



# Currents

Megwa Ezhiweback  
(What's happening now)

Bashkakodini-Giizis  
(Freezing Moon)  
February 2017  
Vol. 2, Issue 16

## Upcoming Events

Elders Meal  
Aki Community  
Center  
Mon-Thur 12pm

Language Class  
Every Friday  
10:30am

"Native Luv" Round Dance  
February 18, 2017

Goonignebig Tournament  
March 11, 2017

2017 Membership  
Meetings  
April 8, 2017 &  
October 9, 2017

Call Little River Resort Hotel  
US Toll Free: 1-888-568-2244  
Local: 231-723-1535

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## Previously Convicted Embezzler Sentenced to 18 Months in Prison for Shirking Restitution Obligations

*Editor's note: The following is a Department of Justice (DOJ) press release dated November 16, 2016.*

U.S. Attorney Patrick Miles announced today (November 16, 2016) that Daniel Lawrence Broton, age 56, of Sparta, MI, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Janet T. Neff to 18 months in prison for lying on a financial affidavit submitted to the U.S. Attorney's Office to aid in the collection of a restitution judgment against Broton from a 2006 criminal case. In addition to his prison term, Broton was sentenced to two years of supervised release and ordered to pay a mandatory special assessment of \$100.

Broton was formerly the financial comptroller and the chief financial officer of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. In 2005, Broton was charged with, and pled guilty to, defrauding the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians of \$500,000 in construction funds devoted to their casino project. He was sentenced for this offense in 2006 by U.S. District Judge Robert Holmes Bell to three years in prison, three years of supervised release, \$508,392.28 in restitution, a forfeiture money judgment of \$500,000 and a mandatory special assessment of \$400.

In 2009, after completing his sentence and receiving early discharge from supervised release, Broton started a rustic furniture making company called Backwoods Casual. Backwoods Casual created furniture and home décor suitable for cabins and lakefront homes using cedar logs. In 2013, the U.S. Attorney's Office sent a financial affidavit to Broton to obtain information about his post-release financial status to assist with the collection of his outstanding restitution debt and criminal monetary penalties. Since his release, Broton had not paid a dime. Broton returned the financial affidavit to the U.S. Attorney's Office and claimed to have no employment, no occupation and no income. In fact, Broton started his business at least by 2011, was earning income, and had the capacity to make payments towards his restitution debt. He completed and returned a second affidavit in 2015 and similarly lied about his financial condition to continue to avoid paying restitution. On March 31, 2016, a federal grand jury indicted Broton for making false statements. Broton pled guilty to the offense on July 14, 2016.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. District Judge Janet T. Neff recognized Broton's education and professional history as



an accountant. She noted his false statements were "not an accident" but rather a calculated means to keep his income and avoid paying restitution on his prior criminal judgment. The 18-month prison sentence was the maximum suggested sentence under the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.

U.S. Attorney Miles stated: "The U.S. Attorney's Office relies on financial affidavits to obtain an accurate picture of a defendant's post-release financial condition to aid its post-judgment debt collection efforts. Broton's sentence should serve as a warning to all defendants who consider making false statements on financial affidavits to the U.S. Attorney's Office to

avoid payment on their criminal monetary obligations. It re-victimizes victims, undermines the court's judgment, and you will be prosecuted."

"Today's sentencing is a direct result of the excellent partnership between the IRS Criminal Investigation and the U.S. Attorney's Office," said Manny Muriel, Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation. "This sentence should serve as a deterrent to those who attempt to evade payment of their court-imposed restitution."

The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Joel S. Fauson.



# What's Inside

Bashkakodini-Giizis  
(Freezing Moon)  
February 2017  
Vol. 2, Issue 16

Information provided by HP (LRBOI) | Layout by Ariel Moreno at the Pioneer Group

**4** Internship  
Notice

**8** Facebook

**8** Treaty  
Recognition  
Day

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**Election Candidates 14**      **Job Postings 20**      **Commissions & Committees 20**

## Regular Features

Council News .....	3
Food Distribution .....	3
Community Voices .....	4
Kid's Activities .....	6
Council Meetings .....	9
Election Notice .....	18
Government .....	19
Community Events .....	21
Elder Meals .....	22
Events & Directory .....	23
Notices .....	24



## January Worksession Attendance

Date	Work Session Title	Ron Wittenberg	Shannon Crampton	Gary DiPiazza	Virgil Johnson	Frankie Medacco	Joe Riley, II	Sandra Lewis	Marty Wabindato	Total
01/03/17	Gaming Oversight Act	x	x	x	x	x		x	V	6
01/03/17	Goals	x	x	x	x	x		x	V	6
01/04/17	Public Safety Vehicles	x		x	x	x	x		V	5
01/04/17	Sewer/Water Rates	x		x	x	x	x		V	5
01/09/17	Agenda Review	x	x	x		x		x	x	6
01/10/17	EDC and LLC	x		x		x		x	x	5
01/16/17	Financial Review - Govern	x	x	B	x	x	x	x	V	6
01/16/17	Agenda Review	x	x	B	x	x	x	x	V	6
01/17/17	Valliant	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	V	6
01/17/17	Ayaa	x	V	x	x	x		x	V	5
01/23/17	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	V	x	x	7
01/24/17	NIGC	x	x	x	x	x	V	x	x	7
01/24/17	Inland Fishing Book	x	x	x	x	x	V	x	x	7
01/24/17	EDC Operating Agree	x	x		x	x	V	x	x	6
01/30/17	Medical Marijuana	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	V	6
01/30/17	184 Loans	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	V	6
01/30/17	Agenda Review	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	V	6
01/31/17	Utility Rates	x	x	V	x	x	x	x	V	6
01/31/17	Enrollment Ordinance	x	x	V	x	x		x	V	5
01/31/17	Donation Request	x	x	V	x		x	x	V	5
	Total Work Sessions - 20	20	12	14	18	19	10	18	6	

\*=Business Related    V=Vacation    B=Bereavement

## Food Distribution

Food Distribution Program (FDPIR) was created by congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households. No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and Snap Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month. Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income and resources qualification, in determining who is eligible for the program. We are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

USDA Income Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Monthly Income Standards October 1, 2016 through September 31, 2017	
Household Size	Income Limits
1	\$ 1,147.00
2	\$ 1,492.00
3	\$ 1,837.00
4	\$ 2,193.00
5	\$ 2,567.00
6	\$ 2,941.00
7	\$ 3,287.00
8	\$ 3,634.00
For each additional member add \$347.00	

Commodity Department serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.

Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M  
Lunch hour is 12:00 - 1:00

Yvonne Theodore, Laurie Jackson  
1-888-723-8288 ask for Commodity Program  
Office 231-398-6716 or 231-398-6715



## Mnozhiyaadaa (Let's be in good health)

### Nutrition Tips:

1. Eat three meals a day.
2. Start with a healthy breakfast.
3. Drink fluids with and between meals – up to 8 glasses a day.
4. Select at least 3 servings of milk or milk products.
5. Select at least 6 servings of whole grain cereals and breads.
6. Select at least 3 servings or more of vegetables and 2 servings of fruit.
7. Select a least 2 servings of meat, fish or poultry.
8. Select smart snacks – low in fat and simple sugars.
9. Select smart beverages – low in simple sugars like sodas.
10. Use salt sparingly.
11. Use alcohol sparingly.
12. Use oils, fats and sweets sparingly.

### Zaagidwin

Kina gwa bemaadzijik a'minezinaa'aa zaagidwin, bimaadzewniwaang. Ntam aabdek kwii iyaanaa maanda iyaanaa wii miigweying miinwaa wii debinamang. Giishpin iyaaziwang Zaagidwin kaawiin gdo mshkwiiwziisimi, gdo niinamizami.

### Love

All people need to have love in their lives. We have to give and receive it. If we don't have love, we are not strong, we are weak.



## March Birthdays! Happy Birthday!

Antoine, Beverly B,  
Antoine, Ambrose A  
Boyer, Miranda A,  
Brown, Weymouth L  
Burmeister, Alan L  
Compton, Irene E  
Draper, Karen L  
Ensley, Barbara J  
Greenway, Wilfrieda  
Hollingshead, Beverly

Kelley, Sandra L  
Kinner, Anita E  
Lutz, Margery  
Magnuson, Arthur  
Mark, Henry F  
Medacco, Jerry M  
Melchert, Norma J  
Mitchell, Karen E  
Morris, Patsy L  
Muma, Jesse M

Pete, Joseph Jr.  
Pomeroy, Gloria O  
Russ, Robert W  
Schafer, Emmett L  
Sherman, Mary L  
Therrien, Patricia J  
Walters, Benita F  
Wheeler, Veronica B  
Yob, Victor, L Jr.  
Zweigle, Esther C

## Very Special Birthday Wishes!

**Diana Ledesma**

**Catherine Ledesma**

**Rosemary Johnson**

**Bernadette Rivas**



## In Memory of Jeri Leigh Chippewa 1969-2016



It has been a year since your passing. There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about you and miss you very much. I find consolation in knowing that you are in the Loving Hands of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Your Auntie Al*



# Internship Notice



## Recruitment for Anishinaabek Stories and Lifeways Interpreters

### Project Description

It is the Anishinaabek legend - the story of the devoted mother bear and her lost cubs from which Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore's name is based. This fact alone is testament to the importance of the park's landscapes and natural resources to the Anishinaabek of northwest lower Michigan and their ancestors. Yet, little of their story, past and current knowledge and respect for its resources of the land, is currently part of the park's interpretation. The park has a current project to further develop partnerships with the region's Anishinaabek Tribes by involving Anishinaabek youth in developing interpretive programs using the knowledge of their cultural patrimony and in consultation with their Tribal Elders. From these resources they can share their story and knowledge of this place with visitors through guided trail walks, distance learning programs, social media, and outreach into the local communities. This project will hire Park Rangers and an SCA (Student Conservation Association) Resource Assistant to be part of the team to help develop this relationship and be a connection to the greater park community.

### Duties

The Interpreter of Anishinaabek Stories and Lifeways Park Rangers will work in the park's division of Interpretation and Education.

The duties will focus on:

- Building Partnerships: Meet with members of the regional tribes, establish connections and engage tribal youth in park programming. Facilitate park connections and work as a part of the team to reach underserved youth.
- Interpretation: Gather information and resources. Develop and present formal interpretive programs on-site to visitors. Make informal visitor contacts while out roving in the park. Answer questions, facilitate dialogue and help visitors connect to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Represent the National Park Service and Sleeping Bear Dunes at outreach programs at community events.

- Social Media/Marketing: Create, manage, and post content on the park's social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest and Flickr. Find new opportunities for engagement. Evaluate social media strategies using a variety of measurement tools and analytics. Promote the park through social media and using other marketing techniques (for example writing press releases, posting on calendar of event pages, working with the media, etc). The SCA Resource Assistant will serve as the lead for the project.

### Staffing for Project

#### **2- Park Ranger GS-0099-05 Student Hires**

*Salary:* \$15.49 an hour

14 weeks

Summer-flexible start date--anywhere from mid-April to beginning of June

1 SCA (Student Conservation Association) DHA

#### **Resource Assistant**

*Salary:* \$180/week

Minimum 12 weeks

March 1 week orientation

Summer-flexible start date--anywhere from mid-April to the beginning of June

#### **Direct Hire Authority**

Targets an exceptional undergraduate, graduate student or recent graduates who are ready to begin a career with the National Park Service. Resource Assistant position is a rigorous internship that develops the participant's technical and creative thinking abilities, leadership skills, and problem-solving capabilities. This position would be the lead for the project. They would oversee the Student hires, set up meetings, develop partnerships, create programs and activities, gather resources, etc.

