Language Camp

Every year at the end of July, the Anishinaabe Family Language & Culture Camp has become an annual event; the 21st year is now wrapped up. This year’s event was attended by 414 participants from 18 different States and Canada and including over 20 different tribal affiliations!

The three-day weekend included workshops on making copper bowls and baby moccasins as well as learning about medicines, residential school history, lodge teachings, storytelling, Anishinaabe baseball, and many more. A special thanks to several staff members: Jessica Burger, Jimmie Mitchell, Austen Brauker, and Deb Davis who took the time to share their knowledge with others in several workshops. The evenings were entertaining with a talent show one night and a Jiingtamok on the other, which added to the cultural learning and experiences.

Election Announced!

The Tribal Election Board has announced the next election. This one will be for Ogema; 5 Tribal Council seats; Chief Judge; two Appellate Judges and two Election Board representatives. See full details inside this Currents including the calendar with dates for submissions of packets and the schedule of election events leading up to the April election.

ACA info coming to LRBOI

There is going to be a collaboration with Detroit Urban Indian Center and LRBOI as Certified Application Counselors from Members Assistance will be in Manistee to help members understand the health care situation. Also, there is a special article on the Medicare Prescription Donut. Read details inside.

For submission policies regarding editorial or communications processes for the Currents or the Rapid River News, please go to www.lrboi.com under the tabs for both publications. You will see the full policies written there. These include the editorial and communication protocols for the Office of Public Affairs in effect at this time. To comment upon these policies, please use currentscomments@lrboi.com and send in your thoughts for consideration by the staff.

Emergency Management protocols will be available upon request and per authorization by the Office of the Ogema as they constitute secure
Aanii:
It has been a while since I’ve written. It is difficult to keep up with this new scheduling of the Currents. Hope all are having a nice summer. There is much going on within the Tribe, I am not sure where to start. Unfortunately, we lost one of our hardest working employees, Robert(ba) Memberto right during the 2014 LRBOI Pow Wow. He was a friend to many and will be missed.

Our 2015 Government Budget is proving to be a major challenge. Our budget continues to decrease annually and we are working to preserve services and jobs. Our Annual Budget Meeting presentation to the membership is being held this Saturday, August 2nd at the Community Center.

On August 16th from 10AM until 2PM an Informational Meeting will be held to answer concerns brought forward by Tribal Council against the Tribal Ogema. In a recent Council Meeting the Council voted on a possible removal hearing against the Tribal Ogema; the effort failed but the Ogema feels it important to answer the concerns to the tribal membership since this is at least the third time a removal hearing possibility has been on council’s agenda during my term of office.

I have also presented a list of concerns to the Tribal Council in hopes that both branches of government can address the continuing concerns and move beyond for the betterment of the Tribe.

Last week, I presented another Informational Meeting on the Fishing Program of 2007. Approximately 40-50 people attended along with one fisherman, one council member and two Natural Resources Commissioners. I will be posting several documents presented at the meeting on the LRBOI website under the Ogema’s page.

I hope to resume writing in the next issues of the Currents. Please take care and until next time…

(Tribal citizen Lucy McLellan-Hunter shared a beautiful story from the Culture Camp Jiingtamok at Little River in late July. Lucy also provided these photographs from the Language Camp.)

“Let me tell you the story about the healing dance. After I gave my presentations (on the Boarding School history), there were four boarding school survivors who were very emotional. I went to Kenny and asked him if we could have a healing dance during the Jiingtamok for boarding school survivors.

What I witnessed around me during that healing dance, I will never forget. I have never seen so many people enter a dance arena to dance to a song. According to the drummers, the dance lasted 25 minutes because just about every person at the culture camp Jiingtamok was in that arena and it took that long—one survivor walks very carefully b/c of her balance and the other, has a foot injury that needs surgery. There were two drums—one drum being used during the healing dance. Drummers from the other drum would go over and sit in and drum so the other drummers could rest.

There were many emotional people during and after the dance. It was amazing.

Later on, after the Jiingtamok ended, we had a talking circle that lasted till almost 1am. I was honored to be invited and even had my time with the eagle feather.

The Jingle Dress dancers were amazing! There were a mix of women and younger girls, and they didn’t stop dancing for the entire dance.”

Successful events are always courtesy of many helping hands and able-bodied volunteers. The Historic Preservation Department would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to our many volunteers, especially, Don Underwood (our “go-to” man all weekend), Ron Pete, Melanie Ceplina, Lucy Hunter, Jean Aber, Jessica Burger, Izzy Burger, June Sam, and Tom Tracey; your work and dedication is tremendous and does not go unnoticed! As a way to say thanks to our volunteers who waited on our Elders, we put them first at the Giveaway on Sunday to receive a gift. We also say “kchi-miigwech” to the Little River Casino Resort for cooking the delicious meals; Ogema Romanelli, Tribal Council, Tribal Court and Peacemaking for serving our guests, Maintenance and Janitorial for their assistance in “the dirty work”, and to Ogema Romanelli, and Tribal Council, especially Councilors Gary DiPiazza and Mike Ceplina, for your continued support. Miigwech!

(A Healing Dance for Survivors)

(Tribal citizen Lucy McLellan-Hunter shared a beautiful story from the Culture Camp Jiingtamok at Little River in late July. Lucy also provided these photographs from the Language Camp.)

“Let me tell you the story about the healing dance. After I gave my presentations (on the Boarding School history), there were four boarding school survivors who were very emotional. I went to Kenny and asked him if we could have a healing dance during the Jiingtamok for boarding school survivors.

What I witnessed around me during that healing dance, I will never forget. I have never seen so many people enter a dance arena to dance to a song. According to the drummers, the dance lasted 25 minutes because just about every person at the culture camp Jiingtamok was in that arena and it took that long—one survivor walks very carefully b/c of her balance and the other, has a foot injury that needs surgery. There were two drums—one drum being used during the healing dance. Drummers from the other drum would go over and sit in and drum so the other drummers could rest.

There were many emotional people during and after the dance. It was amazing.

Later on, after the Jiingtamok ended, we had a talking circle that lasted till almost 1am. I was honored to be invited and even had my time with the eagle feather.

The Jingle Dress dancers were amazing! There were a mix of women and younger girls, and they didn’t stop dancing for the entire dance.”

Successful events are always courtesy of many helping hands and able-bodied volunteers. The Historic Preservation Department would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to our many volunteers, especially, Don Underwood (our “go-to” man all weekend), Ron Pete, Melanie Ceplina, Lucy Hunter, Jean Aber, Jessica Burger, Izzy Burger, June Sam, and Tom Tracey; your work and dedication is tremendous and does not go unnoticed! As a way to say thanks to our volunteers who waited on our Elders, we put them first at the Giveaway on Sunday to receive a gift. We also say “kchi-miigwech” to the Little River Casino Resort for cooking the delicious meals; Ogema Romanelli, Tribal Council, Tribal Court and Peacemaking for serving our guests, Maintenance and Janitorial for their assistance in “the dirty work”, and to Ogema Romanelli, and Tribal Council, especially Councilors Gary DiPiazza and Mike Ceplina, for your continued support. Miigwech!

Proposed changes to the Constitution of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians can be viewed on the tribal website at www.lrboi.com on the Council’s page.

Aasigaabwetaatidaa

Little River was the scene of an interesting and historic visit prior to the Language Camp this year. Tribal leaders from the Wikwemikong First Nation, Unceded Territory on Manitoulin Island north of the border visited to learn more about how the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians operates both internally and with external governments. The whole process started with this Mission statement:

Empowering our Anishinaabe nation through the sharing of Knowledge and Wisdom! This effort will bring our people closer together and unite us as we get to know one another closely. Today we as Anishinaabe people travel around the Great Lakes area. We attend one another’s Pow Wow’s and maybe we see each other at a conference or two. Through this effort we can get to know each other’s place of work and operations. We can share our successes, downfalls and concerns within our nation. The United States/Canadian border should be one such issue. The words Canadian Anishinaabe or American Anishinaabe should not be an issue. We and our children and their children will have a clear understanding that we are all Anishinaabe people. We will keep sharing our language, culture and history for many generations to come.

The visitors, including Ogmiaa Duke Peltier, first attended the Tribal Council session on Wednesday, the 23rd of July where they were greeted by Speaker Virg Johnson and Council members; treated to a beautiful cake provided by the Little River Casino Resort and got to see our tribal government in action.

