Election 2011

The General Election for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is scheduled for April 29th and the results will greatly affect the future of our tribe and the direction that we take for the future of our tribal citizens. Beginning on page 6, see articles written by the candidates who want your vote in this critical election. Per the Election Board, ballots will be mailed out March 28th and are due back on election day, April 29th.

Goonignebig 2011

The annual LRBOI Snowsnake competition took place at Aki Maadiziwin with a large field of competitors and a very nice track. See the results and photos from this year’s event beginning on pages 27 &28

Our Oldest Elder

Irene Dickman is the oldest elder of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. See page 2 for an article and photos from a recent interview by Martha Howell with this very special lady.

Workforce Development Opportunities

The Tribal Commerce Department works extensively with creating opportunities for tribal citizens and their families. Starting on page 18, see details on their new Intern and Adult Employment programs.
Tribal Member Irene Dickman whose name appears on the Durant Supplemental Roll of 1908, celebrated her 104 birthday on February 11, 2011.

Born in Hamlin Lake to Peter and Charlotte Allard, her father was French and her mother was Ottawa. “We never lived like the Indians, we got it from my grandma who was born in Northport” she said. “I never knew my grandparents on my mother’s side of the family”.

Growing up in the Ludington area, she attended the Chamber school as a young girl. Irene’s fondest memory of school is of her 16th birthday when her mother bought her a blue taffeta dress from the local store. “It was a special dress because my mother made all my clothes, she was a great sewer but like all young girls I was sick of homemade clothes and wanted something store-bought” she said. “I loved that dress”.

Irene is bi-lingual in French and English since her father was from Canada. “My father didn’t speak English and couldn’t even ask for a loaf of bread when he first got here” she said.

In 1925 she met Walter Dickman at the local tavern ran by his mother and soon after they were married. “I never wanted to marry a farmer, even though I liked a few of them, because I didn’t like how they had to milk cows” she said laughing. “My uncle would always tease me and say ‘I suppose next time I see you, you will be coming from the barn with 2 milk pails and sh*t between your toes’”.

Irene and Walter spent 47 happily married years together in Land O’ Lakes where they co-owned the local Ford dealership and raised their 4 children, Ruth, Bob, Carolyn and Jerry. Walter was 75 when he died in 1973 and since that time Irene has lived alone in the home that Walter built for her in 1963 on the Wisconsin River.

Full of laughter and smiles Irene says there is no secret to her long life. “I have led a simple life. I never expected to get this old; I was sick a lot as a child and even had TB, but recovered fully from everything. The doctor can’t even believe I have lived so long” she said.

Up until last year when she had her hip replaced she enjoyed gardening and spending time at the lake with her family. Now she enjoys an occasional vodka and tonic while watching NASCAR on television and says Jimmie Johnson is her favorite driver.
Aanii:
February is over and I look forward to March for several reasons, the weather not being the least. Traveling in mid-winter is not one of my favorite things to do. I recently returned from travel to Lansing for a United Tribes Meeting and Petoskey for a CORA Meeting and a steering committee meeting of Building Strong Sovereign Nations Conference; all, I felt, were very productive.

While in Lansing I had the opportunity to meet several of the newly elected State Legislators and am hopeful that they will be supportive of Little River Band’s efforts on our Muskegon Project. I am encouraged. Gun Lake Casino held their grand opening last month and I just received news that Firekeeper’s Casino will be adding a hotel and entertainment venue.

The Tribe is moving forward with pursuing Self Governance. We have looked at the pros and cons and it has been determined that the pluses outweigh the minuses. I believe a more in-depth report can be given at the next Membership Meeting.

I’ve received quite a few comments regarding the published Constitutional changes in last month’s Currents and please understand those are not necessarily the thoughts of the Ogema, they appeared under Council News of the Tribal Council. I do believe the need for changes is long overdue, but I am not in agreement with some of the proposed changes.

Just a reminder that the Spring Membership Meeting is to be held on April 9th this year; again at the Little River Casino Resort. Also the Ogema’s Meet and Greet times have changed to 7PM-9PM on Friday, April 8th, (One hour later than usual by request).

Starting March 1st, several government departments will be providing more services out of our Muskegon Offices at 1101 W. Hackley Ave. Please watch the Currents and Rapid River News for a list of departments and schedules each of the departments will be available in that office. We have recently remodeled office spaces and updated equipment in an effort to provide more service in the area.

Answer to last months REMEMBER, “a computer once beat me at chess but it was no match for me at kickboxing.”

Until next month…

United Tribes of Michigan – 2011

Just part-way through his term as President of the United Tribes of Michigan, LRBOI Ogema Larry Romanelli has positively led the group forward in addressing many of the issues of importance to all native peoples in Michigan. The February 2011 meeting on the 22nd and 23rd of the month was one of the most successful meetings in recent memory where our competition in the gaming industry was set aside and our serious tribal interests were aired.

Leading off with a Legislative Reception at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Lansing, the assembled tribal leaders met with senators, congressmen, staffers and lobbyists who all make up the political world where the tribes fight for their rights as native sovereign nations. The cordial setting helped to introduce many of the new ‘players’ to the field including Governor Rick Snyder’s Tribal Liaison, Deputy Legal Counsel David Murley and such influential legislators as Geoff Hansen, Darwin Booher and newcomer Ray Franz. Events like this let those outside the tribal nations know that we are serious about being involved in our state.

Bright and early the next day, Ogema Romanelli and Executive Director Frank Ettawageshik got the meeting underway with an opening prayer and presentation of the tribal flags. It was very positive to see the number of tribes who brought their boxed ‘arrows’ to proudly display before their delegations. These arrows were created by LRBOI Elder and former Warrior Society leader Al Medacco in 2005 when he presented a teaching to a United Tribe meeting concerning the strength in unity that could be ours by acting together.

Thirteen different agenda items came before the assembled leaders in addition to the normal reports. Some of those appearing before the group were Del Laverdure, DOI Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs; Dennis Muchmore, Governor Snyder’s Chief of Staff; Ernie Stevens, National Indian Gaming Association, David Murley, Michigan Counsel and many more. Other issues covered included the challenge of enforcing the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver; Law Enforcements updates from NCAI; Title IV(e) funding, the possibilities of Class II Gaming; National Broad Band initiatives in tribal country and the challenges that are being faced by those who are fighting for Native American rights in Health Care such as our own Jessica Burger with the NIHB.

The meeting finally ended after an extra hour and a half and everyone departed Lansing for other meetings and duties. They were sent on their way with a prayer from Frank Ettawageshik, praying for safe travels for everyone.

From the Office of Ogema Romanelli

April 2011 vol.8 Issue 4

Currents

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ut president romanelli
Correction from last month’s submission: When the last report was submitted, the final financial report for December has not yet been filed with the Tribal Council, so last month’s submission reported that the cash reserves for the Tribe were $58 million. This estimate was provided by the Finance Office, prior to the compilation of the report. The actual cash reserves stand at $52 million as of the end of December 2010.

**Benefit Contracts Renewed:**

The Activity of the Tribal Council for the month of February included 23 Work Sessions for various topics. (Note: the chart only includes the attendance for 20 of the 23, as explained therein.) One of the major issues addressed during the month of February was the benefit plans for the Tribal Government, Casino, Muschigon and Little River Trading Post. The Tribe’s benefit contracts all renew on March 1st, so various meetings were held to determine whether or not any changes should be made to the benefit programs. At this point, there were only minor changes, at little or no cost to the Tribe. All healthcare coverage is provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan, however, the Tribe is self-funded for all its healthcare benefits provided to employees. Self-funded means that the Tribe does not pay a premium per contract for family or single coverage, but pays an administration fee instead, and then pays the healthcare costs directly. Dental plans are contracted through Delta Dental, and vision coverage is provided by VSP. The Tribe contracts with Mutual of Omaha for Short/Long term Disability and Life Insurance coverage. Please note that although the contracts are for all entities of the Tribe, each entity provides different healthcare and benefit packages, based on the entity. There is a distinction between government health benefits and the Resort or the gas station, not all plans are the same across the board.

However, the Gaming Commission did identify some concerns during the public comment process, that the Tribal Council is in the process of reviewing, which may delay a final action.

The amendments to the Indian Preference Ordinance have been under considerable discussion. The Tribal Council have met with members of the Ogema’s staff, as well as members of the Little River Casino and Resort Human Resources Department, to discuss provisions of the new law. The Tribal Council hopes to take a final action on this issue prior to the end of March.

The Prosecutor’s Ordinance received no public comments. This law is expected to be enacted prior to the end of March.

**Work Sessions on Upcoming Legislation:**

The Tribal Council continues to move forward on the Government Structure Ordinance. The original concept behind this new law was to formally adopt the current government structure and service departments, and provide mechanisms for how any changes are made.

The Tribal Council is moving forward its enactment of the Sex Offender’s Registration and Notification Act, commonly referred to as SORNA. The Adam Walsh Act, as passed by the United States Congress, requires that every jurisdiction (including Tribes) has to implement the registration system. The Act also requires that it must be up and functional by July 10, 2011. Substantial investments through the IT department have resulted in upgrades that will bring the LRBOI into compliance within the established deadlines.

**Authorization of Self-Governance Application to BIA:**

Tribal Council adopted the authorizing Resolution to open negotiations with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to convert the current grants funded under what is commonly known as 638 Contracting to the status of Self-Governance Compacting. The Areas that have been authorized for this negotiation process includes: Family Services and Indian Child Welfare, Education, Natural Resources, Rights Protection, Law Enforcement, BIA Roads Construction and Management, Home Improvement Program. Other areas may be included as the negotiation process moves forward. One benefit to attaining Self-Governance status is that the Tribe will be eligible to retain what is known as “shares” usually held by the Area office for administrative costs. Another benefit is that the Tribe will receive Annual Funding Agreements, but can then administer the funds at the local Tribal level according to Tribal eligibility standards and program criteria, giving the Band greater control over its grant funds. Attaining Self-Governance through our IHS grant programs has resulted in a substantial increase to funding overall to the Tribe. The negotiation process, if successful, would be implemented during the next fiscal year.