The NPS Academy includes a multi-phased approach which includes:

- A week-long orientation in March.
- A twelve-week internship beginning between May and September 2017.
- Post-internship, members are asked to serve

- as NPS ambassadors in their communities.
- Career preparation through a wide range of future placements with NPS and SCA.
- This program is legally authorized under the Public Lands Corps Act. Interns meeting certain qualifications can become eligible for Public Land Corps' (PLC) non-competitive hiring authority for Federal positions.

The goals of the NPS Academy are to:

- Build career skills among diverse students by providing classroom and experiential opportunities that prepare them for working within the NPS
- Enhance interns' connection to the NPS and skills for conservation careers through "on-the-job" training during summer internships
- Pair interns with NPS mentors who help deepen students' knowledge of and connection to the National Park Service
- Engage students in ambassador roles to engage their university and/or community by specifically sharing their NPS Academy experience. Students will also promote more NPS and SCA opportunities among their peers and faculty
- Facilitate a career development path for successful Academy members to join the NPS workforce as seasonal, term and/or permanent employees

### How to Apply

Go to USA Jobs at <https://www.usajobs.gov/> and search "SLBE". The Park Ranger positions will be listed. Apply to each position available. You must create an account to submit an application.

You can also send a resume and cover letter to: Lisa Griebel at [SLBE\\_education@nps.gov](mailto:SLBE_education@nps.gov) or mail it to: Lisa Griebel  
9922 West Front Street  
Empire MI 49630

**For more information please contact:**

**Lisa Griebel**

**Park Ranger**

**Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore**

**231-326-4726**

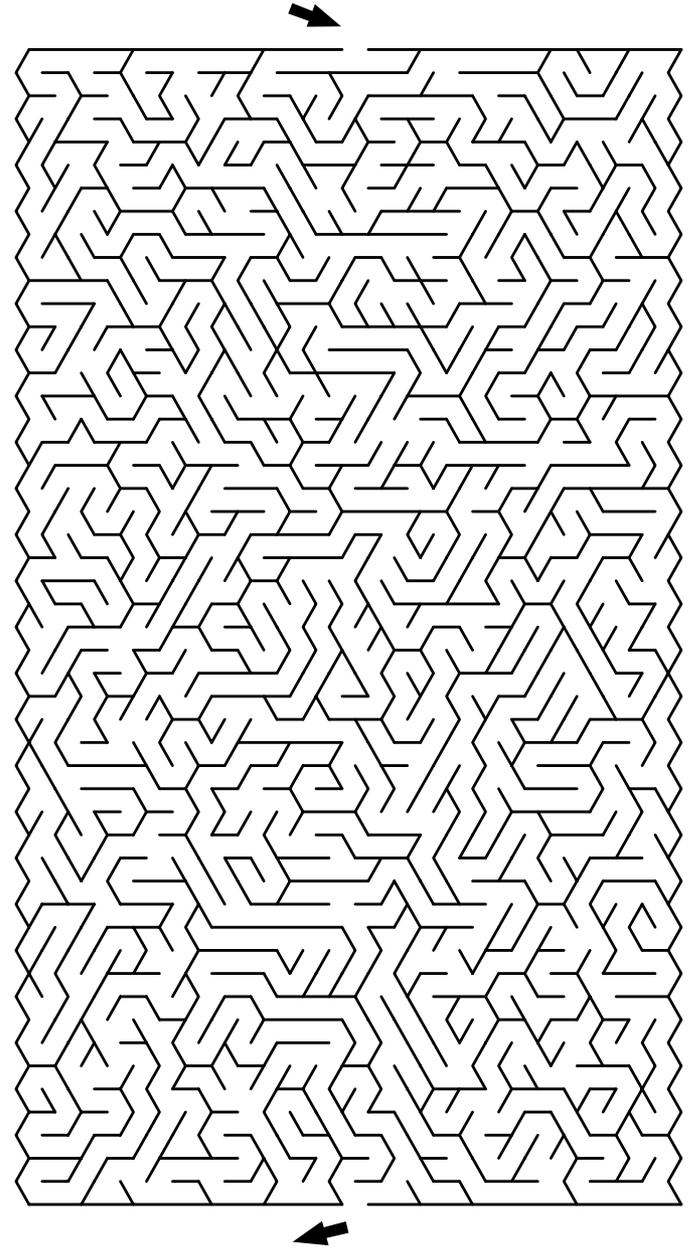
**[lisa\\_griebel@nps.gov](mailto:lisa_griebel@nps.gov)**



# Kid's Activities

Bashkakodini-Giizis  
(Freezing Moon)  
February 2017  
Vol. 2, Issue 16

H V J V Q Z I I W A A G M I D E B X Z M  
 F L N I S H N A G I H Z E W K A P N I S  
 N M Z Q I K K L N W Z Y K N K Z H A I K  
 X M T P F S L D M A P M I G Q F B G T W  
 K H Z D D M E A N B A M R V P P Z A A A  
 M D D M H X N N J Q I M X D L L P Z A A  
 L M M M L D L W H I J W S F T C T I G I  
 L T C N A R R H J S K N P A W A P I A I  
 K L K A M Z V I X G Q W K S W X Q J N S  
 R J M M H X M H Q L T Z A K H K J I L M  
 V I O Z A A W E M I D E A S H I G B M I  
 N T K N N G T R Q R R A Z K A T I I L N  
 F B H N N A K M T L B L R M N A N M D L  
 V N I B I Z A Q T I X H N G I O G N I Z  
 N P K F M P G W S W J T L W M H N A K N  
 V R W M A C D I A K K N R I E Y W Z N C  
 W X J Y W K I J T W K G N Q D D J J W G  
 L K Q V K Z N Y L W I I G W A A S M I N  
 X T R X S S H N E D A W K I G I Z A A Z  
 D P R V M X R M M T D Q D L V K X R K V

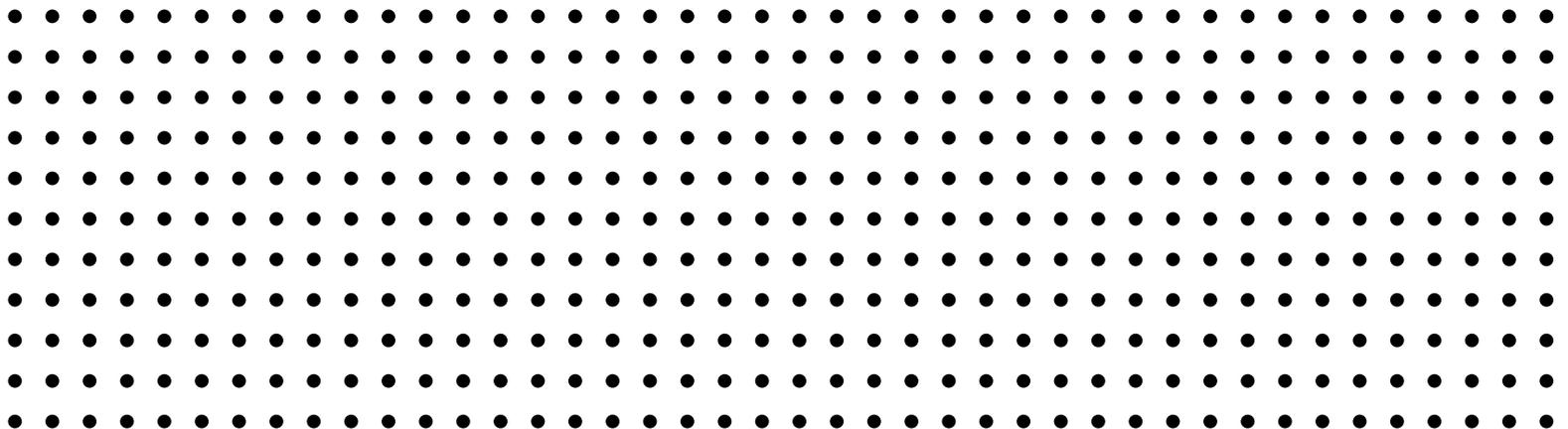


ADEMIN ..... (Heartberry)  
 BIJIIZAGAN ..... (Bread)  
 JIISENHS ..... (Carrot)  
 KWASMAAN ..... (Pumpkin)  
 MANDAAMIN ..... (Corn)  
 MNIJIIMIN ..... (Pea)  
 MINOMIN ..... (Rice)  
 MSKWADIISMIN ..... (Bean)  
 MSKWAMIN ..... (Raspberry)  
 OZAAWEMIDE ..... (Butter)

PAKWEZHIGAANHS ..... (Cookie)  
 PIN ..... (Potato)  
 PSHIIMIN ..... (Apple)  
 WAWAAN ..... (Egg)  
 WASAAGANG ..... (Pepper)  
 WIIGWASMIN ..... (Cherry)  
 ZAAZIGIKWADENHS ..... (Fry bread)  
 ZIISIBAAKWAT ..... (Sugar)  
 ZIITAAGAN ..... (Salt)  
 ZIIWAAGMIDE ..... (Syrup)

## Dots and Boxes

The object of the game is to make more small squares than your opponent. To play, just draw a line from one dot to another. Alternate turns. If you complete a square, put your initial in the square, and you get another turn. The one with the most squares at the end is the winner.





	8			7			6
5					4	7	
6	7			3	8	2	
	6				3		
			7	8	2		
					9		3 8
1		9				6	
8	5		9		6		7
7				2	5		1

Level: Beginner

## **When Sisibakwat Came to the People**

*By Simon Otto*

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

Nanaboozho made a visit to the Northwoods about this time and could not understand why the people were so unhappy. Nanaboozho asked an elder, "My friend, why are my people so unhappy?"

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

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

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

Nanaboozho came along a grove of maple trees where he decided to offer his prayers. "Creator, I have come to ask for help for my people. Their children will not eat and I am very concerned."

After several hours of praying, one of the maple trees spoke. "Nanaboozho, we see that you're very concerned

for the people and we have decided to offer ourselves to you."

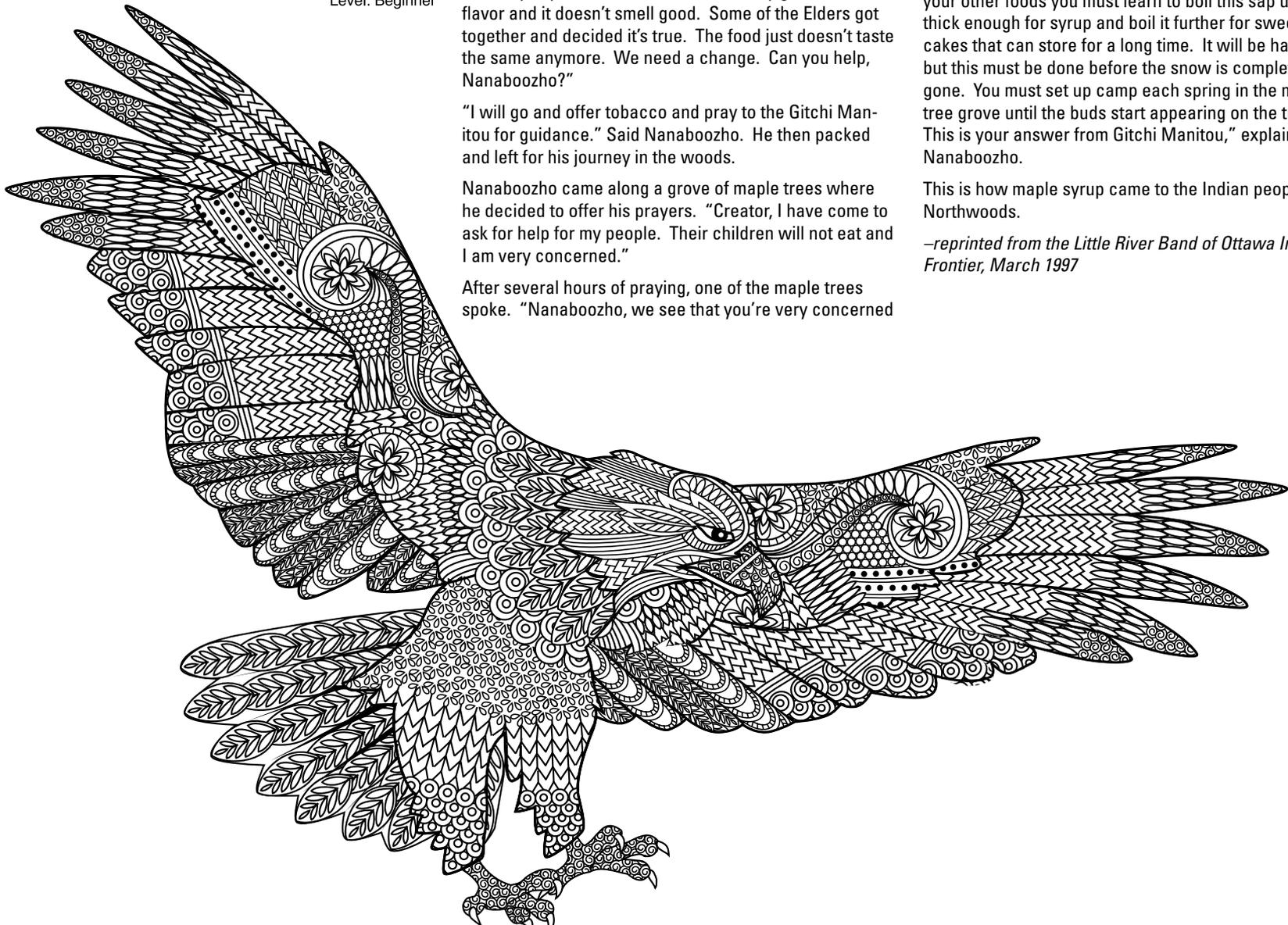
The maple tree told Nanaboozho of its sweet sap and how to obtain it. Nanaboozho was very grateful when he tasted how delicious the sweet liquid was.

