors, and others within the community.

2. Conduct informal conferences of the parties and participants to the dispute.

3. Ensure in each such conference that all relevant facts are presented and that all parties and participants have an opportunity to speak and are encouraged to do so.

4. Encourage the parties to reach an agreement that is acceptable to all of them and which also tends to heal the conflict leading to the dispute.

5. Writing the terms and conditions of any such agreement and make certain that it is understood and consented to by each of the parties and that they have executed the same and have received a signed copy. Date, sign and file the original agreement with the Clerk.

6. Furnish the Chief Judge with written or oral reports of the status of disputes as are pending for resolution before the Peacemaker.

7. Attend training at Court expense as requested by the Chief Judge.

“Passed Into the Spirit World”

Veronica Fairbanks

Veronica Jean “Asinikwbukwe” (Rock Woman) Fairbanks, 61, of rural Bemidji, died February 8, 2004 at her home.

The funeral was held on February 13, 2004 at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Cass Lake. Burial took place at the Sugar Bush Cemetery under the direction of the Cease Family Funeral Home of Cass Lake.

Pallbearers were Joseph C. Fairbanks, Carl Fairbanks, Gordon Fairbanks, Dennis Robinson, Charles Robinson, and Lee Wayne Fairbanks. Honorary pall bearers were Amanda Fairbanks, Janice Fairbanks, Vivian Fairbanks, Barbara Robinson, Nancy Whitebird, Linda Fisherman, Oras Smith, Margaret Down and Carol Bellanger.

She was born on July 3, 1942, to James and Verna (Hanson) Fairbanks in Red Lake, where she was raised and educated. She moved to Minneapolis where she worked at Honeywell for six years, Sears Roebuck for several years and later became a foster mother for a number of years. In 1983, she moved to Cass Lake.

She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, especially children. She also liked going to the casino.

She is survived by her son, Edward Fairbanks, Sr., of Bemidji, sisters, Maggie Fairbanks of Minneapolis, Lois Manypenny of Bemidji, Barbara (Roy) Fairbanks of Bemidji and Judy Barrett of Morton; brothers, Joe (Arlene) Fairbanks of Bena and Charles Barrett of Red lake; two grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Bonnie Fairbanks; two nieces; and three nephews.

Roselynn Stewart

Roselynn Rayne Stewart, four months old, of Bemidji, died February 4, 2004 in Bemidji, Minnesota.

Funeral services were held on February 10, 2004 at the St. Philips Catholic Church in Bemidji with the Reverend Bob Stone officiating. Interment was at Greenwood Cemetery in Bemidji.

Casket bearers were Joshua Seeley, Jr., John Seelye, Larry Hart, Jr., and Alex Hart. Honorary casket bearers were Tremane Rainey, Jason Hart, Casey Hart, Mary Seelye and Shayne Wind.

She was born in Minneapolis, the daughter of Roosevelt Stewart and Jessica Morlan.

She is survived by her mother, Jessica Morlan, of Bemidji; her father, Roosevelt Stewart of Brooklyn Center; a brother, Keenan Stewart of Brooklyn Center; grandparents; Lynette Sanders of Brooklyn Center, Roosevelt Stewart of Brooklyn Center, Patty Morlan of Bemidji and Larry and Nancy Hart of Cass Lake; great grandmother, GiGi Morlan of Bemidji, and several aunts and uncles.

Legal Notices

Leech Lake Band, Plaintiff vs. Parents of Emerjirdo Carmona, Defendants;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Parents of Emerjirdo Carmona, Defendants** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 215.A, No driver’s license.
2. Chapter 200, Section 217.N, Equipment violation.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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

W. Cronin, Defendant;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **David W. Cronin, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 208.A.3 (B), Speeding in excess of 10 mph over the limit.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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. Patricia Hurd, Defendant;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Patricia Hurd, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 217.A, Failure to stop for stop sign or red traffic control light.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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 J. Jackson, Defendant;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **David J. Jackson, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 208.A.3.(B), Speeding in excess of 10 mph over the limit.
2. Chapter 200, Section 215.C, Driving after revocation.
3. Chapter 200, Section 214.A, No proof of insurance.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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. Connie Littlewolf, Defendant; NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Connie Littlewolf, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 215.A, No driver’s license.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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. Jacklyn Moose, Defendant;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Jacklyn Moose, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 216, Failure to use seat belts.
2. Chapter 200, Section 216, Failure to use child restraint



devices.

