



Coming up at LRBOI:

Elders Meal
Aki
Community Center
Mon-Thur 12pm

Language Class
Every Friday
10:30am

2016 Membership Meetings
April 9, 2016 &
October 8, 2016

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

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

For submission policies regarding editorial or communications processes for the Currents or the Rapid River News, please go to www.lrboi.com under the tabs for both publications. You will see the full policies written there. These include the editorial and communication protocols for the Office of Public Affairs in effect at this time. To comment upon these policies, please use currentscomments@lrboi.com and send in your thoughts for consideration by the staff. Emergency Management protocols will be available upon request and per authorization by the Office of the Ogema as they constitute secure information designed to protect the lives and investments of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, their members, employees and property. These notices are required under Resolution #13-0411-069

Sugar Bush 2016



This past Saturday children and their families had the chance to gather and hear the stories, learn the teachings, and maintain the ancient anishinaabek tradition of making maple syrup; where everyone can come and learn and have fun doing it!

Sap was cooked late into the night for that first cooking. See photos page 13



Check out the Changes to the Elections adopted by our election board
www.lrboi-nsn.gov

13 Magizi found Dead



Thirteen bald eagles found dead last month in Maryland were likely killed by people. Details on Page 2



Winter Love Round Dance a big success

Photos on page 12

The Tribal Public Safety Department wanted to remind you that they take back the prescription drugs program year 'round out at the Tribal Police Department offices on M22. Tribal police have a secured location for these drugs and regularly arranges for their disposal.

Bring these drugs into the department. Leaving them in the medicine cabinet or somewhere in the home poses a danger to youngsters and other family members. Properly disposing of these drugs protects our young, our families and our environment.



13 Magizi found Dead

Naabidin Giizis (Snow Crust Moon)
March 2016 Vol.3 Issue 15



Thirteen bald eagles found dead last month in Maryland were likely killed by people.

Current evidence is pointing in that direction since all other likely causes of the bald eagles' deaths have been ruled out, NBC News reported. The incident represented the worst die-off of the majestic birds in the state in 30 years.

The dead bald eagles were found on Maryland's Eastern Shore on Feb. 20 on a farm and in woods in the town of Federalsburg by a man searching a field for shed deer antlers, CNN added. The man initially found four bald eagles, and he called the Fish and Wildlife Service and Maryland Natural Resources to report the deaths.

The agency's police reported to the sight and uncovered nine more carcasses after a search. The birds showed no obvious signs of trauma and an investigation was launched.

At first, they believed that the bald eagles ate poisoned animal carcasses, contaminated after humans put out the poison to control the rodent population. However, the man who owned the farm where the bald eagles were found denied using any at the time of the deaths.

The following statement was released by the agency at the time of the grisly discovery, The Inquisitr previously reported

"Three mature eagles, the ones we all love that look like the national bird, are gone ... It's sad that we have three eagles of mating ability that have been eliminated from our population."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's forensics lab conducted necropsies and the results were recently shared with the public. Testing ruled out causes other than those perpetrated by humans. The bald eagles showed no signs

of trauma, didn't succumb to natural causes, and they had no signs of disease.

That the necropsies revealed that none of the bald eagles had avian flu is critical. Influenza is a major threat in the area since it's home to many poultry farms and migratory birds.

The investigation, therefore, has now turned to humans, said agency spokeswoman Catherine J. Hibbard.

No other information about the bald eagles deaths or theories as to how they could've been killed if humans are to blame were disclosed in order to protect the investigation.

Despite the fact that the investigation has now focused on humans, experts on bald eagles aren't convinced poison didn't kill them, The Washington Post reported.

Despite the farmer's denial, they believe a pesticide or poison was ingested by the birds en masse, and said poison was intended to get rid of predators or rodents. If the animals who ate the poison, as intended, and then died outside, the birds could've eaten their carcasses and gotten sick that way.

"If there was any type of natural occurrence you would not find that number of dead bodies in one spot," Ed Clark, president and founder of the Wildlife Center of Virginia. "Which means whatever killed them, killed them quickly and they didn't get very far."

In the past, the deaths of bald eagles have been caused by humans.

Until now, the largest number of bald eagles killed at one time was eight. Poisoning was suspected in that case, but testing was inconclusive. Two years ago in Wisconsin, however, something similar happened that resulted in the deaths of 70 animals, two bald eagles among them.

Farmers in that state used an illegal pesticide to kill coyotes and wolves and ended up killing dozens of creatures, including the birds, vultures, coyotes, owls, and a bobcat. They were fined \$100,000.

The penalty for humans, either intentionally or otherwise, killing bald eagles is stiff. They are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and killing one is punishable by a year in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

The authorities are offering a \$25,000 reward for tips for information that leads to the conviction of the humans responsible.

Officials in California are investigating another animal death, that of an elderly koala living in a zoo by a wild mountain lion.

Read more at <http://www.inquisitr.com/2881350/humans-likely-killed-13-bald-eagles-in-maryland-authorities-hunting-for-suspects/#5h1Z8w17AEpYYQWf.99>

May you have the
Strength
of eagle; wings,
The faith and courage
to fly
to new heights,
And the wisdom of
the universe to
carry you there.



Date	Work Session Title	Jessica Burger	Ron Witteberg	Shannon Crampton	Gary DiPazza	Virgil Johnson	Frankie Medacco	Joe Riley, II	Sandra Lewis	Marty Wabindato	Total
02/01	Child Care Center	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	8
02/01	Government Financial Rev	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	8
02/01	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	8
02/01	Indian Preference Ordinance	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	7
02/02	Addiction Treatment Center		x	V	x	x	x			x	5
02/02	Wells Fargo	x	x	V	x	x	x			x	6
02/02	Pharmacy Clinic	x	x	V	x	x	x			x	6
02/02	Goals for Anishinaabenowin	x	x	V	x	x	x			x	6
02/04	Third Party Reimbursement	V	x		x	x	x		x	x	6
02/04	Board of Directors Act	V	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/08	Tribal Tax	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	8
02/08	Gaming Comm Interview	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
02/08	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
02/11	LLC Ordinance		x		*		x	x	x	x	5
02/11	Indian Preference Ordinance	x	x		*		x	x	x	x	6
02/15	Commission 2016 Goals	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			7
02/15	Shoreline Funding	x	x	x	x		x	x			6
02/15	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		8
02/16	Strategic Planning	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	7
02/16	2016 Goals	x	x		x	B	x		x	x	6
02/16	Round Table w/ Ogema	x	x		x	B			x	x	5
02/19	Tribal Council Accessibility	x	x		x	B	x		x	V	5
02/22	LLC Ordinance	*	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	7
02/22	Donation Requests	*	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/22	Agenda Review	*	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/23	2015 Year End Insurance	*	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/23	Protection Ordinances	*	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/23	Round Table w/ Ogema	*	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/23	Wild Rice Program	*	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/29	Commission 2016 Goals	x	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/29	Administrative Planning	x	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
02/29	Agenda Review	x	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
	Total number of Work Sessions - 32	21	32	18	29	26	31	19	24	28	

* Business Related V - Vacation B - Bereavement

Little River Charity Golf Classic



MANISTEE, MI. – Little River Casino Resort is pleased to announce that its 17th Charity Golf Classic will take place on Friday, July 8, 2016. This annual event features a day of interactive golf complete with prizes, a gift raffle and live music with a spotlight on area charitable community service organizations to benefit from this year's event proceeds.

The casino resort underwrites all costs associated with the event and donates 100% of all monies received from participant fees and sponsorship funds raised. In 2015 \$59,500 was distributed to six charitable organizations and has distributed over \$670,000 since its inaugural event in 1999. Charitable 501(c)(3) community service organizations located within the Manistee area are encouraged submit an application for consideration to receive a share of the 2016 event proceeds.

Eligible organizations may contact Chad Eckhardt, LRCR Player Development Manager, to receive an application form. The deadline for applications for consideration is Friday, April 15, 2016.



Spring Membership Meeting

Naabidin Giizis (Snow Crust Moon)
March 2016 Vol.3 Issue 15

Workforce Development

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Commerce Department is seeking an individual who would be willing to assist the Commerce Department in the formulation and establishment of an Economic Development Corporation. The applicant must be a tribal citizen and must have an advanced skill set in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher, Outlook, etc.) In addition, the applicant must have analytical, financial and presentational skills. This will be a short term assignment initially limited to 320 hours in the current fiscal year. The rate is \$15.00 per hour. The applicant must meet all Commerce Department Work Experience component requirements including tribal citizenship, passing an employment background check and drug screen, and interview. Please submit a resume and request application materials by contacting David Hawley, LRBOI Workforce Development Specialist, in person, by email, phone or fax. This would be an ideal summer job for a college student who may be interested in economic development work with the skill set we are seeking.

