Installation Ceremony at LRBOI

A wonderful ceremony was held at the Tribal Council meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 as our newly elected tribal leaders were sworn into office. The meeting was held in the Makwaa Endaat and began with a teaching and blessing by JD Gibson assisted by Brian Carver. The drum ‘Swirling Wind’ honored the gathering. Singers were: Phil Memberto, Gary Lewis, Don Underwood, Jessie Cabarrubia, Lee Sprague and Carmen Two Crow.

Chief Judge Daniel Bailey administered the oath of office to Larry Romanelli who was sworn in for his second term as the Ogema of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Also taking the oath of office were returning Council Members Sandy Mezeske and Patricia “Pat” Ruiter. New to Council were Kimberly M. Alexander and Michael J. Ceplina. Alexander has served on Tribal Council in the past. Berni L. Carlson was sworn in as an Appellate Court Judge within the Tribal Judiciary and Tammy S. Bowen and Tracy Frees were sworn in as members of the Tribal Election Board.

Following the welcoming feast, Council proceeded with their meeting and chose Steve Parsons to serve again as the Speaker of the Tribal Council and Janine Sam was once more chosen to serve as the Recorder for Tribal Council.

Attending the ceremony and congratulating the newly sworn tribal leaders were family and tribal members as well as City of Manistee Mayor, Richard Mack and Manistee City Councilwoman Catherine Zaring.

Memorial Day Observation

Tribal Warriors and Police took part in the observation of Memorial Day 2011 in Downtown Manistee. See photos and details on page 11

Relay for Life ‘Stars’

Ogemak Larry Romanelli and Lee Sprague took to the stage for the Relay for Life talent show and really strutted their ‘stuff’. See photos and details on page 27

Black Bear/Elk hunt

“The Natural Resources Commission held their annual permit draw at Aki Maadiziwin. See page 6 for a full list of names that were drawn.”
Sault Tribe selects John Wernet as new general counsel

Written by Michelle Bouschor
Wednesday, 01 June 2011

John Wernet, former deputy legal counsel to Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm and a recognized expert in Native American law, will be the new general counsel to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Wernet will become the lead attorney for the Sault Tribe, the largest federally recognized Indian tribe east of the Mississippi with nearly 39,000 members, and its talented team of lawyers. He brings to the position many years of experience in Native American legal issues nationally and in Michigan.

“I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve the members and leadership of the Sault Tribe,” said Wernet, who officially starts the job on June 13. “The Sault Tribe is the state’s largest sovereign Native community and is vitally important as a job provider. I am proud to be a member of their team.”

Wernet earned his B.A. from the University of Michigan’s Residential College in 1972 and his J.D. from Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C. in 1975. From 1975 through 1979 he was on the faculty of Antioch School of Law where he directed the law school’s para-legal programs including the National Indian Paralegal Training Program. Wernet returned to Michigan in 1979 to become an Assistant Attorney General for the state of Michigan and served as counsel to the Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs from 1980 through 1988, as First Assistant in the Indian Law Unit from 1992-1995, and as Assistant in Charge of the Native American Affairs Division from 1998 through 2003. In 2003, he became Deputy Legal Counsel to Michigan Gov. Granholm and served as the governor’s advisor on tribal-state affairs.

“John Wernet is a superior attorney and a high quality person with distinguished credentials and a stellar reputation, and we are thrilled to have him as our new general counsel,” said Lana Causley, vice chairwoman of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

LRBOI Ogema Larry Romanelli commented upon Mr. Wernet’s appointment, “I appreciated working with John during the Granholm administration. We worked on the Club Keno Settlement, the 2007 State Inland Fishing Compact and the Muskegon Casino Project. I always felt John was fair and had a complete understanding of tribal sovereignty and the difference between the tribal nations. I am pleased to hear he is working for a Michigan Tribe and look forward to working with him in the future. All Michigan tribes will benefit.”

From the desk of Councilor Kimberly Alexander-At-Large:

I want to thank each and every one of my supporters in this 2011 Tribal Election. I would like to highlight the issue’s that have come to light so far since being in office. The first week I did read quite a bit of information.

I have participated in Tribal Council meetings, Natural Resource Ordinance and by-laws review, Soma, Merit/COLA raise for employee’s, Agenda Review’s, Liaison appointments, Budget and Appropriations act, Council standing item for the month is round table discussion, Revenue Allocation Code, Tribal Court Ordinance and Law and Order code, and attended a Federal Court hearing in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

I also was appointed to the Health Commission and Enrollment Commission as their liaison. I am very excited to be able to help our members out once again. I wish I had more to report this month but due to just being sworn in that is not much to discuss this month. Hopefully next month will be a full calendar but for now everyone have a wonderful month and enjoy the beautiful summer.

Michael Ceplina-231-398-6828
Councilor- Nine County

It is an honor to work for the tribe to get different issues resolved so that the tribe will move forward in a positive manner. The Drum Ceremony and Pipe Ceremony was a very touching part of the swearing in. In keeping my word, I have been here 40+ hrs. I have been to just about all of the meetings and the ones that were missed are because of miscommunication of a meeting being moved or not knowing that there was a meeting. I have been doing a lot of reading so I know what is going on with the tribe. The other Councilors and staff are a big help to get information to me and I thank them for getting me up to speed on important issues. I would also thank all the tribal citizens that supported me in my campaign.

Miwetch
Michael J Ceplina

Tribal Council Liaisons for Commissions/Committees/Task Forces

1. Natural Resource Commission: P. Ruitter/M. Ceplina
2. Elders Committee: P. Ruitter/S. Mezeske/V. Johnson
7. Housing Commission: S. Parsons/S. Mezeske
8. Veterans Warrior Society: P. Ruitter
9. Commerce Commission: S. Mezeske/V. Johnson
10. Legislative Liaison: K. Alexander
Alternates: P. Ruitter, C. Chapman, and J.M. Sam

12. Construction Project Task Force: S. Mezeske, S. Parsons, V. Johnson and M. Ceplina
13. NIGA Representatives: L. Romanelli – Delegate
14. NCAI Representatives: L. Romanelli – Delegate
**Council News**

**Recorder’s Report to the Membership-June 2011**

New Council Members all moved in!
The Swearing In for the newly Elected Tribal Officials was held on May 18, 2011. The Recorder’s Office had arranged for the Tribal Council meeting to be streamed on the internet, allowing Membership that could not attend in person to view from home. The Tribal Council said farewell to those departing, and welcomed all those being sworn in with gifts, as a token of appreciation for the service that each person committed to.

New 9 County representative Michael Ceplina and new At Large representative Kimberly Alexander have settled into their new offices and their contact information is as follows;

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<tr>
<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:mceplina@lrboi.com">mceplina@lrboi.com</a></td>
<td>231 398-6828</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:kalexander@lrboi.com">kalexander@lrboi.com</a></td>
<td>231 398-7530</td>
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As always, members are welcome to contact Tribal Council by the Tribe’s toll free number, (888)-723-8288, and by pressing zero (0), you may ask to speak to any member of the Council. Members are also encouraged to contact Council staff, Kathleen Bowers, or Grace Hendler, in the event that the Council person you are trying to reach is not available. Both staff members will ensure your message is delivered in a timely manner.

**New Legislation Agenda Moving Forward**
The Tribal Council is working on several pieces of Legislation simultaneously. The Sex Offender Registration Notice Act (SORNA) is expected to be posted for public comment on June 15, 2011. Other legislation will be amended as a result of the enactment of the Adam Walsh Act, in conjunction with the adoption of the SORNA. SORNA is the law that mandates how sex offenders must register, the manner in which they register, and how often they must update their information on the Tribal Sex Offenders Registry. The new law also spells out penalties if a sex offender fails to comply with the law. Tying in other Tribal Codes with this new legislation will result in updates to other Tribal laws. The Law and Order Code is being amended to include certain offenses that are covered by the Adam Walsh act that were not specifically addressed by the current Tribal Law. The Tribal Court Ordinance and Criminal Procedures Code also require updating in order to have each of these laws work with the new SORNA ordinance under consideration. The Tribal Council enacted the Elders Protection Code as well, and the laws under modification will also address changes needed as a result of that new law. Tribal Council is dedicated to enacting laws to protect its members, especially its Children and Elders, to the greatest extent possible.

The Tribal Council is also currently moving forward to enact a Government Structures Ordinance, which will prioritize and further define essential services of the Tribe, a hierarchy of oversight, including identifying core departments to deliver those services to Membership. This Ordinance will also assist in setting funding priorities in the future.

The Tribal Council has also added to its own schedule proposing amendments to the Budget and Appropriations Ordinance, along with the creation of a Sovereign Immunity and Negotiations Code, (title subject to change); a Litigation Oversight Code, and corresponding amendments to the Legal Reform Act.

The Recorder’s Office has been notified that a work group is being established to craft a Family Law or Domestic Relations Act. This Act will govern marriages and divorces, including other family matters such as child support, visitation and family court concerns. This effort is in its forming stages, so the Council may not have a new code to act on for several months, but please watch for public comment postings.

The Tribal Council is also addressing changes to the code that created the Natural Resources Commission, and has met to discuss potential changes to the Enrollment Ordinance, as recommended by the Enrollment Commission.

**Enrollment Commission meets with Tribal Council.**

Normally, individual work sessions are not reported within the Recorder’s Report, due to space constraints. However, it is important, in light of the discussions ensuing regarding closing enrollment, for the Council to share with the membership the outcome of one of the work sessions during the month of May. During its work session with the Enrollment Commission, Tribal Council was surprised to find out that the Ordinance and Membership eligibility criteria spelled out by the Constitution was being applied in a manner that would allow a person to “disenroll” from a Tribe which they were already a member of, and then move forward as a new enrollment at Little River Band. During that work session, it was discovered that the criteria under the Constitution at Article II, Section 1(c), which states a person is not eligible if they are already currently enrolled in any other federally recognized Indian Tribe, band, or group, was not resulting in a determination of a person being ineligible, but rather, additional work was being done by the Enrollment department to establish family history, and the person was being given the option to disenroll from their Tribe they were a current member of, and then moving forward on the membership application at Little River Band. It appears this process was being utilized within the Enrollment Department to establish family history, and the person was being given the option to disenroll from their Tribe they were a current member of, and then moving forward on the membership application at Little River Band. It appears this process was being utilized within the Enrollment Department itself. Unfortunately, the Tribal Council does not know how long this practice has been happening, but during the work session, the Council conveyed its position that if an individual is ‘currently enrolled’ in another tribe, they are not eligible for membership at the LRBOI. The Enrollment Commission determined that a review of the application process was appropriate, and will review with the Enrollment Department, to ensure that persons currently enrolled elsewhere are notified they are not eligible for membership here.

