

# Currents

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*Binaakwe-Giizis (Freezing Moon)*  
November 2011 vol.8 Issue 11



## Megwa Ezhiweback

### ALSO IN THIS PUBLICATION

P.2- FROM THE OFFICE OF OGEMA ROMANELLI

P.3- 4-COUNCIL NEWS

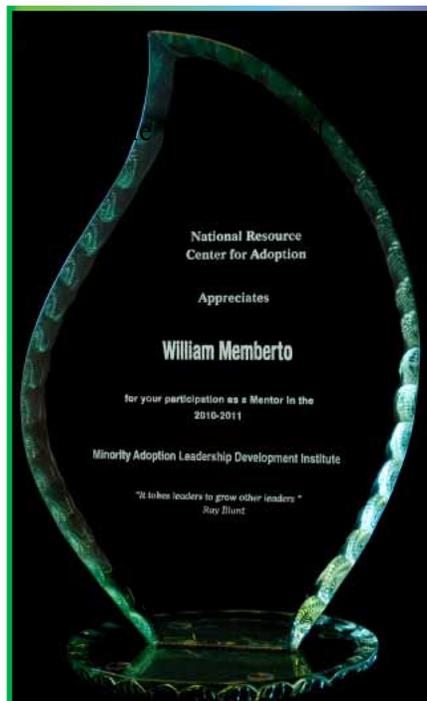
P. 10- EDUCATION

P.17- ELDERS MEAL PROGRAM

P. 12- CASINO EMPLOYMENT

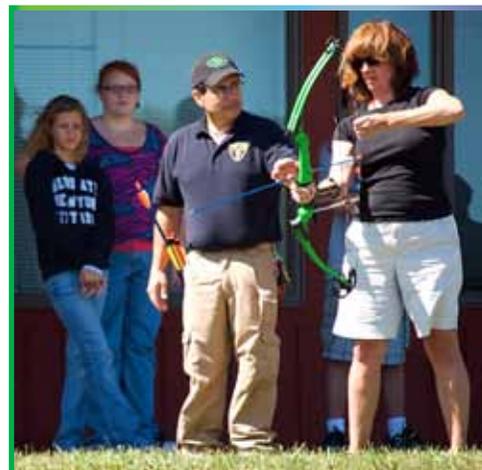
P.26- MEMBERS SUBMISSIONS

## Tribal Awards and Recognition



This last month saw recognition for tribal members and the government for everything from Art to Safety. One attorney was named to the American Indian Law Committee; one director received national recognition for his work; a committee received a special award from the Indian Health Service and tribal artists are having their work displayed or have received awards for their endeavors. See pages 4, 12, 15, 16, 22, 25 and 27 for the stories.

## Hunter Safety Class



With November being the traditional opening of the regular hunting season in Michigan, the tribe once again held a very popular Hunter Safety Class. Check out the details and photos on page 18.

*Office of Public Affairs*  
*Contact Information*  
1-888-723-8288  
1-231-398-6840

## 'Nme



The 2011 'Nme ( Sturgeon) Release Ceremony took place at Rainbow Bend this year to an appreciative crowd as 20 young ones were released in the Manistee River. See page 16 for photographs and details. Also see an editorial from the local paper praising this particular tribal effort.

## HHS support/consultation for the tribal nations



Tribal consultation is a key element that brings the Tribal perspective into the beginning stages during formulation of Federal Indian Policy, prior to implementation. See how this 'Consultation' is progressing on page 22.



Aanii,  
Fall has arrived and, at this writing, preparations are being made for the 2011 Fall Membership Meeting being held on October 15<sup>th</sup> this year. Voting that took place at the Spring Membership Meeting is still in court for a determination as to validity of the votes on the five issues. September 3<sup>rd</sup> I attended the monthly Elder's meeting at Aki Community Center. On September 10<sup>th</sup> I traveled to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to attend a meeting with Wisconsin members. September 17<sup>th</sup> I was at the Sturgeon Release at Rainbow Bend in Manistee. The 2011 Budget still remains a large part of our work as we continue to try and adjust to casino revenues. I want to thank all department directors for making those difficult reductions to their individual budgets. Miigwech!

In the past month I have met with several business owners in the Muskegon area who have continued to support our efforts for our Muskegon Casino Project. All are anxious to assist us and give us letters of support to take to our Lansing elected officials. The Muskegon Chamber of Commerce recently voted in support of our Muskegon Project. The local units of governments have continued their unanimous support.

Our Government Center project continues to move forward as the Government Center Taskforce meets with the engineering firm Hooker DeJong and Construction management Company Wieland-Davco.

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and Little River Casino Resort will be hosting the October United Tribes of Michigan Meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at the Three Fires Convention Center.

Until next month... Deep Thoughts... "Why isn't phonetic spelled the way it sounds?"... "what's another word for Thesaurus?"

REMEMBER- Latest study shows 3 out 4 people make up 75% of the worlds population.

## Ogema sworn onto Board



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Chief Judge, the honorable Daniel Bailey administered the Oath of Office to Tribal Ogema Larry Romanelli on September 19<sup>th</sup> as the final step in having the Ogema sit on the Board of Directors for the Little River Casino Resort. The Ogemas' first board appearance as a member of the board took place at the September meeting. Romanelli takes over Seat #1 on the board. All board seats are filled.

## LRBOI addresses MEMA

*Tribal Nations and Emergency Management* was the title of a presentation to the 2011 Michigan Emergency Management Association (MEMA) held at Grand Traverse Resort in early October. The presentation discussed the relationship and opportunities for involvement with Native Sovereign Tribes and responding agencies from the state level on down to the local level.

FEMA has redirected their focus recently to what is being called the 'Whole Community' for preparedness. Realizing that every disaster or incident is local, means that the agencies such as FEMA will be able to come in and provide assistance to the local responders when and if they are needed. No longer will the approach used during the Hurricane Katrina response be taken where everyone just waits for the federal authorities to help with disastrous consequences. Local authorities, agencies, volunteers and community leaders must lead in helping their areas.

This new approach has provided an excellent framework for tribal nations, many of whom have Public Safety, Health Professional and Emergency Management personnel to establish relationships which will prove valuable to their entire communities while protecting tribal interests.

This also melds well with the actions of tribes such as the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians who have embarked on a training and education program for employees and residents.

The presentation was prepared and presented by

Director Glenn C. Zaring, LRBOI Office of Public Affairs.

## A Nationwide Emergency Alert System Test Will Take Place on November 9, 2011

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will conduct the first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The nationwide test will occur on Wednesday, November 9 at 2 p.m. eastern time and may last up to three and a half minutes. The public will hear a message indicating that "This is a test." The audio message will be the same for both radio, television, and cable. The National-level EAS is a public alert and warning system that enables the President of the United States to address the American public during extreme emergencies. Similar to local EAS tests that are conducted frequently, the Nationwide Test will involve broadcast radio and television stations, cable television, satellite radio and television services and wireline providers across all states and territories. Over the past two years and as part of ongoing national preparedness planning efforts, FEMA, the FCC and other federal partners, State, local, tribal and territorial governments, EAS Participants, and others in the EAS Community have been working toward making this test a reality. As the federal, state, tribal, territorial and local governments prepare for and test their capabilities, this event serves as a reminder that everyone should establish an emergency preparedness kit and emergency plan for themselves, their families, communities, and businesses. Anyone can visit [www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/eas\\_info.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/eas_info.shtm) Ready.gov for more information about how to prepare for and stay informed about what to do in the event of an actual emergency.

[http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/eas\\_info.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/eas_info.shtm)

## *Recorder's Report to the Membership-SEPT 2011*



### **PENDING LEGISLATION:**

#### **Council Continues to Discuss Changes to Administrative Procedures Act**

Tribal Council had authorized changes to be posted to the Administrative Procedures Act to include requirements for the Ogema's Office to post for public comment forms of Action that are taken by the Ogema in the administration of the Government. Primarily, the change to the law would result in a formalization of "Executive Orders" that are signed by the Ogema, and the process for how any Executive Orders are published. The public comment period for the proposed amendment to the law has expired, but the Tribal Council is taking additional time to ensure that the amendments to the law are both empowering for the Ogema's office, but preserves the Membership's rights to have input into governmental operation; to be informed of actions taken by the Executive, during the course of administration. Currently, the Membership does not have any public comment period for any administrative actions, nor is the Ogema's office required to notify the public of any Orders when issued. The Tribal Council is considering amending the law so that Membership will have a Notice period not only for proposed ordinances or amendments, but executive orders as well, including input by public comment mechanisms, to standardize processes for Membership. The Tribal Council did not receive any public comment in support of or against the proposed changes. Following final considerations, the proposed amendments will appear on the Council's agenda for final action in at a future meeting.

#### **Changes to Commissions Ordinances**

The Tribal Council had made several revisions to multiple ordinances that reduce the number of Commissioners appointed to: Enrollment Commission, Health Commission, Housing Commission, and Natural Resources Commission. The changes to the law reduce the number of Commissioners to 3 people. So far, as of this publication, there has been no public comment by Membership either supporting or objecting to these changes. The comment period expired on

October 7. A final work session will be scheduled, prior to permanent adoption of the changes in the law. It is possible that these changes will appear on the Council agenda prior to the end of October.

#### **Criminal Procedures Ordinance**

The final step of the process for implementing the SORNA (Sex Offenders Registration and Notification Act) is nearing completion. The public comment period for the revisions to the Criminal Procedures Ordinance is closing on October 7. As of this publication, there were no comments received. This amendment will appear on the Council's agenda for final adoption in October.

### **PENDING BUDGETARY MATTERS:**

#### **Council Prepares Comment on FY 2012 Government Budget**

The Tribal Council has received the submission from the Ogema for the FY 2012 Government Operations Budget. As of this publication, the Tribal Council is considering a response to that submission, with approximately 27 identified comments or concerns. The response is too lengthy to submit in its entirety here. The Budget submission comes in overall at \$37,357,464.00. Of that \$37.3 million, the first draft shows approximately \$9.6 million going to per capita distribution. The expected grant revenues are estimated at just over \$7 million. The majority of the funds are derived from Gaming Revenue Distribution and tax revenues, with smaller sources coming from things like rents and program sources. Once the Budget is finalized, graphs will be provided similar to those published last year.

#### **Council Reviews the Little River Casino and Resort 2012 Plan**

The Tribal Council met with Casino Management and Board representatives, to review the upcoming plan for 2012. The impact from additional Indian Gaming operations like Gun Lake and Four Winds expansion along with FireKeepers development were reviewed. Casino Management reviewed its plans to offset the competition, but noted that revenues for the Resort appear to have leveled off. That is both bad news and good news. "Bad news" in the sense that gaming revenues did decline, and the Resort has not reached plan for FY 2011, with respect to expected Tribal Distribution (to date.) "Good news" in the sense that Management did not expect revenues to continue to fall, and that they have a solid sense of focus for next year, and upcoming years. The Tribal Council may authorize the FY 2012 plan prior to the next

Currents publication.