That evening, our guests attended a welcoming feast at Aki Maadiziwin Community Center and the following day met with government executive staff, Judiciary staff and others to learn in-depth how we operate. Thursday afternoon, they spent three hours in the Lodge with a gathering of key staff members for a general discussion.

The following day was the opening of the 21st Annual Anishinaabe Family Language & Culture Camp at the gathering grounds. (see the following pages for pictures from their visit). A number of the Wikwemikong and other citizens from up north participated in the teachings including Theodore Flamand, Helen Roy Fuhst, Stanley Peltier and Sharla Peltier.
## Council News

### Work Session Title

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Work Session Title</th>
<th>Delano Peters</th>
<th>Michael Ceplina</th>
<th>Shannon Crampton</th>
<th>Gary DiPiazza</th>
<th>Virgil Johnson</th>
<th>Frankie Medacco</th>
<th>Sandy Mezeske</th>
<th>Pat Ruiter</th>
<th>Marty Wabindato</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/01/14</td>
<td>Historic Reservation Signs</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/03/14</td>
<td>Constitution</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/08/14</td>
<td>Athletic Commission</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/08/14</td>
<td>Constitution</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/08/14</td>
<td>Government Financial Review</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/10/14</td>
<td>Meeting with Staff</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/10/14</td>
<td>Wikwemkong Delegation Visit</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/14/14</td>
<td>Historic Reservation Signs</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/14/14</td>
<td>Agenda Review</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/14/14</td>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/14/14</td>
<td>Round Table with Ogema</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/15/14</td>
<td>EPA Treatment as a State</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/15/14</td>
<td>LRCR</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/15/14</td>
<td>Round Table with Ogema</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/15/14</td>
<td>Wells Fargo</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/17/14</td>
<td>Wikwemkong Delegation Visit</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/17/14</td>
<td>Gaming Ordinance Revision</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/18/14</td>
<td>Clean up at Aki maadiziwin</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/21/14</td>
<td>Clean up at Aki maadiziwin</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/22/14</td>
<td>2015 Budget Review</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/22/14</td>
<td>SORNA</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/22/14</td>
<td>Ordinance Final Review</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/22/14</td>
<td>Agenda Review</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/24/14</td>
<td>Constitution</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/24/14</td>
<td>Indian Preference Ordinance</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/24/14</td>
<td>Training w/ Kenny Pheasant</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>V</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/24/14</td>
<td>LLC Ordinance</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/25/14</td>
<td>Serve Lunch at Language Camp</td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/28/14</td>
<td>Burial Assistance Ordinance</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/28/14</td>
<td>Valliant Report</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/28/14</td>
<td>Agenda Review</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/29/14</td>
<td>Honorarium Ordinance</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/29/14</td>
<td>Resort Renovation Project</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/29/14</td>
<td>Round Table with Ogema</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/29/14</td>
<td>Daycare Center</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total

- **32**  
- **19**  
- **23**  
- **26**  
- **28**  
- **18**  
- **28**  
- **23**  
- **23**

* - Business Related  
V - Vacation

### LRBOI Olympians!
Mission Statement
“To strengthen and secure maximum independence for individuals and family members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians by providing assistance services that meet the needs of the community.”

Vision
“Meeting the needs of our community and empowering our members through accessible and responsive services to promote self-sufficiency, quality of life, increased health status and wellbeing.”

Members Assistance Department
Goals
Meet the needs of the individual and/or family by providing programs for health and safety, continued utility service and other services requested by tribal members that are identified as a need or crisis. Maintain a quality relationship with the members of the Tribal Community. Utilize a centralized intake process for the Tribal Community to contact for program information and to receive prompt services and/or referrals

Objectives
• Promote health, safety, self sufficiency and personal growth in individuals and family members by providing confidential, consistent, effective and timely services to ensure the health and safety of eligible individuals/families in need of assistance.
• Respond to all family support advocate's and referral requests to ensure the most assistance is provided to the eligible member and/or family in crisis or in need of assistance.
• Advocate and/or provide funding for Indian specific programs to fill the needs of the local and at-large communities based on membership requests
• Inform membership of existing local and Tribal resources and coordinate service assistance.
• Network with tribal service departments and/or agencies to maximize utilization of services and information available to the members of the Tribal Community.
• Create and implement a centralized intake process accessible to service departments. This process will be utilized to compile information for case management, family needs assessment, referral and follow up, service tracking of funding provided to each individual.

FY2014 Members Assistance Department Programs
Programs are available in ALL STATES with the exception of the grant funded programs as noted in program listing. Programs are subject to availability of funding.

*Food Assistance Program
This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a dietary/food crisis. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. If household is receiving food assistance from another agency, it is the responsibility of the applicant to verify with agency to ensure accessing this program will not affect current benefits. Submission of proof of purchase (receipts) is a requirement of this program. Eligibility Requirements:
- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household.
- Meet program eligibility
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
- Amount of assistance: Level of assistance is based on household income and the Assistance Matrix.

*Low Income Energy Assistance Program
This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing an energy crisis. Assistance may be accessed once per year. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. Eligibility Requirements:
- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household.
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG.
- Received a shut off notice from utility vendor
- Received a denial from an outside agency for utility assistance
- Amount of assistance: Level of assistance is based on household income and the Assistance Matrix.

*Elder Chore Assistance Program
The Elder Chore Assistance assists elders age 55 and older. This program is intended to provide limited, short-term financial assistance to eligible Elder members who are disabled and are limited in their ability to perform routine household chores essential to their health and safety and have no other recourse for assistance.

There is no income requirement for this program. Elder must be a permanent member of the household and must provide proof of a permanent or temporary physical disability. Temporary disability shall be for no less than 30 days and shall be verified by documented evidence of temporary disability from a qualified mental health professional or medical professional. Permanent disability shall be verified by documented evidence from a qualified mental health professional or medical professional.

The assistance for elder chore services are identified in the categories below

Snow Removal from drive way and sidewalks
Weather stripping around doors and windows
Grass cutting, leaf raking and removal, general clearing of debris around home
Gutter cleaning
General cleaning of the household including but not limited to dusting and cob web removal, vacuuming, trash removal, bathroom cleaning of toilets and water closets, dishwashing, laundry, scrubbing floors and walls, cleaning of appliances, washing windows, stripping and making of beds

Circumstances that are outside the scope of items listed may be applicable to the program scope only if left un-serviced poses a threat to the health and safety of the elder.

Amount of Assistance – Level of assistance is based on Elder resources and the Assistance Matrix. Assistance amount is no less than 50% of the amount available.

If scope of assistance is beyond what the tribe can assist with there are referrals resources such as Area Agency on Aging, Community Action Agency and other agencies. If you are in need of assistance in accessing these services please contact the Members Assistance Department.

*Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program
This program provides assistance to mem-
bers who meet the eligibility requirements and experiencing a housing crisis. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. Program may be access once every two years. Eligibility Requirements:

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
- Received demand for payment, eviction or foreclosure notice
- Relocation to affordable housing
- Relocation due to loss of housing due to natural disaster
- Relocation due to substandard housing as documented by an inspector
- If program has been accessed in the past, received a denial from an outside agency for assistance.

- Amount of assistance: Level of assistance is based on household income and the Assistance Matrix. Equivalent to one month’s rent or mortgage payment not to exceed program maximum program amount available to prevent or resolve housing crisis.

*Emergency Transportation Assistance*
The Emergency Transportation Assistance Program assists members experiencing a transportation crisis.

Program scope for assistance is repair or replacement of mechanical and/or electrical items required for proper vehicle operation and maintenance of safety items.

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
- Vehicle ownership is in the name of the Tribal member or a residence verified permanent member of the household
- Vehicle must be insured and registered.
- Vehicle areas in need of repair meet the scope of the program.

Amount of assistance – Level of assistance is based on household income and the Assistance Matrix.

*Programs can be accessed by the Parent or Guardian of a member who has not reached the age of 18 or the legal guardian of a member who has been determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to require legal guardian over the person and/or affairs, provided that the guardian is not the State of Michigan or other state government. This information must be on file with the Enrollment Department.

~THE FOLLOWING ARE GRANT FUNDED PROGRAMS~

Elder Meal Program - Title VI

The Elder Meal Program available at the Aki Community Center.

Meals will be served for lunch at noon Monday thru Thursday at the Aki Community Center located at 2953 Shaw Be Quo-Ung Manistee, MI 49660

One very important component of keeping elders healthy in their homes and communities is providing nutrition services. Adequate nutrition is critical to health, functioning, and quality of life. The purposes of nutrition services, activities and disease prevention education are:

- To reduce hunger and food insecurity;
- To promote socialization of older individuals; and
- To promote health and well-being by assisting older individuals to gain access to nutrition and other disease prevention and health promotion services to delay the onset of adverse health conditions.