David A. Hawley
Workforce Development Specialist
Phone: 231-398-6842
Fax: 231-398-6870

https://lrboi-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2016-Workforce-Development-Program-Revised-01_2016.pdf

https://lrboi-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Revised-Application-for-Programs-10_2014.pdf



The LRBOI Election Board adopted their new 2016 regulations at their regular meeting. The entire document is posted on the website at www.lrboi-nsn.gov.

A call for Artists

Our native people have the highest rate of suicide of any people here in the United States, Canada and Alaska. Sometimes we don't have a clear understanding why that is. We know it is true. We are looking for artists that would like to help us bring an awareness to our communities about this terrible problem. We are researching on creating a calendar that would have a message of this awareness. Please give me a call at 231-398-6892 if you are interested or have any questions, I will be glad to talk to you.
Miigwech, Kenny Pheasant

Spring Membership Meeting Saturday April 9, 2016

Friday April 8, 2016
Ogema meet and greet
7 pm – 9 pm
Little River Casino Resort
Three Fires Conference Center

Saturday April 9, 2016

Membership Meeting
8 am – 4 pm
Little River Casino Resort
Event Center

Meeting Agenda

8 am- Registration Begins - Located in the Event Center

9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Informational Booths

10 a.m. - Flag Ceremony Honoring the Nations
Opening Ceremony - Event Center

12 p.m. - Lunch Served, Information booths closed
Event Center

1 p.m. - Official meeting begins - Quorum Call

Question and answer Period will follow.
Miigwech for attending and Safe Travel Home

Note-Agenda subject to change at Ogema's discretion and if quorum in membership is reached.

In January of 2016, the Public Safety Department and Manistee County Sheriffs Office re-enacted the cross-deputization agreement which will provide our officers with state jurisdiction on tribal lands. Without the agreement, our officers would have to contact a Deputy from the county or a State Trooper to investigate a crime committed at the casino or other land held in trust. This agreement will give our officers the authority to investigate and prosecute these offenses perpetrated on our land. An easy way to think of it would be any offense that had a non-native victim and a non-native suspect. However, the jurisdiction where the offense is committed will ultimately be responsible for the investigation and prosecution. Here is a chart to demonstrate the different jurisdictions that relate to tribal police:

Offender	Victim	Jurisdiction
Non-Native	Non-Native	State Jurisdiction
Non-Native	Native	Federal Jurisdiction
Native	Non-Native	Federal/Tribal Jurisdiction
Native	Native	Federal (felony)/Tribal Jurisdiction
Non-Native	Victimless	State Jurisdiction/Limited Federal
Native	Victimless	Federal/Tribal Jurisdiction

To take it one step further, here is how off-reservation offenses are investigated and prosecuted by jurisdiction:

Agency	Jurisdiction
Michigan State Police	Any offense committed within the State of Michigan. Cases are usually prosecuted in the assigned areas of patrol.
Manistee County Sheriffs Office	Any offense committed within the County of Manistee, including Manistee City.
Manistee City Police Department	Any offense committed within the City of Manistee.
Little River Public Safety	Any offense committed on Trust Land (Police) Any hunting/gathering/fishing offense within ceded territory. (Conservation)

Common questions that are often asked as a result of the agreement are:

Q: “Does this mean Tribal Police can handle all complaints within the county that are tribal member related?”

A: No, we are still only able to work within our jurisdiction. If you reside off-reservation land, you are subject to that authority’s jurisdiction and court system for criminal offenses.

Q: “Will Tribal Police be doing traffic stops throughout the county now?”

A: No, Tribal Police will patrol the assigned areas of patrol. However, if our officers are requested or witness a crime taking place, they can follow the proper protocol to obtain approval for making a stop off-reservation.

Q: “If Tribal Police do not investigate off-reservation incidents, why do I see them outside of their area or with other agencies in the city or county?”

A: Certain times we will provide backup, even take complaints if there is an emergent circumstance. Our officers will backup any jurisdiction, as they would do the same for us.

Q: “If we have an agreement with the county, but cannot have our Tribal Officers show up to our calls for service, what sense does it make to have the agreement?”

A: Our officers are well trained and take the necessary steps to ensure the well-being of all persons they come in contact with. In order to practice law enforcement in the State of Michigan, our officers have to maintain their Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards License. Unfortunately, MCOLES does not recognize tribal law enforcement to maintain this license. This is standard with all tribal law enforcement in the state. The agreement allows our officers to investigate and prosecute state complaints on our land and allowing them to maintain their MCOLES certification.

Q: “Can we request a Tribal Officer if a tribal member is out with another jurisdiction?”

A: Yes. However, there is no requirement for that agency to comply with the request. In my experience we have not dealt with too many instances where the agency would not contact us.

Q: “What is your role if you respond to the scene?”

A: Simply put...to observe. We want to ensure the safety of everyone on scene and that the rights of the tribal member were not violated. I hope this provides insight into a great partnership we have with the Manistee County Sheriffs Office. This is mutually beneficial agreement and we hope to work together in pursuit of truly harmonious community for both LRBOI and Manistee County.

Professionally, Robert R Medacco
 Director of Public Safety

Spring Sacred Fire and Anishinaabe Lifeway Teachings

April 7th to April 9th, 2016
at Teaching Lodge Pow Wow Grounds

Everyone is welcomed to attend!

Each day will start with a Sunrise Ceremony and teachings will be held throughout the day

At the conclusion of the last teaching, Thursday through Friday, the Fire will be kept throughout the night

For information, please call 1-888-723-8288,
ext. 6893 or 6895
Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Tribal Historic Preservation Department



We will light the Sacred Fire at Sunrise April 7th, 2016. We will be utilizing the talking circle format as we done last fall. This way all the presenters and all who attend will be able to speak and offer the teachings they know and have been taught. We all have good teachings to offer. There will be many teachings we intend to cover so the days will be full. Men and Women teachings will be covered. We will start each morning with our Pipe ceremonies, Water ceremony, songs and prayers.

Teachings we will be covering are listed below:

Pipe ceremonies, water ceremony, our sacred songs, sacred fire and why we have it, smudging and our sacred medicines, sweat lodges, Fire keepers and Fire Keeping the general responsibilities that are universally followed in the Three Fires Tribes. 7 Grandfathers, our clans, why we fast, why it is important to teach our young folks these traditional ways, the importance of our spiritual people, importance of our elders. Role modeling in our community for our youth as we teach lifeway's of the Anishinaabe. The importance of service with our Anishinaabe Lifeway's, the importance of feasting in our homes and community, the importance of Clan Mothers and Anishinaabe Kwe Leaders.

Please come join us, bring your knowledge and share. Being respectful is a must in these settings. All Pipe Carriers are welcome. All are welcome Anishinabek and non-native.

If we gather with good a good heart, with good intentions, we all hopefully leave with a good outcome.
Miigwech



1ST TRIBAL LENDING
The Nation's most experienced Section
184 Lending Team

Why 1st Tribal Lending

1st Tribal Lending is comprised of the most experience HUD Section 184 lending team in the nation. Much of our staff has been in the HUD Section 184 industry for greater than ten years. Our underwriters were among the first in the nation to become approved to directly underwrite this loan product.

The 1st Tribal Lending team has successfully closed thousands of HUD Section 184 loans across the nation. Within this amazing volume of lending, loans on the reservation, off the reservation, site built construction, manufactured homes, and purchases on and off the reservation, and refinances for a multitude of purposes have been successfully funded.

Loan Facts you should know:

- You must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe to qualify
- Your home can be on or off the reservation (within approved areas)
- Downpayments are as low as 1.25% – 2.25%
- Gifts and tribal assistance are permitted
- Regular 30 yr fixed interest rates available
- No hidden terms or fees
- Common sense approval process
- Low Monthly Mortgage insurance
- Only a 1.5% guarantee fee to the government
- Doublewide and modular homes allowed
- Cash out refinance to 85% loan to value
- New construction and renovation allowed
- In-house loan approvals and funding

FINANCIAL EDUCATION

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians On-site Assistance

March 11, 2016

Restore your financial health

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has signed an MOU with Chi Ishobak, a Native Community Development Financial Institution to provide tribal citizens with access to financial education, to help bring you to a state of financial wellness.