**Question of Quorum at Spring Membership Meeting placed before the Court**

During the last Recorder’s Report, it was noted that there are actions pending in the Tribal Court regarding the Membership meeting, and claims about whether or not a quorum of members were present during the voting process for each action taken from the floor. The closing date for membership to notify the Court if a person wishes to be an ‘interested party’ is June 22, 2011. The Court has provided forms, which are available on the Tribe’s website, for persons wishing to join the action as an Interested Party. The Court has allowed members to designate themselves as interested in the position taken by Mr. Scott Wahr and Tribal Council, or to take the position of the Ogema and Election Board.

The Court has consolidated the Tribal Council and Mr. Wahr’s claims into one action and designated both as Plaintiff, and consolidated the Ogema and Election Board into one Defendant, for the purpose of this case. However, the Tribal Council believes that its question is significantly different than Mr. Wahr’s claim, and has requested that a motion be filed to separate the claims into separate cases. First, because the Tribal Council is not suing anyone, not the Ogema, and certainly not its own Members. The Council has asked the Court to rule on a constitutional question, which technically does not put the Council in position of suing the Election Board, either. The Tribal Council is not alleging that any party did anything wrong, but rather, asking if the quorum of membership is required to be present during each action taken, and to verify that each of the votes certified by the Election Board have been done according to the Constitution.

As you read by the report published in the last Currents, there were significant votes taken during the Membership meeting that will potentially impact government operations on a weekly basis. The Tribal Council wants to ensure, by requesting a thorough review of the Tribal Court, that those issues are enacted in accordance with the Constitution. In the meantime, while the Court weighs the question, Council is looking for opportunities to measure and to test the impact of implementing the initiatives voted on, to ensure that costs are not impacted negatively.

Example: How will the Membership Vote regarding Expenditures in Open Session be managed?

As an example of one area that was voted on during the Membership meeting, the vote mandates that all expenditures of the Tribe be acted on in Open Session of Tribal Council. In order to test what kind of operational impact that will have, Councilor Lee Sprague has suggested that one of the Tribal Departments complete a Demonstration Project to test how each expenditure will be presented to Council. In doing so, the Council hopes to identify the mechanisms that could be used to facilitate weekly expenditure processing, in the event the Court determines that that Council must implement
Concerns about Per Capita for July 1
The Tribal Council has received several questions regarding the per capita payment slated for July 1. During the Elder’s meeting of June 4, the Ogema had arranged for the General Manager of the Casino to make a report regarding the contributing factors involved in why the first quarter was lower than expected. Mr. Davis explained that the Casino Budget was predicated on Gun Lake’s casino opening later in the year, but Gun Lake had actually opened two months earlier than expected, impacting the first quarter of operations. Mr. Davis identified that the price of gas increased to over $4.00 per gallon, and compared the costs of travel for persons near to the Gun Lake Facility.

During the Elder’s meeting of June 4, the Ogema had arranged for the General Manager of the Casino to make a report regarding the contributing factors involved in why the first quarter was lower than expected. Mr. Davis explained that the Casino Budget was predicated on Gun Lake’s casino opening later in the year, but Gun Lake had actually opened two months earlier than expected, impacting the first quarter of operations. Mr. Davis identified that the price of gas increased to over $4.00 per gallon, and compared the costs of travel for persons near to the Gun Lake Facility. It was noted that promotions were also a factor, and that the Casino is increasing its promotional allowances, which also impacts the net revenue numbers. The faltering Michigan Economy, and the opening of a new Casino have impacted business at Little River Casino & Resort.

“The Loan is paid off, why is the per capita not larger?”
The Tribal Council points out that the payoff of the loan for the facility is not a factor in the first quarter for per capita determinations. The loan payoff was completed until March, so the loan payments were made for the months of January and February, debt was not paid off until March. Tribal Distribution would not be affected by the loan payoff until the month of April, as that would be the first month without a loan payment. However, the Tribal Council believes that the distribution to the Tribe for the months of April and May have not been increased due to debt retirement. As of the preparation of this report, the Tribal Council is still awaiting the April and May financial statements from the Casino, so the Recorder cannot state with certainty if the distribution levels are consistent with plan or not, or whether the Tribe’s distribution is more than expected due to debt retirement.

Gaming Enterprise Board Appointments Due
On a related matter, the Casino Board of Directors must have three seats appointed within 60 days of the Ogema’s swearing in. The Ogema and one member of Tribal Council are required to sit on the Board (unless the Ogema decides to appoint a member of Council in his place.) At current, the Ogema had declined to serve his seat during the last appointment cycle. The current Council member appointed to the Board is Virgil Johnson. The Ogema has until approximately July 13, to submit nominations to the Tribal Council for the three positions.

Mr. Davis did assure those present at the Elder’s meeting that the management at the Casino will be doing what it can to improve the position against the competition through capitalizing on the hotel and entertainment facilities. It was also noted that the non-gaming areas (hotel, food and beverage) are performing well, and both departments are led by Tribal member directors.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janine M. Sam
Recorder
I think it should be mentioned right from the start that the HP office was willing to develop and work with all those who wanted to take part in this gathering. This office also invited other LRBOI departments to work on this endeavor, some responded and some did not. The office may have not got a timely start on this very important gathering, but the point is the event was taken on and finished in a very good successful way, done with a good heart and good intentions like our gatherings are supposed to be undertaken and the outcome proved that.

First day of this gathering was a camp day. This day is for whoever wants to show up, does show up and help put up lodges, put tarps on lodges, prepare fire wood etc., the day was good and I think actually set the tone for the next couple of days.

Second Day was the start of the gathering teachings. The Sacred Fire was started and a Pipe Ceremony was offered. Although our schedule was adjusted because our first Anishinaabe Jack Chambers could not be here until Saturday things worked well with a few people showing up having coffee and donuts and just talking about what we would be doing the rest of the day. Again the Fellowship that these kinds of gatherings produce is good for our Community and the Spirit of our Community here at Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. That Community Spirit has to be given nourishment and fed. It does not always matter how many people you have, it’s the good that comes out of the opportunity to be there.

The afternoon presenter was Debra Davis. Debra presentation was making your personnel Bundle. (A personal Bundle is a selection of many items that mean a great deal to its owner. Most traditional Woman and Men carry some sort of bundles that consist of their scared objects, gathering tools, clan objects, etc.). Debra presentation was well done and she brought cloth and other items for all the providing this information and was well prepared and knowledgeable about her presentation. I hope she is given the chance to present at other gatherings. There were about 20 people who attended. It was a good teaching and we had and Good Spirit of Community.

We did plan on having the evening Feast and Round Dance at the Gathering Grounds but the decision was made to move to the old Community Center because of rain. The Feast started about 5:30 pm and there was enough food for all. At least 45 to 50 people came to the Feast.

The Round Dance scheduled started on time at 6:30 pm. The Singers came from Saginaw Chippewa Reserve and Saginaw Chippewa Montessori School. Boys aged 9 to 12 years old from the school participated in the singing of Round Dance songs. Sarnia Anishinaabe Reserve and GTB Chippewa and Ottawa Anishinaabek also provided singers. This created a well-rounded group of Singers who provided some great Round Dance songs for two and a half hours. The Dance lasted until 9:00 pm. We had over 50 people come to participate in this first mini Round Dance for our Community. The people enjoyed themselves. There were many good smiles and again there was the good Spirit of Community.

Second Day was a Saturday. We had the Sacred Fire started once again and a Pipe Ceremony was offered by two (2) Pipe Carriers from the Community. The people gathered on this morning did a great job and we had good fellowship until our next teaching or sharing time. We had Breakfast that was provided by the Native American Church. The Breakfast was very good and the cooks done a good job. A big Chi Miigwech to the Native American Church (especially to Brian and Kathy Gibson) for stepping forward and offering their assistance.

Our first presenter on Saturday was Kareen Lewis. Kareen did a good job talking about her teachings as she learned them through her life experiences out West. Kareen is a member of the Native American Church and has spent time at Sun Dance ceremonies. There were around 12 to 15 people who attended this teaching.

Julie Wolfe and Family provided the Lunch on Saturday. Julie and her family done a great job on the food. It was good and there was plenty for all. We all say a Chi Miigwech to Julie and her Family who fed the people well. For lunch we had about 30 people attend and there were lots of smiles and the Spirit of Community.

The afternoon between 1-5pm belonged to the Peacemaking/Probation Department (part of the Tribal Court). The teaching was on making a fire with a bow, fire safety and the difference between sacred and utility fires. (I did not attend this teaching.) It was designed to address at risk youth and through the Seeds program that the Tribal Court works with, although it was open to all. Austen Brauker worked closely with the presenter. During this time our Evening Presenter arrived early. That presenter was Jack Chambers. Those of us who were not involved in the Bow fire instructions went into the Lodge and started an informal Talking and Teaching Lodge. There had to be at one time maybe 8 to 12 people sitting around the Fire discussing many different things in no set order. It was a “as the Spirit moves you to talk” talk. Many good issues were brought up, many teaching were given, and one had to be there. (The most important teachings in this writers mind was the willing to share, the laughter, and the remembering what we learn at time in different places and how important it was to share that information.) We had a couple Elders come over from the Elders meeting; they were from Ann Arbor and GTB. They stayed for the rest of the day. That Good Spirit of Community and the nourishment our gatherings provide to our people and the surroundings was very visible.

The evening meal was provided by the Kwewok Circle. The meal was well prepared and there was plenty. A Chi Miigwech to the Kwewok Circle and those who prepared the meal.

