



Coming up at LRBOI:

Fall Fire & Teachings
October 7-10 2015

Elders Meal Aki
Community Center
Mon-Thur 12pm

Language Class
Every Friday
10:30am

2016 Membership Meetings
April 9, 2016 &
October 8, 2016

2017 Membership Meetings
April 8, 2017 &
October 9, 2017

Call Little River Resort Hotel in US Toll-Free: 1-888-568-2244 Local 231-723-1535

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Congressional Visits to the tribe



It was the fall recess for the U.S. and state governments and Representatives and Senators worked the territory including Little River. See the article inside about the visits and the consultations with the tribe.

The Fall Fire & Anishinaabe Lifeways Teachings are coming

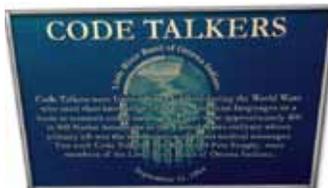


The Fall Fire and Anishinaabe Lifeways Teachings are starting on the 7th of October and going through the 10th. This special time for the people will center around the Gathering Grounds in Manistee, behind the Trading Post at US 31 and M22 and will begin with a Sunrise Ceremony every day. See inside for all the details.

LRCR Board Announcement.

The Board of Directors has announced that on the following dates at 6 p.m., the Board and members of the Resort's executive team will be available in the Grand River Room to receive comments and concerns from Tribal Members.
September 17, October 22,
November 20 and December 17

LRBOI Code Talkers



Most time when you hear of the Native 'Code Talkers' you hear of the Dine' (Navajo). However, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians also had Code

Talkers in World War II and they are being honored in early October with a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in Manistee. A bronze plaque has been created honoring them. It will be unveiled on October 2nd at 2 p.m. in a ceremony with our Warrior Society and other local veterans organizations.

Pipe is going in the ground!



Last month, it was reported that agreement had finally been reached between the tribe and Manistee Township so that the tribe could provide waste water treatment services to the township. All of this last month, there has been construction along US 31 from the Little River Casino Resort down to Manistee and towards the intersection by M55 (Meijer Corners). Two construction companies

have been put on the assignment and the goal is to have the lines run before the snow flies. This is the first major business expansion beyond the Casino for the tribe!

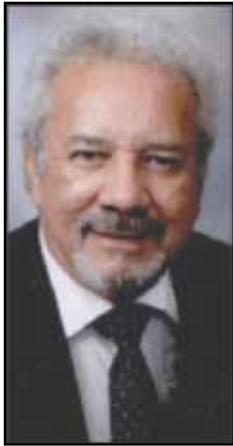
Time for our Tribal Fall Membership Meeting!

October 10th at the Little River Casino Resort
Learn about what is happening with your Tribal Government and it's many activities.

- 👑 **State of the Tribe- Ogema Romanelli**
- 👑 **Tribal Finances- C.F.O. Steve Wheeler**
- 👑 **Casino Updates- G.M. Ron Pete**
- 👑 **Muskegon Project updates**
- 👑 **NEW WEBSITE!!!!**
- Updates on Tribal Departments and Programs**

*Saturday Morning starts 10 a.m. with Drum, posting of Colors, and prayer.
Formal opening at 1p.m.*

The Ogema's Meet and Greet on October 9th at 7:00PM held in one of the Three Fires Rooms at the Resort.



Aanii,
Another Summer heading out and another Fall moving in.

On September 10-12th, the LRBOI Tribal Court through Patrick Wilson is bringing the 4th Annual Midwest Peacekeeper's Conference to the Little River Casino Resort. This conference has become a very successful event and this year's keynote speaker will be the Honorable Judge, Tim Conners.

Our Annual Sturgeon Release is coming up Saturday, September 12th, 1:00PM at Rainbow Bend in Manistee hosted by our Natural Resources Department.

On September 17th, our Enrollment Department headed by Director Diane Lonn will be hosting the State's Enrollment Directors Meeting at the Little River Casino Resort.

On September 24th, Tribal Council Speaker, Virgil Johnson, Councilor Frank Medacco and I will be attending the United Tribes of Michigan Meeting in Lansing in which we will be able to meet with Governor Snyder and other elected State officials.

In about a month our 2015 Fall Membership Meeting takes place on October 10th at the Little River Casino Resort and the Ogema's Meet and Greet on October 9th at 7:00PM held in one of the Three Fires Rooms at the Resort. General

Manager, Ron Pete, recently announced that starting September 21st, the Resort and Casino Board of Directors will be restoring some of the Tribal Member discounts that were eliminated last year. More information will be forthcoming. Don't forget the Fall Fire and Anishinaabe Lifeways Teachings are being held at the Gathering Grounds starting on Thursday October 7th.

At this Fall Membership Meeting the Little River Casino Resort will give an update on the renovation work being done at LRCR. Several governmental departments will give information on changes within the departments.

We currently have several projects in the works for economic development and should have some new information on several of the projects both in Muskegon and Manistee.

Until next month...

Larry Romanelli

General Manager's Message



Sometimes we forget to thank the people who actually work so hard every day to generate business revenue for our tribe. My respect and thanks goes out to the front line team members of the Little River Casino Resort. They are the ones who truly make everything happen, tribal and non-tribal folk alike.

Sometimes we forget to acknowledge and thank our non-tribal team members for what they do for us, so I would like to address that issue right now.

I would like to especially thank the roughly ¾ of the workforce of LRCR who are not Native American by blood, but come to work for our tribe every day and put their hearts and souls into this tribal organization, just as if they were tribal members themselves. I want them to know that, from this tribal member, they are appreciated and

welcomed in our circle. There is a seat here for you next to me at the fire, at the feast table, and in my lodge. Your actions show that you truly support our community and our cause, and our tribal community thanks you for your superb service.

Our people traditionally included guests in our homes, in our gatherings, in our prayers, and we treated them with honor. When they work beside us, hunt and gather with us, sing songs and join our dances, then they are also a part of us. This is community.

A community is built on the sweat and hard work of the people, whatever their color, height, abilities, handicaps, or politics. Thank

you to all of those tribal and non-tribal people who come together in unity to be one team at LRCR, joined together in purpose, moving in the same direction. That is what the essence of the word "tribe" means, deep at its core.

A community is made up of those people who live and work with you, the people who spend time with you, those who laugh, cry and share their lives with you, for good or bad.

Look around at the faces you see on a daily basis. These people are the members of your community. Recognize them for their similarities, their shared visions, and even for their differences.

Ron Pete

Together we are strong and divided we are weak.

Thank you LRCR team members for all that you do!

Council News

Worksession Attendance



Date	Work Session Title	Jessica Burger	Ron Wittenberg	Shannon Crampton	Gary DiPiazza	Virgil Johnson	Frankie Medacco	Joe Riley, II	Sandra Lewis	Marty Wabindato	Total
08/03	Government Financials	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
08/03	Enrollment Ordinance	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	8
08/04	Road Safety Audit	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	8
08/04	Sex Offender Registry		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
08/05	Valliant Study	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
08/05	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
08/05	Self Governance Advisory	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
08/10	Building Sovereign Nations	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	7
08/10	Agenda Review	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	7
08/10	Budget & Appropriations	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	7
08/11	2015 Goals		x			x	x	x	B	x	5
08/11	Round Table with Ogema	x	x			x	x	x	B	x	6
08/11	Phase II Sewer	x	x			x	x	x	B	x	6
08/13	Audits		x		x	x	x	x	B	x	6
08/13	Wells Fargo	x	x		x	x	x	x	B	x	7
08/14	Government Financials		x	x	x	x	x	x	V	x	7
08/14	IT Organizational Chart		x	x	x	x	x	x	V	x	7
08/17	Strategic Planning		x		x	x	x	x	x		6
08/17	Agenda Review	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		7
08/17	Commerce Commission	x	x		x	x	x		x		6
08/18	Proposal	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	7
08/18	Natural Resource Org Chart	x	x		x		x	x	x		6
08/24	Agenda Review	*	x		x	x	x		*	x	5
08/24	Valliant Study	*	x		x	x	x		*	x	5
08/25	Lenz Balder	*	x		x	x	x	x	*		5
08/25	Round Table with Ogema	*	x		x	x	x	x	*		5
08/27	44 North		x			x	x				3
08/27	Adamczak Case	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		7
08/28	LRCR Board of Directors	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		7
08/31	Government Financials	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		7
08/31	Commerce Department	x	x		x	x	x				5
08/31	Pharmacy	x	x		x	x	x	x			6
	Total number of Work Sessions - 32	21	32	8	27	27	31	27	18	20	

