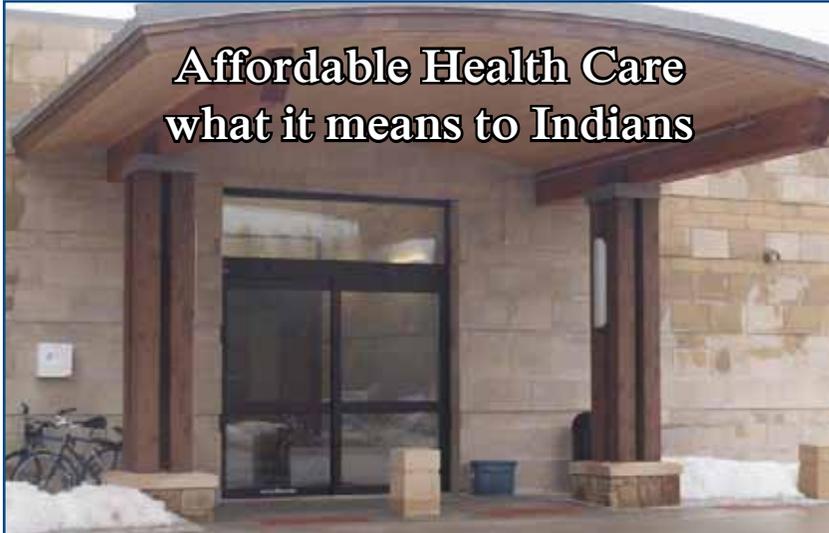




## Affordable Health Care what it means to Indians



If you listen to the mass media, you see a lot of opinion about the Affordable Health Care act. Inside the *eCurrents* are three pages of explanations about the ACA targeted to the Native Americans. The LRBOI Clinic, Members Assistance and Public Affairs brought together these pages so that you'll have a clearer view of what this means to you and your families.

## Honoring Native Women

The Kwewok Circle is honoring our Native Women for Women's History month 2014. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has some diligent and noteworthy women, past and present, who have contributed to our tribal heritage, history and well-being of our native people.  
See the story on page 20

*The Kwewok Circle would like you to give us this opportunity to do just that. Please send us your information on the Kwe you would like to honor. We would like a brief message to go along with a picture of the person you would like to honor. Please send the information to P.O. Box 334 Manistee, MI49660.*



## Membership Meeting

See inside this issue for the full meeting agenda for this years' Membership Meeting at the Makwa Endaat on April 12<sup>th</sup> with the Ogema's Meet-n-Greet the night before

## Sunflower makes us all proud



Sunflower Wilson is wrapping up her bachelors' degree with high marks, is planning her further education and even going to get married. See why we are proud of one of our own with details inside.

## United Tribes takes on Brooks Patterson



The United Tribes of Michigan elected officials took on Wayne County Chief Executive Brooks Patterson for some inappropriate comments made regarding tribes and reservations. See what was said and the apology received inside this issue.

## HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

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

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 the Medicaid Expansion on April 1<sup>st</sup>)

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/Us). 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 Market Place 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 reductions as well. The type of cost-sharing reduction depends on income and whether an individual is enrolled in a zero cost-sharing plan or limited cost-sharing plan. (Note\*- Tax credits are effective immediately, to lower costs on monthly premiums.)

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 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan will participate in the Medicaid Expansion)

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

A. AI/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.

## HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

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 \$70,650 for a family of 4 in 2013 or \$88,320 for the same family in Alaska) who are also eligible for the tax credit won't have any out-of-pocket costs like co-pays, 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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. (You must coordinate your care with an I/T/U to receive this protection.)

Q. Can I change my plan?

A. A member of a federally recognized Tribe can change their enrollment status in any plan through the Marketplace once a month. The drawback is that if a plan is changed it does not go into effect until the following month.

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)
- Health care needs can be met.
- Tribal families will have the security and peace of mind knowing they have health coverage.

How to Apply:

You can apply for the Marketplace and Medicaid/CHIP coverage three ways:

1. Online at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)
2. By mail, or in person with the help of a Navigator or other enrollment assister.
3. Telephone help and online chat will be available 24/7 to help you complete your application.

Call 1-800-318-2596 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (TTY: 1-855-889-4325) Open enrollment starts October 1, 2013. Coverage starts as soon as January 1, 2014. For more information, contact: Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Health Clinic 888-382-8299 This information is provided by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and The Department of Health and Human Services



*Bring the whole family to*

**Saturday April 26, 2014  
10am—Noon**

**Location:  
Manistee Catholic Central  
School Gymnasium  
1200 U.S. 31 South**

# Family Health Fair

**Free event focusing on many ways to keep your children and families  
safe, healthy, fit and fed now and into the future.**

**Crafts & Games**

**Fire & Police Emergency Vehicles**

**K-9 Officer & Dog**



Vendor Tables include:

- Community Resources
- Child Care Contacts
- Health Services
- Preschool Contacts
- Parent Connections



Sponsored by: Council of the Young Child, & The Great Start Collaborative  
For More information contact: Cindy Rozmarek 723-4594

# Council News

Ziisabaakdoke-Giizis (Sugar Moon)  
March 2014 vol.11 Issue 3

Work Session Attendance											
Date	Work Session Title	Delano Peters	Michael Ceplina	Shannon Crampton	Gary DiPiazza	Virgil Johnson	Frankie Medacco	Sandy Mezeske	Pat Ruitter	Marty Wabindato	Total Attending
02/03/14	Ethics Ordinance		x		x	x	x	x		x	6
02/03/14	Agenda Review		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
02/06/14	Strategic Planning		x		x	V	x	x		x	5
02/06/14	LRRCR Financial Review		x		x	V	*	x	x	x	5
02/10/14	Gross Gaming Tax Ordinance		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
02/10/14	Ethics Ordinance		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
02/10/14	Agenda Review		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
02/10/14	Kwewok Circle		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
02/10/14	Valliant Report		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	7
02/11/14	Gaming Enterprises BOD 2010 Act		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/11/14	Frederick Peebles		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/11/14	Elder Health Care Assistance		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		7
02/11/14	Review of Candidates		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		7
02/13/14	Strategic Planning	x			x	x	x	*	x	x	6
02/13/14	Larson Snow Removal	x			x	x	x	*	x	x	6
02/14/14	Board of Directors Update	x	x		x	x		x	V		5
02/17/14	Ethics Ordinance	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
02/17/14	Legal Reform Act	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
02/17/14	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	8
02/17/14	Alliance for Economic Success	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	8
02/18/14	Housing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	V	x	8
02/18/14	Strategic Planning Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	V	x	8
02/18/14	Windows XP Operating System	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	V	x	8
02/20/14	Strategic Planning	x	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/20/14	Cost Savings	x	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/20/14	Cost Savings #2	x	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/21/14	LRRCR Board of Directors Interview	x	x		x	x	x	V	V		5
02/24/14	Sonosky Chambers		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/24/14	Agenda Review		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/24/14	Ethics Ordinance		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/25/14	Tribal Seal Ordinance	x	*		*	x	x	x	x		5
02/25/14	Legislative Office Space	x	*		*	x	x	x	x		5
02/27/14	Commodities Building	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	7
02/27/14	Rehabilitation for Licensure Ord	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	7
02/28/14	Consent Decree	x	x		x	x		V	x	x	6
02/28/14	Government Financials - Dec 2013	x			x	x		V			3
	<b>Total # of work sessions - 36</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	
	* - Business Related										
	V - Vacation										
	<b>Note</b> - Delano Peters was sworn in 2/12/14										

**Election Board update!** The LRBOI Election Board is releasing a breakdown of how many registered tribal members we have in each of the voting districts. It will be a great way to see how our registered tribal population has spread over the land. Here are the numbers:

At Large – 1,144 also Total Registered Voters Outlying - 519

9 County – 625

# Draw their attention!



Matt Wesaw



**United Tribes of Michigan**

5453 Hughston Rd., Harbor Springs, Mich. 49740 • 517-802-8650

At the United Tribes of Michigan meeting in Lansing on February 26<sup>th</sup>, one issue was a statement from the Oakland Executive L. Brooks Patterson, uttered 3 decades ago but resurrected by a publication recently. The statement was hurtful to Native Americans from everywhere.