Eligibility: Enrolled Tribal Elders age 55 and over. Also included in this eligibility are spouse of the eligible participant, handicapped or disabled individuals in the same household are eligible to participate when accompanying the Tribal Elder to the meal site. The meals are provided at NO CHARGE.

Guest Meals are available for individuals who would like to attend a meal with an eligible participant/Tribal Elder but do not meet eligibility guidelines. There will be a charge for the guest meal that is calculated according to the meal being served. Average cost is about $5.00. This provision does not exclude Caregivers, In-Home Caregivers or Home Aides from paying for guest meals if they do not meet eligibility requirements.

Donations are acceptable and will be used for program activities and to purchase food. At no time are contributions required however the offer to contribute must be provided per program requirements.

Home Delivered Meals – (limited services and based on availability of volunteers) Elders should only be on the home delivered meal program if they are unable to leave their homes without great difficulty. Their inability to leave home may be because of illness, disability, or general frailty. Frailty means having a physical or mental disability that restricts the ability of an individual to perform normal daily tasks. This shall be determined by a mental health professional or medical professional.

Monthly Menu – the menu will be published in the Rapid River News, the Currents, posted in tribal buildings and posted on our website. Menu is subject to change at any time.

Beneficial Activities will begin activities in September and will include fun games, educational presentations on Elder health and wellbeing and other activities of interest to our Elders. The activities portion of the program is a collaborated effort with tribal service departments and outside service agencies; we are hoping to have a well blended number of events on the September Menu Calendar. This calendar will be mailed to all Elders whom have completed their Intake Form.

Registration is required to participate in the Elder Meal Program with initial intake processes taking place at this time. If you would like to participate in this program please contact Lee Ivinson or Noelle Cross about this program. To complete the short intake process contact the Members Assistance Department or complete the form at the first meal you attend.

Volunteers Needed!! If you have the time and would like to volunteer at the Elder Meal Site please contact Noelle Cross.

The many benefits of this program will be evident with more participation by our Elders. To ensure this program continues there will be assessments conducted on participating elders. The data gathered from this process will assist us in gauging how the program is working and areas where improvements can be made.

*LIHEAP Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program – Assist with Heating – (Natural Gas, Propane, Electric, Coal, Fuel Oil and Wood)*

Cooling Assistance LIHEAP Component - Available to Tribal Elders

NOTE** LIHEAP funds are available in all counties of Michigan, for the counties outside of the Tribal 9 county service areas the local Department of Health and Human Services in your county administers this program under their guideline rules. LIHEAP is also available in all states through their local Health and Human Services and Housing Authorities. Funding Cycle is Oct 1st thru
Sept 30th – If you are in need of assistance it is important to contact the office as the need arises. Program has exhausted all funding for this grant cycle and will be reapplying for this grant in September.

**Well and Septic Program** –
The Well and Septic is an Indian Health Services (IHS) funded program. This program promotes health and safety for our tribal members by providing new or renovated sanitation facilities (Well and Septic). This program is available in the nine county service areas. Applicant must be:
- a. Enrolled member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.
- b. Reside in the nine county service areas (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)
- c. Home must be the primary residence of applicant – (Reside in year around)
- d. Ownership of home/site must be in the tribal member’s name.
- e. Project Site meets the I.H.S Eligibility Requirements.

A complete application and the supporting documents must be submitted in order to process any assistance request in a timely manner. Supporting documents are listed on the cover page of the application and are required at time of submission. Please contact the Members Assistance Department for program information and/or to request an application. Applications and Program Regulations are available online at [www.lrboi-nsn.com Members Assistance link](http://www.lrboi-nsn.com).

**BIA Home Improvement Program** – Applications being accepted at this time for the 9 County Services Areas. Please contact Lee Ivinson for more information.

**Other Services:**
- Referral assistance in finding assistance organizations and/or agencies to assist with needs that are not readily available or provided through tribal programs.
- Interdepartmental Referral Services that provided interdepartmental coordination and collaboration with tribal service departments when assisting members.
- MMAP assistance to Elders in need of Medicaid/Medicare Assistance
- Workplace health insurance enrollment assistance

**PROGRAM FYI’S**-
Applications that will not be processed. Incomplete applications and application missing required supporting documents will not be processed until complete. In the event an application is inactive for 30 days it is closed. Please read the coversheet of application for all the required documents that must be submitted in order to process an application.
Copies of original documents should be sent with application, please do not send originals. In order to keep costs down we will NOT return original documents.

Applications are processed in the order they are received. The process is in place to be impartial to all applications received into the department. Normal processing may take up to 5 days. If household has a pending shut off notice from a utility company. It is the responsibility of the applicant to contact the utility to discuss the situation. Most companies will give an extension and provide services to assist.

**Household Budget Skills – Promoting Self Sufficiency** – Currently this service is provided upon request. Future program access will prompt an initial budget review and an informative snapshot will be provided to applicant of current resources to expenses and tools to assist household in creating a realistic household budget. Continued tips and information will be provided in the Currents as well. In the event there is enough interest, this process may broaden into a more formalized program.

**Department Personnel**
Lee A. Ivinson – Members Assistance Coordinator
Linda Wissner – Program Specialist
Juli Duncil – Program Specialist
Noelle Cross – Elder Meal Program Administrator
Terrin Kitchens – Cafeteria Worker
Phone: 231-723-8288 or Toll Free 888-723-8288
Office Hours Mon thru Friday 8 am to 5 pm Closed for lunch hour 12pm – 1pm (Unless appointment is made in advance)

**Miigwetch to Council and all for the Aki Porch Cleanup**
Announcement of General Election

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
ELECTION BOARD
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
(231) 723-8288

Date of Election: April 24, 2015
Offices to be Elected:
  Office of Tribal Council – Nine County District (three seats)
  Office of Tribal Council – At Large District (one seat)
  Office of Tribal Ogema – (one seat)
  Office of Election Board – (two seats)
  Office of Chief Judge – (one seat)
  Office of Appellate Judge – (two seats - 1 Elder & 1 Attorney)

Procedures for Establishing Candidacy
For Candidates for the Office of Tribal Council – Nine County District and At-Large District.
To run for the Office of Tribal Council in the Nine County District or the At Large District, a Tribal member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar, below.

For Candidates for the Office of Tribal Ogema – To run for the Office of Tribal Ogema, a Tribal member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar, below.

For Candidates for the Office of Tribal Ogema – To run for the Office of Tribal Ogema, a Tribal member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar, below.

Election Calendar
Declaratiion of Candidacy Packets available ............................................. November 3rd
Declaratiion of Candidacy Packets due ............................................. December 1st
Slate of Candidates certified ............................................. December 12th
Last day to withdraw candidacy ............................................. December 19th
Ballots mailed out for Primary Election ............................................. January 9th
Ballots due and Primary Election Day ............................................. February 13th
Deadline for Primary Election recounts, disputes, challenges ............................................. February 20th
Ballots mailed out for General Election ............................................. March 27th
Ballots due and General Election Day ............................................. April 24th
Deadline for General Election recounts, disputes, challenges ............................................. May 1st

The Primary Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot. The homes of registered voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department to receive a ballot. The ballot counting will be held in the Lodge at the Government Center, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI. Ballot counting process begins at 12:00 p.m.

The General Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot and central polling place. The homes of registered voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department.
Announcement of General Election

To receive a ballot, the central polling place will be located in the Lodge at the Government Center, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI. The hours for the polling place will be 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on April 24, 2015. The ballot counting will also take place in the Lodge and the counting process begins at 12:00 p.m.

The General Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot and central polling place. The homes of registered voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department to receive a ballot. The central polling place will be located in the Lodge at the Government Center, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI. The hours for the polling place will be 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on April 24, 2015. The ballot counting will also take place in the Lodge and the counting process begins at 12:00 p.m.

A copy of the Election Board Office Hours from November 3, 2014 through December 1, 2014 has been included in this mailing.

**Please note:** In accordance with the Election Board Regulations chapter 2, section 1(d): “If Voter Registration Form is not received by the Election Board 60 calendar days before an election, the eligible voter will not be registered to vote in that election.”

**Last day to register to vote for the Primary Election is Dec 15, 2014.**

**Last day to register to vote for the General Election is February 23, 2015.**

The Election Board is not responsible for the failure of an eligible voter to complete the registration requirements by the prescribed deadlines.

