

LITTLE RIVER **CURRENTS**



LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS

GAACHING ZIIBI DAAWAA ANISHINAABEK

TRIBAL NEWSLETTER

BNAAKWII GIIZIS | OCTOBER 2025

-Falling Leaves Moon-

HAVE A GREAT

Fall Membership Meeting

Friday October 3, 2025

Little River Casino Resort
Three Fires Conference
Center

Ogema Romanelli

Meet & Greet

6pm - 8pm

Saturday October 4, 2025

Membership Meeting

Little River Casino Resort
Event Center
Registration starts at 8A

Information Booths

Three Fires Conference Rooms
9a - 12p



Meeting Agenda

EVENT CENTER

10:00a Flag Ceremony & Drum

10:15a Ogema Larry Romanelli

10:30a Tribal Court

11:30a Little River Casino Resort

12:00p Lunch

12:55p Quorum Call

1:00p Financial Report

1:30p Ogema

Questions and Answers

Information Booths Close at 12pm

Event Center Luncheon at 12pm

Giveaways throughout the day

Joanne Green

Press Secretary

JoanneGreen@lrboi-nsn.gov

Sky Gonzalez

Communications Officer

SkyGonzalez@lrboi-nsn.gov



ELECTED OFFICIALS

Our newly elected officials were sworn in June 11, 2025

Ogema	District	Term	Phone	Email
Larry Romanelli	At Large	2023-2027	231-398-6824	ogema@lrboi-nsn.gov
Council	District	Term	Phone	Email
Tammy Burmeister	9 County	2023-2027	231-398-6833	tburmeister@lrboi-nsn.gov
Al Metzger	Outlying	2023-2027	231-398-6869	almetzger@lrboi-nsn.gov
Misty Silvis	9 County	2023-2027	231-398-6838	mistysilvis@lrboi-nsn.gov
Ron Wittenberg	Outlying	2023-2027	231-398-6828	ronaldwittenberg@lrboi-nsn.gov
Shannon Crampton (S)	Outlying	2025-2029	231-398-6885	shannoncrampton@lrboi-nsn.gov
Gary DiPiazza	9 County	2025-2029	231-398-6825	garydipiazza@lrboi-nsn.gov
Susan Thull (R)	Outlying	2025-2029	231-398-6820	susanthull@lrboi-nsn.gov
Connie Waitner	9 County	2025-2029	231-398-6836	cwaitner@lrboi-nsn.gov
Julie Wolfe	At Large	2025-2029	231-398-6834	juliewolfe@lrboi-nsn.gov

(S) = Tribal Council Speaker

(R) = Tribal Council Recorder

Election Board	District	Term	Phone	Email
Kathy Gibson	At Large	2023-2027	231-398-6709	electionboard@lrboi-nsn.gov
Shawna Gonzalez	At Large	2023-2027	231-398-6709	electionboard@lrboi-nsn.gov
Kristi Fowler	At Large	2025-2029	231-398-6709	electionboard@lrboi-nsn.gov
Jo Jo Green	At Large	2025-2029	231-398-6709	electionboard@lrboi-nsn.gov
Lee Iverson	At Large	2025-2029	231-398-6709	electionboard@lrboi-nsn.gov

Chief Judge	District	Term
Angela Sherigan	At Large	2021-2027

Associate Judge	District	Term
Caroline LaPorte	At Large	2025-2031

Appellate Judge	District	Term
Bernadene Crampton	At Large	2021-2027
Melissa Pope	At Large	2021-2027
Bernie Darrow	At Large	2023-2029



Voting Districts

At Large means all registered voters shall have the opportunity to vote for the seat.

9 County means all registered voters who reside within the 9 County district shall have the opportunity to vote for the seat.

Outlying means all registered voters who reside outside of the 9 County district shall have the opportunity to vote for the seat.

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



From left to right | Al Metzger, Connie Waitner, Susan Thull, Julie Wolfe, Shannon Crampton, Gary DiPiazza, Ron Wittenberg, Tammy Burmeister, and Misty Silvis

Meetings occur Wednesdays at 10am (eastern) on the following dates.

October 1	November 5	December 3
October 8	November 12	December 10
October 15	November 19	December 17
October 22	November 26	

Tribal Council Meeting & Work Sessions

Tribal Council publishes to the website, a weekly calendar of upcoming work sessions. Tribal Council uses the same On-Line Zoom link for their meetings and work sessions. All citizens are encouraged to attend meetings and work sessions.

Attend a Tribal Council Meeting

In-Person: 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI 49660
in the lodge located on the 2nd floor.

On-Line: Zoom Web Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99705796129>
Zoom Call-In Number: 1-929-436-2866
Zoom Meeting ID: 997 0579 6129
Zoom Passcode: 1836

Etiquette for On-Line Attendance

Identify Yourself: When asked to do so, share your first and last name along with your tribal ID number.

Mute Your Device: When you join the meeting, please mute your device. Mute again after you've spoken.

Raise Your Hand: When you want to be placed in the queue to speak, use the Zoom control to virtually raise your hand.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Below are links to recently approved Tribal Council Meeting Minutes.

If you have not already done so, please create a new account on our new website to access the meeting minutes, as they are private content. Private content is available only to registered users of the site. Our new website launched in late August 2024.

Links to Meeting Minutes - - each date below is a link

[April 16, 2025](#)



Please note, you must download the Currents for the links to work. Links do not work on the newspaper site.