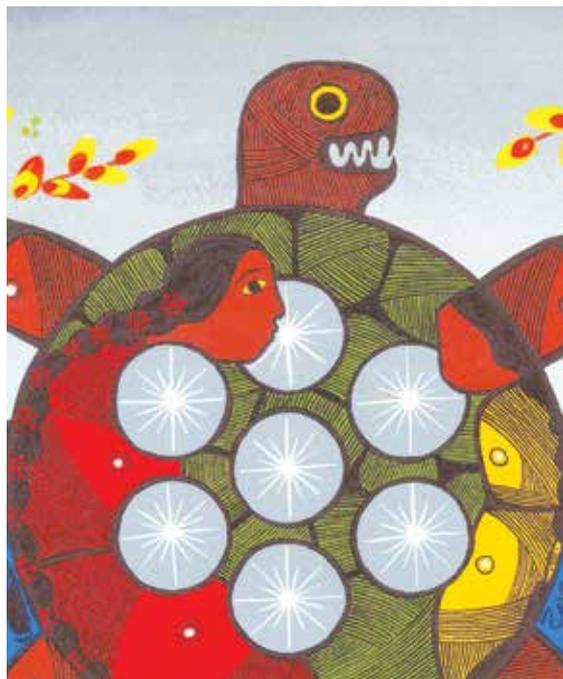
"My people must work for this. They cannot have it just given to them because they may become ungrateful and expect everything to be easy," said Nanaboozho. He sat and offered prayers of thanks and promised that the people would never take this gift for granted. He then packed up and returned to the people.

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

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

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





## Anishinaabemdaa

Anishinaabemdaa is now on Facebook! Let me share how this all happened. I got this idea while I was on vacation last summer. I wanted to put a weekly lesson or teaching on a page on Facebook and for that lesson to stay and be viewed over and over again. So our Historic Preservation and the Information Technology department got together and made it work. Back in October 2016 I started posting written lessons only and right away we were reaching several hundreds of people. I was very pleased with the results so about the middle of December we started posting video lessons then the numbers really started to climb. Mack Brushman is a very talented man, he does all the editing and makes the videos look very professional.

On Monday January 23 2016 I posted a video

that I created as a request from the viewing and listening audience. They were asking me how to pronounce the words that were not recorded so I recorded them. On Tuesday afternoon I was curious of how many checked the post, there 3,969 views and the numbers are still climbing and by Friday morning we were at 6,211 views.

So help yourself to some language, teachings, stories, jokes, phrases and so on. The website is still very popular and is being used by many universities, colleges and school districts in this part of the United States and Canada.

*Miigwech*

*Wiingezik*

*Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant*

*Language Coordinator*

## Treaty Recognition Day

March 28th —A Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Holiday. Why?

March 28th is an official Tribal Holiday:

Treat Recognition Day. What is the reason for this holiday? In 1836 the bands that became the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians signed a treaty with the President of the United States known as the Treaty of Washington, or the 1836 Treaty. The treaty was ratified on March 28th, so the Tribe celebrates Treaty Recognition Day.

Okay, so the United States didn't exactly strain to recognize the treaty. Why is it important to us? There are several reasons for the Treaty of 1836 to be of importance to the Little River Band members.

The rights to fish in the Great Lakes like Grand Traverse, Bay Mills, and Sault Ste. Bands do are based on the 13th article.

The right to hunt and fish within the ced-

ed territory is stipulated here, so the claim of rights other than the Great Lakes comes from this document.

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

Now that I mention it, the very reaffirmation of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians can be traced to the Treaty of 1836. "The Little Traverse Bay Bands of

Odawa Indians and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians are descendants of, and political successors to, signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington and the 1855 Treaty of Detroit." Section 2 of 103-324, paragraph 1. (Section 1 is the name of the law, making this the first 'real' statement of the act.)

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

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



## Council Meeting: January 11, 2017

### General Business

1. Acceptance of Tribal Council Minutes for 12/21/16 for Filing  
Motion by Medacco; Supported by Wabindato

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

### Grants & Contracts/Budget Modifications

Speaker Johnson said they don't have anything in Grants & Contracts or Budget Modifications

### Approval of Budget Expenditure

1. Approval of Travel for Councilor Di Piazza to attend the United Tribes Meeting  
The meeting takes place at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing, Michigan on February 22-23, 2017  
Motion by Riley; Supported by Medacco

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (6-0-1-1-1)**

### Old Business

Speaker Johnson said they do not have anything under reports

### New Business

1. Approving Amendment to the Little River Casino Resort's 2017 Liquor License to reflect Gift Shop Name Change

The Resort's Gift shop is now named *The White Pine Boutique* and an amendment to the 2017 Liquor License is required to correct the name change.  
Motion by Medacco; Supported by Riley

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

2. Adopting Amendments to the Gaming Enterprise Oversight Act of 2010, Ordinance #10-800-03

The Gaming Enterprise Oversight Act was revised with Emergency Amendments adopted in August 2016. This action taken after a 30-day Public Comment Period is the final adoption of Permanent Amendments, including creation of an Oversight Task Force

Motion by Riley; Supported by Lewis

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

3. Authorizing the setting of Compensation for Gaming Enterprise Oversight Task Force Members

The approval of the Final Amendments to the Gaming Enterprise(s) Oversight Act, Ordinance #10-800-03 includes the enactment of the Oversight Task Force. Compensation for At-Large Task Force Members needs to be set by Tribal Council Resolution.

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Di Piazza

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

### Open Session

The Council reconvened in Open Session at 3:27 p.m. and the tape recording was not turned on. The following minutes were taken from the Roll Call Record.

### Items Moved from Closed to Open Session

1. Motion to Move from Closed Session C.8 through C.12

Motion by Riley; Supported by Medacco

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

2. Ratification of Service Agreement with Tele-Rad

Motion by Riley; Supported by Wabindato

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

3. Approving Tribal Ogema to Execute the Contract with Personnel Security
- Motion by Medacco; Supported by Riley

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

4. Approving Tribal Ogema to Execute Contract with TRP Associates, LLC
- Motion by Medacco; Supported by Riley

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

5. Adopting the Documents for the Tribal Government Flexible Spending Account Plan for Calendar Year 2017 and Authorizing Tribal Ogema to Execute Supporting Documents
- Motion by Riley; Supported by Medacco

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

6. Approving Tribal Ogema to Execute the Amendment to the Contract for Services with Gosling Czubak Engineering Sciences, Inc
- Motion by Medacco; Supported by Lewis

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**



# Council Meetings

Bashkakodini-Giizis  
(Freezing Moon)  
February 2017  
Vol. 2, Issue 16

## Council Meeting: January 18, 2017

### General Business

1. Acceptance of Tribal Council Minutes for 1/11/17 for Filing  
Motion by Lewis; Supported by Riley

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (8-0-0-1)**

### Grants & Contracts

1. Approving a Submission of a Letter of Intent (and possible grant submission not to exceed \$20,000) to the Health Department of Michigan for Building Healthy Communities - Greenspace Improvement Projects to Increase Physical Activity Initiative that would be utilized for Child Care Center Playground (if funded)

Letter of Intent and possible grand application would be completed in accordance with the schedule established by the funding agency  
Motion by Medacco; Supported by Lewis

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (8-0-0-1)**

### Budget Modifications

1. Acceptance of grant funds from the Consumers Energy Foundation and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017 in the amount of \$25,000

The Tribe has received a new award to support the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Child & Family Development Center.

Motion by Lewis; Supported by Medacco

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (8-0-0-1)**

### Approval of Budget Expenditure

1. Approval of Travel for Speaker Johnson  
Travel is to attend National Indian Gaming Commission Meeting in Washington, DC on February 2, 2017 & United Tribes Meeting in Lansing, Michigan on February 22-23, 2017  
Motion by Lewis; Supported by Wittenberg

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-1-0-1)**

2. Approval of Travel for Recorder Riley  
Travel is to attend National Indian Gaming Commission Meeting in Washington, DC on February 2, 2017  
Motion by Lewis; Supported by Wittenberg

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-1-0-1)**

### Old Business

- Financial Report – November 2016
  - Commerce Commission – November 2016
- Speaker Johnson said they did receive the November Financial Report from Lani Rozna presented and he believed there was no action items on it so it is noted that they are going to accept them and file them. Johnson said they have also received the Commerce Commission November minutes. Johnson asked Recorder Riley is there were any action items in that. Recorder Riley responded no. Speaker Johnson said it is so noted that it will be filed as well.

