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Namebine -Giizis (Sucker Moon)
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ALSO IN THIS PUBLICATION

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LRBOI now Self-Governance Tribe



Over three years of hard work came to fruition in late February when the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council voted to support the move to become a self-governed tribe. See the announcement on page 2. This move follows the earlier move to self-governance for the Tribal Health Services and for the tribal BIA roads program



Goonignebig (Snowsnake) Tournament Big Success!

See winners list page 28

It's General Election Time!



Beginning on page 8, the candidates who are up for election deliver their last Currents message to you the voters before the election. Each candidate was offered space for up to 600 words as they addressed their candidacy, election issues and vision for the future of the tribe.

VAWA passed!

The Violence Against Women Act has been reauthorized! The expanded act now provides for protection for our tribal women that has never been in the law in the past! It affords tribes the opportunity to prosecute non-tribal perpetrators...a precedent setting move that has many ramifications for the future. See the report and reaction beginning on page 6.



An Act of Faith

Can you imagine taking a walk across the UP and then across the Lower Peninsula, during winter just to honor someone else?

Tribal member Curtis Chambers (Burt Lake Band) did just that and ended his journey in Manistee.



See the remarkable story on page 27



Aanii,

Spring can't come soon enough for me and I want to remind everyone that our Spring Membership Meeting is coming up soon. Again the Ogema's Meet-and-Greet will also be held on the Friday before the meeting.

As you probably already know Self Governance has been voted in for our Tribe. Much hard work has been done over the past two and a half years to bring us to this point. I believe we are now the third tribe within Michigan to become self-governed.

There are many issues facing tribal governments and there is a lot of work to be done. Several staff members and elected officials have been attending meetings in Lansing and Washington DC. We have also been working on how the U.S. sequester is going to affect our Tribe.

Almost a year ago I reported to Council that our Muskegon Liquor License had possibly been lost or relinquished. Although all the facts were not in Council wanted a report which I prepared to the best of my knowledge. Tribal Council, for whatever reason, has decided to publish my report along with the Recorder's Report in this issue of Currents even though I received no written response to my report.

The General Elections are right around the corner and I wish all those candidates the best of luck. I hope more members will get involved by attending meetings and/or putting your name in for serving on a committee or commission of the Tribe.

Larry Romanelli, Tribal Ogema held a town hall meeting at the Makwa Endaat (Event Center) on Saturday, February 23rd, to discuss Self-Governance status for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. The town hall meeting started at 1:30 and went through to about 4:20 p.m.

The Ogema was joined by Jessica Burger, Tribal Manager, lead negotiator for LRBOI in our efforts with BIA, Ms. Susan Aasen, Chief Executive Counsel and Mr. Lloyd Miller, lead legal advisor in our BIA negotiations and self-governance legal advisor to the Tribe. The self-governance team provided information about self-governance status, updated Tribal members on current progress in our BIA negotiations, discussed the impact of self-governance on our IHS programs and addressed questions and concerns the membership may have regarding this topic.

See the accompanying articles on Council addressing Self-Governance and on the visit of NCAI President Jefferson Keel's visit.

Self-Governance for LRBOI



On February 27th, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians completed a step towards changing the way the tribe and the Federal government interact. The tribes' Self-Governance coordinator, Tribal Manager Jessica Burger announced the vote to tribal staff this way:

“Good Afternoon Respected Tribal Leaders and Colleagues, I am very pleased to report out of today's Tribal Council meeting an historic vote for Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

During today's regular meeting, in a vote of six (6) in favor, one (1) against with two (2) Councilor's

absent, Little River Band took steps to elevate the relationship between its government and the United States.

Little River Band is now fully engaged in Tribal Self-Governance in the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service and under a government-to-government agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs Reservation Roads.

I want to extend my thanks to the technical team and Executive Lead Staffs who assisted to make this a reality for the people of Little River Band, and especially to the Ogema and Tribal Council for supporting the effort.

On a personal note:

Many comments were expressed during the discussion today and this assessment stood out to me in the end; Self-governance is a stronger position for the Tribe going forward to assist in meeting the needs of the community; it is visionary. We have opportunity to grow and determine our own path free of federal influence. That is the core value of self-governance; for Tribes to determine their own destiny—free of federal interference and determinations.

As we embark on this new path of greater accountability to our people, let's grab this opportunity fiercely with determination to see what we can build from it.

Miigwech.

Jessica L. Burger, Tribal Manager - Little River Band of Ottawa Indians”



Self-Governance Town Hall



Fran Pitts



Gary DiPiazza

A number of tribal members brought their questions and thoughts before the 50 people in attendance including: Council Recorder Janine Sam, Israel Stone, Fran Pitts, Ryan Champagne, Gary DiPiazza, Ron Pete, Jimmie Mitchell, Robert Memberto, Judith Nedeau, Connie Waitner and Sharron Detz.



Ron Pete



Israel Stone



This was taped and is available for your viewing at www.lrboi.com on the Ogema's tab.

New Legislation – Budget and Appropriations Ordinance – 2013



Recorder's Report for March 2013

The Tribal Council is slated to enact a new law during the month of March, which changes the manner in which the Tribal Government is created. This new law also mandates that a 5 year strategic plan must be created, in order for government funding to be considered. The initial Strategic Plan created under this new law must be filed with Tribal Council no later than September 1, 2013, with updates required annually thereafter. Another new change is that each branch of government, Ogema, Council and Judicial, must designate "essential services" in priority order, to ensure that in the event of budgetary shortfalls or funding reductions, the essential services of the Tribe are provided for. Another way to look at it is that the designated essential services will actually result in the Base Funding for the Tribe (those things that will always be paid for, even in the event of shortfalls.)

The Tribal Council also added an entire new section, which deals with budgetary impasses. In the event that the Ogema submits a budget that Tribal Council cannot approve as submitted, and no compromise can be reached, the law then requires that a Continuing Resolution be adopted to provide for operations. This new section was created to ensure that there would not be any shut down of the Tribal Government, because the law provides for a temporary funding mechanism, until the final budget can be adopted. The Tribal Council has always had this legislative power, and has exercised it cautiously in the past. With the FY 2013 Budget, and ensuing confusion over processes, the Tribal Council determined that spelling out the continuing resolution mechanism within the Ordinance to reinforce this existing Legislative option was appropriate. Obviously, the Tribal Council believes the ultimate goal must be an approved budget within specific timeframes. However, as we discovered recently, sometimes negotiations are not successful. The Tribal Council strongly believes that disruption of essential services to our People is not an option, and have now included in plain language the mechanism to

ensure that service disruption cannot happen in the manner carried out in January of this year.

An additional new provision is a mandated Public Disclosure of quarterly performance review, in accordance with section 6.04. This new provision makes both recommendations for changes and quarterly performance reviews available to Tribal members for inspection and review.

Additional Activities:

The Tribal Council recently reviewed and approved a number of position descriptions within the Natural Resources Department. These positions are not new positions, but required review in accordance with the Indian Preference in Employment Ordinance. The Tribal Council also reviewed position descriptions in the Human Resources Department. The Tribal Council has started meeting quarterly with members of Wells Fargo, to monitor the performance of the Tribe's current investment portfolio.

Report from Ogema Regarding Liquor License:

Some months ago, the Tribal Ogema informed the Council that there was a change in status of the liquor license that was purchased with the property the Ogema noted that the license was in fact, reassumed by the State of Michigan.

Following a request by the Tribal Council, the Ogema filed a written report in Open Session. (Please see page 4-Ogema's Report.) The Tribal Council notes that there appear to be a few matters disclosed within the report itself that are problematic, and will require additional review. For example, the Ogema names an attorney that was managing the liquor license process for the Tribe, however, the Tribal Council has no record of an approved contract with that attorney to do work on behalf of the Tribe. And although the report appears to identify that a contributing factor in the renewal process was the lack of approved attorney contracts, it is possible that liquor license renewals are fairly straight forward, potentially not requiring an attorney to finalize the renewal application. That being said, the Ogema's findings are released here for membership review.

The Tribal Council also notes that in the event the Tribe is able to obtain the necessary approvals to move forward with a casino in Muskegon, a state issued liquor license will not be required, as the Tribe issues its own liquor license in accordance with its own laws. It is important for people to

be aware that, although the liquor license was obtained as part of the original purchase, a state license would only be necessary if the Tribe were to move forward on a non-gaming development for that property.

What does "Sequester" mean for Little River Band?

Most of you are already aware of the mandated cuts in spending, as a result of the sequestration implemented by the federal government. It is very likely that Little River Band will see a reduction of grant funding in multiple areas, as a direct result of the sequestration. As of this report, Tribal Council does not yet have confirmation of total impact to the finances of the Tribe. It is expected that Budget modifications will come forward as those facts become known, and there may be potential reductions in Tribal Government spending.

Tribal Council members Kim Alexander and Candace Chapman are in Washington D.C., along with the Ogema, Tribal Manager, Jessica Burger, and Natural Resources Director, Jimmie Mitchell. The Councilors are attending the National Congress of American Indians mid-winter session. Members of the Executive Branch are attending the 15th U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Annual Tribal Budget Consultation. During the consultation, information will be reviewed with respect to the Affordable Care Act, and its implementation. Tribal Council will review and share as much as possible about the potential impacts to Indian Country as the information becomes available.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janine M. Sam

Seeking Proposals

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Government is seeking proposals from qualified firms to conduct a comprehensive Compensation and Benefits Study, to update or modify an existing Wage Structure, and to develop a Performance Management System.

Please e-mail tkeway@lrboi.com for detailed information.

WASHINGTON, DC-FEBRUARY-2013



The resolutions that passed and were brought to Capitol Hill: Supporting Sally Jewell appointment as Secretary of the Interior:

Sally Jewell's diverse experience in energy, conservation, and stewardship efforts, presents an exciting opportunity for the country and tribal nations to make great strides and continue the transformation of the Department of the Interior under this President," according to a statement from the National Congress of American Indians. Jewell, CEO of an outdoor gear and clothing company called Recreational Equipment Inc., will be expected to oversee an agency that includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs and many Indian-based areas, including trust programs, education, and economic development. She is also a former commercial banker and oil company engineer longtime advocate for conservation and outdoor recreation.

Calling for a new Obama Native Nation's policy: Which would Reaffirm Tribal law enforcement authority, reaffirm tribal government tax status, reauthorize Indian programs, Revitalize Indian Economies, and Provide direct funding to gov funding and will meet the needs of American and Alaska natives for health care and housing.

First Speaker: Derek Bailey: 7th Legacy Consulting; result-driven consultancy specializing in government relations, communications, training, fundraising, well-defined speaker's bureau and tribal outreach.

Tom Brierton, President; Tom Brierton is founder and president of Franklin Creek Consulting, an independent lobbying and political strategy firm based in northern Virginia. The company specializes in serving Indian tribes, Internet gaming, and the commercial gaming industry. Prior to founding Franklin Creek, Brierton served in various senior policy positions on Capitol Hill; he is a veteran political operative active through nine cycles of congressional campaigns.

Assistant Secretary Kevin Washburn: He talked about just last year alone they put 200 thousand acres into trust. He encourages tribes to submit trust applications in because he wants to get as many in trust with this term. Just in the Midwest region he put 15,000 in trust. He also supported Sally Jewel and believes she will bring a lot of expertise to this position.

Dante Desiderio NAFOA-Tribal Tax Reform Initiative: Tax reform will be utilized to create additional revenue through a broadened base and lower tax rates with the outcome of increased overall tax revenue for the federal government and increased economic growth and job relation through tax incentives. He stressed the importance of Economic growth in Indian Country. He also stated that there will be an economic development conference in April on the 18th and 19th in Nashville.

Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, Director of Indian Health Services; Talked about a lot of prescription drug abuse in Indian Country and that is a high priority with tribes. Stated that Obama is thumbs up supporting IHS.

Honorable Senator Al Franken, United States Senator Minnesota; Supported the Stafford Act. He also included two key provisions he wrote when the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act passed. (VAWA) to help protect women who are survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

Mr Jack Trope, Executive Director of American Indian Affairs; Our programs focus upon youth/education (scholarships, child welfare, summer camps), health (diabetes education and prevention), cultural preservation (sacred lands protection, Native language preservation) and the empowerment of tribal communities (federal acknowledgment, funding for tribal programs). Please visit the rest of our website to learn more about our vital initiatives.

Protecting Sovereignty * Preserving Culture * Educating Youth

Brian Pierson, Godfrey & Kahn Firm; Talked about Financing Wind Solar and Bio-power in Indian Country. Long Term energy independence. Reduced Short-term and long-term energy costs. Reduced carbon footprint, enhancing tribe's influence in the public environmental policy debate. Reduced need for tribal capital investment in renewable energy facilities. Use tribal enterprise/housing energy consumption, federal and state tax incentives and energy efficiency opportunities as marketable assets.

Heritage Healing; Heritage of Healing is a blending of modern healing with our traditional culture. In 2005, the initiator of the Heritage of Healing Project dreamed of a place for healing of all those who were suffering. And in 2006, when her mother was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, this young girl became aware of the absence of support for children who have a family member with cancer. These two events became the impetus for Heritage of Healing.

CathyAbramson; Discussed prescription drug abuse, we have to be more active in the prescript drug abuse with our health boards. Contract Health funding, and the importance of having the Native American Health Board at MAST.

Stacy Bohlen Executive Director, NIHB Wa, DC (Sault Sainte Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians) is the Executive Director of the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) in Washington, D.C.

She is responsible for implementing the NIHB strategic plan, building a strong national presence, and fulfilling the organization's mission of advocating on behalf of all tribal governments and American Indians/Alaska Natives in their efforts to provide quality health care.

Ms. Bohlen has more than 20 years of national level legislative, policy and advocacy experience, and previously worked as the Director of Federal Relations for the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC). She also talked about the sequestration cuts that would be very devastating in Indian Country.

Richard Flores, FEMA's Special Adviser for National Tribal Affairs provides an overview of emergency management practices in Indian Country as part of the FEMA National Preparedness Symposium. We commend the efforts of members of congress, tribal leadership and their organization, the department of homeland security, and the president who has finally made this a reality. The legislative change to the Stafford Act will provide federally recognized tribal governments the option to choose whether to make a request directly to the President for an emergency or major disaster declaration, or to receive assistance, as they do presently, through a declaration to a State. Richard took me for a tour of the FEMA area that is high security where the president sits during disasters.

Capitol Hill Visits; I was assigned "Mast group 9) with Marvin Defoe, At-Large member of tribal council for the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's.

1:30-Raul Ruiz(D-CA) met with his staff Orfa Torres-Jaen- My discussion was focusing on our Tribal Health Care(IHS) and Orfa did say Raul is all for the Native American's healthcare, and issue pertaining to sequestration cuts and how it would affect Indian Country. Marvin was very interested in the agriculture in the Great Lakes, because every year the tribes basically harvest their own fish. So hopefully one day that can be added to Agriculture and possible grants to help out.

2:30-Gary Peters (D-MI) met with his staff CeCe Grant, she was fabulous in listening to what topics Marvin and I brought to her. Mine again was the Health Care, Indian Tuition Waiver, and High School Mascots,

3:30-Congressman Paul Gosar(R-AZ) met with his staff Jeremy Harrell, concentrating on Health Care again and the nomination of Sally Jewel for the Secretary of the Interior.

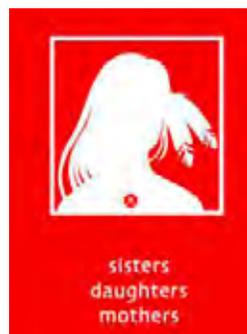
In my closing remarks I want to stress the importance of our tribe being at these meetings. Of all the tribes that were at this meeting Little River was the only one that had one representative present. The other tribes had their chairman, 2 or three tribal councilors, and one attorney.

