Idle No More in support of Baby Veronica

September 27th, LRBOI Ogema Larry Romanelli joined other tribal members at Aki Maadiziwin Housing in a spontaneous gathering held the same day as other tribes around the nation protested the taking of a Native child from her family. See more on the story on page 5.

Muskegon Project gets a boost!

At the Fall Membership Meeting, Ogema Larry Romanelli made a surprise announcement regarding Governor Rick Snyder’s agreement to let our efforts to build a casino in Muskegon proceed to the federal level for approval. The announcement was timed to coincide with a similar announcement by Senator Geoff Hanson in Muskegon. Ogema Romanelli called the current members of the Muskegon task force to the stage for recognition of their efforts. He also thanked past Council, Task Force and staff for their work. More detail in the December Currents.

Muskegon Task Force members Ogema Romanelli, Robert Memberto, Pat Ruiter and Speaker Virg Johnson.
Not shown were Damian Fisher and Glenn Zaring.
Continuing the meetings between the Executive and Legislative branches, Ogema Romanelli met with Speaker Virg Johnson, Recorder Sandy Mezeske and Councilors Marty Wabinadto, Gary DiPiazza, Frankie Medacco, Shannon Crampton and Pat Ruiter. Councilors Kim Alexander and Michael Ceplina were unavailable for the October 1st meeting. Also sitting in were Tribal Manager Jessica Burger, Executive Counsel Damian Fisher and Director Glenn Zaring who covers the meetings for the Currents.

At this meeting, the Ogema updated Council on the status of the Commercial fishing net retrieval currently being organized. 2 of the nets causing the most problems are in Whitehall and 9 others also need to be retrieved from other waters. Contracts have been let to have the nets raised. Conservation Officer Sgt. Robles has expressed concern that the nets need to be pulled ‘sooner than later’ because the weather conditions in Lake Michigan are deteriorating due to the change in seasons. It is hoped that the nets will be pulled shortly. Part of the discussion was on just how heavy the nets are that need to come out of the water. They will have to be picked up with an end-loader and put on a flatbed truck as they are long and heavy.

Ogema Romanelli also updated Council on reports about the effect of the Government Shutdown (Washington DC) on the tribe. Regular reports are coming in to the offices. The Ogema also reported that the utilities at the Gathering Grounds (Camp sites) have been shut down for the season. Council member DiPiazza commented that, “There’s no place in (the) regulations that says we have to provide water and electric to campers.” He promised to bring this subject up for discussion at the Natural Resource Commission meeting. The commission has authority over the camping.

Also on the agenda from the Office of the Ogema was a discussion about the on-going budget plans being studied and presented by the various departments. The Ogema expressed his concerns about the goals set by Tribal Council and the ability of the tribal government to deliver the same level of services for that amount given the fact that there have been a significant number of cost increases. Various departments are holding individual sessions with Council this week to review their draft budgets.

The Ogema reported that a wage study was presented at the end of September. Speaker Johnson and the Ogema commented that the study showed we are right in line, overall, with the wages being paid our government employees.

The Speaker brought an interesting idea to the table that started with Yvonne Parsons in Education. She would like to have the community garden moved to the grounds of the new Government Center and made to be more focused upon the young people. The Ogema reported that a wage study was presented at the end of September. Speaker Johnson and the Ogema commented that the study showed we are right in line, overall, with the wages being paid our government employees.

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Voluntary tax withholding by tribal members

Recently Tribal Council approved a Revenue Allocation plan that allows for voluntary tax withholding by tribal members. Here is the letter from the Enrollment Department announcing the change and the actual Revenue Allocation Plan Regulation, Chapters 1-5. The actual ‘Voluntary Withholding Request form is being mailed to you.’

Dear Tribal Member,

On September 18, 2013, Resolution #13-0918-285 APPROVING REVENUE ALLOCATION PLAN REGULATION FOR VOLUNTARY FEDERAL INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING was approved. Regulation #R100-13: RAP-01 allows for voluntary federal income tax withholding from per capita payments at a rate of 15% of each calculated distribution (see examples below).

Example 1
Calculated Distribution - $800.00
15% Federal Withholding - $120.00
Net Check Amount - $680.00

Example 2
Calculated Distribution - $500.00
15% Federal Withholding - $75.00
Net Check Amount - $425.00

A copy of regulation #R100-13: RAP-01 is enclosed for your review along with a copy of the Voluntary Withholding Request.

Please refer to sections 3 and 4 of the regulation for specific election and cancellation information regarding voluntary federal withholding as there are qualifying periods in which members may elect or cancel the withholding. Please note that once an election has been made for voluntary federal withholding, it shall be permanent for the entire year following the qualifying period in which the election was made.

For implementation purposes, the first qualifying period will run from October 1, 2013 through March 15, 2014. Those interested in the voluntary federal withholding should complete and remit the enclosed Voluntary Withholding Request form during the qualifying period.

The voluntary federal withholding will begin with the April 1, 2014 per capita distribution for those who sign up as described above during the qualifying period. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jessica Wissner at (231) 398-6713 or myself at (231) 398-6712.

Sincerely,
Diane A. Lonn- Enrollment Officer

Currents to bi-monthly!

Due to 2014 budget changes, please be aware that your Little River Currents newspaper will most probably be going to every other month or what is called ‘bi-monthly’. At this time, the first paper for 2014 is scheduled for February. Watch for more details!

Old Tribal ID Cards

The Enrollment Department has become aware that some of the new Tribal Identification Cards are close to hitting the five year mark, when they will have to be renewed with us.

Please check your Tribal I.D. Card if you are about to hit the five year mark. Please come in to update your Tribal I.D. or email or fax us a letter requesting a new Tribal I.D. You will have ten (10) days before the expiration date and ten (10) days after the expiration date to receive it free. If you miss the twenty (20) day time period when replacements are given free, a $5.00 charge will be in place. This is only good for the first one, 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

Calendar of Tribal Events!


Oct. 19 - Illuminating the night sky Take Back the Night 6pm

Oct. 15 - Manistee High School Domestic Violence Awareness “Purple” Volleyball Game Scheduled for 6pm

Nov. 2 & 3 - Annual Fall Elders Conference at the Casino.

Nov. 3 - Daylight Savings Fall Back set clocks back one hour.

Dec. 7 - Annual Christmas Party and meeting at the Casino at noon.

Children’s Christmas Party

Please mark your calendar and register your children for this special event.