**Compensation for Elected Officials:**

The Tribal Council has held its first work session to review the compensation levels for elected officials. At this point, the Recorder feels safe in noting that there are no substantial changes recommended. The Tribal Council expects to enact Resolutions establishing compensation levels for the Ogema and other positions prior to the General Election, as has been done in the past.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janine M. Sam
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Hello,

My name is Jeff Battice Sr. I would like to try to help our people. I am not stepping forward for power of money. I do not have any personal vendetta’s of coming down on or firing anyone should I make office. We are a sacred people who have through a lot. Many wanted to see our circle look like a sacred hoop; they have left us to walk the hanging trail. Many watched their own family circles break up and disintegrating. Children forgetting or not knowing who they are and walking away! This troubles me greatly. I was once a trader who ran the fire trail for two decades. I personally know the honor of our vets, children, elders, and our people, I do not know what happened, but it happened. We slowly became the outside world toward each other. Not all, but many, I refuse to make a lie to any of you with the ink. That would bring a great shame upon my head, not worthy of speaking! My heart is heavy as I have seen much. What are my goals and qualifications? I don’t like those words! They sound like herding cattle into a pen for head count. We all know where we need to go; we just don’t seem to get there. As a council member I would be your servant, the people will not be mine. I will take no chair to step on any of our people. Power brings arrogance and the mind and heart forgets the intent and falls quickly from where it started. Helping our people’s my goal! I read write and understand well, the people will decided if I am qualified when they vote! It’s about you, not me!

Jeff

Michael Ceplina

Aanii

My name is Michael J. Ceplina. I came to work for the tribe in 2002. I’ve been a security officer and utility operator. My current jobs are a surveillance operator and natural resource commissioner. I believe in a strong work ethic which means coming to work and doing the job that you get paid for. As a natural resource commissioner I have worked for tribal treaty rights to harvest on federal and state lands. Here are some of the things that I would like to work on if elected to tribal council.

- Help the Muskegon casino project become a reality.
- To make our tribal lands more accessible for our elders & disabled members who wish to harvest.
- Education. College isn’t for everyone. I would like to see some sort of vocational training or a work program at the casino/tribe for our young people.

I would like to thank all the citizens that voted for me. Remember to get out and vote because your vote can make a difference.

Miigwetch

Michael J. Ceplina

Gary DiPiazza

Aanii

I am a dedicated candidate for this nine County seat.
I would be honored for your vote.
Your voice is precious and I want to hear it.
I AM DRUG FREE AND DON’T DRINK.
I have been working all my life with honor, integrity, loyalty and respect.
Now being retired, I can devote endless quality time to move us in a better direction.
I am not afraid to stand up for our Citizens needs. I am here for you, not for me. In my term of office I will move us forward into alternative energy aspects. I believe that the money we spend alone in lighting our casino could be put back into your pockets in the form of PER-CAP. I will have a secured website so our Citizens can access and view our Council Meetings, communication will lead to our success. I’m not afraid to put what I say in writing or video. I have already brought you the Chicago Candidate meeting video via LRBOI Facebook. Preference hiring weighs heavily on my heart, It will be a reality.

Traditional name (Sees-Bak-Tunse)

1-616-450-3928 teedy3@comcast.net www.sightowl.com/garydipiazza/
facebook VOTE Gary DiPiazza

Miigwetch

Rita Annette Gale

Boozhoo to all tribal members,

I am a married Native American member of the L.R.B.O.I. born and raised in Muskegon.
In the past I have owned and operated a very successful trucking and excavating service. I was the supervisor of the employees, organizer, bookkeeper, bid on many jobs we performed, and conversed to many people in a professional manner and with utmost respect. I was in business for 25 years.
I worked at Wolf Lake school for teachers and helped children that needed special help with reading.
I worked for several elders in their homes as a caregiver and worked for the Tribal Elders Committee, catering dinners at the old community center; and am currently working at Aki for tribal elders meals on wheels program in Manistee.
I believe I can make a difference and create change that is desperately needed for our people.
I promise to bring your issues to the table, to be discussed before council.

Contact me anytime, My personal cell (231) 750-5581
Please Help me- help you
Vote Rita Annette Gale for Tribal Council Seat -9 County
The Better Choice

“The views and opinions expressed in these articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the tribe or currents employees”
Karen Love

Nine County Representative. I have a Bachelors Degree in Business. Retired from St. of MI with 28 years of service as a Unit Manager. My career has given me the experience and skills in problem solving, good communication, and the ability to work with people. I will work with other councilors to move in a positive direction, so we will be able to realize the rewards of a financially sound enterprise and continue our legacy for our children. I will work to bring back trust in our government.
I will exercise positive leadership and provide resolutions on issues and problems that impact the quality of life for all tribal members. I will make it a priority to manage tribal funds in a responsible manner and make smart decisions to remain competitive and adapt to the economy. Tribal Hiring (Preference). Helping our citizens obtain employment and advancement within our tribe.
Upholding our Constitution. Building a diverse business environment. Creating small business within our tribal citizens. It will be my obligation to Tribal Citizens to be responsive to their concerns and act on their wishes. I will meet these challenges and bring a fresh new perspective to the table.

Sandy Mezeske

First, I would like to say Thank You for your vote in the primary and I ask for your continued support on April 29th.
I was sworn in last January and like any elected official it takes quite awhile to understand how our Tribal government works. It has been both rewarding and challenging working on many different Ordinances, Resolutions, and budgets.
Issues important to me:
Constitution---I came on board when drafts were being developed and I attended all the work sessions. I believe we could take 3 or 5 sections at a time, put it forward to Tribal citizens and then work on the controversial issues, such as voting districts, Ogema as Chairman etc.
Elder Long Term Care, Apartment complex, Assisted Living - I am very passionate when it comes caring for our elders. According to a recent National Tribal survey that many of our Elder’s participated in, LRBOI Elder’s suffer higher rates of major diseases than any other tribal nation’s elders. That statistic is alarming and we need to devote time and money to making it better.
Small and large businesses to diversify our revenue portfolio – we should invest further in Tribal Citizen start-ups and in starting other Tribal Government owned businesses.
Muskegon Project – we need to continue the necessary work to move this project forward to promote jobs and revenue for our citizens. Muskegon County holds the largest population of Tribal Citizens with Manistee second.
I can make you three promises; to be in my office every day, return your phone calls and emails within 24 business hours and to listen with an open mind and heart when I vote. I am only one vote out of 9 but my vote will be for you.
Thank you, Sandy

Joseph Riley Sr.

Anni,
Thank you for voting for me in the primary. I am humbled by your trust in me to represent you on tribal counsel. Let me take this time to explain in more detail why I am running for counsel and what I feel we can do together. My full name is Joseph Patrick Riley. I am one half Grand River Band Ottawa and the other half is Irish. Having served on committees with Pioneer Industries and in my local church; I understand the importance of communication in leadership.
Economic indicators predict that in the months to come, as we watch our paychecks shrink and consumer prices rise; it is imperative that we look at what our strengths are as a native people and a sovereign nation. We must pull together and inspire each other while exploring every avenue: green energy, recycling, manufacturing, agriculture, entrepreneurship, etc…
All this starts with our leadership reaching out to our community, not the other way around. It would be my job to lead thru example. I’m not against our casino endeavors in Manistee and Muskegon. However, I know at some point the market will become saturated.
When revenues fall, how will we fill the gap? Diversification. Communication is a vital part of our future, there are many ideas out there, let’s build on them and teach and lead our community into the future on a solid footing for our children, adults and elders. I believe we can effectively broaden communication. Educating our people is also vital. We need to teach our proud heritage while training our people to be successful in a changing world.
All members are an important part of our community. Let’s build a promising future together.

Robert [Bob] Whiteloon

Dear Little River Tribal Citizens;

I have been on council for this last term for 9 county. Before that I work for are casino since 2001. I relocated from Charlevoix. I’ve learn a lot on whats has to be done in voting for the value, for all tribal citizens. I will work and push for full Self- Governance by exercising our sovereigns rights. I am on the government task force for the new government building. I support the work shops meetings. I will push for Wednesday’s meetings be videotaped for the Little River citizens.
As an tribal elder on council, I again ask for your vote for a 9 county representative tribal councilor.
Thank you,
Tribal Elder Robert [Bob] Whiteloon - Cell Phone: 231-794-8954 - E-mail: whiteloonr@yahoo.com

“The views and opinions expressed in these articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the tribe or currents employees”
Aannii,

My name is Berni Carlson and I am running for the office of Appellate Court Judge. I submitted this letter before our primary so our people could familiarize themselves with me. I am married, have four Beautiful children, and live in Muskegon. I am a licensed nurse and work caring for ventilator dependent, quadriplegic patients.

Some of you may remember me, as I served our Tribe on the Election board as the Secretary, 2005-2009. It was an Honor to serve as an Election Board Officer. As history of my term in office shows, I took my job seriously and always upheld the Regulations, Constitution, and Integrity of the Board.

This past year, I have had the honor and **experience** of serving our Tribe, as a visiting Appellate Court Justice. I have also had experience representing some of my patients before the Muskegon County Court, regarding their medical benefits, a witness in a medical malpractice case, as well as a juror in several cases.

I enjoy being able to serve our people, and be involved in our culture and heritage. Creator has given me an opportunity to help our tribe, and make a difference in the lives of anyone coming before our Court. Making sound decisions that follow Our Constitution and solidify Our Sovereign Rights are imperative for our Tribe to succeed. I believe I have those qualifications.

I would be most gracious, for the opportunity to work for Our People, as an Appellate Court Justice. I will strive to up hold the highest of standards, while serving Our people as your Appellate Court Judge. Thank you in advance for your consideration and vote.