* - Business Related

B - Bereavement

V = Vacation

Council News

Worksession Attendance

Date	Work Session Title	Jessica Burger	Ron Wittenberg	Shannon Crampton	Gary DiPiazza	Virgil Johnson	Frankie Medacco	Joe Riley, II	Sandra Lewis	Marty Wabindato	Total
07/06	Contracting Ordinance		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	7
07/06	Elders Insurance		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	7
07/06	Agenda Review		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	7
07/06	Fire Lodge		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	7
07/07	Planning Department		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
07/07	Valliant Presentation		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
07/07	Madigan Insurance		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
07/09	Gaming Authority		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	7
07/10	Housing		x	x		x		x	x	x	6
07/10	Constitutional Amendments		x	x		x		x	x	x	6
07/13	Agenda Review	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	8
07/14	Contracting Ordinance		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
07/14	Round Table w/ Ogema		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
07/14	2015 Goals		x	x	x	x	*	x	x	x	7
07/20	Valliant Compensation Level		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		7
07/20	Employee Manual	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		8
07/20	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		8
07/21	Contracting Ordinance	x	x	V	x	*	x	x	x	x	7
07/22	HIPPA Training	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
07/23	Comptroller General				x	x	x	x		x	5
07/24	Foster Care Payments		x			V	x	x		x	4
07/27	Environmental Study	x			x	x	x	x			5
07/27	Agenda Review	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	8
07/30	Child Care Fund		x		x	x		x	x		5
07/30	Audits		x		x	x		x	x		5
	Total number of Work Sessions - 25	7	23	14	21	23	20	25	18	19	

V = Vacation

B - Bereavement

* - Business Related



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
2015 Fall Membership Meeting

Fall Membership Meeting takes place on October 10th at the
Little River Casino Resort

The Ogema's Meet and Greet on October 9th at 7:00PM held in
one of the Three Fires Rooms at the Resort.

Perseverance ♦ Drive ♣ Commitment ♥ Mentorship ♠ Professionalism

In the July issue of the Currents, it was noted that Connie Waitner had been recognized as one of the 2014 Great Women of Gaming, Proven Leaders Award winners. Here is the article about Connie that appeared in the Magazine.



AGM Connie Waitner with LRCR G.M. Ron Pete

Great Women of Gaming Proven Leader Connie Waitner's ability to connect the dots has served her well as both tribal member and hands-on executive at the Little River Casino Resort. "Beginning with a single puzzle piece that led to an archeological dig at ancestral gathering grounds, Connie worked actively to record the history of the Little River Band [of Ottawa Indians]," according to a biography submitted with her awards nomination. "Her decadelong service on an historical committee helped produce the tribe's biographical volume, *Our People, Our Journey*. It was during this process that she became involved in the governmental work that led to her first taste of the gaming industry."

During that time, she and a small group of tribal members worked to gain federal reaffirmation for the tribe. Following the tribe's reaffirmation in 1994, Waitner was integral in writing the tribe's first gaming ordinance in 1997. She served on the tribal gaming commission and was later elected to the tribal council. After serving on the council, she took a full-time position with the resort as compliance manager, and was named director of compliance in 2007, a job she held until her promotion about three months ago to assistant general manager of the casino resort.

Along the way, Waitner has earned the respect of co-workers and peers with the resort and tribe. "Connie's career really started to progress when

she joined the management team of the resort," former Little Creek Casino Resort General Manager Wendell Long wrote in a letter in support of her nomination. "Connie is a true industry leader, although she doesn't need a category exclusively for women in order to be a winner." Long predicted Waitner will earn a promotion to general manager within two years.

Austen Brauker, organization development manager for the Manistee, Mich. resort, called Waitner one of the kindest people he's ever met. "Over the years, I have watched Connie actively work within our community (both workplace and tribal) to promote programs for youth, for elders and for employees needing assistance," Brauker said in his recommendation letter.

Waitner, he said, exemplifies true leadership. "She walks the walk and sets a positive example. She shares her wisdom with others and develops her team members to be the best that they can be," Brauker said. "Connie's caring demeanor is well known, but at the same time, she is extremely strong and decisive, able to manage and direct others in a manner that respects them as people and acknowledges their humanity... People want to perform for her because she earns their trust and confidence. She creates an atmosphere where the team is able to take pride in the work that they do."

Learning to be firm and fair and holding team members accountable for their actions or inactions has been challenging, Waitner said. "I was always considered to be too nice and caring," she said. "What I have found is that you can apply all of these and still be firm and fair with everyone." Waitner said she is honored to be named a Great Women of Gaming Proven Leader. "It is a wonderful and grateful experience to find out other team members recognized my accomplishments and thought enough of me to take the time to send in the nomination," she said. Waitner was attracted by the entertainment aspect of the industry, "as gaming machines, table games, casino hosts, different restaurants, music, gift shops all become part of a serious sales opportunity," she said. "It is like a big puzzle you put together one piece at a time until you see the big picture." She also appreciates the fact that the industry is continually changing and challenging. "Ever-changing technology and the day-to-day impact on compliance and regulatory issues keeps the industry moving. You need to stay in touch with the

experts just to keep in pace with everyone else," Waitner said.

One of her proudest accomplishments while serving as director of compliance was her effort to streamline policies and procedures for the resort and also to build a strong working relationship with the gaming commission. "I'm very proud of this because team members need to understand we put structure in place for their protection."

She acknowledged that it can be difficult for women to break into the gaming industry and get recognized as experts in their respective fields. "I believe in transparency and integrity; with that said, you prove yourself in order to develop credibility with management and frontline team members. I've managed to accomplish this by proving time after time I'm good at what I do."

On the personal side, Waitner counts her 45-year marriage and raising her family as her proudest achievements. "Staying married to the love of my life for 45 years, raising two girls and one boy, watching my nine grandchildren grow up (sometimes not an easy thing to watch) and now spending my time with my great-grandson Zaine are my personal pride and joy," she said. "My family's love, support and encouragement to succeed at whatever I set out to do keep me going every day."

Aspiring women seeking a successful career in gaming can learn a thing or two from Waitner. She offered a wealth of tips, starting with the importance of listening closely, keeping up with the trends, learning from ongoing education and life experiences, and being firm and fair with everyone.

Another tip to keep top of mind, she said, is to "take the time to get to know your team members, frontline and management." "It really is important to understand everyone has challenges in their lives and this affects the day-to-day running of the operation. Knowing tidbits about team member roles can help you make a day better for someone," Waitner said. "Always remember, we are in the gaming business, and we need to strive to provide the best customer service experience for our gamers and guests."

We started our little business December 1 2012 and what a rewarding experience it has been for all of us. Learning how to run a non-profit business is an experience and we have learned so many things along the way and we have gained so many friends.

First of all let me share with you a very personal moment that I had about a year after my Daughter walked on into the Spirit World. I had a dream about her and in this dream we were visiting at our cabin. We were laughing and having a good visit and then I had to leave and before I left she suggested that I start going to Craft Shows. Now I have never been to a Craft Show, I have heard about them but that was it. So after I awoke from my dream I called my wife at work and told her about my dream and then she told me that she was waiting on a couple that attend Craft Shows and that she would try to get information from them. My wife came home names and telephone numbers of people to contact about the shows.

I began to call these people about who we are and about Distant Hugs, having a website really helped. I started going to the shows in October of 2013, what an experience, all good. I remember the first show that I went to, I set up my table on a Friday evening, the show was on Saturday but I set up backwards. I was facing the wrong way so I quickly turned my table around. My first customers were two elderly ladies so they read my story that we have in the bag where the scarves are in. They both started crying because they were moved by it. I did not know how to react but to give them a big hug. I told my wife what had happened and do you know what she did, she went and got me two boxes of tissues. She said "it will happen again."