Matt Wesaw, the former Nottawaseppi Chairman, a retired Michigan State Police Officer and the current Director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights took action and asked for a meeting with Patterson. Wesaw went in, not in his official capacity but as a Michigan Tribal Citizen. He addressed Patterson's comments and explained to the executive just how hurtful his comments about turning Detroit into a 'reservation' were to Indians everywhere.

The letter printed here was received from Patterson's office as a result of Matt stepping forward to educate the executive and it was well received by the assembled tribal elected leaders. One of the points that came out of the United Tribes meeting was that we, as tribal people, need to help educate those who make hurtful comments and statements.

Matt received a round of applause for his actions in addressing this slight to all Native Americans.



**L. BROOKS PATTERSON**  
OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE

February 11, 2014

Matthew Wesaw, Executive Director  
Department of Civil Rights  
State of Michigan  
Capitol Tower Building  
110 West Michigan Avenue, Ste. 900  
Lansing Michigan 48933



Dear Mr. Wesaw and United Tribes of Michigan:

On January 30, I met privately with Mr. Matthew Wesaw. He informed me why my statements from three decades ago, recently resurrected in The New Yorker magazine, were so hurtful to the Native American community. I was unaware of the entire sordid episode of Native Americans facing extinction through the imposition of disease filled blankets. I apologize for my ignorance of history and I want you to know that it was never my intent to disrespect Native Americans.

I hope that my record shows that I have been a longtime supporter of the Native American community and that I have nothing but the greatest respect for your culture and history. That is why I published the enclosed map about the history of the Native Americans in Michigan that I, in turn, have shared with the grade schools in Oakland County. We did the research here at the County and we attempted to identify and recreate some of Michigan's most important historic facts.

I have included with this letter of apology 15 copies of the map that we published. Again, I am sorry for any comment that offended you and other Native Americans. Please accept my apology.

Very sincerely yours,

L. Brooks Patterson  
Oakland County Executive

LBP/ks  
Enclosures



Tribal leaders from across Michigan gathered in Lansing at the end of February for a series of meetings which addressed a wide range of topics....all of importance to the 70,000 tribal citizens in the state!

**February 25<sup>th</sup>:** On the first day in Lansing, tribal leaders, staffers and liaisons from a number of programs and disciplines met for several hours to discuss collaboration strategies. Dave Murley, Deputy Legal Counsel, Office of Governor Rick Snyder, invited leaders and/or another designees to the Tribal Liaison Meeting at the Lansing Center.

In a free-ranging discussion, the gathered liaisons talked about their challenges in working together and in collaborating to meet the needs of our communities. One item that came out clearly in the discussion was that the tribes need to work at educating our counterparts in tribal government about the tribes, our culture and also about our sovereign status. Overall these discussions were judged to be productive and the tribal leaders expressed their appreciation for having Mr. Murley attend and take part on behalf of the Governor. Murley voiced support for the effort of the tribes in working with their counterparts on the state side and encouraged state departments to also work with tribes.

That evening, a legislative reception was held which allowed the leaders to meet with Lansing legislators, staff and lobbyists who work regularly on tribal issues. This evening event allows for some good communication in a less formal setting.

**February 26<sup>th</sup>:** The next day, the tribal leaders (including Ogema Larry Romanelli and Council members Mike Ceplina and Gary DiPiazza from LRBOI) met starting at shortly after 7 a.m. at the offices of Clark Construction. At 8 a.m. UT of MI President Homer Mandoka (the Nottawaseppi Chair) officially opened the meeting. Ogema Romanelli just finished two terms as the President and is now holding the seat as the Treasurer of United Tribes. The meeting went throughout the day and concluded around 3 p.m. The agendas for these meetings are always very full and this meeting was no exception. A number of presentations from agency representatives such as Stacey Tadgerson, Director of Native American Affairs from Michigan's DHS to Jason Allen, the Senior Policy Advisor for the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency were made.



The leaders passed a number of resolutions at this meeting including:

- United Tribes of Michigan Opposition to Nuclear Waste Facility Near Lake Huron Shore
- United Tribes of Michigan supports Affiliation with the National Tribal Emergency Management Council for Purposes of Mutual Aid and Coordination in Emergencies
- United Tribes of Michigan Seeks More Equitable SAMHSA Funding
- United Tribes of Michigan Support for Colleges and Universities Full Funding of MITW initiative (*Michigan Indian Titition Waver*)



# College LaCrosse Upended by Albany's Native American Stars

Ziisabaakdoke-Giizis (Sugar Moon)  
March 2014 vol.11 Issue 3

By ZACH SCHONBRUN MARCH 9, 2014



The Thompson family, including Miles, left, may help diversify recruitment across the country. Credit Nathaniel Brooks for The New York Times

ALBANY — The Albany lacrosse coaches stared at a small projector screen, searching for the black streak of a three-foot-long ponytail swooping toward the goal.

They were watching Lyle Thompson, an Onondaga Indian from upstate New York, who has become a Wayne Gretzky-like figure in collegiate lacrosse. Last year, his sophomore season, Thompson finished one point short of tying the N.C.A.A. single-season record with 113 points on 50 goals and 63 assists in 17 games while leading SUNY Albany into the postseason for the first time since 2007.

He is a strong contender for this year's Tewaaraton Award, lacrosse's Heisman Trophy, which has never gone to a Native American. If he does not win, it could easily go to his older brother, Miles, who scored 43 goals in 12 games for Albany last season. And if Miles does not win, their cousin and teammate, Ty, has a chance.

The Thompsons, who grew up on a reservation in upstate New York, are more than exceptional athletes thriving in the sport of their ancestors, a sport that is still endowed with deeply spiritual significance to Native Americans. They are trailblazers who have upended the athletic world and reservation life, and their success has ignited a scramble for Native American recruits at lacrosse programs across the country.

Lyle Thompson, center, bypassed Syracuse, a lacrosse powerhouse, "to do something different." Credit Nathaniel Brooks for The New York Times  
The Thompsons made a decision that seems unexceptional to outsiders — they chose to attend Albany, which is part of the state university system, instead of Syracuse. But to Native Americans, that decision was fraught with meaning.



Syracuse, the regional powerhouse that has won 10 N.C.A.A. championships, has long seemed the only way off the reservation for young Native Americans aiming for Division I. Other universities rarely recruited on reservations because they knew the players would choose Syracuse.

But the Thompsons have effectively cracked the door to the reservations.

"The distance between Albany and Syracuse, at the time that they did it, can't be measured in geographical miles," said Bill Tierney, the lacrosse coach at the University of Denver. "It was a giant-leap-for-mankind sort of thing."

Change has come quickly. Zed Williams of the Cattaraugus Reservation in New York enrolled this fall at the University of Virginia, and Zach Miller of the Allegany Indian Reservation in New York enrolled at the University of Denver. Frank Brown, an attackman who is also from the Allegany reservation, enrolled last year at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, N.Y.

Casey Vock, a writer for Inside Lacrosse magazine, pointed to the Thompsons as the catalysts, and said he believed more colleges would successfully recruit Native Americans. The Thompsons chose Albany because they said Syracuse was taking them for granted, and because they were eager to open a new door.

"We wanted to do something different," said Miles Thompson, 23. "We knew all of the big-time natives were already going to Syracuse. We wanted to try to make a difference on our own."

So far this season, which began last month, they have accounted for 65 of the team's 110 points through four games. They have 41 of 68 goals, and only one other player has more than five. All three Thompsons grew up on the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation in upstate New York. When Lyle and Miles Thompson were about 7, the family moved south to the Onondaga Reservation, 11 miles from Syracuse.

Their father, Jerome Thompson Sr., played indoor box lacrosse for the Iroquois Lacrosse Association. He trained his four sons with wooden sticks and a wooden box, about two-feet wide, with a round hole in the middle barely bigger than the ball itself. That was their net.

"Everybody told me that my kids were going to be behind because I didn't let them play in organized leagues," Jerome Thompson Sr. said. "I just let them talk. As a parent, I felt that I could put more hours into them."