As you can tell by the Tribal Council Work Session report, much of September's meeting activity involved budgetary meetings, or budgetary items. This trend is expected to continue for the month of October. As always, the Tribal Council welcomes the input we receive from the Membership, and encourages you to review the Tribal Council's website for the weekly meeting calendar and published agendas.

### **TRIBAL COUNCIL ATTENDS MEETING IN WISCONSIN**

During the month of September, members of the Tribal Council attended a meeting at the Great Spirit Church in Milwaukee. A number of members attended, and voiced their concerns with respect to healthcare, communications, and other matters. Council Members attending included: Virgil Johnson, Kim Alexander, Pat Ruiter, Lee Sprague, Candace Chapman, and Mike Ceplina.

### **LITTLE RIVER BAND MEETS WITH US ATTORNEY AND FEDERAL AGENCIES**

#### **Medical Marijuana Question**

The Tribal Council, along with the Ogema and members of Executive staff, held a consultation meeting at the Little River Casino and Resort on September 29. One of the interesting matters discussed was the passage of the medical marijuana bill in Michigan, and the unique enforcement issues resulting for Little River Band. The Tribe is not governed by State law, and therefore, just because Michigan has a law does not automatically mean that people with cards issued for medical marijuana can be at the casino and using, as an example. Federal Law still outlaws marijuana, so the issue presents complex matters for law enforcement and jurisdiction questions. As of this publication, if persons have a card issued by Michigan to use marijuana for medicinal purposes, and you choose to use on the Tribe's lands, you may be arrested by Tribal Police. Currently, the State of Michigan is in process of litigating the legality of the law, but as of right now, the Tribe does not reciprocate and allow for marijuana use on tribal lands. There is no tribal law that protects use of medical marijuana under state law. There were other matters discussed during this meeting, much of which focused on shrinking federal dollars for agencies that serve Tribal populations. Every member of Tribal Council attended this important consultation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janine M. Sam  
Recorder



## Tax-Exempt Motor Fuel is for Tribal Members Only

### Tax-Exempt Quotas

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

Tax-exempt cigarette monthly limit is 20 packs per Tribal member.

Tax-exempt fuel purchase for non-Tribal members continues to be a problem at the Little River Trading Post. The rules clearly state that Tribal members must register the vehicle that they are purchasing tax-exempt fuel for. There is no

provision for purchasing fuel for a non-member's vehicle unless you are a disabled Tribal member that has registered with an "authorized purchaser".

Only Tribal members are entitled to buy and use tax-exempt fuel purchased under the terms of the State/Tribe Tax Agreement. The exemption does not extend to friends or family members that are not Tribal members. Enforcing this rule is difficult because it is impossible to know how the fuel will be used once the vehicle leaves the station. The ultimate use of the fuel must be trusted to the integrity of the tribal member. However, at the point of sale, the staff has been instructed to enforce the Tax-Exempt Motor Fuel program rules. This includes, but is not limited to; disallowing the discount on fuel purchased for a vehicle the Tribal member is not using at the point of sale.

Tribal members that purchase fuel for a non-member or exceed their monthly purchase limit will receive a tax assessment.

The following schedule outlines the enforcement procedure that is followed.

Do not be rude or disrespectful to the Trading Post staff if they tell you your purchase does not qualify for exemption.

They are only following the rules and trying to avoid a penalty for selling tax-exempt fuel to a non-member.

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

## Tax Exempt Motor Fuel Program Enforcement Procedures

### First Offense:

 More than one gallon, but less than ten gallons over limit

 More than ten gallons, but less than 40 gallons over limit

 Forty or more gallons over limit

 Fuel purchase for non-member

### Remedy

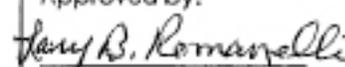
 Warning letter-subtract from next month's limit

 Warning letter-subtract from next month's limit

 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty

 Warning letter assess tax

Rev. 5/2011

Approved by: 
Date: 5/19/11

### Second Offense:

 More than one gallon, but less than ten gallons over limit

 More than ten gallons, but less than 40 gallons over limit

 Forty or more gallons over limit

 Fuel purchase for non-member

 Warning letter-subtract from next month's limit

 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty

 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty + 1 month suspension

 Assess tax plus \$100 penalty

**Note: On forth offense no letter will be sent to Tribal member- Payment will be deducted from Tribal member benefit payment.**

### Third Offense:

 More than one gallon, but less than ten gallons over limit

 More than ten gallons, but less than 40 gallons over limit

 Forty or more gallons over limit

 Fuel purchase for non-member

 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty

 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty +1 year suspension

 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty +1 year suspension

 Assess tax plus \$100 penalty +1 year suspension

### Contact Information

Barb Czarnecki  
Tax Officer  
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
375 River Street  
Manistee, Michigan 49660

Phone: (231) 398-6874

Fax: (231) 398-6863

E-mail: [bczarnecki@lrboi.com](mailto:bczarnecki@lrboi.com)

### Fourth Offense:

 More than one gallon, but less than ten gallons over limit

 More than ten gallons, but less than 40 gallons over limit

 Forty or more gallons over limit

 Fuel purchase for non-member

 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty

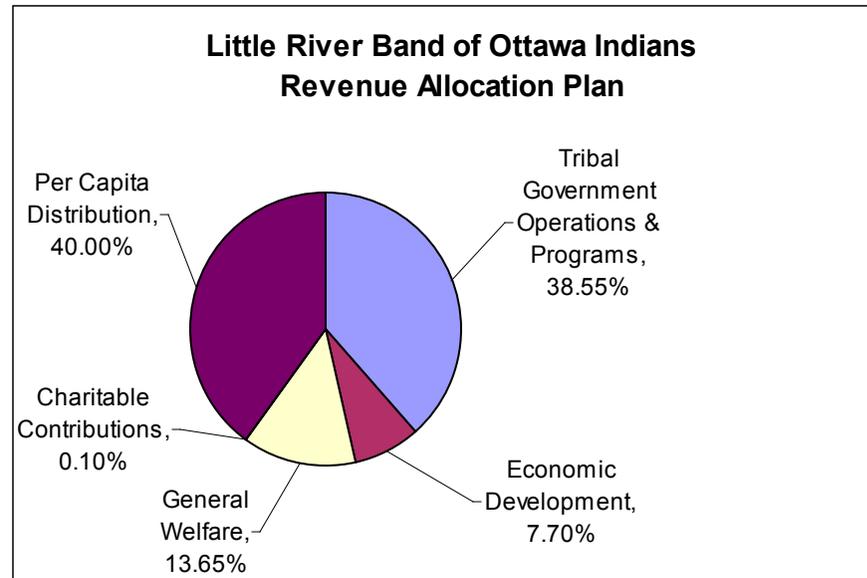
 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty +1 year suspension

 Assess tax plus \$20 penalty + permanent suspension

 Assess tax plus \$100 penalty + permanent suspension

## Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Revenue Allocation Plan

The chart below illustrates the allocation percentages designated for each category per the Revenue Allocation Plan.



### **Per the LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS REVENUE ALLOCATION PLAN – Approved by Tribal Council Resolution 08-0123-20 Section 2. Purpose**

1.02. The RAP shall allocate revenues generated by the Tribe's gaming enterprises towards the following purposes; the funding of tribal government operations and programs, providing for the general welfare of the Tribe and its members, the promotion of the Tribe's economic development, donations to charitable organizations and per-capita distributions to tribal members.

### **Question and Answer – Per Capita Payments Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Members Assistance Department 375 River Street Manistee, MI 49660**

#### **1. Q. Who is the contact for questions about the Per Capita payments?**

**A.** The Members Assistance Department will assist you with questions or direct you to the department or agency who can better answer your questions. Phone: 231-723-8288 or Toll Free 888-723-8288.

#### **2. Q. How will the tribe know where to mail the payment?**

**A.** The checks are mailed to the last known address on file with the Enrollment Department. If you plan to move or have moved, contact the Enrollment Department for a Change of Address Form.

#### **3. Q. What if I have a different address than what is on file with Enrollment?**

**A.** If you have a different address than what is on file with Enrollment you must contact Enrollment for an Address Correction Form. All address changes are reported to the Members Assistance Department and Accounting Department for check processing purposes. If you have not updated your information, this could result in a delay in receiving a payment. Returned UNDELIVERABLE mail is reported to the Enrollment Department. In the event a total of three (3) mailings of any kind are returned to the tribe, any further mailings stop until the member contacts the tribe to update their information.

#### **4. Q. What if I do not receive the check in the mail or it is lost?**

**A.** Contact the Members Assistance Department to assist you.

#### **5. Q. Are Per Capita Payments Taxable?**

**A.** Yes, The tribe is obligated to notify you that Per Capita payments are subject to federal taxation. Per Capita is taxable income and the taxes assessed depend on your income bracket and location. The Tribe will automatically deduct applicable taxes from the per capita payments if they meet the Internal Revenue Services threshold that would require the withholding. The payments may also be subject to state tax if you do not live in the tax agreement area. All Per Capita payments will be reported on the appropriate tax form and mailed to you by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. We encourage you to contact a tax preparer for further tax questions.

#### **6. Q. Who is eligible to receive Per Capita Payments?**

**A.** Per the Revenue Allocation Plan Section 8.03 Per Capita Distribution Eligibility subsection (ii) be enrolled in the Tribe no later than the last day of two fiscal quarters previous. For example, to be eligible to receive per capita distribution in the fiscal quarter four (4) of the fiscal year, a qualified tribal member would need to have been enrolled with the tribe by no later than the last day of fiscal quarter two (2) of that fiscal year.



Fiscal Quarters 2008
(1) January thru March
(2) April thru June
(3) July thru September
(4) October thru December

**7. Q. What are the age groups for Per Capita Payments?**

A. Elders Age 55 and older and Adults Age 18 to 54. – Per the Revenue Allocation Plan Section 8.03 Per Capita Distribution Eligibility subsection (iii) - A tribal member’s age, for purposes of per capita made pursuant to the Revenue Allocation Plan, shall be determined by the tribal member’s age on the last day of two fiscal quarters previous. For example, (USING THE CHART ABOVE) to be considered 18 or elder age 55 in fiscal quarter four (4) of the fiscal year, a tribal member would need to have turned 18 or 55 no later than the last day of the fiscal quarter two (2) of that fiscal year.

**8. Q. Are minor Tribal Members eligible to receive Per Capita Payments?**

A. No- Tribal members under the age of 18 shall not be eligible to receive per capita distributions.

**9. Q. What will the tribe do with Per Capita payments that are not claimed?**

A. See Revenue Allocation Plan Section 8 (b) Use of Net Gaming Revenues: Individual Per Capita Distributions- Any net gaming revenues allocated for the purpose of funding per capita distributions that have not been expended on the last date of the fiscal year shall be reallocated to tribal investments.