So now Distant Hugs is at a craft show almost every weekend beginning in October to December. Right now we go as far North as Indian River and South to the Sleigh Bell Craft Show here in Manistee. Some stores and restaurants carry our scarves in Traverse City and surrounding area and some of the Casinos have them in their gift shops. We have sent scarves all over the United States and parts of Canada at the request of our customers.

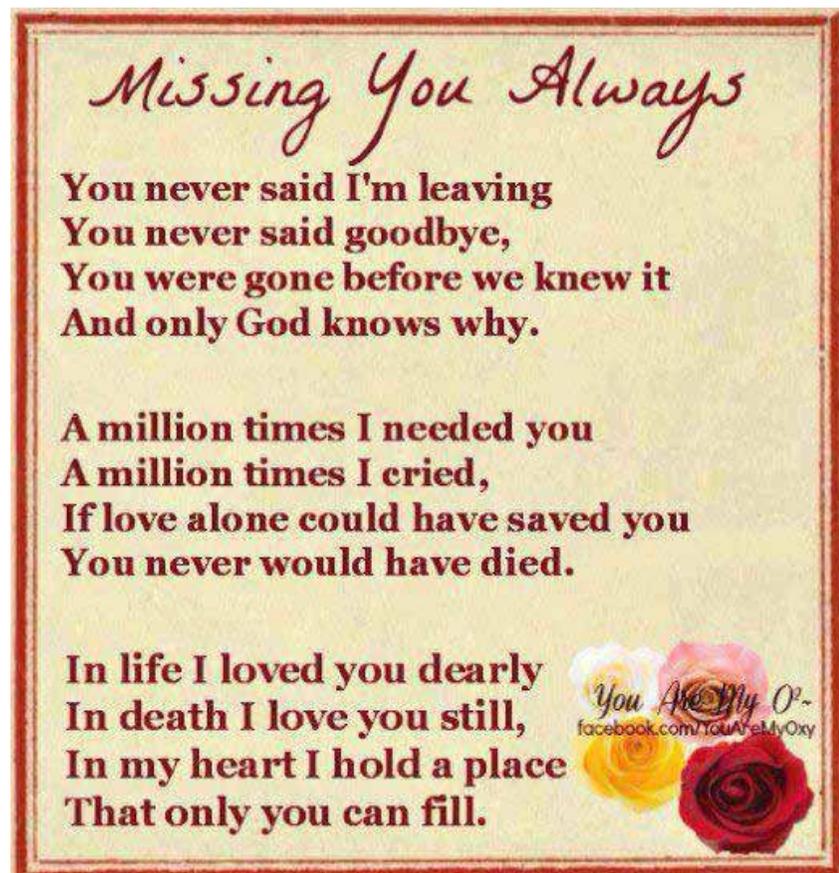
Let me share some of the experiences that have happened along the way. I have been asked to speak at conferences and gatherings and support groups about how I am dealing of my healing. It is so rewarding that my message can help people with their problems. A woman walked up to my table and said to me "you have grown, that is good to see and then she said Distant Hugs is not just a business but it is a mission" I taught What complement from a someone that I did not know. A group of people came to my table and read my story and they all bought Christmas presents for their grandchildren and then one of said "Don't ever stop doing this, we need this type of message in our communities." Now at another show a vendor came over and read my story and she started getting teary eyed and then she told me that she lost a daughter also, so later I asked her what month her daughter was born to find out which birthstone she had so she told me and I only had one more scarf in that color so I gave it to her. At another show another vendor saw my scarves and told me "What a great concept". Then she laid about four scarves on the floor and took pictures of them using her phone, she wanted to know which colors her kids wanted,

they were away at Colleges, she came back a few hours later and bought her kids scarves. Oh, we have expanded a little, we now have sweat shirts and hoodies with a scarf embroidered on it with the words Distant Hugs on it. These are not on the website yet.

We were all very emotional when we started this business, we did not know how it would be accepted in the communities. People tell me and send me letters of how they appreciate the message of love and sharing and brings a strong bond within a family. I acted on the love for my daughter that day that I sent her a scarf a few years ago. I know that I will never get over it but now it is a little easier to talk about it. Call your child today and listen to their voice, I can never hear my daughter's voice in this physical world again. I say thank you to everyone that have supported Distant Hugs, we deeply appreciate the support. Miigwech for taking the time to read my story.

Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant
www.DistantHugs.com

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Tax-exempt motor fuel monthly limit is 175 gallons per Tribal member.

Tax-exempt cigarette monthly limit is 25 packs per Tribal member, beginning June 1, 2014.

So you want to be a Resident Tribal Member

The Tribe, together with other Michigan Tribes, negotiated a Tax Agreement with the State of Michigan to resolve legal questions regarding the taxing authority of the State and the Tribe, and the extent to which the Tribe, Tribal and Tribal member-owned businesses, and Tribal members are immune (or exempt) from various state taxes.

Only Tribal members who have Resident Tribal Member status are exempt from Michigan non-business income taxes and are eligible for the Resident Tribal Member Annual Sales Tax Credit or the sales tax exemptions on utilities, vehicles, construction materials and other enumerated items per the Tax Agreement.

If you live within the tax agreement area and have not filed a completed Proof of Residency Form with the Tax Office, your eligibility to claim and receive exemption from the state taxes covered by the Tax Agreement may be denied. Resident Tribal Member status is established on the 1st day of the following month from which the Tribe has received the Tribal member's Proof of Residency Form with required documentation. Additional Proof of Residency forms are available at the Tax Office. Phone 231-723-8288 ext. 6874.

Beware of multiple residency exemptions

If you occupy more than one home, be aware that only the home you physically occupy qualifies you for Resident Tribal Member status. Some home owners try to use one home as the "principal residence" for property tax purposes, and another home as the "physical residence" for Resident Tribal Member (RTM) purposes. Computer technology has made it possible for government agencies to match information and determine if residency tax exemptions are being taken for multiple addresses. Costly penalties and interest may be applied when a tax assessment is issued for incorrectly reporting your principal residence.



Fall Home Maintenance Checklist

Fall is just around the corner: time to get your house in shape for the cooler months ahead. Although autumn can be one of the busiest seasons for homeowners preparing for winter, it's also the best time to take advantage of the moderate weather to repair any damages before the first frost sets in. Here are some home maintenance ideas that will keep your home running in peak condition all winter long.

EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE

Check foundation for cracks and caulk around the areas where masonry meets siding, where pipes or wires enter the house, and around the windows and door frames to prevent heat from escaping. "Caulking and sealing openings is one of the least expensive maintenance jobs," says Michael Hydeck, Hydeck Design Build, Inc., Telford, PA, and National President, National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). "Openings in the structure can cause water to get in and freeze, resulting in cracks and mold build up," he says. "Regardless of whether you live in a cold or warm climate, winter can bring very harsh conditions resulting in water or ice damage. A careful check of the outside structure combined with inexpensive maintenance can save you money in the long run." Install storm windows and doors and remove screens. Before storing, clean and repair screens, spray with a protective coating and place in a dry area of the basement or garage.



BRING AWARENESS AND PROVIDE SUPPORT



Come Walk with us and Show your Support

Free T-shirt for Registered Walkers

5:30 Registration (no fee)

MEET AT VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK GAZEBO

WALK ENDS MANISTEE SENIOR CENTER.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND SPEAKER

~~ KAREN MARSHALL ~~

OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

SHARES HER STORY AND BRINGS

AWARENESS TO THIS EPIDEMIC

*Door
Prizes*



*Valuable
Resources*

Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for older Americans. Falls threaten seniors' safety and independence and generate enormous economic and personal costs. However, falling is not an inevitable result of aging. Through practical lifestyle adjustments, evidence-based falls prevention programs, and clinical-community partnerships, the number of falls among seniors can be substantially reduced.

Take Control of Your Health: 6 Steps to Prevent a Fall

Every 15 seconds, an older adult is seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury.