Monday March 21, 2016 -1:30p.m. in the
Law Library on the second floor
Government Center

Tuesday March 22, 2016 - 9a.m. to 3p.m.
Law Library on the second floor
Government Center

**Presentation by Sean Winters regarding Chi Ishobak, CDFI
Entrepreneurial Support, Debt Elimination, Credit Building, Financial
Responsibility, Cultural Obligation, Wealth Building that works**

Relieve financial stress with proper management of your finances

Call for your 15 - 30 minute intake appointment

*Stuck in payday loans?
Need assistance every-
month to keep your utili-
ties on, habitually falling
behind on rent? Break
the cycle now with per-
sonalized strategies and
confidential assistance.*

- Make your appointment
• today
- Call Chi Ishobak at
• (269)783-4157



CHI ISHOBAK

Sean Winters
SP.O. Box 766
27043
Potawatomi Trail
Dowagiac, MI 49047

PH: 269-783-4157
FX: (269) 783-2494

Brought to you by the LRBOI Commerce Commission & Commerce Department

Judge approves nearly \$1B settlement between US and tribes

Naabidin Giizis (Snow Crust Moon)
March 2016 Vol.3 Issue 15



© AP Photo/Mary Hudetz, File FILE - In this Sept. 17, 2015 file photo Oglala Sioux President John Yellow Bird Steele speaks during a news conference at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Albuquerque, N.M. A judge on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016, has approved a...

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A judge has approved a nearly \$1 billion settlement between the Obama administration and Native American tribes over claims the government shorted tribes for decades on contract costs to manage education, law enforcement and other federal services.

Attorneys for the tribes learned Wednesday that a federal judge in Albuquerque approved the agreement, about five months after the Interior Department and tribal leaders announced they had reached a proposed \$940 million settlement in the class-action lawsuit.

The judge's approval filed late Tuesday starts a process to release payment to the tribes that an attorney said could take several months. The ruling also authorized a \$1.2 million reimbursement for lead plaintiff's costs, and an agreement for attorneys to receive 8.5 percent of the final settlement amount.

"The end result was there were no objections to the settlement and no objections to the fee request," said Michael Gross, an attorney for the tribes. "This showed a unity among Indian tribes that is absolutely astounding."

Nearly 700 tribes or tribal agencies are expected to claim compensation, with amounts ranging from an estimated \$8,000 for some Alaska Native villages and communities elsewhere to \$58 million for the Navajo Nation.

Some underfunded federal contracts in the case reportedly dated back to the 1970s, when a policy change allowed tribes to gain more oversight of federal programs meant to fulfill obligations established through treaties and other agreements.

Val Panteah, governor of Zuni Pueblo, described "a financial death spiral" that came as his government tried to offset losses from the contracts in New Mexico. Other tribal leaders described trying to stem losses from the underfunded contracts with painful budget cuts as they tried to meet critical needs in their communities.

The case was first filed in 1990 by the Ramah Navajo Chapter, a community of about 4,000 that became the case's lead plaintiff, along with the Oglala Sioux Tribe in South Dakota and Zuni Pueblo.

In 2012, the case went before the U.S. Supreme Court, which sided with the tribes and sent the case back to the lower courts before the Interior Department announced a proposed settlement in September.

Since the Supreme Court ruling, Congress has appropriated hundreds of millions of dollars to fully fund contract support costs for tribes.

The settlement is the latest in a recent string of major agreements between the Interior Department and tribes to resolve legal disputes that languished for years. In the largest agreement, the government agreed to pay out \$3.4 billion to resolve claims over royalties owed to generations of individual landowners.

"It just shows the Obama administration has been working throughout two terms to stop litigating with tribes," said Kevin Washburn, who recently resigned from his post as Interior Department Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. "Now, even in the last year of the administration, they're getting this lengthy case settled."

Congratulations

Winners of the 2015
Harvest survey in the
tribal currents please
and thank you.

Congratulation to the
lucky winners of the
2015 Harvest Survey

Keith Dame
Christopher Campeau
Corey Wells
Amber Shepard
Jon Roger Burmeister
Wilbur Collingwood

Tax Alert!

Please note that when preparing your taxes (even by a certified tax professional), make sure your per capita payments are recorded properly. It has been reported to the Tax Office that H&R Block, particularly in Muskegon, has not been filing returns correctly when it comes to per capita income.

According to the "Tax Agreement Between The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and the State of Michigan", § IV (A) (9) "All per capita payments by the Tribe to Resident Tribal Members are exempt without regard to the source of payment."

There is a difference between the definition of a Tribal Member and a Resident Tribal Member. A Tribal Member is defined as "An individual who is an enrolled member of the Tribe." According to the Tax Agreement, the definition of a Resident Tribal Member is "A Tribal Member whose principal place of residence is located within the Agreement Area." The key factor here is that you must be a Resident Tribal Member. Also, the definition of the Agreement Area is "The area designated as such in Appendix A of the Agreement." Appendix A defines the area as:

Manistee County:

Survey sections 24, 25, 35, and 36 in T22N, R17W; survey sections 19-36 in T22N, R16W; survey sections 19-36 in T22N, R15W; survey sections 19-36 in T22N, R14W; survey sections 19-21 and 28-33 in T22N, R13W; survey sections 1-3 and 10-15 in T21N, R17W; survey sections 1-18 in T21N, R16W; survey sections 1-18 in T21N, R15W; survey sections 1-18 in T21N, R14W; and survey sections 4-9 and 16-18 in T21N, R13W; and

Mason County:

T18N, R16W; and T17N, R16W
The Tax Agreement can be referenced through the Tribe's website, under the Tax Department, at www.lrboi-nsn.gov or through the State of Michigan Treasury website at http://www.michigan.gov/taxes/0,4676,7-238-43513_43517-155416--,00.html and includes Frequently Asked Questions as well as forms and notices.

If you live within the Agreement Area and have changed your address with Enrollment, it does not mean you are automatically a Resident Tribal Member; you must provide a Proof of Residency. If you are not sure of your member status and would like to find out, please contact Valerie Chandler, Staff Accountant / Tax Officer at (231) 723-8288, ext. 6874 or toll-free at (888) 723-8288, ext. 6874 or email vchandler@lrboi-nsn.gov.

Miigwech!



CHI ISHOBAK

Chi Ishobak (pronounced Chee Ish-o-bock), means "Big Cabbage" and is the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi's Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). Chi Ishobak provides Tribal Citizens with access to affordable capital for the purposes of business start-up or expansion and individual financial development through education-based lending services.

- COMMERCIAL LOANS
- CONSUMER LOANS
- INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS
- FINANCIAL EDUCATION
- SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

*For questions and additional information regarding Chi Ishobak, please contact:
(269) 783-4157
www.chiishobak.org*

Take Control of Your Future!

Commerce/Workforce Development Program Benefits for Tribal Members*:

Internship

240 hours @ \$10.00 per hour

Vocational Assistance Award (need based)
Up to \$4,000.00

Youth Work Experience/Employment Program

320 hours @ \$8.15 per hour

Employment Daycare Assistance Voucher
\$250.00 per calendar year

GED/Adult Education Completion Voucher
\$250.00 one time

Adult Work Experience/Employment Program
320 hours @ \$10.00 per hour

Summer College Book Stipend Program

\$200.00, \$300.00, or \$500.00

GED Preparation Book
Upon Request

Job Seeker & Career Related Activities Work Station

Upon Request

Career Assistance Voucher
\$200.00 per calendar year

Job Readiness Training
By Appointment

Referral Services to Michigan Works!
Free

*Tribal Member/Workforce Development Program Applicant must meet eligibility requirements and component requirements.

All programs subject to availability of funds. Applicants are served on a first come first served basis.

See Program for details and eligibility requirements.

<https://lrboi-nsn.gov/membership-services/commerce/>

The Housing Department has been working on the design of a new Pavilion to be constructed at the Aki maadiziwin residential development next to the playground. The pavilion will provide a nice shelter for picnics and gathering while the children are having fun at the playground. Also included are restrooms and drinking fountains.

The Pavilion is phase II of our Recreation Plan developed with the Housing Commission. Phase I was the construction of the Children's Playground.

We have also planned for the Construction of two new income based residential rental units at Aki. The new homes will have three bedrooms, 1 ½ baths, basements and an attached garage.

Construction is expected to begin this summer and continue until completed.

The cost for this development is being paid for by our Indian Housing Block Grants, which is provided to us by NAHASDA/HUD.

**NEW COMMUNITY PAVILION
AND RESIDENCES Section 00 11 13
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Division 00
TDF # 2014-10
The Design Forum Inc.**

00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PROJECT:
NEW COMMUNITY PAVILION AND
RESIDENCES
Aki maadiziwin

OWNER:
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians,
a Federally Recognized Sovereign Indian Tribe

PROJECT LOCATION:
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal
Reservation

BID PLACE AND TIME
Sealed bids for the project will be received as follows:

LOCATION:
Housing Department
Aki maadiziwin Community Center
2953 Shaw Be Quong
Manistee MI 49660
DATE AND TIME:
4:00 PM Local Time
Thursday, March 24, 2016
Bids received thereafter will not be considered.
Bids will be publicly opened at that time.