Our evening presenter was Jack Chambers. We had at least thirty (30) people in the lodge or more. It was full. Jacks teachings were simple. It was about community and sharing our knowledge. Learning no one is better than the other, we just have differences in our teaching depending on what camp we come from. We discussed many things for the next 2-3 hours. Jack did a Pipe Ceremony, many prayers were offered and many questions asked. All in all it was a good ending to our day and gathering. Which I believe could really be a good beginning to what we need to do to develop a more working community for our people in The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

A Chi Miigwech to Jimmie Mitchell who made sure we had wood for the Fire. A Chi Miigwech to all those workers and those who prepared food. Let me say Miigwech to the Pipe men who offered good Prayers to start us off each day and a Chi Miigwech to the Community who attended. Let us send out hopes we can come together more often in this good way to show our ancestors we are still Anishinaabek and want to never forget who we are.

Report Submitted by

Philip Memberto*

* and edited lightly by Jonnie Sam, Historic Preservation Director who would like to extend a Gitchiminigwech to all whose assistance, presentations, attendance and participation did feed the better nature of our Community.
The drawing for the Black Bear harvest permits took place Saturday June 4th. The following citizen’s names were drawn. Natural Resources staff will be contacting successful citizens as the harvest tag information becomes available.

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<td>Stone</td>
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<td>Hyma</td>
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**Fourth Annual Niibin (summer) Youth Day Camp**

**When:** Monday July 11, 2011-Friday July 22, 2011 (no weekends) 8 a.m.-4p.m.

**Where:** Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Pow-Wow grounds

- Open to Tribal children and descendants age 8-14
- Campers will learn activities and eating habits to support a healthy lifestyle
- Daily field trips and many crafts
- Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided

Come join us for hours of fun and lessons to share.

There is no cost for this camp which is provided by Special Diabetes Program Initiatives.
You must pre-register your child.
All permission slips and paperwork must be completed prior to the first day of camp.
Space is limited.
To sign up and receive the registration packet contact a Community Health Representative at 231-398-6629 or Holly Davis 231-398-6610.
A group of students from Michigan State University (MSU) were invited to Little River Band of Ottawa Indians for a cultural exchange on Saturday, the 21st of May. The group known as International Volunteer Action Corps (IVAC) is a student organization whose purpose is to provide opportunities for students to broaden their worldview as well as to develop a deeper commitment to being a global citizen. IVAC’s advisor, Carlos Fuentes, worked closely with Ruben Ramon in developing this cultural exchange. Ruben worked closely with some of the members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians for the cultural exchange. (The IVAC group also did a service project at the Magoon Nature Preserve in Manistee.)

The IVAC group of 18 students and staff was made up of students from India, China, South Korea, the Bahamas, Bhutan, Ethiopia, African American, as well as Chicano/Latino students.

Phil Memberto welcomed the group and introduced Bill Memberto (Director of the Family Services Department) who opened the presentations.

Bill spoke and used his powerpoint presentation - the power of seven; a presentation he prepared that discusses the historic impact on the Indigenous people of this area and its long term effects on current generations. Bill spoke of the loss in most cases of the language and how the religious practices were illegal until 1978. He also spoke on the delayed trauma that is passed from generation to generation, as an example traditional parenting skills lost in the institutional structure of boarding schools.

Following Bill was Austen Brauker (Peacemaking/Probation) who spoke about the Indigenous Justice systems at the center of Peacemaking. A more restorative system than the retributive approach of the mainstream US and most European based systems.

Jimmie Mitchell (Director of the Natural Resources Department) then spoke about the Treaties, rights preserved and the importance of proper Natural Resource management. Preserving the ability of future generations to use the rights reserved and kept by our ancestors is the task facing Natural Resources. Jimmie spoke about the Sturgeon project as one example of the Tribe’s efforts to bring back culturally important animals.

Jonnie Sam (Director Historic Preservation Department) then gave a power point on the Medicine Wheel. It was the same presentation he gave at a Citizens’ meeting in the past. (Each speaker allowed for question and answers as well.)

Phil Memberto summed it up like this: “All I would like to say is that I appreciate the opportunity to meet the Students and their adviser Carlos Fuentes. I also enjoyed the opportunity to take them through a little Cultural processes that help us relax and wake up to enjoy the teaching process when sitting long periods of time. I enjoyed hearing the knowledge once again that our presenters gave. Chi Miigwech to Bill Memberto, Jay Sam, Jimmie Mitchell and Austen Brauker. Another Chi Miigwech to Jesse for coming along to help me with the singing, and Miigwech for all the other children and youth who came with the parents on a Saturday to be supportive to the adults (smile)! AHO!!!!” Each presenter received a beautiful letter opener made of cedar by Carlos as a thank you.

In the IVAC students own words: “The IVAC students learned a lot about Native American culture. The following are some of the excerpts that IVAC students wrote regarding what they learned. Please name the three most important things you learned from this experience?"

“There is beautiful nature all around us, it is important to respect and protect nature. The native culture, their feelings, how to be in community Indian culture, give back, medicine, thankful heart, teamwork Indian culture, protecting wild life

Native American people, native as a mother earth, the importance of caring, and contribution

Diversity, cultural unity, the pure inspiring culture of the Ottawa tribe their history, beliefs and spirituality.

Learning about the Michigan tribes was very nice; they taught us a lot about local cultural practices that aren’t shared with the public very often

No matter how hard they suffer from discrimination they never stop and compromise to the unequal treatment and do their best to spread their culture

We always need to make peace with nature and each other. Make sure we don’t leave behind us negative tracks only positive things.

Protect the community, be free to the land & protect and preserve them.

They love their tribe, they love their culture, and they are willing to devote their lives on educating others about their culture, protecting their tribe with their language and making better future for their culture.

Austin was an interesting fellow. He talked much about how to appreciate the environment and how the entire world is interconnected. The interconnectedness of everything we do and how every action impacts every aspect of our future.

Medicine, related to IVAC. The purpose of volunteering that it is a spiritual medicine healing to make this world a better place for our next generations.

That there are beautiful cultures everywhere and that we all need to be exist in harmony.

Hold the earth as God, protect it, clean it, and provide something to nature.

No matter where you come from, people should always think of giving back.

They really know how to live with the nature “

‘In closing, my students received a rich cultural experience that most students do not get. I am very appreciative to all the elders of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians who were a part of putting this awesome exchange together. I also want to thank the young boy who played the drum at the end of the event.

Sincerely,

Carlos Fuentes
Michigan State University
Assistant Director, Internationalizing the Student Experience Advisor, IVAC’
Purchasing Tax-Exempt Motor Fuel

As gas prices rise, it appears that more Tribal members are purchasing tax-exempt motor fuel at the Little River Trading Post. Tax-exempt gas sales to the Tribe, tribal entities and tribal members are up 12% over last year’s sales for the same period. If this trend continues, the Tribe’s quota of tax-exempt gas will be gone before the end of the year. We will discontinue tax-exempt gas sales at the Trading Post when the annual allocation is gone.

Only Tribal members are entitled to buy and use tax-exempt fuel purchased under the terms of the State/Tribe Tax Agreement. The exemption does not extend to friends or family members that are not Tribal members. Enforcing this rule is difficult because it is impossible to know how the fuel will be used once the vehicle leaves the station.

The ultimate use of the fuel must be trusted to the integrity of the tribal member. However, at the point of sale, the staff has been instructed to enforce the Tax-Exempt Motor Fuel program rules. This includes, but is not limited to, disallowing the discount on fuel purchased for a vehicle the Tribal member is not using at the point of sale.

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rev. 5/2011</th>
<th>Tax-Exempt Motor Fuel Program Enforcement Procedures</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First Offense:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• More than one gallon, but less than ten gallons over limit</td>
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<tr>
<td>• More than ten gallons, but less than 40 gallons over limit</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Forty or more gallons over limit</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Fuel purchase for non-member</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Remedy:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Warning letter-subtract from next month’s limit</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Warning letter-subtract from next month’s limit</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Assess tax plus $20 penalty</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Warning letter-assess tax</td>
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| **Second Offense:** |
| • More than one gallon, but less than ten gallons over limit |
| • More than ten gallons, but less than 40 gallons over limit |
| • Forty or more gallons over limit |
| • Fuel purchase for non-member |
| **Remedy:** |
| • Warning letter-subtract from next month’s limit |
| • Assess tax plus $20 penalty |
| • Assess tax plus $20 penalty + 1 month suspension |
| • Assess tax plus $100 penalty |

| **Third Offense:** |
| • More than one gallon, but less than ten gallons over limit |
| • More than ten gallons, but less than 40 gallons over limit |
| • Forty or more gallons over limit |
| • Fuel purchase for non-member |
| **Remedy:** |
| • Assess tax plus $20 penalty |
| • Assess tax plus $20 penalty + 1 month suspension |
| • Assess tax plus $20 penalty + 1 year suspension |
| • Assess tax plus $100 penalty + 1 year suspension |

| **Fourth Offense:** |
| • More than one gallon, but less than ten gallons over limit |
| • More than ten gallons, but less than 40 gallons over limit |
| • Forty or more gallons over limit |
| • Fuel purchase for non-member |
| **Remedy:** |
| • Assess tax plus $20 penalty |
| • Assess tax plus $20 penalty + 1 year suspension |
| • Assess tax plus $20 penalty + permanent suspension |
| • Assess tax plus $100 penalty + permanent suspension |

*Note: On fourth offense no letter will be sent to Tribal member—Payment will be deducted from Tribal member benefit payment.*
Throughout Indian Country Tribe’s operate Food Commodity Programs to income eligible families. Much like other federal assistance programs, our people have to prove enrollment status, and meet income eligibility requirements. Each Tribe that implements the FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservation) has a specific service area; some serving their whole reservations, some in part and others counties within the State their Tribe is headquartered in. Regardless of service area, the USDA has policy that bars Indians from receiving the benefits of Food Commodities if they live in an area with a population of 10,000 or more.