When: Sunday December 8th, 2013
Time: 11 AM to 3 PM
Where: LRCR New Events Center

To register please call 231-723-8288 or toll free 888-723-8288 and ask for: Angie Stone - Ext 6829 or Mary Thomas - Ext 6824
Deadline date for Registration: 5 PM Tuesday Nov. 26th

Registration is required for children to participate in this event as we need an accurate count of who will attend. Failure to register will result in your children not receiving a gift. The party is open to Tribal and descendant children. Children must be present to receive a gift.
Legal Career Opportunities in Indigenous Law

Individuals who are interested in legal career opportunities focusing on issues that affect indigenous people and tribes are invited to our "Lunch and Learn" presentation featuring remarks by faculty and staff members of the MSU Law Indigenous Law and Policy Center. There is no cost to attend and the event is open to all populations (undergraduates at all levels of their education - freshmen through seniors); graduate students; and those in the work force. A complimentary lunch will be served.

Please confirm your attendance by contacting the Admissions Office admiss@law.msu.edu or 517.432.0222.

Please RSVP on or before November 18 at 5:00 p.m.

This event will be held at the College of Law 648 N. Shaw Lane.
Idle No More in support of Baby Veronica

Baby Veronica has been the center of a lengthy, legal fight taking her away from her biological, tribal father and placing her with a non-native family. Go to the internet to see more on this sad story.

What is MAST?

The Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes, (MAST), founded in 1996, represents the 35 sovereign tribal nations of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Michigan. Altogether, MAST represents nearly 134,000 American Indian people.

MAST’s mission is to “advance, protect, preserve, and enhance the mutual interests, treaty rights, sovereignty, and cultural way of life of the sovereign nations of the Midwest throughout the 21st century.” The organization coordinates important public policy issues and initiatives at the state, regional and federal levels, promotes unity and cooperation among member tribes and advocates for member tribes.

MAST is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of the Tribal Chairperson, Chief President, or Chief Executive of each member tribe. Four officers are elected from among the Board of Directors; a President; Vice-President; Secretary and Treasurer.

Current MAST issues and activities include:

- Protecting Indian economic opportunity
- Protecting Tribal sovereignty and self-government.
- Protecting the rights of individual Indians and member tribes pursuant to treaties with the United States.
- Protecting Indian lands, including the rights to place lands into trust, and protecting tribal environmental authorities.
- Improving education for Indian children and adults, both on and off the reservation.
- Improving the health and well-being of Indian people in the Midwest.
- Protecting the cultural and religious resources and rights of all Indian people.
- Improving reservation infrastructure, including the provision of safe and affordable homes, clean water, sound utilities and good roads.

Directory: Scott Vela-Executive Director, Michele Stanley-President-Saginaw Chippewa, Aaron Payment-Vice President-Sault Ste, Marie Tribe, Kimberly Alexander-Treasurer-Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, and Greg Matson-Secretary-Oneida Tribe
Numerous cultural classes offered through October and November!
Historic Preservation and Peacemaking co-sponsored a “Traditional Lodge Building Training” on Oct. 1, 2 and 3. These events were co-sponsored, by two tribal departments, happily working together.

ALSO: “Fall Fire Teachings” (sponsored by Historic Preservation), Oct 9-12, (which is a great place to learn about Anishinaabe culture).
ADDITIONALLY: Peacemaking sponsored the following series of cultural learning opportunities:

1. A 5 hour seminar on "Healthy and Unhealthy Communities" taught by Paul Rafael - using the medicine wheel and 7 grandfather teachings.
2. A “Traditional Foods” making class (frybread and soup) taught by Rita Gale.
3. A 5 hour “Block Printing” class using Anishinaabe designs (or contemporary original) taught by Shirley Brauker.
4. An “Anishinaabe Traditions” (2-3 hr seminar) taught by Brian Matrious.
5. A “Topical Herbal Salve” class, taught by Victoria Brauker.
6. Another crafts class (probably cedar or birch basket making), taught by Jim Miller of Willow Winds.

These 6 instructors all worked at Indian Village Camp. We offer these classes to the community in order to raise awareness about the Indian Village Camp program, and garner community support for future sustainability, with continued funding, since the OJJDP-TYP grant is now over. We would like to offer at least one of these classes in Muskegon too, if possible. Contact Peacemaking for more info. about the classes. E-mail: abrauker@lrboi.com
WASHINGTON – Proper septic system care and maintenance is vital to protecting public health and preserving valuable water resources. During the first-ever SepticSmart Week, September 23-27, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is encouraging homeowners to take action to ensure their septic systems are functioning properly. Nearly one quarter of all American households, more than 26 million homes, depend on septic systems to treat their wastewater. Failure to maintain and service a home’s septic system can lead to system back-ups and overflows, which can result in costly repairs, polluted local waterways and risks to public health and the environment. Many septic system failures occur during the winter holiday season, so EPA is encouraging homeowners to get their septic systems inspected and serviced now before licensed inspectors’ schedules fill up around the holidays.

Things to keep in mind:

- Have your system inspected every three years by a licensed contractor.
- Have your tank pumped when necessary, generally every three to five years.
- Keep a maintenance record.
- Consider fixing plumbing leaks and installing faucet aerators and water-efficient products that bear the EPA WaterSense label, and spread out laundry and dishwasher loads throughout the day. Too much water at once can overload a system if it hasn’t been pumped recently.
- Do not dispose of household hazardous wastes in sinks and toilets.
- Ask guests to put only things in the drain or toilet that belong there. Fats, grease, coffee grounds, dental floss, disposable diapers and wipes, feminine hygiene products, cigarette butts, cat litter, and other solids can all clog and potentially damage septic systems.
- Plant only grass over and near your septic system. Roots from nearby trees or shrubs might clog and damage the drainfield.
- Never drive or park vehicles on any part of your septic system. Doing so can compact the soil in your drainfield or damage the pipes, tank, or other septic system components.

EPA’s SepticSmart program encourages proper septic system care and maintenance all year long, and it can help educate homeowners about the need for periodic septic system maintenance and proper daily system use. Additionally, SepticSmart also serves as an online resource for industry, local governments, and community organizations, and provides access to tools to help educate their clients and residents.