PREBID MEETING
A pre-bid meeting with representatives of the Owner and Architect will be conducted as follows:

LOCATION:
Housing Department
Aki maadiziwin Community Center
2953 Shaw Be Quong
Manistee MI 49660

DATE AND TIME:
10:00 AM Local Time
Thursday, March 3, 2016

DOCUMENTS ON FILE
The Drawings and Project Manual may be examined at the following places:
The Design Forum Inc., Architects/Planners,
560 Fifth St. NW, Suite 201, Grand Rapids,
Michigan 49504.
The Housing Department at the Aki
maadiziwin Community Center, at the address
noted above.
Builders and Traders Exchange, Grand Rapids
and Traverse City Michigan.

DOCUMENT DEPOSIT
Prospective bidders may obtain electronic sets of Drawings and Project Manuals from the Architect free of charge.

BIDDER QUALIFICATIONS
The Owner may make such investigations as necessary to determine the ability of the bidder to perform the work. The Owner may request the bidder to furnish all such information and data for this purpose.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract.

BID SECURITY
A certified check or bidder's bond or an irrevocable letter of credit, payable to the Owner for the sum of not less than 5% of the amount of the bid, will be required with each bid to secure the Owner from loss or damage by reason of withdrawal of the bid or the failure of the bidder to enter into a Contract.

If the successful bidder fails to furnish satisfactory bonds and/or insurance within 10 days after notice of award, such security shall be forfeited as liquidated damages to the Owner to compensate for losses due to delay and/or increased costs of the work. The securities of the three lowest bidders will be retained until the bonds and insurance of the successful bidder have been approved by the Owner. The securities of other bidders will be returned within 10 days after bid opening.

ACCEPTANCE
The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. The Owner is not obligated to accept the lowest or any other bid. The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities in any or all bids and to accept any one or combination of alternate bids in the interest of the Owner.

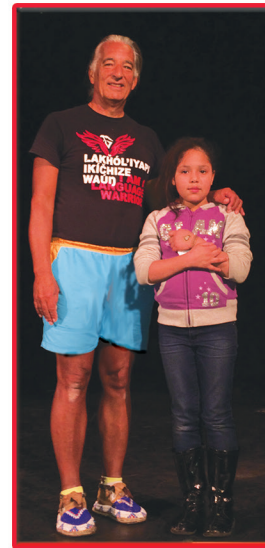
WITHDRAWAL
Any Bidder may withdraw a bid at any time prior to scheduled deadline for Owner's receipt of bids. No bid may be withdrawn or modified within a 60-day period from the time of its presentation.

WAGE RATES
Prevailing wages are to be paid on this project in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act. Refer to the General Conditions for Construction Contracts – Public Housing Programs form HUD-5370 (1/2014).

ASBESTOS-FREE CERTIFICATION
No asbestos-containing materials shall be purchased or installed as any part of this project. The Contractor will be required to certify that no asbestos-containing materials have been placed in this project.



This is world famous hoop dancer Kevin Lockett and he was at the sands showroom in pe-shabatown for a workshop about hoop dance presented by the GTB education department and we were able to take our youth to participate in a collaborative effort with them. These youth are the many of the hoop dancers that learned when there was a hoop dance class in Benzie.





Sugar Bush 2016



Presenters Call

23rd Annual Anishinaabe Family Language and Culture Camp 2016
Aanii

We are looking for presenters for this year's camp; this will allow for plenty of time for everyone. This year's camp will be held on July 30th, July 31 2016. If you are interested in being a presenter, we will need a presentation outline and a biography.


We will need two different presentation outlines and some presenters may be asked to present up to three different times. Each presentation should be approximately 1 ½ hours long, but if you have a presentation that requires a longer amount of time, please let us know in order to accommodate your workshop. Please also let us know if your presentation is meant to target a particular age group or other demographic.

We also need to know if your workshop is total Anishinaabemowin immersion, if you will have a translator or if you will be presenting in the English language with some Anishinaabemowin. Please note that if you have handouts for your presentation, you are responsible for making sure you have enough copies because there are no copiers on site.

Just as a note, most of our guests do not speak Anishinaabemowin and some understand it, but do not speak it yet. For some of our guests, this is the only time that they get to hear Anishinaabemowin being used. It would be appreciated for all of the presenters to remain visible throughout the camp and to be available to speak in Anishinaabemowin. We have had successful Camps because of the good presenters that have participated. We attend one another's presentations and socialize with the guests; we support one another and love our language.


Along with your presentation outline and biography, we will also need to know if you require lodging. Please send all of your information by email as soon as possible and do not wait until the last minute otherwise you may not make it on the presenter list. It would be appreciated if your presentation outline and biography could be sent as separately attached documents in the email. It's just easier for us when we process our program book. (Phone

calls are accepted to state your interest in presenting, but the written information is required by the deadline for consideration.) If you know anyone who may be interested in presenting at the Camp, by all means, please forward this letter to them and have them state in their email who recommended them to present. The deadline for all of this information is May 10, 2016 Here is my contact information: kpheasant@lrboi-nsn.gov 231-398-6892
Aa miigwech Gaabaabaabiiyin wiibizhibiimoyin Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Invites you to the 23rd Annual
2016 Anishinaabe Family Language & Culture Camp



July 30-31 2016

Saturday, July 30:

Waabini Manidookewin (Sunrise Ceremony)

8:00am
Breakfast

8:30am
Opening Ceremony

9:15am- 12:00pm
Presentations/ Workshops

12:00pm
Lunch

1:15pm- 5:00pm
Presentations/ Workshops

5:00pm
Dinner

7:00pm
Jiingtamok(Pow wow)

Saturday, July 30:





Waabini Manidookewin (Sunrise Ceremony)

8:00am
Breakfast

9:00am- 12:00pm
Presentations/ Workshops




12:00pm
Lunch

Giveaway & Closing

-  No Registration Fee
-  All Meals are Provided
-  Camping is available (first come first serve)
-  On-Site Rest Rooms & Bath house

Location: 2596 Loon Deive, Manistee, Mi.
Corner of US-31 & M-22, across from the Little River Casino Resort

 "Celebrating the Unity of Our Language & Culture"

-  For the Sunrise ceremony, please dress appropriately (Women wear long skirts) and respectfully for all.
-  We politely ask that English be the second language used at this camp.
-  Bring your Nation's Flag and a Giveaway Gift.
-  The Agenda and other information will be posted as soon as possible; please visit www.lrboi-nsn.gov or www.anishinaabemaadaa.com for updates. Some presentations/ workshops may include: cultural teachings, traditional medicines, craft making, games, language learning, etc.

Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

For More Information, please contact:
Kenny Pheasant: 231-398-6892 or 231-590-1187
Email: kpheasant@lrboi-nsn.gov

Every year on this date, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians' tribal offices are closed due to a "holiday", but what does this holiday really mean? Does it have any real significance to our people and our Tribe?

March 28th is indeed an official Tribal Holiday that we call Treaty Recognition Day. As you may surmise, it's a day in which a historical treaty is recognized, but what treaty does it involve and why is it important to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians?

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; thus, the date for Treaty Recognition Day.

There are several reasons for the Treaty of 1836 to be of importance to the Little River Band citizens. Our rights to fish in the Great Lakes are based on the 13th article. The right to hunt and fish within the ceded territory is stipulated here as well. So, when you hear someone talk about our hunting and fishing rights within the Great Lakes, it comes from this document.

Little River Band's "home" in Manistee County can be found in the second article. This article reserved 70,000 acres of land from the Pere Marquette River north. This land is the Manistee Reservation, the historic reservation of the bands that are now identified as 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 Treaty of Washington..."

So, as you may now guess and even recognize the Public Law noted, the federal reaffirmation of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians can be traced to the Treaty of 1836. Public Law 103-324, Section 2, Paragraph 1 states: "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."

So why make Treaty Recognition Day an official Tribal Holiday? 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 ancestors' signing of the Treaty. To honor our ancestors, and to remember our heritage and history, we remember and recognize this date.



Michigan Indian Leadership Program (formerly the Pre-College Leadership Program) at Michigan State University

July 10-15, 2016

Contact Information:

Stephanie Chau,
Assistant Director of
Undergraduate Diversity
(517) 355-0177
(517) 355-0234
chaus@msu.edu



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- Extracurricular Development
- Study for the SAT
- APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2016
- For More Information and Application, Please Visit Our Website:
http://www.canr.msu.edu/pre_college/pre-college_leadership_program



Sponsored by: The College of Agriculture & Natural Resources and
The Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education at MSU

ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS



Please let your voice be HEARD!! If you have not registered to Vote, call the Enrollment or Election Board Offices to have a Voter Registration Form sent to you. Fill it out attach a copy of your Tribal I.D. and return it.