### New Business

1. Approval of change to Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Organizational Chart; expanding existing Grand Department from x1 FTE to x2 FTE's by adding the position of Grant Director in accordance with approved 2017 Budget  
Approval of Org Chart change with the Grand

Department as described is needed to initiate the hiring process for new Grants Director position. Hiring process will be processed through the Human Resource Department in accordance with standard practices, policies and procedures  
Motion by Riley; Supported by Wabindato

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

2. Adopting the Amendments to the Limited Liability Company Ordinance #14-800-02  
The ordinance was posted for a 30-Day Public Comment Period and no comments were received. The Amendments are ready to be permanently adopted by Tribal Council  
Motion by Di Piazza; Supported by Wabindato

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

3. Approval of Emergency Amendments to the Tribal Council Meeting Procedures Ordinance #06-100-02  
Amendment is to create an exception for weather delays and closures so that regular Tribal Council Meeting times are adjusted in a consistent manner for the public  
Motion by Di Piazza; Supported by Wabindato

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

4. Authorizing Unified Legal Department to include Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as Signatory of the Brief of Amicus Curiae

# Council Meetings



in Support of the Respondents in the Matter Murray Energy Corporation, et al. v. United States Environmental Protection Agency, et al. Tribal Council is committed to the protection of Tribal members and Tribal Natural and Cultural Resources and that mercury emissions regulated by the Rule and Supplemental Findings on the Rule at issue in this matter have a significant impact on Great Lakes Tribal Populations  
Motion by Riley; Supported by Di Piazza

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

## Items Moved from Closed to Open Session

- Motion to move Motion and Roll Call for C.12 from Closed to Open Session  
Motion by Riley; Supported by Medacco

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (8-0-0-0-1)**

Roll Call Voting Key	
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Yes	<span style="color: black;">●</span> Abstain
<span style="color: red;">●</span> No	<span style="color: gray;">●</span> Absent

- Authorization of the Increase to Contract Amount for Professional Service between Market Resources Group, Inc. and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Motion by Medacco; Supported by Wabindato

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-1-0-0-1)**

## Council Meeting: January 25, 2017

### General Business

- Acceptance of Tribal Council Minutes for 1/18/17 for Filing  
Motion by Lewis; Supported by Medacco

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

### Grants & Contracts

- Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Department of Interior- Bureau of Indian Affairs and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017 in the amount of \$136,271  
This modification is for the BIA 2016 Self-Governance Climate Change program  
Motion by Lewis; Supported by Medacco

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

- Acceptance of Grant Funds from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017 in the amount of \$44,500  
The Tribe has received a new grant for the Commu-

nity Service Block Grant  
Motion by Lewis; Supported by Di Piazza

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

### Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

- Authorization of Expenditure to pay 2017 Dues for Membership in the National Indian Gaming Association  
The Tribal Leadership has determined that membership has been beneficial and will continue to be beneficial to the Tribe in providing information, resources and training  
Motion by Di Piazza; Supported by Medacco

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

- Approval for Councilors Lewis and Crampton to attend the MAST Meeting in Washington, DC. 2017 MAST Impact Week will be held on March 21-24, 2017

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Di Piazza

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (5-0-2-1-1)**

### Acceptance of Reports

*Reports of the Tribal Ogema*

- Operations Report – December 2016

*Acceptance of Commission Reports*

- Binojeeuk Commission – December 2016
- Enrollment Commission – December 2016
- Gaming Commission – December 2016
- Housing Commission – December 2016

Speaker Johnson said they have received the Operations, Binojeeuk Commission, Enrollment Commission, Gaming Commission, and Housing Commission Reports for December 2016. Johnson asked if there was any action they need to take on any of those reports.

Acting Recorder Di Piazza responded, no there was not.

Speaker Johnson said let it be known that they have received those reports and that they will be filed. Johnson said they are still waiting for the Financial, Health Commission, Natural Resource Commission and Commerce Commission Reports.



# Council Meetings

Bashkakodini-Giizis  
(Freezing Moon)  
February 2017  
Vol. 2, Issue 16

## Acceptance of Committee Minutes and Other Entities

Elders Committee Minutes – December 2016  
Speaker Johnson said they have received the Elders Committee Minutes for December 2016. Johnson said they are waiting on the Preference Reports for both the Casino and Tribal Government.

## Old Business

- Operations Report – September 2016
- Operations Report – October 2016
- Operations Report – November 2016
- Binojeeuk Report – November 2016
- Housing Commission – October 2016
- Housing Commission – November 2016

Speaker Johnson said they have the Operations Reports for September, October and November 2016. Johnson said they also have the Housing Commission Reports for October and November 2016. Johnson asked if there was any action Council had to take from those reports.

Acting Recorder Di Piazza said there was not. Speaker Johnson said those reports will be filed and that catches some of the commissions up to date on their reports. Johnson said they are waiting on the Financial Report, Binojeeuk Commission, Health Commission, Commerce Commission, Elders Committee Minutes, LRCR Preference Report and Tribal Government Preference Report  
Councilor Medacco said the Binojeeuk Commission is there.

Speaker Johnson said yes it is. Johnson said he was looking at none submitted for the Financial Report.

Darleen Martin asked what minutes the Elders are missing.

Speaker Johnson replied November he believed.

## New Business

1. Approval of Tribal Utility Rates Posting for 30 Days Public Comment Period

Utility Ordinance #01-500-05, Section 6.06 gives authority to the Utility Department to set a Fee Structure and be posted for 30 days prior to adoption by Tribal Council

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Di Piazza

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

2. Approval of Update to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Transportation Plan (TTP)

The Tribe's TTP Roads Inventory and Long Range Transportation Plan needs to be updated and submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to include the proposed road for the new Child Care Early Development Center

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Witenberg

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

3. Roads Inventory and Long Range Transportation Plan

The Tribes TTP Roads Inventory and Long Range Transportation Plan needs to be updated and submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to include the proposed road for the new Child Care Early Development Center

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Wittenberg

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

4. Approving Motion of Support regarding the Hospital Highway Zone

The Manistee County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to request that the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) consider the establishment of a Hospital Highway Zone with a speed limit of 45 miles per hour on the segment of US 31 that borders West Shore Medical Center in Manistee County

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Di Piazza

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion. Johnson said he would like to have a Letter of Support that he can bring to the Units of Government Meeting to show they are on board with this instead of just a motion.

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

5. Authorization of Transfer of Interim Casino Building from the Little River Casino Resort to Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal

Government valued at December 31, 2016, Net Book Value

The Tribe recognizes that the Interim Casino Building located at 2840 Orchard Highway is a recorded fixed asset of LRCR and the building has been designated for another use therefore it needs to be transferred over

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Di Piazza

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

6. Posting for 30-day Public Comment- NRC Resolution #17-0109-001, Resolution to Repeal All Past Natural Resource Commission Commercial Fishing Regulations and instead of their place Adopt all applicable Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) Commercial Fishing Regulations

The Natural Resource Commission affirms the applicability and enforceability of all CORA Regulations related to Commercial Fishing on its Tribal members engaged in Commercial Fishing in the 1836 Ceded Territory

Motion by Lewis; Supported by Di Piazza

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

7. Authorizing Support for Submission of Request to Bureau of Indian Affairs for FY 2018 Litigation Support Funds

Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority is requesting individual Tribal Resolutions of Support to be submitted to BIA along with CORA's Resolution Request to BIA for FY 2018 Litigation Support Funds to be applied to resolving issues related to the Tribe's Treaty Reserved Fishing Rights

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Crampton

Roll Call		
J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

## Items moved from Closed to Open Session

1. Motion to Move of of Closed C.1, C.2, C.3, C.4, C.5, C.6, C.7, C.8, C.9, C.10, C.11, C.13, Motion

and Roll Call Vote Only; And C.12, Resolution, Motion, and Roll Call Vote Motion by Di Piazza; Supported by Medacco Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion. Johnson said C.12 is the MOU between Little River and Northwest Medical Health Services Acting Recorder Di Piazza noted the items are moved from closed to open.

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

2. Approving Contract between Everi Games, Inc. and the Little River Casino Resort Motion by Lewis; Supported by Wabindato

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Failed (2-5-0-1-1)**

3. Approving Lease Order between Little River Casino Resort and Bally Technologies Motion by Lewis; Supported by Di Piazza

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Failed (1-6-0-1-1)**

4. Approving Contract between LRCR and Incredible Technologies, Inc. For Slot Game Lease with Option to Purchase Motion by Medacco; Supported by Wabindato

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Failed (1-6-0-1-1)**

5. Approving Lease Order between LRCR and IGT Motion by Medacco; Supported by Wabindato

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Failed (2-5-0-1-1)**

6. Approving Contract with Apple and providing Off Madison Ave Permission to enter into Contract on behalf of the Resort

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Di Piazza

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

7. Approving Contract between LRCR and Konami Gaming Inc. For purchase of Six Slot Gaming Packages

Motion by Lewis; Supported by Medacco

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (4-3-0-1-1)**

8. Approving Contract between LRCR and Konami Gaming Inc. for Lease of 12 Slot Game Packages with Option to Purchase

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Di Piazza

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Failed (1-6-0-1-1)**

9. Approving Contract between Little River Casino Resort and Aristocrat Technologies Inc. for purchase of thirty slot games

Motion by Lewis; Supported by Medacco

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (4-3-0-1-1)**

10. Approving Contract between Little River Casino Resort and Everi games Inc. For lease with option to buy of six Slot Game Packages with Tournevent System

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Lewis

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Failed (1-6-0-1-1)**

11. Approving Contract between Little River Casino Resort and Aristocrat Technologies, Inc. for lease of twenty Slot Games

Motion by Lewis; Supported by Medacco

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Failed (1-6-0-1-1)**

12. Approving Contract between Little River Casino resort and Aristocrat Technologies Inc. for lease of forty-six Slot Games

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Lewis

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Failed (1-6-0-1-1)**

13. Ratification of Northwest Michigan Health Services, Inc. Lease Agreement

Motion by Medacco; Supported by Lewis

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (6-1-0-1-1)**

14. Ratification of Northwest Michigan Health Services, Inc. Memorandum of Agreement

Motion by Lewis; Supported by Wittenberg

## Roll Call

J. Riley	—	F. Medacco
S. Crampton	G. DiPiazza	M. Wabindato
R. Wittenberg	V. Johnson	S. Lewis

**Motion Carried (7-0-0-1-1)**

## Roll Call Voting Key

- Yes
- Abstain
- No
- Absent

## Candidates for the 2017 Election – Biographies

### Office of Tribal Council - 9 County

#### Chip (Gilbert) Di Piazza



Accountability, Responsibility, Integrity & Experience

Who is Gilbert (Chip) DiPiazza Jr.?

I'm 60 years old and I'm the eldest son of Gilbert and Pat (Geesh-goo Quay) DiPiazza. I have been self-employed since 1979. I have over 37 years of business experience.

I've sat on the Grand River Bands of Ottawa

Indian Tribe as Vice-Tribal Chair for over 9 years. I've also been involved with other organizations in the past, some of which are: The Grand Rapids Downtown Maintenance & Beautification Board and The Michigan Trails Girl Scouts Arts Fund Raising Project. I believe my many years of experience running a business successfully, plus the knowledge that I attained while I was Vice-Tribal Chair, will help our tribe to obtain more diverse economic development. This will lead to larger per capita payments. Rose and I own and operate Grand River Graphics and DiPiazza Pizzeria's, both of which are located in Grand Rapids. We recently helped my mother attain her dream of preserving and sharing the language that was spoken by her elders. My Grand Mother's Language has recently been published. I can be reached at my email address: gchippedipiazza@gmail.com.

Miigwetch,  
G. Chip DiPiazza Jr.

#### Gary Paul DiPiazza(Sees-Bak-Tunse)



Our Nations Prosperity is my Priority Miigwetch for allowing me to serve as your 9 County Representative. I have devoted every single day moving us closer to a better future for us all. During this time I have seized every opportunity to speak with our Governor and his staff to secure our success in Muskegon. I have worked hard on updating our hunting, trapping, gathering and fishing regulations. I

have been appointed to the Board of Directors and construction task force. I have a clean background along with being issued a Gaming license. I will continue to work hard to improve our future. Such as our sewer lines, building new homes, rental properties and Renewable Energy. We have the most beautiful and updated casino that can only bring in more revenue for you. I have been working hard to bring in new businesses such as manufacturing to employ our Tribal Members. This will be a reality. I have stayed true to My Heart, voting with the best interest of my members in mind every time. I am asking for your vote to bring these goals to reality this term.

Call me anytime 1-231-299-1298

#### Rita Annette Gale



Boozhoo

My name is Rita Annette Gale. I take great pride in being a Native American woman and in my membership as an elder of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

In past years I was the owner of a very successful trucking, excavating, and snow plowing business. I was also the accountant and secretary for our establishment. My husband and I were in

business for twenty-five years.

I have worked several years as a care giver to the elderly. I have provided my catering services in the past for the Tribal Elder's Dinners, and worked on the Meals on Wheels program. I am currently on the Elders Committee as Vice Chairperson, and a delegate for the Michigan Indian Elders Association.