Albany has no meaningful connection to Native American athletes, certainly not compared with Syracuse, which can trace its history with Indian athletes back to Oren Lyons in the 1950s and has had at least one Native American player on its roster for more than a decade.

# College LaCrosse Upended by Albany's Native American Stars

Ziisabaakdoke-Giizis (Sugar Moon)  
March 2014 vol.11 Issue 3

By ZACH SCHONBRUN MARCH 9, 2014

But Albany has embraced the Thompsons. Their coach, Scott Marr, said the playmaking among the three bordered on telepathy, and he often describes them as being “closer than twins.” They have special calls for each other in Mohawk, and when Miles yells Lyle’s Indian name — “Deyhaus!” — something special often happens. On March 1, Miles and Lyle Thompson combined for 12 goals, more than Harvard’s entire team, in a 14-8 win.

The three Thompsons live in a house off-campus, where their lives revolve around family, lacrosse and schoolwork.

They take pride in abstaining from drinking, smoking or chewing tobacco — the primary vices, they said, that weigh on their communities back home. One recent afternoon, Lyle Thompson, 21, took out a rattle made from the shell of a snapping turtle he had caught while golfing with his oldest brother, Jeremy. He uses the rattle to make music, part of the way he stays connected with Indian culture. Learning the Onondaga language is another.



The success of Lyle, left, Miles, center, and Ty Thompson, right, has ignited a scramble for Native American recruits at lacrosse programs across the country. Credit Nathaniel Brooks for The New York Times

“That’s one of the most important things to me is our language,” Lyle Thompson said. “And our songs.”

While most people might not appreciate the differences between Albany and Syracuse, for Native Americans, it would be hard to overstate the boldness of the Thompsons’ choice. They grew up with Syracuse’s orange T-shirts and sweatshirts and attended games at the Carrier Dome, where Indians like Brett Bucktooth, Cody Jamieson and Sid Smith starred. Their older brother, Jeremy, played two seasons for Syracuse. They almost certainly could have played there as well.

But after Lyle Thompson’s breakout state title game his sophomore year, in which he scored five goals, he became a highly prized recruit. And the Thompsons made it no secret: Wherever Miles went, Lyle would go, too. “Schools were looking at me because they wanted him,” Miles Thompson said. As they were being recruited, though, the brothers began to feel like Syracuse was taking their allegiance for granted. “Syracuse honestly didn’t recruit both of us too hard,” Lyle Thompson said. “I think they just expected us to go there.”

Through a spokesman, Syracuse Coach John Desko declined to comment.

Ty Thompson, 23, committed to Albany in the summer of 2009. His cousins soon followed.

“They’ve led by example to a point where you see the younger kids talking about where they want to go,” said Vock, of Inside Lacrosse magazine. Last season, Albany defeated Syracuse for the first time. Miles Thompson scored the winning goal in double overtime. For this season’s rematch on Feb. 16, Jerome Thompson Sr. estimated that 400 people from the Onondaga and neighboring reservations were among the 6,484 at the Carrier Dome.

Albany did not win this time, but stood toe to toe with the top-ranked Orange in a 17-16 overtime loss. Ty Thompson scored five goals, and Lyle Thompson had five assists.

“Because of the way they play, being all native and being on the same team, it’s something special for us as native people,” Thompson Sr. said. “To come and build this program for other kids, to just come and step right on the field, it’s hard to do that.”



Indian Country has been shocked by a resent heartbreaking tragedy in the Cedarville Rancheria community. Yes, this was a horrifying, heartbreaking and devastating confrontation that involved a tribal family and their community. But, the worst part about the four deaths is the senselessness of the whole tragic incident. People died because Cherie Lash Rhoades was being removed from Tribe housing. I do realize that in hard times, good people do behave badly and sometimes in a violent and irrational manner. We as a nation have a responsibility to teach our children and adults the coping skills they need to live in a harsh and uncaring world. A world where “Me, Myself, and I” is the only thing that is important. The “I” or “Just Me” concept goes against the Tribal customs of “We, Us and togetherness.” We will never know if Peacemaking could have changed the outcome, but when you sit in judgment of others, you place yourself above them, there can be no Peacemaking.

The Wabeno teaching that I was given says all people are born “good.” That means Cherie started her life out as a good human being, but somewhere along the line the choices she made, changed her and became known as a “bully.” It was that path that ended in tragedy. I have seen many good people make bad decisions in their lives and end up in situations that have caused hardships, sorrow, and regret. Everyone knows of these life lessons, but it is how we deal with our disagreements and disputes, that’s what is important.

In every community there are disputes, disagreements, and outright conflicts. Peacemaking is needed in every community; the peacemaking process is about bringing the whole community together so everyone in the community can live together in harmony, “In a good way.”

In my personal experience I have seen participants in a Peacemaking session work out their differences and reach an agreement that was beneficial to each of them. But Peacemaking has the ability to go one step further and that is to mend and heal the participants’ relationship. For that healing to take place and Peacemaking to work, the Participants will need to do the hard work of addressing their problems, issues, and disputes. They will need to sit at the Peacemaking circle and discuss openly and honestly their problem. To strive for a solution that is beneficial to everyone. Written by Patrick D. Wilson, Peacemaking Supervisor.

## Spring Membership Meeting Saturday April 12, 2014

**Ogema Meet & Greet** Little River Casino Resort Friday April 11, 2014  
Three Fires Conference Center 7 pm – 9 pm

**Membership Meeting** Little River Casino Resort Saturday April 12, 2014  
Event Center 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### Meeting Agenda

8 a.m.	Registration Begins	Located in the Event Center
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.	Informational Booths	Hallway Three Fires Conference
9 :30 a.m.	Affordable Care Act Presentation	Three Fires Conference Center
10:00 a.m.	Flag Ceremony Honoring the Nations	Event Center
11a.m.	Affordable Care Act Presentation	Three Fires Conference Center

### Opening of meeting

12 p.m.	Lunch Served Information booths close	Event Center
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### Information booths close

1 p.m.	Official meeting begins	Quorum Call
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Question and Answer Period will follow

**Thank–you for attending and Safe Travel Home**

*Note-Agenda subject to change at Ogema’s discretion and if quorum in membership is reached~*

## Severe Weather Floods

Flooding still remains the most costly natural hazard disaster in the United States. But did you know that flood losses are not typically covered under renter and homeowner insurance policies? With flooding causing nearly \$24 billion in damages within the last 10 years, ensuring that your family is capable of bouncing back from a flood should be a very real concern.

Less than twenty days after Illinois homeowner Rich Smith closed on his house located by a creek, it flooded. Weeks after moving in, Rich's new home was completely under water and he lost nearly everything. Thankfully, Rich was prompted by his banker to get flood insurance and was able to quickly rebuild.

Watch Rich's story below and [read more about flood insurance; why have it and where to buy it.](#)

<http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/readynpm/messageshowthread?threadid=43566>

We invite you to download the media toolkit below to promote National Severe Weather Preparedness Week in your community. The toolkit includes: background information on how to take the next step, talking points, a blog post template, an Op-Ed, and a Social Media toolkit including content to share on Twitter and Facebook.

## WHY SHOULD I ATTEND NABI?

### NABI Participants:

- Develop time management & organizational skills
- Strengthen communication & interpersonal skills
- Attend corporate, cultural, and leadership development workshops
- Cultivate a deeper appreciation and understanding of diversity and its importance
- Foster networks with business leaders and other professionals
- Exposure to various careers and opportunities in business
- Form lifelong friendships with other Native youth, MSU students, & MSU support staff
- Most importantly—learn how to **WORK HARD & PLAY HARD!**



**NABI Participant w/  
Andra Rush, Founder &  
CEO of Rush Trucking**



*(This letter was recently received by your tribal government. Please share with any of your young people who might be interested. Editor)*



July 27 – August 2, 2014

Greetings from the Multicultural Business Programs at Michigan State University! We are writing to invite you to learn more about our pre-college program for Native American high school students interested in learning more about college, opportunities in business, or who just want to gain a set of professional skills that will put them ahead of their peers.