Registered Voters are responsible for maintaining their current physical/mailing address with the Enrollment Department. Ballots will be mailed to the address on file in Enrollment.

---

**Election Board Office Hours Nov/Dec 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manistee Office 11-1</td>
<td>Manistee Office 11-3</td>
<td>Muskegon Office 12-3</td>
<td>Manistee Office 10-1</td>
<td>Manistee Office 12-3:00</td>
<td>Manistee Office 12-3</td>
<td>Manistee Office 1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manistee Office 12-3</td>
<td>Closed for Veteran’s Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Manistee Office 10-1</td>
<td>Manistee Office 1-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manistee Office 11-1</td>
<td>Manistee Office 11-3</td>
<td>Muskegon Office 11-3</td>
<td>Manistee Office 12-3</td>
<td>Manistee Office 10-1</td>
<td>Manistee Office 8-12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manistee Office 11-1</td>
<td>Manistee Office 11-3</td>
<td>Muskegon Office 11-3</td>
<td>Manistee Office 12-3</td>
<td>Closed for Thanksgiving</td>
<td>Closed for Thanksgiving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>December 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manistee Office 2-5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Only Tribal members are entitled to buy and use tax-exempt fuel purchased under the terms of the State/Tribe Tax Agreement. The exemption does not extend to friends or family members that are not Tribal members. Enforcing this rule is difficult because it is impossible to know how the fuel will be used once the vehicle leaves the station. The ultimate use of the fuel must be trusted to the integrity of the tribal member. However, at the point of sale, the staff has been instructed to enforce the Tax-Exempt Motor Fuel program rules. This includes, but is not limited to; disallowing the discount on fuel purchased for a vehicle the Tribal member is not using at the point of sale.

Tribal members that purchase fuel for a non-member or exceed their monthly purchase limit will receive a tax assessment. The following schedule outlines the enforcement procedure that is followed.

Do not be rude or disrespectful to the Trading Post staff if they tell you your purchase does not qualify for exemption. They are only following the rules and trying to avoid a penalty for selling tax-exempt fuel to a non-member.

If you disagree with the Tax-Exempt Motor Fuel purchasing rules and have a better idea for allocating the Tribe’s annual quota, please contact the Tax Office at 231-398-6874 or your elected representative.

*Note: On fourth offense no letter will be sent to Tribal member—Payment will be deducted from Tribal member benefit payment.
My name is Angel Shaw
I am 13 years old. I am a Jingle Dress Dancer. I help make the dress I wear. One of my many hobbies is hoop dancing. One of my goals is to be on the A-B honor role. I was real close this year.

Being Little River Princess is an honor for me because; it has been a dream of mine for a long time. I would love to go to other Jiingtamok’s to showcase my skills as a Jingle Dress Dancer. I love to dance and sing on drum.

I really love to hang out with my family and friends, they make me laugh and I love to laugh and smile. I love to make other laugh and smile with me.

The 2014 Miss Little River Princess is Angel Shaw. She won the coveted title during the Jiingtamok on the weekend of July 4, 2014 and will follow Izzy Burger who has done an outstanding job during her reign in 2013.

Many Blessings
I’ve been blessed with two beautiful Tribal Member daughters who served well in their roles as LRBOI Princess; Chelsea Bromley in 2006 and Isabel Burger in 2013. I look forward to meeting our new Princess this weekend.

Kchii Miigwech to all the Kwewok who have stepped up to the challenge of being Princess. I know many of them personally and they are a testament to the best in our membership, in our community and our Anishinaabek Nation. Everyone should have a role model—and live as if they truly are one, every day.

Jessica L. Burger

Zoongaadiziwin “Strong Life”

Family Services & Members Assistance would like to introduce a new self-sufficiency program that takes a holistic approach to independence. The Zoongaadiziwin program assists Tribal Citizens in creating a path to their future dreams and goals. If you want to take command of your life, we can give you the tools. Space is limited. Please contact the Members Assistance department for more details.
Happy Birthday!

Renetta Elizabeth Barnette
Sylvester Joseph Battiee

Gertrude Anne Behling
Karol Ann Chabot
Pauline Lorraine Cooper
Priscilla Dale DiPiazza
Arlene Genevieve Dixon
Leo Carl Ennis

Yvonne Eloyse Foster
Ruth Jane Garretson
Joyce Corrine Genia

Theresa Delores Hillger
Smith Bruce Hinmon
Ronald Dean Lilleberg
Edward Richard Mitchell
Sherman Mitchell Moore
Dorothy May Patnode
Elaine Joyce Porter
Joyce Anne Ridolfi

Happy Belated 29th Birthday (July 9th) to Bradley Theodore from Mom and the Family!

The 2014 Inland Seas Great Lakes Celebration was held on Saturday July 26, 2014, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year’s event will focused on the Great Lakes as a whole, and brought together all of ISEA’s past and present supporters. LRBOI participated with other State and local agencies in a kids fishing pond, cleaning station and provided information about the science of the Great Lakes including Lake Sturgeon, invasive species and stewardship.

Ogema’s thought on Robert-ba

On the passing of Robert-ba Memberto in early July, Ogema Larry Romanelli had these thoughts which he would like to share.

“Robert J. Memberto walked into the Spirit World today. What can I say. Any compliments would still be an understatement. He was a true leader in the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Robert served the Tribe as its Commerce Director and as a member of the LRBOI Warrior’s Society but so much more.

Robert was always right at the Ogema’s side involved in almost every aspect of the Tribe in one way or another. No one will be able to fill Robert's shoes, period.

Always moving, thinking, talking, planning, working, talking, did I already say that? Yes, that was Robert.

Odd he should leave us during the fourth of July holiday and Pow Wow weekend. If Robert was part of fireworks he would be the rapid cluster at the end, the finale that makes everyone go ‘oh’ and ‘ah’.

Type A personality, slightly hyper? Fiercely loyal, he served his country, his Tribe, his family, his friends and his cultural religion with pride and respect. He will surely be missed. Hopefully he can rejoin family and friends that have walked on including his Father, Uncle and Brother whom he dearly loved.

Rest well Robert...no one deserves it more than you. Kchi Miigwetch Bamapii”
This is a four day wilderness camp program focusing on tribal culture and natural living skills, using the Peacemaking talking circle throughout. This camp is for prevention (to keep kids who are currently not getting in trouble, on the right path) and for intervention (to get kids who are starting to veer off track, going back in the right direction). Indian Village Camp is something very powerful and positive for those who have found their way to the circle. It is a grass roots example of people helping people, and looking out for one another’s best interest in a community setting. It is based on inclusion and allowing everyone to be heard. Indian Village Camp is a reconnection to our mother earth. It is learning to listen to the teachings of nature, a life changing experience for some.

**Remaining Camp Dates for 2014:**
**AUG 14-18 & AUG. 28-31**

This 2014 season will be our fourth year of operation. Our staff are devoted to this program and experienced in being positive leaders for our youth. These adult leaders offer many highly skilled and specialized projects, focusing on our Anishinaabe culture and the balanced ways of simple natural living. This is truly a community built and supported program, supported by our elders, veterans, elected officials, different tribal departments, volunteers and parents.

The participants at Indian Village generally leave this camp with a feeling of having actually been a real part of a functioning tribal community. We try to empower the youth to find the best within themselves and give that gift back to their peers. This sense of belonging and responsibility to their friends seems to generate a positive feeling about who each of them are, as an individual, and about what they can offer back to the group in return. We attempt to move away from the philosophy of demanding entitlements and saying “What’s in it for ME?” and move toward the tribal way of thinking, asking the question “What can I give back to this community?” Indian Village Camp teaches the lesson that selfishness and greed do not benefit the group, or the tribe, and that we should always give back more than we are taking. This is part of our responsibility to one another within a group, to focus on what good actions we can do to make things better, instead of just complaining with words about all the negative things that are wrong, but offering up no real positive solutions, or not doing the hard work that it takes to make things better. The lesson: Anyone can talk the talk, but can you walk the walk?

The lessons are layered within every activity, and even the process of cooking food over the fire becomes a lesson in group dynamics, responsibilities, and communication. Our goal is to give them communication tools to help deal with life problems, in any situation. To view new problems or disagreements as growth opportunities. To respect other people, even when we do not like what they might be doing. To reflect upon how our actions affect others, not only now, but many generations into the future. To help youth realize that they are our future leaders. Some of the youth have said that camp has helped them with envisioning what they are capable of as a person, and where they might want to go with their lives as adults. Others discover how much they really enjoy being outside and that they can survive without a phone or computer, connecting with their tribal identity through stories or crafts. There are layers and layers of lessons happening all the time at Indian Village Camp.