I am a respectful, honest, no felonies, no drugs, hard working woman that would do my best to help our tribe move into the future, and help unify tribal employees to work together in a cohesive way.

I am a candidate for the "9 County" Tribal Council Seat. It would be a great honor to serve you, the tribal membership, in this year's election.

Megwetch.

96 S. Dengler Street  
Muskegon, MI 49442

#### Kathy (Koon) Gibson

My name is Kathryn Gibson. My maiden name is Koon. I am the daughter of John and the late Theresa Koon. My paternal grandparents are the late James and Beatrice Koon. I have three sons, Nickolas, Jacob and Thomas. A granddaughter, Dannika and am guardian to Dominick. My husband is Brian Gibson. As a little girl, I can remember my parents taking me to tribal meetings, Ghost Suppers and Pow wows. My eagerness to learn where I came from was when I was in Junior High. A discussion was taking place on fishing and fishing rights. A class mate made a comment about how the "Indians take all the fish by gill netting" I was so angry I stood up stated you don't know the 1st thing about us! At this point I started attending tribal meetings to learn more about our people. On my 21st birthday in 1995, I was appointed to the Tribal Council, serving for 15 years. After not having close contact with our tribe I felt loss and wanted to be reconnected. I got the job in the CHS/ EHP Department and worked there for 15 years. I am currently working in the Human Resource Department as the Benefits Administrator. I am trying to continue to help our tribe.

#### John Grocholski IV



Aanii,

My name is John Grocholski IV. My wife, Judy, and I have two children, Jenna and John V, that we are very proud of. My parents, John III and Gayla (muma), live in Mancelona where I grew up.

In the Fall of 2002, I hired into the Natural Resource department, giving me 14 years of work experience with Tribal Council, other Tribal leaders, and other departments.

I have been involved with Tribal membership meetings since 2002: attending and working at the Natural Resource booth as well as part of the support staff of the Ceremonial Lodge for the Fall and Spring teachings and other ceremonial fires.

I have been proactive in fighting for the rights to hunt, fish, and gather that our membership obtained in the 2007 Inland Consent Decree. I believe these rights should not be hindered unless there is a sound scientific reason and that Tribal members should have the opportunity to be able to provide for their families and others in their communities.

I have proven for the past 14 years that I am dependable and willing to put in the extra time.

Thanks, John

#### Teresa Johnson



AniAnishna,

My name is Teresa "Anaan Kwe" Johnson, and I am running for the Nine County Tribal Council seat. I am a traditional dancer and have been for most of my life. I am a proud mother of three beautiful children and I'm a grandmother. There are many things I would like to see change within our community, first

and foremost, I would like to see us stop all the hatred directed at each other. I have been employed most of my life, from factory to my current position with the tribe. I would like to see our tribe diversify our finances and to start more business other than the casino. I believe we will only become financially sound when we start diversifying our money. I volunteer my time with people who are suffering from drug abuse and alcoholism. I understand that I would be foolish to make any promises of what I will do as Councilwoman. I will not be able to accomplish anything without your support. But I will always be here for anyone who needs me. Nine county, outlying council, or at large. We are the Gaaching Ziibii Dawa Anishnaabek. I will represent all people. This is a promise I will not waver from. I will be in the office, I will do my 40 hours plus. So I ask for your support and vote, and help me make a better day for our community, our tribe, our future. Chi Miigwetch, Baamaa

#### Ken LaHaye



Boozhoo,

My name is Ken LaHaye and I am the son of Alonzo (Billy) and Patricia LaHaye (of Muskegon, MI). My grandparents were William and Sophia LaHaye (of Peacock, MI) and William and Henrietta Friedrich (of Manistee, MI). I'm the proud father of two young ladies Samantha and Thressa LaHaye. I have three

stepchildren and three grandchildren. I'm happily married to Tina LaHaye, my wife of eight years. I graduated from Orchard View High School in Muskegon, MI. in 1986.

In May of 2000 after accepting a position with LRBOI Natural Resources Department, I moved to Manistee, MI with my family and late wife Jacqueline (Jackie) LaHaye. I have successfully progressed throughout my career, advancing to more challenging positions in the Natural Resource field. My work history includes the positions of Great Lakes Fisheries Technician and Wildlife Technician. These positions have educated me in prioritizing and managing important tribal initiatives. I have been employed with LRBOI for sixteen years. I'm family oriented, and love spending time with my family and grandchildren. In my spare time I enjoy hunting, bow fishing, camping and riding my motorcycle.

Miigwech,  
Ken LaHaye

#### Don Koon



My name is Don Koon and I am running for one of the nine county seats on tribal council. I was on the council back in 2005, and was voted as speaker of the council in 2007. During my time on council I crafted legislation that created the elders insurance program, as well as our per cap plan. I have the interests of all tribal members in mind

when making decisions. Currently I work at our casino as the

maintenance manager where I have gotten to know all the ins and outs of the casino operation. I have a plan that will make our casino more profitable and a better place to work for all tribal members. If elected, I will serve our membership by listening to your thoughts and ideas and getting things done. Our council has become stagnant, and a body that does things in closed session that nobody knows about until it's already done, and that's not right. I have listened for years to people expressing concern about communication and not knowing what the council is working on. I will change that. I also have a plan to utilize our lands for the benefit of our members.

## Allen Metzger



Boozhoo,

My name is Allen Metzger (Aka: Thomas - De Verney), you can call me Al. I am running for a seat on council as a 9 County Representative and seeking your support. I have a one year Accounting and Business Certificate from Bay Mills Community College, I have work experience in four different Casinos. At three of these Casinos I have held a gaming license at different levels of the gaming capacity, and four years in Apprenticeship in the Carpenters Union. I have always worked and believe in a 40 hour work week for a 40 hour pay check. I am worried that our young ones are being forgotten. The future of our tribe will not be forgotten by me. I am a firm believer in the seven (7) generations and the 7 grandfather teachings. I hear a lot about thinking outside of the box. Instead, I think inside the circle.

## Sandy Mezeske

Aani Tribal members,  
With great pride I am running for a nine county seat. My mother is Anna M. (Sam's) Lempke. I have three beautiful daughters, Niki, Jodee and Shelly plus 4 wonderful grandchildren. In 2010, I was appointed to fill a vacant seat and in 2011 was elected to serve you. I am running again to bring back integrity and common sense to tribal council. I only ask one thing from you, if you hear a rumor, or read something on Facebook about me please call me or ask me in person 231-299-4584. In this day and age you can't believe what people are writing because everything is interpreted differently depending on how you think. During my tenure as a Tribal Council member I found attending all work sessions was one of the most important things I could do. These sessions provided me with the opportunity to ask questions, discuss the items with other Councilors to reach a consensus on the item. Please pay attention to attendance records. We need to focus on the future of our Tribe and how to better serve the membership and I promise to vote with my heart for you.

## Ronald J. Pete

Aani,

I come from a family of 6 brothers and 1 sister, my Mother and Father were Art and Marion Pete. I am blessed to have an extended family: my wife Vicki, her two children and my two children. Vicki and I

have 8 grandchildren in our family. My fellow Tribal members, for those of you who do not know me, I am the current General Manager at the Little River Casino Resort. I have worked here for 11.5 years and have held a PMO license for 10 of those years. As an FYI the PMO background license check is the most thorough and rigorous licensure that I have ever been through. I have held 6 positions here at the Resort from Supervisor, Manager, Senior Department Manager, Director, AGM and General Manager. I've also been fortunate for the last ten years to serve as the chair for the LRBOI Elders Committee. Resort

responsibilities include budget development, FTE labor budgets, financial and strategic planning, plus I had oversight of the recent renovation/construction Project at the Resort. Education: Ferris State University and UNLV William F. Harrah College of Administration  
Please vote for a change,

Ron

## De-Ahna Lewis Underwood



Aanii,

Fellow tribal citizens, my name is De-Ahna Lewis-Underwood. I am respectfully seeking a 9-County seat on Tribal Council. The granddaughter of Francis T. Lewis Sr. and the daughter of Sandra Lewis Jordan. I've dedicated 15 years working for the Tribe's Facilities Management Department.

My husband, Don Underwood and I have recently celebrated 9 years of marriage. Don has worked for LRCR for the last 9 years. We have 3 boys and our daughter, Nadine, is currently serving as Miss Little River. My goal is to help the tribe move forward in a positive way in all aspects. I will dedicate myself to the membership and base my decisions on facts and in the best interest for all members. All decisions for our tribe should be honest, open, fair, and equal to all. Not only for the privileged and few. Clear communication with the membership is important. Culture, language preservation, education, and health of the tribe are key factors in prosperity. I believe in ensuring the care of our elders and youth. I look forward to hearing your thoughts regarding the needs of our tribe. I will work hard for the well-being of our present and future tribal members.

Miigwech

## Marty Wabindato



As a traditionalist, I look around and see our tribe in such turmoil. We have a few Tribal Members with black hearts and evil minds. Remember, jealousy, lies, backstabbing, etc. are not part of our 7 teachings. Some of this evil thinking comes from the renovation project. Many tribes have spent 2 to 3 times the money we have on ours. Those other tribal members are happy and excited. Our tribal members want to go after our own elected officials! We have gotten away from our 7 teachings. We need to pray to the Creator for forgiveness for the way we've treated each other. We need to unite this Tribe and move forward, together!

Miigwetch

## Office of Tribal Council- At Large

### Michael J. Ceplina



Aanii

My name is Michael J Ceplina and I will be running for the office of the Tribal Council. I was born in Wakefield Michigan in the Upper Peninsula. I'm descended from Joseph and Josphine Pete. I am a family man with six children and two grandchildren. I'm the proud parent of a Marine and two Navy personell currently serving. I was a Natural Resource Commissioner for years working on our 2007 Consent Decree and establishing laws to govern the tribe and protect our treaty rights. I'm also a firekeeper and elder. Whenever I voted I looked at how my vote affected all tribal members and not just certain families. I started working with the tribe in 2002. My jobs were: Security Officer, Treatment Plant Operator, Surveillance Operator and

Tribal Councilor. As a council member, I have been liason for Gaming & Natural Resource Commissions, worked on the Government Center Task Force and the Housing Task Force, helped draft a law that protects our families & children. Education: Milwaukee Area Technical College, Hold a State of Michigan Water and Wastewater license.  
If elected I will work with Tribal Council to:

- Move forward the Casino in Muskegon.
- Pass laws to hold the Ogema and Tribal Council accountable.
- Pass laws to make it easier for tribal citizens to access our lands to harvest and gather.
- Establish our reservation boundaries to enforce our jurisdiction and establish our sovereignty.

Sincerely,

Michael J Ceplina

Home Phone 231-510-2385

### Jacob Kequom

Hello my name is Jacob Kequom and I am running for the At large seat for the tribal council. I am a graduate of West Shore College. In 2015, I received an Associates in Marketing/Management. I have been an employee at the Little River Casino Resort for the past 10 years. For the last 2 years I have been working as an EVS Supervisor and for 8 years I worked in the hotel as a hotel House person and Room Inspector. I am an open minded person that likes to hear people's opinions before making a decision. In our tribe there needs to be better communication between the government and Casino. I feel that the tribe needs to work as a team instead of being divided. I feel that accountability and structure is needed throughout the tribe. I think that our tribe needs to work on getting more small businesses. I have always been a believer in green energy with solar panels and turbines. An idea for the tribe can be opening up senior living homes to assist elders who need 24 hour care. With this type of business you are able to have them in more locations for all tribal members.