I would be Honored to represent the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

Sincerely, Berni L Carlson

Bill Willis

Blessings,

My name is Bill Willis and I am a candidate for the office of Appellate Court Judge. I am the son of the late Grace (Koon) Willis; grandson of the late James Koon. I am married and have three wonderful daughters. I was born and raised in Manistee. 1981 Graduate of Manistee High School; Veteran of the United States Marine Corps, and ordained minister of Christian Faith Church International. Have been an active member of the tribal community since 1994; serving on numerous committees including the original Constitution Committee. I have worked for the Tribal Government for approximately 12 years in different capacities.

I will bring leadership, hard work and common sense to the office of Appellate Court Judge.

I would appreciate your vote.

Your vote does matter.

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Election Calendar

Ballots Mailed--------March 28, 2011
Ballots Due and Election Day-------April 29, 2011
Deadline for Petitions for recount-------- May 6, 2011
Deadline for election challenges-------May 6, 2011

The General Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot and a central polling place.
The homes of registered voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department to receive a ballot.
The central polling place will be 10am until 6pm on April, 29, 2011.
Please note: In accordance with the Election Board Regulations chapter 2, section 1(d): “If Voter Registration Form is not received by the Election Board 56 calendar days before an election, the eligible voter will not be registered to vote in that election.”

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

Thank you for your support in the Primary, your continued support on April 29th is necessary to win this election. There are many issues facing this tribe in the near future:

- Preference Hiring - Sex Offender Registration - Constitutional Changes - Elder’s Protection Code
- Government Structure – Muskegon Project
- Self-Governance – Health Care - Nursing Home

Beware of campaign promises that are impossible to fulfill, remember no matter who is elected, they have only one vote. One vote may change the outcome, or you may stand alone on any given issue.

During my term on Council I have seen good projects set aside, or shot down because of non-participation in workshops. Council has a responsibility to attend the workshops in order to protect the interests of the tribe. Workshops are where issues are discussed at length, compromises are made, and everyone gets a firm understanding of the topic. Many of these workshops are held weekly for months, and as time goes on attendance often dwindles when people become disinterested.

Attendance has improved recently, staff presenting the topic should be given the respect they deserve to be heard, and the opportunity to work out issues before they get to the Wednesday Council Meeting for a vote. Remember, the workshops are open to the public and provide an opportunity for everyone to voice an opinion.

When casting your votes, please weigh the past attendance records of elected officials against the numerous projects completed since I first was elected to Council. During the past four years, projects previously “On Hold” for eight to ten years have been accomplished.

If elected, I will continue to dedicate myself to work that needs to be done, and pledge to do all I can to protect the interests of the whole Tribe.

Cindy Champagne

RESPECT equals a vote for CYNTHIA CHAMPAGNE # (414) 248-6074

I have always felt humble and respectful of what our Ancestor lived through and still kept our culture and beliefs alive. Through my grandfather story telling I learned to respect our traditions and culture. I have tried to live my life by following the Seven Grandfather teachings: Love, Bravery, Honesty, Truth, Humility, Wisdom and Respect. I have respect and love for my grandparents and elders. They have taught me many things about life. I have always felt the most important things in life are love of family and community. I have been married almost 38 years and with the help of my husband have raised our children. We have taken people into our home and did what we could to help them. Through the teachings in my life I learned that in order to be respected you need to respect yourself and others. In order to be trusted you need to be honest and truthful. I believe this is what help me advance in my career. If not for the bravery and wisdom of our ancestors we would not be here today. I feel that we owe it to our ancestors and our children to preserve our culture and provide for the future of the seven generations.

Kimberly Alexander

Thank you Tribal Citizens for letting me take the time to introduce myself. My name is Kimberly Alexander. I originate from the Bear Clan. My great-great-grandparents are Moses and Katherine (Skimhorn-Green) Antoine.

My qualifications for this office include my experience serving the Tribe for over a decade. I have served as the Enrollment Director, Tribal Accounting Department as a file clerk until getting elected on Tribal Council in 2005.

I was on Tribal Council for a 4 year term. During my term as a Tribal Councillor I gained knowledge in approving Budgets and Audits. In addition there are many accomplishments that I am proud of from my time on council. These include legislation that I sponsored which has allowed tribal elders to obtain supplemental health insurance. I also worked with tribal council to bring the per-cap plan to the membership.

I would like to be your elected representative so that I can push for all tribal citizens to have more opportunities to access tribal programs and that future programs be fair to all tribal citizens. I promise to serve the Outlying Citizens with dedication.

You can email me at agent3658@charter.net or call me anytime @ 231-887-4141.
Sincerely
Kimberly Alexander

“The views and opinions expressed in these articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the tribe or currents employees”
Larry “Little Thunder” Romanelli

Aanii:
In my last submission, I gave a list of accomplishments under my term of office; this time I would like to offer some thoughts for the next four years. In the last Currents, the Tribal Council’s Recorder’s Report submitted some proposed Constitutional changes. Some people are under the impression that those are also my thoughts; not true. I would like to say that I am not in agreement with some of those changes. First, the report suggests that the Council’s plan is to hold future public community meetings to present this to the membership. I believe that there have been several meetings held to look at constitutional changes and not all citizens have been able to attend meetings held in several cities; a better way, in my opinion, would be to gather all the suggestions collected over the years from citizens and put those out in a letter to every citizen along with a self-addressed envelope and allow them to mark whether they agree or disagree with each item. Take the top responses and submit those responses to the BIA. This would save time and money and ensure that more people have a say in the process. Holding meetings in several cities can only delay the process even more. This has been years in the making.

I disagree with blending the Ogema and Council and believe that it removes the “checks and balances” process we now have in place. I ask, if the two were to be combined and make a decision that is wrong, where would the checks and balances come from? In no communication from our citizens, which I turned over to the Tribal Council years ago, did I receive a request to combine these two branches. I also disagree with raising the percentage of registered voters needed to enact change from 30% to 35%. I believe that further lessens our citizen’s abilities to have a voice. There are other parts of the proposed changes that I disagree with as well, but have limited space here.

I also believe that we still need to restructure the current government structure and implement many of the recommendations brought to us by the Native American owned company we paid tens of thousands of dollars to do the assessment. To not utilize the report is to waste the money spent on the assessment. Many of the recommendations came from the government employees themselves designed to help provide better services and communication to our citizens and to work more efficiently between departments. Attention also needs to be paid to the US government crisis as there is a good chance that we may face decreased grants and funding in the near future and need to know how best to handle any shortfalls.

Finally, I believe we need to put much of our efforts toward our Muskegon Project for a second site casino. Anyone reading the news in Michigan realizes that competition is moving in all around us. There have been at least 5 new casinos built in West Michigan since I have been in office and further expansions anticipated. There are also continued efforts by non-native American groups constantly trying to start other casinos. We are also looking at other ways to increase tribal revenues through other non-gaming sources as well. Our general fund continues to increase and our businesses are running profitable.

I ask for your support to re-elect me and keep the momentum going for the next four years.

Kchi Miigwetch.

Janine M. Sam

Aanii,

What do the next 4 years look like for Little River Band? We hear the words ‘9 county vs. outlying’, ‘Executive power vs. Legislative power’, and the concepts that continue to divide us. If we continue on this path, what will the next 4 years bring? I hope to lead LRBOI on a new path of healing and unity to end the divisions, we are family.

Within the first months of my new administration, I will provide a Governmental Action Plan to the Membership and Tribal Council, so that we can implement the road map to our collective success-together. This plan includes enhancing services of Tribal Government, development of a real economic plan, exploration of renewable energy concerns, succession plans for the Government and Casino, new policy and communication initiatives. Cultural initiatives and a voice for our citizens to contribute to the success of our Nation.

I will support Constitutional changes the Members want, for the benefit of all. Small changes create Big Results.

I will enforce and follow the laws of the Tribe, including Preference. I will run the government fairly, with every citizen having equal chance to prosper from employment opportunities, every citizen being treated with respect in all areas of service. I pledge to reduce government spending where possible. I pledge to lead our Tribe into a cultural change: accountability means transparency in all aspects of governance.

The Ogema and Tribal Council can benefit from shared administrative staff. I believe the Ogema needs an independent attorney, for personnel matters and operational issues, the Ogema’s attorney should be handling those matters. Hiring outside law firms for issues that can and should be handled in house add unnecessary expense to the Tribe. Sharing administrative staff would strengthen critical communications in all areas of government and to our citizens. I am committed to ending government shutdown in December, unless justified by a financial crisis. The shutdown cost an estimated $200,000.00 in 2010. Critical services of healthcare, family services or members assistance must continue without interruption. There are options to allow staff time off, without compromising citizens. Fair administration requires considering citizen needs in all decisions.

Once I am elected, the Muskegon Project will not falter. My vision for this important project includes a plan that dedicates adequate resources and personnel to this effort. I encourage anyone with questions to contact me directly. I wrote the original Resolution that was adopted by Muskegon County Commission. I helped create the Casino we have today. I am well versed in our unique position to get another casino according to Federal law. We also need to plan for success, managing increased resources and debt loads resulting from this effort.

For nearly 10 years, I have been honored to work for you faithfully, equally for all. I have the experience necessary to implement positive changes. I humbly seek your support, your vote for Ogema, and your commitment to work with me, creating a better future for all. Miigwetch.

Janine M. Sam
j9sam@yahoo.com
(231) 398-2811

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The summer youth camp follow up event “Cabin Fever Reliever” was held on Friday February 18, 2011. This event is intended to provide the children who attended summer camp with support on information learned from the past camp including staying active and healthy eating.

This years event was especially blessed with attendance and assistance from our Tribal elders. The children and elders had a full day of fun activities. They played many games like Wii Just Dance and competed in Wii bowling. One of the elders taught line dancing to the children. There were several crafts to make or take home.