Submitted:
Kimberly Alexander, Tribal Council for At-Large

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 28, 2013

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary



By Winona LaDuke
February 13, 2013

Statement from the President on the House Passage of the Violence Against Women Act

I was pleased to see the House of Representatives come together and vote to reauthorize and strengthen the Violence Against Women Act. Over more than two decades, this law has saved countless lives and transformed the way we treat victims of abuse. Today's vote will go even further by continuing to reduce domestic violence, improving how we treat victims of rape, and extending protections to Native American women and members of the LGBT community. The bill also reauthorizes the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, providing critical support for both international and domestic victims of trafficking and helping ensure traffickers are brought to justice. I want to thank leaders from both parties – especially Leader Pelosi, Congresswoman Gwen Moore and Senator Leahy – for everything they've done to make this happen. Renewing this bill is an important step towards making sure no one in America is forced to live in fear, and I look forward to signing it into law as soon as it hits my desk.

VAWA NCAI comments

NCAI Praises Passage of Protections for All Women; Tribal Courts Gain Jurisdiction over Non-Indian Domestic Violence Perpetrators
Bill represents major advance for public safety in Indian Country; Legislation headed to President for Signature

Washington, DC - Today, in a historic vote the House of Representatives passed S.47, the Senate reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), sending the legislation with the tribal provisions supported by the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) to President Obama's desk to be signed into law. NCAI is praising the efforts of the House and the Senate to reauthorize

VAWA and the bipartisan support of the Senate version of the legislation in both chambers with resounding votes of 286 - 138 in the House and 78-22 vote in the Senate earlier this month.

«It is with a glad heart and soaring spirit that I celebrate the passage of VAWA. Today the drum of justice beats loud in Indian Country in celebration of the reauthorization of VAWA and we stand in unity with all of our partners and leaders who were unrelenting in support of protections for all women, including Native women,» said Juana Majel Dixon, First Vice President of NCAI, and co-chair of NCAI's Task Force on Violence Against Women. Juana Majel serves as a Traditional Councilwoman Pauma Band of Mission Indians located within the state of California. «500 plus days is too long to not have a bill for all women in America. For an unimaginable length of time those who have terrorized our women in our most sacred places, in our relationships, in our homes, and on our land, have gone unprosecuted. Now that time has come to an end and justice and security will flourish in these specific instances. We celebrate the protections for all women included in VAWA, including those for Immigrant and LGBT women added Juana Majel.

With this authority, comes a serious responsibility and tribal courts will administer justice with the same level of impartiality that any defendant is afforded in state and federal courts,» said Jefferson Keel, the President of NCAI and Lt. Governor of the Chickasaw Nation, speaking about implementation of the new law. «We have strong tribal courts systems that protect public safety. The law respects tribal sovereignty, and also requires that our courts respect the due process rights of all defendants. My hope is that this new law is rarely used. Our goal isn't to put people in jail. It is to create an effective deterrent so that our people can lead safe lives in our communities and nations.»

The constitutionally sound tribal jurisdiction provisions in VAWA authorize tribal governments to prosecute non-Indian defendants involved in intimate relationships with Native women and who assault these victims on tribal land. Current federal laws do not authorize tribal law enforcement or tribal courts to pursue any form of prosecution or justice against these perpetrators.

There were at least five things that came together: an enormous grassroots effort from Indian country; the coalition of the National Task Force to End Domestic Violence; statistics so we could finally show the problem; steadfast leadership from the Department of Justice; and incredible support from so many Members of Congress both Republicans and Democrats,» said Terri Henry, Council Member at Eastern Cherokee and Co-Chair of the NCAI Task Force on Violence Against Women spoke of the large collective effort that led

to the passage of the Senate version of VAWA. «We really want to thank everyone for their hard work. Now we are going to use this tool to protect Native women from violence.

Women and men - Native and non-Native, Senators and Representatives from all backgrounds, and tribal leaders from across Indian Country have all spoken that these injustices must not continue. We intend to keep speaking from our heart and with the law by our side,» added NCAI's First Vice President Juana Majel Dixon. «We are thankful that there are strong leaders in both the House and Senate that have stood for the protections of Native women, regardless of party politics.

Today marks not the end of our efforts at NCAI to combat domestic violence issues that Indian Country faces but an important step along the way. We will remain as dedicated as we have been since we began addressing this issue as an organization. There have been many members of Congress who have stood with tribal nations throughout this effort and they have stayed true to the constitution, to the trust responsibility, and to the truth that tribal nations are the best to address our situations at the local level. Today we advance the protections tribal nations can provide all people, Native and non-Native,» said Jacqueline Pata, Executive Director of NCAI.

Findings show that 34% of American Indian and Alaska Native women will be raped in their lifetimes* and 39% of American Indian and Alaska Native women will be subjected to violence by an intimate partner in their lifetimes**. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 46% of people living on reservations in 2010 were non-Natives (single race) and 59% of American Indian women in 2010 were married to non-Native men.

The NCAI Task Force on Violence Against Women was established in 2000 and has been working for thirteen years to protect the lives of Native American women and create more secure tribal communities.

LRBOI Court – VAWA reaction

«The court is very pleased about the passage of the senate version of the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization of 2013. It is a great victory for all Tribal Nations, serving to enhance and strengthen tribal sovereignty and enhance the jurisdiction of the court by authorizing jurisdiction over non-native people for certain crimes. The court is looking forward to working with the other necessary parties so that the court has to ability to address this issue for the protection of Native women.» Judge Sherigan

All Nations Rising

It seemed appropriate as the tribe hosted a Round Dance on, of all days, Valentines' Day in February this year. The theme for the gathering was 'All Nations Rising...A Global Movement to end Violence against Women.'



The tribal team of Janeen Codden, Melissa Alexander, Alyce Giltz, Julie Wolfe, Spring Medacco and Laurie Willis brought together a feast and Round Dance for the whole community out at the Aki Maadiziwin Community Center. The place was full, the singers were awesome, the feast was great and the coming together for this cause brought many communities together.



The timing was also interesting because the United States Congress was in the midst of a battle about reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) which finally expanded protection for Indian women on tribal lands.



FEMA changes

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians First Tribe in the Country to receive Presidential Disaster Declaration under the Amended Stafford Act

LRBOI Editors' note:

The recent changes in the Stafford Act, (Currents March, 2013,) have changed the way tribes can interact with the Federal government in seeking assistance during a disaster or incident. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians ended up being the first to test out the new approach. This declaration provides some details and gives hope that we will be better able to work with FEMA on a government-to-government basis.

(Cherokee, NC) - - The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI or Tribe) are the first federally recognized Tribe to receive a Presidential Disaster Declaration since the Stafford Act was amended through the Sandy Relief Act this past January. The amendment to the Stafford Act allows American Indian Tribes to apply directly to the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) without application through their respective state. The EBCI worked cooperatively with North Carolina Emergency Management to document damage and create its request to FEMA for a disaster declaration.

"We did not necessarily anticipate being the first Tribe to receive the declaration. But I think through the recent disaster that we had with all of the flooding, we're glad that we could set a stage for other Tribes throughout the nation. The unfortunate part of this is that we have the damage. The fortunate part of this is that we are helping to set a good precedent for Tribes to seek assistance working directly with the President through FEMA. This sets a real good precedent for Indian Country," Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Principal Chief Michell Hicks said in response to receiving the news from FEMA.

The announcement that the EBCI received the declaration was made to the Tribe's Emergency Management Office Friday afternoon (March 1, 2013). The request for the declaration was made by the Tribe on Valentine's Day in response to damage that occurred on the Cherokee Indian Reservation in January from torrential rainfall.

The Tribe experienced approximately \$3 million dollars in damage to homes and public infrastructure according to Cherokee Emergency Management Manager Mollie Grant. "FEMA will come back to Cherokee and do final damage assessment. The amount of damage initially reported is an estimate. The final assessment will be more accurate and will be the basis of FEMA's assistance to the Tribe. This will also enable us to apply other mitigation funding," said Grant. Grant says that FEMA has informed the EBCI it will be on the Reservation this coming week to begin the final assessment work. The Tribe is also working very closely with Richard Flores, FEMA Special Advisor for National Tribal Affairs to coordinate the final assessment.

FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate told the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) Board of Directors at its annual Impact Week in Washington, DC the quest to have the Stafford Act amended to give Tribes the ability make requests for disaster declarations and federal assistance directly rather than getting state approval first was going to be an impossible task. "We (FEMA) came around to the idea that this was the right thing to do. It was mainly a benefit to recognize the trust relationship with the Tribes," Fugate told USET. He added that there was no benefit for FEMA to support such a change. In fact it added more work to the FEMA staff. Prior to the passage of the Sandy Relief Bill last month, there were only 54 states or territories that could make disaster declaration requests. Now, that many governmental bodies plus over 500 Tribal Nations can make that request. Fugate says leadership from President Obama was paramount to help make the change because the White House had meaningful consultations with Tribal Nations.

USET President Brian Patterson gave praise to FEMA and the White House for its work to bring new opportunity and renewed strength in Tribal sovereignty. "It is not often that we advance a piece of legislation that is born to support self-determination. It is with that thought we are grateful for progressive leadership and from the President (Obama) to make effective change in the Stafford Act that will ultimately strengthen Tribal sovereignty and to allow Indian Country to preserve public health and safety." Patterson emphasized that this is great example of how Indian Country and the federal government are building and strengthening trust responsibilities and government to government relationships.

Candidates: Bernadine Crampton, Gary DiPiazza, Jamie Friedel, Rita Gale, Brian Loney, Karen Love, Frankie Medacco, Janine Sam, Martin (Marty) Wabindato

Bernadine Crampton

I don't want to bore you with what I plan to do in the office nor with what I did in the past.

There are several powers entrusted to Tribal Council. The first very important power is to establish laws that are equitable for ALL people. Each person defines equitable differently. Some people feel a law is equitable if that law supports something that you personally want. I feel an equitable law supports the most people for the good of the Nation. For example, only a few years ago a person coming before our Tribal Court did not have a choice if they wished a trial by jury. This is supported in the United States as a given, but was not in our Court. A more equitable law might be that anytime a person comes before our Court, they may choose to have a trial by jury.

Another power of the Tribal Council is jurisdiction over Indian Child Welfare matters. There has been NO Director of Family Services for many months. Although this is an executive function, our children are not properly represented and supported in out-of-home placement by our own Nation. Children are being placed in non-Native and non-family homes regularly. The Indian Child Welfare Act was enacted to prevent this kind of action. Yet, within our own Nation there are no procedures to work with the State to license and supervise our own foster care and adoption homes. When properly administered, this is a source of INCOME rather than using Tribal financial resources to place children in placements they may require. Another question may be what is required – family homes, independent living homes or residential care homes?

Fiscal powers is another responsibility of Tribal Council. When the Fiscal Budget is approved, there should be no major changes in it. If the Directors are knowledgeable about their programs, all items should be budgeted. There should be NO requests for Budget Modifications unless there is an emergency situation within that program.

Each line item of the Budget should be scrutinized so that each program is equitable for most of the members and in the best interests of the Nation. This is fiscal responsibility.

Are we using the available resources to the best of our ability? Some of these concerns are both Tribal Council and Executive responsibilities.

The branches are separate for an excellent reason – each has their own responsibilities to the people.

Not to each other, but to the people.

Vine Deloria stated "We Talk, You Listen". That is how it should be. Each communication should be responded to in a manner that is right for the Nation and most of the people.

These are some of my concerns and thoughts on a few of the issues. This is offered as some ideas to think about and decide the best candidate for the job – not based on "like". There are many people I "like" which may or may not be the best person to fill the needs of the people.

Bernadene Crampton 231-777-5898 mermanan@myfrontiermail.com <http://bernadenecramptonforcouncil.angelfire.com/>

Advertisements

Gary Paul DiPiazza



Gary Paul DiPiazza (Sees -Bak -Tunse)

MIIGWETCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND VOTE WITH YOUR VISION INTO OUR FUTURE, I WILL REPRESENT AND SERVE YOU WITH THE UTMOST RESPECT AND HONOR FOR ALL OUR MEMBERS IN THIS 9 COUNTY TRIBAL SEAT. **FOR WE ALL SHALL SUCCEED**

I will be working closely with all Members, Directors and Commissions in regard to our Self Governance to bring us the best Programs that will suit our Members needs.

As your Representative on Council, I will be working to Accomplish these Goals.

- Ethics Ordinance for all Elected Officials for Attendance, Higher Morals and Accountability.
- Transitional Housing so Members can come and work for us, where ever our Casino's maybe.
- Our own Private Schools for Teaching our Culture and Traditions to our Young and to all Ages.

- Bring back more of our Traditions as in lodge Teachings for we all Thirst for this knowledge.
 - Moving closed Council Meetings to Open for there should be nothing to hide from our members.
 - Building Housing in Muskegon to show WE MEAN Business to get our NEW Casino up and running.
 - Working to bring our New Elder affordable Apartments on line and Expanding these units as needed.
 - Enhancing our Current Casino to be the best Family Vacation Destination in Michigan which in turn will bring in more Customers to give us all a Higher Profit Sharing Return.
 - We will be taking the lead in Renewable Energy Manufacturing, Putting Members to work and giving Members a Higher Profit Sharing Return on this Investment. We will be Accomplishing this with the FireFly Power Generator which is a 6 kW Self-Contained Power Plant, this will give us the Needed Strength to Restore our Treaty Rights that are well over do to us all.
- There is a well Thought out Plan to Achieve these Goals.

To me this is not a job it is a 24/7 Responsibility, I am here for you the Members so we can all move forward in a Good Way with Prosperity and Equality for all. We need Peace, Harmony and Unity OR we will Fail and Failure is NOT Acceptable me.

NOW I NEED YOUR VOTE TO WORK FROM THE INSIDE. FOR I HAVE DONE JUST ABOUT ALL I CAN FROM THE OUTSIDE.

Miigwetch for letting me Speak with you and Blessings to you all. You can reach me at anytime 1-616-450-3928 E-Mail - teedy3@comcast.net
Web Site www.sightowl.com/garydipiazza/ (facebook @ Gary DiPiazza) or (LRBOI MEMBERS facebook Group)

Jamie L. Friedel

Aanii,

I would like to start by introducing myself and a little about me. My name is Jamie Friedel. I currently reside in Manistee, MI. I work for the Tribe at the Little River Trading Post. I have been the manager since we opened in 2008. Before relocating to Manistee I worked in the food business for 18 years. I was a kitchen manager and then the manager for a local restaurant. After that I became shift leader, trainer and then into management for McDonalds. I also was a kitchen manager and corporate trainer for Apple Bees Inc. Then I started into the gas business at a Mobil station for 3 years then moved to Manistee to open the Trading Post. I would like to have this chance to represent you as your 9 county council seat.

I will not promises you changes because I would only be 1 vote. But, what I will promise is that I will make that one vote count and be heard. Thank you for your time.

Rita Annette Gale



Boozhoo to all tribal members! My name is Rita Annette Gale and I am a married Native American member of the LRBOI born and raised in Muskegon and now residing in Manistee.

I have 25 years of experience in trucking, excavating and snow removal services and I worked as a caregiver for several elders in their homes.

I provided catering services in the past for the Elders Committee dinners at the old community center; and am currently on the

Elders Committee Board.

I worked for Wolf Lake School for teachers and helped children that needed special help with reading and writing.

I have worked with the Peace Keeping Teen Camp and also with the children's summer Day Camp program through our Tribal Health Clinic Services.

