Elders Conference 2014

Elders and family gathered at the Makwa Endaat (Entertainment Center) early in November for the annual meeting. Two full days of presentations, events, entertainment and discussion made this an outstanding conference.

US Attorney General conference

US Attorney Patrick A. Miles Jr and his staff including Jeff Davis, a long-time advocate in Indian Country, visited Little River as part of their regular meeting with Michigan tribes to review relationships and opportunities to work together in supporting the laws of our lands.

Halloween at Little River

Halloween 2014 was a blast at Little River with an Employees Party put on by the Clinic Staff and a big party for the youngsters at Aki Maadiziwin Community Center. The costumes were great and everyone had fun. See the pictures on pages 17 and 18.

Currents goes High Tech

The Office of Public Affairs is going high-tech to help you share information! Inside the paper, you will find our first fully operational, interactive forms. These forms (Tribal Members Hunting, Letters to Santa and Member News) are designed so that you can fill them in on your computer and e-mail them directly to us. Give them a try!
Retiring Senator Carl Levin visited the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians on Saturday, the 18th of October to gather more information on the recent multi-government sewer development and to see firsthand, the tribes’ new Government Center.

Senator Levin was greeted by Tribal Council Speaker Virg Johnson and Public Affairs Director Glenn Zaring. Speaker Johnson and Director Zaring gave the senator a tour of the facility ending with a look at the Lodge (Council chamber) on the 2nd floor. Johnson took great pride in telling Senator Levin about the ‘Pure Ottawa’ approach to the design and construction of the building using Michigan materials and labor for the vast majority of the facility.

On the issue of the sewer project, Speaker Johnson gave a recounting of the precedent setting cooperative agreement between the tribal government, the state of Michigan, Manistee County, the City of Manistee and Manistee Township. Johnson shared some of the thought behind the project and emphasized how by working together, all of the governments could accomplish something good for the future of the entire area.

To provide more information for the Senator, Director Zaring gave the Senator a copy of the latest Currents which had an extensive story on the project. (go to the website to see the paper at: www.lrboi.com) He also gave Senator Levin a copy of an informational handout prepared by Public Affairs for use at the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Reaffirmation of the tribe in 1994. Senator Levin said that he remembered the occasion.

The Senator was in town as the guest of honor for the Don Jennings Award Dinner at the Little River Casino Resort, an annual gathering of the Democratic Party in Manistee.

As part of his tour, the senator toured the Little Manistee River Weir, the Vogue Theater and the tribal government center. He was escorted by Tim Ervin of the Alliance for Economic Success in Manistee.
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November 5, 2014

Fellow-Citizens,
The Board of Directors of the Little River Casino Resort takes very seriously its responsibility to deliver exemplary financial results to the Tribe so that all its members may share prosperity, independence and pride. We undertake the role that has been entrusted to us with a glad and serving heart.

In fact, it could be characterized that We Want the Tribe to Win at business! We Want to Win at our roles in the business, too!

In order to Win at Business, we would like to respectfully share some information with you:

Dollars that are not received by the Resort because of providing discounts that use up the profit on meals, events or other functions and which serve a small number of users cannot be distributed to the Tribe, and then cannot show up in per capita sharing. Therefore, it ultimately benefits everyone to stop those discounts and capture those dollars for distribution which can positively affect all of our people. To be respectful and plainly honest, to achieve these good and right business goals, all Resort-offered tribal discounts shall be ending effective January 1, 2015.

This does not mean that the Tribe and its citizens will not be treated with great care as guests, nor be able to enjoy the Resort it so proudly owns!

When those dollars are distributed to the Government for the proper division of operating funds and per capita, the Resort would be more than happy to host events or provide services, certificates, and products that the Government pays the Resort for through its (post per cap) operating budget. In fact, it is rightly and properly a privilege and responsibility of Government leadership to determine what benefits should be available and provided to its citizens; not the Resort.

We thank you for the trust you have placed in us, and thank you for the many good words that you have shared with us recently that encourage us to be strong leaders in producing great business results.
Respectfully,
Elaine Porter, Chairperson

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TRIBAL DISCOUNTS - FAQs
(Frequently Asked Questions)

**Why is the Resort doing this?**
The Board of Directors of the Resort feels that the purpose of the Resort is to provide profits to the Tribe to fund Per Cap payment and help fund Tribal Government Operations. While the Board still supports giving-individual Tribal-Members discounts these discounts are not for-a-legitimate-business purpose so the Decision to give the benefits should lie with the Tribal Government and their elected officials, not The Board of Directors of the Resort. Providing discounts and Resort services to the Tribe materially affects the distribution from the Resort to the Tribe.