A special thank you to all the elders who helped make this a special day and to Noelle Cross and the kitchen staff for all their help and for making lunch.
The LRBOI Tribal Emergency Response Team (T.E.R.T.) teamed up February 12th and 13th with the office of the Manistee County Emergency Management Coordinator and the Michigan State Police to provide two days of training for volunteers in preparation for forming a Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.). The volunteers were from both the tribal and outside communities in Manistee.

Lt. Ken Falk, Manistee’s Emergency Coordinator and two members of the tribal T.E.R.T./Incident Command Team, Mary and Dan Velikan, coordinated the training together as part of a Citizen Corp activity which is designed to help residents out in times of disaster or incident affecting our community.

The C.E.R.T. volunteers are trained in many disciplines such as first aid, search & rescue, triage, basic fire suppression and are given a good understanding of the structure of Emergency Management under the National Incident Command System (NIMS). The governments of the tribe, state and county are signatories to the NIMS system and are part of the whole national response structure.

Sgt. Kevin Sweeney (Cherokee), the top man in the Michigan State Police Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, came to Manistee to be part of this special training weekend. He explained that he was quite excited as, “This is the first time that C.E.R.T. has been conducted on tribal lands in all of FEMA Region V (the Midwestern US).”

At this training it was announced that the tribal government, with the support of both Ogemaw Larry Romanelli and the Tribal Council (via Resolution #11-0209-039), has agreed to become the first Michigan Native Sovereign Nation to be part of the Michigan Emergency Management Assistance Compact (MEMAC). “The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is taking their commitments to better our entire community to heart and being part of MEMAC further ensures our abilities to take care of our tribal lands and people,” said Glenn Zaring, Director of the Office of Public Affairs for the tribe. Zaring is also head of the T.E.R.T.

The hands on training this last weekend at the tribal community center (Aki Maadiziwin) concluded on Sunday with a full exercise scenario. To make the exercise even more valuable, Cub Scout Pack #269 under Scout Leader Teresa Belohlavy, came to the community center and played the role of ‘victims’ complete with imitation wounds. The Cub Scouts really got into their roles and provided a touch of realism for the C.E.R.T. members.

This weekend exercise involved professionals from a number of departments including the East Lake Fire Department, the Manistee Sheriff’s office, the State Police and LRBOI. In addition, support services were provided by the Salvation Army who rolled out one of their canteen trucks to feed the whole crew. Each C.E.R.T. trainee received a backpack of equipment such as hardhats, vests, flashlights and specialized tools for their tasks. Funding for the exercise and equipment was provided by the Region 7 Citizens Corps Advisory Council/Planning Committee which is actively promoting the establishment of C.E.R.T. teams across the 18 counties and three tribal nations.

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**An LRBOI citizen’s view of CERT**

CERT. Community Emergency Response Team! The most important information a person could ever come to know. Among a city of a few thousand...and the unknown disasters of the future, we must get prepared, not only amongst our own families but as a community we must unite. Not only for the good of the people but for our city’s structure and the way things need to continue to flow correctly. CERT is one of the greatest program’s running today to help better our system of emergency and response. If there were to come a time where there aren’t enough firemen or policemen, then who’s going to save us if we cannot save ourselves? There are so many useful people within our small town that can help protect the community. I highly think that CERT needs to be established within our school system so that the kids can come to know these useful ways and apply it when needed. This training program is the best idea yet. I am so proud to be CERT certified because now I know I have the ability to help rescue one person more.

*Submitted by LRBOI citizen, Raven Lewis*
MANISTEE: On Tuesday, February 8, 2011, Restaurant, Catering, & Culinary Management (RCCM) Students from the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center (MACTC) joined Hospitality students from five career tech centers in Northwestern Michigan for the SkillsUSA Region 5 Hospitality Competition. SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations.

Students competed in four areas: Culinary Arts, Commercial Baking, Food & Beverage Service, and Team Banquet. In a unique partnership, Chef John of the Little River Casino Resort collaborated with Chef Instructor Elissa Penczar to organize and host this regional event. Winners of each event will compete at the State SkillsUSA competitions in April.

Overall MACTC students took home three gold, three silver, and one bronze medal and eleven students qualified for state competition.

The results are:

**Culinary Arts**
- 2nd place/silver: Ashley Wildig (Oakridge)
- 9th place: Julian White (Reeths Puffer)

**Commercial Baking**
- 1st place/gold: Brittany Hunter (Oakridge)
- 2nd place/silver: Jaci Spencer (Ravenna)
- 5th place: Tasia Bradshaw (Fruitport)

**Food & Beverage Service**
- 1st place/gold: Tawni Whipple (Ravenna)
- 2nd place/silver: Essence Jackson (Muskegon)
- 3rd place/bronze: Elexis Jenkins (Orchard View)
- 4th place: Iasia Lawson (Muskegon)
- 7th place: Ebony Jackson (Muskegon)

**Team Banquet**
- 1st place/gold
  - Chef Derek Shaw (Whitehall)
  - Sous Chef Amber Fricke (Holton)
  - Prep Cook Angelica Bartels (Oakridge)
  - Pastry Cook Dayyah Bell (Muskegon)
  - Server Janet Madendorp (Whitehall)

“The Little River Casino Resort provided the perfect venue for our future leaders in Hospitality to show off and develop their skills. Food & Beverage Director, Ron Pete, Executive Chef John Cappelluci, and their staff volunteered dozens of hours to not only set up and judge our events but also to offer positive feedback and suggestions for improvements to every one of our student contestants. Their enthusiasm for developing the talents and skills of our students was evident throughout the day. I am impressed with the high level of commitment the Little River Casino Resort staff has to mentoring our aspiring chefs, bakers, and restaurateurs”  --Chef Instructor Elissa Penczar.

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**LRBOI Citizen promoted at Casino**

Congratulations are in order for our new “HOTEL MANAGER.” It gives me great pleasure to announce the promotion of Diana O’Neal to the position of Hotel Manager. Diana moved from California to Manistee in 2002 to help and assist with our tribe’s efforts to build the beautiful establishment we all love. She started out her career at LRCR as a supervisor in EVS, and later moved on to the hotel department. Through hard work and dedication within the hotel department, she took on more responsibilities and has now taken on the biggest adventure yet. Diana’s dedication to the LRBOI tribe and its guests (internal/external) is impeccable. Through hard work and dedication, we can achieve, and that is just what Diana has done.

Submitted by Charmaine Stone, LRCR Hotel Director

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**MICHIGAN INDIAN LEGAL SERVICES PILOT PROJECT: CRIMINAL DEFENSE AT LRBOI TRIBAL COURT**

Michigan Indian Legal Services (MILS) and the Tribal Court are pleased to announce that MILS will begin offering assistance to criminal defendants in the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Court. Starting now, MILS attorneys will be available to represent indigent defendants facing criminal charges as part of a year long pilot project. The service will be available and free to those individuals who meet income eligibility and other requirements.

The purpose of the pilot project is two fold. First, MILS hopes to provide high quality representation by assisting clients through the system, providing necessary balance in an adversarial system. Second, through the experience of the pilot project, MILS hopes to be able to make an informed decision as to whether we should maintain the project at LRBOI, expand into other tribal courts, or end the program as part of the commitment to serving the native communities within Michigan. MILS will conduct an on going program evaluation with the help of clients and LRBOI Court staff.

Those Tribal Members facing criminal charges in the Tribal Court, will be notified of this project, and given MILS contact information at the first court hearing.
Manistee, Mi. - February 11, 2011 – The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) and the Brain Injury Association of Michigan (BIAMI) Veterans Program is proud to announce the Little River Casino Resort & Manistee County Charter Boats’ 2nd Annual “Tight Lines for Troops” Veterans Charity Fishing Tournament. On Sunday, May 22nd, 2011, Manistee County Charter Captains join other fishing boat Captains from around northern Michigan to host 160 Michigan military service personnel and Veterans on 40 four-person “Teams.” To select participants for the free event, priority consideration is given to Purple Heart, Disabled, and Prisoner of War (POW) Veterans.

New for this year will be boats hosting two “POW Teams” made up of Michigan POWs from various wars. There will also be five boats carrying “Gold Star” family teams comprised of family members of fallen heroes. Another five boats will carry the Army, Marine, Air Force, and Coast Guard Teams as they try to knock off reigning “Governor’s Cup” champion “Team Navy”. The remaining 28 boats will carry a variety of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and other Veterans including personnel currently serving.

“Last year was a huge success. We immediately made the decision to launch the 2nd Annual “Tight Lines” planning efforts. The generosity of these charter boat Captains, many of them Veterans themselves, and the support of many Veterans organizations within the region, promises to provide the foundation for another very exciting event,” stated Bob Guenthardt, event founder and Captain of Renegade Charters based in Manistee.

The “Tight Lines for Troops” participants will enjoy a pre-tournament dinner meeting at the Michigan National Guard Armory, served by the United Veterans Council of Manistee County. The tournament day begins with a shotgun start at the pier heads. Tournament weigh-in activities will take place at 1:30 pm also at the National Guard Armory with a BBQ luncheon provided by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Warrior Society. The awards ceremony will be provided later that evening at Little River Casino Resort at 5:00 pm.

Our ultimate goal is to express our gratitude to these individuals for distinguished military service and sacrifice to our nation. Not only will it be a day of camaraderie and world-class fishing out on Lake Michigan, this year’s tournament will also host a River/Pier Division for those looking to tackle the trout on the beautiful Manistee River from the shore, the pier, or a canoe. Other activities planned for families of the participants include a BBQ, canoeing, a classic car show, river walks along the boardwalk, historic tours of Manistee area, and a visit to the Lake Bluff Bird Sanctuary.

The public is encouraged to join in this salute to Michigan Veterans. Sponsorships and Donations are needed and appreciated. The fishing boats and the food are already donated. Cash donations will first go to cover any expenses associated with running the tournament. “Some Veterans will be awarded financial support “Scholarships” to help with their travel, fish licenses, meals, and lodging expenses based on need. Residual proceeds will go to benefit the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Manistee County Veterans Endowment Fund administered by the Manistee County Foundation, and the Brain Injury Association of Michigan Veterans Program to help our returning combatants,” stated Rick Briggs, Major, USAF (Ret) Veterans Program Manager for BIAMI.