I believe I can make a difference and create changes that are desperately needed for our people. I promise to bring your issues to the table to be discussed before council. I believe in background checks, drug testing, higher standards of attendance and availability for elected officials, respect, communication and a rule of one person equals one job and a 40 hour work week. You may contact me anytime:

Home phone (231) 723-5988. Cell phone (231) 750-5581.

Please: Vote Rita Annette Gale for Tribal Council – 9 County.

“The best choice...let me be your voice!”

Advertisements

Brian Loney



Boozho Little River Band Citizens
Integrity, Honesty and Straight Forward Answers

My plan, take care of business at hand, take care of our elders, and plan for the future of our Tribe, not just talk about it -Plan for it. Create a True vision and set the example for our children and other Tribes to follow.

My name is Brian Loney and I used to teach Basic Anishinaabe Language at Muskegon Community College a few years back and I loved gathering with all who came to learn. Recently I was encouraged to run for a Tribal Seat from close friends and family. I

pondered the thought and responsibility for a short time and decided that our tribe needs to have leaders that are willing to be transparent and honest, Not afraid to tell the truth as it needs to be. If you want Healthy Leadership to represent your needs than you need to vote in Healthy Individuals. If I get your vote of confidence what you get is a person with Integrity and a strong voice for you. My education started at Muskegon Community College with an Associate's Degree from there I went on to Lake Superior State University and received my Bachelors in Criminal Justice. I also received a teaching diploma from Bay Mills Community College to teach Basic Anishinaabe Language. My work experience has been 14 years working with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe. I want to use my experiences in the best way possible and that is working with my own Tribal Members. My 5 year plan for Muskegon is to Re-Establish an Anishinaabe Cultural Center. This Anishinaabe

Center will be on my own time/money and will benefit all Anishinaabek to come and learn their Language, History, and Culture in a good positive way. Remember our Ancestors; they lived in a good way and so shall we. Nahaaw Baamaa for now I

if you wish to e-mail me, Facebook me or call me with any questions please feel free to contact me – bloney49@gmail.com Home Phone is (989)317-3048

Karen Love

Nine County Representative. I have a Bachelors Degree in Business Management. My 28 year career in a management capacity has given me the experience and skills in problem solving, good communication skills, and the ability to work with people. I am able to establish priorities and adhere to deadlines. **My priorities:** Constitution. EVR Equality for all Tribal Members Tribal Hiring (Preference). Our citizens deserve employment and advancement within our tribe. Apprentice programs that help our members promote into managerial positions.

Economic Diversification. Creating small business within our tribal citizens. Making sound investments to build our wealth within our community.

Financial Responsibility of Tribal Assets. Cutting out underutilized programs and consolidating departments.

Communication. Listening to the opinions and ideas of members.

I will make it a priority to manage tribal funds in a responsible manner and make smart decisions to remain competitive and adapt to our changing economy.

I will work with other councilors to move in a positive direction, so we will be able to realize the rewards of a financially sound enterprise and continue our legacy for our children.

And lastly, lets cut out the politicking and work together as a collective unit to bring fresh ideas to the table and workable solutions to the problems. I will work for the people who elected me and provide them with positive resolutions on issues that impact the health and welfare of all tribal members. Please feel free to contact me at

kalowolf@frontier.com



Frankie L. Medacco

I am Frankie Medacco, Tribal Member #1487, and I am running for Tribal Council, 9-County Representative. I am the grandson of the late Joseph Medacco, and I belong to the Bear clan. I was born and raised in Muskegon, Michigan. I have worked for the Tribal Government for over 10 years, most recently as the Housing Department Maintenance Technician. I am an active member of our community and volunteer for a number of activities, including the Elder's Meal Program. I am also a Firekeeper.

If elected to Tribal Council, I will work hard to help restore peace to our Tribal community by helping to build positive working relationships between all branches of government. I want to improve communications between the Tribal Council and the Ogema's office by having regular meetings and resolving issues peacefully and in a timely manner. I want to open the lines of communication between the Tribal leadership and the Tribal members. I want to help restore our Tribe to what it once was – a community whose main goal was to improve the lives of ALL.

I am in support of Equal Voting Rights. I believe that all Tribal members should have an equal voice in voting for their Tribal Council representatives. I support having an Ethics Ordinance for all Tribal leadership. I also believe that it is time to review the Revenue Allocation Plan to make sure that it is still applicable to today's Tribal needs and make updates, if necessary.

I believe that the time has come to start creating new enterprises and businesses so that we can create more jobs for our People. The time has come to create education and training programs for our People that will make them more qualified for the jobs that currently exist. It's time to look at the resources that we have right now - our People - and come up with creative ways to utilize the talents and skills that already exist as well as ways that would enable new talents and skills to be obtained.

It's time to start developing our Muskegon property and build businesses to provide jobs for our Tribal members in the Muskegon area. I would like to see new businesses in the Manistee area. I would like to expand small business opportunities for our Tribal members everywhere!

I can't promise to make things happen because I am just one man and just one voice. What I do promise is to always put the general welfare of our Tribe first and to always serve my Tribe in accordance with the seven Grandfather teachings – wisdom, love, respect, bravery, honesty, humility, and truth.

I would like to say "Chi-Miigwetch" to all who voted for me in the primary election, and I hope I can count on your votes (and many more) this April! For more information, please visit www.facebook.com/Frankieforcouncil.

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Janine Sam

Aanii:

Miigwech for moving me forward to the General Election. I am proud to acknowledge my parents, Jonnie and June Sam. It was they who raised me to care so deeply for my people by their example.

Big change comes in small steps, sometimes. Experience matters! Looking at the 9 county ballot, there are many good people seeking office, but not many who have actually held one.

The past 4 years were very challenging for our Nation. We saw rapid changes happening at multiple levels. Governor Snyder still refuses to budge on his opposition to Indian Gaming in Muskegon. The federal government is moving to cut billions in spending, and many impacts will be felt right here in Indian Country.

What have I done these past 4 years for you? Like I said, sometimes big change comes through small steps.

Changes in the past 4 years:

Improved communication: Submitted regular Recorder Reports to share with the Membership, including a monthly meeting chart. Added video recording of Tribal Council meetings, so that people can watch weekly sessions online. Operating my own facebook page "Gaa Ching Ziibii Daawaa Anishinaabek" to share news and conversations with people about issues that are important to them. Sharing information with the Ogema, in effort to get us on the same page (this may take more time!)

New laws, better accountability: Changed Indian Preference Laws increasing Tribal Member employment at the Casino and Government. Enacted the Certificate of Rehabilitation law, allowing members to have jobs at the Casino. Enacted the Board of Directors Act, structuring oversight of the Casino operation. Enacted the Prosecutor's Ordinance, ensuring independence in that office. Changed the Budget and Appropriations Act making sure government services are not interrupted again.

For FY 2013, we made sure that Elders Insurance was not cut, also kept programs to support our families and children-our Future.

Actively involved in our community: Routinely attend Elders meetings, community feasts, and Spring/Fall teachings. Raised my family to honor our Ancestors by serving their community.

There will be at least three new Council members for sure. Please consider if now is really a good time to replace every experienced member of your Tribal Council. I believe the Tribe is better off keeping a person with experience and knowledge, and I have both. I hope that you will find my experience and knowledge worthy of your vote.

Miigwech,
Janine M. Sam

Election Board

Candidates: Alesia Condon, Carol Gibner,
Diane A. Lonn, Terri L. Burmeister

Martin (Marty) Wabindato



Aanii: I'm Marty Wabindato, a full-blood Ottawa, champion dancer, craftsman, traditionalist and Tribal Elder. My fighting spirit comes from a time long before computers, smartphones, degrees and casinos. Over 400 years ago, the Ottawa, along with 2 other tribes in Michigan formed the Three Fires. Our people knew, even back then, that, "we had to work together!"

The Ottawa were excellent traders! We were able to "communicate" to those around us. It seems we're losing this skill!

The Elders had a voice and were respected. Today, not so much! We're losing a lot of our traditions in this modern age. I realize we have to keep up with modern technology to move the tribe into the 21st century. Educating our young people is so important.

First, we need to work together. The in-

fighting and blame games have to stop! No one wins with this behavior. We need to communicate with each other to avoid things like January 4th.

We need to educate our young people, give the Elders back their voice and as Tribal Citizens, to respect each other!

As a traditionalist, I need your vote! We need past and present on Council! I'm Alcohol and Drug-Free!

Pomma- Marty Wabindato231-510-1106

Alesia Condon

My name is Alesia Condon. I was born and raised in Muskegon. I have a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Michigan. I lived in Ann Arbor for 9 years before returning to the Muskegon area, where I currently reside with my family. I currently work for St. John's Health Care.

For the last 8 years, I have had the honor of serving on the Little River Election Board. During that time, many positive changes have taken place, such as voter registration and the creation of Chapter 13 which governs the process for Tribal members to petition for Constitutional changes.

In 2005, the Election Board Regulations were completely revised and written as one document. The Board continues to review and update the Regulations on a regular basis. It has always been important to me to receive ideas from the membership. I feel this is important in order to create Election Regulations that best serve the needs of the Tribe.

Though the office of Election Board is not a full time position, I and the rest of the Board members have made ourselves available to the membership on a full time basis by providing our own personal contact numbers on the office voicemail. That is the commitment

I have made to the Tribe and, if re-elected, it is a commitment I will continue to make for the future of our Tribe.

Thank you, Alesia Condon

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Carol Gibner



I enjoy helping and working with our tribal members. I have met many members in the past few years and feel they would be comfortable with me for asking questions regarding the elections. I have been on the election board for over a year now, it has been a real honor and a great learning experience. I am honest and dedicated to the tribe and its members. I am retired so I would be available when needed.

It would be an honor serving on the election board,

Phone: 616.334.2368.

Email: monag1010@yahoo.com.

Please call or email me if you have any questions.

Carol

Diane A. Lonn

Aanii: My name is Diane A. Lonn; I am running for a seat on the LRBOI Election Board.

My Grandfather was James Koon and my Great Grandfathers were Joe Koon and Pete Espiew.

I am married and have three children, as well as five grandchildren (all girls).

I have worked as the Enrollment Officer for the tribe since 1993 when we only had three employees, in 1999, I moved to the casino and worked for the General Manager there, then in 2004, I returned to the tribe and the position of Enrollment Officer.

I have two Associate Degrees and 2 years ago received my Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

Since 1993, I have been on various committees including Constitution, Election Board, Land Acquisition and our Health Board. I have worked as a volunteer on the Pow Wows as well as the Children's Christmas Parties, Community Dinners and other events that the tribe has sponsored.

I have integrity, experience and work ethics and would be an asset to the Election Board.

Please vote for Diane A. Lonn,
Candidate for the Tribal Election Board

Terri L. Burmeister



Aanii, My name is Terri L. Burmeister TM# 0979 and I hope to represent Little River Band of Ottawa Indians on the Election Board. As a mother and grandmother, I fully understand the necessity of good leadership. We all know our tribal leaders are a result of an election. What better way to serve our tribal community than to ensure that these very elections are honestly and

promptly performed. At this stage of my life and career I do not desire a seat on council. I do wish to help guide those who do, through the election process in a good way. Every tribal member has a vested interest in a successful Government. Instead of waiting to hear what's going on within our tribe, I hope to be a part of what's going on.

My qualifications are many, and I will try to briefly explain. I am currently employed as a Food & Beverage Supervisor at Little River Casino Resort. This makes me a part of a leadership team that is responsible for multiple outlets and over 200 employees. I am Honest, Dependable, Organized, and Fair. I understand there needs to be a balance between business and personal responsibilities. I am a firm believer in quality of life and I try to supervise that way every day. I am a real person who has lived a real life. This has prepared me to handle any adversity that comes my way. I am capable of problem solving and conflict resolution.

To hold a position on the Election Board would be an Honor and a Privilege. If given the opportunity, I would strive daily to represent our people and the election process in a good way.

Miigwech, Terri L Burmeister

Candidates: Ryan Champagne, Virgil Johnson, Lee Sprague



Ryan Champagne

"In the time of the Sixth Fire it will be evident that the promise of the Fifth Fire came in a false way. Those deceived by this promise will take their children away from the teachings of the Elders. Grandsons and granddaughters will turn against the Elders. In this way the Elders will lose their reason for living ... they will lose their purpose in life. At this time a new sickness will come among the people. The balance of many people will be disturbed. The cup of life will almost become the cup of grief."

In order to plan for the next seven generations, we must not only understand our teachings but seek the wisdom of our elders. Understanding the historical trauma and current conditions of our nation will guide us in ensuring we are Helping Our Families and Healing Our Communities.

- 27% Poverty Rate
- 1 in 3 Women will be victims of Sexual Violence
- 70% of Sexual Assaults are never reported
- 38% higher Incarceration Rate
- 70% higher Suicide Rate
- 12% of Deaths are Alcohol related
- 2.2x's higher Diabetic Rate
- 2x's more likely to be Homeless
- 12x's more likely to have our Children placed in Foster Care

I ask you, my relatives, to elect a leader who is not only educated but grounded in native traditions and culture. I have devoted my life to advocating and protecting ones in need. I believe in investing in our families and communities, in order to provide long lasting social change. I not only practice the ways of our people but teach our children our traditions. I believe that the direction of the Band should be determined by the voice of all our people. I believe in our prophecy; in order for our nation to be strong again, we must seek out the teachings of our ancestors. We need to go to our elders and seek the wisdom and guidance they can offer. I believe in ensuring accountability to the members from not only their elected officials but from management of the band. I believe in equality in services, representation, and rights. I Believe in Our People! I believe in Helping Families, Healing Communities!
Miigwech, Nitumigaabow

Ryan Champagne (414) 429-6906
"Helping Families, Healing Communities"
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/helpingfamilieshealingcommunities/>

Boozhoo Nindinawemaaganidok,

As we move forward with self-governance, we should look to our elders and teachings for guidance:

"In the time of the Fifth Fire there will come a time of a great struggle that will grip the lives of all native people. At the waring of this Fire, there will come among the people one who holds a promise of great joy and salvation. If the people accept this promise of a new way and abandon the old teachings, then the struggle of the Fifth Fire will be with the people for many generations. The promise that comes will prove to be a false promise. All those who accept this promise will cause the near destruction of our people."

Advertisements

Virgil Johnson

Aanii Tribal Citizens of LRBOI

My name is Virgil Johnson Zoongede Mshekenh (Courageous Turtle), grandson of the late James & Beatrice Koon and a member of the Turtle Clan.

I want to thank all of you for the support I have received in the primary election and look forward to your support in the regular election. Now the primary is over I would like to announce the following primary At Large Candidates will support me in the **General Election:**

- Marcella Leusby
- Darlene (Trish) Snyder
- Joe Riley II

My platform as your candidate:

- Bringing the Tribe Together
- Healthcare Coverage
- Education of our people
- Housing
- Cultural Sensitivity

Why should you vote for Virgil Johnson "At Large Councilor"? Please remember in the last 4 years I've voted on resolutions that open employment for our people at the resort and LRBOI Government. We have increased employment from a low 80's to over 117 preference employees at the resort.

Voted to protect our people for future employment by upgrading the Preference Ordinance and eliminating "loop holes". Most of you know who I am and have witnessed my integrity and work ethics as your At Large Councilor.