Sept. 23 is Falls Prevention Awareness Day.
Stay safe with these tips!

1

Find a good balance and exercise program

Look to build balance, strength, and flexibility. Contact your local Area Agency on Aging for referrals. Find a program you like and take a friend.



2

Talk to your health care provider

Ask for an assessment of your risk of falling. Share your history of recent falls.



3

Regularly review your medications with your doctor or pharmacist

Make sure side effects aren't increasing your risk of falling. Take medications only as prescribed.



4

Get your vision and hearing checked annually and update your eyeglasses

Your eyes and ears are key to keeping you on your feet.



5

Keep your home safe

Remove tripping hazards, increase lighting, make stairs safe, and install grab bars in key areas.



6

Talk to your family members

Enlist their support in taking simple steps to stay safe. Falls are not just a seniors' issue.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Elder Programs.

Elder Meal Program (Title VI)

This program provides nutrition, social interaction and supportive services to Tribal Elder Members. The service will be provided at the Aki Community Center where a nutritious meal will be served and activities and informational presentations will be provided. Over the phone intake is available to Tribal Elders interested in participating in this important and beneficial event. The intake process takes approximately 5 minutes to complete. When attending the first meal you will complete the registration process and will only have to do this one time. Please call the Members Assistance Department at toll free 888-723-8288 anytime during normal business hours.

Elder Chore Assistance Program

The Elder Chore Assistance Program is designed to provide limited assistance for elder chore services as identified in the categories in this section. This program is not intended to be a complete resource for elder chore assistance. All chore services must be documented on the Elder Chore List of Services Rendered form.

Chapter 6 - Elder Chore Assistance

Program Regulations

- Snow Removal from drive way and sidewalks
- Weather stripping around doors and windows
- Grass cutting, leaf raking and removal, general clearing of debris around home
- Gutter cleaning
- General cleaning of the household including but not limited to dusting and cob web removal, vacuuming, trash removal, bathroom cleaning of toilets and water closets, dishwashing, laundry, scrubbing floors and walls, cleaning of appliances, washing windows, stripping and making of beds
- Circumstances that are outside the scope of items listed may be applicable to the program scope only if left un-serviced poses a threat to the health and safety of the elder.

**Please call the
Members Assistance Department at
toll free 888-723-8288 anytime
during normal business hours.**

It was definitely August recess for the US Congress! Senator Debbie Stabenow visited Manistee for several meetings, including one with LRBOI tribal participation regarding economic growth for the area; Senator Gary Peters has a special tribal meeting with us and Congressman Dan Benishek and Congressman Bill Huizenga held an area get-together regarding economic development for Manistee.

Senator Stabenow came to town bearing gifts with a check (grant) for \$25,000 to the Alliance for Economic Success (AES) of Manistee. In a private chat at the Ramsdell Inn with economic and political leaders (including Ogema Larry Romanelli, BIA Roads Planner Steve Parsons and Commerce's Tom St. Dennis) she solicited viewpoints on what concerns were facing the area.

Senator Gary Peters, at the behest of our lobbying firm Scofes & Associates), spent several hours at LRBOI gaining tribal perspective on numerous issues. He started at the Grand River Room where he met with Ogema Romanelli, Tribal Council speaker Johnson, Council members Burger, Crampton, Lewis, Medacco and from United Tribes of Michigan, Executive Director Frank Ettawageshik and his wife Rochelle. Following this lengthy discussion, the Senator toured the LRBOI Government Center.

Congressmen Benishek and Huizenga held a meeting at the city Marina to accomplish much of the same fact-finding. A number of tribal officials including Ogema Romanelli and Speaker Parsons participated in that meeting as well. Senator Peters also visited the LRBOI Government Center.



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Clinton signs bill to recognize local tribe

Reprint from September 2007 Currents



As we approach the celebration of our tribes' reaffirmation, the Currents staff and the Historical Department wanted to share this 1994 historical article about that special event with you.



President Bill Clinton was scheduled to sign a bill today that reaffirmed the federal status of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and two other Michigan tribes. Dan Bailey, the chairman of the board of directors for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, which is based in Manistee, was invited to the white House as the representative of the tribe.

“We never anticipated that there would actually be a signing ceremony in the White House,” said Mark Dougher, executive director of the tribe.

Dougher expressed disappointment that Bailey was the only member of the tribe invited to the ceremony. Others were deserving of the experience, he said, including Katherine Sams Glocheski, former of the tribe’s board of directors, and Margaret Chandler, a member of the board of directors.

“These are two people that have earned that right to go,” Dougher said. “It would’ve been nice to send a whole busload of people.

The president was scheduled today to sign into law two bills which reaffirm the federal status of three tribes – one for the Little River Band and the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians and another for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.

Dougher said he thought the ceremony, which included a representative from each tribe, was precedent setting. “I don’t think there’s ever been an Ottawa Indian that’s been personally invited to the White House for an issue that affects the Ottawa people,” said Dougher.

A Sense of Relief

The bill for the Little River and the Little Traverse Band passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Aug. 3. The companion bill passed the Senate on May 25.

Dougher found out about the signing ceremony of Friday.

He was asked how he felt when he heard the news.

“I felt more a sense of relief. We’ve been biding our time wondering when the President was going to sign it.”

The reason for reaffirmation was outlined in a speech U.S. Rep. Dale Kildee, D-Flint, gave before the U.S. House of Representatives on June 10, 1993.

“...Historical documentation proves that these tribes have, in fact, had formal government-government relations from the times Americans first entered the Great Lakes Region to the present,” Kildee said. “It is simply the legal status of that relationship that we seek to reaffirm through this legislation.

“...Federal Indian services guaranteed them were either never provided or were gradually withdrawn. The tribes have continued to petition the federal government of recognition and enforcement of these rights....”

The United States government and Ottawa bands entered into five treaties, the last of which was signed in 1855.

“By virtue of the fact that the federal government was negotiating a treaty with the Ottawa Indians means that the federal government recognized the Ottawa Indians as a distinct nation of people,” said Dougher. “The Ottawa have contended that they were always recognized. Because they had a treaty and that never was altered.

“We are asking that Congress reaffirm that these are federally recognized tribes.”



A New Chapter

When The president does sign the bill into law, what will this mean for the Little River Band?
“Historically, it will mean vindication,” said Dougher. “It’s vindication of Ottawa treaty rights.”
Dougher said that when the bill is signed, a new chapter will begin for the tribe.
“It’s taken 120 years to get this matter resolved,” he said. “Now a whole new phase of work begins. And that concerns the governing of the tribe in the modern age”

For non-Indians in the area, how will federal recognition affect them? “As the tribe evolves there will be job opportunities,” said Dougher. “The non-Indian community will benefit from that just as the Indian community will.”

Once the bill becomes law, the tribe’s present board and its officers will serve as the interim tribal council. The voting membership will elect a new tribal council after the tribal membership and constitution are approved.

Dougher said that the tribe has received membership applications from about 500 eligible people. About 400 of the applicants reside in the tribe’s service level – Mason, Manistee, Lake, and Wexford counties.

Eligibility for the tribe is based on one’s ancestry. Dougher estimated that membership would peak at about 700 to 800 people. Legislation provides that the tribe has up to 18 months to complete the tribal membership roll.
It also states that no later than 24 months after the bill is enacted, the eligible tribal membership will vote on the adoption of the tribe’s constitution. Within six months after the constitution is ratified by the membership, voters will elect a new tribal council.



Future Plans

In November, the tribe will begin the work of developing a 10-year strategic plan. Dougher said that he thinks that children and the elderly should be given primary consideration when the tribe plans future programs.

He added that he feels the tribe’s economic development efforts should be in varied fields. “I would hope that they wouldn’t build an economic base on one industry,” said Dougher. The tribe will be seeking appropriations from Congress to purchase land which is appropriate for construction of offices, a community center, a health clinic, and homes.

Dougher said that there isn’t going to be a windfall on money to provide services for the tribe. “It’s going to be incremental,” he said. “It’s going to be sufficient to provide for some needs of the tribal community.”
Dougher said that when President Clinton signs the bill into law, excitement won’t be the only emotion that members feel. “There’s sadness too, because there’s a lot of elders that have died in the past few years,” he said. “I wish they could have lived long enough to see this happen.”