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

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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. Karla Roberts, Defendant;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Karla Roberts, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that she committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

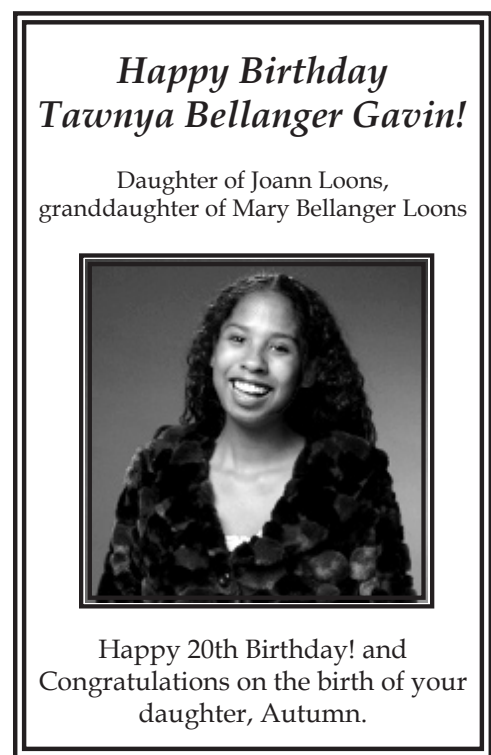
1. Chapter 200, Section 214.A, No driver’s license.
2. Chapter 200, Section 216, Failure to use seat belts.
3. Chapter 200, Section 216, Failure to use child restraint devices.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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.



Adrian Staples, Defendant;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Adrian Staples, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 217.A, Failure to stop for stop sign or red traffic control light.
2. Chapter 200, Section 215.C, Driving after revocation.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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. Michael Junior White, Defendant;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Michael Junior White, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 215.A, No driver’s license.
2. Chapter 200, Section 214.A, No proof of insurance.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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. Dean Wind, Defendant;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Dean Wind, Defendant** is hereby required to appear in Leech Lake Tribal Court on **March 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M.**, and answer the complaint filed alleging that he committed the following violation of the Leech Lake Traffic Code:

1. Chapter 200, Section 206, Careless driving.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED BY PUBLICATION BECAUSE:

1. Failure to appear in court on February 3, 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 Indian Council Meeting Schedules

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!

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

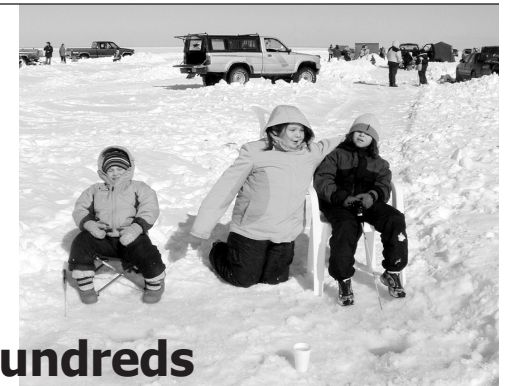
SUNDAY 6:00 p.m. – A.A. (12x12) Meeting

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.



THE 1ST ANNUAL "KIDS PERCH JERK"



First Annual Leech Lake Reservation's Kids Perch Jerk Draws Hundreds

By Patsy Gordon

What a beautiful February day for a perch tournament on Lake Winnie in Bena. The bright sunshine and warm weather on February 21st brought them out by the hundreds – people, that is. Although there was a winner in all of the age categories in the perch jerk, I heard much of the same thing as I walked around chatting with the participants, "Haven't had a single bite!"

Six hundred seventy kids registered for the event! Several parents and adults gathered also to join in the festivities. This was the first time that Leech Lake had ever sponsored such an event and

what a huge success it was! We have the Michaud and Dahl families and all the rest of the volunteers to thank for organizing it. Among the prizes awarded were cash prizes and trophies for the first, second, and third winners in 3 different age categories. The winners were as follows:

0 to 5 years old category – boys: 1st place, Evan Dewey; 2nd place, Vincent Rushmier; 3rd place, Terrek Frazier; girls: 1st place, Nashel Bebeau; 2nd place, Cierra Jourdain; 3rd place, Acacia Rushmier.

6 to 10 years old category – boys: 1st place, Tommy Naas, 2nd

place, Tre Bedeau; 3rd place, Jerrick Pemberton; girls: 1st place, Katlien Dahman; 2nd place, Anna Yurrick; 3rd place, Sheila Dahl.

11 to 15 years old category – boys: 1st place, Marcus Baker; 2nd place, Cyros Williams; 3rd place, Travis Ross; girls: 1st place, Autumn Brunelle; 2nd place, Margaret Charwood; 3rd place, Becky White.

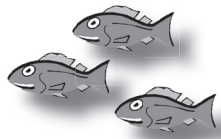
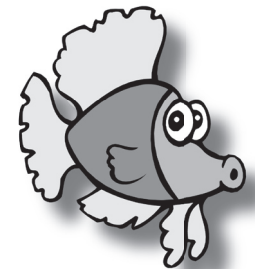
Ugly Fish Contest – 0 to 5 years old winner; Nick Michaud; 6 to 10 years old category, Shelly Lawrence; 11 to 15 years old category; Andria Goodwin.

Names were also drawn for the ninety-four bikes and

several other prizes that had been purchased/donated to the event. Kids lined up at the speaker stand anxiously anticipating their names to be called for a new bike.

Free hot dogs, chips, and pop were handed out to those who could stand in line long enough to wait for them. As you might imagine with that many people there, the line was long!

Next year will bring the 2nd Annual Perch Jerk on Winnie. I'd be willing to bet this will be an even bigger smash next year than this year's event was.



**SPONSORED BY THE
LEECH LAKE TRIBAL
COUNCIL**