As your At Large Councilor served in the following areas:

- Board of Director with a 92% attendance
- Served on the Construction Task force for the new homes at AKI with 90% attendance
- New Government Center Task force with a 90% attendance
- Attendance for Council Work Sessions 91%

- Warrior Society secretary assisted with the 12 Annual Eagle Staff gathering and 3 years with Tight Lines for Troops
- Served as the Council Liaison for the Elders Committee four years

Personal

- Grandson of the late James and Beatrice Koon
- Married 21 years to Kathy and we have 3 married sons with 3 Grandchildren.
- Zero points on driver's license
- Excellent Credit Rating which demonstrates financial convictions.
- Back ground for Binojeeuk was clean (this commission reviews our children at risk cases)
- Background for Board of Directors was clean (This is the highest check done for any management employees)
 - Excellent health
 - Life Member to Whitetail Unlimited
 - A passion for Hunting and Fishing

Education

1963-1966 Manistee High School
 1966-1967 Muskegon Area Vocational Training Center (Machine Tool Certificate)
 1970-1972 Ferris State University (Associates Degree Machine Tool Technology)
 1972-1973 Ferris State University (Bachelor of Arts Education)
 1973-1975 Michigan Apprenticeship Program (Tool and Die Maker)
 Work Experience
 1967-1970 Excello Corporation
 1968-1970 US Army
 1973-2001 Dow Corning Corporation.....Retired as a Senior Industry Consultant, Supervisor and Mentor for Engineers and Technicians. A project leader and hold 4 US Patents.

While at Dow Corning received formal training in the following areas:

- Word Perfect/Excel
- Managerial Grid
- Problem Solving Decision Making
- Project Management
- Team Building

2001-2009 Ran a consulting service for the following areas:

- Silicone Fabrication
- Liquid Injection Molding Business Development
- Habitat for Wildlife Land Restoration

2003-2009 Worked on the following Tribal Commissions/Committees:

- Binojeeuk Commission (Secretary and the only Man to serve on this Commission)
- Natural Resource Commission (Chairman/Secretary)
- Commerce Commission (Secretary)
- Warrior Society (Secretary)
- LRBOI Hunters Safety (Instructor)

Presented many Technical Papers throughout the North American:

- National Plastic Exposition (Medical Division)
- University of Milwaukee Wisconsin (2 times)
- Rubber World Magazine
- Rubber and Plastic News
- Silicone National Symposium (2 times)

I invite you to look at my Web site
WWW.virgilforcouncil.com
 or give me a call 231-398-2840.

Chi Miigwetch
 Virgil Johnson - Zoongede Mshekenh
 Councilor At Large

Advertisement

Lee Sprague

Here is why I am running against Virgil Johnson. Currently, All the Tribes Money, your money, are in unsecured accounts at Wells Fargo. All our money is at risk, none of it is secured. I voted against this. Virgil was the deciding vote for it.

I support raising the Per Capita distribution to members from 40% to 50%, and including our children in the distribution. I support this, Virgil Johnson supports leaving it as is.

The Casino Bowling Alley proposal has not passed adequate due diligence in my opinion. The Casino wants to borrow the Tribes Money. Virgil Johnson supports the Bowling Alley plan. I don't.

Muskegon Expansion. The proposed project has suffered serious setbacks, No plan B. Virgil Johnson has supported the poor planning and development of the Muskegon Property. I have consistently opposed the poor planning. We need a commercial appraisal of the Muskegon Parcel and a plan to develop it and generate revenue for the Tribe members. Watching it depreciate is not a plan.

We both agree that the Ogema needs to keep the Health Care Clinic Open. We were the first tribe in the US to close our Health Clinic while adequate funding was available. Thank you for your support and your vote.

Gaa' Čing Ziibi Daawaá Aníshinaábe

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
ELECTION BOARD
375 River Street
Manistee, MI 49660
(231) 723-8288**

To: All LRBOI
From: Little River Election Board
Date: 3-3-13

The 2013 Primary was held on February 15, 2013. As of December 21, 2012, 1,101 citizens had registered to vote in the Tribe. Ballots were issued to all 1,101 Registered Voters in the Tribe.

The ballots for the April 26, 2013 General Election are scheduled to be mailed to voters on March 25, 2013. Registered Voters should receive their ballots within the following two weeks. Registered Voters should fill them out and return them in a timely manner.

Please note the return envelopes included in the ballot packet are pre-addressed postage-paid envelopes. The ballots will go to a P.O. Box at the Manistee Post office and will not be picked up until noon on April 26, 2013. No additional postage should be necessary as long as the ballot is mailed in a timely manner. **Do Not** send ballots back to us certified mail, as these ballots are going to a post office box.

The P.O. Box to which ballots are sent will not be opened from March 25, 2013 until noon on April 26, 2013. The Board will not know of any undeliverable ballot packets until April 26, 2013.

If a Registered Voter has not received their ballot packet by April 8, 2013, that voter needs to **contact the Election Board by telephone or in person to be issued a replacement ballot.**

The contact number for the **Election Board** is **231-398-6709**. Leave a clear message with you name, Tribal ID # and contact information. You may also use one of the alternate phone numbers on the outgoing message. Voice mail is checked every 1-2 days.

If you are not sure that you are a registered voter, please contact the Enrollment Department to check your status.
Thank you,
Little River Election Board



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Voter Registration Card		
Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Tribal ID	Date of Birth	
Effective Date	Expiration Date	



Candidates: Shannon Paul Crampton, Bill Willis

Shannon Paul Crampton

Aanii, I Shannon Paul Crampton am seeking the office of the outlying rep. on council to give a voice to those of you who do not reside in the 9 county area.

My stance on fairness and truth is well known. At the time of this letter our tribe is in crisis and my warnings to you from 2005-2009 now seem all too prophetic. A change in current policy must occur to insure the security of our tribe, your voice for the past four years has gone unheard due in large to the fact that all the seats appointed you have been filled by 9 county residents who do not share our experiences as outlying members, my lone opponent in the upcoming election is yet another 9 county resident with strong relative ties to the current administration.

Now with the passage of self governance it is imperative that all members have their voices heard and a place at the table instead of just being thrown the scraps as you are now. This change can only occur if you use the power you now hold as registered voters to choose the correct representation.

In the March edition of the currents my opponent Bill Willis stated that "The percentages in the Revenue Allocation Plan have not been revisited since the original adoption of Per Capita; why?" This statement is untrue, the original Revenue Allocation Plan was adopted on JAN.23.2008.Pg.5. ROLL CALL#8 at 40% which I did not support instead I offered an amendment that would allow members to vote for the percentage they wanted (which was rejected)

The Revenue Allocation Plan was revisited and amended to 50% on NOV.12.2008.Pg.12-19.ROLL CALL#14 which I did support but it was vetoed by Ogema Romanelli a fact that my opponent has failed to inform you of.

My stance on Per Capita since day one has always remained the same and that is the maximum amount allowable and last I knew that was 60% our Govt. could and should be able to operate on 40% the goal is to provide our people as a whole competent, fair and equal leadership not the selective self serving leadership we have now

Qualifications: I served on council from 2005-2009 and helped implement most of the programs you now enjoy such as Per-Cap. I have an extensive knowledge of state and tribal law and have managed businesses that have never seen financial loss and currently consult others on how to do the same.

If elected I vow to implement equal voting rights, live streamed council meetings, time clocks for council, drug testing for elected officials, and an appropriate Per Capita level that meets the needs of our membership

I welcome all inquires and look forward to providing you with much needed responsible leadership
Respectfully submitted Email-earlymornwalker@aol.com Website-<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lollytopps/>
Shannon Paul Crampton

Advertisements

Bill Willis



My name is Bill Willis and I am a candidate for Tribal Council – Outlying District. I am married and have three wonderful daughters; veteran of the U.S. Marines; Pastor of Christian Faith Church in Manistee, as well as a previous business owner. I have worked for the Tribal Government for approx. 14 years in a number of different capacities, including my current position as Budget Coordinator. I have worked with every Tribal Ogema, with the exception of one.

I pledge to bring vision, leadership, hard work, and a greater level of honor and respect to the office. One of my goals is to build a stronger bridge between the Council and the Ogema; something that is long overdue. Another goal will be to revisit the Revenue Allocation Plan in an effort to amend (increase) the current percentage in the general welfare component area. This area is where the majority of the direct services funding gets budgeted. Reallocating just 3% of the gaming distribution toward this component area would have a huge impact on the number of services that could be provided. The percentages in the Revenue Allocation Plan have not been revisited since the original adoption of Per Capita, but I will strongly advocate for the amendment of the current percentages in the area of general welfare.

Another item that warrants attention is capital replacement costs. The Tribe should not only have a detailed capital replacement plan, but also establish and maintain a long-term and short-term capital replacement reserve, wherein annually a certain percentage of general fund balance gets transferred into the reserve. The reserve would help fund future replacement of organizational computer systems/networks, vehicles, equipment, etc. Additionally, I would like to establish a college scholarship reserve for tribal member students living outside the state of Michigan.

Thank you,
Bill Willis
www.facebook.com/VoteBillWillis email: hizkid1019@yahoo.com

Candidates: Damian Fisher, Spring Medacco, Angela Sherigan

Damian Fisher



Aanii!

My name is Damian Fisher. I am a member, and Tribal Elder, of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. I want to be your next Associate Tribal Judge because I believe you need a full-time, dedicated judge who is fully invested in the LRBOI Tribal community. Your Tribe is growing and becoming stronger every day. Great changes are coming that will give you many opportunities to strengthen your Tribal sovereignty. Changes like Self-Determination in Tribal governance, the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA), and the Tribal provisions of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) all require Tribes to not only have strong, stable and sustainable Tribal Court systems, but to also have Law Trained Tribal Judges to fully exercise Tribal sovereignty under these laws.

I want to be your next Associate Tribal Judge because I want to help prepare LRBOI for the responsibilities that come with greater sovereignty. I have a Law Degree (J.D.) from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing. I've been an Indian Lawyer for over 12 years and I have extensive courtroom experience. As a former Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Gratiot County, I was in court everyday prosecuting everything from traffic tickets, retail fraud and passing bad checks

to putting felons on trial for violent crimes including some very difficult Domestic Violence cases. As a law clerk for the Michigan Court of Claims I drafted court opinions that determined the outcome of multi-million dollar lawsuits against the State of Michigan and its citizens (all of which have since been affirmed in the Michigan Court of Appeals). Acting as an administrative law judge in the Michigan's 30th Circuit Court, I drafted administrative appeal decisions that are now quoted in the Decisions, Digests and Opinions of Michigan's Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to guide their administrative law judges in making current and future administrative decisions. While serving as the Chief Legislative Counsel for LRBOI, I contributed language to the recently enacted Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA) that directly addressed the concerns of LRBOI's government and protects the unique interests of LRBOI's Indian families.

It is vitally important that LRBOI have a full time legal professional with the appropriate legal credentials to work with Chief Judge Bailey to make the LRBOI Tribal Court a strong and respected institution. I want to bring all my experience and training as a lawyer to serve your Tribal Community with compassion and fairness. There are many wonderful people working hard to provide much needed services to the tribal community. I have a long history with LRBOI, and I have come to love and respect its people and leaders.

I feel lucky to have made many friends in my journeys with LRBOI and as the election nears, please feel free to contact me at ecattorney@yahoo.com with your questions about my candidacy.

I welcome every opportunity to sit and talk.

Advertisements

Spring Medacco

I am Spring Medacco, Tribal Member #0136, Biidaabinakwe (First Light Woman). I am the granddaughter of Alice (Pete) Moore and I belong to the Turtle clan. I have been involved with my Tribe since I was 11 years old, when I used to attend Tribal functions with my mother, one of the first Tribal Council members. I remember all the time and energy she put into helping our Tribe gain our federal recognition, so the love that she had for our Tribe was passed on to me at an early age. In the last 23 years, I have seen our Tribe go through a lot of ups and downs, but throughout it all, I have always remained proud to be a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

I have served our Tribe for the past 8 ½ years in our Tribal Prosecutor's office, where I have acted as the Paralegal and Victim Advocate. I have over 11 ½ years of experience in the legal field, including business law, probate law, civil law, real estate law and criminal law. I have also had extensive training in Indian law, Indian jurisdiction, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and Victim's Rights.

I am a member of the National Indian Child Welfare Association, the LRBOI Domestic Violence Advisory Committee, and I am also a volunteer peacemaker. My educational background consists of an AAS in Early Childhood Education and an AAS in Business Management.

As your Associate Judge, I will make decisions that are based on law but do not neglect the traditions of our People. I believe that our Peacemaking Department is an invaluable resource to our Tribe and it is my intent to utilize it more often to help bring back traditional mediation and restoration practices.

As your Associate Judge, I will make court decisions that are fair and impartial. I will do my best to resolve court cases in a timely manner because our Tribal members need resolution to the issues that affect their lives! I will see to it that our child neglect/abuse cases are resolved in a manner that meets the best interests of the children as well as the Tribe. I will work with our Tribal Council to establish Tribal laws so that we no longer need to rely upon Michigan law – it's time that we begin to exercise our Tribal sovereignty in this area!

As your Associate Judge, I will make our Tribal Court a priority by making my position as Associate Judge my main job. Because I am a Tribal member, I have a personal interest in maintaining the integrity of our judicial system and it is my desire that it become the very best court that it can be!

I look forward to serving our Tribe as your new Associate Judge. For more information, please visit my website at www.facebook.com/Springforjudge or e-mail me at smedacco@hotmail.com.

Angela Sherigan



In the last article, you saw all of my credentials. Here, I would like to show you how they benefit the court. The various positions I hold within the legal community, (some elected, some appointed), exposes the tribal court to many people and organizations that have either no exposure or a misunderstanding of tribal courts and tribal judges. I often receive questions about the court, or the interplay between tribal, state and federal law, including from state judges. There are also many times when a state committee is discussing a topic to make a recommendation to the “powers that be”, where the effect on Native people and Tribes is not even considered until I bring it up. My most memorable is when the State Bar of Michigan was trying to decide its position on proposed legislation to make Michigan an official “English” speaking state. It was not until I brought up that Michigan was not originally an English speaking territory, that the votes started to change to “no”. Through my personal connections, many misconceptions about tribal courts and tribal judges are cleared up.

It is because of my license to practice law, that I have these positions and connections which allow for a great deal of these conversations happen in places that they would not otherwise happen. Now more than ever, it is important to have at least one licensed attorney at the court. The recent passage of the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization illustrates this. Tribes have been given the opportunity to exercise a sovereign right that the U.S. Supreme Court took away in 1978. The ability to have jurisdiction over non-Indians on their land to protect their women! It also enhances sentencing authority. However, in order for a Tribe to exercise this right, the tribal judge MUST have a license to practice law. The Tribal Law and Order Act, also requires a law trained judge for enhanced sentencing.

In addition, the court is now seeing more legally complex cases, and more attorneys. With this, I saw a need for updated court rules, and took it upon myself to rewrite all of them. My philosophy in the courtroom, is that everyone will be heard, and I try to facilitate an outcome that addresses more than just the legal questions. Sometimes, that is not always possible, and sometimes decisions are made that are not always popular. My decisions are not influenced by the people in front of me, or the possible political fall-out that may result, but are based in law and on the facts in front of the court.

I have been in your community for almost 10 years now, and have gotten to know many of you, attend many of your community gatherings, and am a strong advocate for Native people, especially children, and your Tribe. The legal knowledge and experience that I have is vast and I am asking for your vote to re-elect me as your judge. More at www.facebook.com/ReelectJudgeSherigan Miigwech.

Native American Business Institute



Welcome to the Multicultural Business Programs Native American Business Institute (NABI)! You are invited to explore our website and learn more about our pre-college program.

What will I gain from this experience?

- Develop time management and study skills
- Receive tips and strategies for gaining admission to college
- Learn how to navigate the financial aid/scholarship jungle
 - Form lifelong friendships with other Native youth, MSU students, and MSU support staff
 - Strengthen communication and interpersonal skills
 - Attend corporate, cultural, and leadership development workshops
 - Cultivate a deeper appreciation and understanding of their culture
 - Foster networks with business leaders and other professionals
 - Expose students to various careers and opportunities in business
 - Most importantly—they learn how to WORK HARD & PLAY HARD!