**10. Q. How are Per Capita payments disbursed by age group? Amounts are an EXAMPLE and should not be misinterpreted as the amount that will be disbursed. Amounts will vary depending on net gaming revenues generated.**

A. Payment amounts are determined by a point system. Adults age 18 to 54 receive 1 point and Elders Age 55 and older receive 2 points. **Example:** Using the chart below the calculation for Elders is the point schedule multiplied by the number of Elders (2 x 715=1430). From this number the Allocation Percentage is calculated by using the points divided by the total of both groups points (1430 / 3929 = .3639603 OR 36.40%). From this percentage the Revenue Share is calculated by using the Net Gaming Revenue multiplied by the Allocation % (\$2,500,000 x 36.40% = \$909,900.74). The Revenue Share is then divided by the number of Elders (\$909,900.74 / 715 = \$1,272.59)

<b>-Example Only-</b>							Quarter Payment
Net Gaming Revenue	Age Group	Point Schedule	Members	Points	Allocation %	Revenue Share	
\$2,500,000.00	18 to 54 Yrs	1	2499	2499	63.60%	\$1,590,099.26	\$636.29
	55 and Older	2	715	1430	36.40%	\$909,900.74	\$1,272.59
<b>Total</b>			3214	3929	100%	\$2,500,000.00	

**11. Q. Can Per Capita payments be garnished?**

A. Yes, Per Capita distributions may be withheld to satisfy any court ordered judgment obtained by the tribe against the qualified tribal member or to satisfy court ordered child support obligations. Any amount remaining after satisfaction of the court ordered judgment or child support obligation shall be distributed to the qualified tribal member in accordance with the provisions of the Revenue Allocation Plan.

**12. Q. Can the payment be electronically deposited into a checking or savings account?**

A. Yes, by completing the direct deposit form the payment may be deposited to the qualified tribal member’s bank account. Contact the Members Assistance Department or Payroll to request the form and instructions.

**13. Q. Can state and/or federal assistance programs be affected by Per-Capita payments?**

A. The Tribe cannot provide guidance for all the agencies that require you to report a change in income. We encourage you to contact the agency office for further information concerning your specific questions about income based assistance programs.

**14. Q. Can a member refuse these payments?**

A. If the Tribal member meets the eligibility requirements of the Revenue Allocation Plan they will receive per capita payments. Many agencies will count these payments as available income to you even if you refuse the payments. We encourage you to contact the agency office for further information concerning these payments.

**15. Q. Will Per Capita payments be the same amount each time?**

A. **No.** The payments will vary depending on the amount of net gaming revenues generated each quarter. The Revenue Allocation Plan allocates 40% of the net gaming revenues to per capita payments. The revenue allocation plan sets forth the amount the tribe can disburse to tribal members. The payments are made quarterly from the gaming revenues generated.

**16. Q. Are the Per Capita payments considered income?**

A. Many agencies count per capita payments as income. For further information contact the agency office with specific questions you may have.

## Efficient Energy Tips

Winter will be upon us soon! It brings beautiful scenery and fun outdoor activities but it also brings colder temperatures and an increase to heating utility expense. Do you have a plan to reduce utility expenses? Does that plan include budgeting for the utility expense? If you have said yes to both of these questions, we would like to know how you have done this and share your information with others. Please send your information to the Members Assistance Department 375 River Street, Manistee MI 49660.

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

### Getting Started:

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

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

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

D. After one year complete step A. again and see if there is any difference in the annual utility bills range.

## Twenty Ways to Save Energy in your Home

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

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

3. **Wear cool clothing in summer.** Dress as cool as you can to reduce the air-conditioning expense or if possible use mother nature and open the windows.

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

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

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

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

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

9. **Seal heating and cooling ductwork.** Leakage from areas such as joints, elbows, and connections can be substantial—as much as 20% to 30%. This is especially costly if the ducts travel through unheated or uncooled spaces such as attics, basements, or crawlspaces. Use duct tape specifically designed for real ductwork not the stuff commonly called “duct tape”.

10. **Wrap the hot water tank with jacket insulation.** This simple, inexpensive measure will reduce standby heat loss from the tank. Be sure to leave the air intake vent uncovered when insulating a gas water heater. Even if you have a newer hot water heater, this will save real money and it doesn’t cost much to do. Savings up to 10% on water heating costs. Note: The higher the “R” value of the insulation jacket the better. The “R” value on my water heater jacket is 19.

11. **Replace air filters regularly and follow maintenance schedules for furnace and air-conditioning equipment.** Replacing your dirty air filter can save money by reducing the amount of electricity needed to run your blower motor (because there is less resistance to airflow with a clean filter). Savings up to 5% of heating costs. This will also help to reduce allergens in the air for family members who have allergy problems.

12. **Install programmable thermostats.** These inexpensive devices, most incorporating modern microprocessor-based electronics, can help optimize your home heating and cooling needs and you won’t need to remember to change thermostat settings.

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

14. **Use appliances efficiently.** Do only full loads when using your dishwasher and clothes washer. Use the cold water setting on your clothes washer when you can. Using cold water reduces your washer’s energy use by 75%. Be sure to clean your clothes dryer’s lint trap after each use. We have been washing a lot more on the cold settings with no noticeable problems. We even reduce the amount of detergent we use depending on how dirty the wash seems. The recommended amount of wash detergent should be considered a maximum amount. In the summer time, hang your clothes out to dry—best energy savings!!

## Twenty Ways to Save Energy in your Home Continued

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

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

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

18. **Repainting the exterior of home.** When it's time to repaint the exterior of your building, consider using colors that best fit your energy expense. More sunlight will be reflected away from the building to help with cooling expenses or dark colors for heating expenses because dark color absorbs heat, thus lowering energy expenses.

19. **Plug "leaking energy" in electronics.** Many new TVs, VCRs, chargers, computer peripherals and other electronics use electricity even when they are switched "off." Although these "phantom loads" are only a few watts each, they add up to over 50 watts in a typical home that is consumed all the time. If possible, unplug electronic devices and chargers that have a block-shaped transformer on the plug when they are not in use. For computer scanners, printers and other devices that are plugged into a power strip, simply switch off the power strip after shutting down your computer.

20. **Fix a drip.** Home with well water and have a leaky faucet this will make your well pump turn on.

## MEMBERS ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT



### LIHEAP – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

LIHEAP FY2011/12 - If you are experiencing an energy crisis please contact the Members Assistance Department. Please note that the program is income based and provides assistance for several sources of heat as well as a component for elders.

If you know of someone who is in need of assistance, please have them contact the Members Assistance Department. The department cannot provide services until the household contacts the tribe.

Do not wait for a utility shut off to act on paying a bill. Make an attempt to pay what you can on the bill. If you are experiencing budget problems that prevent making full or partial payment, call utility and let them know your situation. The utility company can work with your situation to ensure you keep the heat on. If a utility is shut off, it may require additional costs to turn utility back on.

### Program Information

#### \*LIHEAP

( Heat Source – Natural Gas, Propane, Electric, Coal, Fuel Oil and Wood)

This is a grant funded program to provide assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a heating crisis and live in the 9 county service areas in Michigan. (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)

**Elder Cooling Assistance** - assistance to Tribal Elders who meet the eligibility requirements, have a medical condition that require air conditioning during hot summer months, are experiencing an energy crisis due to additional energy burden to operate the cooling system and live in the 9 county service areas in Michigan.

- Amount of assistance varies according to individual income level and available funding.
- Priority is given to Elders, Disabled and Single parents with young children.
- Households receiving SSI benefits, Food Stamps or VA benefits are automatically eligible. Submission of income is required in determining amount of assistance.

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

**Amber Moore – Intake Clerk**

**Linda Wissner – Intake Clerk**

**Lee A. Iverson – Members Assistance Coordinator**

**Phone: 231-723-8288 or Toll Free 888-723-8288**



(From Yvonne Parsons, Education Director)

## Education is worth it!

Chi'miigwech to Tribal Students for your patience during the recent challenges with funding for book stipends and Higher Education scholarships. Here are some facts about this issue:

During this fall semester the Education Department has received an increase in the number of scholarship applications received by membership. We have more tribal citizens working toward certificates, associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees than ever before. This is great news but this increase in enrolled students also means an increase in funding necessary to be able to meet their educational needs.

Last year in the Fall 2010 semester approximately 113 tribal citizens were receiving a Higher Education scholarship that helps them with needs like food, rent, fuel, etc. while they are attending school. During that semester our Tribe provided a little under \$260,000 in scholarships for the entire semester with applications coming in from August to December. By contrast, this fall 2011 semester saw a huge increase in students and their "unmet need" which is calculated by their college financial aid offices and determines their scholarship amount. By the end of August we had already received 75 applications, in September we received an additional 50 applications and as of this writing there are no doubt a few more out there which we have not yet received in the mail.

At one point there were not enough dollars to be able to fund many of those applications that came in September. Many of our students faced a delay in getting funding, and in truth the possibility of reduced or no funding at all, but thankfully the Ogema, Tribal Manager, Budget Director and the CFO worked hard to come up with a way to secure funding and as of October 1<sup>st</sup> all of the applications received so far are being processed.

Such an increase in student needs has naturally led to concerns about funding in the coming budget year. While exact funding for 2012 is not known at this time, tribal students can rest assured that both Tribal Council and the Ogema are extremely supportive of education and that future concerns will be addressed so a challenge like this does not occur again.

Any changes to educational funding programs will be communicated to students as timely as possible, either on the web site or through the tribal 1-800 number. The Education Department appreciates the support of the Ogema's office in helping to solve this problem and also thanks tribal students for their patience while this crisis passed. We hope that you understand our commitment to keeping tribal citizens in school and know that we work diligently to help ensure that there is adequate assistance available to those who pursue higher education. We continue to honor that commitment in the best way we are able and again thank you for your patience and support as we work through difficult budget issues next year.

Answers about the Higher Education Scholarship and what they provide?

(From Yvonne Parsons, Education Director) In 1997 the tribe instituted the Higher Education Scholarship program which at that time was entirely funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. It is designed to meet the unmet need students have as calculated by their college financial aid offices. At the beginning there were about 20 tribal citizens who began to utilize that program to pursue college degrees. Over the years that number grew and by 2002 the number of college students tripled and today we have close to 200 students in school.

Maybe you've wondered if this program was successful and if students were graduating from college. Is the money that goes into the unmet needs scholarship and the book stipend money well spent? The answer is an emphatic YES!

When this program started there were a handful of students who were going back to school, mostly to work on an associate's degree they were unable to finish in the past. The tribe was smaller then too, and we didn't have any exact idea of what kinds of degrees and certificates there were already out there. At that time it was broadly believed that the strength of tribal citizenship was in their work and life experience over their educational level and that was probably true, but since then the importance of a higher education has become critical for our citizens seeking jobs in today's economy.