To donate/register please visit www.biami.org or www.tightlinesfortroops.com. Send donations and registrations to: BIAMI “Tight Lines for Troops”, 7305 Grand River Suite #100, Brighton, MI 48114. For information contact Bob Guenthardt at 231-723-3282 or Rick Briggs at 810-229-5880 or veterans@biami.org.
PINE KOANS – from the Peacemaking/Probation Department

This month in PINE KOANS we explore the idea of “book smarts” versus “practical knowledge.”

There are many ways in which we can learn about the world. Some people have great mental knowledge, but no practical understanding of how it can be applied in “real life.” Others know much about how to live practically, but have never opened a book. The following story is a comical event about two Indians from the opposite ends of this spectrum. There is no right or wrong way to learn about the world and the story that follows is just meant to make you think, and hopefully, laugh.

When we all work together to use our strengths to help one another, then no one sinks alone. Everyone has different talents to offer, and by pooling these talents together, we are stronger as a tribe. Some situations call for “book smarts” while others call for “practical knowledge.” Each of us has a gift to offer. The test is in finding the balance in life between the extremes we are faced with. But sometimes, it just comes down to…sink or swim.

“SINK OR SWIM”

By

Austen Brauker

Two Indians were paddling on Lake Michigan in a birch bark canoe. One had studied in the University and came back to educate his people. He is dressed up in fancy clothes, while the other man wears buckskin. The fancy dressed Indian looks back.

“You need to learn the ways of the modern world. You need to learn the languages of math and economics! How else can you really help your people? You have wasted your life by staying out in the woods and not learning these things!”

A storm comes upon them suddenly and waves begin to fill the canoe. The water comes over the edge of the gunwale and the craft begins to sink. Thunder rumbles and lightning streaks across the sky!

The buckskin Indian looks curiously at his fancy friend.

“Hey. I’m just wondering. Did they have a swimming pool at your college?”

“No. Why do you ask?”

The buckskin Indian jumps in the water and swims away.

“Because, I am going to head back to shore!”

“Wait, I can’t swim.”

“Then, you are the one who has wasted his life, not me.”

*Aristotle mentions the “Golden Mean,” which is an average of behavioral extremes, where true virtue can be found. The Buddhists talk about the “Middle Road” which is the path of balance and regulation between extreme choices or distractions in life. In the Tao they speak of the balancing forces, “yin and yang.” In some Native American teachings, there is talk of the “medicine wheel” (four cardinal directions, plus “up” and “down,” for six) where the place of being truly centered is when we discover the “seventh direction,” which may be somewhere within ourselves. All of these philosophies, as well as many other world belief systems, emphasize a balance of the mind, the body, the emotions and our own sense of personal spirituality. This is usually a life long journey, for most people, one that must be maintained on a daily basis.*

LRBOI Rising Star

Andre Neebnagezhick & David Carradine on the set of Douglas Schulze’s Dark Fields

Andre Neebnagezhick had his acting debut aside famed “Kung Fu” star, David Carridine in Horror Film, “Douglas Schulze's Dark Fields”. Andre is a 16 year old enrolled citizen of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, is teaching himself to play guitar, writes his own songs, has a keen memory for jokes and a great sense of humor. He is currently in 10th grade and is dedicated to learning his native language, graduating from high school and pursuing his acting and music career. Andre is also a Grass Dancer, Drummer and Singer.

The film was formerly titled “The Rain” and debuted as such at the Detroit / Windsor Int'l Film Fest "red carpet" screening of "THE RAIN" on Saturday, June 27th, 2010 and is available after March 19th.

Andre had a great speaking role and played the Shaman’s Apprentice. The “Douglas Schulze's Dark Fields” DVD may be purchased at Walmart or on Amazon or Rented at Redbox or on Demand

Tax Office

**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.

Reminder: For RTM’s purchasing personal use vehicles

Resident Tribal Members must contact the Tax Office for a Tribal Certificate of Exemption before purchasing a vehicle tax-exempt. There are no provisions for receiving a refund after the sale is completed. If you sign a contract that includes Michigan sales or use tax, it will be a taxable purchase. Application forms are available on the Tax Office page of the LRBOI website under “Resident Tribal Member Information”.

It’s Time to Check your W-4 Status

Income tax time is a good time to check your W-4 withholding amounts. If you owe state or federal income tax on your 2010 return, you may want to reduce your exemptions or have additional tax withheld for 2011. If you’re getting a refund, you may want to increase your exemptions. It’s also a good time to check your beneficiary designations to make sure all your important documents are up to date.
The following Tribal Members have an undeliverable address on file with the Enrollment Department. Please contact the Enrollment Department if you know how we can get in contact with any of the Tribal Members listed or if you know any of their addresses.

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The Enrollment Department would like inform everyone that we will be creating a new Tribal Directory this fall. We will be sending out notices in July to let everyone know about the details and to give them the option to be included in the new directory. If you have any questions or would like to contact our office; we can be contacted at the following numbers: Diane A. Lonn (231) 398-6712, Jessica Wissner (231) 398-6713, or Joseph Riley II (231) 398-6720.
1.01: Internship Program Policy/Procedure:

Policy:
To recruit, assist, and offer LRBOI Tribal Citizens and Tribal Preference Students the work experience in an assortment of positions that are needed Tribal wide. LRBOI via its’ government, enterprises, and business entities has the ability to offer the Tribal Citizen/ Preference College student(s) an educational internship in almost any field of study. Examples: law enforcement, accounting, legal, marketing, social work, medical, administration, construction, etc.

Description:
The internship experience is designed to provide LRBOI Tribal Citizen and Preference Students with the opportunity to gain supervised experience in a work setting for which academic credit is earned. Internships are valuable to LRBOI Tribal Citizen and Preference Students because the internship can be included on their resume and in interviews as work experience.

LRBOI gains an opportunity to help LRBOI Tribal Citizen and Preference Students by participating in the educational process and the opportunity to identify potential applicants for the future.

LRBOI gains the following benefits by offering internships:
- Interns perform functions that will assist more experienced employees
- Interns can complete special projects that would otherwise go undone
- Interns can assist on short-term assignments
- LRBOI gains access to a motivated and skilled labor pool
- Interns can be used to carry out functions during periods of peak load

Definition of Internship:
The Internship Educational Grant Program (applications available through the LRBOI Commerce Department) is only open to LRBOI Tribal Citizen and Preference Students that meet the following requirements:

1. Applicant must be an enrolled LRBOI Tribal Citizen or Tribal Preference (Descendant) and at least 18 years of age.
2. Applicant must have a 2.75 Cumulative Grade Point Average (G.P.A.).
3. Applicant must be in a degree program at an accredited College or University.
4. Length of Internship paid by the Workforce Development Program is 240 paid hours at $10.00 per hour.

Applicant shall only receive educational grant payment or wage being paid for Internship Program (If any wage is available). Applicant shall not receive wage in addition to educational release time. Tribal citizen employees of the Tribe and/or its enterprises shall not be paid the hourly internship wage in addition to their educational release time.

Students on academic or disciplinary probation will not be permitted to enroll in an internship.

Priority of Internships:
1. LRBOI Tribal Citizens that need to complete an internship as part of their degree
2. LRBOI Tribal Citizens enrolled in an accredited college or university
3. LRBOI Descendants that need to complete an internship as part of their degree
4. LRBOI Descendants enrolled in an accredited college or university
5. LRBOI Tribal Citizens High School Graduates enrolled in an accredited college or university (GPA requirement waived since no GPA has been established)

Assignments for Interns:
Internship tasks should be planned ahead of time, and short- and medium-term projects are better than the same assignment day after day.

It is recommended a mix of projects requiring team collaboration involving other employees and projects assigned to the intern alone, to be handled from start to finish and not too much administrative work.

Look for projects that employees may never get around to because they lack the time. Learning objectives need to be structured so that they are result and competency based.

LRBOI will continually guide the student toward increased responsibility and learning opportunities will increase with each additional work assignment.

Pay for Interns:
Pay for internships will be $10 per hour.

As stated above, an applicant shall only receive educational grant payment or wage being paid for Internship Program (If a wage is available). Applicant shall not receive wage in addition to educational grant.

Length of Internships:
All internships must be based on a minimum number of hours per week. Full time internships are approximately 6-10 weeks. An individual is only allowed (1) one internship per calendar year.

Appropriate use of Interns:
The Federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) offers several examples of acceptable training such as:

- A student shadowing a hospital nurse but provides no patient care
- A retailing student practicing ringing up purchases and making change at a simulated checkout station
- A trainee enters “worthless” data on a computer that the business will not use

Please see the Department of Commerce for other programs that may assist you during your internship such as: Internship Hosting, Career Assistance Vouchers, Employment Daycare Assistance Voucher, Vocational Rehabilitation, Employer Incentive Rebate Program, and Development & Training.

To Directors:
Engaging Interns:
Internships are for the benefit of the student. Interns are not to be used in place of employees. Interns will be placed in entry-level pre-professional experiences that are designed to enhance and build their skills. Generally, interns will observe the workplace, discuss with the supervisor such matters as why work is done in a certain way and suggest improvements based on their course work.

Internships are not designed to be an advantage to LRBOI and Interns are not entitled to a job at the conclusion of the internship. The purpose of the internship is to provide a learning experience. It is expected that the supervisory time required will outweigh any work performed by an intern.

Interns usually perform tasks under the watchful eye of a supervisor/employee. If an intern deals with clients or customers without a supervisor present—as a practice teacher will handle a class alone—they review proposed activities or decisions either beforehand or afterward with an employee/supervisor.

Interns will be required to acknowledge in writing that they are not an LRBOI employee, are not entitled to employee benefits, are not entitled to workers compensation, and will comply with all applicable company policies (e.g., confidentiality, illegal drugs, intoxication, safety, etc.).