More information on EPA’s SepticSmart Program and SepticSmart Week can be found here: [http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/septic/septicsmart.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/septic/septicsmart.cfm)
2013 Sgt. Robert Robles Jr. and Officer Matt Umlauf attended the 26th Annual Native American Fish and Wildlife Society for the Great Lakes Region hosted by the White Earth Nation in Mahnomen MN. During this conference Tribal Conservation Officers from the Great Lakes Region competed in a shoot competition and attended Tracker training. The top five shooters (and two alternates) are able to go on as a team to the National Conference in May 2014 to compete against teams from the other regions. Sgt. Robles finished in the top five shooters this year.

The tracker training they attended was put on by Joel Harding Professional Tracker Services. During this training officers learn to read sign on the various surfaces to be able to track where people have gone. So far there are three LRBOI Conservation Officers that have attend JHPTS courses. Those three officers are what is known as the Three Fires Trackers, all the Conservation Officers in the Great Lakes Region that have attended JHPTS courses are a part of this group.

Other events during this conference is a traditional feast on Tuesday night and an awards banquet on Wednesday. During the banquet various awards are presented to individuals that have made a difference in Indian Country. Sgt. Robles received the Patricia M. Zakovec Memorial Conservation Officer of the Year for the Great Lakes Region for his contributions in the development to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Conservation Enforcement Program; and being an inspiration to his fellow officers.

HIDE TANNING FAQ’s
By Mortimer Skinsworth

When is the hide tanning class?
That is a good question. It begins on Thursday, October 17th at 10 a.m. and goes until Sunday the 20th.

But, where is it taking place?
At the LRBOI campground in the open field to the right of the campground area as you enter. Keep taking the roads to the right and you can’t miss it. It is on the opposite end of the open field where the sweat lodge is located.

What if I have to work some of those days?
Some people are going to come out after work on Thursday and Friday and complete as much as they can in the evenings. You do not have to attend the entire time. You can stop or leave as you need to. Just remember that it takes a couple days, more likely three or even four on your first project to complete this task. Work stations will be available until it gets too dark to continue.

What if I do not get it completed?
That is okay. As long as you take your hide and re-freeze it, it will be fine. You can do this at any stage of the process. Also, if you can only get your hide scraped and de-haired, then just let it dry, you will have what is called rawhide, which can be used for projects such as drums.

Do I have to bring my own hide?
No. We will provide the deer hides for you. But you can bring your own hide, if you want to.

Someone once told me I did not have enough brains to tan my own hide, is this true?
No. Every animal has just about the right amount of brain to tan its own hide. All humans have roughly similar sized brains, just different amounts of information stored within them.

Who will be teaching this brain tanning class?
It will be taught by Jim Miller of Willow Winds and assisted by Peacemaker Austen Brauker.

Using brains sounds gross, why would we do such a thing?
Maybe this class is not for you, but it actually is not very gross at all. The brains are poached and do not smell bad. The brains we use are USDA inspected for human consumption, so they are fairly safe.

I thought the USDA was currently shut down?
No more questions please. Just contact Austen Brauker at 231-398-2240 or email him at abrauker@lrboi.com This Q and A is done for today. I thank you for attending this informational session and hope to see you at the hide tanning class. Thank you.
Tribal Members who are in school (K-12) are eligible to enter:
You can either e-mail your suggestion to currentscomments@lrboi.com

- The deadline for entries to be received is October 21st
- You must include your name, age and tribal ID number with your entry
- Your choice should be in Anishinaabemowin or be something that can be translated into our language
- The winner will be announced at the October 23rd Council meeting
- You will be publicly congratulated during Open Session
- The winner will receive a nice prize from Tribal Council
- A plaque with the name they chose will be mounted in the Council Chamber and your name will also appear on the plaque to honor them
- Your picture will be part of the story about the naming in the Currents
This information in this article is only a small portion of the many Teachings that exist. Teachings vary from First Nation to First Nation and even from one geographic region to another. For more information, please consult with a Traditional Elder, Healer or Medicine Person.

Tobacco is the first plant that the Creator gave to native People. It is the main activator of all the plant spirits. Three other plants, sage, cedars, and sweetgrass, follow tobacco, and together they are referred to as the four sacred medicines. The four sacred medicines are used in everyday life and in ceremonies. All of them can be used to smudge with, though sage, cedar and sweetgrass also have many other uses.

It is said that tobacco sits in the eastern door, sweetgrass in the southern door, and sage in the west and cedar in the north.

Elders say that the spirits like the aroma produced when we burn tobacco and the other sacred medicines.

Sage

Sage is used to prepare people for ceremonies and teachings. Because it is more medicinal, and stronger than sweetgrass, it tends to be used more often in ceremonies.

Sage is used for releasing what is troubling the mind and for removing negative energy. It is also used for cleansing homes and sacred items. It also has other medicinal uses.

There is male sage and female sage. The female sage is used by women.

Cedar

Like sage and sweetgrass, cedar is used to purify the home. It is also has many restorative medicinal uses. Cedar baths are healing.

When Cedar is put in the fire with tobacco, it crackles. When it does this, it is calling the attention of the spirits to the offering that is being made.

Cedar is used in fasting and sweat lodge ceremonies as a form of protection: cedar branches cover the floor of the sweat lodge and a circle of cedar surrounds the faster’s lodge.

Sweetgrass

Sweetgrass is the sacred hair of Mother Earth. It’s sweet aroma reminds people of the gentleness, love and kindness she has for the people.

When sweetgrass is used in a healing circle it has a calming effect. Like sage and cedar, sweetgrass is used for smudging and purification.

Taking Care of the Medicines

You take care of these sacred medicines by keeping them in a dry place. They can be stored in paper bags or wooden boxes.

If you have been using alcohol or drugs, Healers say you wait four to seven days before touching the medicines.
LRBOI TRIBAL GOVERNMENT JOBS

The Human Resources Department welcomes your application for posted positions that are of interest to you! Did you know that job openings can be found on-line, in tribal newsletters, and on bulletin boards at government buildings? Job announcements are updated on a continuous basis. Look no further than these convenient sources for your next opportunity.

- www.lrboi-nsn.gov
- Rapid River News Weekly
- Tribal Government Buildings
- Global E-mail
- Michigan Works Offices or Website
- By calling the HR Department

What about Temporary Work? Send in or drop off your application at anytime and be included in our temporary employment pool. Just be certain to check “temporary” or place “temp pool” on the position of interest line. Temporary assignments range from 1 to 180 days in duration. It’s a great way to gain experience and sharpen your skills.