When on the newspaper site, click the down pointing arrow icon above the Currents to download the Currents.

ELECTION BOARD MEETINGS



Election Board Open Meeting Schedule

Meeting Dates | Submit Questions Deadline

October 16 | 14 November 20 | 18

Engage with the Election Board

All open meetings will begin at 7:15pm. If no one joins the meeting by 7:30 pm, the open session will adjourn and transition into a closed session. To partake in the open meetings, please ensure your questions are submitted by Tuesday of the week of the meeting you plan to attend (48 hours in advance of the meeting) to electionboard@lrboi-nsn.gov. This allows the Election Board ample time to prepare and address inquiries effectively.

Attend an Election Board Open Meeting

On-Line: Zoom Web Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99808338390>
Zoom Call-In Number: 1-929-436-2866
Zoom Meeting ID: 9998 0833 8390
Zoom Passcode: 743234

Etiquette for On-Line Attendance

- Identify Yourself:** When asked to do so, share your first and last name along with your tribal ID number.
- Mute Your Device:** When you join the meeting, please mute your device. Mute again after you've spoken.
- Raise Your Hand:** When you want to be placed in the queue to speak, use the Zoom control to virtually raise your hand.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Education

Yvonne Parsons

E: yparsons@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-398-6735

Services:

Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver
Vocational Education Assistance
Higher Education Scholarship
College Book Stipend Program
Tutoring Assistance
Student Services School Clothing/Activities
Student Services Driver's Training Assist.
Class Ring Assistance
Senior Pictures Assistance
Cap, Gown & Announcement Assistance
12th Grade Computer Assistance



Enrollment

Dianne A Lonn

E: diannealonn@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-398-6713

Services:

Enrollment Process
Tribal Identification (ID)
Judgment Funds
Address Changes
Tribal Directory Information
Bereavement Program
Per Capita Beneficiary Form
Notary Services
Per Capita Information Services
Direct Deposit Form
Tax withholding on Per Capita

Housing

Tara Bailey

E: lrboihousing@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-398-6879

Services:

Low Income Rentals
Elder designated housing,
elder designated ADA housing,
family housing, family ADA housing
Fair market housing
Section 184 Indian Home Loan Assistance
Down Payment & Closing Cost Assistance



Family Services

E: familyservices@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-398-6707 or 398-6651

Services:

Individual Self-Sufficiency Education
& Assistance
Family Self-Sufficiency Education
& Assistance
Indian Child Welfare Intervention
& Reunification Services
Elder Support Services
Family Violence Protection,
Education, Advocacy and Counseling
Trauma Based Counseling
Positive Indian Parenting Program

Food & Nutrition Center

Jamie Friedel

E: jamiefriedel@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-655-1041



Services:

USDA Commodities Distribution – The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations provides a variety of Commodity Foods to low-income households living on or near Indian reservations. Foods include fresh and canned vegetables, frozen meats, breakfast cereals, cheese, and butter. The FDPIR is an alternative to the Food Stamp Program.

Health Services



O: 231-723-8299

O: 231-398-6601

Pharmacy: 231-398-6853

Services:

Family Medicine
Foot and Ankle Clinic
Community Health Nurse
Diabetic Educator
Purchase & Referred Care (PRC)
Extended Health Assist. Program (EHAP)
Pharmacy
Fitness Center

Members Assistance

Gina Crotteau

E: ginacrotteau@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-723-8288

Services:

Low Income Energy Assistance - LIHEAP
Food Assistance
Rental & Mortgage Assistance
Elder Meal Program
& Elder Chore Service
Emergency Transportation Assistance
Referral Assistance Service - help with finding assistance organization/agencies to assist with unmet needs.
Interdepartmental Referral Services - help to provide coordination and collaboration with tribal service departments.

Victim Services

E: victimservices@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-398-6719

Web: www.victimservicesprogram.org

Services:

Advocacy and various other supportive services for victims and survivors of intimate partner domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, trafficking, and child sexual abuse.



Tax Department

Valerie Chandler

E: valeriechandler@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-398-6874

Services:

Tax-exempt Motor Fuel Program
Tribal Certificates of Exemption for Resident Tribal Members
Tribal Certificates of Exemption for Tribal Entities
Tribal Tax Licenses
Tribal Business Licenses
Commercial and Subsistence Fishers

Members Legal Assistance

Mary Witkop

E: marywitkop@lrboi-nsn.gov

O: 231-398-2234

Services:

Estate Planning, Trust Preparation & Wills
Probates of Estates
Durable Power of Attorney
Durable Power of Medical Attorney
Real Estate
Land-Lord Tenant Matters
Divorce, Custody and Support
Criminal and Civil Matters
Paternity & DNA Testing
Birth Certificates
Guardianships & Conservatorships
Driver's Licenses
General Legal Advice

The attorney cannot appear in court with a tribal member or assist with issues that involve the Tribe. Attorney can assist with providing legal advice and drafting of documents.