**How does this affect me?**
Although Tribal Members will no longer be receiving discounts at the Resort unless funded by the Tribal Government, the extra distribution will lead to an increase of Per Cap payments. The true profits of the Resort will now be subject to Per Cap instead of the profits after Tribal incentives.

**Can the Tribal Government continue to fund the discounts?**
Yes, the Tribal Government can continue to fund the discounts if they feel that it is the best use of the Limited funds to fund the Tribe. The Tribal Government is constantly analyzing budgets to ensure that The Tribe as a whole receives the greatest benefits from the funds available.

**Will this end the Free Play that is given out at the meetings?**
Yes, it will end the Free Play unless the Tribal Government feels that it is important enough to continue to fund Free Play out of its budget for Tribal benefits. Free Play alone was reducing Resort distributions by over $100,000 per year. This money will now be going through Distributions and to the Per Cap.

**Will there still be $50 rooms for the Tribal Meetings?**
No, there will not still be $50 rooms for the Tribal Meetings, but the Resort will provide a group block at a reasonable rate. (Less than $100 per night.)

For further information, please contact the board at BoardofDirectors2@lrcr.com
Every year, the United States Attorney and their staff from the Western District of Michigan visit the various tribal nations from their regions. The year, on October 28th, US Attorney Patrick A. Miles Jr and staff came to the Lodge at Little River to meet with their counterparts and with elected leaders.

These meetings are valuable because they bring together the top agencies and personnel to discuss issue, new laws, enforcement and sentencing options and larger issues.

At this meeting, updates on the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA), Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization (VAWA), Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), Victim Witness Issues, Domestic Violence issues and a lot more were discussed. Miles enforcement priorities were

1) National Security
2) Violent crime
3) Protecting vulnerable individuals (e.g. child pornography)
4) Financial Fraud (e.g. organized crime)
5) Civil Rights (i.e. criminal corruption)

Executive Counsel Damian Fisher asked US Attorney Miles for some specific parameters and guidelines that might help tribal legal know when to bring in the federal office.

Natural Resources Director Jimmie Mitchell inquired into the status of tribal use of some facilities and Tribal Manager (and Interim Clinic Director) inquired into some aspects of Prescription Drug Abuse enforcement that would protect the tribe and our physicians. Miles talked about a couple of “special projects” (pertinent in Indian Country) like this including:

1) Prescription Drug Abuse and
2) Prisoner reentry into communities (recidivism)

One value of these annual meetings is that our tribal elected leaders get to have a frank and open discussion with some of the top law enforcement experts in the state on questions that they have regarding the whole system.
As in any community, mutual respect and cooperation are key elements to success. Our Community consists of people from different places, cultures, and beliefs. Please write your submissions in a respectful manner. Be straightforward and sincere, and assume good faith. Avoid personal insults, verbal attacks and generally disrespectful, offensive, or abusive messages as these will be either edited or deleted.

**Members Submissions**

**Your Name:** Angela Eagle  
**Date:** 11/15/2014  
**Category:** Fishing

**Congratulations Angela Eagle**  
You caught fish in a bucket!  
You Rock!

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

Submit by Email

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We attached the link for hunters submission form to this page for you to save and use.

We attached the link Members Submissions form to this page for you to save and use.

https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/images/docs/public-affairs/docs/Members_Submissions_1.pdf
Announcement of General Election

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 seat - 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 Election Board -- To run for the Election Board, 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 Chief Judge or Appellate Judge - To run for the Office of Chief Judge or Appellate Judge, a Tribal member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar, below.

Election Calendar
- Declaration of Candidacy Packets available: November 3rd
- Declaration 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
Announcement of General Election

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)
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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 Election Board --To run for the Election Board, a Tribal member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar, below.

Election Board Office Hours Nov.2014/Dec. 2015

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<td>December</td>
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Candidate packets may be picked up from the Election Board during office hours.
Deadline to sign up to become a registered voter is December 1, 2014.
Tribal Council held a forum-style work session on Tuesday, October 21, 2-14, in the Lodge at the Government Center. Many Tribal Members attended and voiced their opinions on the proposed changes to the Bereavement Assistance Program.