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians **Fall Fire & Anishinaabe Lifeways Teachings**

October 7-10, 2015

Tribal Gathering Grounds Fire Lodge

Behind Little River Trading Post gas station in Manistee, MI

Each day will start with a Sunrise Ceremony and teachings will be held throughout the day. The Fire will be kept throughout the night.

Everyone is welcomed to attend!



For information, please call 1-888-723-8288
Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Agenda

Wednesday, October 7th

Agenda is subject to change as necessary

*Location for each session is at the Gathering Grounds Fire Lodge unless noted

Time

Sunrise Lighting of the Sacred Fall Fire and Pwaaganak Sunrise Ceremonies

(6:15 am) Presenters: George Martin, Jack Chambers & Brian Matrious (All Pwaaganak Nini and Kwe are welcomed and encouraged to come and participate in this ceremony to start the Sacred Fire and Anishinaabe Lifeways Teachings in a good way.)

Water Ceremony Presenters: Michelle Reyna, Janine Sam & Merri Medawis (All Kwe are invited and encouraged to participate.)

Morning Honor Songs (All community singers [men & women] are invited to bring their hand drums and sing.)

8:00 am Breakfast (Gathering Grounds Pavilion)

9:30 am Our Sacred Fires – Topics of discussions will include:

- Why we have the Fire?
- Who takes care of these Fires?
- Who gives the right and teachings to keep these Sacred Fires?
- What preparations do we make before starting the Fires?
- Are the Fires lit for everyone?
- Are there different kinds of Sacred Fires?
- Do women keep Sacred Fires?
- Who is responsible for organizing Sacred Fires when they are needed?

All presenters and invited guests will offer their teachings. All participants are encouraged to participate with their knowledge.

10:45 am Break

11:00 am Our Sacred Fires (continued)

12:00 pm Lunch (At Aki Maadiziwin Community Center with our Elders)

1:30 pm Our Four Sacred Medicines – Topics of discussion will include:

- How do we use the medicines?
- Who should gather the medicines?
- When is the best time to gather the medicines?
- Why we should always have these medicines available.

All presenters and invited guests will offer their teachings. All participants are encouraged to participate with their knowledge.

3:15 pm Break

3:30 pm How Traditional Teachings, Instructions, and Stories Impact Our Community

All presenters and invited guests will offer their teachings. All participants are encouraged to participate with their knowledge

5:30 pm Community Feast – All community members should bring a dish to pass and share in the fellowship. (At Aki Maadiziwin Community Center)

Closing Songs for the Day (All community singers [men & women] are invited to bring their hand drums and sing.)

Everyone is welcomed to attend at any time and share their teachings and knowledge.

Please come with a good heart and good intentions for a good outcome.

Firekeepers: Sunrise – Sundown (Philip Memberto, Gary DiPiazza & Gabriel Memberto)

Sundown – Sunrise (James Beard & TBA*)

***We are asking Fire Keepers to come forward and help whenever they are able; please contact Jay Sam (231-723-8288, ext. 6893) to sign up for a time slot.**

Thursday, October 8th

Agenda is subject to change as necessary

*Location for each session is at the Gathering Grounds Fire Lodge unless noted\

Time

Sunrise Pwaaganak Sunrise Ceremonies

(6:15 am) Presenters: George Martin, Jack Chambers, Brian Matrious & Clarence Syrette (All Pwaaganak Nini and Kwe are welcomed and encouraged to come and participate in this beautiful ceremony.)

Water Ceremony Presenters: Punkin Shananaquet, Michelle Reyna, Janine Sam & Merri Medawis (All Kwe are invited and encouraged to participate.)

Agenda

Thursday, October 8th

Morning Honor Songs (All community singers [men & women] are invited to bring their hand drums and sing.)

8:00 am Breakfast (At Aki Maadiziwin Community Center)

9:45 am Women's and Men's Teachings – Topics of discussion will include:

- Skirt Teachings
- Moon Ceremony Teachings and preparations
- Who tends the Women's Fire?
- Why do we have these types of Ceremonies?
- Water Ceremonies and why we have them
- Pipe Ceremonies
- Importance of teaching our young ones these Ceremonies

All presenters and invited guests will offer their teachings. All participants are encouraged to participate with their knowledge.

10:45 am Break

11:00 am Women's and Men's Teachings (continued)

12:00 pm Lunch (At Aki Maadiziwin Community Center with our Elders)

1:15 pm What are the Ceremonies and Traditions that Our Communities and Families Practice in Caring for Our Loved Ones When they Walk On (Pass Away)?

All presenters and invited guests will offer their teachings. All participants are encouraged to participate with their knowledge.

2:45 pm Break

3:00 pm What are the Ceremonies and Traditions that Our Communities and Families Practice in Caring for Our Loved Ones When they Walk On (Pass Away)? (continued)

4:00 pm Embracing Our Beautiful Anishinaabemowin Through Ceremony and Its Importance

Presenter: Brian Loney and all presenters and invited guests will offer their teachings. All participants are encouraged to participate with their knowledge.

5:30 pm All Clans Feast - All community members and Clans should bring a dish to pass and share in the fellowship. We will also spotlight some folks to speak during the meal for some humor and laughter. (At Aki Maadiziwin Community Center)

Closing Songs for the Day (All community singers [men & women] are invited to bring their hand drums and sing.)

Everyone is welcomed to attend at any time and share their teachings and knowledge.

Please come with a good heart & good intentions for a good outcome.

Firekeepers: Sunrise – Sundown (Philip Memberto & Gabriel Memberto)

Sundown – Sunrise (James Beard & TBA*)

*We are asking Fire Keepers to come forward and help whenever they are able; please contact Jay Sam (231-723-8288, ext. 6893) to sign up for a time slot.



Friday, October 9th



Agenda is subject to change as necessary

*Location for each session is at the Gathering Grounds Fire Lodge unless noted

Time

Sunrise Pwaaganak Sunrise Ceremonies

(6:15 am) Presenters: George Martin, Jack Chambers, Brian Matrious & Clarence Syrette (All Pwaaganak Nini and Kwe are welcomed and encouraged to come and participate in this beautiful ceremony.)

Water Ceremony Presenters: Punkin Shanaquet, Michelle Reyna, Renee Diehlman, Janine Sam & Merri Medawis (All Kwe are invited and encouraged to participate.)

Morning Honor Songs (All community singers [men & women] are invited to bring their hand drums and sing.)

8:00 am Breakfast (At Aki Maadiziwin Community Center)

9:15 am Clans and Clan Colors – This teaching will take place under the Gathering Grounds pavilion near the Fire Lodge. We will also be making Clan Color pins. This is a great interactive teaching for all ages and families. Presenters: Dave & Punkin Shanaquet and all presenters and invited guests will offer their teachings. All participants are encouraged to participate with their knowledge.

10:45 am Break

Friday, October 9th

11:00 am Embracing Our Beautiful Anishinaabemowin Through Ceremony and Its Importance

Presenter: Brian Loney and all presenters and invited guests will offer their teachings. All participants are encouraged to participate with their knowledge.

12:15 pm Lunch (At the Gathering Grounds pavilion)

1:15 pm General Talking Circle – All participants will be able to ask questions, share teachings, and provide feedback from the Teachings that have provided during this time.

3:30 pm Break

5:15 pm Wedding Feast – Everyone is welcomed to attend and celebrate (At Aki Maadiziwin Community Center)

Everyone is welcomed to attend at any time and share their teachings and knowledge.

Please come with a good heart & good intentions for a good outcome.

Firekeepers: Sunrise – Sundown (Philip Memberto, Gabriel Memberto & TBA*)

Sundown – Sunrise (James Beard & TBA*)

*We are asking Fire Keepers to come forward and help whenever they are able; please contact Jay Sam (231-723-8288, ext. 6893) to sign up for a time slot.