The **Native American Business Institute (NABI)** is a weeklong pre-college summer program for Native American high school students that will be in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade during the 2014-2015 school year. Participants work with MSU admissions officers, college counselors, tribal community leaders, and corporate representatives in a seven-day “business boot-camp” that prepares students for the college and exposes them to numerous academic and professional opportunities.

### NABI students:

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

**CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK or ONLINE**

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Native-American-Business-Institute/132110503559513>  
<http://mbp.broad.msu.edu/nabi/>



## WHAT IS NABI?

The Native American Business Institute (NABI) is a weeklong pre-college summer program held on the campus of Michigan State University for Native American high school students that will be in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2014-2015 school year. Interested in learning useful and transferable professional skills, about various careers in business, and about college in general.

This program is **FREE** to all selected participants! Participants work with MSU admissions officers, college counselors, tribal community leaders, and corporate representatives in a seven-day “business boot-camp” that prepares students for the college application process and exposes them to numerous academic and professional opportunities.



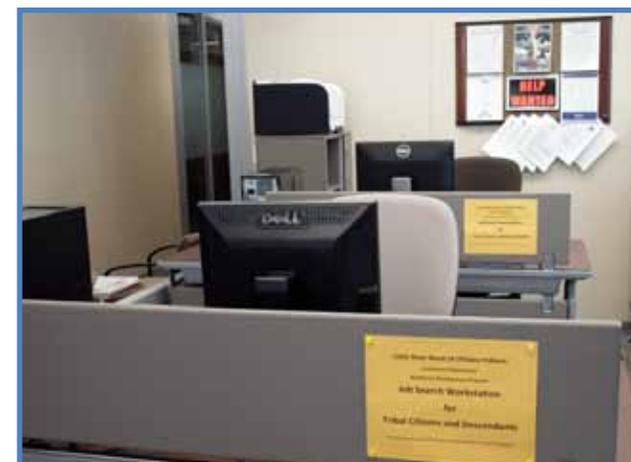
**NABI Participant w/  
Enterprise Rent-A-Car  
Recruiter**



## Workforce Workstations Ready!



**Just contact David Hawley at  
398-6842 to learn more!**



Workforce Workstations are ready to go! The Tribal Workforce Development Office has announced that they now have two workstations setup in the Government Center for use of tribal citizens who have signed up with Workforce Development. The workstations will allow for computer searches for jobs; places to create or fine-tune your resume or even participate in educational activity that will help you advance your career. The workstations are located on the first floor of the new Government Center in the Commerce Department area.

Tribal Historical Preservation presented a sweet lesson on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March with a pancake breakfast at the Aki Maadiziwin Community Center. At the breakfast there was a display of the 'tool's used to gather the sap of the sugar maple tree and complete information on the whole process of making that sweet maple syrup.



## Maple Syrup Lollipops



1 To make maple syrup lollipops you just need maple syrup and some lollipop sticks. These are made just like the [honey lollipops](#), only with maple syrup. Pour your syrup, at least a cup, into a 3 quart heavy sauce pan.



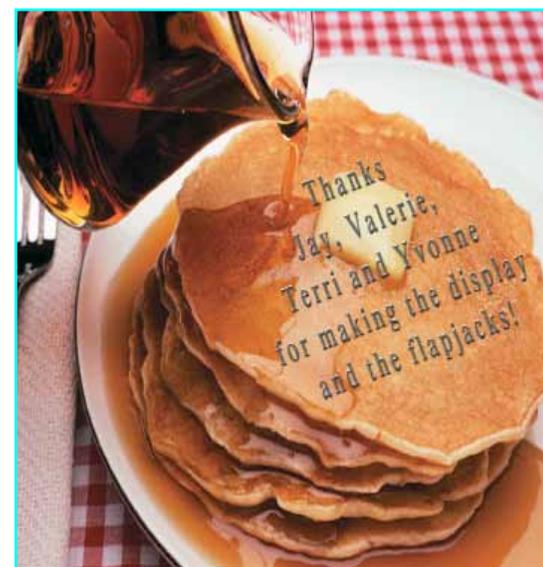
2 You will want to use a candy thermometer for this so grab one and clip it onto the side of your pot. Bring your syrup to a boil. You don't need to stir it. It's pretty much just bubbles. Once you remove it from the heat it will calm down and go back to looking like syrup.



3 Spoon over your lollipop sticks free form, or use a candy lollipop mold.



There ya have it!  
So easy, right?



## Positive Indian Parenting Honoring Children by Honoring Our Traditions

EVERY TUESDAY EVENING  
April 22, 2014 to June 10, 2014  
5:30 TO 7:30

AKI COMMUNITY CENTER  
2953 Shaw Be Quo Ung Dontz Road  
Manistee

Traditional Parenting Lessons of the Storyteller  
Lessons of the Cradleboard Harmony in Childrearing  
Traditional Behavior Management Lessons of Mother Nature  
Praise in Traditional Parenting Choices in Parenting

TRADITIONAL ANISHINABE WAYS TO PARENT IN A MODERN WORLD

Presented by Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Family Services Department

Facilitators: Shelly Kequam 398-6707 and Kathy Lagerquist 398-3705

Class is free

Call for Child Care  
231-398-6707 or 231-398-3705  
Meal Provided

Aanii

We are looking for presenters for this year's camp; this will allow for plenty of time for everyone. This year's camp will be held on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> 2014. If you are interested in being a presenter, we will need a presentation outline and a biography.

We will need two different presentation outlines and some presenters may be asked to present up to three different times. Each presentation should be approximately 1 ½ hours long, but if you have a presentation that requires a longer amount of time, please let us know in order to accommodate your workshop. Please also let us know if your presentation is meant to target a particular age group or other demographic.

We also need to know if your workshop is total Anishinaabemowin immersion, if you will have a translator or if you will be presenting in the English language with some Anishinaabemowin. Please note that if you have handouts for your presentation, you are responsible for making sure you have enough copies because there are no copiers on site.

Just as a note, most of our guests do not speak Anishinaabemowin and some understand it, but do not speak it yet. For some of our guests, this is the only time that they get to hear Anishinaabemowin being used. It would be appreciated for all of the presenters to remain visible throughout the camp and to be available to speak in Anishinaabemowin. We have had successful Camps because of the good presenters that have participated. We attend one another's presentations and socialize with the guests; we support one another and love our language.

Along with your presentation outline and biography, we will also need to know if you require lodging. Please send all of your information by email as soon as possible and do not wait until the last minute otherwise you may not make it on the presenter list. It would be appreciated if your presentation outline and biography could be sent as separately attached documents in the email. It's just easier for us when we process our program book. (Phone calls are accepted to state your interest in presenting, but the written information is required by the deadline for consideration.)

If you know anyone who may be interested in presenting at the Camp, by all means, please forward this letter to them and have them state in their email who recommended them to present. The deadline for all of this information is May 1, 2014

Here is my contact information: [kpheasant@lrboi-nsn.gov](mailto:kpheasant@lrboi-nsn.gov) 231-398-6892

Aa miigwech Gaabaabaabiyyin wiibizhibimoyin Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant



## APRIL

## Elder Meals Menu 2014



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

Please contact Noelle Cross with any questions Phone: 231-398-6886  
E-mail: [ncross@lrboi.com](mailto:ncross@lrboi.com)  
Volunteers are needed to help with meals if interested please contact Noelle.