Any forms required by a government agency will be completed at the beginning of the internship.

The Intern will be provided with a current detailed job description of work tasks to be performed prior to any student placement.
Workforce Development Program

Work hours for Interns:
Departmental functions and needs are likely to dictate whether interns will work a few hours each week during the academic year or join you for several days a week during school breaks.

1.02: Internship Hosting:
To assist LRBOI Tribal Citizens who are in the Internship Program by providing them with a low or no-cost lodging opportunity so that they may fulfill their internship requirements in a safe and friendly environment. It is encouraged that LRBOI families assist the College and University students by volunteering for this program.

- Sponsoring Host must be an enrolled LRBOI Tribal Citizen and at least 18 years of age.
- Must provide Internship Applicant with a separate room.
- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians will pay Internship Host Families an Honorarium.

It will be paid at the end of the applicants internship in the amount of $25 per week for a maximum total of $150.00

2.01: Employer Incentive Rebate Program:
To foster and promote Tribal Citizen Employment in the service area by offering employers a 5% incentive rebate for the hiring of LRBOI Tribal Citizens and at least 18 years of age.

- The employed Tribal Citizen(s) would have to complete 1040 hours of employment for the employer to be eligible.
- Two Employer Incentive Rebate reimbursement cycles per year
  - June 30th & December 31st.
- The rebate is based on the actual hourly wage amount paid to the LRBOI Tribal Citizens.
- Fringe, benefits & overtime pay and hours can be used in determining the rebate amount.
- MI Works, OJT and other training wage funded programs can not be counted towards the rebate incentive.

3. Businesses must be pre-approved by the Commerce Department to be eligible to participate in program.

- Eligible applicants must be an enrolled LRBOI Tribal Citizen.
- Applicant must enroll for the LRBOI Work Force Development Program prior to job placement via the Commerce Department or coordinating Agency.

3.2. Eligible applicants must be a new hire to the Commerce Department approved business

3.3. Approved Businesses must pay a minimum of $8.00 per hour.

3.01: Development & Training:
Various training and services as needed for LRBOI Citizens not limited to the following: pre-employment drug testing, pre-employment physicals, purchase of bus passes, procurement of drivers record, job interviewing skills, unmet college/university course fees and miscellaneous fees. The Commerce Department will coordinate and work with Michigan Indian Employment & Training Services, Michigan Works, and any other local, state, tribal, or federal agency. The maximum amount per applicant that will be paid on their behalf to third party vendors is $300.00 per calendar year.

Coordinate LRBOI program services with outside agency services to allow for the maximum benefit to the Tribal Citizen.

1. Applicant must be an enrolled LRBOI Tribal Citizen and at least 18 years of age.
2. Applicant must be enrolled in the LRBOI Workforce Development Program.
3. Funds will be paid directly to third party vendors on behalf of the Tribal Citizen.
4. Funds will only be released with proper documentation: invoices, bill, estimate, etc.

4.01 Career Assistance Voucher:
Career Assistance Vouchers can be used for supplies, tools, clothes, bus passes, and day care but are not limited to those uses. Career Assistance Vouchers are anything that reasonable assists the applicant in advancing their career via the LRBOI Workforce Development Program. The Career Assistance Voucher amount is $200.00 per calendar year and the applicant must meet all of the following guidelines.

1. Applicant must be an enrolled LRBOI Tribal Citizen and at least 18 years of age.
2. Applicant must be enrolled in the LRBOI Workforce Development Program.
3. Funds will only be released with proper documentation: invoices, bill, estimate, etc.
4. Applicant must be a new hire and notify LRBOI Workforce Development within 30 days of hire date.
5. Employment verification is required prior to any disbursement of funds.

5.01 Employment Daycare Assistance Voucher:
Employment Daycare Vouchers can be used to assist in removing one of the biggest barriers to sustainable employment. The Employment Daycare Voucher amount is $250.00 per calendar year and the applicant must meet all of the following guidelines.

1. Applicant must be an enrolled LRBOI Tribal Citizen and at least 18 years of age.
2. Applicant must be enrolled in the LRBOI Workforce Development Program.
3. Applicant is only available for Employment Daycare Vouchers once per calendar year.
4. Applicant must be a new hire placed for employment via the partnering organizations.
5. Employment verification is required prior to any disbursement of funds.
6. Funds can only be paid to a licensed daycare provider.
7. Payment shall be made directly to the licensed daycare provider.

6.01 Vocational Rehabilitation:
To assist LRBOI Tribal Citizens and family members who have disabilities gain or retain suitable employment. This is one of two cooperative resource-sharing agreements between a tribe and a state-federal vocational rehabilitation program in the country.

1. Eligible individuals must have disabilities that present substantial impediments to employment.
2. Eligible individuals must be LRBOI Tribal Citizens, family members or those economically dependent on LRBOI Tribal Citizens.
3. All services are individualized and are based on assessments of vocational potential and rehabilitation needs.
4. Services are provided pursuant to The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as
amended, and are coordinated by a Michigan Rehabilitation Services rehabilitation specialist. 5.References are coordinated by the Family Services Department Director and his staff.

7.01: Summer Adult Work Experience/Employment Program

**Policy:**
To recruit, assist, and offer LRBOI Tribal Citizens a work experience in an assortment of positions that are needed Tribal wide. LRBOI via its’ government, enterprises, and business entities has the ability to offer the Tribal Citizen a work experience in many areas. Examples: law enforcement, accounting, legal, marketing, social work, medical, administration, construction, etc.

**Description:**
The Summer Adult Work Experience/Employment Program is designed to provide the LRBOI Tribal Citizen the opportunity to gain supervised experience in a work setting. Work experience is valuable to the LRBOI Tribal Citizen because the experience can be included on their resume and in interviews. All applicants selected to participate in the Summer Adult Work Experience / Employment Program will be required to complete up to 32 hours of Job Readiness Training.

LRBOI gains an opportunity to help LRBOI Tribal Citizens by participating in the employment process and the opportunity to identify potential applicants for the future.

LRBOI gains the following benefits by offering work experience:

- Work experience employees perform functions that will assist more experienced employees
- Employee can complete special projects that would otherwise go undone
- Employee can assist on short-term assignments
- LRBOI gains access to a motivated and skilled labor pool
- Employee can be used to carry out functions during periods of peak load

**Definition of Summer Adult Employment Program/Work Experience:**
The Summer Adult Employment Program (applications available through the LRBOI Commerce Department) is only open to LRBOI Tribal Citizen that meet the following requirements:

1. Applicant must be an enrolled LRBOI Tribal Citizen at least 18 years of age.
2. Applicant must complete a standard LRBOI Employment Application at LRBOI Human Resources and a Workforce Development Application for Programs at Commerce (both Applications available online). The deadline for submitting both Applications is April 1st during the program year… no exceptions.
3. Applicant must complete up to 32 hours of paid Job Readiness Training during employment.
4. Length of Work Experience paid by the Workforce Development Program is 320 hours at $10.00 per hour.
5. A Work Experience employee is allowed one Work Experience per calendar year.

Applicant shall only receive wage being paid for work experience through the Program. Applicant shall not receive wage in addition to educational release time. Tribal Citizen employees of the Tribe and or its enterprises shall not be paid the hourly work experience wage in addition to their educational release time.

Ten (10) Work Experience positions are available during any given program year. Employees selected for a work experience understand that their selection is based on the strength of their application and interview and all positions are considered competitive. For FY 2011, the Summer Adult Work Experience Program will take place from Spring until Labor Day.

**Job Readiness Training:**
Summer Adult Work Experience employees are required to complete up to 32 hours of Job Readiness Training during the program. Job Readiness Training will consist of resume and cover letter preparation, preparing for the interview, how to correctly fill out a job application, job searching strategy, and other training applications designed to prepare the individual for work and job retention. Job Readiness Training will take place during the Summer Adult Work Experience Program. Job Training Readiness hours may be waived if the program participant shows proficiency in all aspects of the Job Readiness Training Curriculum. See Job Readiness Training Curriculum.

**Assignments for Work Experience Employees:**
Employee tasks should be planned ahead of time, and short- and medium-term projects are better than the same assignment day after day.

It is recommended a mix of projects requiring team collaboration involving other employees and projects assigned to the work experience employee alone, to be handled from start to finish.

Look for projects that regular employees may never get around to because they lack the time.

Project objectives need to be structured so that they are result and competency based.

LRBOI will continually guide the work experience employee toward increased responsibility and learning opportunities that will increase with each additional work assignment.

**Pay for Employees:**
Pay for Summer Adult Work Experience will be $10 per hour. As stated above, an applicant shall only receive wage being paid for Work Experience Program.

**Length of Work Experience:**
All Work Experience employees must be based on a minimum number of hours per week. Full time work experience is approximately 8-10 weeks not to exceed 320 hours. An individual is only allowed (1) one work experience per calendar year.

**Other Programs:**
Please see the Department of Commerce for other programs that may assist you during your work experience such as: Career Assistance Vouchers, Employment Daycare, Assistance Voucher, Vocational Rehabilitation, Employer Incentive Rebate Program, and Development & Training

**To Directors:**
**Engaging Work Experience Employees:**
Summer Adult Work Experience is for the benefit of the employee. Employees in the Program are not to be used in place of regular employees. Employees will be placed in entry-level pre-professional work experiences that are designed to enhance and build their skills.

The Summer Adult Work Experience is not designed to be an advantage to LRBOI and employees are not entitled to a job at the conclusion of the work experience. The purpose of the program is to provide experience and enhance individual skills.

Employees usually perform tasks under the watchful eye of a supervisor/employee. If an employee deals with clients or customers without a supervisor present they review proposed activities or decisions either beforehand or afterward with an employee/supervisor. The employee shall be evaluated by the supervisor at least once during the program.