APPLICATION PROCESS:

- Total participants admitted into the summer program will be set at 40 students.
- Priority will be given to applications submitted on or before Friday, May 3, 2013. Selected students and parents will be sent an acceptance letter with additional documents and required forms to be completed and sent back to Multicultural Business Programs accepting and confirming their son or daughters attendance to NABI 2013.

PROGRAM DATES:

- Native American Summer Business Institute will be take place at the Michigan State University campus during the following dates and location:
- Shaw Hall, East Lansing, MI—July 20-26 (Sat-Fri), 2013
 - Orientation Date for Parents: July 20, 2013 (After student drop-off)

APPLICATION PERIOD/DEAD LINES:

- First round of applications Due by Friday, May 3, 2013
- Late applications will be placed at the “end of the line” for review and students are accepted on a space available basis.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible, each student must:

- Be a current high school student
- Have a 2.8-3.0 cumulative grade-point average
- Submit a completed application packet by the established deadline

Mail, Fax, or Email Applications to:

Kevin Leonard
Multicultural Business Programs
645 N. Shaw Lane, Rm. 419
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-353-3524/ (Fax) 517-355-0970
leonard1@msu.edu

Also, check us out on Facebook

Who is this for?

Native American high school students who will be in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade during the Fall 2013- Spring 2014 school year interested in learning more about college and opportunities in business.

What is NABI?

The Native American Business Institute is a week-long pre-college summer program for Native American high school students that will be in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade during the Fall 2013- Spring 2014 school year. Participants work with MSU admissions officers, college counselors, tribal community leaders, and corporate representatives in a seven-day “business boot-camp” that prepares students for the college and exposes them to numerous academic and professional opportunities.

When is NABI?
July 20-26, 2013



MINORITY VETERAN OUTREACH

Training

- Not trained as "certified" service officers
- No accreditation as service organization
- Ongoing training and annual "formal" training sessions

TVRs are trained to help Veterans and their families with the required forms for the following programs:

- Claims benefits
- Healthcare benefits
- Education benefits
- Home loan benefits
- Death benefits
- Various other related benefits



Goals & Objectives

- Reach out to ALL Veterans
- Find underserved Veterans
- Help families of Veterans
- Increase access to Healthcare and Benefits
- Help improve quality of life
- Liaison between Veterans, Veterans Family, VA, Veterans groups, community organizations, and government agencies



Outreach Efforts

- Attend local celebrations
- Visit Veterans' home
- Point of contact for returning Veterans
- Video products provided for community use



Other Efforts

- OEF/DIF Welcome Home American Veteran program to reach returning veterans
- Traditional Healing program
- Tele-mental health programs and multiple VISNs
- Remote Telehealth devices



ROCKY MOUNTAIN HEALTHCARE NETWORK (VISN 19)

Minority Outreach Coordinator

W.J. "Buck" Richardson, Jr.

Office: (406) 447-7547

Cell: (406) 439-6331

william.richardson@va.gov

Statement by HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius on Women's History Month

March 1 marked the beginning of Women's History Month. This year's theme is as fitting as it is exciting: "Women Inspiring Innovation Through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)."

The nation this year recognizes such extraordinary women as Patricia Era Bath (1942), whose invention of the Laserphaco Probe was an important milestone in the advent of laser cataract surgery; Rita R. Colwell (1934), the first woman director of the National Science Foundation; Susan A. Gerbi (1944), a molecular cell biologist whose research has potential significance in understanding the role of hormones in certain cancers; and Flossie Wong-Staal (1946), a virologist and molecular biologist whose work made it possible to develop HIV tests.

And I want to acknowledge the thousands of women who work throughout the Department making sure that groundbreaking biomedical research moves forward, that life-saving vaccines are getting to the public, that community health clinics are accessible to families who have nowhere else to go, that drugs are safe, that our seniors get the health care they need, and that our young children at risk get the Head Start support that is vital to their future success in school.

The success of American women is critical to our families and economy. Among the initiatives of this administration to advance gender equality, are efforts to bring more women into science and health care professions. Women who hold STEM degrees and jobs earn 30 percent more on average than women in non-STEM jobs.

We also know that American women – and men – will not have the opportunity to fulfill their potential, provide for their families, and contribute

to their communities without accessible, affordable and high-quality health care and insurance. For too long, insurance companies stacked the deck against women, forcing us to pay more for coverage that did not meet our needs. Because of the Affordable Care Act, a new day for women's health has arrived. Thanks to the health care law, millions of women are benefiting from expanded access to preventive services, such as mammograms and prenatal care, at no additional cost. And millions more will soon have access to the Health Insurance Marketplace – open enrollment starts Oct. 1, 2013 – where they can compare health plans based on benefits, quality and cost and choose the one that best fits their needs.

During Women's History Month, let us remember the women pioneers in the sciences and work to continue their legacy



It is going to be getting warmer Elders!!! I think we are all ready for some warmer weather and sunshine! The sun helps your body produce vitamin D. So take your time while getting the mail, take the long way. Go out side on an afternoon to do some bird watching. I would enjoy taking a short walk with you after our Elder Meals.

Please contact Noelle Cross with any questions Phone: 231-398-6886
E-mail: necross@tribe.com
Volunteers are needed to help with meals if interested please contact Noelle.

Meals served at 12 o'clock
• No Charge to Elders their Spouse and Handicap/Disabled individuals who reside with Elder.
• Guests Meals are \$5.00
Donations are appreciated and will be used for program activities and food.

Aki Community Center Elder Meals Menu 2013

APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	BBQ Pork Sand Sweet potato Mixed veggie Dessert	Fish Seasoned Rice Cauliflower Applesauce	Taco Bake Spanish Rice Yogurt cream Natchi Wil Bowling	Meatloaf Potato Green Bean Strawberry Cake		Choice of Roast Turkey Chick- en Noodle Soup Fry Bread Strawberry Shortcake
7	Smothered Beef Stalked Potato Zucchini Strawberry Short cake	9 Roast Sandwich Macaroni Cheese Cauliflower Salad	10 Beef Stroganoff Apple Green Beans Sherbet Activity: Wil Bowling	11 Orange / Olive Chicken Rice Roasted Figs Pickling	12	13
14	15 Meatloaf & Mar- inade Zucchini Salad	16 Smothered Pork Chop Red Potato Corn Fruit crisp	17 BBQ Beef sandwich Sweet Potato Tot Dip Rainbow Cake Activity: Wil Bowling	18 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Corn Fruit	19 Muskegon Meal !! RSVP Noelle 231-398- 6886	20
21	22 Fried Chicken Grilled Fish and Pot- to Green Beans Frozen Fruit Bar	23 Vegetable soup Grilled Cheese on Wheat Fruit	24 Grilled Carrots Potato Apple cake Activity: Wil Bowling	25 Turkey dip Potato wedges Figs Strawberry Shortcake	26	27
28	29 Tuna Bar Rice Beans Alfredo	30 Roasted Spars Ribs Corn on the Cob Potato Salad Fresh Fruit				
	Wednesdays' Win Bowling Thursday the 4th- Birthday of the month!	TBD: BINGO CARD DAY QUILTING	Coffee, milk and water are available at every meal.		Menu subject to change with out notice. Meals meet 1/3 of the RDI based on a 1600 to 2000 calorie diet.	

Hands Free Cell Phones



Question: When you are driving down the road using a cell phone, is using a hands-free device safer than holding the phone up to your ear? (Presenter - Let them answer)

A new study in the National Safety Council's Journal of Safety Research concludes there is little difference between the driving safety risk of using hands-free cell phones and using hand held phones. The study confirms that any form of cell phone use is a distraction that detracts from the brain's ability to focus on safe driving.

Researchers found hands-free and handheld phones are equally dangerous for drivers. Both types of phones:

- Cause more accidents and driving errors
- Impair reaction times
- Slow down overall vehicle speed

"It's just not possible for our brains to focus on the road and the call or text," said David Teater, NSC senior director of transportation strategic initiatives.

The NSC became the first national organization to call for a total ban on cell phone use while driving. Learn more about the science of distracted driving from the National Safety Council website at www.nsc.org

Why Safety Belts?

Whether you are driving to work or driving a powered industrial truck at work, safety belt use is important each and every time you get behind the wheel.

Why Safety Belts?

To understand the value of safety belt use, it's important to understand some of the dynamics of a crash. Every motor vehicle crash is actually comprised of three collisions.

The Car's Collision

The first collision is known as the car's collision, which causes the car to buckle and bend as it hits something and comes to an abrupt stop. This occurs in approximately one-tenth of a second. The crushing of the front end absorbs some of the force of the crash and cushions the rest of the car. As a result, the passenger compartment comes to a more gradual stop than the front of the car.

The Human Collision

The second collision occurs as the car's occupants hit some part of the vehicle. At the moment of impact, unbelted occupants are still traveling at the vehicle's original speed. Just after the vehicle comes to a complete stop, these unbelted occupants will slam into the steering wheel, the windshield, or some other part of the vehicle interior. This is the human collision.

Another form of human collision is the person-to-person impact. Many serious injuries are caused by unbelted occupants colliding with each other. In a crash, occupants tend to move toward the point of impact, not away from it. People in the front seat are often struck by unbelted rear-seat passengers who have become high-speed projectiles.

The Internal Collision

Even after the occupant's body comes to a complete stop, the internal organs are still moving forward. Suddenly, these organs hit other organs or the skeletal system. This third collision is the internal collision and often causes serious or fatal injuries.

So, Why Safety Belts? During a crash, properly fastened safety belts distribute the forces of rapid deceleration over larger and stronger parts of the person's body, such as the chest, hips and shoulders. The safety belt stretches slightly to slow your body down and to increase its stopping distance.

The difference between the belted person's stopping distance and the unbelted person's stopping distance is significant. It's often the difference between life and death.



Frugal Franny!

A bit of planning can save you a ton of money
Want to get the best deal on everything that you buy? It all starts with knowing when to shop.

September

The Best Time to Buy

Food:

Cereal
Breakfast bars
Peanut butter
Jelly
Lunch meat
American cheese
Yogurt
Chips
Snack cakes
Cookies
Hot dogs
Ground beef
Hamburger and hot dog buns
Condiments (ketchup, mustard, barbeque sauce, relish)
Salad dressing
Canned fruits and vegetables
Soups
Broth
Frozen pies
Soda
Wine
Drink boxes
Mushrooms

Non-food:

Grill supplies (charcoal, lighter fluid)
Party supplies (disposable plates, cups, napkins and utensils)
School supplies
Office supplies
Underwear
Socks
Undershirts
Large appliances (refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers)
Cars
Lawn mowers
Grills
Trees, shrubs and bulbs

October

The Best Time to Buy

Food:

Canned fruits and vegetables
Dried fruits (raisins, apricots, cranberries)
Soups
Broth
Mushrooms
Fair Trade products
Seafood

Non-food:

Large appliances
Lawn mowers
Grills
Tires and other car care supplies
Jeans
Trees, shrubs and bulbs

<http://lifehacker.com/5973864/the-best-time-to-buy-anything-during-the-year>

<http://www.realsimple.com/>

We put these tips out there sometimes months in advance so we can try to get as much to you as possible. We really only have 11 articles a year to give you so we wish to make the most off it.

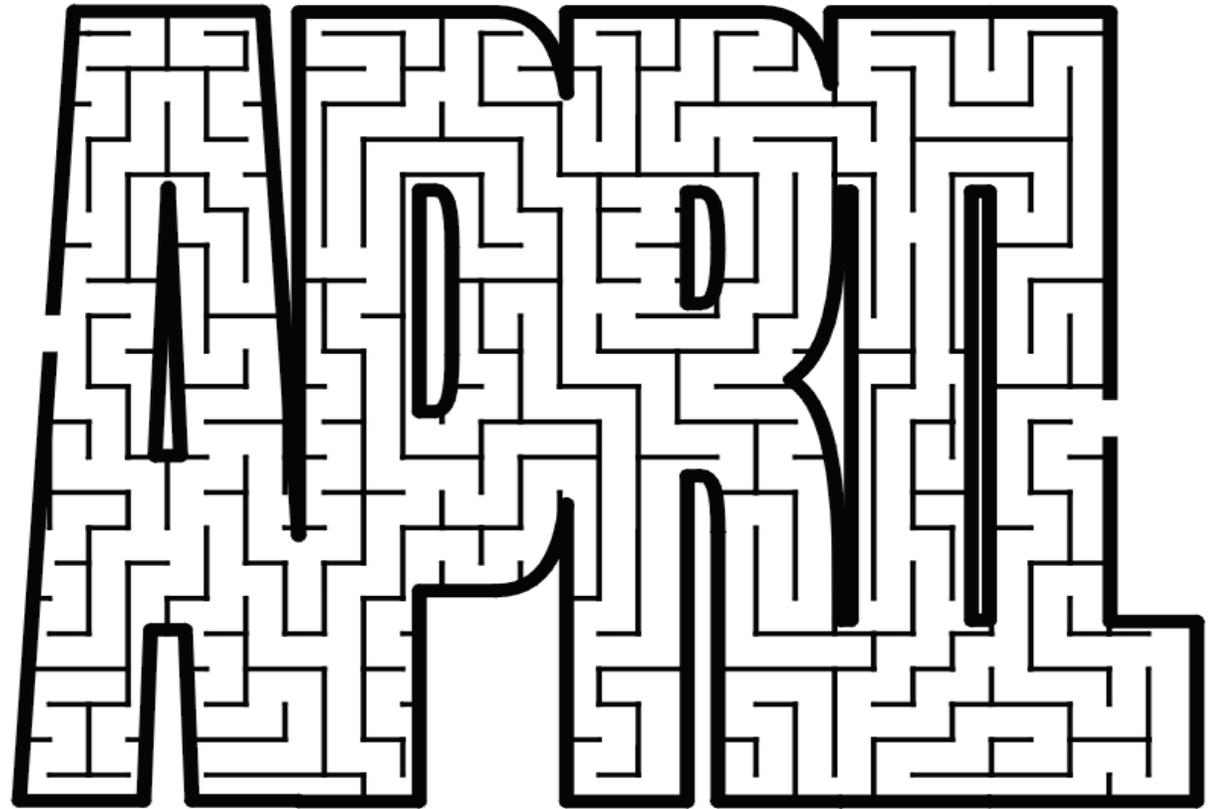
A good idea: Cut these out and put them on your fridge!

Spring Word Search

A S T R O A P R I L N O M I B
C A L L Y S L P R I N G B E I
G I N S M W A I T H T H E S R
P R I M A G N E R E T S A E D
Q U I N Y O T X A N D H E N S
B A B Y A N I M A L S O A D S
L W I T D H N T L H E W S W U
O M M E S R G F L O W E R S S
S N I A R O L S E T I R C E H
S S P R E I N H R G T S I T M
O E D A H Y T L B I S G R H T
M H O U T W R S M D L I M A R
S E B L O O M S U A B T L E A
S T T R M W E B D L V E H O U
R S G M I N E D R A G A D A Y

APRIL	GROWTH
BABY ANIMALS	MAY
BIRDS	MILD
BIRTH	MOTHER'S DAY
BLOOMS	MUD
BLOSSOMS	PLANTING
BUDS	RAIN
EASTER	SHOWERS
FLOWERS	THAW
GARDENING	UMBRELLA

April Maze



Forts for Kids

It's no secret that we love forts, tents and hideaways. Here is a super-simple tutorial on how to build a structure out of newspaper. The way you create it can be modified depending on the age of your kids. Mine are seven and nine, so they did this all by themselves. All you need is some newspaper as well as some tape and/or a stapler.