Meals served at 12 o'clock

- No Charge to Elders, their Spouse and Handicap/Disabled individuals who reside with Elder.
- Guests Meals are \$5.00  
Donations are appreciated and will be used for program activities and food.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Angus Dog's Sweet potato fries Macaroni Salad Dessert	2 Savory Roasted Chicken Parsley Rice Beans & Peppers Dessert	3 Ham & Scalloped Potatoes Mixed Veggies Dessert	4	5 Elder Committee Meeting Lunch at Noon
6	7 Salisbury Steak Roasted Potato Creamed Corn Dessert  Language Class	8 Chicken Breast Baked Potato Green Beans Dessert	9 Pork Roast Sweet Potato Mixed Veggies Dessert  Activity: Wii Bowling	10 Lasagna Garlic Bread Broccoli Dessert	11	12 Membership Meeting
13	14 Baked Fish Mac N Cheese Peas & Carrots Dessert  Language Class 12:30	15 Beef Ravioli Green Beans Peach Cobbler	16 Pot Roast Red Potato's Creamed Corn Dessert  Activity: Wii Bowling	17 Hamburger Sweet Tater Tots Baked Beans Corn Dessert Activity: Bingo!	18 Muskegon Meal !! RSVP Noelle 231-398-6886	19
20 	21 French Dip Potato Wedges Peas Dessert	22 Roasted Turkey Baked Potato Green Beans Dessert  <b>EARTH DAY</b>	23 Smothered Pork Chops Mashed Potato Corn Dessert Activity: Wii Bowling	24 Chicken Salad Sandwich Pasta Salad Carrot Coin Dessert	25	26
27	28 Spaghetti & Meatballs Veggies Garlic Bread Dessert Language Class 12:30	29 Chicken salad on wheat bun Baked Potato Dessert	30 Beef Stroganoff Green Beans Dessert  Activity: Wii Bowling			
	Wednesdays' Wii Bowling! Friday the 1st Birthday of the month!	TBD: BINGO CARD DAY	Coffee, milk and water are available at every meal.		Menu subject to change with out notice. Meals meet 1/3 of the RDI based on a 1600 to 2000 calorie diet.	

## Greater Bear Watershed Management Plan

LRBOI staff electrofishing Bear Creek



The Greater Bear Watershed Management Plan has been finalized and approved. Staff from the LRBOI Natural Resources Department worked with many other agencies and groups on the Coordinating Committee to help draft a management plan that will help guide stewardship in the watershed. The watershed management planning started with establishing a steering committee that brought concerns of both Bear Lake and Bear Creek watershed organizations together with local and regional agencies. The group has created a great web site with much information about the area. Please check it out and check back often as it is just getting started and will continue to grow!!

<http://www.bearwaters.org/>

## Good Guess!



Not that it's been a long, cold, difficult winter but pretty much everybody is tired of it and now, we're finding ways to have a little fun with it.

The Human Resources Department at the tribal government, led by Amy Sedelmaier and Todd Keway with the able assistance of Alyce Giltz came up with a New Snow Record contest for the employees in Manistee. The idea was that folks would take a guess as to when the area would break the record of 191" of snow accumulated. The winners would get prizes, have their photo taken and get a mention in the tribal paper.

There was a rumor floated that the rest of the staff would pile 193" of the fluffy stuff on top of the employees' cars but that hasn't happened yet, that we know about! (see photo)



Thanks to HR for bringing  
some fun to the season!



Brandy Martin from Accounting and Al Patricio from Maintenance both guessed that the date reached would be February 26<sup>th</sup> and that was the winning date!

Brandy and Al were awarded some game prizes for use whenever the snow does go away...guesses are now that we'll have to wait to play the games until June...but we'll see.

## The 2014 Young Native Writers Essay Contest is underway!

The contest is designed to encourage young Native American writers to explore their heritage. It is open to Native American high school students from all Native communities.

For 2014, students are being asked to write about one or more of the cultural images, symbols or art forms that have been historically developed by their community (American Indian, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian) to communicate a particular message or value or serve a specific purpose. Essays are to be 1,200 words or less and should cover the following:

- Describe the image(s), symbol(s) or art forms selected;
- Explain how it was originally developed or used by the community;
- Reflect on the student's own experience about it, including thoughts and feelings; and
- Suggest why or how it is still relevant today.

This contest is co-sponsored by the Holland & Knight Charitable Foundation, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). Contest winners will receive a \$2,500 college scholarship and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for a week of activities. The essay submission deadline is April 22.

Those students who are interested in participating can visit the Holland & Knight Young Native Writers Essay Contest website, [www.nativewriters.hklaw.com](http://www.nativewriters.hklaw.com), for official contest rules and to view past winning essays. All essays must be submitted electronically by the entry deadline, April 22, 2014, through the contest website. Up to five contest winners will be announced in mid-May.

During the week of July 20, 2014, the contest winners will receive an all-expenses-paid "Scholar Week" trip to Washington, D.C. The group's activities will include an honor ceremony at NMAI; a tour of the NMAI Cultural Resources Center where tribal objects can be viewed and studied; educational symposia for students and their teachers; and a tour of the U.S. Capitol. Winners will also receive a \$2,500 scholarship to be paid to the college or university of their choice.

The contest debuted in 2006 in Red Lake, Minnesota, in response to the March 2005 shooting by a Red Lake High School student of five fellow students, a teacher, a security guard, members of his family and then himself. Holland & Knight's Charitable Foundation developed this contest with the hope that the Red Lake community would find healing by promoting its rich culture and traditions. In the following years, the program has evolved to serve all Native American communities.



Shirley M. Brauker  
1048 Silver Road  
Coldwater, MI 49036  
260-243-9027  
[sbrauker@gmail.com](mailto:sbrauker@gmail.com)  
[www.moonbearpottery.com](http://www.moonbearpottery.com)

## 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](http://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](mailto:agiltz@lrboi.com)**

## LRBOI Warrior Society

Looking for LRBOI Warrior Society Volunteers who would like to serve on a Rifle Team for 21 Gun Salute

## Government Closes for the following Holidays

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

Some areas of the government will be continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety. Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of the Government facilities. It's always a good idea to call first.

Just use the toll-free number 888.723.8288.

"Products and services advertised, referenced or promoted through the *Currents*, *eCurrents*, *Rapid River News*, Tribal Facebook page or website are not endorsed by the tribal government but are presented as a service to our readers. The LRBOI tribal court governs the practice of law including the admission of attorneys and lay advocates who represent parties in litigation"

## 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](http://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](mailto:recruiting@lrcr.com)

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

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

## 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, Binojeek, 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.

## Venture Plan Online

Venture Plan Online is an eight-week business plan training program. From the initial steps of clarifying your goals and business concept to setting up your marketing and financial plans, this online workshop-based course guides you through the business planning process. If you are starting a business or already running one, Venture Plan can help you shape your company for growth. Online access to small business experts, business planning software, and a pipeline of resources are key to this unique online learning opportunity. Fee includes Palo Alto LivePlan software, access to a MI-SBDC business consultant, online resources through Palo Alto and webinar access. An Online Orientation will be held on the Monday before each start date. For questions please email [sbdc@gvsu.edu](mailto:sbdc@gvsu.edu).

All registrations must be received one week prior to the start date of the course. NOTE: NO REFUNDS WILL BE PROCESSED 7 DAYS PRIOR TO PROGRAM START DATE.

Speaker(s): Cathy Kaiser

Veterans' registration is offered at no cost with proof of military service. Please contact [sbdc@gvsu.edu](mailto:sbdc@gvsu.edu) for assistance and registration.

Fee: \$ 149.00

WFD Development & Training Program can be used to pay for Program. Contact David Hawley in Workforce Development for more information.  
LRBOI Commerce Department.

# Why is March 28th a Tribal Holiday?



Every year on this date, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians' tribal offices are closed due to a "holiday", but what does this holiday really mean? Does it have any real significance to our people and our Tribe? March 28<sup>th</sup> is indeed an official Tribal Holiday that we call Treaty Recognition Day. As you may surmise,

it's a day in which a historical treaty is recognized, but what treaty does it involve and why is it important to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians?

In 1836, the bands that became the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians signed a treaty with the President of the United States known as the Treaty of Washington, or the 1836 Treaty. The treaty was ratified on March 28<sup>th</sup>; thus, the date for Treaty Recognition Day.

There are several reasons for the Treaty of 1836 to be of importance to the Little River Band citizens. Our rights to fish in the Great Lakes are based on the 13<sup>th</sup> article. The right to hunt and fish within the ceded territory is stipulated here as well. So, when you hear someone talk about our hunting and fishing rights within the Great Lakes, it comes from this document.