Don't procrastinate, you want your vote to make a difference. Don't let others speak for you!! If you have questions about how to fill out the Voter Registration Form, call us at 231-398-6712.

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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.

Tribal Members from Outside the 9 county area are also invited to apply.

Government Closes for the following Holidays

- *New Years Day
- *Treaty Recognition Day
- *Memorial Day
- *Independence Day
- *Labor Day
- *Reaffirmation Day (Sept. 21st)
- *Veteran's Day
- *Thanksgiving Day
- *Friday after Thanksgiving Day
- *Christmas Eve Day (Half Day)
- *Christmas Day

Just use the toll-free number 888.723.8288.
Some areas of the government will be continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety.

Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of the Government facilities.
It's always a good idea to call first.

Casino Employment

Check out the new Employment Opportunities tab on the tribal website at

<https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/index.php/resources/employment>

Our new preference ordinance is there along with links to website and job opportunities. All in one place for your convenience! Check out the exciting opportunities that await you at the Little River Casino Resort. There are many ways to apply. Log onto our Website at www.LRCR.com and click on Careers. Call our Human Resources Department at (231) 723-4530. Stop by our Human Resources Department located at 2700 Orchard Hwy Manistee, MI

Monday – Friday 7am-5pm

Send your Application, Resume and Cover letter to:

Little River Casino Resort
Attn: Recruiting P.O. Box 417
Manistee, MI 49660

Phone: (231) 723-4530 · Fax: (231) 723-1589

Email: recruiting@lrcr.com

Available job openings can also be found at all LRBOI Tribal Government buildings, in LRBOI Tribal Newsletters and at Michigan Works!

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

LRBOI Warriors Society

The Committee consist of the following:



Commander- John Shano

Vice Commander- Vacant

Secretary - Virgil Johnson

Treasure - Vacant

Sargent of Arms -Chuck Nelson

Chaplin- Bill Willis

The Warrior Society is ever looking
For Tribal Member Warriors to honor and support
If you or someone you know would like to attend any
meetings, events, or join, please contact
allWarriorSociety@lrboi.com

Judge approves nearly \$1B settlement between US and tribes

Naabidin Giizis (Snow Crust Moon)
March 2016 Vol.3 Issue 15



© AP Photo/Mary Hudetz, File FILE - In this Sept. 17, 2015 file photo Oglala Sioux President John Yellow Bird Steele speaks during a news conference at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Albuquerque, N.M. A judge on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016, has approved a...

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A judge has approved a nearly \$1 billion settlement between the Obama administration and Native American tribes over claims the government shorted tribes for decades on contract costs to manage education, law enforcement and other federal services.

Attorneys for the tribes learned Wednesday that a federal judge in Albuquerque approved the agreement, about five months after the Interior Department and tribal leaders announced they had reached a proposed \$940 million settlement in the class-action lawsuit.

The judge's approval filed late Tuesday starts a process to release payment to the tribes that an attorney said could take several months. The ruling also authorized a \$1.2 million reimbursement for lead plaintiff's costs, and an agreement for attorneys to receive 8.5 percent of the final settlement amount.

"The end result was there were no objections to the settlement and no objections to the fee request," said Michael Gross, an attorney for the tribes. "This showed a unity among Indian tribes that is absolutely astounding."

Nearly 700 tribes or tribal agencies are expected to claim compensation, with amounts ranging from an estimated \$8,000 for some Alaska Native villages and communities elsewhere to \$58 million for the Navajo Nation.

Some underfunded federal contracts in the case reportedly dated back to the 1970s, when a policy change allowed tribes to gain more oversight of federal programs meant to fulfill obligations established through treaties and other agreements.

Val Panteah, governor of Zuni Pueblo, described "a financial death spiral" that came as his government tried to offset losses from the contracts in New Mexico. Other tribal leaders described trying to stem losses from the underfunded contracts with painful budget cuts as they tried to meet critical needs in their communities.

The case was first filed in 1990 by the Ramah Navajo Chapter, a community of about 4,000 that became the case's lead plaintiff, along with the Oglala Sioux Tribe in South Dakota and Zuni Pueblo.

In 2012, the case went before the U.S. Supreme Court, which sided with the tribes and sent the case back to the lower courts before the Interior Department announced a proposed settlement in September.

Since the Supreme Court ruling, Congress has appropriated hundreds of millions of dollars to fully fund contract support costs for tribes.

The settlement is the latest in a recent string of major agreements between the Interior Department and tribes to resolve legal disputes that languished for years. In the largest agreement, the government agreed to pay out \$3.4 billion to resolve claims over royalties owed to generations of individual landowners.

"It just shows the Obama administration has been working throughout two terms to stop litigating with tribes," said Kevin Washburn, who recently resigned from his post as Interior Department Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. "Now, even in the last year of the administration, they're getting this lengthy case settled."

Congratulations

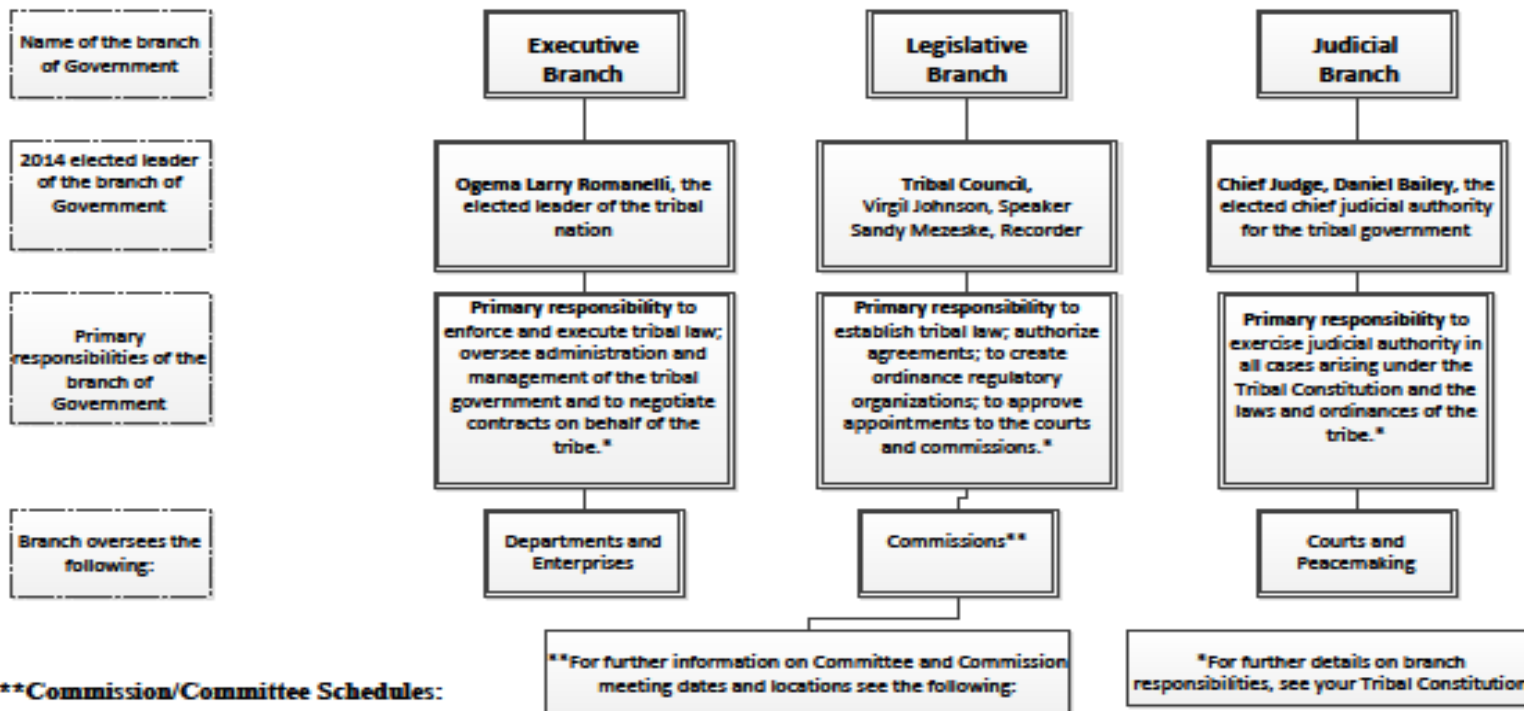
Winners of the 2015
Harvest survey in the
tribal currents please
and thank you.

Congratulation to the
lucky winners of the
2015 Harvest Survey

Keith Dame
Christopher Campeau
Corey Wells
Amber Shepard
Jon Roger Burmeister
Wilbur Collingwood

The Tribal Government of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has three co-equal branches. Each has its own responsibilities. This chart was created to help you understand what each branch does within our government.