Simple communication and group cohesion is the foundation of this camp, talking through our problems and using the seven grandfather teachings as the camp rules. It is a people program. The people always come first and the scheduled activities come second. This program is all about the people. No one is ever left out or left behind. Everyone does their part in the functions and duties of the camp. Participants cook their own food, as a group, over an open fire, in the communal longhouse. They haul firewood and bring water, as a team. They take turns cleaning up and saying a blessing in their own way. For shelter, they stay in bent sapling wigwams, covered with canvas tarps. In our final talking circle, everyone goes around the circle and says one positive thing about everyone else in the group. Some of the friendship bonds continue on, long after the camp is over.

Camps usually start at 12 noon on a Thursday and ends at 12 noon sharp on a Sunday. This program is sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Court, Peacemaking/Probation Department. Trained adult staff work all day and all night to keep programs moving and ensure safety. Indian Village Camp has four camps per season. Each camp is four days long.

**ELIGIBILITY:** All Tribally connected youth, 12-17, male or female, tribal members, descendants of LRBOI or other tribes, non-members by special circumstance approval, such as from mixed homes. An application form is available at the LRBOI website or through the Peacemaking Department. All applications must be filled out by a legal parent or guardian.

For more information, contact the LRBOI switchboard at 1-231-723-8288 (hit zero for operator) or call the Peacemaking Department directly at 1-231-398-2240 to reach Austen Brauker, and 1-398-2239 to reach Peacemaking Supervisor Patrick D. Wilson. Email contacts are abrauker@lrboi.com or pwilson@lrboi.com.

To get an idea of what camp is like, you can search for “Indian Village Camp” on youtube, or just use the following links:

- **CAMP Overview Video:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoNBikKvKo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoNBikKvKo)
- **CAMP Program Activities Photo-Documentary:** [http://youtu.be/3hiWAMD7iWM](http://youtu.be/3hiWAMD7iWM)

We try to make each camp unique, though some projects are repeated again at different camps. Youth can come back as often as they like, and many attend camp several times over a summer. There is limited space (20 participants maximum) and so, it is best to make sure you get your application in before the available spaces fill up.

D.J. Vanas is internationally-acclaimed motivational storyteller and a leadership and personal development expert. He is also the author of the celebrated book The Tiny Warrior: A Path to Personal Discovery & Achievement and a newly released novel Spirit on the Run. D.J. is a tribally-enrolled member of the Odawa Nation, a former military officer and shows organizations how to practically apply the power of the warrior spirit and its principles to perform at their best, stay resilient and thrive in tough, changing environments. For twenty years, he’s delivered his dynamic programs in 49 states and overseas to over 5,000 audiences including Walt Disney, NASA, IBM, Subaru and hundreds of tribal governments, communities and schools. He’s also been invited to the White House to speak – twice. D.J. can be found online at www.nativediscovery.com

This story is an account of the coming of age of a young Native American boy on a bear hunting trip in Canada. He finds himself through personal events and Spiritual awakening that he encounters. He realizes the importance of seeing and understanding the little messages the Universe gives us every day. He has many decisions to make that eventually help form the man he becomes. He carries these teachings with him throughout the rest of his life. He grows in personal strength and wisdom, through the choices me makes.
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

Commission Openings!

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

Ogema Romanelli is building a pool of tribal members who are interested in sitting on a Commission. Members are invited to submit letters of interest along with why they would like to be on the Commissions and what skills or knowledge they bring to the group. Applicants will need to submit a commission application along with your letter of interest. You will need to contact our office to get an application and will need to submit both in order to be considered. Please send the letter and application to the attention of Executive Assistant, Mary Thomas, Office of the Ogema, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI 49660.

Casino Employment

Check out the new Employment Opportunities tab on the tribal website at https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/index.php/resources/employment

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

Monday – Friday 7am-5pm

Send your Application, Resume and Cover letter to: Little River Casino Resort Attn: Recruiting P.O. Box 417 Manistee, MI 49660
Phone: (231) 723-4530 · Fax: (231) 723-1589
Email: recruiting@lrcr.com Available job openings can also be found at all LRBOI Tribal Government buildings, in LRBOI Tribal Newsletters and at Michigan Works!

Attention Native Veterans”

Here is the link to the current Native Veterans Affairs newsletter.

Membership Meeting

Makwa Endaat (Entertainment Center)
11am-3pm

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 Some areas of the government will continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety.
*Christmas Eve Day (Half Day)
*Christmas Day

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.
Coming September 15 and 16 at the LRBOI government offices
Marketplace Enrollment Day – Assistance for Tribal Members and their families.
In collaboration with Detroit Urban Indian Center and LRBOI Clinic

What it means for American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs)

Q. What are the benefits of Enrolling in the Health Insurance Marketplace for AI/AN?
   • A visit to a Tribal clinic or hospital can be billed to insurance and in turn there will be more resources for your clinic to assist more tribal members.
   • Insurance will pay instead of Contract Health Services (CHS) or Extended Health Assistance Program (EHAP)
   • Health care needs can be met.
   • Tribal families will have the security and peace of mind knowing they have health coverage.

Q. When can I enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace?
   A. Members of federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native shareholders can enroll in Marketplace coverage any time of year. There is no limited enrollment period for these groups, and they can change plans as often as once a month.

Q. I’m an American Indian/Alaska Native. What do I need to know about the Health Insurance Marketplace?
   A. The Health Insurance Marketplace will benefit American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) by providing opportunities for enrolling in affordable health coverage. You might be eligible to enroll in a private health plan in the new Health Insurance Marketplace (Marketplace). Or, you might be eligible for Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). There will be one application to determine whether you are eligible for a Marketplace health plan, Medicaid, or CHIP. (Note: Michigan will participate in a Marketplace health plan, Medicaid, or CHIP.)

Q. Why do I need health insurance coverage if I receive services from the Indian Health Service, a tribal program, or an urban Indian health program?
   A. The Affordable Care Act does not change your eligibility to get health care through the Indian Health Service, or tribal or urban Indian health programs (I/T/U). AI/ANs who enroll in a Marketplace health plan, Medicaid, or CHIP, can continue to receive services from their I/T/U the same way they do now. But by enrolling in a Marketplace health plan, Medicaid, or CHIP, AI/ANs benefit by having greater access to services that may not be provided by their local I/T/U, and the tribal communities benefit through increased resources to their I/T/U programs.

Q. What if I already have insurance through my job or am already on Medicaid?
   A. If you have health insurance through your employer or have health care through a government sponsored program such as Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, Veterans Affairs or TRICARE, there is nothing you need to do—you are covered.

Q. As an AI/AN, am I required to have health care insurance?
   A. Members of federally recognized tribes, other AI/ANs, and other people (like the spouse or child of an eligible Indian) who are eligible for or get services through an I/T/U will be exempt from (don’t have to pay) the shared responsibility payment. So, you do not have to apply for health insurance, but you must apply for this exemption by submitting: Application for Exemption for American Indians and Alaska Natives and Other Individuals who are Eligible to Receive Services from an Indian Health Care Provider. (*Note – No Minimum Essential Coverage Requirement: AI/ANs eligible for Indian Health Service, tribal health service, or urban Indian health care do not have to have health insurance. However, the benefit of participating in the Marketplace will provide improved health status by reducing the money spend in contract health that the exchange will pay for and utilizing these dollars to provide services to more Tribal Members.)

Q. How can I apply for an exemption from the shared responsibility payment?
   A. To get an exemption, members of federally recognized tribes may apply through the Marketplace or provide the appropriate information when they file their federal income tax return or follow instructions on the Application for Exemption for American Indians and Alaska Natives and Other Individuals who are Eligible to Receive Services from an Indian Health Care Provider form. AI/ANs who aren’t members of federally recognized tribes, but who are eligible for or get services from an I/T/U, must apply through the Marketplace and will need to verify their AI/AN status or eligibility for services through an I/T/U.

Q. Where can I get the Application for Exemption for American Indians and Alaska Natives and Other Individuals who are Eligible to Receive Services from an Indian Health Care Provider form?
   A. This form is available at Healthcare.gov or by calling 1-800-318-2596 or call your Tribal Health Clinic 888-382-8299.