Beginning Monday, June 6th, 2011 representatives from Food Commodity Programs from far and wide will converge upon Catoosa, Oklahoma to attend the Annual USDA FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservation) National Conference. This national conference provides training, federal updates and opportunities and allows Tribes with the opportunity to let the USDA know what we need them to improve on and how to request program expansion and increased federal funding support.

Of significant importance this year is the fact that the Little River Band has raised a very serious issue with what we feel is an eligibility barrier for Native Americans. For example, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Commodity Program serves 13 Michigan Counties including Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mecosta, Muskegon, Mason, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa and Wexford to income eligible Native American families. However, if a citizen resides in a city/town with a population of 10,000 or more, they cannot receive food from our commodities program. Sadly, that means that most all of our income eligible citizens that live in Muskegon County (our largest concentration of membership) cannot receive the benefits of the program. The federal government’s rationale is that if you live in a larger city, you have easier access to the SNAP (food stamp) program. But that leaves us with NO choice to decide which program you would rather receive. And in most cases, the food commodity program is more desirable because once it is determined that a family meets the income eligibility guidelines, that family gets a full months worth of food, whereas if a family is determined to meet the income eligibility guidelines with the SNAP program, the amount of benefit placed on their bridge card decreases the closer to the top of the income limit they get. So a family of 4 could meet the income guidelines but only receive $25 on their bridge card because they are close to the top of the income limit but with the commodity program, that same family gets a month’s worth of food.

Not only is it hard to explain to people why they cannot get food commodities even though they live in a serviceable area, but is extremely hard on the hearts of Tribal Citizen’s and employees Yvonne Theodore and Laurie Jackson who administer the program to have to tell them ‘people they cannot help them only because of their address.’

The USDA does offer a waiver process but it is cumbersome and seems a catch 22 so to speak. For example, the Little River Band applied for the waiver stating that after we opened we would open a satellite distribution site in Muskegon, Michigan. We were denied and the denial stated that because we didn’t budget for either a refrigerated truck or satellite distribution site in Muskegon County in our annual budget that we were not prepared or able to provide the commodity benefit to that location. Why would we budget for something we were only requesting the waiver for? If we had gotten the waiver, we would have prepared the budget appropriately. They also stated that there were several FIA offices that people could go to for the SNAP program that would be easier than either driving all the way to Manistee for their food and that there were a large number of grocery stores in the Muskegon area that accepts the bridge card. The USDA totally misses the point; we don’t care how many FIA offices there are, or how many grocery stores because that is irrelevant, what matters to us is that we get to choose which program we would like to have assist us just like everyone else. What is important to the staff is that our people who need to be fed get fed!!

Yvonne Theodore, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Food Commodity Supervisor met with me as she wanted to apply for the waiver again. In reviewing the past waiver application, USDA policy and documents it occurred to us that Little River couldn’t be the ONLY Tribe with this problem so we decided to ask other programs in our region if they had the same problem. The response from just our region was overwhelming; so much in fact that the president of our region decided to ask all food commodity programs in the United States if they were experience difficulty because they were restricted in whom they could help. Within hours of that email going out all over Indian Country my phone started ringing off the hook and emails started pouring in.

It seems that many, many Tribes feel the pain of not being able to feed their people simply because of the address they live at. Most all communities in the United States offer a commodity program typically ran by a community action agency. Non-tribal families get to choose between obtaining monthly food from a community action agency OR the SNAP program but tribal families have to choose between one or the other. It seems unfair and mostly about money. If Tribes were allowed to serve Natives that live in the larger cities, it would mean that the federal government would need to authorize more money to the USDA and the USDA would need to spend more money on this program. Tribe’s are responsible for 25% of the amount we request every year so it would mean that we would be responsible for authorizing more money as well. And while I certainly cannot speak for Indian Country, I would hazard to guess that being able to serve more of our people would be well worth at least looking into it.

In 2012 the USDA Food Commodity Program and it’s supporting legislation is up for re-authorization from Congress so the Tribe’s requesting this change now is perfect timing. So as we head out to Catoosa, Oklahoma with Little River pride in our hearts and the goal of serving our people in our minds, we will be asking the USDA to change their policy and allow us all other commodities programs to serve our eligible families no matter what the population of their city is!!

Article submitted by Melissa Waitner, LRBOI Grants Writer

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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.

### USDA Income Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

**Monthly Income Standards**

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<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Income Limits</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,045.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$2,978.00</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>$3,290.00</td>
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For each additional member add $312.00

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

Commodity Department serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.
First let me thank everyone that ran for an elected position with the tribe. It is a difficult choice to put your name forward and even more difficult to campaign; it takes money and time and can be emotionally draining, so to everyone that put forth that effort, michigwetch.

I want to congratulate the persons elected to the various positions and look forward to working with you from this date forward; it is both rewarding and challenging. I want to express my sincere thanks for re-electing me as your ogema for another four year term, it is truly humbling. Michigwetch.

In my initial inaugural speech I stated that I would be sworn in on Wednesday and sworn in on that date forward, it is both rewarding and challenging. I hope we can plan for our youth, for future generations not just in talk but by actions. I would like to establish a youth leadership program to promote our younger people to get involved in our tribal leadership when we become elders and pass the baton.

We need to get our second casino up and running and I will keep that a primary goal along with expanding our economic development in other areas as well possibly alternative energy.

Finally, I do see the need to promote our culture in everything we do; I believe we overlook that very important aspect; the very reason we still exist is because of our cultural values and I promise to try and utilize it, learn it and teach it much more often in the future than in the past. I use the fact that I might not say our words right as an excuse, but it would be better to try, even though I may say them wrong than to not say them at all. I will call on those people with the knowledge to please assist us. Michigwetch.

Niimkiins, ogemadaw gaching zibi dawa annishinabe.

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Secrets of the World's Most Resilient People

The headlines of the world lately have been rife with conflict, bad news, stumbles in the economy, job market worries and the threats of reprisal terrorism. We have a constant challenge to stay resilient, maintain our warrior spirit and stay solution-oriented in a world that is full of headlines based on fear, doubt and disaster. Take a deep breath… I’ve got great news for you. No, I didn’t just save a bunch of money on my car insurance. I’ve found the secrets of the most resilient people in the world...

I read an article in National Geographic about a group of people in Bangladesh who live on the flood plains created by three major rivers. These people inhabit countless small islands that appear for a time, disappear and then reappear somewhere else based on rainfall, floods, the tides, etc. Despite this precarious and ever-changing lifestyle, the families raise crops and kids and build a successful life on these islands called “chars”. National Geographic stated that to live a life like this is like “winning an Olympic medal in adaptation.”

One of the men interviewed had moved once a year for his whole life – and he’s sixty! But he’s also raised seven kids who “never missed a meal”. The houses are able to be disassembled and reassembled quickly, the families bags are always neatly packed next to their beds for a quick move. The man said, “No matter how much we worry, the end is all the same.” He says the real secret is “not to think too much”. Despite living in a tough and dynamic environment, these people thrive. What can we learn from them?

1) Go with the flow. Instead of constantly worrying about things to come or getting hung up on circumstances, the char people literally go with the flow. They farm an island for as long as they can and when the river washes it away, they find a new one to farm. They don’t curse God, the economy, get an ulcer from worry, bemoan their existence or complain about their fate – they simply go with the flow.

2) Be prepared for change. The char people are always prepared for the changes they know will come. They don’t hope, wish, want, wait or live in fear. Instead, they keep their possessions in order, ready to move when they must, and most importantly they have a mindset that is ready too. This is the key to resilience – having a mindset that is not only prepared for change, but expects it. When it arrives, you are ready to succeed.

3) Don’t think too much – act instead. The char people feel that the situation concerning the ever-changing river “is what it is”. They don’t overanalyze, complicate or assess the situation in painful detail as we do. If we’re faced with a situation we can’t change (dictator boss, tough economy, loss of a loved one, etc.) we also see it as “is what it is”. The char people survive and thrive in these moments because of this: when it is what it is, they do what they must do. They can’t change the river or its flow, but they can take action to keep succeeding in an extremely difficult environment.

The char people of Bangladesh may be the most resilient people in the world because they have happily lived, for generations, in one of the most unforgiving and varied environments in the world. They thrive in those tough conditions because they know the secrets to resiliency – and now you do too.
Memorial Day 2011 was observed in Manistee with a parade down River Street and a memorial service at the Veterans Park across the Manistee River.

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians was represented by our Warriors’ Society with Council member Virgil Johnson and Warrior Ferdinand Luchene carrying our flags. In addition, a tribal Public Safety patrol car driven by Officer Pat Gilles who helped to lead the parade. Also, Public Safety Conservation Officers Sgt. Robles and Officer Espinoza participated in the wreath laying ceremony on the river from the deck of the tribal S.A.F.E. boat.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Following President Obama's Memorial Day speech at Arlington National Cemetery, President Jefferson Keel of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) will place an American Indian wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. President of the nation's oldest and largest American Indian and Alaska Native advocacy organization, Jefferson Keel will accompany Don Loudner, National Commander of the National American Indian Veterans, to lay a multi-colored tribal wreath at the tomb.

«Over a hundred thousand Native men and women have served to protect this land and this country. Some who will never be named or honored. The commitment of American Indians and Alaska Natives to protecting our homeland is unquestionable,» said Keel, President of NCAI and a veteran with over 20 years of active duty service in the United States Army. «On Memorial Day we honor those who gave their lives for our safety and those veterans alive today, all of whom deserve to be cared for as heroes.»

The Pentagon estimates that since 2001, 61 American Indians and Alaskan Natives have died fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq; close to 450 have been wounded. It is also estimated that nearly 24,000 American Indian and Alaska Native active duty personnel serve across the Armed Forces. Hundreds of thousands of tribal members have served in the U.S. military in the last century, making vital contributions to the defense of the nation.

The most recent AI/AN service member to be killed in the line of duty was U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Joe Michael Jackson from the Gila River Indian Community and the Yakama Reservation. He died April 24, 2011; killed by an improvised explosive device while helping to clear a trail of mines on a steep slope in Afghanistan’s Helmand Province’s Sangin District.