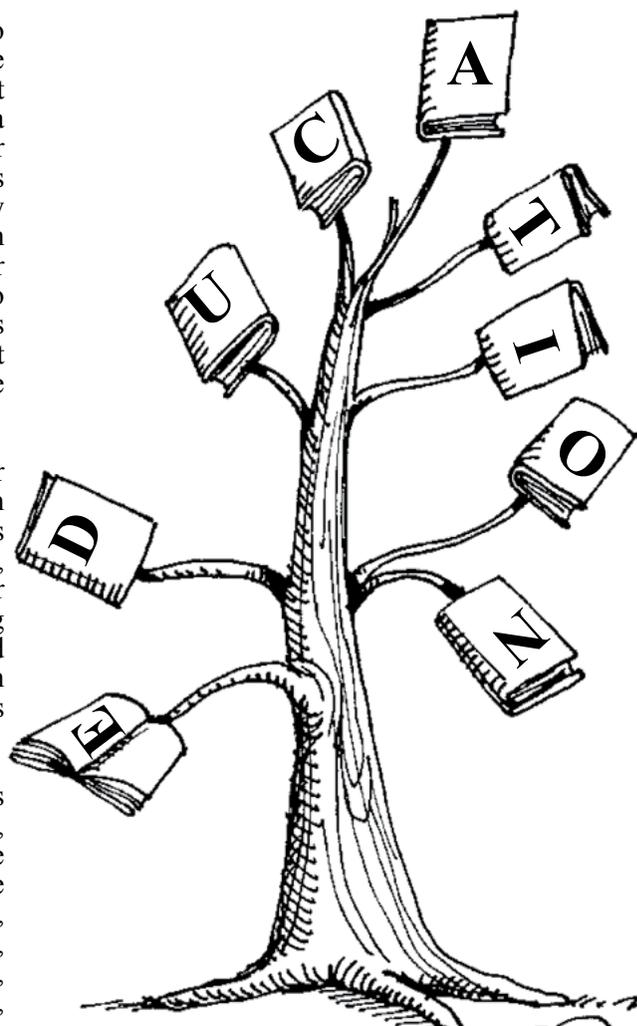
You could name just a few people who had degrees or were working on them when the scholarship program started 14 years ago but since then every Tribal Council and every Ogema has supported educational advancement for our membership. As a result Little River Band citizens have really excellent assistance programs. Today almost all tribal scholarship funding comes from tribal revenue and with that change even higher degree completion opportunities are available to our students. Unfortunately, federal regulations did not allow funding for graduate students, but now with tribal support students are able to pursue studies at the Master's and Doctorate levels.

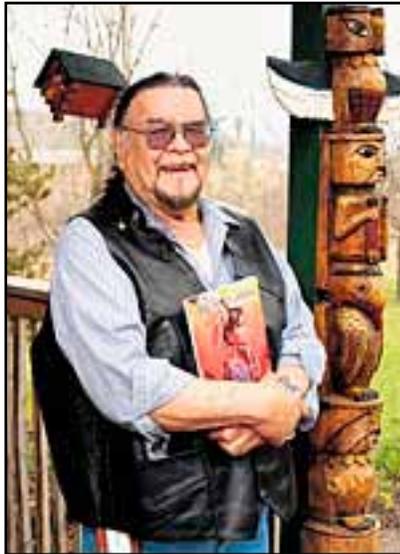
We know that the pursuit of higher education is not an area where change can happen overnight. Students have to dedicate themselves to it and set long term goals. They sacrifice time, energy and money and they and each of their families must make a real commitment to attaining new levels of education. Their sacrifices and hard work really have begun to pay off and now we can say that there are tribal citizens with certificates and degrees at all levels.

In the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians you can find nurses, psychologists, journalists, social workers, medical billing specialists- in the very near future, there will be a physician. There are pharmacy technicians, high school teachers, grade school teachers, special education teachers, early childhood educators, photographers, artists, truck drivers, chefs and sous chefs, entrepreneurs,

marketing and management specialists, human resources experts, computer and IT professionals, program directors, videographers, printers, attorneys, motorcycle mechanics, biologists, insurance agents, cosmetologists, public administrators, police officers, business managers and more.

You can see by this great variety of occupations that LRBOI education programs have been a positive expenditure for the tribe. The support which LRBOI students have been provided with by our elected officials has been beneficial to many tribal families over the years. A better job is a better future and with the economy in the state it's in, an education has become even more important. If you wonder if the expense is worth it I hope you'll take a look at what the results are and look ahead to our future and see what an exciting one it is for Little River people. The Higher Education scholarship and Book Stipend program have helped tribal citizens help themselves and is one of the best investments LRBOI ever made.





By Simon Otto

It was springtime in the Northwoods, and soon the blanket that covered Mother Earth would be melting. It would then be time for the Anishinabe to pack up their winter villages and set up camp next to the lake shore with the rest of their people. The people did not seem to be as excited this time and, in fact, seemed very unhappy.

Nanaboozho made a visit to the Northwoods about this time and could not understand why the people were so unhappy.

Nanaboozho asked an elder, "My friend, why are my people so unhappy?"

"As you know, we are usually very excited about this time of year because soon the weather will be warm again and we will see our friends."

"It is our children. They refuse to eat. We ask them why and they say because our food is not very good. It has no flavor and it doesn't smell good. Some of the Elders got together and decided it's true. The food just doesn't taste the same anymore. We need a change. Can you help, Nanaboozho?"

"I will go and offer tobacco and pray to the Gitchi Manitou for guidance." Said Nanaboozho. He then packed and left for his journey in the woods.

Nanaboozho came along a grove of maple trees where he decided to offer his prayers. "Creator, I have come to ask for help for my people.

Their children will not eat and I am very concerned."

After several hours of praying, one of the maple trees spoke.

"Nanaboozho, we see that you're very concerned for the people and we have decided to offer ourselves to you."

The maple tree told Nanaboozho of its sweet sap and how to obtain it.

Nanaboozho was very grateful when he tasted how delicious the sweet liquid was.

"My people must work for this. They cannot have it just given to them because they may become ungrateful and expect everything to be easy," said Nanaboozho.

He sat and offered prayers of thanks and promised that the people would never take this gift for granted. He then packed up and returned to the people.

"I have good news," Nanaboozho told the Anishinabe. "Gitchi Manitou has answered our prayers and has given us sweet sap from the maple trees. But you must work for this. First you must learn to tap the tree's trunk and allow the sap to run into containers. With this you will be able to make wonderful teas to drink. But to use it with your other foods you must learn to boil this sap until it's thick enough for syrup and boil it further for sweet sugar cakes that can store for a long time. It will be hard work but this must be done before the snow is completely gone. You must set up camp each spring in the maple tree grove until the buds start appearing on the trees. This is your answer from Gitchi Manitou," explained Nanaboozho.

This is how maple syrup came to the Indian people in the Northwoods.

--reprinted from the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians *Frontier*, March 1997



## Bakakwenh Naboo (Chicken Soup)



Bakakwenh Naboo is a new "good for you" forum where you can ask the questions that you have always wanted to know the answer to. Bakakwenh Naboo will answer your questions about Anishinaabek culture, traditional teachings, relationship building, and general advice. There might even be some wisdom here and there for you. No question is too obscure for Bakakwenh Naboo to try to answer.

Shake an egg, and send your questions to: [csoup@lrboi-nsn.gov](mailto:csoup@lrboi-nsn.gov)

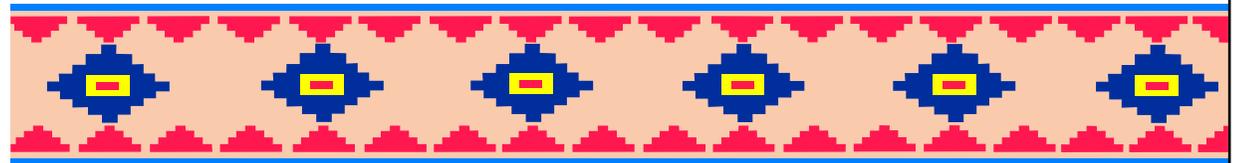
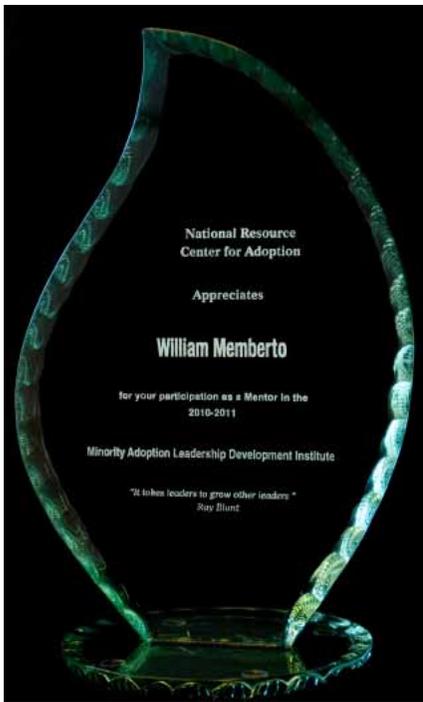
This column is open to all Tribal Members and Descendants.

Those who ask a question will have their names changed to protect their privacy.

Note: You can make up our own name or Bakakwenh Naboo will come up with an appropriate moniker for you.

DISCLAIMER: We make no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information; also we cannot answer any questions involving politics, legal questions or give medical advice. We can promise you; you will get an answer to your question. Bakakwenh Naboo, says this is but one possible answer, there may be other ways to answer the question. Offering *sema*, to an Elder would be a respectful way to receive a more in-depth answer to your question.

## Congratulations Bill Memberto



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- ♣ 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! Branch offices

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



### The Program

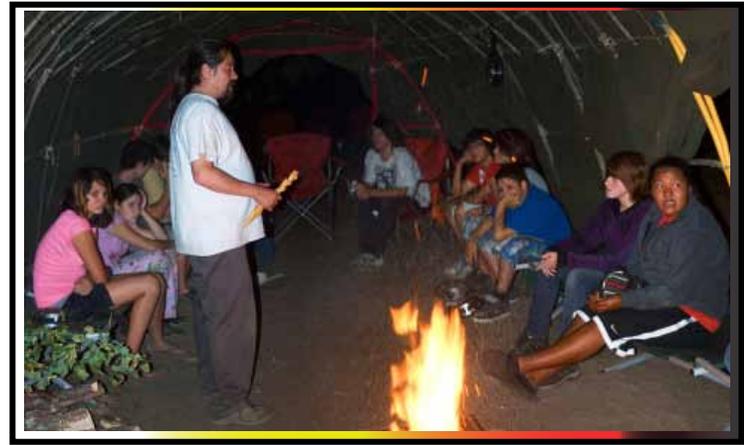
The National Resource Center for Adoption (NRCA) established in 2005, the Minority Adoption Leadership Development Institute (MALDI). This program provides and enhances the leadership skills of potential and emerging leaders of color selected from across our nation. These leaders are selected from State, County, Tribal and/or State Regional child welfare systems that have a high number of children of color awaiting adoption and/or high disproportionality rates. In the selection process, efforts are made to ensure diverse-regional representation. Also, these emerging leaders are provided mentors from the National Association of State Adoption Programs (NASAP) who work with the participants as they complete 12 months of job-related project assignments (Action Research Projects) which increase their technical expertise as well as their leadership capacities with concurrent structured mentoring.