Summer Adult Work Experience employees will be required to acknowledge in writing that they are not a regular LRBOI employee, are not entitled to employee benefits, are not entitled to workers compensation, and will comply with all applicable company policies and employment requirements (e.g., drug test, confidentiality, illegal drugs, intoxication, safety, etc.).

Any forms required by a government agency will be completed at the beginning of the work experience including a standard LRBOI Employment Application and Workforce Development Application for Programs.

**Work hours for Employees:**
Departmental functions and needs are likely to dictate whether employees will work a few
hours each week during the work experience or on a full-time basis. Total hours for the work experience employee shall not exceed 320 hours. Employee will be responsible for submitting to the Commerce Department a weekly Time Sheet each Monday at 9:00a.m. Failure to do so may result in late payment of hours worked.

7.02: Summer Youth Work Experience/Employment Program

Policy:
To recruit, assist, and offer LRBOI Tribal Citizens a work experience in an assortment of positions that are needed Tribal wide, LRBOI via its’ government, enterprises, and business entities has the ability to offer the Tribal Citizen a work experience in many areas. All positions are limited to the Manistee, Michigan area.

Description:
The Summer Youth Work Experience/Employment Program is designed to provide the LRBOI Tribal Citizen the opportunity to gain supervised experience in a work setting. Work experience is valuable to the LRBOI Tribal Citizen because the experience can be included on their resume and in interviews. All applicants selected to participate in the Summer Youth Work Experience/Employment Program will be required to complete up to 32 hours of Job Readiness Training.

LRBOI gains an opportunity to help LRBOI Tribal Citizens by participating in the employment process and the opportunity to identify potential applicants for the future.

LRBOI gains the following benefits by offering work experience:

- Work experience employees perform functions that will assist more experienced employees
- Employee can complete special projects that would otherwise go undone
- Employee can assist on short-term assignments
- LRBOI gains access to a motivated and skilled labor pool
- Employee can be used to carry out functions during periods of peak load

Definition of Summer Youth Employment Program/Work Experience:
The Summer Youth Employment Program (applications available through the LRBOI Commerce Department) is only open to LRBOI Tribal Citizen that meet the following requirements:

1. Applicant must be an enrolled LRBOI Tribal Citizen at least 16 - 17 years of age.
2. Applicant must submit a State of Michigan Form CA-7 Combined Offer of Employment and Work Permit/Age Certificate for minors 16 and 17 years of age at LRBOI Human Resources as well as a standard LRBOI Employment Application, and a Workforce Development Application for Programs at Commerce. The deadline for submitting both Applications is May 1st of the program year… no exceptions.

3. Applicant must complete up to 32 hours of paid Job Readiness Training during employment.

4. Length of Work Experience paid by the Workforce Development Program is 320 hours at minimum wage ($7.65 per hour for 2011)

5. A Work Experience employee is allowed one Work Experience per calendar year.

Applicant shall only receive wage being paid for work experience through the Program. Applicant shall not receive wage in addition to educational release time. Tribal Citizen employees of the Tribe and or its enterprises shall not be paid the hourly work experience wage in addition to their educational release time.

Ten (10) Work Experience positions are available during any given program year. Employees selected for a work experience understand that their selection is based on availability of positions and interview and submission of required applications and forms. The Summer Youth Work Experience Program will take place from the end of the Public School Year until Labor Day.

Job Readiness Training:
Summer Youth Work Experience employees are required to complete up to 32 hours of Job Readiness Training during their employment. Job Readiness Training will consist of resume and cover letter preparation, preparing for the interview, how to correctly fill out a job application, job searching strategy, and other training applications designed to prepare the individual for work and job retention. Job Readiness Training will take place during the Summer Youth Work Experience Program. Job Readiness Training hours may be waived if the program participant shows proficiency in all aspects of the Job Readiness Training Curriculum. See Job Readiness Curriculum.

Assignments for Work Experience Employees:
Employee tasks should be planned ahead of time, and short- and medium-term projects are better than the same assignment day after day. It is recommended a mix of projects requiring team collaboration involving other employees and projects assigned to the work experience employee alone, to be handled from start to finish.

Look for projects that regular employees may never get around to because they lack the time.

Project objectives need to be structured so that they are result and competency based.

LRBOI will continually guide the work experience employee toward increased responsibility and learning opportunities that will increase with each additional work assignment.

Pay for Employees:
Pay for Summer Youth Work Experience will be minimum wage ($7.65 per hour). As stated above, an applicant shall only receive wage being paid for Work Experience Program.

Length of Work Experience:
All Work Experience employees must be based on a minimum number of hours per week. Full-time work experience is approximately 8-10 weeks not to exceed 320 hours. An individual is only allowed (1) one work experience per calendar year.

To Directors:
Engaging Work Experience Employees:
Summer Youth Work Experience is for the benefit of the employee. Employees in the Program are not to be used in place of regular employees. Employees will be placed in entry-level pre-professional work experiences that are designed to enhance and build their skills.

The Summer Youth Work Experience is not designed to be an advantage to LRBOI and employees are not entitled to a job at the conclusion of the work experience. The purpose of the program is to provide experience and enhance individual skills.

Employees usually perform tasks under the watchful eye of a supervisor/employee. If an employee deals with clients or customers without a supervisor present they review proposed activities or decisions either beforehand or afterward with an employee/supervisor. The employee will be evaluated by the supervisor at least once during the program.

Summer Youth Work Experience employees will be required to acknowledge in writing that they are not a regular LRBOI employee, are not entitled to employee benefits, are not entitled to workers compensation, and will comply with all applicable company policies and employment requirements (e.g., drug test, confidentiality, illegal drugs, intoxication, safety, etc.).

Any forms required by a government agency will be completed at the beginning of the work experience including a Workforce Development Application for Programs and submission of a Form CA-7 for minors 16 and 17 years of age.

Work hours for Employees:
Departmental functions and needs are likely to dictate whether employees will work a few hours each week during the work experience or on a full-time basis. Total hours for the work experience employee shall not exceed 320 hours. Employee will be responsible for submitting to the Commerce Department a weekly Time Sheet each Monday at 9:00a.m. Failure to do so may result in late payment of hours worked.
The law firm of Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP is pleased to announce the addition of John F. Petoskey as a new Partner in our Law Firm, as well as the opening of our new office in Michigan to provide enhanced service to our valued clients.

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Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP is a full service law firm that limits its practice to Indian tribes and Native American organizations throughout the U.S.

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.
Government Closes for the following Holidays

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

Some areas of the government will be continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety. Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of the Government facilities. It’s always a good idea to call first if you are not sure. Just use the toll-free number of 888.723.8288.

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@ 231-723-7250
email:
ymshkigwaasange@yahoo.com

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

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Fax: 231-398-0802

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

www.marykay.com/dcarnes1
REVIEW OF PRESIDENT OBAMA’S FY 2012 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS)
The President’s Indian Health Service (IHS) budget request for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 totals $4.624 billion. This figure represents a 14.1% increase over the FY 2010 appropriated level and 4.9% increase over the President’s budget request for FY 2011. The Obama Administration continues to demonstrate its commitment to honor the Federal government’s trust responsibilities and treaty obligations by exempting IHS from the “spending freeze” that other agencies and programs are subject to under this budget request. The continuing review and work on appropriations for FY 2011 and FY 2012 remains in the hands of Congress.

### Summary of Indian Health Service Budget for FY 2009 – FY 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IHS Program</th>
<th>FY 2009 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2010 Enacted</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>FY 2011 Request</th>
<th>FY 2012 Request vs. FY11 Request</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Clinical Services</td>
<td>$2,625,707</td>
<td>$2,953,559</td>
<td>12.50%</td>
<td>$3,200,165</td>
<td>$3,376,201</td>
<td>14.30%</td>
<td>5.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Health Services</td>
<td>$634,477</td>
<td>$779,347</td>
<td>21.10%</td>
<td>$862,765</td>
<td>$948,646</td>
<td>21.70%</td>
<td>9.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventive Health Services</td>
<td>$135,227</td>
<td>$144,315</td>
<td>6.70%</td>
<td>$151,060</td>
<td>$156,613</td>
<td>4.70%</td>
<td>8.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Other Services</td>
<td>$430,022</td>
<td>$559,744</td>
<td>30.20%</td>
<td>$609,962</td>
<td>$633,325</td>
<td>13.20%</td>
<td>3.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total IHS</td>
<td>$3,581,124</td>
<td>$4,052,375</td>
<td>11.60%</td>
<td>$4,406,429</td>
<td>$4,623,808</td>
<td>14.10%</td>
<td>4.90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:
2. The FY 2011 figures reflect President Obama’s original budget request for FY 2011. Currently, the government is operating under a continuing resolution, which is scheduled to expire on March 4, 2011.

The congressional justification of the IHS budget proposal is available on the IHS website at [www.ihs.gov/NonMedicalPrograms/BudgetFormulation/bf_cong_justifications.asp](http://www.ihs.gov/NonMedicalPrograms/BudgetFormulation/bf_cong_justifications.asp). For more information, contact Jennifer Cooper, Legislative Director or Liz Malerba, Legislative Assistant at (202) 507-4070 or visit [www.nihb.org](http://www.nihb.org).

### 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 Food Stamp 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.

Yvonne Theodore, Laurie Jackson
1-888-723-8288 ask for Commodity Program
Office # are 231-398-6716 or 231-398-6715
Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M
Lunch hour is 12:00 1:00

### USDA Income

**Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations**

**Net Monthly Income Standards**

**October 1, 2010 & October 1, 2011**

**Household Size Income Limits**

1. $ 1,045.00
2. $ 1,357.00
3. $ 1,668.00
4. $ 1,991.00
5. $ 2,329.00
6. $ 2,666.00
7. $ 2,978.00
8. $ 3,290.00

For each additional member add $ 312.00

Commodity Department serves 13 counties:

Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.
Editors note…the Vogue Theater at 383 River Street, just west of the Tribal Government main office, has been an integral part of the city that anchors the Tribal Reservation in Manistee County. The theater has deteriorated over recent times and late last year, the Manistee Downtown Development Authority purchased the property with an eye to renovation and transformation.