Instructions

1. Take two sheets of newspaper, lay them out flat, one on top of the other, and start rolling them from one corner. The tighter the roll, the stronger it will be. My boys aren't tight rolling masters yet, but they did pretty well for their first time!

2. Secure the end with a small piece of tape.

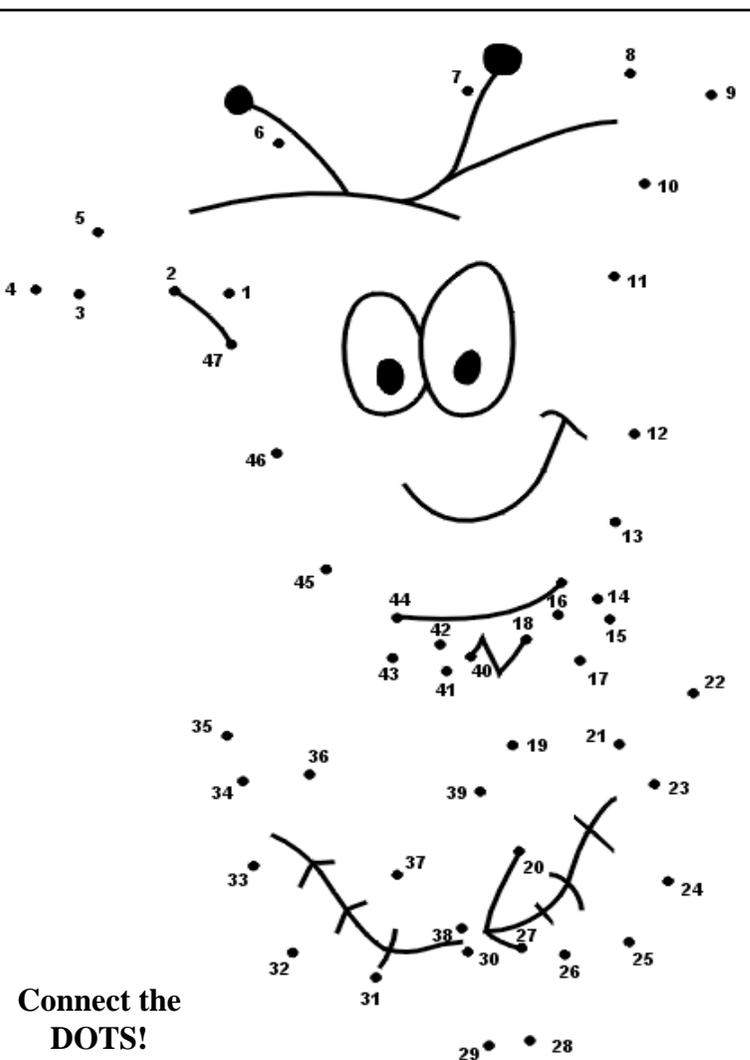
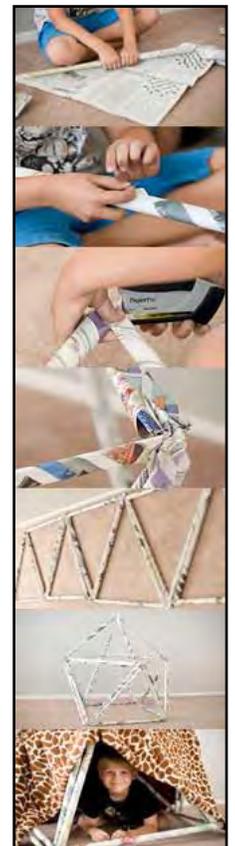
3. Make as many newspaper rolls as your kids will allow. An ideal amount would be around 48, but I think we stopped around 25 or so.

4. Make triangles with your newspaper rolls by taping or stapling the ends together.

5. Create as many triangles as you can with your newspaper rolls.

6. Secure the triangles together to build whatever size structure you want! The size will depend on how many triangles you made. Just make sure you have enough for the roof, which will provide the final stability for your fort. You can secure the joints with some extra staples or tape to be sure it doesn't move around too much.

The rest is up to their imaginations! The structure should even be sturdy enough for a blanket on top. Either way, it's a pretty fun activity to do with your kids that they will be proud of and enjoy!



Connect the
DOTS!

Fred Ongcapin, J.D., LL.M
Tribal Court Advocate

(Licensed to Practice Law Before Tribal Court and Federal Agency Appeals) **Represent** Tribal Members before Tribal Court **Represent** Tribal Members before Federal Agency Appeals U.S. Department of Interior, Board of Indian Appeals



Tel# 313-670-7721
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fongcapin@tjisl.edu

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daughter of Tribal Member Delano Peters and her new dog cart in Biloxi, MS.
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Preserve your PRECIOUS MEMORIES

LIHEAP

(Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)



If you have not already accessed the LIHEAP program and are experiencing a heating crisis please contact the Members Assistance Department. Please note that the program provides assistance for several sources of heat.

If you are struggling with paying heat bills do not wait for the utility to go into shut off to reach out for assistance.

Applications heating assistance are acceptable from October 1st to September 31st. Applications for Elder Cooling Assistance are acceptable May 1st to September 31st.

***LIHEAP can assist with heating sources such as Natural Gas, Propane, Electric, Coal, Fuel Oil and Wood.**

This is a grant funded program to provide assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a heating/cooling crisis and live in the 9 county service areas in Michigan. (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford) Note: Cooling assistance is available Elders who have a medical condition that requires air conditioning during hot weather season.

-Amount of assistance varies according to household income level and available funding.

Priority is given to Elders, Disabled and Single parents with young children.

You are automatically eligible if:

- You or a member of the Household is receiving SSI benefits
- Household is receiving Food Stamps/Bridge Card

Please contact the Members Assistance Department for complete program information and/or to request an application.

Linda Wissner – Program Specialist

Juli Duncil – Program Specialist

Lee A. Iverson – Members Assistance Coordinator

Phone: 231-723-8288 or

Toll Free 888-723-8288

Fax 231-398-6748

Members Assistance New Employee



Juli Compeau Duncil, Tribal Citizen

I grew up in Ludington and now live in Free Soil with my husband and my labs (kids). I attended WSCC for Corrections and Secretarial studies. My daughter Lynsey lives in Georgia & my son, Branden in Ludington, two step-children and our 1st grandson live in Tennessee. My summers are spent in the garden and the fall is canning season. I like time with family, looking at old photos, riding motorcycles, snowmobiles, hunting and most anything outdoors. I enjoy my new job here in the Members Assistance Department helping our members where I can.

ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS ID Expiration

The Enrollment Department has become aware that some of the new Tribal Identification Cards are close to expiring and must be renewed. Please check your Tribal I.D. Card and look for the expiration date! Come in within one week of the expiration date and have the Enrollment Department create a new one for you. The replacement card will be supplied free of charge.

This is only good for the first one, as usual if you lose your card after that, the cost is \$5.00.

If you have any questions, please call the Enrollment Office at 1-231-398-6712 or 398-6713.

Diane A. Lonn Enrollment Officer

Natural Resource Department

The 2013 Huron-Manistee National Forests passes are now available. These passes are used for USFS fishing, picnic and boating sites. You may request USFS passes by:

Calling Natural Resource Department

1-886-723-1594 or 231-723-1594.

Office hours week days: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Email request: bharnish@lrboi.com

We appreciate everyone for sending your 2012-2013 harvest tags back so we may track the harvest information.

Thank you

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

October 1, 2012 & October 1, 2013

Household Size	Income Limits
1.	\$ 1,080.00
2.	\$ 1,410.00
3.	\$ 1,740.00
4.	\$ 2,081.00
5.	\$ 2,438.00
6.	\$ 2,795.00
7.	\$ 3,125.00
8.	\$ 3,455.00

For each additional member add \$ 330.00

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 # are 231-398-6716 or 231-398-6715

MICHIGAN INDIAN ELDERS ASSOCIATION 2012 SCHOLARSHIP NOTICE

Download Application here:

<http://www.michiganindianelders.org/documents/StudentIncentiveInstructionandappform2013.doc>

The Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) is pleased to announce that it will make available a minimum of four (4) \$500 scholarships and one (1) \$1000 scholarship. The scholarships will be awarded to at least five qualified students with the \$1000 scholarship being awarded to the most qualified student, as determined by committee review and lottery, if necessary. Each student must be currently enrolled in a course of study at, or have a letter of acceptance from, a public college or university or technical school and must meet the following qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS – the student:

- Must be an enrolled member (copy of tribal card) or be a direct descendant of an enrolled member of one of the MIEA constituent Tribes/Bands (must be verified in writing by your tribal Enrollment Department).

- Must have successfully completed and passed all five General Education Development (G.E.D.) equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45 and must possess a G.E.D. certificate; or must have graduated from an accredited high school with a 3.00 grade point average; or if currently enrolled at a college, university or trade school, must have an accumulated grade point average of 3.00.

- Must, except for special and extenuating circumstances, attend college, university or trade school on a full-time basis.

- Must complete the provided application form and submit it with required supporting documentation and the mailing must be RECEIVED BY THE COORDINATOR not later than June 20, 2012. (PLEASE NOTE, incomplete or late applications will not be considered).

The application can also be obtained from the tribal education department of each of the constituent Tribes/Bands.

The following students were awarded scholarships for the school year 2012/2013:

Savannah Dakota
KBIC Tribe
\$1000

Soo Tribe
\$500

Sierra Ayres
KBIC Tribe
\$500

Shelby Harris
GTB
\$500

Nicole Clement
KBIC Tribe
\$500

Jennifer Westman
KBIC Tribe
\$500

Cassandra Dix
KBIC Tribe
\$500
John McLenithan

Current constituent Tribes/Bands are:

- Bay Mills Indian Community
- Grand Traverse Band Of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
- Hannahville Band of Potawatomi Indians
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Call June Sam 231-398 -6880
- Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
- Match-E-Be-Nash-She -Wish: Band of Potawatomi Indians, Gun Lake Tribe
- Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi
- Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
- Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

STUDENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM 2012/13

A student incentive program is being offered by the Michigan Indian Elders Association (M.I.E.A.) to recognize students who achieve all "A's" for a marking period as well as students who achieve perfect attendance for a marking period.

There will be a minimum of \$3,000 available to fund this program this year. \$25 will be awarded for each qualified entry, up to the minimum available funds in the Program. In the event that the number of qualified entries exceeds the funds available, the winners will be determined by lottery. Here are the conditions to qualify:

- The student must be an enrolled member or be a direct descendant of an enrolled member of one of the M.I.E.A. constituent tribes/bands.

- The student must be in grades K-12 at a public or private school. (home schooling not eligible)

- A student must be in grades 4-12 to qualify for the straight "A" award. (A-, A, A+)

- For a school system that uses a grading system based on numbers, the equivalent to straight "A's" will be acceptable.

- A student must be in grades K-12 to qualify for the perfect attendance award.

- Perfect attendance means exactly that. A student must be in school or at a school sponsored function each day of the marking period. Excused absences for anything other than a school sponsored/approved function do not constitute perfect attendance.

- The first two marking periods of this 2012/2013 school year will be used to determine the winners for this lottery.

- A student can qualify for both the perfect attendance and straight "A's" for both marking periods. For example, straight "A's" and perfect attendance for both marking periods would mean four chances to win.

- A parent of the student must complete and sign the Student Incentive Program Application Form in order for the student to qualify for an award.

- A copy of the child's report card signed by the parent or a letter from an administrator of the student's school,

must be submitted with the completed application form to verify the achievement of straight "A's" and perfect attendance.

The drawing to determine the winners will be held at the April, 2013 meeting of the Michigan Indian Elders Association hosted by the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi in Battle Creek, MI.

VERY IMPORTANT - NECESSARY !!!

You must follow these directions for your child to be considered for an award. The completed application form (this is a different document than this notice), a signed report card or verification letter of achievement from a school administrator and copy of student's or parent's tribal identification card must be received at the following address not later than 5:00 PM on April 1, 2013:

Bea Law
1526 Castle Dr.
Petoskey, MI 49770

Proposal's Wanted

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is seeking an independent review of its information technology (IT) systems, resources and security to include an opinion on the Tribe's IT security policies, practices, vulnerability to attacks and state of preparedness to detect & prevent such attacks and deal with them should they occur.

Please contact Dan Velikan,
Comptroller General at dvelikan@lrboi.com
for a Request for Proposal.

Annual Reporting Requirements

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Housing Department
Mailing Address: 375 River Street
Physical Address: 2953 Shaw Be Quong
Manistee, Michigan 49660
(231) 723-8288

The Little River Band Housing Department has completed the Annual Performance Report for 2009 ARRA Competitive Grant for HUD to meet our Annual Reporting Requirements. If you would like to review and or comment on this report it will be available at the Housing Department office for 30 days
Monday – Friday 9a.m. to 4 p.m.

Remove March 29, 2013



On behalf of my family, I would like to thank everyone for everything; from your prayers, cards, gifts, phone calls, emails, food, to driving all the way to Luther to attend my dad's funeral. I'm so proud to be an employee of LRBOI, and to have the opportunity to work with such a caring group of people. Thank you again.
Michelle L. Lucas

Tricia (Trish) Snyder
Aanii

I would like to thank all who voted for me. So now I will endorse Virgil Johnson At Large.
Kchi Miigwech



Thank You!

December 30, 2012

To Gina Wright, Krystal Davis, Roberta Davis, Kathy Gibson, Ronda Koon and Mark Plouhar, Miigwech, from the bottom of my heart. I had thanked you all for your kindness and help when I wrote to say I would not be applying for EHAP this year as I will be receiving social security starting in May. But last Sat I received a check from you that would cover my Hospital bills from my stress test and heart cath that I had last year. I thought that I would be paying on that for the rest of my life, but because of you all, my husband and I have had that weight and stress removed. The tears that we shed over this were all tears of joy, relief and thankfulness for we know that we are blessed. And that this was and probably will be one of the best blessings we will ever have. Miigwech again and know that all your hard work and time is appreciated.

Sincerely, Diane B

MARCELLA LEUSBY- At Large



I would like to say a special Thank You to everyone who voted for me. I am endorsing Virgil Johnson

for council at large. He is the best candidate for this position.

I LOVE YOU WRASKLY WABBITS!



LOVE
MOMMY
EAGLE

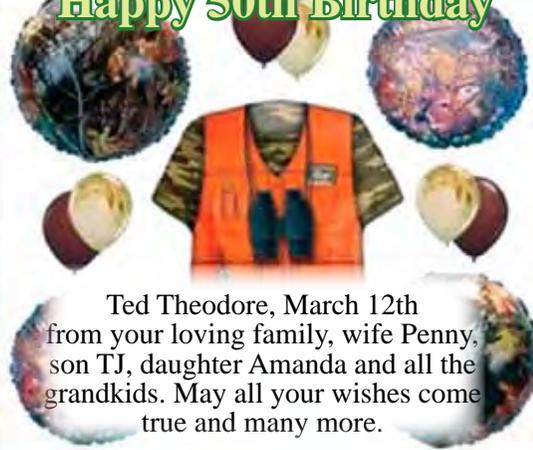
You can send your Member Submissions to currentscomments@lrboi.com

Happy Birthday Tribal Elders!



Lupe Raymond Cantu
Emilie Beatrice Jespersen
Arlene Ruth Kish
Fredrick Ralph Lambert
Alice Ann Linscott
Charles Sullivan Nelson
Virginia Palen
John Jr. Pete
Delano Durand Peters
Wallace Franklin Robinson
Helen Jane Rundquist
Yvonne Salisbury
Katherine Verdi

Happy 50th Birthday



Ted Theodore, March 12th from your loving family, wife Penny, son TJ, daughter Amanda and all the grandkids. May all your wishes come true and many more.