The following data was released and updated by the Pentagon in May 2011:

- American Indian/Alaska Native military wounded in action in Iraq (OIF) from March 2003 through May 2, 2011: 336
- American Indian/Alaska Native military deaths in Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom, or OEF) from October 2001 through May 2, 2011: 19
- American Indian/Alaska Native military wounded in action in Afghanistan (OEF) from October 2001 through May 2, 2011: 109
- American Indian/Alaska Native military deaths in Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom, or OEF) from October 2001 through May 2, 2011: 109

President Keel is a retired U.S. Army officer with over 20 years active duty service. He served two extended tours of combat duty as an Infantryman in Vietnam, and received numerous awards and decorations for heroism, including two Purple Hearts, the Bronze Star with «V» for valor, and the Army Commendation Medal with valor. He is a former Airborne Ranger, infantry platoon sergeant and platoon leader, and served as an instructor in the elite U.S. Army Rangers. In June 2011, Jefferson Keel will be one of this year’s three former service members inducted into the Military Memorial Museum Hall of Honor. (article from NCAI 5.27.11)
The 108 lb ‘Nme (Sturgeon) caught by Austen Brauker on the 14th of May was the subject of a mini-feast out at the Justice Center later in the month. The ladies from the Judiciary (Spring Leusby, Laurie Willis, Misty Davis and Deb Miller) set up a whole production line in the kitchen. They breaded the beautiful chunks of meat, fried them up and presented several platters full for everyone to enjoy. A number of folks also brought in dishes to round out the meal (including Grubba’s diet delight dessert) and everyone had fun sampling the food. While there were several comments that, “It tastes like chicken,” nobody really believed it. The ‘Nme flesh was firm, without bones and very meaty with a very pleasant taste. No wonder this gift of our waters was a major food source for our tribe years ago!

Thanks to everyone who participated and to Grandmother Alyce Giltz for offering up a prayer.

Before starting this article, I would like to thank Gil Archambo. Without his expertise, help and knowledge of sturgeon, it would have been an incredibly more difficult task. I would also like to thank Jimmie Mitchell, Marty Holtgren and the staff of the Natural Resources Department for their help and guidance in making this special and honorable moment occur. I would also like to thank Victoria for letting me go fishing on our wedding night. You are certainly one in a million. I would like to thank the spirit of the ‘nme and the creator for bringing this wonderful gift to our tribe.

Midnight blue of Black Lake’s frozen darkness shone through a clear rippled window that I now stood upon. There was no way to tell where the ice ended and liquid began, except for the tiny frozen bubbles, suspended in time, the only tell tale sign that this was not just an elegant sheet of glass that had been placed there by some master craftsman. Or was it?

I made my way to the thirty-footer, a shanty, one of a few that had not been blown to the opposite side of the lake in the wind the night before. I opened the door in amazement. As my eyes adjusted, the bright green lake surprised me. I peered into 21 feet of serene, surreal water. It was magical, a doorway into another world. The hole in the ice ran the entire length.

I sat in my chair and waited. Three decoys hung from the ceiling and hailed above the bottom. They were to attract the curious sturgeon to a spot directly beneath my feet where, with a heavy five pronged (very heavy) spear, I would attempt to connect with one of these magnificent dinosaurs. The first sturgeon came in slow and fluid, a dark shape against the brilliant bottom. It went toward the two foot long decoy, revealing that fish was somewhere in the neighborhood of five or six feet. I lifted the spear and pushed it toward the sturgeon. A blast of bubbles and mud clouded my vision momentarily as I hoped for a strike, but then, the dark shape swam away, an inch from my mark.

After another miss, shooting at an angle beneath the ice, I had to call it a day and go home empty handed. I went for two more full days after that, not to see another sturgeon again during that spearing season. I was not disappointed. The thrill of seeing such a graceful and powerful creature was its own reward.

At last year’s sturgeon release I was honored by being asked to say a few words about how I felt about the grandfather of fish. They were words that echoed the sentiments I had shared with documentary makers Kathy and Greg, who were doing a video about the sturgeon and the LRBOI program. They learned that I was a musician and asked me to make a background score for their video work. I received the final video cut on Friday May 13th and finished the 22 minute soundtrack music on that same day. On the morning of the 14th I got married and then spent the afternoon in a ceremonial lodge listening to teachings by the fire. That evening I drove to Black Lake and met Marty Holtgren, Stephanie Ogren and Gil Archambo at the boat launch. Here I was again, ready to try once more at bringing one of these beautiful fish home for my family and tribe.

The sun was setting as scarlet fire across the silhouette of the distant tree line. We asked with a gift of tobacco to be looked upon favorably by the creator. The anchor was set and the poles were cast. I was surprised that we only needed 20 lb. test, but Gil assured me that it would be fine. He loaded the worms on the single hook and handed me the pole, showing me how it was done. It wasn’t long before we had “fish on.”

I was connected to the fish. The thin line bound us together. We fought for fifty minutes. My arms were like wet spaghetti. When was it going to tire? It began to come close to the boat and we shined the light to see its immense shape, gliding, almost glowing, with an eerie, grey-blue electricity, unlike anything I have ever seen. The fish was obviously not tired yet. It took another run, whizzing the reel as the sizzling drag gave it line. I worked the sturgeon back toward the boat, again and again. Each time it took off like a bullet. It swelled to the surface and breeched, almost completely out of the water, with its mouth straight at us. It did this three times total and was just as amazing each time it happened.

The sturgeon ended up weighing 108 lbs, and was 6 feet, 1 inch long. It was shared with the tribe and tribal employees at a community feast at the justice center. The sturgeon was donated to the Natural Resources Department to be mounted and used as a future teaching tool for their sturgeon program. This was a great honor and an event that brings the cycle full circle as people are able to share in its gift of life by being nourished with its energy. Though it is sad to take the life of such a marvelous creature, it brings us closer to the sturgeon. It makes us one with them and brings us into their medicine by joining together on the circle. Thank you ‘Nme. Thank you from the deepest place of respect within my heart.

By Austen Brauker
At a joint meeting Tuesday of the Tribal Council of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners, tribal officials provided a statistical update on the tribe’s finances and operations.

The tribe’s enterprises, operated through its Economic Development Corporation (EDC), appeared to have weathered the nationwide economic recession that began in 2008 by showing modest increases in revenues and jobs between 2005 and 2010.

The tribe’s total gross revenues in 2005 were $115,413,035 and increased by around one-percent to $116,157,229 in 2010. Total employment by the tribe’s EDC increased by about seven percent, from 820 in 2005 to 882 in 2010.

Most of the economic growth was associated with the tribe’s enterprises in Grand Traverse County. Revenues from the Turtle Creek Casino in Grand Traverse County increased from $92 million in 2005 to $93 million in 2010, while revenues at the Leelanau Sands Casino in Peshawbestown dropped from $18 million to $17 million between 2005 and 2010.

The tribal government, meanwhile, has been forced to tighten its belt. The GTB government in 2005 spent $51 million. By 2010, however, the tribal government’s expenditures had been reduced to $40 million. The Leelanau County government budget in 2010, in comparison, called for expenditures of just $10.6 million.

Between 2005 and 2010, the tribe also increased its land holdings within its six-county service area, from 2,369 acres to 2,506 acres. Most of the tribally-owned land is in Grand Traverse County where the tribe owns 1,202 acres. Only 172 acres of that amount, however, has been taken into trust for the tribe and is tax exempt.

In Leelanau County, the tribe now owns 838 acres of land, 616 acres of which are held in trust for the tribe by the federal government. In 2005, the tribe owned 734 acres of land in Leelanau County, of which 482 acres were held in trust.

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**Medicine Wheel Planting 2011**

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**JOIN US AT NAISEC SUMMER YOUTH CAMP**

NAISEC aims to expose young Native people to higher education and improve participants’ understanding and perceived ability to succeed in a college setting.

Native American students entering the 8th – 12th grades in the fall of 2011 are invited to apply. The first 20 students who return completed applications will be accepted into the program.

**North American Indigenous Summer Enrichment Camp (NAISEC)**

WHEN: July 24-28, 2011
WHERE: Central Michigan University
Cost: $25.00
CONTACT: Native American Programs  @ 989-774-2508 or nap@cmich.edu
Is my water safe?
The Little River Band Utility Department would like to report that last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The LRB Utility vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level. A source water protection plan is pending and will be implemented in the near future to protect the areas around our source water from inadvertent contamination.

We are currently EPA certified for testing of Total Coli-form / E-coli of which we sample for three times a month for a total of 9 samples per month. We are also in the initial stages of Laboratory Certification for some of the sampling we are required to do eliminating the need for an outside laboratory for some of the EPA required testing parameters.

Our water system was re-classified as a “Community System” based on the population served which has been established in accordance with the U.S. EPA guidelines which is 8,189 customers served daily.

Do I need to take special precautions?
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses. Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for the public health.

Monitoring and reporting violations
The Utility Department has tested for various contaminants since the previous CCR from July 1st 2010 to the present. Contaminants detected along with their detection level are in this report. All other contaminants results were "not detected" in your drinking water!

Sampling Results for Past 12 Months Educational Statement for Lead Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of plumbing materials used in your homes. You may wish to have your water tested if you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home. You may also flush your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using your tap water. Additional information concerning Lead levels is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The action level for lead which is 0.015 ppm was found in several locations in the water system. Of 20 sites sampled 4 were at or above the action level which is a triggering event for a proactive approach to isolating and removing this hazard for the protection of customers using the L.R.B.O.I. water system. We flushed the water mains and internal plumbing, the solder used to make connections was tested for lead (not present) and the corrosiveness of the water was tested. Samples were then taken 3 times at the same location at timed intervals to test the water that is immediately out of the tap, another sample was taken from inside the structure and the last sample was timed so that water was coming from the main water line. This testing assists in pinpointing the location of any contaminants. Samples were also taken at the wellhead source water which eliminated the source water as a potential contaminant.

After flushing and sampling we are happy to report that the lead samples results came back less than the action level of 0.015 ppm.