LRBOI Service Department Contacts continued

Manistee

Government Center

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288

Little River Health Service Center

2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
Main: 231-723-8299 / 888-382-8299
Office: 231-398-6601
Pharmacy: 231-398-3853

Food & Nutrition Center

2690 Dontz Rd
Manistee, MI 49660
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288
Office: 231-398-6716 / 231-655-1041

Housing Department

2953 Shaw Be Quo-Ung
Manistee, MI 49660
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288
Office: 231-398-6875 / 231-398-6879

Aki Maadiziwin Community Center

2953 Shaw Be Quo-Ung
Manistee, MI 49660
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288
Office: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288

Justice Center

3031 Domres Road
Manistee, MI 49660
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288

Natural Resources

310 Ninth St
Manistee, MI 49660
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288
Office: 231-723-1594 / 866-723-1594

Victim Services

2840 Orchard Hwy., Suite D
Manistee, MI 49660
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288
Office: 231-398-6719

Muskegon

Tribal Office

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
1101 West Hackley
Muskegon, MI 49441
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288

Little River Health Service Center

4905 S. Harvey St.
Norton Shore, MI 49441
Main: 231-723-8299 / 888-382-8299
Office: 231-398-6601
Pharmacy: 231-398-3853
Services include Family Medicine,
Pharmacy and Radiology.

Little River Health Center of Ellis

1478 E. Ellis Rd
Muskegon, MI 49444
Main: 231-723-8299 / 888-382-8299
Office: 231-398-6601
Pharmacy: 231-398-3853
Services include Behavioral Health,
PRC Dept., Admin Center, Dictation
Center, Laboratory Facility, and Foot
& Ankle Clinic.

Victim Services

1101 W. Hackley Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49441
Main: 231-723-8288 / 888-723-8288
Office: 231-398-6719



UPCOMING EVENTS

Obtain more information and a comprehensive list of events and meetings on the **LRBOI Calendar**. The Calendar is on the main page of our website at the following address <https://lrboi-nsn.gov> under the Recent News section, in the Upcoming Events. It is also accessible from the Citizen Communication page under Legislative.



Note

If you have not already done so, please create a new account on our new website to access private content. Some content is available only to registered users of the site including some news and events. Our new website launched August 2024.

Please visit our website for the most current schedule of events. Elder events may change to due to the committee needing to elect new committee members.

October

Oct 4 - Fall Membership Meeting

November

Nov 3 - Citizen Advisory Board Meeting for the Little River Holdings (EDC)

LRBOI 2025 Holiday Closures

We want to keep you informed about upcoming holidays and office closures for LRBOI government offices in 2025. Below, is the full list of observed holidays and closure dates.

A few things to note:

- Holidays falling on a Saturday will be observed on the preceding Friday, while those on a Sunday will be observed on the following Monday.
- Occasionally, our Ogema may declare additional holidays or closures. When that happens, we'll do our best to share updates on our website, government Facebook page and in the Currents newsletter.

Observed Holidays in 2025

New Year's Day

When: Wednesday, January 1

Observed: Wednesday, January 1

LRBOI Treaty Recognition Day

When: Friday, March 28

Observed: Friday, March 28

Memorial Day

When: Monday, May 26

Observed: Monday, May 26

Independence Day

When: Friday, July 4

Observed: Friday, July 4

Labor Day

When: Monday, September 1

Observed: Monday, September 1

LRBOI Reaffirmation Day

When: Sunday, September 21

Observed: Monday, September 22

Veteran's Day

When: November 11.

Observed: Tuesday, November 11

Thanksgiving

When: 4th Thursday in November.

Observed: Thursday, November 27

Extended Thanksgiving

When: Friday after Thanksgiving.

Observed: Friday, November 28

Christmas Eve Day

When: December 24.

Observed: Wednesday, December 24

Half day closure. Closed Noon-5pm

Christmas Day

When: December 25.

Observed: Thursday, December 25



SUMMER BREAK CRAFTS

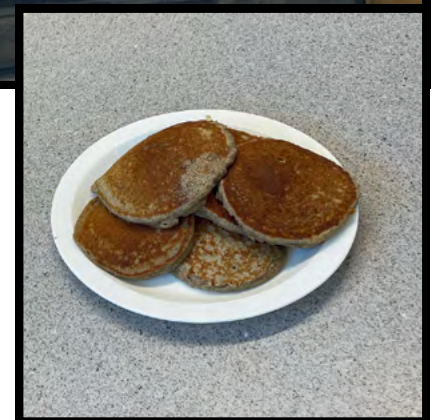
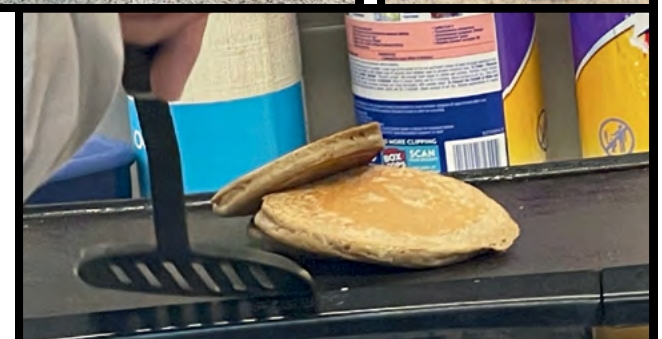
Making Rain Sticks



MAKING BABY BLANKETS



COOKING CLASS - MAKING PANCAKES



THE CREATION OF THE SEASONS



A Teaching from the Anishinaabe Oral Tradition

Long ago, before the earth was as we know it, the world did not have the cycle of spring, summer, autumn, and winter. The land was caught between extremes. In some places, the sun shone without rest, scorching the earth and leaving no relief. In others, cold winds and frost covered the ground endlessly, making it impossible for anything to grow. The balance we take for granted today was not yet present, and the people struggled to live in such harsh conditions.