### Diane A. Lonn



Hello, my name is Diane A. Lonn. I am running for Tribal Council (AT LARGE) and I want your vote! I am very proud to say that I am one of you! My family goes back to the Koon and Espiew Families. My mother was Grace Koon and my Grandparents were Jim & Bea Koon. I have been married 46 years and have three, grown children, as well as five

Granddaughters. Since 1993, I have worked for the tribe, the majority of the time heading up the Enrollment Department and I worked four years at the Casino during that time. I have spent many years volunteering on Tribal Committees, Health, Land Usage, Pow Wows and Children's Christmas parties. I helped write the Constitution for the Tribe. You may trust that I know how our government works and how it doesn't work. Knowing this and seeing the struggle, I know that I can serve you well on Tribal Council with an eye to a successful future. I worked and went to school during this time and received my Bachelors in Business Administration and two Associate Degrees, one in Marketing/Management and one in Secretarial Science. I look forward to helping our youth, and caring for our Elders. My number is 231-398-3235

## Frankie L. Medacco



Hello,  
My name is Frankie L. Medacco I am running for the at-large seat on tribal council. I am currently a 9 county representative. I feel the things I am working on and involved in impact all tribal citizens and families. I sit on the shoreline task force (Muskegon project) from which the revenues impact the tribe as a whole. I represent the tribe on ICWA issues (Indian child welfare act), not just locally but at the National level also. I have always been an advocate for victims of Domestic Violence. I have recently been more of a voice on the national level talking with OVW (office of violence) and the department of justice on the short falls of funding for tribes. I would like to move forward with these items on my reelection into office. I am in favor of moving forward into diversifying so we have different avenues of revenue. I am only one voice, but my voice is for all. Feel free to contact me at 231-690-9780 or email FrankMedacco@hotmail.com. I look forward to talking to you and being your voice as your representative in this up coming election. Thank you for your time and vote.

Frankie Medacco

## Office of Tribal Council - Outlying

### Nitumigaabow "Ryan" Champagne



Boozhoo Nindinawemaaganidog (Hello all my relatives, we are all related),  
For the last 15 years, I have proudly served Indian Country and advocated for Social Justice Reform. Throughout my professional career I have led numerous federal and state policy reforms around recognition and promotion of our cultural ways and practices; child welfare reform to promote keeping families united; medical waivers to keep our elders and disabled in their own communities; and affordable and supportive housing for our families. I have advocated as a consultant with the Children's Bureau, BIA, IHS, SAMHSA, and various states and tribes to improve our communities.

As your Outlying Representative, I will bring my vast experience and proven results to build upon your visions for our communities. Your community's vision will be the guiding force in the development of policies, resource allocation, and building of infrastructure. This is the first time that outlying communities will have fair representation on Tribal Council. I have lived in Northern Wisconsin and Milwaukee, and understand the unique needs of those communities and I am willing to learn what our other communities' needs may be.

Miigwech,  
Nitumigaabow Ryan Champagne  
414.429.6906 | socialservices@grandriverband.org  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/helpingfamilieshealingcommunities>  
"Helping Families, Healing Communities"

### Dave Corey



My name is Dave Corey. I am running for tribal council representative for the outlying seat. My qualifications are achieving my High School diploma from Benzie Central High School, College Education at Michigan State University with my Associates/Certificate in Agri-Business : Construction Business Owner for 14 years, Business Manager of

Muschigon Construction, 6 years. Where I and the Muschigon men built trading posts, demoed the great lakes downs, a new

community center, a new housing shop, 39 homes in aki along with private work. I am 1/4 blood Ottawa. I was born and raised here in Northern Michigan (life long resident) and have a clean background. I have been a Gaming Commissioner for Little River Band for the past several years. With my long history in construction Business and clear background I would be able to serve on the new board of directors seat to help lead us into the future.

### Shannon Paul Crampton



Boozhoo,  
My name is Shannon Paul Crampton I am asking your consideration for the honor to serve you as your Outlying Rep. I am forty nine years old, husband to a beautiful wife, father to two wonderful

LRBOI tribal members and the proud grandfather of two beautiful grandchildren. I have been involved in business management in one capacity or another since my early twenties. I am an obsessive compulsive person by nature who must learn the inner workings, cause and solution to any problem I encounter which has led to being successful in virtually every task I have undertaken. In 1993, I began speaking at schools educating non-natives of the rich culture that existed within tribal communities and speaking out to my fellow tribal members on the corrective measures needed to move our tribe in a positive and progressive direction and continue to do so to this very day. I have a firm knowledge of the problems that are case specific to LRBOI, a plan to deliver the solutions needed and the integrity to see those solutions fairly implemented. I would consider it one of the greatest honors of my life to be granted the opportunity to serve as your Outlying Rep.

Thank you for your time.

Shannon Paul Crampton #1747.

## Office Of Tribal Court Appellate Judge

### Berni L. Carlson



Aanii,  
My name is Berni Carlson and I have been honored to serve The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, as one of the Appellate Court Justices, for the past term of office. I am married, a mother of 4, grandma of 2 and a nursing supervisor of 15 years for St. John's Healthcare P.C. I am also the secretary for the

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7729 and Band Booster President of Oakridge Public Schools. I am running for re-election to the office of Appellate Court Judge. My education from the National Judicial College of Reno Nevada, my experience on the bench of the Appellate Court the past 5.5 years, and my experience in my professional career, are qualities I bring with me to be able to serve The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. I will uphold our Constitution as the decisions made, not only affect this tribe, but the tribes of this Nation. I will also continue to be fair and treat our members with the dignity and respect they deserve. I humbly ask for your Support and Vote. I would be honored to be re-elected as an Appellate Court Judge.

Miigwech

### Cindy Pete Champagne



I want to thank all my relatives who believed in me when I previously served as your Appellate Justice. I have served my people proudly and will be willing to continue to serve if that is the wish of our people. I worked 30 years for Eaton Corporation as a Human Resources Administrator. I worked as

the Director of Human Resources at Little River Casino Resort. Each of these roles required knowledge of State, local and Federal laws, and at the Casino, knowledge of Tribal laws was necessary. I humbly served, protecting our children and families as a Binojeuk Commissioner. I bring to the bench a restorative justice perspective versus a punitive perspective. I feel our people have a right to be tried and heard by their own. I ask for your vote for Appellate Justice. I have always been devoted about doing the right thing for the right reasons. I understand the importance of the three appellate justices on the bench and the importance of decisions coming out of the Appellate Court. I am not known to follow the crowd. I will issue a dissenting opinion in order to uphold the law and our values.

### Kimberley A. Crampton (Kequom)



Boozhoo. Aanii. I, Kimberly Crampton (Kequom), am declaring my candidacy for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LRBOI) Appellate Court Judge.

There are about 566 Federally-recognized Tribes. About 300 of those have Tribal Courts and about 150 have Appellate Courts. LRBOI had the foresight to include an Appellate

Court. Miigwech to our leadership for having the progressive thinking to include the Appellate Court. Our Court invites lay advocates to defend litigants. Lay advocates can struggle with the appellate process where the language is foreign, intimidating and scary, and this can hamper them in Court. This makes the foundation for the Appellate Court. This is why I am running for the Appellate Court. Because our Court allows for lay advocates to defend Tribal Citizens, I would like to see the Appellate Procedure Rules streamlined. To expect a lay advocate to follow procedures that are hard to understand is unfair. Peacemaking is a great example of how we created a system that reflects our traditions. In the spirit of fairness, it would benefit us to have our rules modeled after our traditional methods and make them user-friendly. I respectfully ask for your vote for Appellate Court Judge. Miigwech for your consideration.

### Mark R Jesperson



History: Born October 6, 1958, Muskegon, MI. Michigan State University - Pre law. LRBOI, Muskegon Heights- grant writing. Medallion Instruments, Spring Lake MI - director product development and graphic arts. M & G Electronics, Virginia Beach, VA - corp. vice president, director product development. B & M Pets, Burbank, CA - owner/operator (4

store chain), feeding 150 homeless people a week for 5 years. PSI Telecommunications Burbank, CA - designer, product development. Dreamcatcher Ranch, Lancaster, CA - Founder/ CEO, Production and sale of American Indian crafts to 3 major California casinos Oscar Ramirez Youth Foundation, Lancaster, CA - Founder/CEO, Donation of necessities and toys to local hospital pediatrics departments and school supplies to the needy. I am known for honesty, an excellent reputation, adherence to right principles, sincerity, integrity, fairness and dedication to helping others. I am proud to be a member of LRBOI and promise to serve faithfully and justly all members of the tribe. Thank you for your vote.

## Office of Election Board

### Terri L. Burmeister



My name is Terri L. Burmeister TM# 0979 and I hope to represent Little River Band of Ottawa Indians on the Election Board. As a mother and grandmother, I fully understand the necessity of good leadership. We all know our tribal leaders are a result of an election. What better way to serve our tribal community than to ensure that these very

elections are honestly and promptly performed. Instead of waiting to hear what's going on within our tribe, I hope to be a part of what's going on.

My qualifications are many, and I will try to briefly explain. I am currently employed as a Food & Beverage Dining Room Service Lead at LRCR. This makes me a part of a leadership team that is responsible for multiple outlets and over 200 employees. I am Honest, Dependable, Organized, and Fair. I understand there needs to be a balance between business and personal responsibilities. I am capable of problem solving and conflict resolution. To hold a position on the Election Board would be an Honor and a Privilege. If given the opportunity, I would strive daily to represent our people and the election process in a good way. Miigwech

Terri L. Burmeister

### Sharron Cogswell Detz

Have you ever wondered if your vote counts? Well let me tell you that every vote counts! I have decided to run for a seat on the Election Board because there are a few things that I would like to see changed and feel that I can be part of the solution.

I have been involved in the election before, sitting and waiting for the ballots to be run through the machine and was frustrated by the process. Why do we hire a company that has been associated with election fraud? And then to top it off, the Tribe pays them \$10,000. Why? There has to be a more inexpensive and transparent way to have our votes counted.

I will ensure that all policies and regulations of the Election Board are carried out consistently. I will seek improvement in all areas of the Election Board and be available to all Tribal Members.

I am really encouraged by the focused leadership in our present Tribal Council. There is a renewed hope and belief again in the future of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. I ask for your support in this election!

### Valerie Robinson-McDonnell



Boozhoo! My name is Valerie Robinson-McDonnell and I am running for a seat on the Election Board. I am the daughter of Wallace Robinson and Pearl (Whelpley) Hall, and the granddaughter of Bessie (Elizabeth) Robinson-McNew, and the great granddaughter of Geo Shananquite and Cora Robinson. I am a graduate of Muskegon Community College. I have two children Samantha and Jeremy Lloyd. I have been a member of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians since 2009. Currently, I work at a law office in Muskegon. I started out as office help, and I have worked my way up to be the File Administrator for the firm. I consider myself to be a "jack of all trades" and "master of none." It just goes to show that you can do any job you want, as long as you're willing to put in the time and hard work. Miigwech! Please remember to vote in the upcoming election!

### Edward Tyler



Aanii,

I am seeking a position on the Election Board. I previously served on the Election Board, but was required to give up my seat when I ran for Tribal Council 2 years ago. I am an Elder and my grandmother was Nancy Shagonaby, who lived in Free Soil. I am a Graduate of Ludington High School and attended Grand

Rapids Community College.

Qualifications: I previously held a seat on the Election Board and on the Gaming Commission (which required an extensive background check), retired from Steelcase in the engineering field. Hold 3 U.S. Patents, Crew Chief- C-130 Aircraft, member of the Warriors Society, American Legion Post #381 Honor Guard Squad, served as a Deacon on 2 Church Boards and the Kent County Traffic Squad.

I am committed to providing an accurate and honest Election system where a person's vote is accurately recorded to their candidate of choice. The Election process is a very important aspect of the Tribal Government and must be adequately maintained.

Married 45 years, father of 3, grandfather of 5. Attend Cultural Events in Manistee, Grand Rapids, and surrounding areas, teaching my granddaughters Native American Culture by assisting with Regalia construction, taking our grandchildren to Traditional Events, never been arrested, no problems with alcohol or substance abuse, never homeless, never been sued. I would appreciate it if you would vote for me to be on the Election Board this coming spring.