Tribal Council is continuing to take any changes to the ordinance under advisement. At this time, the Bereavement Assistance Program Ordinance is still in effect as it has been for many years and there are no material changes being implemented at this time.

Tribal Members are encouraged to look at Tribal Council’s calendar and attend future work sessions if able and to share their opinions with their Tribal Council Representatives in writing and by email to comments@lrboi.com. Council sessions are listed on the website to help you know when they are meeting on this and other important issues. Go to www.lrboi.com and click on the Tribal Council tab.

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians cross-deputation agreement with the Manistee County Sheriff’s Office was temporarily suspended by Sheriff Dale Kowalkowski on November 4th.

This is an internal Human Resource/Personnel issue within the sovereign tribal nation and the tribe's public safety and conservation enforcement division are handling this situation appropriately. Contrary to allegations by the Sheriff, LRBOI has a well-established and clear chain of command and supervisory structure in place which is sufficient to operate the tribal government.

Internal investigations and suspensions happen in any public safety department in the normal course business. There are procedures in place to handle investigations and a professional chain of command is in place to keep the department operating contrary to some media reports.

Unlike the Sheriff, the Tribe respects the integrity of the investigation and the privacy and professionalism of the employees involved and is not commenting publicly on the investigation.

Ogema Larry Romanelli assured tribal members and the public today that they are still being protected on our tribal lands by a respected staff of federally trained law enforcement officers.

This is a press release from the LRBOI Office Public Affairs

GVSU announces new project to document the experiences of urban Native Americans

In the last half of the 20th century, a little known program that still impacts American Indian lives today was administered by the federal government. Called “The Urban Relocation Program” this program created one of the largest movements of Indians in American history. Yet the full scope of this massive social experiment and its impact on multiple generations of Native Americans remains largely undocumented and unexplored.

Called “Gi-gikino’amaage-min: Defend Our History, Unlock Your Spirit,” this project aims to create the first archival collection focused on the urban Native experience in West Michigan. The project represents a partnership among Grand Valley State University’s (GVSU) Kutsche Office of Local History, Native American Advisory Board, Office of Multicultural Affairs, and Special Collections and Archives. This program is funded in part by Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The project will kick off on Thursday, November 13 with a community gathering from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Northern Health Center, 311 State Street S.E. in downtown Grand Rapids. Free food and refreshments will be provided. Individuals are encouraged to bring photos, letters, or other two-dimensional materials they would like to have scanned for inclusion in the project.

The event is free and open to the public. A “Campus Dialogue” will be held on Wednesday, 19 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on GVSU’s Allendale campus in the Mary Idema Pew Library’s Multi-Purpose Room. Part of the Native American Heritage Month celebration, this event aims to increase awareness on campus about the importance of the urban Native experience in Michigan, as well as providing direct ways faculty, staff, and students can get involved. The public is also encouraged to attend this event. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/kutsche or call (616) 331-8099. Contacts: Belinda Bardwell, GVSU Native Advisory Board Phone: (616) 780-0391 Email: Linbardwell@yahoo.com Levi Rickert, Native News Phone: (616) 301-1350 Email: levi@nativenewsonline.net Steve Naganashe Perry hone: (231)357-6191 Email: edubigfoot07@yahoo.com Melanie Shell-Weiss, Kutsche Office of Local History Phone: (616)331-8059 Email: shellm@gvsu.edu Kristie Scanlon, GVSU Office of Multicultural Affairs Phone: 616-331-2177 Email: scanlok@gvsu.edu
A Helping Hand for our Community

Joan M. Gamache
581 8th St.
Manistee, MI. 49660
November 4, 2014

Matthew 25:35 Food Pantry
Catholic Community of Manistee
254 6th St.
Manistee, MI. 49660

Little River Band
Tribal Government
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI. 49660

To the Employees of the Little River Band Tribal Government:
On behalf of the Matthew 25:35 Food Pantry, I would like to extend our heartfelt appreci-ation to each of you for your very generous donation of 702 lbs. of groceries to the food pantry. Also, a special thanks to Tammy Bowen and Mary Thomas for their help with this food drive.

We believe that God is guiding our efforts to provide for those who are having difficulty meeting their basic need for food. It is worth the continued help of wonderful supporters, like you that this food pantry is available to residents of our community who are food in-secure.

At the October 10 pantry, we served 147 shoppers and (417 household members) and we distributed 6,510 lbs. of groceries and 428 lbs of meat.