It is told among the Anishinaabe that the changing of the seasons came about through the actions of powerful beings who each desired to control the earth in their own way. The story begins with the Spirit of Winter and the Spirit of Summer. Each was strong, proud, and determined to prove their power greater than the other. The Spirit of Winter loved the quiet stillness of the frozen land, the way the snow blanketed the earth and forced the people to rest, reflect, and depend on their stored food. The Spirit of Summer, on the other hand, loved warmth, light, and growth. Summer delighted in the blossoming of flowers, the ripening of berries, and the joyful activity of people fishing, planting, and gathering.

Neither would yield. Winter demanded that the earth remain frozen, while Summer insisted it stay warm and full of life. Their struggle became a great contest, a battle of endurance that stretched across the land. When Winter's power grew strong, icy winds blew across the forests and lakes, freezing the rivers and driving animals into hiding. When Summer's turn came, heat pressed down upon the earth, plants grew tall, and life thrived again. The two spirits clashed back and forth, and the people endured the changes as best they could.

Yet the contest was not meant to go on without end. The Creator, seeing the struggle between Winter and Summer, understood that neither was meant to rule forever.

Each spirit had gifts to offer the world, but in their pride they had forgotten the importance of balance. To teach them this lesson, the Creator sent two other spirits to stand between them: the Spirit of Spring and the Spirit of Autumn.

Spring came as a gentle mediator, carrying the gifts of renewal, growth, and awakening. When Spring's turn arrived, the ice began to melt, rivers rushed with fresh water, and the first shoots of green broke through the earth. Animals emerged from their winter dens, and birds returned to the land with their songs. The people welcomed Spring, for it brought hope after hardship and the promise of new life.

Autumn, in contrast, carried the gifts of preparation and reflection. When Autumn walked the land, the leaves turned brilliant shades of red, orange, and yellow, as if the earth itself was painted with fire. Plants and animals readied themselves for the coming cold. People gathered crops and stored food, knowing Winter would soon return. Autumn reminded the people that all things move in cycles, and that endings are also beginnings.

Together, Spring and Autumn showed Winter and Summer that no one spirit could rule the earth alone. Balance was needed. Growth must follow rest, and rest must follow growth. The land needed warmth to flourish, but also cold to renew itself. By working together instead of against one another, the four spirits created the cycle of the seasons as we know it today.

Since that time, the Anishinaabe people have honored the gifts of each season. Winter is a time of storytelling, when families gather around the fire and share the teachings of their ancestors. It is a time of rest, when the land and the people replenish themselves. Spring is a time of hope, when medicines sprout from the earth, fish return to the rivers, and planting begins. Summer is a time of abundance, when berries ripen, gardens flourish, and the people move about freely on the land. Autumn is a time of harvest and preparation, when food is gathered, ceremonies are held, and gratitude is offered for the gifts of the earth.

The story of the creation of the seasons teaches more than just how the cycle of nature began. It carries lessons for how we live our own lives. Just as the world needs balance between hot and cold, between growth and rest, so too do people need balance within themselves. There are times in life when we must be like Summer, full of energy, action, and joy. There are times when we must be like Winter, withdrawing, resting, and reflecting on what we have learned. There are times when we must be like Spring, ready to begin again with hope and courage. And there are times when we must be like Autumn, gathering the fruits of our labor and preparing for what lies ahead.

Elders often remind us that if one season lasted forever, the world would become unbalanced and unlivable. In the same way, if we try to live only in one state of being, whether constant activity, constant rest, or constant striving, we too will lose

balance. The seasons remind us that change is natural, that each phase of life has its purpose, and that nothing lasts forever. Even hardship will pass, just as winter always gives way to spring.

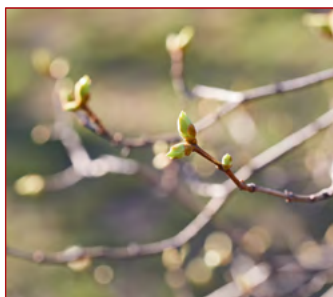
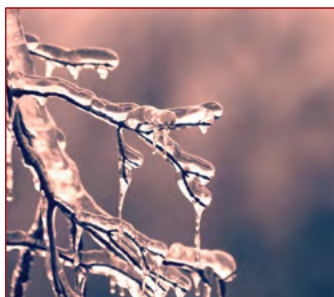
The animals and plants also carry these teachings. The bear hibernates in winter, teaching us the importance of rest. The maple tree offers its sweet sap in spring, reminding us that generosity comes with renewal. The fish return each year to spawn, showing us the power of cycles and return. The wild rice ripens in late summer and autumn, a gift that sustains the people and teaches gratitude. In every season, the natural world reflects the gifts given long ago when the spirits agreed to share the earth.

For the Anishinaabe, the creation of the seasons is not only a tale of the past but a living reminder of how to walk in balance. Each year as the seasons turn, the story is retold by the land itself. Snow falls, and we are reminded of Winter's gift of rest. The earth awakens, and we see Spring's gift of renewal. The warmth of Summer brings abundance, and the colors of Autumn call us to prepare and give thanks. By paying attention to these cycles, we remain connected to the teachings and to the natural order of life.