*see sample results listed for lead and copper
The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA and the Tribe requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

### Contaminants (units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant(s) (units)</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source / Health Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DBPR Disinfection by-product rule</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHM; (Total Trihalomethanes)</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>0.080</td>
<td>0.0111</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.006</td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection using chlorination. Some disinfectants and disinfection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bromodichloromethane</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>0.080</td>
<td>0.0022</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Byproducts (DBPs) have been shown to cause cancer and reproductive effects in lab animals and suggested bladder cancer and reproductive effects in humans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bromoform</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>0.080</td>
<td>Trace</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorodibromomethane</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>0.080</td>
<td>0.0017</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloroform</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>0.080</td>
<td>0.0025</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalapon and Haloacetic acid;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bromochloroacetic Acid</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Same as Above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dibromoacetic Acid</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dichloroacetic Acid</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Haloacetic Acids</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.060</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-14-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contaminant(s) (units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant(s) (units)</th>
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<th>MCL</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source / Health Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead 1st sample 90th %</td>
<td>0.015 mg/L</td>
<td>0.021 mg/L</td>
<td>0.006 mg/L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6-29-2010</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Lead and Copper enter the water system primarily through plumbing materials. Exposure to lead and copper may cause health brain damage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead 2nd sample 90th %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11-02-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper 1st sample 90th %</td>
<td>1.3mg/L</td>
<td>0.44 mg/L</td>
<td>0.32 mg/L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6-29-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper 2nd sample 90th %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11-20-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Radionuclide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant(s) (units)</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source / Health Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (well # 2)</td>
<td>10 ppm</td>
<td>1.6 ppm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-7-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (well # 1)</td>
<td>10 ppm</td>
<td>1.6 ppm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-7-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DBPR Disinfection by-product rule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant(s) (units)</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>Water</th>
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<th>High</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source / Health Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uranium</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>0.99±0.08</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7-15-2010</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits is the major source in drinking water. Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Erosion of natural deposits; certain minerals are radioactive and emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Environmental Health:**

- Some disinfectants and disinfection By-products (DBPs) have been shown to cause cancer and reproductive effects in lab animals and suggested bladder cancer and reproductive effects in humans.
- By-product of drinking water disinfection using chlorination. Some disinfectants and disinfection.
- Byproducts (DBPs) have been shown to cause cancer and reproductive effects in lab animals and suggested bladder cancer and reproductive effects in humans.
- Lead and Copper enter the water system primarily through plumbing materials. Exposure to lead and copper may cause health brain damage.
Nitrate (well # 2) 10 ppm 1.6 ppm 7-7-2010 No

Gross Alpha 15 -2.2± 0.8 7-15-2010 No

Gross Beta 4 0.66± 0.79 7-15-2010 No

Radium -226 0.45±0.31 7-15-2010 No

Radium -228 0.54±0.36 7-15-2010 No

Combined Radium 5 pCi/L 0.99±0.48 7-15-2010 No

Nitrate (well # 2) 10 ppm 1.6 ppm 7-7-2010 No

Gross Alpha 15 -2.2± 0.8 7-15-2010 No

Gross Beta 4 0.66± 0.79 7-15-2010 No

Radium -226 0.45±0.31 7-15-2010 No

Radium -228 0.54±0.36 7-15-2010 No

Combined Radium 5 pCi/L 0.99±0.48 7-15-2010 No

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MRLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

For more information

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Attn: Utility Supervisor
375 River St.
Manistee, Mi 49660-

Contact number for Dale: 231-922-3719

Veteran services

Generating Solutions: Serving Those Who Served Us – Our Veterans
Dale Ginzel, Michigan Works!

- Targeted Veterans: service connected disabled, homeless, ex-felon, recently separated, covered spouses
- Employer Services: promote Michigan talent bank, post job orders, search/ prescreen resumes, job fairs and open houses, federal contractor job listing
- The local Veterans Employment Representative promotes the hiring of veterans; network vet services (such as today’s meeting), teaches the Transitional Assistance Program, and conducts job clubs
- Disabled Veterans Outreach Worker provides case management and intensive services and conducts career exploration and job development for Vocational Rehab and Employment participants.
- Job Seeker Services: employment, referral network, intensive services, and case management.
- Contact number for Dale: 231-922-3719

FIRE-MAKING CLASS

Fire making tools used by Jim Miller.

Andre Neebnagezhick practices fire-making with the assistance of Jim Miller.

Jim Miller demonstrates how to build a fire using a bow-drill.

The Peacemaking/Probation Department held a class to teach the old art of making a fire with a bow-drill. Participants learned to identify what types of wood are best to use. They collected their own materials for making a spindle, a hand piece, and a fire board and were shown how to make cordage for string and what to use for tinder. When the bow-drill is completed, they were taught how to use them. From a tiny coal will come the warmth of a hand-made fire. They also addressed fire safety and talked about what is a sacred verses a utility fire.
Man in Black

The LRCR Makwa Endaat (Event Center) came alive with thunderous applause as Shawn Barker A.K.A. “The Man in Black” took center stage.

The show was one not to be missed. It was certainly not the average tribute show, but a theatrical recreation of what it may have been like to see the actual legend Johnny Cash himself performing a live show.

Throughout the night fans enjoyed Barker’s renditions of the Johnny Cash hits; “I Walk the Line” “Ring of Fire” “The Ballad of Ira Hayes” and “Hurt”.

“If you’re not a Johnny Cash fan, you’ll still enjoy the great musicians we have. It’s great, upbeat music, and non-fans often leave with an understanding of just how much great music Cash produced. This show could make you a Johnny Cash fan” Barker said.

Barker’s intent is to keep Johnny’s spirit alive for fans and for the younger generation that may have never heard his music before.

The Little River Casino Resort has a full entertainment schedule which can be viewed at www.lrcr.com

Dale Carnegie Graduates at LRCR

The following employees from LRCR graduated from Dale Carnegie class on May 11th.

Rick Peterson is Dale Carnegie Instructor
Sally Jobes was Graduating Assistant
Maria Maddox was Graduating Assistant

Bernice Beatty          Lisa Gronostalski
Roxanne Collins         James Miller
Gail Morris             Samantha Nelson
Mary Guiney             Jill Bronson
Josh Chivis             Terri Burmeister
Rick Musse              Deb Convington
Michael Burmeister      Rick Saunders
Michol Tanner           Anna Detz
Sheri Pabami            Forrest Steele
Brandi Blamer           Venus Wilson
Don Underwood           Kathleen Rodell
Wayne Miller            Jerry Chippewa

Wendi Riley
Savannah Eppllett
Jerry Ramsey
Millie Ramsey
Judy Ball
Nathan Bond
Nick Chivis
**** Save The Date ****
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Be-Da-Bin
10th Annual Wellness Walk

Wenesh pii: Saturday July 2, 2011
Aaanni pish: Three Fires Conference Center
(Bodweaadamiinh Room)
Registration: opens 8:00 AM
Breakfast served at 8:30am
Walk: starts 10:00 am

Everyone Welcome!
Lets walk for wellness

We are celebrating the 10th Annual Walk of our community, along with annual Jiingtamok. So join us for opening ceremony at 8:00am, followed by breakfast buffet. We will be walking to the gathering grounds and having a giveaway in the dance circle. T-shirts for the first 125 registered walkers. Join in this celebration to promote sobriety and wellness within our community. If you have any further questions, please call me at 1-888-723-8288 ext 6740, Julie Wolfe, Prevention Specialist.
Tribal member and Little River Casino employee Karl Waitner, Jr is honored at a conference in Atlanta by the American Hotel & Lodging Association, Educational Institute. Karl has 22 years in the industry and supervises 300 employees at Little River. We are all proud of his accomplishments.”

April 28, 2011

Dear Mr. Waitner:
We are pleased to inform you that you have been selected to receive the Educational Institute’s Lamp of Knowledge Award for Outstanding Student. This award recognizes the student who has made the most effective use of the Educational Institute’s independent learning programs.

Clothing Card Use Announcement

Reminder- LRBOI Student Services school clothing gift cards will be coming out soon. You will receive the cards via certified mail, and besides the bank card, there is important information about when you need to submit your receipts. Last year was our first year requiring submission of all receipts- but many people didn’t read the information enclosed with the card and assumed that the random audit process was still in place. All receipts must be returned along with the card, and all receipts must be for the purchase of school clothing or related items (backpack, some school supplies) and must be receipts that match that specific card. The card your child receives has been specifically assigned to him/her, so the receipts returned for that child must match the PNC bank records for that card. Cards will be mailed To the Attention of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of Student name. Based on some issues from the 2010 cards and prior, the following are some suggestions you may find helpful.

Watch your mail. If your child opens the mail, takes the card and you never see the deadline date, you will still need to return the receipts by the deadline date- so make sure that you open the certified mail.

Write down the card numbers for each of your children, and look to make sure the right child is using the right card. (remember the three digit code on the back of the card.)

Shop with your child. Kids will be kids. If you don’t shop with your child, make sure he/she understands the rules for this program before going shopping. “My son bought clothing but lost his receipts in his messy room” and “my kids bought IPODs even though I told them not to”, won’t be acceptable- even if your child misused the card without you knowing, you will be responsible.

Treat your card as if it was money. Report a lost or stolen card to the Education Department immediately. We will put a hold on the card and have it replaced. The replacement fee will come from the card balance and new cards can take from a few days to several weeks to replace, so being careful with the card is your best option.

Purchase ONLY school clothing and related items with the card. Don’t use money from elsewhere in your budget to purchase clothing and then use the gift card to cover that expense- for example- don’t buy clothes with your grocery money and then buy groceries with your gift card. Even though you’ve spent the same amount of money, it doesn’t come out that way on the PNC records- and that is where we compare. So only use the card for purchasing school clothing, and only for the student whose name was on the envelope the card came in.

Make photocopies of the receipts, and keep in mind that all transactions are recorded with PNC bank.

We realize that the vast majority of people use this program in the right way. Please do not be offended by the suggestions made here. They are based on conversations with parents and address real concerns and issues. We know that people appreciate and sometimes rely upon this program. These suggestions are made in the interest of making sure this program remains available. In the end, that involves two fairly simple steps-

1. using the PNC card to make school clothing purchases

2. Returning the receipts and cards by a specified date. The suggestions are meant to help keep it that simple, and your diligence will assure that. Thank you in advance.
Currents Page 20

Members advertisements

Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP
Attorneys at law

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.