Our next food pantry is Friday, November 14, from 10:00-12:00. We ask for your continued prayers and support for the food pantry as we enter the holiday season.

God Bless You!
Shirley M. Brauker
1048 Silver Road Coldwater, Michigan 49036
260-243-9027 email: sbrauker@gmail.com

Shirley will be at Eiteljorg Indian and Western Art Museum, where she will be the "Artist in Residence" for the month of November. She is excited about sharing her knowledge with the Indy community. She will also be giving a lecture on "Prejudice" to Purdue University students.

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

REGISTER TO VOTE IN OUR ELECTION!
Voter Registration forms are available Monday through Friday from the Enrollment Department at the Government Center in Manistee.

“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”
Commission Openings!

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

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

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

LRBOI Warriors Society

The Committee consist of the following:

- Commander: John Shano
- Vice Commander: Vacant
- Secretary: Virgil Johnson
- Treasure: Vacant
- Sargent of Arms: Chuck Nelson
- Chaplin: Raymond Zeeryp

American Indian Veterans Memorial, Inc. (AIVMI) is a native-led organization whose mission is to advocate for a clearer understanding of the involvement of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Pacific Islander veterans in wartime.

To help achieve its mission, AIVMI is collaborating with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) to build an American Indian Veterans Memorial Exhibit at the Education Center at the Wall (www.vvmf.org) near the Vietnam Memorial on the National Mall in Washington DC to honor our “First American Veterans”. The American Indian Veterans Memorial Exhibit will highlight the bravery, contributions, and sacrifices of the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Pacific Islander veterans during their service in the American military.

The Education Center at the Wall will give context to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial by placing those who served in Vietnam within the long tradition of American Military Service. Across the street from the Vietnam Memorial, and in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial, the Education Center at the Wall will be a technologically innovative space where visitors will come face to face with those who gave their live in service to this country.

AIVMI is also working to establish a clearing house to disseminate and catalog information about American Indian, Alaska Native and Pacific Islander veterans. For example, in Vietnam, American Indians had the highest per capita participation of any other minority group, and the highest number of casualties, but they are not recognized at the Vietnam Wall, as are three other groups. The “Three Servicemen Statue” at the Vietnam Memorial was dedicated in 1984, and represents a “Caucasian, Afro-American, and Hispanic” soldier; nowhere is there mention of any American Indian, Alaska Native, or Pacific Islander soldier.

http://aivmi.org/
The Elder Committee invites you to the annual Christmas Party.

When: Saturday December 6th 12 Noon to 4 pm  
Where: Little River Casino Resort in the 3 Fires Conference Center  
Doors will be open at 11 am with events to begin at Noon.

Accommodations: The Elder Committee has arranged a small block of rooms for the evening of this event at a cost to you of $59.00. Please call the Hotel at (231) 723-1335

To reserve your one night stay ask for Elders Conference Block and provide this block code— FAL120514.

The last day to reserve a room is Saturday November 29th, 2014. Your room rate for this block will be $59.00. 
Entertainment will be provided by Tribal Youth Raffle of prizes presented by the Elder Committee

Special Activity this Year! – We will be having a Christmas gift exchange!  
Bring a gift and receive a gift! Rules for the Christmas gift exchange:
1. Please bring a wrapped gift not to exceed $15.00 in price.
2. Women please bring a gift for a woman and Men please bring a gift for a man.
3. Label your gift to: Man or Woman.
4. When you arrive at event, there will be tables marked where your gift to be pla.
5. When announced, each person who brought a gift will chose a gift.

When all gifts have been chosen, we will then open them!

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### November Elder Meals Menu 2014