In our modern world, where it often seems that time rushes forward without pause, the story of the seasons offers a valuable reminder. We cannot force everything to be growth and abundance without also allowing for rest and renewal. We cannot hold on to the warmth forever without recognizing the value of cold and stillness. Balance is the way of creation, and balance is the way we must live.

The creation of the seasons is a story of compromise, harmony, and respect among powerful forces. It is also a story for us, showing that in our own lives we must recognize the gifts of each stage, honor them, and trust in the cycles of change. The world is always moving, always turning, and in that turning there is wisdom.

So each time we watch the snow melt, or see the first flowers bloom, or feel the sun at its height, or witness the leaves falling, we are seeing the continuation of an ancient story. It is the story of Winter and Summer, Spring and Autumn, who once struggled for control but who now work together to bring balance to the world. It is a story that continues to unfold every year, a gift from the Creator and the spirits, reminding us that life is not meant to be lived in one season alone, but in the beautiful, ever-changing cycle of them all.



THE STUDY OF BATS AT TIPPY DAM



Our LRBOI Natural Resources Department (NRD) is taking important steps to protect bats and study the effects of White Nose Syndrome, a devastating disease threatening their survival. This work is happening here on our tribal land near Tippy Dam, which is located close to Manistee. Tippy Dam is a well-known landmark on the Manistee River and serves as one of the most important winter hibernation sites for bats in the region. Each winter, tens of thousands of bats gather in the dam to hibernate, and many return each year to use it as a critical shelter. Because of this, the surrounding lands, including nearly 1,000 acres owned by LRBOI within four miles of the dam, may play a vital role in their survival. Recognizing this, our NRD has applied for grant funding to support research and monitoring efforts. These funds would allow staff to safely study bat activity during the summer months when the bats leave the dam to forage, mate, and raise young, and to identify where they roost on our Tribal lands. The work will also provide training and resources to staff, including vaccinations for safe handling of bats, and strengthen partnerships with other Tribes across Michigan through the Michigan Tribal Bat Collective.

This is where the work of our NRD becomes crucial. The project would use acoustic monitoring devices to detect bat echolocation calls, mist-netting to humanely capture bats, and radio-tracking to follow their movements. These tools will help determine where bats are roosting during the summer months so that tribal land management practices, such as timber harvest or prescribed burning, can protect and enhance bat habitats.

Understanding bats begins with recognizing their role in the environment. Little brown bats, a species commonly found in Michigan, are insectivores. They consume massive quantities of insects every night, including mosquitoes, moths, beetles, and crop pests. A single bat can eat thousands of insects in one evening, making them one of the most effective natural pest control species. Without bats, insect populations would rise dramatically, affecting agriculture, forestry, and human health.

Bats are also fascinating creatures in their behavior and biology. They live in colonies that can range from a few individuals to over 100,000.

They rely on echolocation to navigate and hunt in the dark, sending out high-pitched sounds and interpreting the returning echoes. They spend significant time grooming their fur and wings to stay healthy and flight-ready. Bats hibernate in the winter, entering a state of deep torpor where their metabolism slows, and they survive off stored fat reserves. While most bats live six to seven years, some individuals have been recorded living over 30 years.

Sadly, White Nose Syndrome has put this balance in jeopardy. This disease is caused by the fungus *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*, which thrives in cold and dark environments where bats hibernate. First documented in New York in 2006, the fungus was accidentally introduced from Europe and has since spread across much of North America. The fungus grows on the skin of hibernating bats, leaving a white, powdery appearance on their muzzles, wings, and ears. More importantly, it causes serious damage by disrupting hibernation. Infected bats wake more frequently during winter, burning through fat reserves needed to survive until spring. The fungus also damages their delicate wings, impairing circulation, body temperature regulation, water balance, and even their ability to fly. Mortality rates in infected colonies can exceed 90 percent, leading to catastrophic declines in populations.

The impact of White Nose Syndrome extends far beyond bats themselves. With fewer bats to control insect populations, farmers and communities face higher numbers of crop pests and biting insects, leading to greater reliance on chemical pesticides. This disrupts the natural balance of ecosystems and places additional burdens on food systems and human health. Protecting bats is not only about preserving a single species but also about safeguarding the health of entire ecosystems.

While there is currently no cure for White Nose Syndrome, efforts like those led by our Tribe offer hope. By studying where bats live and forage in the summer, LRBOI can take steps to protect important roosting sites, improve habitat through thoughtful land management, and support recovery of populations impacted by this disease. Just as importantly, this research connects our Tribe with six other Michigan Tribes, including the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Bay Mills Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, and Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. Together, these Tribes form the Michigan Tribal Bat Collective, a powerful example of how collaboration can make a difference in protecting the natural world.

The story of bats is one of resilience and fragility. They have lived on this earth for millions of years, adapting to challenges and thriving in diverse environments, yet now face one of the most severe wildlife health crises in modern history. By committing to this research and conservation, our Tribe is not only helping bats but also honoring the responsibility we have to care for the land, the water, and all living beings that depend on balance for survival. This work is a reminder that even the smallest creatures play a vital role in creation's design, and protecting them ensures that the circle of life continues for generations to come.

Share Your News

Our community is filled with incredible achievements and joyful milestones, and we want to celebrate them together.

Whether it's a graduation, wedding, anniversary, baby announcement, special birthday, job promotion, artistic award, or any other proud moment, your story matters. Every bit of good news, big or small, has the power to uplift others, spark inspiration, and spread positivity across our Nation.