Michigan Office
John F. Petoskey
2848 Settebo Road
Peshawbestown, MI 49682
Phone: 231-271-6391
Cell: 231-631-8558
Fax: 231-271-6391
Email: jpetoskey@ndnlaw.com
www.ndnlaw.com

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 Ogemaw’s office indicating which committee/commission you are interested in:

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

Great Lakes Pet Memorial & Creatory LLC.
Traverse City, MI
Pet Cremation Services & Memorial Products Store

Tribal Member Owned!

Pick-up Service* We service veterinarians! Ask for us.
24 Hour Service* Custom Urns * Books
Personalised Stones * Jewelry * Glass
Art * Local Products *
Engraved Products * Paw Prints *
Burial Markers * & More

Traverse City (231) 421-1370
www.GLPet.Memorial.com

15% off to Tribal Members!

Tight Lines for Troops
A special thank you to our Warriors and community for honoring our heroes.

“The LRBOI Warriors Society and Little River Casino once again helped to bring the Tight Lines for Troops event to Manistee in late May. This wonderful weekend event had over 40 Charter Boats participate to help disabled veterans have a free day of fishing on Lake Michigan, followed by lunch at the Armory and a nice dinner banquet at the Little River Casino. Rolling Thunder displayed approximately 100 flags along the Manistee River channel welcoming the returning fishermen and vets.”
**Y.M. Shkigwaas-ange Alterations**

Custom ribbon shirts (any size)
Skirts (any size)
Shawl's
Quilts
Other regalia per request
Call Yvonne McShane @ 231-723-7250
email: ymshkigwaasange@yahoo.com

**ANISHNAABEK BUILDING THE FUTURE**

See our completed projects at muschigonconstruction.com

**MUSCHIGON CONSTRUCTION, LLC**

New Home Construction
Remodel Existing Buildings
Featuring Energy Efficient Homes
with Insulated Poured Concrete Walls

294 River Street
Manistee, Michigan 49660
Phone: 231-398-0800
Fax: 231-398-0802

**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 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.

**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

**Traditional Healer**

**J.D. Gibson**

Every month

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

Please call Julie Wolfe (231) 398-6740

Sponsored by Be-Da-Bin Behavioral Health of the Little River Band Of Ottawa Indians

**MARY KAY**

Beauty on a Budget

Skin care packed with multiple benefits. Special offers you don’t want to miss. Free samples so you can try before you buy. Free makeovers and expert tips. Shop at your convenience with my personal delivery. No crowds, no parking hassles. No drain on your gas tank. What better way to get all your skin care and makeup! Contact me today.

Dori Carnes, Tribal Member
Independent Beauty Consultant
www.marykay.com/dcarnes1
231-638-3373

**WARRIORS SOCIETY**

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Warriors Society,
375 River Street, Manistee, Mi. 49660
Radio-Collared Pine Marten

By Steven K Bailey

Somewhere deep in the Manistee National Forest (MNF) a marten peered out from behind the metal bars of a live trap. He had a pointy nose, cat-like whiskers, and distinctive orange markings on his chest. He hissed ferociously as a team of wildlife researchers approached the trap, a two-pound ball of warrior spirit ready to take on four full-grown humans.

It was early May, and the researchers had been trapping, radio-collaring, and releasing American martens. The feisty martens with the distinctive markings brought them to an unprecedented total of ten trapped martens over an eight-day period.

To the best of the researchers’ knowledge, this was the first time that spring marten trapping for research purposes had been successfully conducted in Lower Michigan. “We were surprised and thrilled by the results,” said Dr. Jill Witt, Senior Wildlife Biologist for the Wildlife Division of the LRBOI Natural Resources Department.

In addition to Witt and Bob Sanders, Wildlife Researcher for the Wildlife Division, members of the collaborative research team included Dr. Paul Keenlance of Grand Valley State University and Dr. Maria Spriggs, a zoo and wildlife veterinarian for the Mesker Park Zoo and Botanic Garden in Evansville, IN.

The researchers also had the support of the Michigan DNR and US Forest Service. “They are very interested in our findings because it will help them better manage their forests for species needing specific resources, such as martens,” said Witt.

A member of the weasel family, the American marten or pine marten (Martes americana) is a culturally significant clan animal for the Anishinaabe people. As might be expected, given the ferocious and omnivorous character of the American marten, members of the Waabizheshi (Waabizheshi) clan (marten clan) were known as hunters and food gatherers as well as warriors and strategists. They also served as carriers of the Sacred Pipe, message runners, and tactical advisors for the Ogemuk (chiefs).

Marten were completely eliminated from the Lower Peninsula by the early 1900s, but were later reintroduced to the MNF in the 1980s. Using data collected by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the Central Michigan University Biology Department, and the US Forest Service, the research team devised a method for determining where the marten were likely to be in the half-million acres of the MNF.

Sanders and John Grocholski, Wildlife Technician for the Wildlife Division, conducted winter wildlife track surveys and set remote game cameras in different areas of the MNF to determine locations for spring marten trapping. Through the data collected from the surveys and cameras the researchers were able to identify locations to the west of Baldwin and in the Caberfae Hills as areas of likely marten habitat.

The research team placed 40 live traps in these two locations, which are areas of pine and mixed pine/hardwood forested habitat common to the MNF. The team set the traps in hollow logs or under piles of leaves and brush, then baited the traps with beaver meat and smoked pork. To attract the marten to the traps, the team used Gusto, a brand of long-distance call lure that smells like skunk.

The team checked all 40 traps at sunup and sunset each day in order to minimize the time animals remained in the traps. Over an eight-day trapping period the researchers trapped five male and five female martens. Incidental mammals trapped included opossum, red squirrel, raccoon, and porcupine. These incidental catches were immediately released without harm, as were the martens that were caught more than once. “Several martens were return customers who discovered they could just get a free meal and be released,” said Witt.

Though veterinarians are rarely used in research projects that involve trapping small mammals, Witt decided to include Spriggs on the research team. Having a licensed zoo and wildlife veterinarian on the team minimized any potential harm to the marten, which was a top priority.

All trapped martens underwent a thorough health assessment conducted by Spriggs, who used an inhalant anesthetic typically used in veterinary hospitals to sedate each trapped marten for approximately 15 minutes. Anesthetizing the marten involved the use of a specially designed denim cone sewn by Bonnie Harnish, Administrative Assistant for the LRBOI Natural Resources Department. The denim cone was fitted over the door of the trap, which was then opened to allow the marten to run out of the trap and down the denim cone until its pointy nose poked out the end, where Spriggs had an anesthetic mask waiting. Since the researchers quickly closed the cone behind the marten, the animal had no way to back its nose out of the mask and was sedated within seconds.

Spriggs took blood, fecal, and urine samples from each marten to check for diseases and parasites. Though analysis of the samples is ongoing, all ten martens appeared to be healthy, with the possible exception of intestinal parasites. However, one possible concern identified by Spriggs is that diseases endemic to dogs and cats could be transmitted to martens, because the marten population in the MNF may have contact with domestic pets. After Spriggs completed the health assessment, the team tagged male and female martens with a microchip similar to those routinely implanted in domestic cats and dogs.

Under the direction of Keenlance, an expert in wildlife radio telemetry, the researchers placed what they called “jewelry” on the male marten—lightweight and high-tech radio collars weighing just 20 grams, or about the weight of four quarters. The collars are 60 percent smaller than those used in previous studies and are more streamlined, which greatly reduces the chance that the marten might get their collars hung up or tangled in brush. Only males were collared because females were likely to be nursing young in early May and the team did not want to disrupt this denning.

Though Witt stresses that additional research will be needed, she believes that the trapping results were a positive sign that the marginal habitat typical of the MNF may be able to support a healthy and viable population of martens. The team trapped all ten martens in a patchwork of pine plantations and scrub oak, with some martens being found in close proximity to residential areas close to or within the MNF. This habitat differs drastically from what is thought to be ideal marten habitat, such as the vast mature conifer and mixed hardwood-conifer forests located in the western Upper Peninsula, where marten populations are doing well. “Another finding was that four out of five females were lactating, indicating that martens were reproducing,” said Witt.

The marten trapping was part of the Wildlife Division’s American Marten Population, Health, and Habitat Assessment Project. The goals of this project are to determine the population of martens in the MNF, develop non-invasive methods for continued monitoring of this population, assess the health of the population, identify genetic issues that may be affecting the population (such as inbreeding), and identify habitat conditions for martens that impact population growth. Ultimately, the project will determine if additional marten restoration efforts are needed, either through the modification of existing marten habitat or potentially through the reintroduction of additional martens to the MNF.

The marten study will contribute to a larger goal of the Wildlife Division, which is to assess how changes in pre-European settlement forest structure and diversity have impacted the populations and habitats of native wildlife species that are important to the Anishinaabe people.

For more information, watch for future updates on the progress of these projects, or contact Dr. Jill Witt, Senior Wildlife Biologist, or Bob Sanders, Wildlife Researcher, in the Wildlife Division of the LRBOI Natural Resources Department.
Yard sale at Aki!

Residents at Aki Maadiziwin had the opportunity to participate in a community Yard Sale on May 26th, 27th and 28th. The Housing Department put up the signs and residents opened their doors at 8 a.m. for shoppers. It is hoped that this Spring Yard Sale can become an annual event.

(photos courtesy of Public Affairs)

Cancer has touched the lives of so many, with Little River families being no exception by any means. Cancer does not discriminate; it can happen to anyone at any time. Thankfully so many individuals who have battled cancer are now Survivors; they are the ones we honor. We remember those who have gone before us; it is their memory that makes us fight for a cure. We think of those yet to be diagnosed; they are the ones who will need our help, but hopefully a cure can be found to make cancer “magically disappear”.

Relay for Life

American Cancer Society

Of Manistee County
July 22—July 23, 2011
Noon—Noon
Manistee High School
525 12th Street, Manistee, MI
Show your support for the Little River Moccasin Walkers!
Come join us as we walk for 24 hours
Everyone is encouraged to participate even if you can only walk for 1 hour!