Indian Preference applies to the hiring of all vacant positions

Please send your application, resume, and cover letters to:

LRBOI Human Resources
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
Fax: (231) 398-9101
E-mail: agiltz@lrboi.com
Phone: (231) 398-6859 or (888) 723-8288

Terry Wood, a dear friend of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians visited the Fall Fire & Teachings in mid-October and brought a special gift from the Urban Indian League of Indianapolis, Indiana. Terry is a member of the league and teaches Native American subjects at various venues in central Indiana. She brought a whole bag of winter boots for distribution to our young ones…along with wrist bands observing Childhood Cancer Awareness month.

The boots were given to Be Da Bin for distribution.

MiiGWetch!

Presidential Proclamation -- National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, 2013

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH, 2013
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

Every September, America renews our commitment to curing childhood cancer and offers our support to the brave young people who are fighting this disease. Thousands are diagnosed with pediatric cancer each year, and it remains the leading cause of death by disease for American children under 15. For those children and their families, and in memory of every young person lost to cancer, we unite behind improved treatment, advanced research, and brighter futures for young people everywhere.

Over the past few decades, we have made great strides in the fight against pediatric cancer. Thanks to significant advances in treatment over the last 30 years, the combined 5-year survival rate for children with cancer increased by more than 20 percentage points. Today, a substantial proportion of children diagnosed with cancer can anticipate a time when their illness will be in long-term remission or cured altogether.

My Administration is dedicated to carrying this progress forward. We are funding extensive research into the causes of childhood cancer and its safest and most effective treatments. We also remain committed to easing financial burdens on families supporting a loved one with cancer. Under the Affordable Care Act, insurance companies can no longer deny coverage to children with pre-existing conditions or set lifetime caps on essential health benefits. As of January 2014, insurers will be prohibited from dropping coverage for patients who choose to participate in a clinical trial, including clinical trials that treat childhood cancer.

All children deserve the chance to dream, discover, and realize their full potential. This month, we extend our support to young people fighting for that opportunity, and we recognize all who commit themselves to advancing the journey toward a cancer-free world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 2013 as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. I encourage all Americans to join me in reaffirming our commitment to fighting childhood cancer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

BARACK OBAMA
What Does it Mean to be in a Healthy Relationship?

Have a common vision
You both have an idea of what the relationship means and where you would like it to go.

Share basic values
You have similar spiritual and family values. This doesn’t mean you agree on everything.

Have the other person’s interests at heart
You are not together for selfish reasons

Are strong individuals
You are together because you want to be—not because you fear being alone, want sex, or seek revenge (on an “ex” partner, for example).

Make decisions together
Successful couples discuss and see agreements on all major issues such as money and raising children

Respecting each other’s boundaries
A healthy relationship allows each partner to have: time alone when needed, friendships outside the relationship, interest and hobbies of his or her own, privacy (for example, e-mails/phone calls).

Being a team
Healthy couples avoid competing with each other instead they respect each other’s way of doing things, cooperate with each other working as equal partners, and help each other reach goals.

While every relationship is different, healthy ones tend to have; mutual respect, forgiveness, intimacy, honest communication, empathy, shared responsibilities, trust and support, effort and commitment, and fidelity.
If one person tries to control everything, a relationship can be in trouble.
If you are in an unsafe and unhealthy relationship there is help available.
The Family Services Department has a domestic violence/sexual assault program coordinator on staff. Domestic violence in a relationship does not have to be violent. Emotional and mental abuse are just as hurtful and damaging as physical abuse.

Please, if you or someone you know need help contact the Family Services Department today.

Contact information:
Jancen Coddren
DV/SA Program Coordinator
Located at: 1762 US 31 South (across from KFC)

Mailing address: 608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
Direct line: 231-398-6719
email: jcoddren@lrboi.com

Progress in the clinic area

I would also like to extend a BIG HUGE THANK YOU to all those involved, your willingness to step in and assist during this unforeseen circumstance is greatly appreciated by the Health Services staff.
Thank You doesn't seem enough!!!
Janice Grant

New exam tables off loaded for the patient space in the Government Center.
KchiMiigwech to Robert Battice, Cindy Gamelin, Mary Velikan, and especially Frank Figgels and Jim Stuck for getting their tractor with the forks over to assist with the off-loading!
Six new tables have arrived for patient care—and more to come in the following weeks!
Miigwech,
Jessica Burger
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.

### Household Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Income Limits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>$1,080.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>$1,410.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>$1,740.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>$2,081.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>$2,438.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>$2,795.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>$3,125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>$3,455.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For each additional member add $330.00

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**Matt Wesaw Named Director Of Michigan Department Of Civil Rights**

Matt Wesaw has a new title. The tribal chairman of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians is now the director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. He was chosen late Monday afternoon for the spot by the Civil Rights Commission. Wesaw served on the Civil Rights Commission for eight years and had been appointed to the body by three different governors. The vote to hire the southwest Michigan Native American leader was unanimous. Commissioners also interviewed University of Michigan adjunct professor and Family Equality Council senior legislative counsel Denise Brogan-Kator, Detroit corporation counsel Portia Roberson and Eric Williams.

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**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.

**Monthly Income Standards October 1, 2012 & October 1, 2013**

- **Tax Office**
  - **Commodities Department** serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newayo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.
  - **Office hours are** 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M
  - **Lunch hour is** 12:00 – 1:00

**Yvonne Theodore, Laurie Jackson**

1-888-723-8288 ask for
Commodity Program Office
231-398-6717 or 231-398-6715

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**Another Reason to love commodity program.**

FDPIR client survey question;

*How does the commodity program help your household?* The commodity food goes along way, I have a large family with preteens so I Cook lots of homemade food so my children can get full an eat on time. Also by cooking from scratch I can teach my children how to cook. Also commodity program helps to make my kids favorite meal bean dip.
How things have changed over ten years. In 2004 we tried something that had never been done before as we rolled the sturgeon rearing facility to its destination at Rainbow Bend on the Big Manistee River; raise lake sturgeon in a mobile rearing facility using water from the same river the fish were collected from. Why? The population was very small and survival of small, newly hatched sturgeon left in the river was very low. The Tribe took action recognizing that this fish and the ecosystem we all share needed help. Fast forward to 2013. Hundreds of young lake sturgeon have been temporarily taken out of the Big Manistee River in the springtime, protected until they are much larger (10 inches), and rereleased in the fall when their survival is much higher. And it is WORKING! Fish released by LRBOI are being recaptured in Lake Michigan and they are healthy and growing well. In just two to three years these fish will begin returning to the Big Manistee River to lay eggs and produce offspring of their own.