Saturday, October 10th

Agenda is subject to change as necessary

*Location for each session is at the Gathering Grounds Fire Lodge unless noted

Time

Sunrise Pwaaganak Sunrise Ceremonies

(6:15 am) Presenters: (All Pwaaganak Nini and Kwe are welcomed and encouraged to come and participate in this beautiful ceremony.)

Water Ceremony Presenters: (All Kwe are invited and encouraged to participate.)

Morning Honor Songs (All community singers [men & women] are invited to bring their hand drums and sing.)

8:00 am Breakfast (At Gathering Grounds Pavilion)

9:00 am Fellowship and offerings for the Membership Meeting

10:00 am Membership Meeting Opening Ceremonies (At LRCR Makwa Endaat)

12:00 pm Lunch (at LRCR Makwa Endaat)

1:00 pm Fellowship (Meeting to follow lunch at LRCR Makwa Endaat)

Fire extinguished after the Membership Meeting

Everyone is welcomed to attend at any time and share their teachings and knowledge.

Please come with a good heart & good intentions for a good outcome.

Firekeepers: Sunrise – Sundown (Rueben Ramone & TBA*)

*We are asking Fire Keepers to come forward and help whenever they are able; please contact Jay Sam (231-723-8288, ext. 6893) to sign up for a time slot.

Commission Openings!

Even though most committee positions have been filled, the tribe continues to seek applications from qualified members interested in serving upon the Commerce, Gaming, Housing, Binojeeuk, Enrollment, Health and Natural Resources Commissions.

Ogema Romanelli is building a pool of tribal members who are interested in sitting on a Commission. Members are invited to submit letters of interest along with why they would like to be on the Commissions and what skills or knowledge they bring to the group. Applicants will need to submit a commission application along with your letter of interest. You will need to contact our office to get an application and will need to submit both in order to be considered.

Please send the letter and application to the attention of Executive Assistant, Mary Thomas, Office of the Ogema, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI 49660.

Tribal Members from Outside the 9 county area are also invited to apply.

Government Closes for the following Holidays

- *New Years Day
- *Treaty Recognition Day
- *Memorial Day
- *Independence Day
- *Labor Day
- *Reaffirmation Day (Sept. 21st)
- *Veteran's Day
- *Thanksgiving Day
- *Friday after Thanksgiving Day
- *Christmas Eve Day (Half Day)
- *Christmas Day

Just use the toll-free number 888.723.8288.
Some areas of the government will be continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety.

Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of the Government facilities.
It's always a good idea to call first.

Casino Employment

Check out the new Employment Opportunities tab on the tribal website at

<https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/index.php/resources/employment>

Our new preference ordinance is there along with links to website and job opportunities. All in one place for your convenience! Check out the exciting opportunities that await you at the Little River Casino Resort. There are many ways to apply. Log onto our Website at www.LRCR.com and click on Careers. Call our Human Resources Department at (231) 723-4530. Stop by our Human Resources Department located at 2700 Orchard Hwy Manistee, MI

Monday – Friday 7am-5pm

Send your Application, Resume and Cover letter to:

Little River Casino Resort
Attn: Recruiting P.O. Box 417
Manistee, MI 49660

Phone: (231) 723-4530 · Fax: (231) 723-1589

Email: recruiting@lrcr.com

Available job openings can also be found at all LRBOI Tribal Government buildings, in LRBOI Tribal Newsletters and at Michigan Works!

Tribal Preference will be followed in accordance with the LRBOI- Indian Preference in Employment (Ordinance #11-600-02)

LRBOI Warriors Society

The Committee consist of the following:



Commander- John Shano

Vice Commander- Vacant

Secretary - Virgil Johnson

Treasure - Vacant

Sargent of Arms -Chuck Nelson

Chaplin- Bill Willis

The Warrior Society is ever looking
For Tribal Member Warriors to honor and support
If you or someone you know would like to attend any
meetings, events, or join, please contact
allWarriorSociety@lrboi.com

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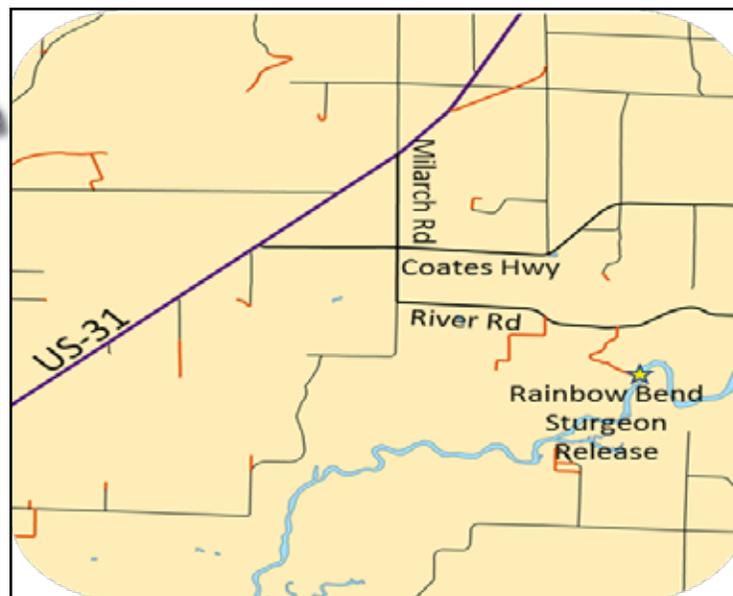


THE LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO ASSIST IN RELEASING YOUNG LAKE STURGEON. THE 12TH annual Nmé (Lake Sturgeon) Release Ceremony will be Saturday, September 12th, 2015 from 1-2:30 pm. The release will be held at the first ever Streamside Rearing Facility, located at the U.S. Forest Service Rainbow Bend access site on the Big Manistee River.



September 12th 2015

Rainbow Bend Launch on the Big Manistee



Events

- 1:00 – Sturgeon Viewing
- 2:00 – Release Ceremony
- 2:30 – Fish Released

Activities will include

- Children's Activity area
- Tours of the rearing facility
- Give-a-way items

For more information please call the LRBOI Natural Resources Department at 231-723-1594.



Members Submissions

As in any community, mutual respect and cooperation are key elements to success.

Our Community consists of people from different places, cultures, and beliefs.

Please write your submissions in a respectful manner. Be straightforward and sincere, and assume good faith.

Avoid personal insults, verbal attacks and generally disrespectful, offensive, or abusive messages as these will be either edited or deleted.

Your Name:

Date:

Category:

https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/images/docs/public-affairs/docs/LRBOI_Hunters_Submissions.pdf

EXAMPLE

We would love to share photo's and memories with our tribal community.
If you would like to share please click on the e-mail submit button.

Submit by Email

https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/images/docs/public-affairs/docs/LRBOI_Hunters_Submissions.pdf



The Little River Casino Resort is providing monthly updates on the exciting renovation currently taking place in Manistee. Here is the August update:

“The summer certainly is flying by and our Big FUTURE renovation is flying along as well. Isn’t it exciting?”

Our new pylon road-sign is currently being built and scheduled to arrive late this summer. Can you just see how great it will look?

In progress, we have the Spa & Salon Construction. This new building will house an indoor and outdoor pool as well as a full service salon and spa. These elegantly casual amenities are scheduled for completion in December. Just in time to get relaxed and beautified for the holidays! Doesn’t that sound like a great gift to give?

Also in progress is the old 2020 room, which is becoming a women’s restroom. Just to the other side of this renovation construction is the old popcorn area, which is being renovated and will include new office space for Marketing’s Tour & Travel department. Won’t that be nice for our guests?

Around the corner, the Sports Bar renovation is scheduled to begin on August 20. External construction will begin that day and the internal construction will begin in September. Our Grove will be open for the Labor Day holiday. Can you envision enjoying a great burger while watching your favorite team?

The buffet will receive a renovation face-lift and that is scheduled to begin on September 15. We will relocate the buffet to a temporary location in our conference center. Look for more news on the specifics in upcoming WAVE newsletters. Are you excited about the renovation, team LRCR? Are you ready for our Big FUTURE?”