Your journey could be the one that motivates someone else to reach higher, dream bigger, or simply smile a little more.

Let's come together and showcase our strength, resilience, and creativity. Reach out to Jo Jo at joannegreen@lrboi-nsn.gov to start the conversation.

Let's make sure your story gets the spotlight it deserves.

A MOTHER'S DRESS



Jackie Mills Van Norden



My birth mother passed away in 2016. She was a GTB tribal member. Full blooded Ottawa from Elk Rapids, Mi. My Aunt (her sister) found her ribbon dress amongst her things and gave it my cousins, Shannon & Jennifer Crampton, to give to me. I was in Texas at the time and they mailed it to me there.

I kept it in storage for years unable to unwrap it. After recently losing 115lbs, I finally unwrapped it. The dress and my birth family's genealogy were all she left me in life so it was very emotional for me. As I put it on, I could feel her...It felt right somehow. And here I am. I'm 63 yrs old given away in 1962 at birth. I searched for my birth mother and found her in 1990. I am grateful to have her dress.

TAX EXEMPT PURCHASES AT LITTLE RIVER TRADING POST

LITTLE RIVER
TRADING POST

NEAR LITTLE RIVER CASINO RESORT



Tribal citizens may utilize tax exempt purchasing on motor fuel and tobacco products at Little River Trading Post.

A valid tribal ID is required to be shown for each and every tax exempt transaction.

Motor Fuel



Tribal citizens are exempt from the pre-paid sales and road taxes imposed by the state of Michigan on motor fuels when purchased from the Little River Trading Post. This exemption applies to both diesel and gasoline. Pre-paying for fuel is not allowed, you must pump fuel first. **A valid tribal ID must be presented at the time of purchase.** Eligible tribal citizens may buy up to 175 gallons per month of gasoline, diesel, or a combination of the two. Tax-exempt purchase limits may change without notice.

Tribal fuel tax exemption will not be given for two separate vehicles at one time.

To complete a tax-exempt purchase, the following information must be logged: date, citizen ID number, citizen signature, license plate number, and fuel type (diesel or gasoline).



Tobacco Products

Cigarettes

Tribal citizens are exempt from the \$2 excise tax imposed by the state of Michigan on cigarettes when purchased from the Little River Trading Post. **A valid tribal ID must be presented at the time of purchase.**

Eligible tribal citizens may purchase up to 70 packs of cigarettes per month for personal use. Non-resident tribal citizens will see \$2.12 off per pack on their receipt due to an additional 6% tax on the \$2.00 tax exemption. Resident tribal members do not pay this sales tax, so the system does not charge tax on the exemption.

The following information must be logged: date, citizen ID number, citizen signature, number of packs, and brand of cigarettes.

Other Tobacco Products (OTP)

Tribal citizens are exempt from some of the taxes imposed by the state of Michigan on OTP, which includes cigars, loose tobacco, snuff, and cigarillos (excluding hemp products, vape products, rolling papers, rolling devices, and other non-tobacco products). **A valid tribal ID must be presented at the time of purchase.** Eligible tribal citizens may purchase an unlimited amount of OTP (within reason) per month for personal use. The exemption is 32% of the wholesale price.



The following information must be logged: date, citizen ID number, citizen signature, number of packages, and brand of OTP.

Important Information

All purchases must be for personal use only. According to tribal tobacco and motor fuel regulations, purchasing for non-LRBOI tribal citizens is a civil infraction and may result in a civil penalty of \$100 per transaction. All tribal citizen vehicles must be registered with the tax office. Any changes in vehicle or license plate require a new registration with the tax office.

For questions, concerns or comments regarding tax exempt purchases, please contact the Tax Office at 231-398-3874 or 231-398-6856.

ALWAYS BE KIND TO TEAM MEMBERS AT LITTLE RIVER TRADING POST



TRIBAL DISCOUNTS AT



The Little River Casino Resort offers a range of exclusive discounts for LRBOI tribal citizens to enhance their stay and experience.

Valid tribal ID is required to be shown for each purchase where the tribal discount is applied.

Hotel & RV Park Accommodations

Tribal citizens can enjoy a special weekday rate of \$79 plus taxes per night for a standard hotel room and \$29 plus taxes per night for an economy RV site. Weekdays rates are valid Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. These rates are subject to change.

Tribal citizens can enjoy a special weekend rate of \$129 plus taxes per night for a standard hotel room and \$49 plus taxes per night for an economy RV site. Weekend rates are valid Fridays and Saturdays. These rates are subject to change.

Gift Shop

At the White Pine Boutique, tribal citizens receive a 25% discount on most purchases. This discount does not apply to alcohol, tobacco, consignment merchandise, gift cards, or gift certificates.

Dining Discounts

Tribal citizens can enjoy daily dining discounts at the River Rock Sportsbook & Grill, Rapids Bistro, and Big Lake Buffet. A 20% discount is available for the tribal citizen and one guest, with additional guests charged at full price. This offer is valid for both dine-in and take-out.

Every Thursday, a special 50% dining discount is available for tribal citizens and up to five guests per tribal citizen, with additional guests charged at full price. This offer also applies to both dine-in and take-out orders.