In 2004 we celebrated the first sturgeon release with a handful of family and friends. We remember releasing those fish while thinking of the difficult circumstances that occurred that summer of working through the issues that arrive when you are the first to do something. We were continuously tweaking the facility to make it work more efficiently. In 2013 we celebrated the sturgeon release with hundreds of friends and family from across the Great Lakes region. Although the sturgeon release has grown to become a major event it still represents what it did the very first year – a celebration of the interconnectedness of humans, a special fish, and the natural world. We are all in this together!

In 2004 the Little River Bands sturgeon program was the only of its kind – it was a lonely feeling. In 2013 there are many facilities based on the same blueprint as our old reliable. We have partnered with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the States of Michigan and Wisconsin in an initiative to see that sturgeon restoration is successful not just on the Big Manistee River but throughout the Great Lakes Basin. Five other facilities are now in the Lake Michigan Basin and one on Lake Superior. We have forged great relationships with our government partners and share each other’s excitement when we all successfully release fish each fall.

Over the years the sturgeon program has been fortunate to be featured in numerous newspaper articles, scientific publications, a book, TV programs and a documentary video. We have acquired numerous grants, been consultants on other sturgeon restoration projects, and have been contacted by researchers across the globe (Russia, Italy and Canada!). Although we are appreciative these opportunities this has never been the focus but a good by-product. We have focused on enhancing and reconnecting the Tribe (and other people of the Great Lakes) and the sturgeon, forging friendships and partnerships, and promoting Tribal sovereignty. Tribal sovereignty is an important but often overlooked part of this project – it is because of sovereignty that the Tribe built and operated the first streamside rearing facility in 2004 - a treaty-guaranteed right to restore fish, wildlife and the environment that is so critical to the Tribe and all of us.

So what is next for the sturgeon initiative? The simple answer is we shall see. We couldn’t have foreseen all that would happen during the first 10 years and this will likely occur over the next 10 years. In 2004 the Tribal Council passed a resolution of long-term support for the sturgeon to ensure that the work would be supported long enough to be successful. We are working hard to evaluate this success and ways to determine the next steps for helping the sturgeon. When the sturgeon that we have released start returning back to the Big Manistee River to spawn we will take a careful look at the population and make decisions on how to proceed based on cultural and biological needs. This is something we have always done and will continue to use. Ultimately, we look forward to the day where we close the doors of the sturgeon rearing facility and know that this phase is done. That the sturgeon population is safe and self-sustaining and the conditions the sturgeon interface with have been improved. When the rearing facility doors are finally closed we will still keep a watchful eye on them and enjoy greeting them each spring as hundreds return to spawn. So until then we will keep doing the sturgeon program in a good way.

Photos by: Lucy McClellan-Hunter
Red Bird Productions
10 Years of Sturgeon

Photos by: Lucy McClellan-Hunter - Red Bird Productions
1st Annual Suicide Awareness and Prevention Walk took place on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at Aki Madaziwiin housing development of the Little River Band to raise awareness of suicide and encourage prevention efforts in this area. The “BeDaBin Behavioral Health” of the Tribe’s health system collaborated with “Centra Wellness Network” of Manistee in an effort to raise awareness about depression and suicide. Suicide is more common among all ages that you think, Every 14 minutes someone dies by suicide in the United States.

Over seventy people of all ages and gender came out to participate in the walk all gathered to show their commitment to eliminate suicide from our community. A moment of silence and balloon release were held to remember those who lost their lives to suicide. Participants enjoyed a feast following a keynote speaker and the final event was a “giveaway” of candles. To further show support the participants were encouraged safely display a candle near a window at 8pm on World Suicide Prevention Day (September 10) to show support for suicide prevention, to remember a lost loved one, and for the survivors of suicide. No matter what problems, or are struggling with, hurting yourself isn’t the answer. Please contact BeDaBin for help 231-723 8299 or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to talk to a counselor at a Lifeline crisis center near you.

For help call:
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1-800-273-TALK (8255)
BeDaBin 231-723 8299

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Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault in Our Backyard

On March 7, 2013 the President of the United States signed into law the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013. This Act strengthens the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) with increased protections for Native American women and other victims previously left vulnerable by gaps in the law.

Currently, Native American women are more than twice as likely to be victims of domestic violence as non-Native women. A recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study found that 46% of Native American women have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by a partner in their lifetime. One regional survey conducted by University of Oklahoma researchers showed that nearly three out of five Native American women had been assaulted by their spouses or intimate partners. Tribal leaders tell us the actual rates of victimization may be even higher, since the justice system’s failure to adequately respond leaves many Native American victims unable to safely come forward with their stories.

The above statistics are on the national level.....what about the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians?

A survey was conducted by the Family Services Department in order to collect data for future grants, projects, and programs. The statistics are staggering. There were 100 surveys completed, unfortunately only 99 of them could be used. The survey enveloped both Domestic violence (Directly or indirectly) and Sexual Assault (Directly or indirectly). The results are below:

See Attached results

If you are a victim or you know someone who is a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault the Family Services Department is here to help. Currently, we have a Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Program Coordinator that is on staff and ready to assist.

Contact Information:
Janeen Codden DV/SA Program Coordinator
Office Located at: 1762 US 31 South (right across the street from KFC)
Mailing Address: 608 Government Center Drive Manistee, MI 49660
Direct line: 231-398-6719/ email: jcodden@lrboi.com
**Annual Elders Conference 2013**

**Saturday November 2, 2013**

8:00 am to 11:00 am
Registration & Information Booths Enrollment Updates and Voter Registration is available at Registration Table

9:00 am to 10:00 am
Ron Pete, Chairperson Elders Committee
Welcoming Elders and Guests Opening Ceremonies & Warriors Posting of Nation Flags - Host Drum: Little Bird

10:00 am to 11:00 am
Keynote Speaker: Deb Gutowski
Being an Elder and The Path to Get Here Today

11:00 am to 12:00 pm
Ron Pete, Chairperson Elders Committee Wendell Long – LCRR General Manager

**12:00 pm to 1:00 pm**
Lunch – Buffet in the Event Center

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**Sunday November 3, 2013**

8:00 am to 9:00 am
Breakfast – Buffet in the Event Center

8:45 am to 9:00 am
Ron Pete, Elder Committee Chairperson - Welcome back!