### The Participants

Participants in MALDI are selected from the State, County, Tribal and/or State Regional child welfare systems that have a high number of children of color awaiting adoption and/or high disproportionality rates. Mentors are recruited from the current members of NASAP and from the “mentees” resident state. These mentors are provided training in effective mentoring and coaching and are supported by NRCA staff throughout the mentoring process



Austen Brauker teaches campers how to make a fairy lodge, which is a small scale version of a traditional wigwam.



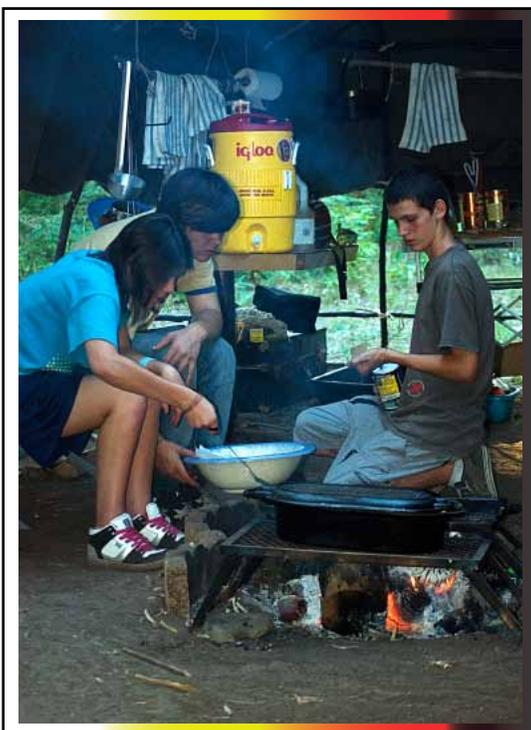
Austen Brauker leads the nightly talking circle in the lodge.



Camp guarddog Sophie taking a break.



Campers jump for joy!



Campers cooking dinner over an open fire.



Austen Brauker playing some tunes for campers.

## History of the Anishinaabek

In the beginning, Gizhemanidoo created the universe as we know it today. He created Grandfather Sun and Grandmother Moon, Mother Earth and Father Sky. And on the earth he created all things, living and nonliving. He created life in the earth, on the earth, in the sky and in the water. He created the plants, rivers, four-legged and winged creatures, and the swimmers. After this was done, he created one of the greatest mysteries of all – the four seasons – to bring harmony and balance to all.

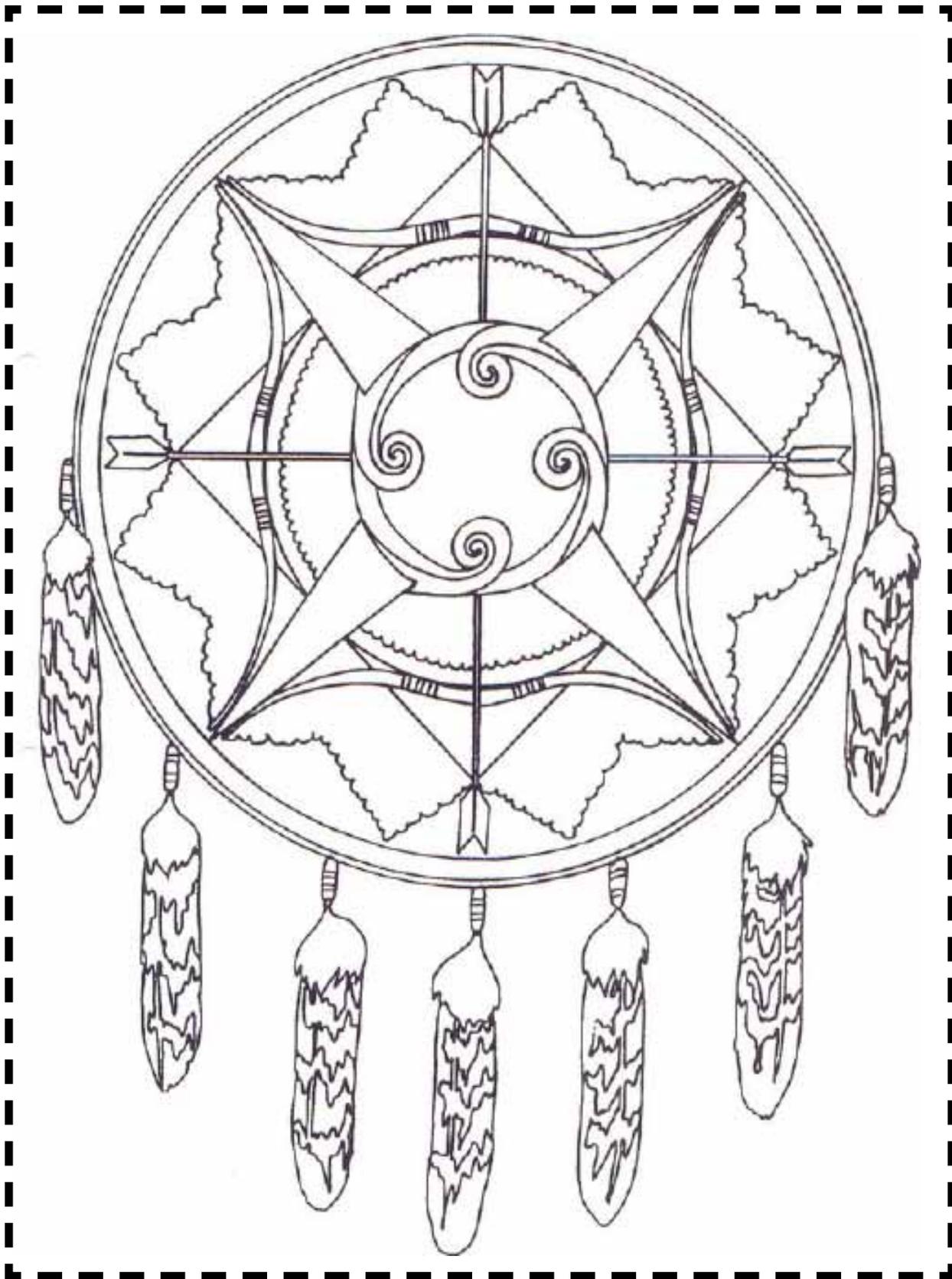
After all creation was complete, he created man. After he created the first Anishinaabe, he came to him in a dream and instructed him that he was to name all things in the language that he gave him, Anishinaabemowin. So the first man went about on his journey and named all things he saw – all the animals, insects, birds and fish – however long this took. Afterward, he spoke to the Creator Gizhemanidoo in his dream and said, “I have finished what you have told me to do.” Then the Creator Gizhemanidoo spoke back to him and said, “Yes, you have indeed done so, and now it is time for me to give you your name. Your name shall be Nanabozho, and whenever your people meet and greet one another, they will say a part of your name. That is why whenever the Anishinaabe people greet one another, they say the word Bozhoo.

Our creation story tells us that we originally migrated to the Great Lakes region from the East Coast. There are many settlements of our original homes that still exist to this day, like Manitoulin Island, the Island of the Great Spirit.

We have always been a nation, and we knew one another as the Anishinaabek. It was not until the French and European settlers arrived on this part of the continent that we became known as the tribes now called Ojibwe, Odawa and Bodwe’aadamiinh. I heard an elder speak about this in his teachings. He said that the Mackinaw-St. Ignace area was a huge community at one time. One day, the young hunters brought news that they had met a people who were not of our culture and language and that they were moving in this direction. Sure enough, the day arrived when a ship brought people. These people knew very little of our culture and language. They asked if they could meet with the elders, and so the meeting began. Shortly after the meeting began, a group of men got up and left. The settlers asked, “What are they doing?” although they thought they were asking, “Who are they?” So we told them what they were doing. They were going to build lodges: the Ojibwek. The meeting went on and another group of men got up and left, and again the same question was asked. We told them they were going to trade: the Odawak. Now remember, they could not speak our language

very well, nor did we understand their language very well. After the meeting ended, the settlers saw young men picking up firewood and putting wood in the fire. The same question was asked, and we answered that they were the fire keepers: the Bodwe’aadamiinhk. History moves on a few hundred years, and now we find out in the history books that the native people of the Great Lakes area are known as the Chippewa, the Ottawa and the Pottawattamii.

Kids color this page and send it in to the  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**375 River Street**  
**Manistee, Michigan 49660**  
and see your colored picture in an  
upcoming Issue of the Currents!

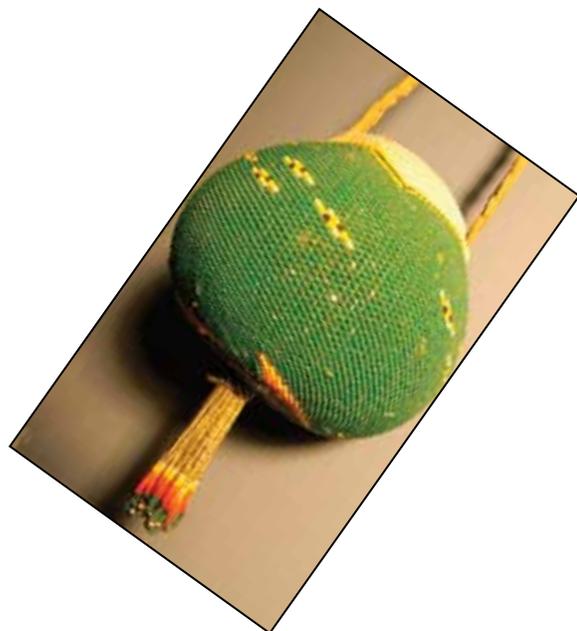




A wonderful new art show titled - Manidoo giizisoonhs (Little Spirit Moon) will open November 7 - December 16, 2011 at the Manierre Dawson Gallery at West Shore Community College. The show features six artists –most of whom are Little River Band of Ottawa Indian members. LRBOI Peacemaker Pat Wilson curated the exhibit which includes Pat, Austen Brauker, Shirley Brauker, Sandy Lewis, David Schultz and Debra Davis.

Gallery and show organizers are planning to hang the show Nov. 5 and hold an opening reception on the 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 p.m. The Gallery is in the new Arts and Science Center.

Go to the gallery website at <https://www.westshore.edu/home.php/arts/visualarts/exhibitions> to learn more about this facility and upcoming shows.



## OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



Wear Purple Day for Manistee is Wednesday October 26th. Wear purple to show support for victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Take Back the Night walk will take place this night and begins at Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Manistee, located at 521 Cypress St. (US 31) and begins at 5:30 PM.