Gina Wright !
Tricia (Trish) Snyder

Happy Birthday Mary
Thomas and Paul Willis
- Love, Mike and Sis



Happy Birthday!



Missy Renner
Sky Curtis
Dennis King
Love Yvonne Theodore

Congrats on Crushing the competition!



Thomas Berentsen, son of Kathy & Brian Gibson is heading to Addray State Championship on March 15th. His team took 1st place in the Addray playoffs this past weekend.

We are proud of you!!!
Love ya much.

Congrats on making STATE !!!



Sierra Conway.
Daughter of David and Kim Conway

From Uncle Jamie and Grandma!



Happy birthday to our little sister



Barbara
Kleeman

on April 24th
From Your
Brothers and
Sisters



Tax-Exempt Quotas

Tax-exempt motor fuel monthly limit is 175 gallons per Tribal member.
Tax-exempt cigarette monthly limit is 20 packs per Tribal member.

Reminder – check your Resident Tribal Member status

Proof of Residency is required for any address change to “Resident Tribal Member” status. This means that if you move, you will need to provide written proof of residency in order to have Resident Tribal Member status.

This applies, even if you are moving to a different address in the Tax Agreement Area.

Don't be surprised at tax time. Contact the Enrollment Office and/or Tax Office to provide your Proof of Residency information.

If you have any questions about Resident Tribal Member status or the new Proof of Residency form and requirements, please call the Tax Office at 231-398-6874 or 1-888-723-8288 ext. 6874. You can also access information on becoming a Resident Tribal Member, and the proof of residency form, on the Tax Office page of the Tribe's website at

www.lrboi-nsn.gov.

Elder's Survey Identifying Our Needs

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Members Assistance Department
375 River Street
Manistee, MI 49660
231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288
Fax 231-398-6748

Dear Tribal Elder residing in the 9 County Service Areas. The Tribe is in need of your input!!! The Elders of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians are highly valued members of our community as a whole. We recognize them, hold them in high regard and look to their experience and wisdom for guidance. The Tribe seeks optimal wellness for the elders and desires to help them retain the highest of quality of life possible through independence in living and accessible health and wellbeing programs.

The tribe will be sending out a survey called: Identifying Our Needs: A Survey of Elders IV to Tribal Elders age 55 and older who reside in the 9 County Service Areas of Manistee, Kent, Wexford, Oceana, Ottawa, Muskegon, Newaygo, Lake and Mason counties. These elders have been selected to participate in this important survey because they reside in the local area. The survey results will be used in documenting and addressing the needs of the Elder community. The survey is a requirement of the Tribe in managing the Title VI Part A and C programs also known as the Elder Meal Program. The meals are served at the Aki Maadiziwiin Community Center Monday thru Thursday and at the Muskegon Building once a month.

Your time is appreciated in completing the survey and as an incentive the first 121 surveys returned will receive a \$10.00 Wal-Mart card. Please send yours back as soon as possible to receive the card!

The deadline to return the survey is June 1st 2013.

We have included frequently asked questions but if you have other questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Lee Iverson or Linda Wissner of the Members Assistance Department. If you need help in completing the survey you may contact our office to do the survey over the phone or make an appointment to visit our office for assistance.

Miigwetch for you time!

Lee A. Iverson
Members Assistance Coordinator

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is organizing the project and/or why is there a need to complete the survey?

The Members Assistance Department manages the Title VI Part A and C programs. The program funds the Elder Meals Program at the Aki Maadiziwiin Community Center. In doing so the Tribe must conduct the survey to provide the status of the wellbeing of our Tribal Elders. The results of the survey will be used to document and address the needs of the community. This survey is a nationwide effort supported by the National Resource Center on Native American Aging in North Dakota. The Tribal Council approved this survey process by resolution. The Survey is also a requirement to participate in the Title VI Part A and C programs and will garner the information needed to assess the program objectives.

Why was I selected?

You were selected to participate in the survey because you reside in the local area where the program is managed. It is of great importance to get your input in order to assess the needs of the elderly in our area.

Do I have to participate?

No. Survey participation is completely voluntary, but it is appreciated and will help to properly assess the needs of our community. The first 121 Elders who submit their survey will be sent a \$10.00 Wal-Mart card as a token of the Tribes appreciation for taking the time to complete the survey.

Are the answers and results of the survey confidential?

Responses and results of the survey are completely confidential, and cannot be traced back to individual participants. The National Resource Center on Native American Aging, along with your representative organization, and tribal council/local governing body will have access to overall results. Further, results will be entered into a computer database and any presentation of results will be in a regional or national profile only, so no individual responses (nor individual tribes/villages/homesteads), can be identified.

Can I get a copy of the results?

Yes. Once local survey results have been received and reviewed by the sponsoring tribal agency (or agencies) participants and community members can view survey results through their local offices. Quality health and human service information is interesting to community leaders, organizations, and the general public. It assists tribes in gauging program progress and identifying areas for improvements. Good use of tribal statistical data is recognized and promoted through the use of this survey process.

How do I know if this is a legitimate survey?

You may contact the National Resource Center on Native American Aging (1-800-896-7628) at any time with questions. The NRCNAA will provide survey results ONLY to your tribal government and the tribal organization that arranged for the survey. They will, however, answer any general questions about the nature, purpose, and history of the survey.

Government Ad's

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 of 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.

Traditional Healer J.D.Gibson

Every month

Appointments available for Indian Health Service (IHS) eligible Native Americans Regarding scheduling of appointments Please call Julie Wolfe (231) 398-6740

Sponsored by:
Be-Da-Bin Behavioral
Health of the Little River Band
Of Ottawa Indians

Commissions and Committees

If you are interested in serving on any of the following committees or commissions, please submit a letter of interest to the Ogema's office indicating which committee/commission you are interested in.

[Commerce Commission](#)
[Gaming Commission](#)
[Housing Commission](#)
[Binojeeuk Commission](#)
[Enrollment Commission](#)
[Health Commission](#)
[Natural Resource Commission](#)

The Warriors Society is always Gathering photographs of members Please send photos of our Warriors either in Uniform or in Civilian dress to the address below: Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Warriors Society 375 River Street, Manistee, Mi. 49660

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Warriors Society is organizing fishing teams for next year's event.

Two young men from Manistee, 12 year old Jacob and 9 year old Jessie James, recently went to the 2013 World Championship at the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona. They were sponsored by the Native American Church of the Morningstar, Manistee Chapter.

They were representing the state of Michigan and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Both youth did extremely well in their competition and age categories. There were 20 contestants. Jacob placed 6th and Jessie James came in 15th. The Native American Church of the Morningstar would like to let them know how very proud and honored that they were able to assist and support these young ones. We are all very proud!
Congratulations from the NAC Family!
(photo's and article submitted by Julie Wolfe)



Heard Museum Hoop Dance Legacy Award to Presented to Jones Benally



Approximately 70 hoop dancers from across North America showcase their skill and talent as they compete for the prestigious World Champion title.

The tradition of dancing with a hoop has an extensive history among Native people. The hoop or circle is symbolic to all Native people. It represents the Circle of Life and the continuous cycle of summer and winter, day and night, male and female. Some Native people use hoop dancing as a part of a healing ceremony designed to restore balance and harmony in the world, which is not performed publicly.

It has been suggested that the people of Taos Pueblo, New Mexico, first began performing a dance in which a performer passed through a hoop. Recently, the hoop dance has become more popular in dance circles, powwows and contests throughout North America. Young dancers are learning from accomplished hoop dancers, and new innovations are appearing.

During performances, dancers incorporate speed and agility as they manipulate their bodies through one to more than 50 hoops. Some dancers also incorporate creative designs and difficult manipulations of the hoops to present unique variations of the dance. Through the hoop dance, accompanied by either Northern or Southern drums, the performers express distinct cultural traditions, as they are judged on a variety of categories.

The inaugural **Heard Museum Hoop Dance Legacy Award** was presented this year to the unofficial dean of the Hoop Dance, **Jones Benally (Diné)**

This first-ever award was presented to him at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, at the Heard Museum in Phoenix during the 23rd Annual Heard Museum World Championship Hoop Dance Contest. Benally has been a hoop dancer for more than 75 years, traveling the world as a cultural ambassador sharing culture and song. His dancing has been featured on the *Oprah Winfrey Show* and in *Arizona Highways* magazine. Benally has also performed for Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain. He has appeared in many films and documentaries and continues to dance at ceremonies to heal the sick.

Benally, who is in his 90s, is a traditional practitioner and works in Winslow, Ariz., at the Indian Health Services Clinic.



Crystal Meth is a dangerous and illegal drug that is highly addictive and it destroys many, many lives and families. While that is true, and you see numerous articles in the news media about Meth, how do you go about cleaning up one of those dangerous Meth Labs where they 'cook' the drug? Labs which can explode or release poisonous gas and endanger anyone in the area?

The answer is that you call in a 'Meth Lab Cleanup Team'.... usually a group of trained and responsible officers of the law who are taught the right way to secure the lab site and protect everyone as much as is possible.



February 13th, the LRBOI Public Safety Meth Cleanup Team met at the Three Fires Conference Center for a refresher course and training session in how to do their job.

From LRBOI, 4 officers are on the team including Sgt. Vance Bates, Officer Cory McGee, Officer and tribal member Ryan Furman and Officer Pat Gilles who has also worked on Emergency Management issues with the tribe. Also in the class was Deputy Ryan Frost from Oscoda County in Michigan. Instructor Michigan State Police Sergeant Mitch Stevens conducted the one day training session.



"The LRBOI Tribal Public Safety Department handles many different types of complaints and problems. From regular 'beat' officers to detectives, narcotics investigators, Maritime officers, search and rescue units and Natural Resources officers, you never know just what issues will come up from day to day. Here is a sampling of calls handled by our Tribal Police this last month." The following is a synopsis for February Tribal and non Tribal arrests.

- A 22 year old Manistee man was arrested by Tribal Police during a traffic stop for six outstanding warrants
- A 21 year old Ludington woman was arrested by Tribal Police for failing to appear in court.
- A 26 year old Muskegon man was arrested by Tribal Police at the Casino for Violation of the Controlled Substance Act
- A 23 year old Brethren woman was referred to Federal Prosecutors by Tribal Police for Larceny from the Trading Post
- A 20 year old Brethren man was referred to Federal Prosecutors by Tribal Police for Larceny from the Trading Post
- A 31 year old Manistee woman was arrested by Tribal Police in Aki for assault

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Public Safety Departing is starting to publish a list of outstanding warrants in our area. This is not a complete list and they are all in LEIN. Some are Tribal warrants and some are County warrants that we generated. Our Tribal Police will also report apprehensions.



- Nikki Doris Bailey - Driving While License Suspended
- Kimberly Davis - Violation of a controlled substance
- Arthur Debris - Fraud
- Tommie Arnold Delap - Financial transaction device/retaining and illegal sale
- Samuel Dionne Delossantos - Fail to appear in court

Walk to Honor Father Baraga

Friday, the 22nd of February, just as the light was fading on a snowy, cold day, a solitary figure approached St. Mary's Catholic Church in Manistee on foot, marking the end of a very historic 'snowshoe' trek for faith.

Curtis Chambers, a member of the Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, was walking in the footsteps of Bishop Frederic Baraga in both the upper and northern lower peninsulas of Michigan.

The trek was brought on by Chambers concern that people have drifted away from Catholicism. He hopes his 160-mile spiritual journey will inspire folks to have faith.



Why this man and this priest? Chamber says that he feels a strong connection with Baraga. "Perhaps it has to do with the fact that in June of 1831, my tribe—under his direction—constructed the second Catholic church in Michigan," he said.

Chamber's 10-day walk ends today in Manistee. Some days are worse than others, with snow ranging from a few inches to mid-thigh in a few spots. Chambers, 59, shields his tanned face with Vaseline and a face mask for the bitterest winds.

Baraga walked with a lot less, recounted Chambers. "Just one or two guides would help him out," he said. "One of his diary excerpts says, 'Oh thank God, they brought two wool blankets this time.'" Baraga, a candidate for sainthood, is a northwoods legend. He left a life of privilege in Slovenia in 1830 to minister to Native Americans, miners and fur traders. Known as the "snowshoe priest," he'd trek as far as 60 miles to his far-flung churches, covering an estimated 700 miles in winter.



Chambers polished off 115 miles in the Upper Peninsula, Feb. 4 to 8, mostly on snowshoes.

On the 18th, Chambers started his Lower Peninsula trek from Indian River to Harbor Springs. On Tuesday, he walked to Petoskey. On Wednesday, he walked from Peshawbestown to Traverse City. His journey ended Friday in Manistee.

Chambers was met at St. Mary's by Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council Speaker Steve Parsons and Council Member Virgil Johnson. They exchanged gifts, welcomed him to Manistee and expressed their thanks for his efforts on behalf of his faith.

The LRBOI Annual Goonignebig (Snowsnake) Tournament took place on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at the Aki Maadiziwin Community Center. Even though the early morning started off with temperatures at -4 degrees, we had 64 competitors race their snakes and many others cheering at the side lines.

After a couple of hours of competition, everyone gathered inside for a homemade lunch of chili, vegetable soup, hot dogs, baked beans, pasta salad, cookies and cake. Each competitor received a participant gift and certificate; each winner received a placement medal as well. The 2013 Goonignebig Tournament winners and participants were:

Ages 1 -4 Boys:

- 1st: Tristan Harrington – 62 ft.
- 2nd: Sampson Schaab – 19 ft. 4 in.
- 3rd: No competitor

Ages 1 -4 Girls:

- 1st: Lilyann Kiogima – 47 ft. 10 in.
- 2nd: Shenoah Collier – 41 ft. 7 in.
- 3rd: No competitor

Ages 5 -7 Boys:

- 1st: Jackson Star Chief – 121 ft. 10 in.
- 2nd: Ethan Harrington – 65 ft. 3 in.
- 3rd: No competitor

Ages 5 -7 Girls:

- 1st: Evelyn Gibson – 171 ft. 5 in.
- 2nd: Ava Star Chief – 48 ft. 7 in.
- 3rd: Addie Patton – 44 ft. 6 in.
- Kateri Ceplina – 36 ft. 4 in.

Ages 8 – 11 Boys:

- 1st: Jordan Bussey – 201 ft. 11 in.
- 2nd: Aiden Carver – 160 ft. 4 in.
- 3rd: Braden Patton – 155 ft. 2 in.
- Trever Wahr – 142 ft. 8 in.
- Brendan Orcutt – 138 ft. 3 in.
- Sam Corey – 116 ft. 10 in.
- Nate Corey – 94 ft. 10 in.
- Ben Ceplina – 73 ft. 10 in.

Ages 8 – 11 Girls:

- 1st: Celia Star Chief – 56 ft. 3 in.
- 2nd: No competitor
- 3rd: No competitor

Ages 12 – 17 Boys:

- 1st: Bronsen Clyne – 153 ft. 2 in.
- 2nd: Drew Berens – 153 ft. 1 in.
- 3rd: No competitor

Ages 12 – 17 Girls:

- 1st: Violet Holden – 204 ft. 8 in.
- 2nd: Joselyn Cabarrubia – 103 ft. 4 in.
- 3rd: Mackenzie Wahr – 83 ft. 4 in.

Ages 18 – 35 Men:

- 1st: Drew Harrington – 301 ft.
- 2nd: Andrew Lawrence – 197 ft. 2 in.
- 3rd: Pete Schaab – 110 ft. 5 in.

Ages 18 – 35 Women:

- 1st: Kerri Collier – 130 ft. 6 in.
- 2nd: No competitor
- 3rd: No competitor

Congratulations to Justin Knapp for achieving the longest throw of the day which was recorded at 344 feet and 4 ½ inches! Justin received a hat with an embroidered tribal seal on it for his accomplishment.