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<th>Thu</th>
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| Menu subject to change with out notice. Meals meet 1/3 of the RDI based on a 1600 to 2000 | **Tip of the Month:** Winter months may keep you from being active outside. Chair exercises for seniors are gentle on the body and are generally safe for most people to do. It’s always a good idea to talk to your doctor before beginning a new exercise program, but you’re not likely to injure yourself doing chair exercises. **Give it a Try!** | **12PM – 1PM**  
Elder Committee Meeting  
Aki |
| 12PM – 1PM  
Taco Bar,  
Dessert | 12PM – 1PM  
Chicken Breast, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Pork Roast, Sweet Potato, Mixed Veggies, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Broccoli, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Beef tips and Noodles, Veggie Blend, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Meatball sub, Sweet Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Muskegon |
| 12PM – 1PM  
Baked Fish, Mac N Cheese, Peas & Carrots, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Turkey, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
BEEF TIPS & NOODLES, VEGGIE BLEND, DESSERT AKI | 12PM – 1PM  
Smoother Pork, Chops, Mashed Potato, Corn, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Chicken Salad, Sandwich, Pasta Salad, Carrot Coin, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Aki |
| 12PM – 1PM  
FRENCH DIP, POTATO WEDGES, PEAS, DESSERT AKI | 12PM – 1PM  
Roasted Turkey, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Smothered Pork, Chops, Mashed Potato, Corn, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Chicken Salad, Sandwich, Pasta Salad, Carrot Coin, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Aki |
| 12PM – 1PM  
Spaghetti & Meatballs, Veggies, Garlic Bread, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Roasted Chicken, Baked Potato, Veggie Blend, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Hot Beef Sandwich, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Office Closed  
Thanksgiving |
| 12PM – 1PM  
ROASTED CHICKEN, BAKED POTATO, VEGGIE BLEND, DESSERT AKI | 12PM – 1PM  
Roasted Chicken, Baked Potato, Veggie Blend, Dessert Aki | 12PM – 1PM  
Office Closed  
Thanksgiving |
| 12PM – 1PM  
Spaghetti & Meatballs, Veggies, Garlic Bread, Dessert Aki |

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Meals served at 12 o’clock No Charge to Elders, their Spouse and Handicapped/Disabled individuals who reside with Elder.  
Guests Meals are $5.00  
Donations are appreciated and will be used for program activities and food.  
Coffee, milk and water are available at every meal.
From a letter to the Currents

We are writing to you on behalf of the M.A.P.S. Jefferson & Madison Action Team for Partnership (ATP). I was hoping that you might possibly be able to do some kind of write up in the tribal paper regarding a generous donation we received from the Elder’s Committee. On October 10th from noon to 6pm at the Manistee Paintball Extreme we held our 3rd annual Fall Festival Fundraiser. It was a fun filled day enjoyed by many students and their families. Due to their generous donation of numerous drinks, chips and candy we were able to raise $1700.00. Proceeds from this and other fundraisers are used to fund any educational needs or programs needed in the classroom and school. We have also helped sponsor class field trips. Without generous community members like the Elders Committee, we would not be able to do so much for our students.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. Please contact me if there is any other information I need to provide. I look forward to hearing from you.

Tracy Robinson  Andy Huber  Matt Kieffer
ATP President  Principal Jefferson  Principal Madison

You are invited to join us for
THANKSGIVING DINNER
On Thanksgiving Day
Serving at Noon until 2pm
AKI Community Center
2953 Shaw Be Quo-Ung
Manistee, MI
Dinner will be Turkey, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Green Beans, Rolls; but if you would like to bring something please do so.
Please let Connie (398-3952) OR Sandy (299-4584) know if you’ll be able to join us.
Tribal Historic Preservation and BeDaBin are holding a special class (through November 18th) at the Aki Community Center for tribal young ones. At one class near the end of October, the youngsters learned about Fire Safety Month (October) through a visit from the Manistee Township Fire Department.

4 units including a Brush Truck, EMS van, a pumper and regular fire truck were in the parking lot at Aki for the children to explore under the careful watch of Fire Fighters.

Julie Wolfe and Kenny Pheasant helped the kids to split into groups which then went with different Fire Fighters for displays of equipment. They learned about the gear that Fire Fighters have to wear and got to try on various parts of the uniform. The children got to get up into the cab of the fire trucks and even got to go to the Brush Truck and try their hand at operating a fire hose (you should have seen their faces when they pulled the handle and started spraying water!)

At the medical van, they took turns taking blood pressure and getting a lesson in the equipment that an Emergency Medical Technician has to have available every time they are called out.

This was a wonderful educational opportunity for the young ones…. thanks to THP and BeDaBin!
Trunk or Treat
Thank you Julie Wolfe, Be-da-bin, and all their helpers for making last night’s Trunk or Treating a fun event! My kids had a great time and it looked as if the community enjoyed it as well!

Thank you again for sponsoring this family fun activity.
“Being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, I think that is a much greater hunger, a much greater poverty that the person who has nothing to eat.” Mother Teresa.