## Meet the Candidates

The following is the list of offices and candidates for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2017 Election. The number of candidates that can be voted for is in parentheses under the heading for each office.

### Certified Slated of Candidates for the 2017 Election

#### Office of Tribal Council – 9 County

(Vote for no more than 2)

Chip (Gilbert) DiPiazza

Gary Paul DiPiazza (Sees-Bak-Tunse)

Rita Annette Gale

Kathy (Koon) Gibson

John Grocholski IV

Teresa Johnson

Steven Edward Kequom

Ken LaHaye

Don Koon

Allen Metzger

Sandy Mezeske

Ronald J. Pete

De-Ahna Lewis-Underwood

Marty Wabindato

#### Office of Tribal Council – At Large

(Vote for no more than 1)

Michael J. Ceplina

Jacob Kequom

Diane A. Lonn

Frankie L. Medacco

#### Office of Tribal Council – Outlying\*

(Vote for no more than 2)

Nitumigaabow "Ryan" Champagne

Dave Corey

Shannon Paul Crampton

Bill Willis

#### Office of Tribal Court Appellate Judge

(Vote for no more than 1)

Berni L. Carlson

Cindy Pete Champagne

Kimberly A. Crampton (Kequom)

Mark R. Jespersen

#### Office of Election Board\*

(Vote for no more than 3)

Terri L. Burmeister

Sharron Cogswell Detz

Valerie Robinson-McDonnell

Edward Tyler

\*Office of Tribal Council – Outlying and Office of Election Board offices and candidates automatically proceed to the ballot for the General Election. All others are included on the Little River Band Primary Election Ballot.



# General Election

Bashkakodini-Giizis  
(Freezing Moon)  
February 2017  
Vol. 2, Issue 16

## Date of Election: April 28, 2017

### Offices to be Elected:

*Office of Tribal Council - Nine County District (two seats)*  
*Office of Tribal Council - At Large District (one seat)*  
*Office of Tribal Council - Outlying (two seats)*

*Office of Election Board (three seats)*  
*Office of Appellate Judge (one seat)*

### Procedures for Establishing Candidacy

To Run for Office a Tribal Member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar.

The Primary Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot. The homes of registered voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department to receive a ballot. The ballot counting will be held in the Lodge at the Government Center, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI. Ballot counting process begins at 12:00pm.

The General Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot and central polling place. The homes of registered voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department to receive a ballot. The central polling place will be located

in the Lodge at the Government Center, 2608 Government Drive, Manistee, MI. The hours for the polling place will be 10am until 6pm. The ballot counting will also take place in the Lodge and the counting process begins at 12pm.

A copy of the Election Board Office Hours has been included in this mailing and will be from October 3, 2016 through October 28, 2016.

If a candidate wishes to have their photograph and biography included in the Special Election Newsletter, the candidate must include the photograph and biography in their packet.

The Tribal Constitution has recently been amended by a vote of the Membership. The

Election Board will be posting revisions to the Chapter 3 and 4 Election Board Regulations to reflect the Constitutional amendments. If enacted, these changes to Chapter 3 and 4 will be in effect for this election.

One of the Constitutional changes is that the Election Board is required to perform background checks for the position of Tribal Council, Tribal Ogema, and Tribal Judiciary. The background checks paperwork must be filled out and turned in with your Declaration of Candidacy Packet along with a fee to cover the cost of the background check service. The Election Board is researching check services and the amount of the fee will be included in the Candidacy Packets. Only cash and money orders will be accepted.

### Election Calendar

Declaration of Candidacy Packets Available .....	Oct. 3, 2016	Deadline for Primary Recounts, Disputes, Challenges.....	Feb. 17, 2017
Declaration of Candidacy Packets Due .....	Oct. 28, 2016	Deadline for Candidate Withdrawal after Primary.....	Feb. 27, 2017
Background Checks Certified .....	Nov. 30, 2016	Ballots Mailed for General Election.....	Mar. 24, 2017
Slate of Candidates Certified .....	Dec. 12, 2016	Ballots Due and General Election Day .....	Apr. 28, 2017
Last Day to Withdraw Candidacy.....	Dec. 19, 2016	Deadline for General Election Recounts, Disputes, Challenges..	May 5, 2017
Ballots mailed out for Primary Election.....	Jan. 13, 2017	Deadline for General Election Campaign Financial Report....	May 5, 2017
Ballots Due and Primary Election Day .....	Feb. 10, 2017		

**Last Day to register to vote for the Primary Election is December 13, 2016**

**Last Day to register to vote for the General Election is February 27, 2017**

**Please Note: In accordance with the Election Board Regulations Chapter 2, section 1(d): "If Voter Registration Form is not received by the Election Board 60 calendar days before an election, the eligible voter will not be registered to vote in that election."**

The Election Board is not responsible for the failure of an Eligible Voter to complete the registration requirements by the prescribed deadlines.

Registered voters are responsible for maintaining their current physical/ mailing address with the Enrollment Department. Ballots will be mailed to the address on file in the Enrollment Department.



## Election Board

Recent amendments to the Tribal Constitution change the composition of the Tribal Council. Prior to these amendments, the Tribal Council seats were allocated as follows:

- Six of the members were elected by Tribal Members residing in the Nine County Area (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford Counties)
- Two of the members were elected by all of the Members of the Tribe. These Council seats are known as “At-Large” seats.
- One of the members was elected by Tribal Members living outside the Nine-County area. This seat is known as the “Outlying” seat.

The proposed amendment would change the composition of the Tribal Council as follows:

- Four of the Council seats will be elected by Tribal Members residing in the Nine-County area.
- One of the Council Seats will be At-Large
- Four of the Council Seats will be elected by Tribal Members residing in the Outlying area.

Another way to say this is that two Nine-County seats are being change to Outlying seats, and one At-Large seat is being changed to an Outlying Seat.

The Election Board is charged with implementing this change. This includes determining when the seats should be switched. and in what order.

In rules that are being posted this month, the Election Board has decided to make the changes in two steps. First, one Nine-County seat that is up for election will be switched to an Outlying seat in the 2017 General Election. Then, one Nine-County seat AND one At-Large seat that are up in the 2019 General Election will be switched to Outlying Seats.

The Election Board’s main reason for implementing the change in this way is so that there will be two Nine-County seats and two Outlying seats up in each future election. If the At-Large seat was switched to Outlying in 2017, then there would be three Outlying seats up in one election and one Outlying seat in the next election with this pattern repeating in future elections. The lone At-Large seat would be up once every other election, just as the lone Outlying seat is now.

The following graphics illustrate the new changes to the Tribal Council election pattern.

### Government is closed for the following Holidays

New Years Day  
 Treaty Recognition Day (3/28)  
 Memorial Day  
 Independence Day  
 Labor Day  
 Reaffirmation Day (9/21)  
 Veterans Day  
 Thanksgiving (Thurs & Fri)  
 Christmas Eve (Half Day)  
 Christmas Day

Just use the toll-free number 888.723.8288. 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.

### Tribal Council Seats up for Vote in 2017

Current	Change	New
3 Nine-County Seats	(-1)	2 Nine-County Seats
1 At-Large Seat	0	1 At-Large Seat
1 Outlying Seat	+1	2 Outlying Seats

### Tribal Council Seats up for Vote in 2019

Current	Change	New
3 Nine-County Seats	(-1)	2 Nine-County Seats
1 At-Large Seat	(-1)	0 At-Large Seat
0 Outlying Seat	+2	2 Outlying Seats

### Tribal Council Seats up for Vote in 2021 (2025)

2 Nine-County Seats
1 At-Large Seat
2 Outlying Seats

### Tribal Council Seats up for Vote in 2023 (2027)

2 Nine-County Seats
0 At-Large Seats
2 Outlying Seats



# Job Postings

Bashkakodini-Giizis  
(Freezing Moon)  
February 2017  
Vol. 2, Issue 16

## Position: Director of Public Affairs (Full Time Permanent)

**Summary:** Responsible for the enhancement and implementation of Tribal Government good will, public image and public relations. Oversees all aspects of production of the Tribal newspaper and website.

**Employment Qualifications:** A qualified candidate offers:

- Bachelor Degree in Journalism or Public Relations and 5 years' experience in public relations and information.
- 5 years supervisory/managerial experience in specific field
- Valid driver's license and ability to be insured

throughout employment

- Knowledge of newspaper set-up, editing and distribution
  - Knowledge of web site management
- Indian Preference applies in accordance with Ordinance #15-600-02

**Pay Grade:** E6

**Hiring Range:** \$57,123-\$75,753.

**Status:** Exempt; bi-weekly pay

Application Instructions:

Obtain an application form and a copy of the position description by contacting Human Resources at:

*LRBOI HR Department,  
2608 Government Center Dr, Manistee, MI, 49660  
phone: (231) 398-6859; Email: jobs@lrboi-nsn.gov;  
https://lrboinsn.gov*

To apply please submit completed application, cover letter and resume, no later than 5 pm on January 06, 2017, to:

**LRBOI HR Department,  
2608 Government Center Dr, Manistee, MI, 49660  
fax: (231) 398-9101 ; Email: jobs@lrboi-nsn.gov**

*Conditions of employment with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Government includes, passing a pre-employment drug test, a background investigation, and successfully completing a 90-day introductory period. For further information, please contact the LRBOI HR*

# Commissions & Committees

## Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2017 Commission/Committee Members & Terms

### Elders Committee

Ron Pete – Chair  
Diane Lonn  
Connie Waitner  
**Liaisons**  
R. Wittenberg  
V. Johnson  
M. Wabindato

### Binojeeuk Commission

Norma Hinkle 9/20/17  
Beverly Cole 9/20/19  
Vacant 9/20/17  
Vacant 9/20/17  
Vacant 9/20/19  
**Liaisons**  
M. Wabindato  
F. Medacco

### Commerce Commission

Vacant 9/20/19  
Vacant 9/20/17  
Jason Cross 9/20/17  
Peggy Vriesman- Sec. 9/20/19  
Kareen Lewis - Chair 9/20/19  
**Liaisons**  
G. DiPiazza  
V. Johnson

### Enrollment Commission

Peggy Derouin 9/20/17  
Diana O'Neal - Chair 9/20/17  
Charmaine Stone- Co-Chair 9/20/17  
Krystyne Medawis - Sec. 9/20/19  
Charles Fisher 9/20/19  
**Liaisons**  
S. Lewis  
R. Wittenberg  
J. Riley

### Gaming Commission

Bill Willis 9/20/19  
Dave Corey - Chair 9/20/19  
Julie Wolfe 9/20/17  
Vacant 9/20/17  
Deb Davis 9/20/19  
**Liaisons**  
J. Riley  
F. Medacco

### Health Commission

Vacant 9/20/17  
Pamela Johnson - Chair 9/20/17  
Al Patricio 9/20/19  
**Liaisons**  
S. Lewis

### Housing Review Board

Jason Cross 8/10/19

### Housing Commission

Karen Love 9/20/17  
Judy Hardenburgh 9/20/17  
Julia Chapman- Chair 9/20/17  
Marcella Leusby- Sec. 9/20/19  
Jamie Friedel 9/20/19  
**Liaisons**  
S. Lewis  
R. Wittenberg  
S. Crampton

### Natural Resource Commission

Martha Howell 9/20/19  
Connie Eno 9/20/17  
Boo Battice 9/20/17  
John Koon 9/20/19  
David Schultz 9/20/17  
**Liaisons**  
G. DiPiazza

## Commission Openings!

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

Ogema Romanelli is building a pool of tribal

members who are interested in sitting on a Commission. Members are invited to submit letters of interest along with why they would like to be on the Commissions and what skills or knowledge they bring to the group. Applicants will need to submit a commission application along with your letter of interest. You will need to

contact our office to get an application and will need to submit both in order to be considered.