Q. Will I be able to enroll in the Marketplace, Medicaid, or CHIP even if I qualify for an exemption?
   A. An exemption from the shared responsibility payment won’t prevent AI/ANs from enrolling in a Marketplace health plan, Medicaid, or CHIP and they might qualify for certain protections under Medicaid or CHIP, or might qualify for tax credits and cost-sharing reductions. In addition to financial documents, you might need your tribal documents to qualify for some of these special protections.

Q. Will I be able to get assistance with paying the cost of my premium if I enroll in a Marketplace health plan?
   A. While AI/ANs are NOT exempt from paying premiums, they may be able to get lower costs on monthly premiums through a new tax credit that is paid to insurance plans each month to reduce an individual’s premium. Eligibility for the tax credit depends on income, family size, and access to other coverage. Members of federally recognized tribes can use tax credits to pay for premiums for certain plans and still receive cost-sharing reduc-
A. I/ANs who are exempt from all cost sharing, and

Q. Are there special protections for AI/ANs who enroll in Medicaid?

A. AI/ANs who are eligible for or get services from an I/T/U, including Contract Health Services, are exempt from Medicaid premiums and enrollment fees and, if they have ever used one of these programs, they are also exempt from other cost sharing, such as copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles. Certain Indian resources and payments are not counted for Medicaid eligibility. AI/ANs can continue to get services through an I/T/U even if the I/T/U is not a provider in a managed care network. (Note* April 1st Michigan will participate in the Medicaid Expansion)

Q. Are there special protections for AI/ANs who enroll in CHIP?

A. I/ANs are exempt from all cost sharing, and certain Indian resources and payments are not counted for CHIP eligibility. AI/ANs can continue to get services through an I/T/U even if the I/T/U is not a provider in a managed care network.

Q. What are the special protections for AI/ANs who enroll in the Marketplace?

• Members of federally recognized tribes with a household income at or below 300% of the federal poverty level (roughly $71,550 for a family of 4 or $89,460 for the same family in Alaska) who are also eligible for the tax credit won’t have any out-of-pocket costs like copays, coinsurance, or deductibles for services covered by their Marketplace health plan.

• Members of federally recognized tribes are eligible for monthly special enrollment periods. (Note* federally recognized tribal members can enroll in the Marketplace after the March 31st deadline.)

• Regardless of income, tribal members who enroll in a Marketplace health plan will not have any out-of-pocket costs such as co-pays, coinsurance, or deductibles for items or services furnished directly by an I/T/U or through referral under Contract Health Services.

Making a Plan to Quit Commercial Tobacco*

In many American Indian/Alaska Native cultures a project (such as quitting commercial tobacco) is undertaken in a series of four steps. Each step is associated with a direction:

East: represents thinking about the project

South: represents active planning of how the goal will be accomplished

West: represents initiating the project

North: represents carrying through and continuing the project

Four is a sacred number to most tribal people, so it may feel more comfortable to present a plan in four steps with a circular diagram of the four directions and a step associated with each direction.

Talking Circle

May be a way to offer ongoing support to people that would like to quit commercial tobacco. Topics could include the health risks of commercial tobacco use.

*IHS Fieldbook 2009

Consequences of Smokeless Tobacco*

Smokeless tobacco refers to snuff, chew, or spit tobacco that is used orally, but not smoked.

• The Surgeon General's Report, "Health Consequences of Using Smokeless Tobacco," concluded, "Oral use of smokeless tobacco represents a significant health risk and is not a safe substitute for smoking cigarettes"

• Smokeless tobacco contains 28 cancer-causing agents (carcinogens). Smokeless tobacco use increases the risk of developing cancer of the oral cavity and other oral health problems (leukoplakia and recession of the gums).
The Medicare Prescription Drug Donut Hole

This article will provide some information about the Medicare Part D prescription drug donut hole, also known as the coverage gap. How does a Medicare beneficiary get into it? How does it affect medication costs? What can be done to reduce your costs? How does the Affordable Care Act address the donut hole? Where can I get help?

The donut hole has been a component of Part D plans since Medicare first started offering drug coverage in 2006. The donut hole is reached once the incurred cost for all medications reaches a certain dollar amount threshold. The incurred cost is defined as the full cost of a prescription drug, not the out-of-pocket amount. The figure for 2014 is $2,850. Once a beneficiary incurs this amount, they will be in the donut hole and their costs will increase, sometimes substantially. The out of pocket cost will rise to 47½% of the full cost of brand name drugs; and 72% of the full cost for generic drugs. Beneficiaries who take several expensive brand drugs will find they reach the donut hole early during the calendar year and end up paying a substantial amount of money for the balance of the year. A few examples will demonstrate how significant these costs can be. The full cost of Humalog, a common diabetic medication, is about $200 per month. The copay with one selected Medicare Part D plan will be about $40. The cost in the donut hole will be 47.5% of the full cost, or about $95. Another example is the Advair Diskus, frequently prescribed for respiratory issues. The full cost of Advair is $300 per month. The copay before the donut hole is $40. The cost once the gap is reached increases to about $140.

The Affordable Care Act has a provision to reduce the copays for beneficiaries who reach the donut hole. The reduction is staged to take place each year through 2020 when the cost once the gap is reached will be 25% of the full cost of both brand name and generic drugs.

The next step beyond the donut hole is the catastrophic level. In 2014, once beneficiaries spend $4,550 out of pocket for medications, their copays will be reduced significantly. To use the examples cited earlier, one of the Part D plans will charge about $10 per month for Humalog; and $15 for the Advair Diskus, once the catastrophic level is reached.

The donut hole resets each calendar year starting in January. There are a few possibilities to either avoid the donut hole or extend the time when it is reached during the year. To start with, beneficiaries can review their medications with their physician to determine if there is a generic substitute for one or more of their brand name medications. Generic drugs are lower in cost and will be a factor in reaching the gap.

Another alternative is to determine eligibility for the Extra Help program that is administered by the Social Security Administration. The cost effect impact of the donut hole may be little to none, depending on the level of eligibility. Part D premiums may also be reduced to as low as $0.

Eligibility for Extra Help is financially based. The allowable maximum gross monthly income is $1,479 for singles, and $1,986 for married couples. Lower income amounts will result in even greater reductions in the cost of medications and premiums. In addition, the asset limits for this program are $13,440 for singles and $26,860 for married couples. Countable assets include such items as property that is not considered the primary residence, retirement accounts, investments, and cash.

Finally, beneficiaries should review their Part D plans each year during the open enrollment period from October 15th through December 7th. As mentioned earlier, there are many plans available. Each one has different characteristics in terms of how they cover the beneficiary’s full list of medications. Some plans have better coverage for certain brand name drugs and others may have some additional benefits once the donut hole is reached.

Counselors from the Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) are available to screen for eligibility in the Extra Help program. Also, MMAP counselors can review drug plans during the open enrollment period and, if needed, furnish suggestions for plan alternatives. Help can be reached by calling 800-803-7174. Representatives will send out a prescription drug worksheet that will begin the process of the Part D plan review for 2015. It is recommended that beneficiaries start calling MMAP in September to start the plan review process for the upcoming year.

By: Jim Verville, Region 10 Coordinator Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program Area Agency on Aging, Traverse City, Michigan
The Muskegon Chronicle reported in late June that the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners passed another resolution in support of the LRBOI efforts to build a casino in that area. Citing economic growth, recent advancements and a request for more formal support, the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, June 24, unanimously passed a resolution to support Little River Band of Ottawa Indians’ plans to build a casino in Fruitport Charter Township.

“The Muskegon County Board of Commissioners believe such support to be beneficial and in the best interest of the county and its citizens,” the resolution reads.

Commissioner Chair Ken Mahoney said Robert Memberto, Tribal Commerce Director, indicated earlier this month that the proposal had recently moved closer to approval and that the tribe needed updated resolutions of support.

The project has been in the planning stages for more than five years.

Mahoney said Fruitport Township Supervisor Brian Werschem had also asked the county to issue formal support for the $100 million, Class III casino operation, which would be located near the Lakes Mall and would include hotels and a retail outlet.

In October, Gov. Rick Snyder allowed the project to advance to the federal level by signing a waiver but did not actually approve an amendment to the tribe’s compact with the state. That measure would also need the approval of the state legislature.

At the time of the 2013 announcement, casino supporter and state Sen. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart) said the process encompassed an “information gathering process” and a federal review of the tribe’s Fee to Trust Application.

The tribe operates the Little River Casino and Resort in Manistee and owns more than 200 acres of land in Fruitport, including the former Great Lakes Downs racetrack site, which it purchased in 2008.