With these words below the question, “Why are we here today”, a group of caring ladies gathered in the conference room at Aki Maadiziwin in late October to look at the whole question about providing foster care for our young people who are left without families to care for them. Darci Munger, Services Specialist with the State Department of Human Services gave a presentation to a number of tribal ladies to dispel myths and to discuss opportunities.

Part of the presentation was to dispel some of the myths around foster care including, “I couldn’t be a foster parent because I’m not married and am not rich. I don’t even own a home!” The fact is that you do not need to be married, rich or a homeowner to be a foster parent. There were many other myths around the whole subject and they were addressed at Aki.

The tribe is not licensed at this time to provide foster care but they are working on it. Darci told everyone that her department is definitely trying for cultural service(s) but it does take 4-6 months to get a license.

For more information on becoming involved in fostering, please go to: michigan.gov/hopeforahome or call 1-855-MICHKIDS. Here at Little River, contact Sujean Drake (6734) or Jason Cross (6736) in Family Services.
Currents
Page 20

Baashkaakodin giizis (Freezing moon)
November 2014 Vol. 11 Issue 1

Members Submissions

Tribal Elders
Beatrice Bahr
Robert Battice
Judy Bennett
Conzuela Forrest
Alyce Giltz
Isabelle Golden
Carol Kelsey
Joyce Kutz
Daie Lones
Lottie McCaslin
Gerald Micko
La Dona Pratt
Donna Schultz
Daniel Somerville
Danny Stewart
Vernita Weesaw

November 16
Happy Birthday to Mikey Wolfe.
Love, Michael Wolfe

Israel Stone harvested a 35 pound Bobcat in Manistee County on November 2, 2014

Israel Stone harvested a nice eight point buck weighing dress out 189 pounds.
October 17th
His beautiful daughter Finely loves her dad.

The Best Gift Ever!
Congratulations Kyle Eagle
Granpa of baby Eli

Happy Thanksgiving
From Team Currents!

Michael Ceplina harvested a nice 7 point buck the second week in September in Manistee County. Congratulations’s Mike!

Felica Wert
Turkey harvested this Turkey October 28, 2014

Yesterday I loved you
Thankful I can.
Love you forever
My Darlings
Hannah and Mathew Sandel.
The Elder Committee held another successful Elder Conference in early November! The meeting was held in the Makwa entertainment center at the Little River Casino Resort where approximately 450 elders and family members were in attendance for the event.

Ron Pete, Chairperson of the elder committee facilitated the meeting beginning with opening ceremonies. Little Bird drum played the honor song as the Warriors Society posted flags of the nations.

LRBOI Members Legal Assistance presented on estate planning and Public Safety Officer Pat Gilles presented on proper procedure for disposing of prescription drugs and the availability of free car seats for babies.

The evening festivities included a very nice dinner and karaoke by Starlight Entertainment. We have many talented elders who sang so well!

Throughout the day the elders spent time listening to informative presentations focused on the elder healthcare and benefits available. The first presenter was Jim Verville from the Area Agency on Aging. Jim presented on (MMAP) Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Programs. Lisa Eurick from the Veteran’s Affairs Administration presented on benefits available to Veteran’s and the locations throughout Michigan, Mary Witkop from

Jay Sam of the Tribal Historic Department introduced a segment from the movie “Spending the Day with Elders”. The segment was a teaching on medicines. The elder committee plans to run the movie in full length at one of its monthly meetings in 2015.

One highlight of this Elder Conference was the election of Elder Committee seat terms ending in January 2015. The current seats are held by Rita Gale, Darleen Martin and Ronald Wittenburg. The five individuals who ran in this election were Rita Gale, Marcella Leusby, Ronald Wittenburg, Darleen Martin and Kathy Sam. The ballots were tabulated by Ogema Larry Romanelli, Tribal Council Recorder Sandy Mezeske and Elder Committee member Connie Wainner. The top three with the most votes were Rita Gale, Darleen Martin and Ronald Wittenburg.

Sunday morning began with a nice breakfast and meeting reconvening into Q&A period where Ron Pete and Ogema Larry Romanelli answered questions and gave guidance on where to pose questions about Board of Directors decision making.

The meeting ended with the retiring of the nation flags and a traveling song by Little Bird drum. The theme of the conference was named “Coming Together”, in watching and listening to the elders the name was fitting for such a nice gathering of our elders. The elders are our past and present and through their voice and guidance come our future. It’s at these meetings that coming together is so important to the future of the Tribe.
You can find this link for the Letters for Santa on our website also!