Little River Band's "home" in Manistee County can be found in the second article. This article reserved 70,000 acres of land from the Pere Marquette River north. This land is the Manistee Reservation, the historic reservation of the bands that are now identified as Little River. Public Law 103-324, Section 2, Paragraph 4 states, in part: "The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians consists of at least 500 members who continue to reside close to their ancestral homeland as recognized in the Manistee Reservation in the 1836 Treaty of Washington..."

So, as you may now guess and even recognize the Public Law noted, the federal reaffirmation of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians can be traced to the Treaty of 1836. Public Law 103-324, Section 2, Paragraph 1 states: "The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians are descendants of, and political successors to, signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington and the 1855 Treaty of Detroit."

So why make Treaty Recognition Day an official Tribal Holiday? The long history of our Tribe's government-to-government relationship with the United States "began" with the Treaty of Washington, March 28, 1836. The reaffirmation of our Tribe's status as a Federal Tribe is due to our ancestors' signing of the Treaty. To honor our ancestors, and to remember our heritage and history, we remember and recognize this date.

## Maajiidaa Fitness Center Policies

Bezhiig: Consult your physician before using the exercise equipment and/or exercising.

Niizh: For your safety appropriate attire is required at all times.

- You must wear full-back, sleeveless or full, non-mesh (Mesh: any knit, woven, or knotted fabric of open texture.)T-shirts.
- Athletic bottoms must be worn and covering at least five inches of your thigh.
- Close-toe athletic shoes must be worn.
- No dangling jewelry.

If attire other than the above requirements is worn, you will need to change your outfit before you begin your work out.

Nswi: Profanity and abusive language will not be tolerated.

Niiwin: Smokeless tobacco and/or smoking are not permitted anywhere in the facility or within a thirty foot perimeter of the building.

Naanan: Weapons, sharp objects, objects that may explode/become a projectile or any object that might inflict harm to a person or damage to the facility are prohibited on the premises; these items must be reported to the management for patron safety concerns.

Ngodwaaswi: No horse play, physical or verbal fighting will be tolerated in or on the premises of the facility.

Niizhwaaswi: Please refrain from bringing food on the premises. Water fountains are available on the premises; water brought into the center must be in a push/pull/straw cap container at all times to prevent spilling which can damage machinery/facility equipment.

The Fitness Center is located in the lower level of the Government Center in Manistee, MI.

## Smoking Policy at GovCtr

The Maintenance Department would like everyone to be aware that the designated smoking area located behind the Government Complex just off the cafeteria has been moved 20 feet away from the building. The previous smoking area was too close to the building and causing smoke to get into the buildings ventilation system.

We thank you in advance for using the new designated area that is now 20ft away from the building.

If you should have any questions please direct them to Brian Gibson the Maintenance Supervisor.

## Spring Fire & Teachings!

**The Spring Fire will be lit on April 9<sup>th</sup> at sunrise at the lodge behind the Government Center next to the Gathering Grounds. The Spring Fire and Anishinaabek Teachings will begin at that time and go through the Spring Membership Meeting on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup>. The fire will go down at sunset on the 12<sup>th</sup>. For more information on this important gathering, contact Valerie Chandler in Tribal Historical Preservation at extension 6895**

## Eagle Staff Gathering

This article is from memory and at 74 need I say more? We made many new Canadian friends several who have been to our Little River Language camps. Six or eight eagle staff's had been expected and 24 were actually in attendance. The Aamjiwnaang tribe of Sarnia's buildings are new with a big gymnasium suited for sports or tribal events. We all felt great power of the Eagle staffs. Pokagon will host this years' Eagle staff gathering (more details will be announced).

The Traditional Drum was Blue Wolf, Blue because some were O.P.P and some Sarnia police. In the seal of the United States of America Eagle's left talon are arrows. One may be broken, together will not be broken. In that sprit our Eagle staffs together are difficult to break our sprit.

Thanks to Luke from Blue Wolf, George Martin head veteran, Amrbrose Recollect Fire Eagleman and all that made this happen

John G. Shano,  
Commander

LRBOI Warriors Society

## Happy Birthday Elders!

Beverly Antoine  
Ambrose Aloysius  
Miranda Boyer  
Weymouth Brown  
Irene Compton  
Barbara Ensley  
Greenway Wilfrieda  
Beverly Hollingshead  
Anita Kinner  
Arthur Magnuson  
Norma Melchert  
Patsy Morris

Jesse Muma  
Joseph Jr Pete  
Gloria Pomeroy  
Robert Russ  
Emmett Schafer  
Sandra Sherven  
Rose Shine  
Patricia Therrien  
Lillian Varney

Veronica Wheeler  
Esther Zweigle

### A kind of tribute to the Walking Dead.



Hi Everybody  
Just to brighten up your day, just a little.  
Everyone knows that zombies are slow, dead and not to smart. But sometimes what they do just isn't right. Myself and My Nephew, Deacon made this snow sculpture.

*Patrick D. Wilson*



### Student Update - Sunflower Wilson



Alichia Sunflower Wilson, daughter of former Ogema Pat Wilson and Alta Wilson is getting ready for an exciting summer and for the next steps in her career and life. Sunflower graduates from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff this summer with a Bachelors of Science in Fisheries Biology. Her next step is a Masters in Fisheries Biology and then plans are for a Doctorate in Fish Physiology!

Her father Pat said when he was talking about Sunflower, "One of the many things I taught to my daughter when she was growing up was, "Sunflower, you can do anything you want to do, just reach for the stars." But just like a kid, she did the opposite and looked down. I guess she must have seen the reflections of the stars in the water, and reached out and caught a fish. "

Here are some of Sunflowers accomplishments while at the U of A:

#### Activities/Honors

- National Cooperative Fisheries Scholars Program
- Aquaculture and Fisheries Club (AFC) (2010-Present)
- Biology Club (2010- Present)
- Carlyon Blakely Honors College (2011- Present)
- Hutton Junior Fisheries Biologist Scholarship Program (2008, 2009)
- National Society for High School Scholars (2008-Present)
- American Fisheries Society (2008- Present)
- American Fisheries Society Equal Opportunities and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Native Peoples Travel Award (2011)
- U.S. Army ROTC (2012-2013)
- Trinity Scholarship (2013)
- Alpha Kappa Mu National Honors Society (2013-present)

On the personal side of life, Sunflower got engaged January 1st 2014 to Leathan J. Irvin from Kankakee IL. He is 27 years old, is a Fisheries Biology Major (expected Graduation 2016) and is on a Career Path of Biomedical Research. They expect to marry in 2016.

Congratulations to Sunflower and Leathan (and definitely to Pat and Alta)!



### Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Housing Department

Mailing Address: 2608 Government Center Drive  
Physical Address: 2953 Shaw Be Quong  
Manistee, Michigan 49660

The Little River Band Housing Department has prepared the Annual Performance Report for 2013 for HUD to meet our Annual Reporting Requirements.

If you would like to review and or comment on this report it will be available at the Housing Department office for 30 days starting on February 24, 2014, Monday – Friday 9a.m. to 4 p.m.



Austen is busy trying to accumulate donations and funding for Indian Village Camp this year. The camp was funded by a grant for three years but the grant ended and there is no money to operate the program this summer. The Casino has volunteered to provide the food and to help to raise funds for the camp. Austen will be asking for additional funding from Tribal Council to provide the rest of the required financing.

to come and spend four days in a wilderness camp filled with tons of cultural activities, leave with a new-found appreciation of themselves and what it means to be "Indian." One of our elected officials picked up his grandson from camp last summer and before the door on the car was closed, his Grandson said: *I want to come back next year. It was awesome!*

The Court felt that recognition was in order for both of these brilliant Tribal gentlemen. We appreciate all that they do for the Court, the Tribe and the Manistee community in general. Thank you from

The "at risk" youth (and just being young puts most kids in that category) who are able

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Court oversees the Tribe's Peacemaking/Probation Department. This program is utilized by our judges (and the community) to mediate contested issues between parties within a cultural framework. As a probation office, they oversee probationers sentenced by this Court and at the request of other Courts. Our Peacemaking/Probation Department is just down the hall from the Court offices in the Justice Center on Domres Road. We have two very special employees working within that office. Patrick Wilson is the Director of Peacemaking/ Probation and Austen Brauker is a Peacemaker and Probation Officer.