County and township officials passed a similar resolution of support in 2008 and lined up an operating agreement.

The casino plans also garnered support from the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce, which issued a statement in 2012 that was written without using the words “casino,” “gaming” or “gambling.”

The document goes on to contend that the casino would also benefit neighboring counties and requests that Snyder, Hansen and state representatives Collene Lamonte (D-Montague) and Marcia Hovey-Wright (D-Muskegon) support the casino operation “in the most expedient manner.”
Vessel examinations, or better known to the fishermen as Dockside Inspections, are done on a volunteer basis but Congressional regulations are in the works to make the inspections mandatory for vessels fishing 3nm (nautical miles) from shore on a yearly basis. All other vessels within 3nm will still be done on a voluntary basis. Word at this time is this requirement could take place in early 2015. Fishermen will be notified if or when the regulations take effect.

The Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) in conjunction with the United States Coast Guard Sector Sault Ste. Marie hosted a Commercial Fishing Vessel Examination Course June 10-12, 2014 at the Chimuwa Facility in Sault Ste. Marie. Fire Prevention and safety devices training was held in the CORA parking lot and vessel examinations held at the Bay Mills Conservation/Biological Offices in Bay Mills for 25 CORA Member Tribal CO’s, GLIFWC Game Wardens, Keweenaw Bay CO’s and MST2’s from Coast Guard Duluth. Instructors for the course were Chief Cindy Reavis and Lt. Ryan Brady from the Coast Guard Training Center in Yorktown, VA along with assistance from David Belliveau of the Coast Guard Head Quarters in Washington, DC and MST1 Benjamin Gilmore of Coast Guard Sector Sault Ste. Marie.

The course is originally held for 5-days in Yorktown and addresses safety issues for ocean-going vessels as well but as the CORA Member Tribal CO’s only deal with vessels on the Great Lakes, the course was designed to address the safety requirements and regulations for Great Lakes vessels. The CORA Member Tribal CO’s will be certified to perform the vessel examinations on commercial fishing vessels on the Great Lakes to assist the Coast Guard in covering the 1836 Treaty ceded-waters to ensure the commercial fishing vessels are safe by having the proper safety equipment on-board which will keep the commercial fishermen safe as possible. This is the second time this course has been made available in Michigan as the first was done in 2011 at the CORA Offices with 15 CORA Member Tribal CO’s certified at that time.

Graduation was held on June 12th with all 25 CO’s receiving a certificate of training completion from Capt. Steve Teschendorf of Sector Sault Ste. Marie. The final step for the CO’s to become a certified examiner is to perform an examination with a Coast Guard representative to receive final authorization that all requirements were met to become a certified examiner.
For the first time in several years, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians was represented in the Forest Festival Parade! As usual, one of our Tribal Public Safety vehicles helped lead the parade through Manistee but then, unit #30 started off with our Warrior’s Society. Their unit was actually a hit because of a mishap! As the unit made the first turn by the Blue Fish restaurant, it stopped running. Not to be deterred by such an inconvenience, a number of strong folks got behind and pushed the unit through the parade to the cheers and delight of the entire line of spectators. As they passed the old offices at 375 River Street, a photo was taken showing them having a ball and rolling right along with big smiles for everyone. Afterwards, someone commented that we had a real ‘Rez’ car in the parade….go figure!

Following our Warriors, the tribe delighted viewers with a float built like a cedar lodge with Elders and Tribal Council members on board. They had a drum and a number of dancers following along demonstrating our culture. The only question heard along the route was, “Why did they stop dancing?” To which someone replied, “Because they were tired and needed a break!” Did you ever try dancing on asphalt????

Close behind, the Little River Casino Resort came by with their entry, again showing their support for the community and the tribe.
The expansion and diversification of economic enterprise by the tribe has always been of interest to our members and a fine example finally came to a close in early June. As Commerce Director Robert Memberto said in an e-mail to the tribal leadership:

“It is with great pleasure that I announce that yesterday 6/2/2014 in Lansing in a joint meeting with LRBOI, MDEQ, and the AG’s Office that a consensus agreement was reached regarding the jurisdictional issues that were preventing the US 31 Sewer project from moving forward. A MOU between the Tribe and State is/will be developed to handle the unique jurisdictional challenges. Governor’s Office, MEDC, MDEQ, and LRBOI are all on board and agree this is a prime example of multiple units of governments working together and a shining example of a Tribal Government working proactively with local units of government.

The project will move forward and the US 31 Sewer Line Project will become a reality. This has been a lengthy process for all involved and working together we have achieved a common goal.

LRBOI will be meeting with Manistee Township on Monday to address an issue that came to light in regards to the Sewer Agreement between the Township and LRBOI. The only negative aspect to this process is so much time has elapsed that our engineer and our internal project staff are in agreement that this project will start next year in the Spring of 2015.

On behalf of Ogema Romanelli, LRBOI would like to thank the County, City, and Township for working together to make this a reality for all of our communities.

I guess looking back at the process there are many positive; we have all gotten to know each other much better, our respective units of government worked together for a common goal, and we had some laughs along the way. The best line I have heard from this process is from Tim Ervin (AES), “The real money is in the movie rights”.

Tom Kaminski, the Manistee County Administrator alluded to the event in his note to the Manistee County Commissioners:

Please review the good news regarding the US 31 Sewer project. The only disappointing news is that the project will not take place until next year, but I believe it will be well worth the wait. Thank you to Robert Memberto, Ogema Larry Romanelli and Tim Ervin (AES) for all of their hard work in making the project a reality. I will provide more information as I receive it.

Thanks, Tom

This opportunity to make use of our outstanding Utility Department facility and services for the betterment of the tribe and the community also makes economic sense as we will now have more long-term paying customers for our services.

In addition, this agreement further strengthens support for our continual close working with Michigan Governor Rick Snyder’s offices. The Governor’s office was instrumental in moving this project through its’ final approval steps. Relationships take a while to build but when done properly reap rewards for all of the players.

Lost, and then found

A beautiful story came to light this last month regarding membership at Little River. Diane Lonn, Enrollment Director and Valerie Chandler from Tribal Historical Preservation reported that three brothers had been adopted out and lost contact with their families...but are now back with us. Here’s how Valerie put it:

“The three brothers are Steven McKinnon, Mark McKinnon, and Brian McKinnon. They were all adopted out at a young age and their mother's name was Madeline (nee Bailey) Loza. Two of the brothers were actually named Stephan (Steven) and Dwayne (Mark) but in adoption, their names changed. Last year they came up to fish at Tippy Dam area and someone asked them if they belonged to the Tribe in Manistee and at the time they weren't even sure if they were native or not, but the other fisher told them to go to the casino to find out if they might be members, so they did and were referred to the government. They spoke with Diane Lonn who found they indeed were members and also referred them to THP.

Upon talking to the men, I remembered I had a photo of the lady they told me was their mother. I printed off the photo which was the first photo they had of her other than her driver's license and they were so happy.

They asked if I had more info and I told them I would look and perhaps find something, which I did - I found where their mother was buried and printed off a copy of the photo of the headstone along with the address of the cemetery (the Indian cemetery in Hart).

They decided to go visit and clean up their mother's grave and came across some native looking people already there. The brothers asked where they might find their mother's grave and the people there were astounded because it turned out one was a cousin and one remembered babysitting for them and they had been looking for the brothers for over 40 years.

They found their mother's grave well-kept and it was a coincidence that they all were there at the cemetery that day because the group that was there normally tends to the yard monthly but were running two weeks behind and just decided to go that day. They showed the brothers where they had other relatives buried as well as their father which they did not know about along with relatives on his side. The people took them to their childhood home which they vaguely remembered.

The brothers asked what clan they were and were told from the relatives that they are turtle clan. When they visited their childhood home, it just so happened that a turtle crossed their path and they took that as a sign. Since then, they have reconnected with a brother they never met and are still looking for a sister they have not met. Steven is looking to relocate to tribal housing and get a job at the casino because he feels this is where he belongs. All of the life they have felt lost and wondered where they belong. “

Thanks to our dedicated staff at Enrollment and Historic Preservation for helping bring some of our people home.
Chelsea Bromley Graduates Eastern Michigan University with “Distinction”

Chelsea Marie Bromley, Little River Band member, who was also LR-BOI Tribal Princess in 2006, received two Master's Degrees from Eastern Michigan University, located at Ypsilanti, Michigan, in Children's Literature and Literature. Chelsea achieved perfect 4.0 grade point average in both programs. Faculty at EMU also recognized her as the Outstanding First-Year Writing Instructor for 2013-14, as she taught several Freshman Writing undergraduate courses at EMU while attending full-time as a student to achieve her degrees.