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



## Annual Goonignebig (Snowsnake) Tournament

- Competitors **MUST** be registered
- All Children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult at all times
- Competitors **MUST** be on site and ready when their name is called

**LRBOI Aki Maadizwin  
Community Center  
2953 Shaw Be Quo-Ung,  
Manistee, MI  
Competition starts at 10am  
Lunch will be Provided**

**Everyone is invited to attend and participate! Come enjoy the fun!**

Registration the day of the event will be from 9-10am or you may pre-register by calling 1-888-723-8288, ext. 6891 or email [wyattlszpliet@lrboi-nsn.gov](mailto:wyattlszpliet@lrboi-nsn.gov)

**NO all metal snakes are allowed. Two Throws per competitor; longest score counts. Throws that jump the track will be counted/scored. Sharing of snakes is allowed. Open to EVERYONE! Tournament is dependent upon the weather – prior to event, check for cancellation/delay**

By participating, you acknowledge that photographs and/or digital recording may be taken during the Tournament and convey all rights, title and interest concerning the photographic images and/or digital recording to the Little River band of Ottawa Indians. It is further understood that these photographic images and or/digital recordings may be published and/or posted on the internet or tribal website or any other way in which the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians deems necessary. All rights are voluntarily waived to these photographic images and/or digital recordings.



## *Native Love Round Dance Saturday February 18, 2017*

*Come celebrate healthy living, renew friendships,  
visit and build community connections*

Pipe Ceremony at 8 pm | Feast to Follow  
Round Dance at 9 pm til 1 am

**Aki Madazwiin Community Center  
2953 Shaw Be Quo-Ung, Manistee, MI**

Paul Syrette - MC  
La'Kota Raphael - Stickman  
Jd Gibson - Pipe Carrier

### **Invited Singers**

Joe Syrette  
Mike Medawis  
John T Warren  
Bob Duty  
Chinoodin Atkison  
Jerry Wasageshik

**SPOT DANCES | DOOR PRIZE GIVEAWAYS  
VENDORS | MIDNIGHT SNACKS**

**\*\* Free Vendor Space \*\***

**Contact: Wyatt Szpliet 231-398-6891**

**Gary DiPiazza 231-398-6825**

**De-Ahna Underwood 231-398-2212**

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

## Monthly DbekGiizis Ceremony

### **Dates For Winter 2017**

January 12..... 6pm  
February 9 ..... 6pm  
March 12..... 7pm  
April 11 ..... 7pm

*Please stop and  
take time out  
of your busy  
lives to join  
us monthly  
to help honor  
Grandmother  
Moon*

*Bring your skirt and a dish to pass*

**Ceremony takes place at the  
tribal property on  
Schoedel Rd,  
Manistee, MI 49660  
(sugar shack parcel)**

**All Kwewok are encouraged  
and welcomed to join**

*Bring your feast bundle  
and camping chair*

**Contact Julie Wolfe for  
questions 231-398-6740**

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

## **2017 GooniGnebig Damnawin**

**Saturday, February 18, 2017**

**11:00 am – 4:00pm**

**LTBB Government Complex**

**7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, MI**

**Soups will be served.**

**If possible, please bring your own feast bag.**

## **A FUN COMPETITION FOR ALL AGES!**

Please include your name, age and grade if still in school. Eighteen year olds still in high school must register in the 9th-12th grade category.

The top three participants with the furthest throw in male and female age categories will receive a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place medals.

All participants that compete will receive a t-shirt, as well.

**This event is a community potluck event so please bring a dish to pass.**

**To register contact Marlene Gasco 231-242-1616**



# Elder Meals

Bashkakodini-Giizis  
(Freezing Moon)  
February 2017  
Vol. 2, Issue 16

## TIP OF THE MONTH

### Practice Portion Control

- 1 Hamburger (without Bun) = Deck of Cards
- 1 Cup Fries = about 10 Fries
- 4 oz Nachoes = About 7 Chips
- 3 oz Meatloaf = Deck of Cards
- 1 Cup Chili = Baseball

## Meals Served at Noon

### Monday-Thursday

No Charge for Elders, Spouse and Handicapped/Disabled Individuals who reside with Elder  
Guest meals are \$6.00

Please contact Noelle Cross

with any questions

Phone: 231-398-6886

Email: [ncross@lrboi-nsn.gov](mailto:ncross@lrboi-nsn.gov)

**Volunteers are needed to help with meals - If interested contact Noelle**

Menu Subject to Change. without notice.

Meals meet 1/3 of the RDI based on a 1500-2000 Calorie Diet

**Coffee, Milk & Water Available at Every Meal**

## Aki Community Center Elder Meals Menu 2017

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Chili Cornbread & Dessert  <b>Wii Bowling</b>	Tuna Fish Sandwich Vegetable & Dessert		<b>Elder Committee Meeting</b> At Noon
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup & Dessert  <b>Language Class</b>	<b>ELDER'S CHOICE</b> Give Noelle your suggestions	Baked Cod Mac & Cheese Broccoli & Dessert  <b>Wii Bowling</b>	Pot Roast Red Potato Corn & Dessert  <b>BINGO</b>		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME</b> Spring forward!	Salisbury Steak Mashed Potato Corn, Roll & Dessert <b>Language Class</b>	Chicken Pot Pie & Dessert	Chop Suey & Dessert  <b>Wii Bowling</b>	Corned Beef Cabbage & Carrots & Dessert	<b>Muskegon Meal</b> Please RSVP with Noelle 231.398.6886 Lunch served at noon	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	BBQ Chicken Rice Mixed Veggie & Dessert <b>First Day of Spring</b>	Sausage & Sauerkraut Mashed Potatoes Green Beans & Dessert	Beef Chili Hotdogs Baked Beans Peas & Carrots & Dessert <b>Wii Bowling</b>	Spaghetti Sauce w/Meat, Broccoli Breadsticks & Dessert		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Breakfast for Lunch  <b>Language Class</b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>Treaty Recognition Day</b>	Pork Roast Red Mashed Potatoes Corn & Dessert	Hamburger Potato Salad Corn & Dessert		



## Tribal Member Discount Rules

Tribal member must be present and show their Tribal ID to receive any of the following discounts. Discounts may not be combined with other discounts or comps.

1. 20% Daily Discount in food outlets
  - Available to all Tribal Members and one guest; additional guests will be charged full price.
  - Cigarettes and alcohol are excluded from discounts.
2. Thursday 2 for 1 meal discount (50% off if Tribal Member is alone).
  - Charge will be for meal of the highest price.
  - Cigarettes and alcohol are excluded from discounts.
3. 25% discount in the Gift Shop. Cigarettes, alcohol, consignment items, sundries and gift certificates are excluded from discounts.
4. Hotel room rate \$79 plus tax and fees  
 Suite rate \$129 plus tax and fees.
  - Tribal Member must identify themselves as a Tribal Member and provide Tribal Member number when booking the room.
  - Tribal Member must present Tribal ID when Checking in and occupy the room.
  - No hotel discounts will be provided on the Fourth of July weekend or on New Year's Eve.
5. In anticipation of the opening of the spa the Resort will not offer discounts for spa services.
6. River Credits will be given to all LRBOI Tribal Members only (no spouses).
7. Member must present their Tribal ID and provide a signature upon receipt of the voucher when registering at the meeting or event.
  - Spring and Fall membership meeting
  - LRBOI Elders Conference
  - Elders Christmas Party
  - Tribal Members only
8. No Tribal Member private banquet functions will be discounted.
9. Tribal Member discounts will not be provided on December 31st (New Year's Eve).  
 Any Tribal Member found trying to circumvent these rules may have their benefits suspended by Resort management.

Department	Location	Phone Number
Accounting	Government center -main entrance	231.398.6868
Be-Da-Bin	Government center- clinic entrance	231.398.6741
Commerce	Government center -main entrance	231.398.6815
Commodities	Little River Casino Warehouse	231.398.6716
Education	Government center- clinic entrance	231.398.6735
Enrollment	Government center-main entrance	231.398.6712
Fitness Center	Government center-lower level	231.398.6636
Family Services	Government center- clinic entrance	231.398.6734
Gaming Commission	Interim Casino	231.723.7755
Grants Department	Government center- main entrance	231.398.6843
Health Clinic	Government center -north end	231.723.8299
Historic Preservation	Government center-lower level	231.398.6891
Housing	Aki Maadiziwin -community center	231.398.6879
Human Resources	Government center- main entrance	231.398.6871
Members Legal Asst.	Justice center on M22	231.398.2234
Members Assistance	Government center-main entrance	231.398.6718
Natural Resources	9th street offices Manistee	231.723.1594
Peacemaking/Probation	Justice center on M22	231.398.2239
Planning Department	Government center -main entrance	231.398.6810
Prosecutor	Justice center on M22	231.398.2242
Public Affairs	Government center- main entrance	231.398.6872
Public Safety	Justice center on M22	231.398.2225
Tax Office	Government center -main entrance	231.398.6874
Utilities/Waste Water	Dontz Road (near Aki Maadiziwin)	231.398.2285
Work Force Development	Government center-main entrance	231.398.6842
Tribal Court	Justice center on M22	231.398.3406

## Upcoming Events

Call Little River Resort Hotel  
 US Toll Free: 1-888-568-2244  
 Local: 231-723-1535

**Elders Meal**  
 Aki Community  
 Center  
 Mon-Thur 12pm

**Language Class**  
 Every Friday  
 10:30am

**"Native Luv" Round Dance**  
 February 18, 2017  
**Goonignebig Tournament**  
 March 11, 2017

**2017 Membership Meetings**  
 April 8, 2017 &  
 October 9, 2017



The LRBOI Warriors Society would like to invite all Tribal Members and/or Descendants of LRBOI Members serving (active duty) in the service to submit information on where they are deployed, Rank, and Branch of Service. With this information we would like to extend our appreciation by Honoring them in the Currents, River News and if they are present at LRBOI 2017 Pow Wow.

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
2608 Government Center Drive  
Manistee, Michigan 49660

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #195  
Manistee, MI

Or Current Resident

## February 2017 Court Docket

### Key

AA: Adoption of Adult	EB: Election Board Appeal	JV: Juvenile
AM: Adoption of Minor	EM: Emancipation of Minor	LT: Landlord Tenant
CD: Charge of Discrimination	FJ: Foreign Judgment	NA: Neglect Abuse
CO: Cora Offense/Conservation	FSJ: Foreign Support Judgment	NC: Name Change
CS: Child Support	GA: Gaming Appeal	PF: Probate
CT: Civil Ticket	GC: General Civil	TPO: Personal Protection Order
DM: Divorce with children	GM: Guardianship of Minor	TA: Trust Access
DO: Divorce w/o children	GR: Employment Matter	TM: Tribal Misdemeanor
EA: Enrollment Appeal	JC: Judicial Complaint	WC: Workmen's Compensation

### Friday, February 3, 2017

### Judge Sherigan

09:30 a.m.	Stone/Ogema v Council	16308GC and 162GC tentative
10:30 a.m.	Neglect/Abuse	16040NA Closed Hearing

### Monday, February 6, 2017

### Judge Bailey

11:00 a.m.	Wabsis v. Wabsis	16250DO Final Divorce
01:15 p.m.	Ailing v. Ailing	16279DO Pretrial

### February 23, 2017

### Judge Sherigan

01:00 p.m.	Obema v. Council	16308GC Motion Hrg.
3:35 p.m.	Juvenile	16229JV Closed Hrg.

### Monday, February 27, 2017

### Judge Bailey

11:00 a.m.	Koone v. Koone	16178DM Trial
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MAY 11, 2017 — SEPTEMBER 10, 2017  
**EDWARD S. CURTIS**  
THE  
**NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN**  
Experience this historic exhibition  
of the full collection.  
Only at the Muskegon Museum of Art



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