### WEAR PURPLE TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Family Services Department  
Domestic Violence /Sexual Assault Program  
Contact Angie McNally  
231-398-6723



Young sturgeon found themselves back in the Big Manistee River on the afternoon of September 17<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 100 community members gathered to release the Tribes streamside reared sturgeon back into their natal waters. This was the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the release program and with the 23 fish released this year the total that have been raised and returned to the river is over 300. The 300 fish represents a significant improvement from the conditions of 8 years ago where the small adult population was estimated to be around 300-400 fish with limited production. Many community members and partner agencies attended the release including the US Forest Service and Michigan DNR. This was a special gathering of the community with a welcome by the Tribal Ogema and a pipe ceremony by Natural Resources Director Jimmie Mitchell. Austen Brauker sang and drummed as the fish swam away. Please plan on joining us next year.



The Natural Resources Department would like to specially thank Patrick Wilson and Austen Brauker. At this ceremony Patrick Wilson gifted an original story and artwork of the sturgeon logo he had drawn in 2005 (please see picture of logo). This sturgeon logo has been a symbol of LRBOI's dedication to the sturgeon over the past 6 years and has been seen by thousands of people in many different countries. Austen Brauker is thanked for the original music score and recording which he has gifted to an upcoming sturgeon documentary that the Department is producing. This music weaves through the movie seamlessly as it ties together culture and science merged into a successful story of the sturgeon.



## Community Recognition of Tribal work

*(The following editorial appeared in the Manistee News Advocate on September 19, 2011)*

### Bless those who bless the animals

This year we enjoyed the fact that the sturgeon release by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and the 16th Annual Blessing of the Animals at the Circle Rocking "S" Children's Farm fell on the same weekend. We've been impressed with both events for some time now, since they both honor our friends in the animal world and point to the importance of doing all we can to take care of all the creatures on planet Earth.

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has had many positive impacts on our area since the federal government reaffirmed and restored its status in 1994. One program that just might symbolize much of the good the tribe strives to do is its Nme' (Lake Sturgeon) Stewardship and Restoration Program.

The lake sturgeon is one unique fish, and if it weren't for the efforts of the tribe, it would be just a matter of time before it would be completely gone in the Big Manistee River. Since sturgeon can grow to nine feet long and weigh 400 pounds, it's hard for them to hide, and that's probably one reason their population

has been dwindling. Another threat is the disappearance of spawning habitat. The tribe's natural resources department has been using good science to improve the habitat, and also give the young sturgeon a head start on life.

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, recognizing that at one time the Manistee River was home to perhaps the largest sturgeon population in the Lake Michigan basin, started the Nme' program in 2002. From the streamside sturgeon rearing trailer, which has released as many as 100 sturgeon per year and about 350 total, the program has become a model for other organizations wishing to increase the population of this fish.

It looks to us like the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is on track for its 25-year goal of having at least 750 adult nme' in the Manistee River, and the seven-generation target of returning the population of the fish to pre-1836 levels.

We salute the tribe's willingness to continue backing this program even in lean years like

this one, when only 23 fish were turned back into the river. We're also impressed with the partnerships the tribe has put together to make the program possible, with the likes of Grand Valley State University, Great Lakes Fishery Trust, Michigan Technological University, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and U.S. Forest Service.

As for the ceremony at Circle Rocking "S," well, that is just, plain and simple, a fun event. For many of us, our pets are important members of our families, and the children's farm points out that it sponsors the blessing in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi, who among many other attributes is known for his love of animals.

It was a nice touch this year to add a remembrance of pets who have passed away. Also impressive is the Circle Rocking "S" mission of providing touch therapy and recreation for people with disabilities. A sentence from the farm's brochure speaks volumes: "Each year the farm has over a thousand visitors from all walks of life who come to see, touch and learn about farm animals and get their minds off some of their troubles."



## Hunter Safety

On August 26 and 27 this year, Officer Mike Brown, Tribal Council member Virgil Johnson, Probation /Parole Officer Scott Alexander, and Sgt. Robert Robles Jr. hosted a 12 hour Hunters Safety class at the LRBOI Justice Center Complex. There were sixteen individuals who took and passed the class. The topics covered in this class range from identifying game, handling a firearm, archery safety, and hunter ethics. After the class room work there is a test and of course everyone's favorite time... the field exercises, which consists of shooting a crossbow and a bow, going down to the range and shooting a .22 caliber rifle and a .20 gauge shotgun. This year we also had a "know your zone of fire exercise. It was a great weekend and everyone had fun.

This course is mandatory for all Tribal members who wish to exercise their right to hunt. The class is sponsored by LRBOI Department of Public Safety and this year lunch was donated by the Little River Casino Resort.



James Eno harvested a 5 point buck on Saturday September 24, 2011



Angie Turner



*Manistee Nme*

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Monday – Friday 7am-5pm

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



## Commodities

Food Distribution Program ( FDPIR ) was created by congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households.

No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and Snap Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month. Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income and resources qualification, in determining who is eligible for the program.

We are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

USDA Income  
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations  
Monthly Income Standards  
October 1, 2011 & October 1, 2012  
Household Size Income Limits

1. \$ 1,055.00
2. \$ 1,373.00
3. \$ 1,692.00
4. \$ 2,018.00
5. \$ 2,362.00
6. \$ 2,708.00
7. \$ 3,026.00
8. \$ 3,344.00

For each additional member add \$ 319.00

Commodity Department serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake

Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana,

Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.

Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M

Lunch hour is 12:00 - 1:00

Yvonne Theodore, Laurie Jackson

1-888-723-8288 ask for Commodity Program

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

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### Commissions and Committees

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

- Commerce Commission
- Gaming Commission
- Housing Commission
- Binojeeuk Commission
- Enrollment Commission
- Health Commission
- Natural Resource Commission.



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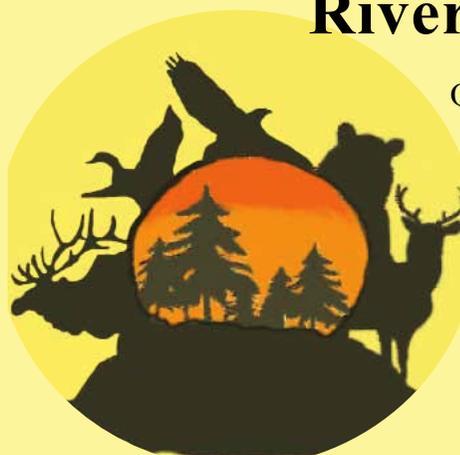
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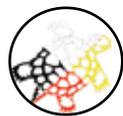
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## Government Closes for the following Holidays

- \*New Years Day
- \*Treaty Recognition Day
- \*Memorial Day
- \*Independence Day
- \*Labor Day
- \*Reaffirmation Day (September 21<sup>st</sup>)
- \*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 if you are not sure.

Just use the toll-free number of 888.723.8288.

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### J.D. Gibson

### Every month

Appointments available for Indian Health Service (IHS)  
eligible Native Americans Regarding scheduling of  
appointments

Please call Julie Wolfe

(231) 398-6740

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The Warriors Society is  
Gathering photographs of members to be  
use when their office opens.



Please send photos of  
our Warriors either in  
Uniform or in  
Civilian dress to  
the address below

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians,  
Warriors Society,  
375 River Street, Manistee, Mi. 49660

THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

**Tribal–State Consultation:**

**A New Evolution in Indian Policy**

By Jessica L. Burger, Tribal Manager, LRBOI

**Editor's note...**

Tribal consultation is a key element that brings the Tribal perspective into the beginning stages during formulation of Federal Indian Policy, prior to implementation. Consultation allows Tribal Nations to assist in determining the mechanisms for implementation of Federal Indian Policies that impact programs at the community implementation level. Tribes have input into crafting the steps that will create successful programs instead of being subject to decisions and implementation rules made for them at a federal level. In this process, States have largely been exempted from seeking Tribal community input through the Tribal consultation process, including input on those programs funded by Federal revenue sources; there is now a change in direction on that thinking and practice.

Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) signed a Tribal Consultation letter in September which is printed here, opening the door for required consultation on state programs that benefit Indians, which are funded with federal revenues. Tribal Manager Jessica Burger, who served in the capacity of Deputy Director, National Indian Health Board in Washington, DC and as the Bemidji Area Representative to the DHHS Tribal Consultation Policy Committee (in the *early* consultation policy formulation days), during her tenure as Health Director for LRBOI, has written an excellent review of 'Tribal Consultation' and what it means both for the tribe and to the tribe.



Dear Governor:

Over the last two years, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has taken a number of steps to strengthen our partnership with American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Nations. We take seriously the federal government's obligation to help improve the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives through the various health and human services programs administered by the Department.

However, improving the health and well-being of Tribal nations is contingent upon understanding the specific needs of Tribal communities. Tribal consultation is an essential tool in understanding these unique needs and ensuring government to government relations. I am writing to you today to encourage you to consult with Tribes as you administer health and human services programs that are supported with federal funding.

HHS has made significant progress in strengthening our partnership with Tribes, and Tribal consultation is one piece of our efforts to fulfill our responsibility to represent the best interests of Tribes. Since President Obama signed an Executive Order on Tribal Consultation in 2009, HHS has also updated its formal Tribal consultation policy. The updated policy includes the responsibility of states to consult with Tribes when HHS has transferred the authority and funding for programs to states that are intended to benefit Tribes. States must consult with Tribes to ensure the programs that they administer with federal funding meet the needs of the Tribes in that state. Tribes should be considered full partners by states during the design and implementation of programs that are administered by states with HHS funding. The requirement of states to consult with Tribes in the development of the Affordable Insurance Exchanges is an example of how states can proactively include and partner with Tribes during the planning stages of a program that has the potential to benefit Tribal members greatly. Consultations can identify strengths and barriers to Tribes accessing these services and ensure that Tribes have the opportunity for greater health care coverage for their members and employees.

I believe we share a vision of the future where our nation is strong and where every individual and every community has the opportunity to reach their full potential. We can continue to strengthen our partnership with Tribes and improve health and human service opportunities for all. Together, we have the opportunity to build something great.

Sincerely,



Consultation with Tribal Governments is the cornerstone of federal Indian policy. The notion of creating a more dynamic relationship between Tribes and the Federal government began during the time of the Kennedy Administration; a new direction in Indian Affairs spurred forward by the Civil Rights Movement. The idea that Tribes were better able to manage the internal affairs of their nations without the federal government being directly involved, was furthered when President Nixon called upon the BIA and IHS to allow Tribal Communities to administer the programs that had long been operated by those agencies under the Tribe's own governmental structure. Tribes began to provide essential governmental services by directly contracting monies from the BIA and IHS to operate programs to provide education, health care and related services, a result of the enactment of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975. While the Self-Determination Act allowed Tribal Government to assume program responsibilities, many of the administrative rules were left in place as though the program were being operated by the federal agency. These rules often did not allow programs to meet the unique needs of the Tribal Communities being served and when changes to programs were made, Tribes had no direct 'say' on what those changes should be. Tribes, in an effort to exert influence over the creation of program implementation rules, began to ask to be *consulted with on a government-to-government basis* prior to program development at the agency level.