We're very proud of all the work Pat and Austen have accomplished and how their innovative ideas have been passed on to other Tribes and other communities. In 2012, Patrick and Austen were invited by the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in Massachusetts to present information and advice about our Peacemaking Department and how it functions. The Mashpees paid for Pat and Austen's plane tickets, lodging, and food. In 2013, the Peacemaker's were invited back to the Mashpee Reservation. Austen was available and he flew back to Massachusetts to give a refresher course and more in-depth training to the Wampanoag Tribe.

Both Patrick and Austen will be training folks in Washtenaw County at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Circuit Court in the latter part of June. Judge Timothy Connors, Circuit Court Judge, was so impressed with our Peacemaking Department and its philosophies; he wrote and received a grant to start a Peacemaking Program in his own county. Both of our Peacemakers will be guiding and contributing to their endeavor.

Patrick Wilson has been invited by Fox Valley Technical College to be a presenter at the Biennial Gathering of Peacemaker's in Sulphur, Oklahoma the latter part of April of this year. Our Peacemaker's are making a name for their Department in the realm of Tribal Peacemaking and in extending the traditional values and teachings of the Little River Band.

The Peacemaking Department will be presenting their own "Third Annual Peacemaking Conference" to be held at the Little River Casino Resort June 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This conference was the brainchild of Mr. Wilson. He has tirelessly worked on all the planning and scheduling that a conference this large would entail. He has invited many well-known speakers to present at the conferences and this year will bring more fresh perspectives to the attendees who come from all over the United States. Austen functions as an emcee and trainer at the conference in between trying to organize his "baby" which is Indian Village Camp.



The conference will be held at Little River Casino Resort,  
Manistee Michigan



**June 11th, 12th, and the 13th.**

The Keynote Speaker for this conference

is

**Honorable Judge Tim Connors**

"Affirmation of positive actions can and should be a part of State Court Justice Systems.  
Peacemaking Courts can guide us.  
We have much to learn."

Early Registration for the conference starts

March 1 and ends April 1, 2014

Early Registration fee is \$300.00 (A savings of fifty dollars)

The Midwest Peacemaking Conference brings together professional Peacemakers from Tribal and State Courts, along with those who have realized the value of Peacemaking in other venues, such as Social Workers, Educators, Counselors, Youth Workers, and anyone who facilitates communication among groups of people as guided by Peacemaking principles, and use of the talking circle.



Peacemaking/Probation Department

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Wilson at 1(231) 398-2239 or 1(231)398-3406

Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Hosted by the Little River Band Of Ottawa Indians Tribal Court, and the Peacemaking/ Probation Department

## Cold, Sunny, and Fun!

It may not have been of Olympic standards, but the LRBOI Annual Goonignebig (Snowsnake) Tournament took place on Saturday, March 15, 2014. Thirty-three competitors and many spectators braved the wind of a winter's day for the annual Tournament held at the Aki Maadiziwin Community Center. Although the local area has received record-breaking snowfall, some people thought it was unheard of to hold our annual event in March, but our decision proved to be on the right track.

The track was a bit of a bother and finished on the day before the event. The Housing Commission Maintenance Staff provided an excellent snow pile base earlier for the track, but delays in the track cutting allowed for it to be somewhat glacial when the first efforts to place the track were done. Walking on the crust where the track should be, the Historic Preservation Director, Jay, and his assistant, Keith, tried hitting it with shovels to crack the surface and then tried to pull the core cutting device lead to about five feet of track. There was a plan based on warmer (relatively) weather and so Friday afternoon the track would be cut into the base. Dave Corey used his invention to cut the track and Jay smoothed and iced it later that night. As usual, the track contained a 'Jay standard S curve'. Anyone can have a straight downhill or level track; ours has character (at least it no longer has its 90-degree curve). Water was added to the track, in the form of a cold rain, then by a secret means to smooth the track. In the morning, snow had accumulated and deer had stepped in the track, making for needed repairs. Once patched and brushed, it was ready. A true black diamond track if there ever was one, waited with its curves and some loose snow.

The competition was "serious" and the throws were made, measured and occasionally commented on by other competitors. Mike Ceplina and others volunteered to assist and the event ran without a hitch. Many "newbies" threw a snake for the first time and thoroughly enjoyed the competition alongside the seasoned champions. Some friendly ribbing was exchanged between competitors and more experienced throwers offered advice as well.

After the competition, everyone gathered inside for a potluck lunch featuring a variety of excellent dishes as well as some visiting. Coffee and hot cocoa were provided by the Food and Beverage Department of the Little River Casino Resort, which was greatly appreciated. The Little River Casino Resort also provided long-sleeved t-shirts with the Goonignebig sleeve logo and the casino logo for everyone.

Each competitor received a small participant gift and each winner received a placement medal as well. The 2014 Goonignebig Tournament winners and participants were:

### Ages 1-4 Boys:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Nolan Pontiac – 5ft. 9 in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: No competitor
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 1-4 Girls:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Dannika Berentsen – 19 ft. 9 in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: No competitor
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 5-8 Boys:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Blake Wandrych – 46 ft. 6 in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> (tie): Cameron Mitchell – 16 ft. 3 in.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> (tie): Liam Edmondson – 16 ft. 3 in.

### Ages 5-8 Girls:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Madison Johnson – 41ft. 7 in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Shenoah Collier – 26 ft. 2 in.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 9-12 Boys:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Emerald Lawrence – 69 ft. 9 in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jesse Cabarrubia – 64 ft. 2 in.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 9-12 Girls:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Lexi Johnson – 63 ft. 9 in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jasmine Cabarrubia – 42 ft. 8 in.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 13-17 Boys:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: No competitor
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: No competitor
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 13-17 Girls:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Josclynn Cabarrubia – 96 ft.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jalissa Cabarrubia – 81 ft. 8 in.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 18-35 Men:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Forrest Steele – 105 ft. 6 in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: No competitor
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 18-35 Women:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: No competitor
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: No competitor
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: No competitor

### Ages 36-54 Men:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Brian Gibson – 161 ft.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Gary DiPiazza – 118 ft. 8 in.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Dean Martz – 113 ft. 2 in.

### Ages 36-54 Women:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Kathy Gibson – 104 ft.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Julie Wolfe – 103 ft.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Teresa Wabsis – 100 ft.
- Bonnie Kenny – 86 ft. 3 in.
- Melissa Waitner – 83 ft. 1 in.

### Ages 55+ Men:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Richard Bailey – 175 ft.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dale Chandler – 158 ft.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Ron Wittenberg – 99 ft. 4 in.
- Jim Gibson – 73 ft. 5 in.
- Ron Pete – 70 ft. 2 in.

### Ages 55+ Women:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Karen Bailey – 160 ft. 8 in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sandy Mezeske – 105 ft.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Julie Martz – 70 ft. 5 in.
- Linda Soller – 54 ft. 6 in.
- Stella Gibson – 53 ft. 7 in.
- Connie Waitner – 39 ft. 5 in.

Congratulations to Richard Bailey for achieving the longest throw of the day in the men's category which was recorded at 175 feet and to his wife, Karen Bailey, for achieving the longest throw of the day in the women's category which was recorded at 160 feet and 8 inches! Congratulations to Emerald Lawrence for achieving the longest throw of the day in the boys category which was recorded at 69 feet and 9 inches and to Josclynn Cabarrubia for achieving the longest throw of the day in the girls category which was recorded at 96 feet! Each of these competitors received a backpack bag filled with a hat, note pad, and other prizes for their accomplishments.

Another backpack bag filled with prizes was awarded to the competitor with the best looking snowsnake used in the competition and it was awarded to Ron Wittenberg. His snake was very detailed and included a cool tongue! Two embroidered "Distant Hugs" scarves were donated by Kenny Pheasant and used as door prizes; the lucky winners were Sandy Mezeske and Rita Gale. Lastly, a handmade dreamcatcher was given to the person with their birthday closest to the date of the Tournament (March 15<sup>th</sup>) and it was given to Rita Gale; her birthday was March 14<sup>th</sup> – Happy Belated Birthday Rita!