On February 9, 2011, a special ceremony was held to kick off a city-wide effort for the Vogue Theater and it was led by renowned film producer, Michael Moore. Moore, who lives outside of Traverse City, has led the charge to refurbish the State Theater in Traverse City and make it into a jewel for their downtown. His success there has led him to commit to helping other historic downtown theaters in Michigan.

Manistee, Michigan - Academy Award-winning filmmaker Michael Moore will make the revitalization of Manistee's Vogue Theater his first target for expanding his Statewide State Theatre Project.

Moore will champion a community-driven effort to restore and reopen the 72-year-old theatre located in the heart of the City of Manistee at 383 River Street. The Vogue Theatre Project follows on the heels of the successful State Theatre Project that has been instrumental in the economic revitalization of downtown Traverse City.

"The people of Manistee are about to see what a popular, thriving movie palace can do for their downtown," said Moore. "They will return the Vogue to being the crown jewel of Manistee. We will turn on the Vogue's marquee lights, bring in some jobs, pump money into the economy and do it with a nonprofit venture staffed mostly by volunteers. The Vogue will show first-run movies plus documentaries, foreign films, kids movies and classics -- something for everyone. The Vogue will be Manistee's new town square."

Moore explained that the Vogue perfectly fits the profile for his State Theatre Project, a nonprofit endeavor he's funding to help replicate throughout the State of Michigan following his success with Traverse City's State Theatre. Moore said, "It's a wonderful, iconic theatre in the center of a downtown and the community is behind the revitalization and prosperity of both. This will provide the spark for the continued resurgence of Manistee and will serve as a model for other small, aspiring communities throughout the nation."

As with the State Theatre, Moore said that restoration and start up of The Vogue will be conducted entirely through a grassroots effort by the people of the Manistee area. Donations of money, time and materials from the community is what will bring the Vogue back to life. "No one else is going to make this happen unless the people of Manistee want it done. That's what I learned in Traverse City."

Moore said that no more than "a half dozen generous benefactors from the area need to write a check to breathe life into the Vogue. And if they write that check, I will, too."

"The State Theatre was gutted and rebuilt from scratch in just six weeks," recalls Moore.

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Important information about the $3.4 billion Indian Trust Settlement

For current or former IIM account holders, Owners of land held in trust or restricted status, or their heirs

What is this About?
After 14 years, there is a proposed Settlement in Cobell v. Salazar. The class action settles claims that the federal government violated its duties by mismanaging trust accounts and individual Indian trust lands.

Who is Included?
The Settlement includes Indians who:
- Had an IIM account anytime from approximately 1985 to September 30, 2009,
- Had an individual interest in trust land as of September 30, 2009, or
- Are heirs to deceased IIM account holders or owners of land held in trust or restricted status.

What Does the Settlement Provide?
- $1.5 billion fund to pay those included in the Settlement.
- $1.9 billion to buy small interests in trust or restricted land to benefit Indian communities.
- Up to $60 million to fund scholarships for Indian youth.

How Much Money Can I Get?
- Most people included in the Settlement will get at least $1,500. Others may receive more or less based on the terms of the Settlement.
- If you are currently receiving an IIM account statement you do not have to do anything to get a payment.
- If you are not currently receiving an IIM account statement and you believe you are included in the Settlement, call the toll-free number or visit the website to register.

For more information about the Settlement and your legal rights,
(You have until April 20, 2011 to act on some of these rights)

Call: 1-800-961-6109 or Visit: www.IndianTrust.com
Tribal Elder Jerrold Magnuson, age 57, passed away Monday February 14, 2011. He was born December 3, 1953 in Muskegon, MI. Mr. Magnuson was self employed in construction co. He is survived by 2 daughters, Jonal Magnuson of Muskegon, MI and Andrea Marlin. 3 brothers, Jeffery Magnuson of Grand Rapids, MI., John Magnuson of Mt. Pleasant, MI., and Jamie Magnuson of Carson City, MI.; 8 grandchildren, Stacia, Magnuson, Aaron, Jerrold and Jay Clincy, Alena, Jaspen Girard, Brock, Travis, Trenton, Kira Fishers. Services were at the Young Funeral Home in Muskegon on Friday, February 18th, 2011.
Feb. 12, 2011
65 competitors and many spectators braved the wind of a winter’s day for the annual Goonignebig held at the AkiMaadiziwin Community Center (well the track was actually behind it). The track was again laid slightly uphill as fears of snakes passing off the end required the precautions. The snow for the track’s foundation was piled up by the Housing staff, and some members of Mushigon came out and laid out the track with Jay “supervising”, complete with the Jay standard’s curve. (I like to say “Anyone can have a straight downhill or level track, ours needs character. It used to have a 90 curve.”) From the start point (far end in picture) to the end was approximately 336 feet with colors black at the start, red, yellow and white at the finishing end.
Then came the practice throws by some of the competitors, and two problems arose. First, there were throws out the end of the track which would cause a measurement issue. That issue would be resolved when or if it occurred again. The second caused some delay when a snake crashed through the side of the track and stuck at about 74 feet. Repairs were immediate, with Brian Gibson, Dave Corey and others affecting a patch and icing it over. A few moments later the track was ready to go.
After a couple of hours of competition, everyone gathered inside for a homemade lunch of sloppy joes, venison and wild rice soup, potato soup, frybread, and a personalized sheet cake. Everyone received an embroidered knit hat; each competitor received a participation ribbon while each winner received a placement medal. The 2011 Goonignebig Tournament winners and participants were:

**Ages 1 -5 Combined:**
1st: Cecelia Orcutt – 54 ft.
2nd: Maggie Finney – 38 ft. 8 in.
3rd: Chloe Finney – 33 ft. 2 in.

Kateri Ceplina – 24 ft. 7 in.
Shenoah Collier – 21 ft. 3 in.

**Ages 6 – 10 Combined:**
1st: Cassidy Finney – 119 ft.
2nd: Aiden Carver – 112 ft. 6 in.
3rd: Brenden Orcutt – 94 ft. 10 in.

Noah Finney – 70 ft. 10 in.
Celia Starchie – 68 ft. 10 in.
Nate Corey – 61 ft. 8 in.
Andrew Pontiac – 57 ft. 6 in.
Breanna Patricio – 54 ft. 4 in.
Ben Ceplina – 52 ft. 4 in.
Nathan Burkhart – 44 ft. 6 in.
Raelyn McLain – 32 ft. 5 in.

**Ages 11 – 17 Girls:**
1st: Kristina DeLand-Phillips – 269 ft. 6 in.
2nd: Kelsey DeLand-Phillips – 180 ft. 1 in.
3rd: Amy Shalifoe – 149 ft. 7 in.

Maya Aldred – 117 ft. 4 in.
Joselyn Cabarrubia – 112 ft.
Hannah Howell – 110 ft. 9 in.
Lilli Parker – 105 ft.
Jalissa Cabarrubia – 61 ft. 10 in.

**Ages 11 – 17 Boys:**
1st: Patrick Wilson – 281 ft. 6 in.
2nd: Bronsen Clyne – 190 ft. 9 in.
3rd: Drew Berens – 149 ft. 4 in.

Blaque Clyne – 89 ft. 1 in.

**Ages 18 – 54 Men:**
1st: Dave Corey – 295 ft. 5 in.
2nd: Bob Phillips – 293 ft. 11 in.
3rd: Todd Parker – 290 ft.
Noah Dobson – 277 ft. 8 in.
Clatus Clyne – 274 ft. 1 in.
Brian Carver – 271 ft. 2 in.
Brian Gibson – 268 ft. 7 in.
Drew Harrington – 264 ft. 4 in.
Mike Ceplina – 263 ft. 6 in.
Pat Wilson – 262 ft.
Gale Berens – 226 ft. 10 in.
Dustin Collier – 212 ft. 3 in.
Kevin Finney – 177 ft.
Roger Shalifoe – 156 ft. 4 in.

**Ages 55+ Combined:**
1st: Richard Bailey – 214 ft. 6 in.
2nd: Jim Gibson – 212 ft. 8 in.

John Shano – 164 ft.
Rochelle Ettawageshik – 163 ft. 2 in.
Robert Chandler – 151 ft. 4 in.
Lorraine Smith – 141 ft. 6 in.
Stella Gibson – 113 ft. 6 in.
Sue Shano – 110 ft. 8 in.
Al Patricio – 109 ft.
Sandra Chandler – 88 ft. 11 in.
Martha Kase – 76 ft. 2 in.
Linda Mochmer – 73 ft. 6 in.

Congratulations to Dave Corey for achieving the longest throw of the day which was recorded at 295 feet and 5 inches! Dave received a blanket for his accomplishment.
This year a few new prize categories were added. The competitor who traveled the furthest received a gas gift card and it was awarded to John and Sue Shano who came from Waterford, Michigan (approximately 215 miles one way)! Jim Gibson received a blanket for being the oldest competitor (at least he’s the oldest that would admit to his age). Lastly, a blanket was awarded to the best looking snowsnake used in the competition. After a couple rounds of cheering, the prize was awarded to Rochelle Ettawageshik for her black snake with ruby eyes.
The Historic Preservation Department would like to say “miigwech” and express our appreciation to our volunteers: Melanie Ceplina, Sandra Chandler, Kathy Gibson, Brian Gibson, Jeanie Gibbons, Michelle Bernatche, and anyone else that we may have forgotten to mention. An extra-special thanks goes to Frankie Medacco and the Housing Department, Dave Corey and Mushigon Construction for all of their hard work in plowing the snow and making the track. We also thank the Ogema and Council for supporting this event and the Director extends his thanks to the staff.
We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and we hope to see you again at the tournament next year!

Photo’s taken by Martha Howell
Megwa Ezhiweback

You can find this and many other issues at lrboi.com

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