Since the implementation of Indian Self-Determination, no single federal Indian policy has been more critical to the success of Tribes and their programs than Tribal Consultation. Consultation, as stated by Robert Chicks, Tribal Councilor of the Mohican Nation Stockbridge-Munsee Band in Wisconsin, simply means "(Federal Government) **'Don't make a decision about us without us'** (engaged in the process)." Since the early days of Tribal self-determination, Executive Orders have been signed by Presidents directing federal agencies that play an integral role in Tribal programs, to *consult with Tribes directly* before policy and programmatic changes are made to the administrative rules of a program. Tribal Consultation at the federal level occurs in the spirit of true government-to-government relations with the goal of facilitating better understanding of the *unique needs of Tribal communities*, in an



effort to create programs and service opportunities that are *responsive to those needs*, ultimately enhancing the federal government's ability to *live up to its trust obligation* created under the United States Constitution, subsequent treaties and federal law. Because Tribes have had little opportunity to provide input at the state level during program development, largely the result of federalism and state's rights assertions, government to government relationships have been left to individual Tribal-State agreements, often impacting individual programs, but not necessarily at the '*planning for implementation*' level of the process.

On September 14, 2011, Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) signed a letter encouraging State governments to consult with Tribal Nations "when HHS has transferred the authority and funding for the programs to the states that are intended to benefit Tribes." This is a significant development in the evolution of Tribal Consultation and important to Tribes, as many of the federal programs that benefit Tribal Citizens are transferred to States and their implementation authorities; examples of this are Medicaid, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Women, Infants and Children's (WIC) programs. States often change eligibility, participation rules and other aspects of programs that hinder the ability of Tribal Citizens to access those benefits, creating burdens on Tribal Communities to meet unmet needs that Tribal Citizens would otherwise benefit from through State based programs served with federal dollars. Through the issuance of this formal letter to States, Secretary Sebelius has reinforced the notion that states in their role as federal program administrators, have an obligation to assist the federal government in meeting its trust obligation to Tribes by considering "Tribes as full partners during the design and implementation of programs" operated by States.

This is truly a new chapter in government

to government relationships between Tribes and States creating the potential for Tribes to have direct input in the planning of programs and their administrative rules at the State implementation level. Tribes and States should seize this opportunity; the collaborative exchange of information, ideas and innovations can assist States to be proactive in meeting the needs of Tribal Communities, ultimately strengthening Tribal-State relationships and enhancing the quality of life of Tribal peoples, who are also citizens of their respective states. The tremendous potential for States is demonstrated by responsive action to Tribal Communities, through enhanced education regarding needs, concerns, barriers to access and most importantly, *identification of what works* in program administration to create successful implementation, enhanced beneficiary participation and end results.

For the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, this is a tremendous step to improve the health and human service opportunities for our citizens. While Little River Band has been an active participant in Tribal Consultation at the federal level, LRBOI has not enjoyed that same ability at the state level. In years past, LRBOI has had react to changing programmatic rules, which often left our citizens unable to access State program benefits due to rules that created income thresholds, geographic or other barriers. Additionally, when issues were identified that hindered full participation of LRBOI citizens in State operated programs, affecting changes to enhance beneficiary access was a slow and arduous endeavor. State's now have a role and responsibility to engage in consultation at the beginning of the process. Likewise, Little River Band has a role and a responsibility to come to the table when invited to do so by the State. Along with our sister Tribes in Michigan, LRBOI now has the opportunity to interact *in full partnership*,

*in consultation with the state*, to ensure that the unique needs of our respective communities are identified and incorporated in State program plans prior to submission to the federal government and full implementation at the state agency level.

As citizens of Little River Band, we have a responsibility to support our Tribal Governments efforts to engage in consultation. We can become informed participants in benefits programs and provide vital information to our Tribal program personnel regarding the impact participation in state benefit programs is having on our lives and livelihoods. We can support our elected officials, program directors and staffs when they 'carry the water for Little River Band' by understanding attendance at consultation sessions, often out of town meetings, plays a critical role in ensuring benefits continue to be made available to Tribal persons through legislation, appropriations and administrative enhancements designed to better serve our people. Most importantly, we can actively engage in the advocacy process through writing, calling and contacting local, state and federal elected officials and speaking to them directly regarding the importance of maintaining and enhancing program access for Indian beneficiaries. We all have a role in consultation.

Secretary Sebelius has taken a bold step in the evolution of federal Indian policy and Tribal-State relations. This policy, as characterized by Secretary Sebelius truly creates the "opportunity for every community to reach their full potential...to strengthen our partnership...and to build something great." LRBOI is ready to participate in this endeavor.

We applaud Secretary Sebelius for this effort.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Enrollment Department  
375 River Street  
Manistee, Michigan 49660  
(231) 723-8288  
Fax: (231) 398-6751

## TRIBAL DIRECTORY

The new Tribal Directory for 2011 was distributed at the Fall Membership Meeting. After the Fall Membership Meeting, books will be available at the Enrollment Department. If you were unable to make the Fall Membership Meeting, please request this book in writing, with money order or cash for \$5.00 to pay for the postage. You may come into the Enrollment Department anytime after the Fall Membership Meeting to pick up the Directory.

Only 18 and above can obtain this Tribal Directory.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at

1-231-398-6712; 398-6713 or 398-6720.

Diane A. Lonn-Enrollment Officer

## Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Manistee, Michigan REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**PURPOSE:** Contractual agreement with qualified vendors to provide services/goods for fiscal year 2012 through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013

**PROPOSAL DUE DATE:** October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians requires the following professional services: janitorial cleaning supplies, electric repair/services, bottled water, mat/linen rental.

**CONTACT:** Requests for bid packets should be directed to Michelle Lucas, Purchasing Supervisor at (231)398-6804 or [mlucas@lrboi.com](mailto:mlucas@lrboi.com).



“The LRBOI Tribal Emergency Response Team (TERT) would like you to take a moment to study this information recently provided by FEMA. During any natural or man-made disaster, communicating with your loved ones and community can be a problem. By following the simple steps outlined here, you will get ahead of the problem and be able to keep the family and tribe together if something does happen.

There are many sources of information on how to prepare your family, home and community in case of disasters. One of the best is a website from the Federal Government at [www.ready.gov/IndianCountry](http://www.ready.gov/IndianCountry). This one particularly looks at the challenges of disaster response in tribal lands. “



## FEMA TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING BEFORE, DURING & AFTER DISASTERS



Federal  
Communications  
Commission

When disaster strikes, you want to be able to communicate by both receiving and distributing information to others. You may need to call 9-1-1 for assistance, locate friends or family, or let loved ones know that you are okay. During disasters, communications networks could be damaged, lose power, or become congested. This fact sheet provides two important sets of tips. The first will help you prepare your home and mobile devices for a disaster. The second may help you communicate more effectively during and immediately after a disaster.

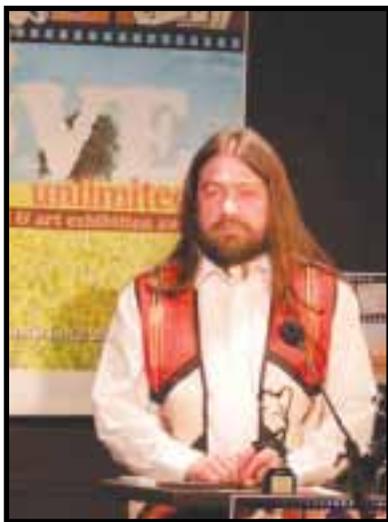
### **Before a Disaster: How to Prepare Your Home and Mobile Device**

1. Maintain a list of emergency phone numbers in your cell phone and in or near your home phone.
2. Keep charged batteries and car-phone chargers available for back-up power for your cell phone.
3. If you have a traditional landline (non-broadband or VOIP) phone, keep at least one non-cordless phone in your home because if it will work even if you lose power..
4. Prepare a family contact sheet. This should include at least one out-of-town contact that may be better able to reach family members in an emergency.
5. Program “In Case of Emergency” (ICE) contacts into your cell phone so emergency personnel can contact those people for you if you are unable to use your phone. Let your ICE contacts know that they are programmed into your phone and inform them of any medical issues or other special needs you may have.
6. If you are evacuated and have call-forwarding on your home phone, forward your home phone number to your cell phone number.
7. If you do not have a cell phone, keep a prepaid phone card to use if needed during or after a disaster.
8. Have a battery-powered radio or television available (with spare batteries).
9. Subscribe to text alert services from local or state governments to receive alerts in the event of a disaster. Parents should sign up for their school district emergency alert system.

### **During and After a Disaster: How to Reach Friends, Loved Ones & Emergency Services**

1. If you have a life-threatening emergency, call 9-1-1. Remember that you cannot currently text 9-1-1. If you are not experiencing an emergency, do not call 9-1-1. If your area offers 3-1-1 service or another information system, call that number for non-emergencies.
2. For non-emergency communications, use text messaging, e-mail, or social media instead of making voice calls on your cell phone to avoid tying up voice networks. Data-based services like texts and emails are less likely to experience network congestion. You can also use social media to post your status to let family and friends know you are okay. In addition to Facebook and Twitter, you can use resources such as the American Red Cross’s Safe and Well program ([www.redcross.org/safeandwell](http://www.redcross.org/safeandwell)).
3. Keep all phone calls brief. If you need to use a phone, try to convey only vital information to emergency personnel and/or family.
4. If you are unsuccessful in completing a call using your cell phone, wait ten seconds before redialing to help reduce network congestion.
5. Conserve your cell phone battery by reducing the brightness of your screen, placing your phone in airplane mode, and closing apps you are not using that draw power, unless you need to use the phone.
6. If you lose power, you can charge your cell phone in your car. Just be sure your car is in a well-ventilated place (remove it from the garage) and do not go to your car until any danger has passed. You can also listen to your car radio for important news alerts.
7. Tune into broadcast television and radio for important news alerts. If applicable, be sure that you know how to activate the closed captioning or video description on your television.
8. If you do not have a hands-free device in your car, stop driving or pull over to the side of the road before making a call. Do not text on a cell phone, talk, or “tweet” without a hands free device while driving.
9. Immediately following a disaster, resist using your mobile device to watch streaming videos, download music or videos, or play video games, all of which can add to network congestion. Limiting use of these services can help potentially life-saving emergency calls get through to 9-1-1.
10. Check [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) regularly to find other helpful tips for preparing for disasters and other emergencies.

# LRBOI Represented



In yet another tribute to his creative skills, Native Odawa Screenwriter, Austen Brauker, a tribal member of the LRBOI, from Manistee, Michigan, has taken his script “White Buffalo” to the *Semi-finals* round of one of the most well-known Screenwriting Competitions, the PAGE Awards 2011.

The PAGE Awards is one of the biggest screenwriting competitions in the industry, with nearly 7,000 entries each year.

Not only did “White Buffalo” receive a very high score of 77 and a judge’s recommendation of: *CONSIDER* (a status given to less than 5% of all scripts!) but this screenplay made it all the way to the *Semi-finals* round of the PAGE competition, among only 25 other screenplays. (This was a long process of weeding out scripts, which included: *First Round Picks, Second Round Picks, Quarter-Finalist Winners and then, Semi-Finalists...* which is where the competition ended for Brauker.)