Fall Crossword Puzzle

3-letter words
BAT
CAT
OWL

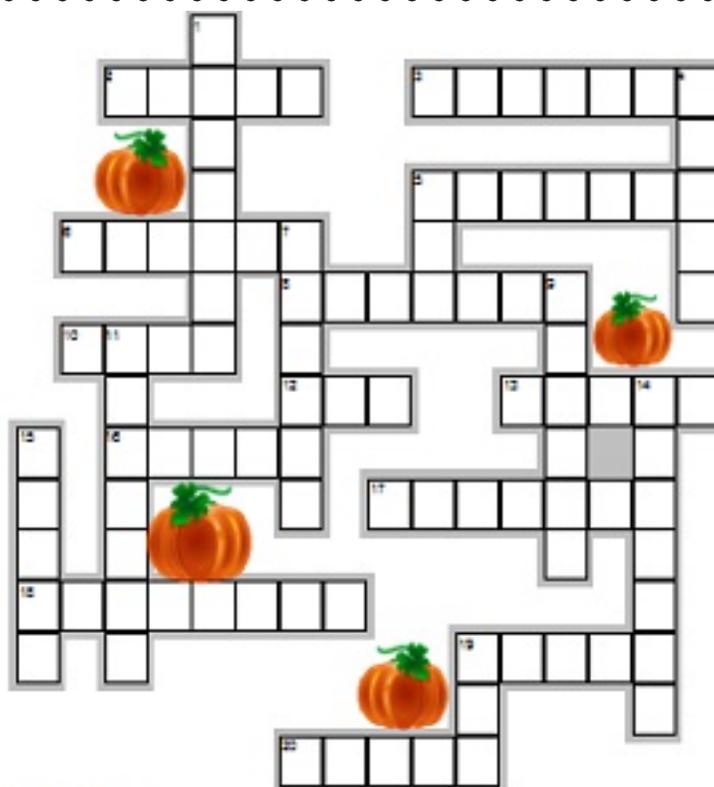
4-letter word
MOON

5-letter words
BROOM
GHOST
NIGHT
SCARY
TREAT
TRICK
WITCH

6-letter words
SPIDER
SPOOKY
SWEETS

7-letter words
CARVING
COBWEBS
COSTUME
LANTERN
OCTOBER
PARTIES
PUMPKIN

8-letter words
SKELETON



Ghost Supper

The tradition of a Ghost Supper, or Feast of the Dead or Spirit Feast, is celebrated yearly to honor our departed loved ones with a meal and remembrances. Throughout the years, changes may have been made from what some people remember long ago, but the meaning has remained the same.

According to Christian beliefs, All Soul's Day occurs on November 2nd, thus our adaptation for celebrating and honoring our loved ones at this same time. Often, families gather together to host the suppers at their private homes and so that everyone can partake, the dates are sometimes spaced apart throughout the month of November.

Community members may often attend several Ghost Suppers and each individual that attends represents a spirit.

Generally, the foods that are prepared for the feast are those most enjoyed by the departed or a dish that they were remembered for making. Most often at a Ghost Supper one can expect to find meals of fish, venison, wild rice, fry bread, corn, squash, potatoes, and other traditional staples. A ceremonial fire is lit and maintained outside at which praying and a quiet time for reflection and remembrance is customary. Prior to the feasting, a prayer is said and a plate with a little bit of every dish is prepared and offered in the fire to honor those who are no longer physically with us. Typically, this time is for remembrance and fellowship with the living and the dead.

Besides food, gifts are set out and offered so that the spirits can partake of these offerings that they may be missing. Some of these gifts may include *sema* (tobacco), *wiingash* (sweetgrass), *mshkwadewashk* (sage), and *kiishig* (cedar). Non-traditional gifts may include candy, coffee, flowers, or some other favorite item that your loved one may be missing.

Traditionally, the Ghost Supper continues until all of the food is gone and at times they have been known to go on until the early morning hours or longer. Often, native communities host a community-wide Ghost Supper at a central location, which is what we do here at Little River.

A Prayer of Thanks for Food

Ngizhemanidoom, sema ngiimiinagoo wiinamaayaan nangwaa.
Gagwejimin wiizhiwendamaan maanda miijim miinawa zhiwenmishinaang nangwaa.
Miigwech ndinaanaanik gewe wesiinhak, okaanak, bineshiinhak, miinawa giigonhik,
kinagwa gwayaa gaabigitnaamwat wiinwa bimaadiziwaan maanpii akiing niinwe wiimaadiziyaang.
Miigwech ge ndikaadami netawging miinawa maanwaang gaamiizhiyaang wiimijiyaang
wiizongziyaang nangwaa. Miigwech ngizhemanidoom miigwech.

English translation...

My creator. Tobacco was given to me to pray today.
I ask you in a good way to bless this food and to bless us today.
We say thank you to all those animals, wild and domestic, the birds and the fish.
Everyone that gave up his or her lives here upon the earth, so that we can live.
We also say thank you for the vegetables and the fruits that you have given to us,
so that we can have strength today. Thank you my creator thank you.

Are you ready for the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period?



Is your drug plan working well based on the medications that your doctor has prescribed? Are you mired down in the infamous Medicare donut hole? Have you been experiencing a lot of health care costs associated with your advantage plan? Perhaps you want to consider switching to a different drug or health plan that will give you better coverage.

September is a great time to begin thinking about all this, because the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period is just around the corner. It runs from October 15th through December 7th. This is the only time that most beneficiaries can make changes to their current Part D prescription drug plan or Medicare Advantage plan. This year there are 31 drug plans and an average of 14 advantage plans available to beneficiaries in this area. While the number of plan options can be mind boggling, having several choices makes good sense.

Medicare Part D prescription drug plans must meet certain standards, however, the premiums, co-pays, formularies, and coverage benefits in the donut hole can differ. These variables can even change within the same plan from year-to-year, making it important to compare your list of drugs to all plans to determine which will work best for you. The same is true for Medicare Advantage Plans, often referred to as Medicare Part C plans. Most of the advantage plans have combined benefits for health care and prescription drugs. Each plan will vary in premium cost, co-pays, provider network, and maximum out of pocket cost.

The annual enrollment period is also an excellent time for folks to convert from a Medicare Advantage Plan to Medigap coverage, or vice versa. There are up to 10 different Medigap plans available, each having different levels of coverage. Monthly premiums are based on plan benefits, your age, and other factors that are used in the underwriting process. Keep in mind that if you switch to a Medigap, you will need to enroll in a stand-alone Part D drug plan in order to have continuing coverage for your prescriptions.

During the month of September you can expect to receive several important notices from the company that is currently providing your coverage. For example, you will receive the Annual Notice of Change and the Evidence of Coverage. These notices will tell about the new monthly premium, individual drug costs, possible changes to the plan's drug formulary, modifications to the drug restrictions, and adjustments to the drug tier groups. A change in any of these items can result in a substantial increase in your costs. There will be about 30 Part D drug plans available again next year. This provides a great opportunity to compare the cost of your current plan to several other plan offerings that could result in cost savings. This entire process can be daunting for beneficiaries, but help is available. Counselors with the Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) can conduct a review of your drug plan during the open enrollment period and, if needed, furnish suggestions for plan alternatives. Local MMAP counselors can be reached by calling 800-803-7174. If requested, representatives will send out a prescription drug worksheet that will begin the process of the Part D plan review for 2016. It is recommended that beneficiaries begin calling MMAP in September to ensure there is sufficient time to review your Medicare plans for the upcoming year.

By: Jim Verville, Region 10 Coordinator
Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program Area Agency on Aging, Traverse City, Michigan

Commodities

Food Distribution Program (FDPIR) was created by congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households. No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and Snap Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month. Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income and resources qualification, in determining who is eligible for the program. We are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

USDA Income

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Monthly Income Standards
September 30, 2014 & October 1, 2015

Household Size	Income Limits
1.	\$ 1,128.00
2.	\$ 1,466.00
3.	\$ 1,805.00
4.	\$ 2,153.00
5.	\$ 2,519.00
6.	\$ 2,886.00
7.	\$ 3,224.00
8.	\$ 3,562.00

For each additional member add \$ 339.00

Commodity Department serves 13 counties:
Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake
Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta,
Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana,
Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.

Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M
Lunch hour is 12:00 - 1:00
Yvonne Theodore, Laurie Jackson
1-888-723-8288 ask for Commodity Program
Office 231-398-6716 or 231-398-6715



Happy Birthday

*Wanita Ancel
 Carol Bingham
 Ronald Bush
 Alfred Chabot
 Julia Chapman
 David Cram
 Emogene Crampton*

*Bernadene Crampton
 Joyce Danielson
 Robert Hewitt
 Linda Johnson*

*Melvin Lewis
 Dorothy McDonald
 Ada Mills
 Raymond Pete
 Issac Pete
 Terry Shalifoe
 Art Wilson*



Aki Community Center Elder Meals Menu 2015

Tip of the Month—Practice Portion Control
 1 hamburger (without bun) = a deck of cards
 1 cup fries = about 10 fries
 4 oz nachos = about 7 chips
 3 oz meatloaf = deck of cards
 1 cup chili = baseball
 1 sub sandwich = about 6 inches
 1 burrito = about 6 inches



ACTIVITIES:
 Mondays—Language Class
 Wednesdays—Wii Bowling
 Other Activities: Birthday of the Month & BINGO
 Meals served at Noon—Monday thru Thursday
 No Charge to Elders, Spouse and Handicap/Disabled individuals who reside with Elder.
 Guests Meals are \$6.00

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Elder Committee Meeting lunch is served at noon.
6	7 OFFICE CLOSED Labor Day	8 BBQ Chicken Baked potato Green Beans Tapioca	9 Taco Salad Rice Dessert Wii Bowling	10 Chicken Pot Pie Desserts Activity: B-I-N-G-O	11	12
13	14 Spaghetti Garlic Toast Dessert Language Class	15 Beef Tips & gravy Veggies Dessert	16 Pulled Pork Sweet Potato Veggies Wii Bowling	17 Salmon Patty Rice Veggie Jell—O	18 Muskegon Meal Please RSVP With Noelle 231-398-6886 Lunch served at Noon	19
20	21 OFFICE CLOSED Reaffirmation Day	22 French Dip Potato Wedge Green Beans	23 Beef Stew Potato Veggies Wii Bowling	24 Chili Cornbread Dessert	25	26
27	28 Breakfast !! Language Class	29 Goulash Cauliflower Fruit Crumble	30 Chicken Wild Rice Peas Sherbet Wii Bowling		Menu subject to change with out notice. Meals meet 1/3 of the RDI based on a 1600 to 2000 calorie diet.	
31						

Happy Birthday Rose!



Two years ago, on August 29th, our family was blessed with our first and only girl descendant, Rose Marie Sikorski. I am beyond thankful to my brother, Mike Sikorski and his fiancé Elizabethy Kerby, for the choosing my birthday for her birth.
Love, Aunt Sara



*"Autism effects 1 in50 children.
Educate,
Support, and Advocate!"*



*The LRBOI Elders Christmas Party
has been rescheduled due to a schedule conflict.*

Was: Saturday December 5th.

Now: Sunday December 6th

8th Annual



PAINT THE TOWN PINK

All funds stay local to benefit women's services at West Shore Medical Center

Celebration & Ribbon Walk

Thursday, October 8, Downtown Manistee

Gathering 4 p.m. Ceremony 4:45 p.m. Ribbon Walk 5 p.m.
Walk begins at Cornerstone Park (west end of River St. near the fountain)

The walk is free

Donations requested: A gift from the heart

Two Ways to Honor a Loved One

Purchase both for \$40



For \$25, write the name of a loved one on a fabric square that will be included in a pink quilt to be displayed at West Shore Medical Center.

For \$20, recognize a loved on a large pink bow that will adorn a lamp post in Downtown Manistee during the Ribbon Walk.



Quilt squares and bows may be purchased at the West Shore Medical Center
Radiology or Cancer, Blood & Infusion Services Department.
Make checks payable to West Shore Healthcare Foundation.



WEST SHORE HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

For more information, contact West Shore Healthcare Foundation
at (231) 398-1270 or visit us online at westshoremedcenter.org/pttp



Coming up at LRBOI:

Elders Meal
Aki
Community Center
Mon-Thur 12pm

Language Class
Every Friday
10:30am

2016 Membership
Meetings
April 9, 2016 &
October 8, 2016

2017 Membership
Meetings
April 8, 2017 &
October 9, 2017

Call Little River
Resort Hotel in

US Toll-Free:
1-888-568-2244
or
Local 231-723-1535



Departments	Location	Director or main phone numbers
Accounting	government center -main entrance	231.398.6868
Be-Da-Bin	government center- clinic entrance	231.398.6741
Commerce	government center -main entrance	231.398.6815
Commodities	aki maadiziwin -community center	231.398. 6715
Education	government center- clinic entrance	231.398.6735
Enrollment	government center-main entrance	231.398.6712
Fitness Center	government center-lower level	231.398.6636
Family Services	government center- clinic entrance	231.398.6734
Grants Department	government center- main entrance	231.398.6843
Health Clinic	government center -north end	231.398.6600
Historic Preservation	government center-lower level	231.398.6893
Housing	aki maadiziwin -gommunity center	231.398.6879
Human Resources	government center- main entrance	231.398.6871
Members Legal Asst.	justice center on M22	231.398.2234
Members Assistance	government center-main entrance	231.398.6718
Natural Resources	9th street offices manistee	231.398.2191
Peacemaking/Probation	justice center on M22	231.398.2239
Planning Department	government center -main entrance	231.398.6810
Prosecutor	justice center on M22	231.398.2242
Public Affairs	government center- main entrance	231.398.6872
Public Safety	justice center on M22	231.398.2225
Tax Office	government center -main entrance	231.398.6874
Utilities/Waste Water	dontz road (near aki maadiziwin)	231.398.2285
Work Force Development	government center-main entrance	231.398.6842
Tribal Court	justice center on M22	231-398-3406



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, Michigan 49660

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U.S. Postage
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Manistee, MI

LRBOI Tribal Member Discount Program
We are pleased to announce the re-implementation of the Tribal Member discount program at the Little River Casino Resort. This program applies to all food outlet purchases, hotel stays, gift shop purchases and rental of the conference center for Tribal Member Government Events.

Or Current Resident

Manistee, MI | Corner of US 31 and  | 888.586.2244 | lrcr.com   

LRBOI Tribal Members must present their government issued identification to the cashier at the time of the purchase. The discount won't be applied without the required ID.

 2 for 1 meal discount on Thursday's only (all food outlets) available to Tribal Member with one guest LRBOI member's pay full price for the higher of the two meals, the second meal is free

 20% off daily in all food outlets

 These Tribal Member discounts may not be used with other discounts

 Hotel room rate \$79.00 plus tax (LRBOI Tribal Members must be checked in to the room)

 Hotel suite room rate \$129.00 plus tax (LRBOI Tribal Members must be checked in to the room)

 No hotel discounts will be provided during the Fourth of July weekend or on New Year's Eve

 River Credits will be given to all LRBOI Tribal Members

 Spring and Fall membership meeting,

 LRBOI Elders Conference

 Elders Christmas Party

 Tribal Members only

 Discounted banquet pricing will be determined by the LRCR Food & Beverage Director and the Ogema for the Spring and Fall membership meetings, LRBOI Elders Conference, Children's Christmas Party and Elders Christmas Party.

 Discounted food/banquet pricing for official government functions at the Resort as approved by the General Manager and/or Food and Beverage Director.

 20% discount in the Gift Shop (cigarettes, alcohol, consignment items and sundries are not permitted for the discount)

Starting September 21, 2015

Starting September 21, 2015

**Watch for updates
on the Tribal
Discount
Program**

 *Take Back the Night* 

Join us as we walk in
Honor of the Victims and Survivors
of Domestic Violence on River Street 

When: Thursday
10/15/2015
6pm- 8pm

Where: Senior Center
457 River St.
Manistee, Mi. 49660




Following the walk
join us
at the Senior Center
for some refreshments
and give-aways for
your support.

For more information please call L.R.B.O.I. Family Services at 888-723-8288 or 231-398-6719