Notice Regarding Tribal Citizen Discounts

Please note that tribal citizen discounts cannot be combined with other offers, comps, coupons, or discounts at the Little River Casino Resort. The dining discount does not apply to conferences, banquets, or weddings, nor to food or beverages at the Little River Trading Post. Tribal discounts do not cover alcohol, tobacco, or gratuity. These discounts are not available during the July 4th holiday & weekend, or on December 31.

For any questions regarding tribal citizen discounts, please contact a member of management at Little River Casino Resort for more information. Enjoy your discounts!

ALWAYS BE KIND TO TEAM MEMBERS AT LITTLE RIVER CASINO RESORT

EMPLOYEE MOTOR FUEL DISCOUNT

The Little River Trading Post offers an employee discount. Valid employee ID is required to be shown for each and every purchase where the employee discount is applied.

Motor Fuel Discount

Save 5 cents per gallon on motor fuel. Available to all team members who work for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and Little River Casino Resort. Valid employee ID must be presented at time of purchase. Team member discount MAY be used with the Tribal citizen tax exemption.



Notice Regarding Team Member Discount

Please note that committee members, commission members and board members are not eligible for the team member discount.

MOTOR FUEL CASH DISCOUNT

The Little River Trading Post offers a discount on motor fuel when using cash to pay for the gas.



Motor Fuel Discount

Save 5 cents per gallon on motor fuel. Available to anyone paying for their gas purchase with cash.

Cash discount MAY be used with the team member discount **AND** the tribal citizen tax exemption.

CALLING CRAFTERS

Interested in teaching craft classes?

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PASSIONATE CRAFTERS TO SHARE THEIR SKILLS BY TEACHING CLASSES. SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO FILL OUT AN INTEREST FORM.



POSSIBLE CLASSES

- basic sewing skills
- paper piecing
- mending e
- mbroidery (hand
- stitching, cross stitch)
- beading classes
- and more; we're open to
- suggestions

WHY TEACH WITH US?

- \$20/hour for teaching + bonus if class sells out
- instructors are able to use employee discount (restrictions apply)
- supportive teaching environment
- teaching is a great way to learn your craft at a new level!

Interested in teaching craft techniques in the shop or via Zoom? Let us know by filling out our form. If you don't have experiencing teaching art, we offer smaller class sizes and mentorships to help you.

[Form Link](#)



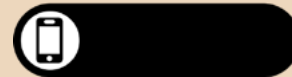
Bead &
Powwow Supply
powwowsupply.com



Announcing Open Board of Directors Seats

We invite applications for **two open Board of Director** seats at Little River Holdings. Be part of our community leadership!

For more information, please scan the QR code.



Send resumes and interest letters to admin@lrhedc.com

IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP

**Do you or someone
you know need
treatment for
stimulant and/or
opiate use?**

Funding available for Tribal Members
of Federally recognized Tribes.
Call **Dottie Batchelder-Streeter** at
231-398-6741 to learn more and to
complete paperwork.

Substance Use Treatment Funding Available

**"The first step for many
people is asking for help.
The good news is, there's
plenty of people wanting
to help others who are
struggling."**

– CHARITY FOUNDER

What is a stimulant? Meth,
cocaine, etc.

What is an opiate? Fentanyl,
heroin, etc.

Treatment Options:
Inpatient, MAT, and Recovery
housing

EMPOWER *The Future*

BUILD A LEGACY FOR THE NEXT SEVEN GENERATIONS!

Join us in building a vibrant legacy for the next seven generations by working for your tribe.

As a tribal member, you have a unique opportunity to contribute to the sustainable development and cultural preservation of our people, our tribe, and our nation.

Your skills, passion, and dedication can make a significant impact on our tribe's future, ensuring that our traditions, values, and prosperity are passed down to future generations.

By working together, we can create a thriving, self-sufficient community that honors our heritage while embracing innovation and growth.

The future of our tribe is bright and full of potential, shaped by our collective efforts to preserve our cultural heritage, promote sustainable development, and ensure the well-being of our community.

Be a part of this transformative journey and help secure a bright future for our next seven generations.

**LOVE, RESPECT, WISDOM,
TRUTH, HONESTY
HUMILITY, BRAVERY**

THE FUTURE *of Our People*

Government Careers

Payroll/Finance Clerk
Transportation Planning & Public Works Coordinator
Peer Recovery Coach
Food Distribution Assistant
Fisheries Technician
Court Clerk/Recorder
Language Coordinator
Temporary Employment Application Positions

Little River Holdings Careers
Marketing & Communications Specialist

APPLY TODAY

Click this [LINK](#) for our online application

eMail: apply@lrboi-nsn.gov

Phone: 231-398-6859

Fax: 231-331-1233

Web: www.lrboi-nsn.gov

Questions or concerns contact
Alicia Goff at aliciagoff@lrboi-nsn.gov



Team Member Perks

Team Member of the Month, Quarter, & Year. Team Member Recognition Committee. Safety Committee. Meal Discounts. Gift Shop Discounts. Gas discount at the C-Store. Golf Membership Discounts. Holiday parties for Team Members. Summer cook-outs. Ice Cream Socials. Company Picnic. Community Service Opportunities and more!



Fast Track Thursdays

Get an instant interview every Thursday from 10am to 4pm. Visit the Human Resources office using the employee entrance near the outer entrance of the River Rock!



Little River
CASINO RESORT

Apply in person at
2700 Orchard Hwy
Manistee, MI
Ph: 231-723-4530





Why Choose us?