9:00 am to 9:30 am
Presentation Speaker: Austen Brauker / Pat Wilson

9:30 am to 11:00 am
Presentation Speaker: Lucy Hunter – Boarding School Documentary

11:00 am to 11:30 am
Speaker: Ogema & Tribal Council - Closing Comments

11:30 am to 12:30 pm
Speaker: Ron Pete, Elder Committee Chairperson
Elder Committee Business – Closing of Ceremonies & Retiring of Nation Flags Meeting Adjourned

~Safe Travel Home~

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**Elders Meal Menu**

**AKI Maadiziwin Community Center**
**(November 2013)**

<table>
<thead>
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<th><strong>Sun</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mon</strong></th>
<th><strong>Tue</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Fri</strong></th>
<th><strong>Sat</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Breakfast for lunch.</strong></td>
<td>Chicken Parmesan</td>
<td>Italian veggies</td>
<td>Pasta salad</td>
<td>Ruben Sandwich</td>
<td>Potato Wedge</td>
<td>Cottage Cheese</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Office Closed</strong></td>
<td>Tomato Soup</td>
<td>Grilled Cheese</td>
<td>Broccoli</td>
<td>Chicken and Dumplings</td>
<td>Peas and Carrots</td>
<td>Jell-O</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chicken Breast</strong></td>
<td>18th BINGO</td>
<td>Meatball sub</td>
<td>Sweet tarts</td>
<td>French dip</td>
<td>Potato wedges</td>
<td>Peas</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Baked Potato</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Italian veggies</td>
<td>Green Bean Cookies</td>
<td>Strawberry</td>
<td>Shortcake</td>
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<td><strong>Green beans</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Pudding</strong></td>
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<td><strong>19th BINGO</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Turkey Dinner</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Pizza</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dessert</strong></td>
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**General Information**

Meals served at Noon. There is a cost for Guest Meals $5.00 and should accompany an Elder. Questions?

Noelle Cross Phone: 231-398-6886 e-mail: ncross@lrboi.com Volunteers are needed to help with meals, if interested please contact Noelle.

A meal is given to a volunteer who spends at least a half an hour of their time contributing to the Elder Meal Program.

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**Thank You volunteers!**

September Elder Committee Meal
Michelle Bernatche, Randy Peper, Melanie and Ritchie Gillette and Michelle Steele.

I can’t say thank you enough to all the volunteers for helping in so many ways. You always make it go so smoothly and the laughter is a bonus!

Lenny and Carol I am sure the Elders who you bring lunch to on a daily basis appreciate it so much.

Thank you to Del and Joan for delivering on the days that Lenny is unable. I would also like to thank the Elders who pitched in during the few weeks I was shorthanded. Norma you always make it fun!

Thank you Michelle Bernatche and Frankie Medacco for helping out during your lunch hour. Brock and I always look forward to your help!

Thanks you to whomever sent us the Lotto ticket! Even though it wasn’t a winner it was such a kind thought!

Noelle
Government Closes for the following Holidays

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

Just use the toll-free number 888.723.8288. Some areas of the government will be continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety. Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of the Government facilities. It’s always a good idea to call first.

Commission Openings!
The tribe continues to seek applications from qualified members interested in serving upon the Commerce, Gaming, Housing, Binojeeuk, Enrollment, Health and Natural Resources Commissions. Ogema Romanelli has asked for members to submit letters of interest along with why they would like to be on the Commissions and what skills or knowledge they bring to the group. Applicants will need to submit a commission application along with your letter of interest. You will need to contact our office to get an application and will need to submit both in order to be considered.

Please send the letter and application to the attention of Executive Assistant, Mary Thomas, Office of the Ogema, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI 49660.
LRBOI Tribal member and Elder Delano Peters is still at it, inventing cool items which can help people! Over the fall and early winter, Del introduced a new portable ‘exercise’ piece of equipment that can help young people improve their balance and ability to do gymnastics including as he says, “Teach them how to get started walking on their hands!”

Indian Preference Business
Are you a business owner that owns 51 percent of your business? Are you a member of a Federal Recognized Indian Tribe? If so, your business may qualify for Indian Preference. To get registered with the Little River Band, please contact Michelle Lucas at 888.723.8288.

Eve Salisbury
Independent Beauty Consultant
(231) 571-0627
craftylady1940@comcast.net
www.marykay.com/ysalisbury

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Housing Department currently has programs to assist prospective Homeowners, and existing homeowners, with Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance. The programs are available to Tribal Members who are buying, building, or planning to buy or build, or who have purchased a home and would have met the requirements of eligibility for any of the programs established in the Ordinance between September 21, 2005 and the date the Ordinance went into effect. It is available to members within or outside the Reservation or Trust Lands boundaries. There are no income requirements, and you can receive a combined amount up to $5,000.00 and is based on 2.33% for Down Payment assistance and 1% for Closing Cost assistance which is calculated on the total purchase price. Please contact Chad Gehrke in the Housing Department for additional information and applications, 231-398-6878.
Ok; How about we Eat Pizza

And Play Turkey Football?

I’m Ready!

Turkey Football?

Words for Plays
The words at below have been hidden. Can you find them all?

- play
- acts
- stage
- comedies
- characters
- minor
- audience
- shown
- speak thoughts
- stage directions
- costumes

Shakespeare
scenes
tragedies
histories
main
acted not read
actors
spoken
director
set

Words are going both forward and backwards.
This word search will take about 7 minutes 12 seconds.
Ways to Save Energy in your Home

It brings beautiful scenery and fun outdoor activities but it also brings colder temperatures and an increase to heating utility expense. Do you have a plan to reduce utility expenses? Does that plan include budgeting for the utility expense? If you have said yes to both of these questions, we would like to know how you have done this and share your information with others. Please send your information to the Members Assistance Department 608 Government Center Dr. Manistee MI 49660.

There are hundreds of things you can do to make your home more efficient, ranging from simple, free adjustments to major, long-term investments. Which ones you should do in your home will depend on a number of factors—where you live, the size and style of your house, how efficient it already is, which direction it faces, and so on. Nevertheless, let one principle be your guide: go for the “no cost” adjustment first. Often it will be the cheapest, easiest projects that make the biggest dents in your utility bills. Then, with the money you’re saving each month on energy and water, you can tackle further projects, bills or put towards a savings or retirement plan. Some utilities and energy offices offer great information and financing programs to encourage their customers to invest in energy efficiency and renewables as well as budgeting programs to help with utility bills. Ask yours about these types of programs.