Unfortunately, “White Buffalo” did not make it through to the *Finalist* round.

Reaching the *Semi-finalist* round of such a prestigious competition was, however, quite an achievement. The high score of 77 doesn’t mean too much by itself, until you look at the following breakdown of how the scores are tabulated by the judges, and that each of the four rounds was judged by a different qualified professional from the movie making industry. (“White Buffalo” was judged in the *semi-final round* by the former Vice President of Development at United Artists, also a teacher of screenwriting on the graduate level at UCLA with extensive experience in television production, a published author, and a second year Judge for the PAGE Awards.)

Contest scores for the PAGE Awards average as follows:

- Approximately 25% of all entries score below 40
- Approximately 50% of all entries score between 40 and 60
- Approximately 25% of all entries score 60 or higher

“White Buffalo” is a comedy/family type movie, set in northwest lower Michigan (Manistee, Mason and Benzie Counties), with mostly Native American (specifically, Odawa) characters. It is currently in development to be produced here in Michigan using LRBOI tribal members for actors. It is the intent of Austen Brauker and the production company, Wild Horse Films, to use LRBOI tribal members as the cast and crew, and to provide training if necessary, and to film the movie on location, as it was written.

PAGE AWARDS SCORE:  
“WHITE BUFFALO” by Austen Brauker

Coverage Score Total: 77,  
with Coverage breakdown as follows:

<u>PREMISE/CONCEPT</u>	Score: 8
<u>PRESENTATION</u>	Score: 8
<u>STRUCTURE</u>	Score: 6
<u>PLOT/STORY</u>	Score: 8
<u>PACING</u>	Score: 6
<u>CHARACTERS</u>	Score: 8
<u>DIALOGUE</u>	Score: 8
<u>THEME</u>	Score: 8
<u>STYLE/TONE</u>	Score: 9
<u>COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL</u>	Score: 8

2011 PAGE Awards, *first round* pick.

2011 PAGE Awards, *second round* pick.

2011 PAGE awards, *quarter-finalist round* of competition.  
<http://pageawards.com/past-winners/2011-winners/2011-quarter-finalists/>

2011 PAGE awards, *semi-finalist round* of competition.  
<http://pageawards.com/past-winners/2011-winners/2011-semi-finalists/>



Austen Brauker - Red Man

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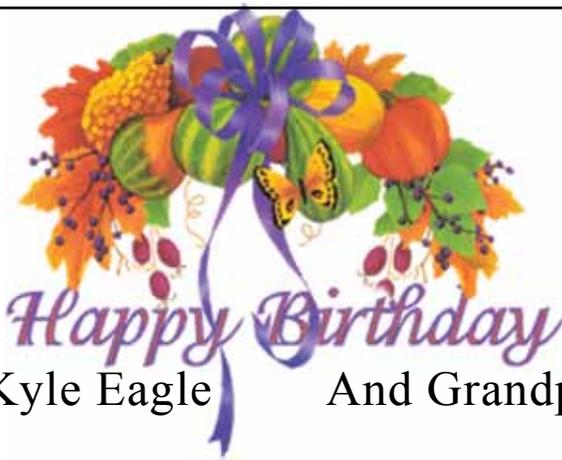
[www.moonbearpottery.com](http://www.moonbearpottery.com)



Shirley M. Brauker  
1048 Silver Road - Coldwater,  
Michigan 49036  
(260) 243-9027



The email address is: [sbrauker@gmail.com](mailto:sbrauker@gmail.com)



Kyle Eagle And Grandpa Chief

Love,  
Grandma, Candice, Mellissa, Angela, Hannah, Mathew,  
Petey, Fern, and Buttercup!



Alan King  
Mitchell Anderson ( King)  
From all your family



Congratulations to Jared Knapp on  
being chosen Junior Homecoming Rep at  
Manistee High School  
Love, Mom and Dad

## Tribal youth in Peru



*(Editor's Note: LRBOI Tribal Member Lori Plank has submitted an update letter on a Mission trip that her two children are taking to the nation of Peru where they will work with Peruvian Tribal youth.)*

“The youngsters (Jeffrey & Aiyana) will be going from February 17 - February 27, 2012. There will be 5 youth and 3 adults going. The Free Methodist Church of Peru is reaching out to many indigenous people groups with an integrated, holistic ministry. The religious leader of the Yanasha tribe, in the jungle near Satipo, recently requested training for his young people. He wanted Christian Education seminars, Seminary training for the pastoral leaders, and health teaching for all adults. He is sending representatives from youth, women, and pastors to our specific conferences held for these groups. When we teach, they are so attentive it is difficult to stop. They are always hungry to hear more. The Springs Free Methodist Church in Michigan has been supporting this holistic ministry for the past five years through their support of missionaries Garry and Pat Cruce. A four member team from The Springs participated first hand in this ministry in December 2010 as they conducted a Christian Education program to the children living in the mountains of Peru. They

were very successful in bridging the cultural and language differences in these remote areas. Director of the Free Methodist work in Peru, Pastor Miguel Algorta has now requested The Springs Free Methodist Church involvement continue, at an even deeper level. The youth of The Springs are now invited to participate at the 2012 Youth Congress in Lima, Peru. This annual event will include young people from all areas of Peru. The group will minister to teens from the southern tip of Tacna (near Chili), to the mountainous regions of Cuzco Tarma, Huancayo, and Arequipa. We are expecting representatives, as well, from at least two Indigenous jungle tribes. It is difficult to determine exactly which teens will be participating, but we anticipate youth from the Yanasha, Shanika groups, and from the Quechua groups of the mountains. They would all love to attend, but some may lack the resources to travel to Lima, the capital. Please be informed that youth from The Springs Free Methodist Church in Cedar Springs, Michigan are raising funds to help sponsor the indigenous youth of Peru. By supporting their project you are helping two groups of youth to learn together and share the love of Jesus around the world.  
LoriePlank

“The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Warriors Society is organizing fishing teams for next year’s event. If you would like to be on a team or participate in the event, please contact Bill Memberto, Commander of the Warriors Society at 1-231-398-6728”

The regular Wisconsin gatherings will be held at the Great Spirit Church at the corner of Lapman and 10th Streets in Milwaukee. 1575 S. 10th Street is the actual address. Meetings start at 9:30 a.m. Please call Jean Aber for more info at 262-632-1197. The meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of every other month. Next meeting is November 12th.

## In Loving Memory

We believe in the elements Air -Water-Earth-Firer and when we are born. we believe we come from the East as [children] and grow and walk all direction [if we are blessed to grow old] we walk to the South where the [women] nurture us with Love ...then we walk to the west where the warriors [men] hold the ground keeping us safe in the darkness of night [this is also the direction you go to when you die] then the North [elders] and earth and sky where we are taught to respect all of Creators creation. We walk all that way around and go to the Western door and Walk on and our people who love are there waiting for us to take us home with theme .....

*In Honor Of Our Beloved That Have Passed On, They Will Always Be In Our Hearts*

Mary Hopkins  
Benjamin Gene Cogswell  
Robert Russell Cram  
Candy Lee Falls  
William Fredrick Gilhouse II



Mama Sugar Lumps A.K.A Debra Davis held a sugar cookie painting class on August 26th for the Manistee Art Institute at the Ramsdell Theater in Manistee. Debra showed the class how to paint cookies using a frosting that she developed that gave each cookie a unique look. Each person received 6 cookies of various shapes that they were able to paint and take home. She will be having another class on November 6th at the Ramsdell. She will be showing the class different techniques on how to add sugars and how to use luster dust for a sparkling effect just in time for Christmas.

## American marten



A collared American marten, Waabzhishi, peers back at Tribal wildlife biologists. The Wildlife Division in the Natural Resources Department is conducting a study of the Manistee National Forest marten population and its habitat needs. Marten are often used as an indicator of forest quality, as healthy marten populations are associated with mature or old-growth characteristic forests.

Photo by Robert Sanders, Wildlife Researcher, LRBOI Natural Resources.

## Tribal Safety Committee receives IHS award

The LRBOI Safety Committee were nominated for and will receive the Bemidji Area Director's Award for Group Performance for their efforts to enhance safety training and technical assistance access regarding health and environmental safety to LRBOI. LRBOI's Safety Committee was nominated for this award by Rhinelander IHS Office of Environmental Health personnel and reflects the collective efforts of the Tribe to support health and safety initiatives for personnel here at LRBOI and ultimately, our citizens through safe operations and safe environments for our citizens access.

The award will be presented on Friday, October 21, 2011 at the Bemidji Area IHS Director Awards Banquet, in Bemidji, MN.

Congratulations to Mary Velikan, Tribal Safety Officer, all of the Safety Committee volunteers and to LRBOI for all the hard work to bring the tribe to the level that the Area IHS Director has taken notice of your efforts!

The Safety Committee is made up of tribal employees and volunteers.



2011

## Children's Christmas Party

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

When: Sunday December 4th  
Time: 11 AM to 3 PM  
Where: LRCCR New Events Center

To register please call  
231-723-8288 or toll free 888-723-8288 and ask for:

Angie Stone - Ext 6829 or  
Mary Thomas - Ext 6824

Deadline date for Registration: 5 PM Wednesday November 23rd

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

# Currents

You can find this and many other issues at [lrboi.com](http://lrboi.com)

*Megwa Ezhiweback*



*Binaakwe-Giizis (Freezing Moon)*  
November 2011 vol.8 Issue 11



## Fall Membership Meeting video streaming

The video for the 2011 Fall Membership Meeting will be embedded on the Tribal Ogema's page

(<https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/ogema/>) after the meeting.

When this video is posted we will notify subscribers of the Rapid River News and through our facebook account.

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

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Permit # 195  
Manistee, MI

Or Current Resident

## Fall Membership Meeting Saturday October 15, 2011

<b>Friday October 14, 2011</b> <b>7 pm – 9 pm</b>	<b>Ogema Meet &amp; Greet</b>	<b>Little River Casino Resort Three Fires Conference Center</b>
<b>Saturday October 15, 2011</b> <b>8 a.m. – 4 p.m.</b>	<b>Membership Meeting</b>	<b>Little River Casino Resort Event Center</b>

### Meeting Agenda

<b>8 a.m. – Registration Begins</b>	<b>Located Near Event Center</b>
<b>9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Informational Booths</b>	<b>Hallway – Three Fires Conference</b>
<b>10 a.m. - Flag Ceremony Honoring the Nations</b>	<b>Event Center</b>
<b>10:00 a.m. Opening of meeting</b>	
<b>12 p.m.</b>	<b>Lunch Served Informational Booths Close Event Center</b>
<b>1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Official Meeting Begins</b>	
<b>2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Question and Answer Period</b>	
<b>4 p.m. Meeting Ends</b>	
<b>Thank – you for attending and Safe Travel Home</b>	
<b>Note-Agenda subject to change at Ogema's discretion and if quorum in membership is reached~</b>	