Relay Luminaries $10
Relay “Feet” $1

Donations can be made online: www.relayforlife.org/manisteecontymii
(Make sure to select the Little River Moccasin Walkers Team)

For more information, contact Valerie Chandler at 1-888-723-8288, ext. 6895 or email: vchandler@lrboi-nsn.gov
Bakakwenh Naboo
(Chicken Soup)
Is so good for you

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

So, shake an egg and send your questions to: csoup@lrboi-nsn.gov
This column is open to all Tribal Members and Descendants.
Those who ask a question will have their names changed to protect their privacy.
Note: You can make up our own name or Bakakwenh Naboo will come up with an appropriate moniker for you.

Bakakwenh Naboo Questions

Question 1.
Kool-aid.Kid asks: “How do you know if a teaching or teacher is true?”

Bakakwenh Naboo says: Truth is based on the information or understanding one has on a topic. The more you find out about a teaching or teacher, the better your knowledge of what is true.

When it comes to the Traditional teachers you should ask around and talk to trusted friends about them. We have many good spiritual people who practice our Ottawa teachings. But you must be aware there are many people out there that know the “Traditional Teachings” but for some unknown reason they have decided to use their knowledge for self gain and self gratification.

Knowing the warning signs of how these fake spiritual predators work, will help you to find a True and good Traditional Teacher.

Grooming applies to any behavior where an adult, child or elderly person is prepared so they unwittingly allow abusive behavior or exploitation to occur later. The abuser typically befriends or builds a relationship with the victim in order to establish a relationship of trust. Well known examples of such abusive behaviors are sexual abuse, elder abuse, financial extortion, human trafficking and sexual slavery.

6 Stages of Grooming
Stage 1: Targeting the victim
Stage 2: Gaining the victim’s trust
Stage 3: Filling a need
Stage 4: Isolating
Stage 5: Sexualizing the relationship
Stage 6: Maintaining control

Warning Signs
- Prefers to meet with you privately/alone
- Doesn’t use women in his healing/doctoring to women
- Prefers to meet with you in inappropriate places (hotels)
- Legitimizes his inappropriate behavior (via spirits)
- Makes you believe that he is powerful and must be obeyed
- Makes you feel special with his flirtatiousness
- History of “womanizing” and battering
- History of fathering children that he has abandoned
- Makes you pay for expenses, fees, ceremonies/money becomes central
- Incestuous feelings of secrecy, fear, shame, confusion
- You begin to feel his needs are more important than yours
- Advertises himself on the internet
- Sexualized looks, language, touches …. (rape)
- Makes you believe that you must give up everything
- Makes you feel inadequate, even evil

This topic is a hard issue to address, and Bakakwenh Naboo has only chicken scratched the surface. The 6 Stages of Grooming and the Warning Signs are just two of many lists and information you should familiarize yourself with; you also need to do your research. The more you know the more accurate the picture. You need to be completely satisfied with the Spiritual Leader you have chosen, there should not be any questions or any unanswered questions, as to this person being someone you know to be a true Anishinaabe Spiritual Leader, and who performs ceremonies and teaches in a good way. Remember you have the right to feel safe, to learn our teachings, to be part of our spirituality, and to learn your culture.

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

(Noelle Cross from our Elders Meals program submitted this thank you)

I would like to thank our volunteers that have and continue to make the Elder Meals Program successful. There are many different ways the volunteers have helped the program. There thought, time, and “Dishpan hands” have been so appreciated! I must say that I would never be able to do the things I do for our Elders without the help of my neighbors and friends. Thank you so much.

Thank you, Joan and Delano Peters for their thoughtfulness and time in helping delivering meals to our Elders.

Thank you to Leonard Rittenhouse and Caroline Platz for your time and thoughtfulness in helping serve meals to our Elders.

Thank you, Michelle Bernatche for spending your lunch hour washing dishes, putting away stock, breaking down boxes and donating a majority of your Saturday during Elder Committee lunch. Her daughter Ashley has been helping us out during the Elder Committee lunches, thank you Ashley! You are a hard worker!

Thanks to Jamie for pitching in when he can. Every bit helps.

Anna Marie Taylor; it is always nice when we do not have to pick up salt and peppers on Thursday, and June Sam it means a lot when you set them out on Monday mornings.

Thank you, Linda Wissner for the Rhubarb. It is going to be a yummy treat!

Thank you to Hannah Stuck for spending your Saturday morning here; it was a big help and we enjoyed you.

Michael Burmeister was a great help at the Elder Committee Luncheon. We also appreciate you making us laugh.

Big thanks to Michael Cross and his big muscles! Destinee Cross for her help during our Elders Committee lunch. You both really worked hard and we appreciate it!

Many have donated items for our Bingo games, Joan, Helen, Lucy, Felisa, Judy, Arlene and June. We are always excepting items. The more items the more Bingo!!

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered in one way or another. It really helps to make the Elder Meal Program successful. To anyone who is interested in volunteering in anyway please feel free to contact me at (231) 398-6886 or stop by Aki Monday thru Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm

~ Many hands make light work~
Congratulations Sandra Henderson on making the Dean’s List at Northwestern Michigan College this semester! Keep up the good work!!

Congratulations to Patti Pacola for completing her degree!

She said, “I have finally (seems I have been at this for an awful long time 😂) completed my BBA (with a focus in HR) and am moving forward into the HRM program. A BIG ‘thank you’ to each and every one of you for sharing your knowledge, patience, and insight with me! I couldn’t have asked for a better place to start my journey!”

The back of the bank building is beautiful because he took the time to put in plants, flowers and small flowering trees with rocks around the bases. It looks really great and has improved those areas. K ‘Chi Miigwech from all of us!

The yellow perch was caught ice fishing in the UP.

The beaver pelt is 72”

The raccoon was 38 pounds.

Denita McAlpine
“Rockin’ Raquel Romanelli” was awarded the 2011 Miz Relay title! Much appreciation and thanks goes out to “Raquel” and to “Lee-ahhh Sparkles” – you were both fabulous and provided great entertainment throughout the pageant!

From the Relay for Life bake sale and gift basket raffles on Friday, we were able to raise $432.97 and our “ladies” brought in another $213 through donations at the pageant! This is a great start for such an important cause!

Kchi-miigwech to all of our bakers and those who donated the gift baskets, as well as everyone who bought goodies and raffle tickets!

A special thanks to Ogema Romanelli, Lee Sprague, Holly Davis, Melanie Ceplina, Sandy Chandler, Kim Alexander, Laura Waagosh, Julie Wolfe, and anyone else I might have missed for all of your hard work and efforts in transforming our lovely pageant ladies! For everyone who came out to cheer and support our contestants, Miigwech; we’re sure you’d agree that the entertainment was well worth it!

Saving lives by helping people stay well, get well, find cures, and fight back

Who We Are Together with our millions of supporters, the American Cancer Society (ACS) saves lives and creates a world with less cancer and more birthdays by helping people stay well, helping people get well, by finding cures, and by fighting back.

The American Cancer Society is a nationwide, community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, the ACS has 12 chartered Divisions, more than 900 local offices nationwide, and a presence in more than 5,100 communities.

Our Mission

See how, locally and internationally, the ACS strives to live by a clearly defined set of goals and ideals.

What ACS Is Doing to Save Lives

The American Cancer Society (ACS) saves lives by helping people stay well and get well, by finding cures, and by fighting back. Click on the links below to learn more about how, together with our supporters, we’re creating a world with less cancer and more birthdays.

We help people stay well.

We help people take steps to prevent cancer or detect it at its earliest, most treatable stage. Learn how we do this through prevention and early detection educational efforts that are helping people stop smoking, get the right screening tests, and live healthy lifestyles.

We fight back.

We work with lawmakers to pass laws to defeat cancer and rally communities worldwide to join the fight. Learn more about how we promote beneficial policies, laws, and regulations for patients and families affected by cancer through our advocacy and public policy work – and how you can get involved.

We’re also saving lives from cancer around the globe. Learn more about how we work with individuals and organizations around the world to fight cancer on a global scale.

Photo’s by: Martha Howell
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Kwewok Circle
Looking for Miss LRBOI Princess Contestants 2011

Requirements to apply
Age 13-18
Single, no dependents
Full regalia
Must have knowledge of customs and traditions, will have to write a short Bio about yourself.
Share goals, ambitions, education, family, your interest and hobbies
Must be Little River or a descendent
For information on how to apply call Debra Davis 231-398-6724

Miss LRBOI
Katie Crawford 2010

Imagine yourself being crowned
Miss LRBOI Princess
What an honor!

You will represent the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians at the Powwow’s and be treated like royalty. You will receive a crown, sash, flowers, photo shoot, and a paid trip to Petoskey for the Miss Odawa Nation 2011 Competition

Plan Ahead for Fall Meeting!
The Fall Membership meeting is scheduled for October 15th, 2011. The tribal discount is $59 per night for standard room. The block will be listed under: LRBOI – Fall Membership. Be sure to get your reservation in to make sure you have a room!

Raised Bed Gardens at Aki

On May 19, 2011 raised bed gardens were installed at the Aki property in Manistee. Many people have been requesting fresh produce and a desire to have a garden close to home. The Tribe already has garden spots available at the old community center off of US 31 which will continue to provide Tribal citizens with gardening opportunities.

These new raised bed gardens were purchased with funds from the Special Diabetes Program for Indians grant to encourage healthy eating and promote eating fresh fruits and vegetables. The Community Health Representatives, Diabetes Coordinator, a few elders and the maintenance staff participated in arranging the beds and putting soil and compost into each bed.

This project was a community collaboration. The beds were made by YouthBuilt Manistee, the construction trades program run by Bill Ford. Because the Tribe is a tax exempt entity, YouthBuilt was able to construct the beds at no cost outside of materials.

The soil, compost and set-up were completed by Manistee Community Gardens, a program of the Manistee Community Kitchen. The Community Kitchen is run by Brandon Seng and the Community Garden is led by Kevin Summers.

For more information on this project, please contact Holly Davis Diabetes Educator at 231-398-6610.