Getting Started:

A. Collect your fuel and electric bills for the past 12 months. Divide the total cost of the bills by the square footage of your home—but don’t include garages and unheated basements. Most annual bills range from 60¢ to 90¢ per square foot. If your bills fall in this range, or are even higher, you have many cost effective opportunities to dramatically reduce your bills. Save this information for future reference.

B. Make a plan of action. The following 19 proven ways to save energy are a useful place to start. Feel free to substitute your own priorities, since you and your family knows your situation.

C. Encourage family members to be energy conscious. The importance of getting family cooperation shouldn’t be underestimated; your family practices and activities can make or break energy saving efforts.

D. Adjust your thermostat. Turn down your home heating thermostat, especially when your home is not occupied. Unfortunately, we often see home heating temperature set at 78 degrees, even in low-income houses. For every degree you lower your heat in the 60-degree to 70-degree range, you’ll save up to 5% on heating costs.

E. Wear warm clothing in winter. This lets you comfortably set your thermostat to 68 degrees F. or lower during the day and evening, health permitting. Set the thermostat back to 55-65 degrees F. at night or when leaving home for an extended time saving 5-20 percent of your heating costs. Use comforters on your bed at night to keep warm.

F. Eliminate wasted energy. Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms. Unplug that spare refrigerator in the garage if you don’t truly need it - this seemingly convenient way to keep extra drinks cold adds 10-25% to your electric bill. Turn off kitchen and bathroom ventilating fans after they’ve done their job - these fans can blow out a house-full of heated air if inadvertently left on. Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning to prevent up to 8% of your furnace-heated air from going up the chimney. Close doors on the rooms you are not occupying. This will keep the heat in areas most occupied by you and your family.

G. Reduce the hot water temperature. Reducing the temperature on your water heater thermostat can decrease heat loss from your tank. You need to keep your water heater at or above 120 degrees to prevent bacteria from building up. Dishwashing may require higher temperature settings such as 130 degrees F. When purchasing a new dishwasher, choose one that heats the wash water to the right temperature internally, this lets you turn down your hot water and still get clean dishes.

H. Install water flow restrictors in showers and low flow aerators in sink faucets. These measure can save you money by reducing water use. Modern low flow showers feel just as good as the older high volume showers.

I. Reduce lighting. Remove lamps where you have more lighting than you really need, but be sure to maintain safe lighting conditions for work areas. Turn lights off when they’re not in use. Replace outdoor lighting with a motion-detector equipped bulb or fixture.

J. Replace incandescent light bulbs. Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent lights. The newer compact fluorescent lights don’t buzz hum or flicker, and they really save money. A compact fluorescent lamp costs between $4.00 and $12.00. I have found the least expensive lamps at the local Home Depot.

K. Seal heating and cooling ductwork. Leakage from areas such as joints, elbows, and connections can be substantial--as much as 20% to 30%. This is especially costly if the ducts travel through unheated or uncooled spaces such as attics, basements, or crawlspaces. Use duct tape specifically designed for real ductwork not the stuff commonly called “duct tape”. Wrap the hot water tank with jacket insulation. This simple, inexpensive measure will reduce standby heat loss from the tank. Be sure to leave the air intake vent uncovered when insulating a gas water heater. Even if you have a newer hot water heater, this will save real money

L. Clean cooling coils on your refrigerator. This simple task can improve the efficiency of your refrigerator 15%. Maintain an energy efficient temperature in your refrigerator. The recommended cooling level for the brand of refrigerator is usually the most cost effective.

M. Buy energy-efficient appliances and equipment. When buying televisions, appliances, computers etc., compare energy requirements. Consider purchasing a flat screen television next time you purchase a computer.

N. Seal exterior cracks and holes, and ensure tight-fitting windows. Seemingly small cracks or holes in the building exterior (like walls, windows, doors, ceiling, and floors) can really add up to substantial heating or cooling losses. Install weather stripping and caulking to stop these air leaks. Savings up to 10% on energy costs.

O. Sun-exposed windows and building walls. In most areas of the country, direct sunlight streaming through windows at the wrong time of the year can substantially increase your airconditioning costs. During the cooling season, use shading methods (like window coverings, awnings, trees, and bushes) wherever possible. In the winter time let the sunshine in and feel the warmth!

Submitted by: Members Assistance Department
Members Submissions
You can send your Member Submissions to currentscomments@lrboi.com

Bashkadini-Giizis (Freezing Moon)
November 2013 vol.10 Issue 11

Currents
Page 22

This is the first bear my son, Jacob Berentsen, got with his bow. He was hunting in Vermillion Bay, ON. He got this Wednesday, 9/11 @ 5:42p.m. I am so proud of him and the sportsman he has become. I love you! Mom

Happy Thanksgiving to my Darlings
Hannah and Mathew Sandel

I am thankful for every second of every minute of every hour of every day of every month of every year of my life loving you!

Love,
Mommy Eagle

Happy Birthday
Tribal Elder’s

Beatrice Elizabeth Bahr
Robert Francis Battice
Mary Mildred Fountaine
Alyce Jane Giltz

Isabelle Mary Golden
Carol Joyce Kelsey
Joyce Elaine Kutz
Dale Edward Lones

This is the first bear my son, Jacob Berentsen, got with his bow. He was hunting in Vermillion Bay, ON. He got this Wednesday, 9/11 @ 5:42p.m. I am so proud of him and the sportsman he has become. I love you! Mom

Happy Birthday

Alan King  Mitchell King
Love Yvonne Theodore

Alan King son Michelle Anderson King graduated from army boot camp August 1, 2013 Alpha company, 2nd. Battalion 47th Infantry Fort Benning Georgia

Happy Birthday

I am happy to announce three new births of grandchildren my descendants this year of 2013
Granddaughter Elaine Lee Caswell, 3-25-2013
Granddaughter Kennedy Mae Caswell, 6-5-2013
Grandson Owen Daniel Schramm, 8-17-2013
I am thankful for this blessing Grandma Barbara Caswell

I am thankful for every second of every minute of every hour of every day of every month of every year of my life loving you!