The event requires that a "Miigwech" go out to those who make it all possible: to the Tribal Council and Ogema for supporting cultural events; to the Housing Department for plowing and piling the snow; to the Little River Casino Resort for the hot beverages and t-shirts; to Dave Corey for cutting the track; to the families and people that made the potluck meal into a feast; to the competitors and spectators, whom without, there would be no event; to Mike Ceplina (standing in for a staffer) for his efforts in measuring distances; to other volunteers who returned snakes, helped measure and relay the distances; and to Mack Brushman, Valerie Chandler, and Terri Tyler for all of their work in making the event go smoothly.

We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and that we'll see you again at the tournament next year! Oh, and by the way, the track should still be there, for grudge matches or practice....

# Annual Goonignebig Tournament

Ziisabaakdoke-Giizis (Sugar Moon)  
March 2014 vol.11 Issue 3



The Kwewok Circle would like to honor our Native Women for Women's History month 2014. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has some diligent and noteworthy women, past and present, who have contributed in some way to our tribal heritage and history, well-being of our native people, or influenced others to aspire to something greater in life. Perhaps a name or two has already come to mind and yet others may need someone to bring forth their contributions. Most of these women are humble by nature and some may not realize the impact they have made, but regardless of criteria, these women are leaders that deserve our recognition as part of Women's History Month during the month of March.



Rose Shalifoe-Known to many as "Grandma Rose", Rose Shalifoe was a tireless advocate for anishinaabe people of west Michigan. Sent to boarding school in Mt Pleasant at the age of 5, Rose was forbidden to speak our language or celebrate our culture. As an adult she worked hard to regain her ethnic heritage, and worked hard to support her Indian community, organizing celebrations for Indian children and seniors, speaking at pow wows, and sharing her knowledge with school children in the Muskegon area. Well known for some of the best fry-bread, Rose's Food Stand was one of the oldest documented Indian food stands in the state of Michigan. We recognize the contributions of Rose Shalifoe to our Little River Band community and honor her during Women's History Month.

Margaret Chandler-If not for the work done by Margaret Chandler, the history of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians would have been very different. With her years of service with the Northern Michigan Ottawa Association on behalf of what would become the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, her meticulous recordkeeping and her unflagging commitment to the political recognition of her community were paramount to federal reaffirmation. From her early support of treaty rights to her service on the first Board of Directors Margaret dedicated her life to her community. Her contributions were recognized by the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, and we choose to recognize them now during Women's History Month.

Katherine Glocheski-Katherine Glocheski (Aunt Katy) has long held a place of prominence in the Little River Band community. Along with her sister Laverne Oren, and her mother, Helen Wahr, she worked hard to help maintain an active Ottawa community in the Manistee area. Katy worked diligently in gathering signatures and enrollment information required by the federal government in the effort of the tribe to received federal reaffirmation. In 1994, Aunt Katie testified before the United States Congress describing her life growing up at Indian Village, and the hardships and struggles of the people to maintain their community and assert their treaty rights. Her strong and moving testimony ended with Katie telling the Congressional members that "if we Indians would have had stronger immigration laws, we would not be here today." For her extraordinary efforts and contributions we recognize Katherine Glocheski.



Deb Gutowski-In 1980, Deb Gutowski became the first woman pipe carrier in our community. In addition to being a spiritual advisor, Deb has provided more than 20 years in the Indian Education programs in Muskegon and Reeths Puffer schools, sharing her knowledge of tribal culture and history with the Indian students there. She has spent 10 years as Director of Native Ministry with the Catholic Diocese of Grand Rapids and has been caretaker of the Kateri Tekakwith Native American Center and 3 burial grounds of our people. For her commitment to the people of Little River Band we recognize her efforts and her place among the women of our tribe.

## *The Healing of the Women of Our Nations*

The healing of the women of our nations, Removing the chains of oppression, Removing the chains of marginalization, Removing the chains of racism, Removing the chains of sexism,

Grounded firmly into the Earth, Grounded into the wisdom of the ancestors,  
The healing of the women of our nations, Traditions, Language, Culture, Visibility, Voice, Rising up,

The healing of the women of our nations, Is the healing of us all.

"The Healing of the Women Of Our Nations," *Honouring Indigenous Women: Hearts of Nations, Vol. 2*,  
Indigenous Peoples Solidarity Movement Ottawa, 2012 311t

There are so many women in our families and lives that need to be honored. The Kwewok Circle would like you to give us this opportunity to do just that. Please send us your information on the Kwe you would like to honor. We would like a brief message to go along with a picture of the person you would like to honor. Please send the information to P.O. Box 334 Manistee, MI49660.



## Little River teams up with Consumers!



Last month, the Little River Casino Resort and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians teamed up with Consumers Energy to be a staging area for Consumers emergency vehicles if there is a disaster and a need in the Manistee area. (See the accompanying article for more details)

The tribe has made major strides over recent years to team with various agencies to be able to help our entire community if there is another disaster. This includes entering into Memorandums of Understanding with the County, City and State for mutual assistance and with the American Red Cross to be an Emergency Evacuation Shelter when it is needed for area residents.

Several times, the resort (Three Fires Conference Center) has been opened under the Red Cross agreement. We opened as both a cooling shelter during extremely hot weather and as a warming shelter during the winter months.

The tribe has made a commitment over the years to be a help to our entire region when it is needed.

### CONSUMERS ENERGY CREATES MOBILE STORM UNITS TO SPEED SERVICE RESTORATION

JACKSON, Mich., Sept. 24, 2013 – Consumers Energy is stationing three new mobile storm units across Michigan to help crews restore power more quickly after damaging storms.

The 53-foot long box semi-trailers will be staffed during storm deployment by company storeroom personnel and are ready to roll out with short notice. The units are equipped with items most often needed for storm work: cross arms, insulators, coils of wire, hardware and other equipment.

Strategically located in Grand Rapids, Jackson and Cadillac, the mobile storm units will be deployed to areas where powerful storms are forecast to hit, and will serve as staging areas for crews performing service restoration.

“Bringing the storeroom to the field will reduce travel and help our lineworkers involved in storm restoration focus on what they do best -- making repairs and getting the lights back on for customers safely,” said Michele Kirkland, Consumers Energy’s vice president of energy operations. “This initiative will shorten outages and help us keep our Promise to provide reliable energy service for our customers.”

The mobile storm units were outfitted in Grand Rapids, and are being delivered to their home headquarters this week.

Reinforcing its commitment to Pure Michigan Business Connect, Consumers Energy hired Grand Rapids-based Giant Graphics to apply visuals to the units, which feature photographs of four Consumers Energy field employees in action.

Consumers Energy, Michigan’s largest utility, is the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy (NYSE: CMS), providing natural gas and electricity to 6.6 million of the state’s 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

For more information regarding Consumers Energy, go to: [www.ConsumersEnergy.com](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com) or join us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/consumersenergymichigan](http://www.facebook.com/consumersenergymichigan)

## CONCERT LINE UP FOR 2014

Saturday – April 5th  
at 8pm

**Christopher Cross**  
Jack \$25, Queen \$35, King \$40

Saturday – April 19th  
at 8pm – **SOLD OUT**

**Scotty McCreery**  
Jack \$30, Queen \$45, King \$50

Sunday – May 4th  
at 3pm

**Bobby Vinton**  
Jack \$30, Queen \$40, King \$50

Friday – May 23rd  
at 9pm

**Hotel California - Eagles Tribute**  
Jack \$20, Queen \$25, King \$35

Saturday – June 7th  
at 8pm

**The Mavericks**  
Jack \$20, Queen \$30, King \$40

Saturday – June 21st  
at 8pm

**Grand Funk Railroad**  
Jack \$30, Queen \$40, King \$50

Friday – June 27th  
at 9pm

**Robert Cray / Mavis Staples**  
Jack \$30, Queen \$45, King \$55

More upcoming shows to be announced soon.  
Stay tuned, and thank you for choosing Little River Casino Resort.

**Little River**  
CASINO RESORT

Little River. Big Fun.