The competitor who traveled the furthest received a travel mug, Honor the Circle bracelet and pin; it was awarded to Michael Sturgis who came all the way from Indianapolis, Indiana! Lastly, an embroidered tote bag, travel mug, and window decals were awarded to the competitor with best looking snowsnake used in the competition. After a few rounds of cheering, the prize was awarded to Arlene Naganashe.

Ages 36 – 54 Men:

- 1st: Justin Knapp – 344 ft. 4 ½ in.
- 2nd: Clatus Clyne – 325 ft. 8 in.
- 3rd: Brian Gibson – 284 ft. 4 in.
- Dave Corey – 255 ft. 4 in.
- Dusty Patton – 225 ft. 10 in.
- Jim Medacco – 176 ft. 5 in.
- Gale Berens – 167 ft. 9 in.
- Dustin Collier – 163 ft. 5 in.
- Scott Wahr – 148 ft. 8 in.
- Michael Sturgis – 127 ft. 10 in.

Ages 36 – 54 Women:

- 1st: Cathy Gibson – 230 ft. 4 in.
- 2nd: Carol Kiogima – 204 ft. 6 in.
- 3rd: Theresa Keshick – 198 ft.
- Kathy Gibson – 197 ft.
- Linda Gokee – 179 ft. 2 in.
- Martha Howell – 175 ft. 9 ½ in.
- Laurie Jackson – 163 ft. 7 in.
- Karen Schaab – 113 ft. 5 in.

Ages 55+ Men:

- 1st: J.D. Gibson – 295 ft. 5 in.
- 2nd: Brian Carver – 294 ft. 2 in.
- 3rd: Richard Bailey – 254 ft. 9 in.
- Neil Mateer – 177 ft. 3 in.
- Tom Wahr – 142 ft. 4 in.
- Mike Ceplina – 131 ft. 10 in.
- Jim Naganashe – 78 ft. 2 in.
- Tom Ghering – 77 ft. 11 in.

Ages 55+ Women:

- 1st: Sheri Patton – 265 ft. 2 in.
- 2nd: Molly Wahr – 178 ft. 2 in.
- 3rd: Rochelle Ettawageshik – 172 ft. 4 in.
- Arlene Naganashe – 135 ft. 6 in.
- Stella Gibson – 132 ft. 6 in.
- Darleen Martin – 131 ft. 5 in.
- Lorraine Smith – 124 ft. 8 in.
- Teresa Webb – 96 ft. 5 in.
- Rosalee Star Chief – 83 ft. 4 in.
- Marion Ghering – 62 ft. 10 in.

The Historic Preservation Department would like to say “Miigwetch” and express our appreciation to our volunteers who helped before and during the Tournament: Clatus Clyne, Brian Gibson, Frankie Medacco, Darleen Martin, Melanie Ceplina, and anyone else that we may have forgotten to mention. These dedicated volunteers did the hard work of plowing the snow, making the track, assisting with the meal, and measuring distances of thrown snakes. Miigwetch is also extended to the department staff who continually works to host the annual event. The Tournament is always a family-oriented cultural gathering that brings many people from many other tribal communities and locations around the state; it is always good to see the friendly competition and laughter between our people. We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and we hope to see you again at the tournament next year!



**July 14 -
19, 2013**

Michigan State University



Pre College Leadership Program

Sponsored by: College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Office of Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

Contact Information:

Stephanie Chau
Coordinator
(517)355-0177, or
(517)353-1822
chaus@msu.edu

Marcus Winchester
Asst. Coordinator
winche19@msu.edu

- Explore University Campus
- Academic Enhancement Workshops
- Extracurricular Development
- Professional Development
- Native American Staff/Mentors
- Prepare for the Future!!
- You can obtain the application on our website!
http://www.canr.msu.edu/prospective_students/pre_college/pre-college_leadership_program/

The Little River Casino Resort recently retired comforters from the Resort and because they were still in very useable condition, made donations to two different organizations.

On March 5th, 15 Boxes/Pallets of packaged comforters were ready to go to the Pine Ridge Reservation, a reservation with extreme poverty, harsh winters and little in the way of supplies. The next day, 18 comforters were donated to Rolling Thunder, Manistee Michigan Chapter #1 for Patriots Place in Gaylord. This wonderful facility provides housing and assistance to homeless U.S. Military Veterans.



The team who brought these donations together were Tom Heidorf, Dave Stamp, Lori Edmondson, Johnny Pabami, Charmaine Stone, Loretta Beccaria, Matt Smith, Pam Cobb and Rick Saunders.



LRCR Physical Asset Accountant Rick Saunders

Nigig Genereaux

Community help request



(Died March 3, 2013)

Age 26, was born October 9, 1986 in Lansing Michigan. Nigig was a member of the Little River Bend of Ottawa Indians in Manistee, Michigan and lost his courageous battle with cancer and went to be with his Lord and Creator March 3, 2013. He enjoyed bowling and attended Pow-Wows all over the United States. Nigig was always game to go anywhere, because he loved to travel. He leaves behind to cherish his memory of the strength, courage and devotion he had for his family by: his parents, Michael Genereaux and Elizabeth Crampton of Lansing; brothers, Adam (Heidi) Sprague of Port Huron, MI and Ronald (Trina Kerchum) Sprague, Jr. of Mt. Pleasant, MI; sisters, Winona (Ross) Francis and Crystal (Eric Sudall) Crampton, both of Lansing; several uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews. Funeral services were Friday, March 8, 1 pm, at the Riley Funeral Home.

Julie Wolfe will be a collection person and take responsibility for mailing it to his mother...
Youth Prevention Counselor
BeDaBin Behavioral Health
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River St
Manistee, MI 49660
Phone 231-398-6740
Fax 231-398-6749
Email jwolfe@lrboi.com



Pro-Golfer Alexandra Schulte Becomes Newest NABI Ambassador

Golf Tournament to benefit NABI Foundation planned for April 2013

Phoenix based NABI Foundation, a National Native American Youth Foundation, continues to grow with the addition of Alexandra Schulte and a golf tournament to raise funds for NABI's expanding programs.

Alexandra Schulte, a Native American Professional Golfer from the Northern Ute Tribe, graduated in December 2011 from University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas. She had a full golf scholarship, was a 4-year starter including 4 Championships, 4 NCAA Regional and 1 NCAA Championship appearances. She finished among career leaders in his local statistics. "I am very honored to be added to the roll of Ambassador for NABI Foundation. It is my goal to encourage Native American youth to live healthier and more productive lives through sports and academics, while not forgetting their ancestral culture and heritage. I thank NABI Foundation for the opportunity to spread this message to our Tribal Youth" says Alexandra.

Gina Marie Scarpa Co-founder & CEO of the NABI Foundation says "Timing is everything. We were recently approached by Dallas based company Beard Integrated Systems, Inc. and Native Nations to be the beneficiaries of their annual tournament and then heard about Alexandra through our partnership with Ak-Chin Indian Community who sponsor Alexandra. The stars lined up. These are both great opportunities for the sustainability and mission of our Foundation to the talented youth we serve".

The 1st Annual Beard Native Nations golf tournament will be held April 28th at the beautiful WinStar Golf Course at Chickasaw Nation to include a silent auction, open reception and a guest appearance by Alexandra. "On behalf of the Beard organization we are proud to be a partner with the NABI organization. Beard has endorsed and sponsored fine nonprofit organizations over the last 70 years and I can tell you that there is no other national organization we would rather be affiliated with moving forward. NABI and Beard is a winning combination for the future of our Native American youth" says Bert Wells CEO of Beard Integrated Systems, Inc.

For more information on how to participate in the Beard Native Nations tournament:
Amanda Stamford Marketing Email: m.stamford@beard-companies.com Phone: (972) 699-9141.
Alexandra Schulte contact: Roger White Native American Marketing Enterprises, Inc.
Email: rwhite@nativeamericanmarketing.com Phone: (480) 287-5804

"For the advancement of Native American Athletes"

NABI Foundation is a 501(c)(3) youth non-profit organization. Tax ID #43-1087209

www.NABIFoundation.org



Boarding schools, reservations, The Trail of Tears these are only three of the many hardships the government has put our people through. We were forced to give up our lives, our homes, and our families. And why? Because we were not the same as them? Because in their eyes we were but "savages" and nothing more.

For centuries we have been tricked and forced into giving up our homes. So the white man could claim another piece of Mother Earth as his own. Still today we struggle to bring our culture back to our people, and our youth. Like the turtle I believe our people have strong hearts. We have overcome horrendous tragedies, and unforgettable events. The government now wishes to change our treaty rights. But as always we are standing together to fight for our future. I'm proud and honored to be able to say I'm a supporter of Idle No More! To be able to say I joined hands with my brothers and my sisters and round danced. Danced for our rights, our children, and our futures. I would like to say chi-Miigwech to Chief Theresa Spence. For her courage and for not giving up! To be willing to die for her people and our rights, takes a strong person with great courage. It truly touches my heart to see this. In my eyes she is a

hero, a warrior who refuses to fall in defeat. Her courage is something one rarely sees in their life time. Also, Miigwech to everyone who is willing to stand for us, to make a difference. But most of all for standing together! Let Gichi-manidoo be with us.

My relatives I ask you who will stand with me? And Idle No More!

Chi-Miigwech,

Miss Little River, Pandora Pete

Native Soup Cookoff



**Little River Band
of Ottawa Indians
Spring Fire & Teachings**

April 10-13, 2013

**Aki Maadiziwin tribal
community center**

**2953 Shaw Be Quo-Ung,
Manistee, MI**

**Each day will start with a Sunrise
Ceremony and teachings will be held
throughout the day**

**At the conclusion of the last teaching,
Wednesday through Friday, the Fire
will be kept throughout the night**

Everyone is welcomed to attend!

**For information, please call 1-888-723-8288,
ext. 6891, 6893 or 6895**

**Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Tribal Historic Preservation Department**



2nd ANNUAL MIDWEST PEACEMAKING CONFERENCE, 2013

June 4th, 5th, and 6th.



The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Peacemaking/Probation Department is proud to announce the 2nd Annual Midwest Peacemaking Conference at the Little River Casino and Resort, located in beautiful Manistee Michigan. The staff and volunteers are very excited to once again be part of the planning and implementation of the 2nd Midwest Peacemaking Conference. The Conference is scheduled for June 4th, 5th, and 6th... This year's theme for the conference is "The Wisdom of Peacemaking."

This conference will encompass many aspects of the techniques, customs, teachings and trainings from Native American Peacemaking and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).

More information will be posted on the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Tribal Website, <http://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/>.

Save These Days: June 4, 5, and 6, 2013 and plan to attend.

Here are some statements some of the participants had to say about the conference last year:

"I want to thank you once again for your insight and effort in putting together the Peacemaking Conference. James Botsford Director, Indian Law Office Wisconsin Judicare, Inc."

"Thanks again for inviting me to be a presenter at the Peacemaking Conference. It was a great conference and a great time of learning for both my wife and me." Barry Lee Burnside, Program Coordinator Dispute Resolution Services of Gryphon Place

"My name is Stan Webster, turtle clan, Oneida Tribe of Indians in Wisconsin. I have served on our judicial system as judge, appellate court judge and peacemaking since 1991. My current position is Deputy Chief Judicial Officer, Oneida Appeals. Attended your peacemaking conference and am most impressed that the peacemaking conference was sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa without federal dollars. Dispute resolution is and always has been one part of internal sovereignty. Just hosting a peacemaking conference makes a statement about internal sovereignty of the Little River Band of Ottawa." Judge Stan Webster, from the Oneida Tribe in Wisconsin



ATTENTION ARTISTS

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is honored to announce that for 2013, Michigan has been selected to create and distribute the November 2013 American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month Poster for all of NRCS. Distributing a poster with original artwork created by an American Indian Artist, is one of the ways that NRCS celebrates American Indian Heritage Month.

Michigan American Indian artists are asked to create an original painting that provides the artist's interpretation of American Indian Culture and Heritage, keeping in mind the following theme that we selected to inspire this year's artwork:

Land of the Great Water—Sustainer of Life

Rules for the competition are as follows:

- All American Indian artists in Michigan are invited to submit their artwork.
- Only one painting will be selected for the 2013 Heritage Month Poster.
- NRCS will purchase the artwork for the 2013 Heritage Month Poster from the artist at the rate of \$2,000. NRCS has the right to reproduce and distribute copies of the artwork at its discretion. NRCS and the selected artist will sign a contractual agreement to set forth the terms of the procurement and rights of the two parties.
- The artwork is to be original, size 18" x 24", in acrylic or oil on canvas.
- A written narrative and name of the piece is to be included with each entry.
- The deadline for submitting the artwork to NRCS is Monday, June 3, 2013. The artwork should be submitted to the following location by the deadline:

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Michigan State Office
3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 250
East Lansing, Michigan 48895

NOTE: NRCS has offices located through Michigan. If sending or transporting your artwork to East Lansing is a burden, please contact Sandy Penn, at 517-324-5261 or sandy.penn@mi.usda.gov no later than May 6, 2013, to make arrangements to use the NRCS staffing network to assist in the transport of your artwork.

- The artwork will be judged on: 1) Creativity and originality 2) The realistic portrayal of something related to the heritage of American Indians in Michigan 3) The interesting depiction of an aspect of American Indian culture in Michigan 4) The essence of the poster competition theme in the artwork and 5) Craftsmanship and skill

If you have questions about this competition, please contact Sandy Penn at the number above.



You can find this and many other issues at www.lrboi-nsn.gov

Namebine -Giizis (Sucker Moon)
April 2013 vol.10 Issue 4

Indian Village Camp 2013 Season



We are looking for adult leaders for Night Watch Positions and Program Presenter Positions. The camp is four days long and there are four sessions per year. This is not a regular position, since it is a maximum of 12 days per year, but a stipend paid contract. Night Watch Staff are onsite at Indian Village from 10 p.m. until about 7 or 8 a.m. Program and Presentation Staff are onsite anywhere from 8-12 hours per day, over the duration of the four

day session, and must be able to conduct presentations and facilitate the functions of the camp. All applicants must pass a required background check in order to work with youth. These contracts require an approval process, legal review and numerous signatures.

This is what we are looking for:

1. A Kind and Sharing Heart
2. Tribal Elder, Tribal Member, Descendant, Tribal Preference, Other
3. Advanced Knowledge of Tribal Culture
4. Advanced Knowledge of Wilderness Living Skills
5. Experience with this or other similar programs
6. Availability to work
7. Ability to work in a remote rustic camp setting



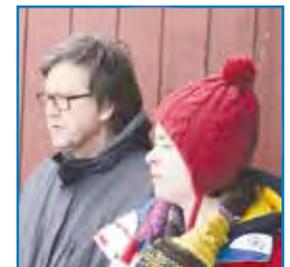
Tribal member
Lisa McClees

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, Michigan 49660

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 195
Manistee, MI

Or Current Resident

A group of U of M and Eastern students was in town on a project helping prep for Indian Village Camp



Black Lake Sturgeon Harvest

One lake sturgeon may be harvested out of Black Lake (Cheboygan County) in 2013. The Natural Resources Commission is developing regulations for this years harvest where hook and line fishing and spearing will be methods of harvest from May 1 to June 30th. If you are interested in this opportunity please call Marty Holtgren (231-398-2193) or e-mail mholtgren@lrboi.com by April 19th. There will be an informational meeting about the sturgeon harvest in late April where biologists, commissioners, and law enforcement officers will describe details of the harvest to those registered

Please contact Peacemaking immediately if you are interested.
Contact: Austen Brauker or Supervisor Pat Wilson at the LRBOI Tribal Court Peacemaking/Probation Department.
231-398-2240 for Austen, or 231-398-2239 for Pat.