Ogema Larry Romanelli



****Commission/Committee Schedules:**

Commissions: Binojeenk Commission: 1:00 p.m., 1st and 3rd Thursdays – Aki Community Center

Commerce Commission: 5:00p.m., 1st Thursday of each month – Commerce Conference Room

Enrollment Commission: 5:30 p.m., 2nd Tuesday of each month – Government Center-1West

Gaming Commission: 5:30 p.m., every Tuesday (1st 4 Tuesdays of a month) –Gaming Commission Office

Health Commission: 5:30 p.m., 1st Tuesday – Health Clinic

Housing Commission: 9:00 a.m., 1st and 3rd Thursdays –Aki Maadiziwin Community Center

Natural Resource Commission: 4:00 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays – Natural Resource Department *Special or Emergency Meetings do not appear but may be scheduled.

Committees: Elders – 12:00 noon, 1st Saturday of each month – Aki Maadiziwin Community Center

Warrior Society 10:00 am. -1st Saturday of ea. Month at Aki Community Center

Election Board
 The Tribal Election Board is an independently elected body and does not fall under a branch of the government. The Election Board meets at different times and have offices at the Government Center. They may be reached at 231.398.6709.



Canada before they were declared threatened in 2008 and allow limited imports of ivory from African elephants. It passed 242-161 and goes to the Senate.

“My amendment was based on valuable input from both Michigan and federal officials in order to use sound science to responsibly manage the wolf population while also meeting the needs of local communities,” Benishek said.

“As the number of wolves has increased well beyond the recommended number for recovery, there has been a negative impact on other species and a constant threat to livestock and pets.”

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has tried four times in the last 15 years to delist Great Lakes gray wolves. The courts have reversed each attempt. Legislation to delist wolves was stripped from the 2016 omnibus spending bill.

The latest efforts follow a U.S. District Judge order in December 2014 that overturned the last delisting of Great Lakes wolves. In a controversial opinion, the judge ruled the Endangered Species Act does not allow the government to declare a “distinct population segment” of a species recovered, and then drop protection within that zone on a map.

At last count, there were 3,700 wolves in the Western Great Lakes population. About 630 are in Michigan, 800 are in Wisconsin and the bulk, 2,220 or so, are in Minnesota — the one U.S. state in the whole Lower 48 where the population never dipped enough to be listed as “endangered,” only threatened.

While delisting supporters point to those numbers as evidence of population recovery, opponents say wolves have yet to repopulate their historic range after being nearly exterminated in the U.S. decades ago.

The delisting debate has split conservation and environmental groups over the issue of hunting, which states could allow if protections are dropped. Even biologists who study wolves don’t speak with a unified voice on the issue.

“It’s not just wolves, but so much of our wildlife and wild land would be harmed by this bill,” said Jill Fritz, director of Keep Michigan Wolves Protected and state director for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

“It’s troubling that Congress continues to try and insert these riders and amendments to again remove wolves from federal protections so states can resume hunting, trapping, snaring and hounding of wolves in the Great Lakes.”

In a blog post, HSUS director Wayne Pacelle suggested the “insanely far-reaching provisions” in the SHARE Act “almost certainly cannot pass the Senate or win a signature from the President in this current form.”

The Bipartisan Sportsman’s Act of 2016, which passed out of Senate committee in January, was placed on the Senate general legislative calendar on Feb. 24.

Garret Ellison covers government, environment & the Great Lakes for MLive Media Group. Email him at gellison@mlive.com or follow on Twitter & Instagram

Students in the course Archives and Oral Histories thought this must be a loaded question when they were asked to write an essay on it the first time. Surely Indian isn't the right word, several wrote, as they had been taught growing up that the politically correct term is Native American.

A couple of students said it was the name for people of India, and they blamed Christopher Columbus for the confusion because he used it to describe the native people he found when he thought he had landed in the east.

Others admitted they didn't really know. A "foggy fairy tale," one suggested. For others the name invoked images from popular culture: cowboys and Indians, war paint and feathered headdresses, the natives in the story "Peter Pan," and the controversial Pocahontas, portrayed in an animated movie released around the time they were born.

Nearly all were sure they never had encountered an Indian in their lives.

"Their first writings were academic. You could tell they were well researched," said Cecil E. Pavlat, Sr., Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribe community member and retired leader, who with others from the Upper Peninsula tribe helped U-M faculty create an immersive experience for the students. The hope was that giving them somewhat unprecedented access to Anishinaabe rituals, customs and celebrations would help students answer the Indian question a little differently in two writings that would follow. (Anishinaabe refers to the Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi people of Canada and the United States.)

Immersion and engagement

This course is very engaged learning. I think that it's one of the best ways to work with students in terms of helping them understand how their studies can interface with the rest of their lives," said Anita Gonzalez, professor of theatre and drama.

The first part of the course immersed students in the culture of Native Americans, and the second part asked them to take what they learned from archives and ethnographic research and turn it into a performance piece.

The idea for a course that would allow students to learn about the Anishinabek living in Michigan came to Gonzalez after she went on the annual U-M Road Scholars tour.

Organized by the Office of the Vice President for Government Relations, the trip takes faculty on a five-day tour throughout Michigan in spring to expose them to the state's economy, government and politics, culture, educational systems, health and social issues, history, and geography.

"When we came up to the Upper Peninsula, I fell in love with it," said Gonzalez, who was surprised to learn there was not a strong relationship between the university and the tribe in the U.P.

Gonzalez approached Road Scholars organizer Dana Sitzler, associate director in OVPGR, about co-writing a Third Century Initiative grant to offer a course that would strengthen that connection. U-M has committed \$25 million to teaching projects that transform the way students learn.

Sitzler knew the only way it could work was if tribal leaders were on board, so she took the idea to Pavlat and Jacqueline Minton. Both have helped with the Michigan Road Scholars program and were happy to participate in a project that would increase understanding about native people living in Michigan. Minton, cultural buildings coordinator for the tribe, manages the Mary Murray Cultural Camp on Sugar Island, across from Sault Ste. Marie. She regularly organizes events to help students in the tribe better understand their culture. Pavlat, who retired from the tribe's cultural department, continues to teach language classes.

The team arranged meetings in Ann Arbor and on Sugar Island, culminating in a four-day immersive experience that allowed students to learn a number of traditions firsthand.

Corn teachings

Long a staple of the Native American diet, corn is considered one of the tribe's sacred foods, along with strawberries and meat. Even today, members carry out the long process of drying the ears, removing kernels from the husk, boiling them with hardwood ash, removing the hulls, rinsing off the ash, and drying them again before making dishes like hominy corn soup.

Paula Modafferi, a dance major, couldn't wrap her brain around the lengthy process at first when considering how easily available food is today.

"You save the corn over a year before you can make it edible," she said, explaining that even after that lengthy drying period, preparation of the corn for consumption stretched out over several days.

Elder George Martin helped the students understand the importance of the tradition, sharing the story of how native people came to have corn. Legend has it that a young man asked the Chief Sky Spirit if there could not be some food to feed his people without them having to hunt every day. The lengthy story involves the young man wrestling with a being that would essentially die, be buried and give rise to the crop.

Even Martin's explanation of how an ear of corn is constructed sounded spiritual.

"Each one of those silks goes to one of those kernels. It's like an umbilical cord that keeps that one kernel alive," he told them.

Spiritual traditions

Fire illuminated the canvas-covered lodge that had one large hole in the ceiling to release smoke and lift prayers. As everyone waited quietly, reverently, for all to be assembled, the only steady sounds were the crackling fire and large heavy drops of melting snow landing on leaves that had barely made it to the ground.

Snow came early, even for the Upper Peninsula, as though planned for students who had never before seen the white stuff. Its presence allowed Pavlat to offer stories that could only be told after the first snowfall.

On U-M's fall break weekend in mid-October there would be no sleeping in for these students, who got up early two mornings to experience this sacred ritual sunrise ceremony.

The signal the service had begun was Pavlat's rhythmic drumming and his song of thanks and honor to the new day. It is at sunrise, he explained, that "all beings pause and reflect on what it is they have been provided."

A spirit of thankfulness permeates most of the Anishinaabe sacred rituals. A few hours later the students participated in a sweat lodge, which is a time for expressions of thanks and prayers for others.

"I feel really grounded and open," said Mia Massimino, interarts performance major. "Being in that altered physical state, and also altering your mental state in a different way, I thought was really beautiful and helpful."