Love,
Mommy Eagle

We want to thanks the hundreds of people that have been part of the sturgeon restoration initiative over the past 10 years and have made it possible. We enjoy seeing all of you and spending time along the river bank celebrating the sturgeon and appreciating all of the hard work and dedication needed to help this amazing fish. We had a magnificent day and a great turnout to match. With 371 sturgeon released the success of this year’s sturgeon release was a true milestone to be remembered. This is a great sign for the future of the lake sturgeon. Thanks to everyone for showing your support and for all your helping hands.

LOVE AUNT TERESA,UNCLE JOHN MOM, DAD AND YOUR WHOLE FAMILY WE LOVE YOU BOO!

New Baby Boy!
am proud to announce that I am “new” grandma (our oldest son nd wife just had their 3rd child).
Ivan Mitchell born at 8:15 a.m. 8 lbs. 9 oz. 21 inches long! Healthy baby!!
Dottie Batchelder

I am proud to announce that I am “new” grandma (our oldest son nd wife just had their 3rd child).

LOVE AUNT TERESA,UNCLE JOHN MOM, DAD AND YOUR WHOLE FAMILY WE LOVE YOU BOO!

Happy Birthday

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From Natural Resources!

This is the signed poster from the event that will be on display in the natural resources department.

I am thankful for every second of every minute of every hour of every day of every month of every year of my life loving you!

Love,
Mommy Eagle
News Blast from the Past!

Tribal news from 1998….do you remember where you were?

ELECTION ISSUE - NOVEMBER 1998
prepared by the LRB Election Board

Each candidate was asked to submit a biography and replies to five questions. All of this information was typed into our computer as closely as possible to the way that we received it. It was then sorted alphabetically by candidate’s last name within each of the four types of position sought: Ogem/Ogemaquay, Nine-County District, At-Large District, and Tribal District. We have tried very hard to make this special issue as fair as possible to all of the candidates without doing their work for them. We did not fix any spelling or grammatical errors. We hope that you will find this helpful in making your decisions, and, finally, please be sure to VOTE when you get your ballot. If you have any questions about the ballot or the election process, please call Diane Lonn at the Tribal offices or one of the members of our board. Megwetch.

THE ELECTION BOARD
Pat Ruiter, Chairperson
Kathleen Bowen, Secretary
Gail Zavada
Martin Wabindato
Phil Memberto, alternate
Jacob P. Wabindato
David Lilleberg, alternate

SUMMARY OF RULES AND EXPLANATION OF DISTRICTS

Over 2,000 copies of the election rules for the first Council election were mailed on September 18 to eligible members. Under the Tribe’s new constitution, the rules define the districts and establish basic voting procedures.

The new Council will consist of nine Council members. There will also be an elected executive called the Ogem (or Ogemaquay, if female). Six of the Council members will represent the Nine-County District described below, one At-Large District Council member will represent members outside of the Nine-County District, and two Tribal District Council members will represent all members everywhere, both inside and outside the Nine-County District.

The districts are the Nine-County District, the At-Large District, and the Tribal District. The Nine-County District is the Michigan counties of Manistee, Mason, Lake, Wexford, Oceana, Newaygo, Muskegon, Ottawa, and Kent. The At-Large District is everywhere else in the world except the Nine-County District. The Tribal District is everywhere, both inside and outside the Nine-County District.

Voters living in the Nine-County District will receive a ballot that allows them to vote for up to six of the candidates for the Nine-County District. They will also be able to vote for up to two of the candidates from the Tribal District (anywhere), and for one Ogem/Ogemaquay candidate.

All other voters will receive a ballot that allows them to vote for up to two of the candidates from the Tribal District (anywhere). They will also be able to vote for one At-Large candidate (not voted on by Nine-County residents), and one Ogem/Ogemaquay candidate.

The election will be conducted by mail, with ballot mailing planned for November 16. Ballots received at the specified Post Office Box by noon on Saturday, December 19, will be counted on Monday, December 21. See the official rules for more details.
The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is launching a new Community Notification Service called “Nixle” to improve communication with the community, tribal members and employees who live, work, or visit our reservation area in Manistee, MI. *The system provides a quick, efficient, and secure way to get neighborhood-level information out to community members who subscribe to the system*. Notifications might be considered in the following instances:

- A young child or adult with Alzheimer’s disease walks away from their home. The alert can include a picture of the child or vulnerable adult with a map identifying the area at which they were last seen.

- A public safety emergency requires people to stay in or remain away from their homes. A Nixle alert can let residents with a registered texting number know what’s happening, allowing residents to take a proactive role in their own safety.

- A serious injury or fatal crash in which traffic investigators close down the intersection for several hours during the morning commute. This situation might warrant a notification to subscribers who live or work in the area, encouraging them to select a different route to work.

- Other uses include: Large-scale public works projects, traffic safety implications around large fire scenes, important community events, details about a case of H1N1 (“swine flu”) in the area, tribal council meeting information, utility outage advisories/boil orders.

Through Nixle, we will deliver messages securely to tribal citizens, employees and the community by cell phone texting, supporting and expanding our community outreach efforts.

Nixle is a secure communications service available to municipal, county, tribal and state government agencies. The system is available at no cost to our citizens (standard text message rates do apply for subscribers who do not have text plans with their cell phone providers)! You may choose what type of messages to receive (Alert/Advisory/Community) and you may always opt out (cancel) the service.

*To activate your phone to receive our Nixle messages, text LRBOI to 888777. Residents can receive technical and non-technical assistance directly from Nixle by sending email to support@nixle.com. Internally, you may contact the tribal Office of Public Affairs at 888.723.8288 ext. 6872.*

To stop receiving LRBOI messages or to change which ones you receive!

SMS text subscribers can opt out of receiving messages by texting the word STOP to 888777.

Subscribers may also opt out by writing support@nixle.com with the email address/cell phone number they wish to unsubscribe.

Subscribers have the ability to manage their account settings by logging in to their subscriber account at www.nixle.com. If you have never logged in via the website, you can create your full account access login from this same web page at the far upper right of the screen (“Registered Subscribers Sign in Here”); then click the “Need Password” link. Please note, if you request a password via SMS text, you must use your cell phone number, along with the password received via text, to log in. Likewise, if you request a password via email, you must use your email address to log in.

Once logged in, subscribers can manage which types of messages they receive on the Settings tab.

Remember: Sign up by texting LRBOI to 888777 Stop receiving messages by texting STOP to 888777 or email support@nixle.com with your cell number

Edit what level of messages you receive by going to www.nixle.com