We're conveniently situated at the corner of the US31 and M22 in the charming town of Manistee, Little River Casino Resort is one of the most exciting entertainment destinations in northwest Michigan.

If you are passionate about doing your best work, making a difference, and having fun while doing it, apply to one of our open positions. We offer all types of positions: permanent, seasonal, intermittent, full time and part time.

Suite of Benefits

Full Time Team Members Enjoy a Suite of Benefits! Benefits include: Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, AD&D, Flexible Spending Account, Voluntary Life Insurance, Short Term Disability, Long Term Disability, 401K match up to 4 percent, and Holiday Pay including Your Birthday. Up to 3 weeks of Paid Time Off can be earned in the first year and we offer Flexible Scheduling.

Open Positions

Slot Technician Level 1
Chef de Cuisine
High Lift Floor Care Cleaner
F&B Server
Beverage Manager
Food Cashier
Auditor 2
Maintenance Technician I
EVS Cleaner
Pantry Cook
Marketing Representative
IT Technician
Nail Technician

Visit www.LRCR.com for current available positions

Kequom's Crafts

Native Made

- Turtle bags
- Chokers
- Dream catchers
- Medicine bags
- Beaded earrings
- Feather earrings
- Bracelets
- Beaded necklaces

Email Steve at
terriebrodock@yahoo.com





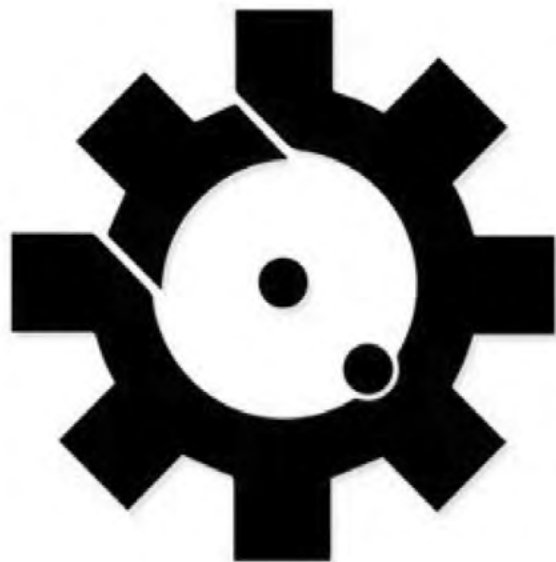
Harper Lou's Bowtique

When in doubt put a bow on it



Aanii, My name is Sara Crampton and I am a LRBOI tribal member. I'm a stay at home Mother to three beautiful children and recently I've turned a hobby of mine into a small business. I started making hair bows for my Daughter because I wanted her to have bows that matched every single outfit, sport, or event she did. We got so many compliments everywhere we went that I decided to start making them for everyone to enjoy. I use vegan leather and love to make polymer clay accessories to make my bows unique. I strive to take custom orders and to make sure you have a bow for every outfit and occasion. We can be found on Facebook and Instagram at Harper Lou's Bowtique and reached at ThatBowThough23@gmail.com for any inquiries.





TACTICAL TREATS

USCCA Accredited CPL Instruction

Weekly Classes

1. Basic Hand Gun knowledge & Cleaning

This class will show the student the differences in Hand Gun calibers, their uses & effectiveness. There will be no live ammunition in class! (snap caps only) Basic mechanics of how most hand guns function.

We will also be covering types of Holsters, Hand Gun cleaning & effective Storage,

2. Dry Fire Laser Training

This class will help improve Handgun accuracy & Trigger control using Snap caps, Striker caps & Lasers in conjunction with an elite shooting performance system designed to increase consistency by recording shot by shot analysis. The student will see in real time their subtle hand movements & learn " Proper Grip" "Avoiding Recoil Anticipation" "Trigger Press Movement" "Follow Through" Just to name a few.

3. CPL Certification Class

Successful completion of this class will allow you to apply for a Concealed Carry Permit (CCW). See MI state laws.

4. CPL RENEWAL Certification Class

Successful completion of this 4 hr. class will allow you to re-apply for a Concealed Carry Permit (CCW). See MI state laws.

**TO SIGN UP FOR A CLASS GO TO: USCCATRaining.COM
OR CHECK OUT MY WEBSITE TacticalTreats.COM
OR FEEL FREE TO GIVE ME A CALL, (231)220-5207**

Online Shopping

**Authentic
Native
American Made**

- Beaded Earrings
- Dream Catchers
- Smudge wands
and more

**Anishinaabe
Homestead
Victoria Wells
Owner/Artist
P. 231-655-1773**



photo by Canva

**Please visit me online at
[etsy.com/shop.AnishinaabeHomestead](https://etsy.com/shop/AnishinaabeHomestead)**





FAMILY OWNED  AUTO REPAIR

Gremore Garage is a family owned and operated business that offers a small town feel. Both Dylan and wife Tianna are committed to providing the highest quality of automotive services.

Owner and lead mechanic Dylan Gremore is master certified, and ASE certified with over a decade in the trade. He started his career here in Manistee and is excited to be back and service the fine people of this community once again.

Stop by or give us a call to schedule your vehicle for an inspection.

We are located at 1200 28th St. Manistee, across the street from the Filer Credit Union on the south side of town.

Present your Tribal ID and receive 10% off on parts.

For more information, please visit <https://www.gremoregarage.com>

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Suspension 

Steering 

A/C Repair 

General Maintenance 

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231-299-1355