In order to have full appreciation of the ceremonies, students were part of the preparation as well. They chopped wood to make the fires. Each chose a "grandfather" rock that would be heated by fire and then placed in a small pit in the center of the round, domed canvas-covered lodge to generate extreme heat. Students also gathered the cedar leaves that would line their path into the lodge and cover the bare ground where they would sit. Each step to prepare, including the precise placement of the leaves, had traditional significance.

"This morning Cecil was saying, at the sunrise ceremony, that he can't give us everything because he doesn't want to overwhelm us, but I feel like even what we're getting, just the little bits, is just so filling. It feels good," said Emma Bergman, also an interarts performance major. "It's the kind of learning you don't get in Ann Arbor."

The storytellers

The histories of Native American tribes are rarely written down but are relayed orally from generation to generation. This includes tales about spiritual beings and the origins of some of the traditions, but also accounts of the every day lives of people.

“The Anishinaabe tend to share their personal stories and experiences, something we don’t see in academia. We sometimes forget that our personal stories are just as important as what we’re doing,” Sitzler said.

Students heard from Tribal Elder Mick Frechette, who left his beloved Sugar Island for the military and then employment in the auto industry. For years, living first in Germany and then Southeast Michigan, he longed to return to the island, and eventually did.

“I go up and down a road and see spots that remind me—certain smells when you are in the woods—that bring you back to your childhood, and it’s really beautiful,” he said.

Elder Leonard Kimewon told the students about the maple syrup he makes every spring just to share with friends—a process that is a lot of hard work. It wasn’t always so, he said, telling a story about how syrup once flowed freely from trees. But earlier people were “disrespecting the earth, eating it all and getting fat,” he explained, “so Creator made it only run in spring and only in the form of sap that had to be boiled to make syrup.”

Eighty-eight-year-old “Uncle” Basel Willis reminisced about days when money was not very plentiful but also not so important. Everything was bartered or darn cheap. “Three cents for a bushel of potatoes, I made 62 cents an hour working like a man. We respect people. We work hard and don’t have our hand out.”

Reclaiming what is lost

Although the stories do get passed down through the generations one thing that has not always been shared is the native language, Anishinaabemowin. It slowly has been disappearing, due in large part to the forced boarding school experience where native people were punished for using it. This made today’s elders reluctant to teach it to their children, so it rarely is used by modern generations. Tribal education leaders hope to change that, U-M students learned at another stop on their tour of important tribal locations.

“Mino-Giizhigad.” Mike Willis, Native American Studies department chair at Bay Mills Community College, told students in his language class that this means “nice day” in the Anishinaabemowin language.

“We take great pride in teaching our history, our way of life,” Willis told the U-M visitors prior to the class.

Bay Mills Community College, one of three of the state’s tribal colleges, along with other institutions, is working on a project to restore the language, offering intensive weekend courses as well as including it in college curriculum.

Mixing of old and new

Just like Frechette’s stories about the contrasts of life in the auto industry and raising children who played hockey—very well, in fact—and then the culture back on the island, it is clear that being Anishinabek means holding tight to tradition while embracing contemporary culture.

While U-M students learned the traditional way to prepare corn for soup and light a fire using a flint and dried leaves, they devoured spaghetti, chicken pot pie, bagels and pancakes made on modern appliances and served with plates and utensils from the local Gordon Food Service.

The tribe’s regard for Mother Nature and all living creatures translated into talk about contemporary environmental concerns: fracking, over-use of resources and pollution.

“I’m not real proud of what we’re handing our children but I do believe we are teaching our children so that they can take care of it,” Minton said of the earth, and then challenging the U-M students. “You’re a vessel for all of this, you’re a voice for what’s going on out here in nature.”

Even the gravesites at Mission Hill Cemetery showed the contrast between tradition and contemporary culture. One grave was encircled with some 70 small fieldstones with first names crudely written on them, relatives presumably. A few feet away was a memorial with athletic caps and other paraphernalia bearing logos from teams like the Detroit Lions, Tigers and the Michigan Wolverines.

True to the storytelling, each grave offered a hint of the person buried there: photos, toy trucks, porcelain eagles, lighthouses, stain-glass butterflies, and dream catchers, are just a few of the keepsakes.

Gabrielle “Dani” Hayes couldn’t help but notice the difference in the very personalized resting places in this cemetery compared with those one might find in Southeast Michigan.

“People pay \$10,000 to get a gravesite and barely can decorate it with flowers,” she said. A few minutes later she saw a family name and wondered if there was any connection.

San Duanmu, professor of linguistics, offered an observation during a final talking circle that

resonated with many of the students: “There are people who approach a different culture and say, ‘Look how different they are from us.’ Then there are people that enter a culture and say, ‘Oh, look how similar they are to us.’”

Revisiting the question:

What is an Indian?

By the end of the weekend during moments of reflection at the camp and in essay No. 3 the answers came into focus.

During the talking circle, Zach Kolodziej, art and design, called the Sault tribe a “living, breathing culture” whose members have “strong teaching and traditions but are open to change.”

Samuel Hamashima, musical theatre, noted the attitude among the people that “every day is a gift.”

Bergman was thankful the weekend had provided a comfortable space “not to know” and to learn to answer the question.

Yifei Lu, an engineering major from China, had never experienced the forests and trees and wondered how different he might be if he had after witnessing the gentle spirit of those who call the woods their home.

“They’re starting to question some of the things that they learned through their academic careers and think about the people differently,” Sitzler said.

The final essays showed great growth as well.

Indians are “resilient, graceful, loving,” one student wrote. Others remarked on the native people’s sense of spirituality and belief in honoring the past.

One student described them as living lives “steeped in weighty traditions,” while claiming “the American struggle,” of having to make a living and deal with the same issues encountered by people outside of their tribes.

Each of the students wrote about an experience that changed them: made them think more about nature and be thankful for relationships and opportunities.

And that question about how PC the

Our Government

Why do we need a government?

Imagine what your school would be like if no one was in charge. Each class would make its own rules.

Who gets to use the gym if two classes want to use it at the same time?

Who would clean the classrooms?

Who decides if you learn about Mars or play kickball?

Sounds confusing, right?

This is why schools have people who are in charge, such as the principal, administrators, teachers, and staff. Our nation has people who are in charge and they make up the government.

Our Government:

The Legislative Branch (Tribal Council)

The legislative branch makes laws for the nation.

Our Government:

The Executive Branch (Tribal Ogema)

The executive branch makes sure people follow the laws that the legislative branch makes. The leader of this branch is the Tribal Ogema

Our Government:

The Judicial Branch

When people are unsure about the meaning of a law, the judicial branch listens to many opinions and makes a decision.

The judicial branch is made up of courts, the clerk's office, and Peacemaking who mostly work with kids and teens. They are available to help solve problems or differences between people.

A Bit for the Kids

Our government has three branches.
Imagine a triangle.

At the top is the
Executive Branch
Ogema



Judicial
Branch
Judges
Courts

The other
corners are

Legislative
Branch
Tribal
Council

The three branches of our Tribal
Government work together
To run our Membership.

The Constitution provides for this system
so that no one branch has more power
than the others.

Why Vote?

When we vote during elections
we get to choose the leaders who
will govern our tribe

It's a good way
to be a part of our
Government.

Historic meaning of the Tribal Seal

Did you know that the current Tribal seal that we use is actually a third version? Do you know what our Tribal seal symbolizes?

The symbols of the river and the land in our Tribal seal represent the natural environment which has sustained our people for thousands of years. The nine feathers represent the nine Bands that constitute the historical Little River communities. It is in honor of and in memoriam to our ancestors of those nine Bands that are symbolized by the nine feathers.

These same four colors represent the four directions, the four seasons, and the four stages of life. It also represents the four races of humanity - to the extent that we can acknowledge that we are all related, not only spiritually, but also physically. We realize that we are all related after all.

Together, the eagles represent a pair, and that all animals and humanity as a pair bring forth life. The tree in the distance is a cedar tree which represents prosperity and peace.



The last symbolization is that of the entire seal being the shape of a circle. The circle represents harmony with nature and with all of our relatives. The circle stands for all things that are round in Creation, such as the sun and the moon. Mother Earth turns in a circle, the Anishinaabe dance in a circle, the birds make their nests in circles, and the four seasons and stages of life form a circle.

It wasn't until May 27, 1999 that the Tribal Council adopted the current wording seen on the seal. Of course as you already know, the significance of the September 21, 1994 date is that of when our Tribe was federally reaffirmed by the U.S. government.

Did you know there was so much information contained in one little seal that we all see so often?