Chelsea will be speaking at the Children's Literature Association Conference in South Carolina, where she will also be recognized for her award winning essay, "New Picturebook, Old Cinema." Her Master's Thesis is titled, "Brave New Forms: Adaptation, Remediation and Intertextuality in the Multimodel World of Hugo Cabret" which will be published through EMU’s library. She has presented her academic research at numerous conferences across the United States.

Chelsea earned dual Bachelor of Arts Degrees in English and Screen Arts & Cultures from the University of Michigan in 2010; graduating with high honors in both programs with a 4.0 grade point average. She attended U of M after receiving the President's scholarship upon her graduation from Onekama High School, where she was the class Valedictorian. Chelsea is the daughter of Jessica and Fred Burger of Manistee, and Tim Bromley of Hart, Michigan. Her sisters are Isabel Burger, who attends Manistee High School and serves as LR-BOI Princess 2013 and Olivia Burger, who is currently employed with Delta Airlines, attending flight attendant academy in Atlanta, Georgia.

New Rotary President: LRCR’s Group Sales Manager, Anna Mann, was installed last week as the Rotary Club of Manistee’s newest President, a post she will hold until July of 2015. The mission of Rotary is service above self, and the Manistee club works on volunteer opportunities within our local community (Community Kitchen sponsorship, roadside clean-up, Blossom Boulevard watering, etc.) and international opportunities (construction of a school in the Dominican Republic, most recently).
MANISTEE — Featuring a handful of speakers across three days, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians’ third annual Midwest Peacemaking Conference has attracted interested parties from around the nation.

Peacemaking — an age-old method of conflict resolution — attempts to strengthen personal relationships after a wrongdoing by creating a dialogue between the victim and offender. The method is making a return to the public, and some say that the LRBOI is out in front leading the charge.

“People are really impressed with the knowledge and experience from the speakers,” said Patrick Wilson, LRBOI peacemaking head. “They are learning a lot and taking away what I had hoped that they would take away, and that’s a better understanding of what peacemaking is about and what peacemaking can do.

The conference’s keynote speaker, Washtenaw County Trial Court Judge Tim Connors, is the first in the nation to adopt peacemaking in a state court. Connors talked with the audience on Thursday about the need for state justice systems to adopt tribal peacemaking practices.

“When we look at the wheel (in peacemaking), we look at the recognition and the need to get back to healthy communities, we have to look at the effect on the body, the heart, the mind and on the spirit,” Connors said. “All four are equal and all four are necessary. “Here is the fundamental problem, the state justice systems, in fact the entire current system, relies completely on two elements in the wheel, and disregards or absolutely will not consider the other two,” Connors continued. “Our system is completely built on the body, actions it undertakes and the applications of laws that are generated to control those actions.”

Not all cases work for peacemaking, but it provides an option for justice systems, Wilson said. According to both Wilson and Connors, peacemaking can be used in cases involving family members, neighbors, businesses or

The conference was comprised of lawyers, students, teachers, professors and others from around the country who were interested in peacemaking. It continues with speakers today at the Little River Casino Resort and ends at noon.

Next year’s conference will focus on peacemaking around the world, Wilson said, because the conference has grown to the point where an expansion is warranted.

By Eric Sagonowsky
Manistee News Advocate
Honoring our last living Durant Roll Tribal Elder

What is the Durant Roll?
The Durant roll was a federal judgment fund distribution roll prepared to determine which Indian people were eligible to receive a per capita share of the monies awarded by the federal court in judgment RG 75 Docket 27978. (35 Stat. 8-27). These moneys were to be distributed in per capita payments.

To prepare for this distribution, the BIA hired Special Agent Charles McNichols to develop a roll of living descendants of the Ottawa and Chippewa Bands.

McNichols arrived in Michigan expecting to find small numbers of Indians in small communities of mixed bloods. What he found instead was a sizable number of Ottawa and Chippewa living together in separate Indian communities.

It was my impression, and I believe it to have been yours, that there were but a few hundred of said “Ottawa and Chippewas of Michigan.” Your letter of instruction made no mention of bands of full bloods living around Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan and the straights. (McNichols to A.C.I.A, Nov.10, 1905 OIA-LR 90738-1905)

In fact, McNichols found that there were thousands of Michigan Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, many with full blood, that were living in various geographilocations with their chiefs. Based on this discovery, McNichol’s contacted Interior and suggested that the chiefs of each band be allowed to determine whether a particular person: (1) was or was not a member of their band, and (2) should or should not be included on this new federal roll. The clear evidence of Indian lineage that McNichol’s had hoped to find in local records did not exist and McNichols felt that the certification of the Chief should be sufficient evidence for inclusion on the roll. (Larabee, Acting COIA to Sec. Of Interior, Nov. 10, 1905 OIA-LS Vol. C. 268:438)

Growing up in the Ludington area, she attended the Chamber school as a young girl. Irene’s fondest memory of school is of her 16th birthday when her mother bought her a blue taffeta dress from the local store.

“It was a special dress because my mother made all my clothes, she was a great sewer but like all young girls I was sick of homemade clothes and wanted something store-bought” she said. “I loved that dress”. Irene is bi-lingual in French and English since her father was from Canada. “My father didn’t speak English and couldn’t even ask for a loaf of bread when he first got here” she said.

Irene’s father spent every summer working as a foreman at the Christensen Log Camp and after years of traveling between Michigan and Wisconsin, her family settled in Land O’ Lakes when she was 18.

In 1925 she met Walter Dickman at the local tavern ran by his mother and soon after they were married. “I never wanted to marry a farmer, even though I liked a few of them, because I didn’t like how they had to milk cows” she said laughing. “My uncle would always tease me and say ’I suppose next time I see you, you will be coming from the barn with 2 milk pails and shit between your toes’” Irene and Walter spent 47 happily married years together in Land O’ Lakes where they co-owned the local Ford dealership and raised their 4 children, Ruth, Bob, Carolyn...
Miigwetch from our The Historic Preservation office, all Dancers, and Drummers who participated in Manistee’s National Forest Festival Parade and mini-Jiingtamok on Friday, July 4, 2014.

We appreciate your commitment and beautiful representation which showcased our tribal heritage. Miigwetch for showing our local community the talent and cultural diversity our people possess.
**Monday, August 18, 2014**
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Neglect/Abuse - 11223NA Review Hrg.
Judge Bailey

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Guardianship 14155GM Guardian of Minor
Judge Baily

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Positive Indian Parenting
1101 W. Hackly Ave. Muskegon Michigan 49441
Shelly Kequam 398-3707 or Kathy Lagerquist 398-3705

**Tuesday, August 19, 2014**
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Gaming Commission
Gaming Commission Office

**Wednesday, August 20, 2014**
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Gov. center
Regular Tribal Council Meeting

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Talking Circle 12-Step meeting
BeDaBin Conference Room

**Thursday, August 21, 2014**
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Housing Commission
Aki Maadiziwin Community Center

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Language Classes
The Lodge
The language classes have resumed for another 10 week semester. The class is meeting at 10:30 a.m. every Friday in the Lodge Room at the Government Center. After this semester there will be a short break and then another 10 week semester will start up.

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
LRCR Board Meeting
Three Fires Conference center, Bodweaadamiinh room
The Little River Casino Resort Board of Directors will hold a public session with any interested Tribal Members

**Monday, August 25, 2014**
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Positive Indian Parenting
1101 W. Hackly Ave. Muskegon Michigan 49441
Shelly Kequam 398-3707 or Kathy Lagerquist 398-3705

**Tuesday, August 26, 2014**
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Gaming Commission
Gaming Commission Office

**Wednesday, August 27, 2014**
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Regular Tribal Council Meeting

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Talking Circle 12-Step meeting
BeDaBin Conference Room

**Thursday, August 28, 2014**
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Binojeek Commission
Aki community center

**Friday, August 29, 2014**
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Language Classes
The Lodge
The language classes have resumed for another 10 week semester. The class is meeting at 10:30 a.m. every Friday in the Lodge Room at the Government Center. After this semester there will be a short break and then another 10 week semester will start up.

Saturday, August 30, 2014
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Lakeshore Backpacks for kids
Muskegon

**Monday, September 1, 2014**
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM
Labor Day
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.