Patricia Joan Therrien
Lillian Rose Varney
Benita Frances Walters
Veronica Barbara Wheeler
Esther Clara Zweigle

Patsy Lee Morris
Jesse Morris Muma
Joseph Pete Jr.
Gloria Ola Pomerov

Robert Wayne Russ
Emmett LeRoy Schafer
Sandra Ann Sherven
Rose Marie Shine
Ambrose Aloysious Antoine
Beverly B. Antoine
Miranda Ann Boyer
Weymouth Leslie Brown
Irene Easter Compton
Karen Loretta Draper

BarBara Jean Ensley
Wifrieda Marie Greenway
Beverly Yvonne Hollingshe
Anita Elizabeth Kinner
Margery Lutz
Arthur Abner Magnuson
Henery Fredrick Mark
Norma Jane Meichert

Aki Community Center Elder Meals Menu 2016

General Information

- Meals served at Noon
- No Charge to Elders, their Spouse and Handi-cap/Disabled individuals who reside with Elder
- Guest Meals are \$6.00
- Donations are appreciated and will be used for program activities and food
- Coffee, Milk and Water are



Nutrition Tips of the Month

- Eat Three meals a day.
- Start with a healthy breakfast
- Drink fluids with and between meals-up to 8 glasses a day
- Select at least 3 servings of milk or milk products
- Select at least 6 servings of whole grain cereals & breads
- Select at least 3 servings or more of vegetables

Activities:

- Mondays—Language Class
- Wednesdays -Wii Bowling
- Bingo—Thursday the 21st
- April 15 - Muskegon Lunch

Please contact Noelle Cross
with any questions
231-398-6886

Email: ncross@lrboi-nsn.gov



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	4 Salisbury Steak Roasted Potato Corn Fruit Language Class	5 Ruben Sandwich Potato Wedges Peas Dessert	6 Pork Roast Sweet Potato Mixed Vegetables Dessert Wii Bowling	7 Beef Stroganoff Green Beans Dessert		2 Elder Committee Meeting Lunch Served at Noon
	10	11 Angus Dog's Mixed Vegetables Macaroni Salad Dessert Language Class	12 White Chili Green Beans Corn Bread Peach Cobbler	13 Pot Roast Red Potato's Carrots Sherbert	14 Hamburger Sweet Tator Tots Baked Beans Corn Jell-O	8
17	18 French Dip Potato Wedges Peas Dessert Language Class	19 Roasted Turkey Baked Potato Green Beans Pie	20 Smothered Pork Chops Mashed Potatoes Corn & Dessert	21 Chicken Salad Sandwich Soup Dessert		23
24	25 Spaghetti Mixed Veggies Garlic Bread Dessert Language Class 12:30	26 Pot Pie Dessert	27 R.I.T. Sandwich Broccoli Fries Dessert	28 Sloppy Joes Potato Salad Corn on the Cob Dessert	29	30 Menu subject to change with out notice. Meals meet 1/3 of the RID based on a 1600 to 2000

Anishnaabe Gwiizenhsak Waakaasewin Native Boys Circle

Everyone
Welcome



Open to
youth ages
9-13

Wenesh Pii: April 7, 2016 thru June 9, 2016

Thursdays 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Aanii piish: Tribal Government Center

Weekly session include: sharing circle & meal & Craft time

To Reserve your Spot please contact: Julie Wolfe @ At 231.398.6740

If you need Transportation please call me

Spring Turkey Tags



Spring is right around the corner, so don't forget to stop by or call the Natural Resources department to get your spring turkey tags. The hunting season for spring starts on Friday April 15 and ends on Wednesday June 15, 2016 this year don't worry because tags are still valid.

New this year, we sent out an Annual Wildlife Harvest Survey to all tribal members that obtained harvest tags in 2015. Thank you to everyone who returned them. We really appreciate all of your feedback. The drawing for the six Cabela's gift cards will be at the natural resources commission meeting on March 14th, 2016. Additionally we will be posting the lucky winners in the April Currents.

Natural Resource
310 9th Street
Manistee, Michigan 49660
231-723-6241

Time to Dance

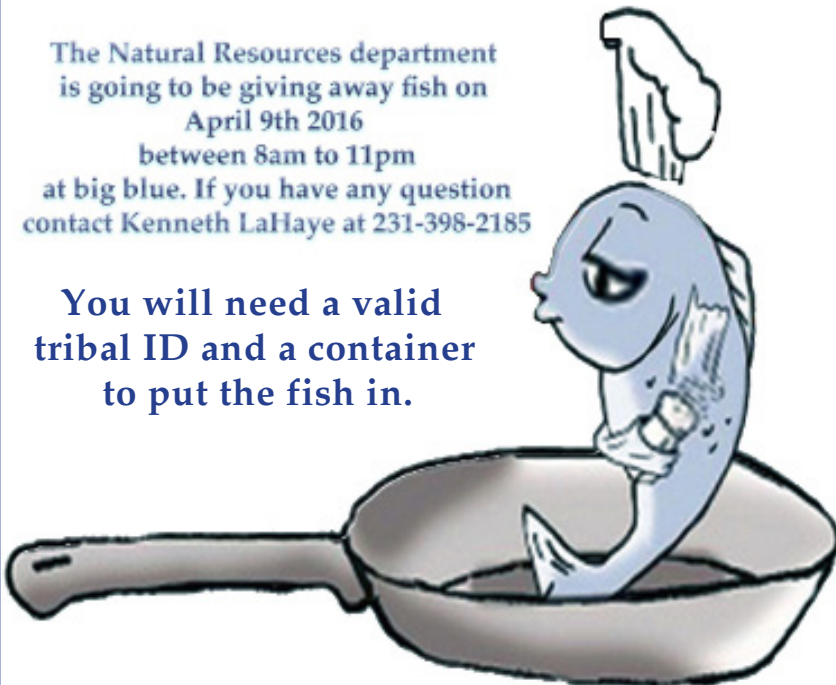
We are having Pow-wow dance classes in March. The classes will be every Monday, 5:30-7:00 at Aki Community Center. If you have never danced and would like to learn this would be a class for you. We will also touch on pow-wow etiquette. There will be overview on the Jingle dress dance steps and Fancy shawl. Also we will be showing you how to dance some of the dances that you see at the Pow-wow like: crow hop, two step, side step just to name a few. This is a good way to get in shape for the upcoming Pow-wow season and a great way to get some exercise.

For more information call

Deb Davis (231) 510-2424

The Natural Resources department is going to be giving away fish on April 9th 2016 between 8am to 11pm at big blue. If you have any question contact Kenneth LaHaye at 231-398-2185

You will need a valid tribal ID and a container to put the fish in.



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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 25% discount in the Gift Shop. Cigarettes, alcohol, consignment items, sundries and gift certificates are excluded from discounts.
- 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.
- In anticipation of the opening of the spa the Resort will not offer discounts for spa services.
- River Credits will be given to all LR-BOI Tribal Members only (no spouses). 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
- No Tribal Member private banquet functions will be discounted.\
- 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.

Departments	Location	Director or main phone numbers
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	aki maadiziwin -community center	231.398. 6715
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 -gommunity 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	231.398.2191
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

Some Events To look forward to



Elders Meal
Aki
Community Center
Mon-Thur 12pm

Language Class
Every Friday
10:30am

2016 Membership
Meetings
April 9, 2016 &
October 8, 2016

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

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

House for rent



**We have this beautiful spacious
3 bedroom 2 bath 2120sqft ,
576sqft attached garage
farm house available for \$1300.00
a month plus utilities.**

**For more information please contact:
Jeanie Gibson
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI 49660
Phone: 231.398.6866, Fax: 231.398.6870**

2051 E. Ellis Rd, Muskegon, MI 49444



“This beautiful Muskegon property is being offered for rent by the Tribal Commerce Department as part of the market-based rental program originally conceived by former LRBOI Commerce Director Robert Memberto.”



Kitchen & Dining Area



Master Bedroom



Master Bathroom



Downstair Living Room

LRCR Board of Directors



2016 First Quarter Board Schedule

Open Sessions 6:00pm
Grand River Room
Tribal Members invited.

Closed Sessions
Tentative start
time is 8:30am.

January 28, 2016
February 25, 2016
March 24, 2016

Members can reach them via email or by attending the open sessions that are scheduled each month.

elainep@lrcrc.om
garyt@lrcrc.com
lindaa@lrcrc.com

gdipiazza@lrboi-nsn.gov
jriley@lrboi-nsn.gov

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

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Manistee, MI

Or Current Resident

Board Openings!

At this time there are two openings on the Casino Board of Directors, any tribal member is free to apply. A thorough background check must be completed. For more details, please contact Mary Thomas at 1-231-398-6824

LRBOI
Egg Hunt

Questions?
Contact Julie Wolfe 231-398-6740

Prize Awarded
for each
age group
(0-2, 3-6, 7&up)

Saturday March 26, 2016
11:00 am at
Gathering Grounds

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

All children must be accompanied by an adult