Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Stands 500 Strong At Eagle Mine Court of Appeals Hearing

Baraga, MI -- About 500 members of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) stood united concerning the importance of keeping their waters clean from the contamination associated with sulfide mining on June 3, 2014, at the Michigan Court of Appeals. Oral arguments were heard involving the Eagle Mine, Michigan’s first permitted sulfide mine in the Upper Peninsula.

“This is the first time in our generation that the community as a whole came together to fight for true sovereignty and engagement in spontaneous government participation. The goal of the new moving-forward Tribal Council is to bring transparency and involvement to the Anishinaabe (the people),” said Donald Shalifoe, Sr., KBIC’s Ogi (Chief).

Many tribal members carpooled and traveled about eight hours to line up for the hearing from within the courtroom, while hundreds watched and listened to the proceedings in an overflow video conferencing room. Traditional drumming and singing resounded outside the building following the hearing.

Tribal leaders and elders observed the hearing from within the court room, while hundreds watched and listened to the proceedings in an overflow video conferencing room. Traditional drumming and singing resounded outside the building following the hearing.

KBIC’s Vice President Carole LaPointe remarked, “It was a very educational experience for our membership and youth.”

The Anishinaabe band has opposed the Eagle Mine development, located on the property of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) in 2006.

Unsettled concerns involve the mining regulatory process; improper permits; inadequate assessment of impacts to the area environment, cultural resources and water quality, including groundwater contamination; and the potential for perpetual acid mine drainage upstream from Lake Superior.

Tribal member Jeffery Loman said, “The hearing today is another testimony to the fact that inadequate regulation and collusion between industry and government results in endless litigation.”

One aspect of the evolving case questions what qualifies as a “place of worship” under Michigan’s sulfide mining statute. An initial ruling by Michigan Administrative Law Judge Richard Patterson recommended mitigation of impacts to an Anishinaabe sacred place, Migi zi wa sin (Eagle Rock), but the MDEQ made a final permit decision asserting only built structures are places of worship.

Discriminatory enforcement of Michigan law has led to substantial degradation to KBIC’s sacred site. This includes obtrusive mine facilities and a decline access ramp to the base of Eagle Rock, non-stop noise and activity, and hindered traditional access and use. Spiritually significant high places like Eagle Rock are used in solitude by the Anishinaabe for multi-day fastings, vision quests, and ceremonies.

Despite the passage of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978, Native people still struggle to protect their remaining sacred places in the face of extractive development agendas. “It is a shame that the United States of America, proudly founded upon values of religious freedom, has trouble guaranteeing this right to all of its nation’s first peoples,” said tribal member Jessica Koski.

KBIC anticipates a decision from the Michigan Court of Appeals within six months. The Eagle Mine’s timeframe for production start-up is the end of 2014. “While the court deliberates, it is important to remember that regardless of the outcome, we are in the right for standing up for the Yellow Dog Plains. We hope the court understands their decision will have long lasting implications for this place, as well as other areas that are slated for mining,” said Emily Whittaker of Big Bay, Michigan, who gathered alongside KBIC and other locally affected residents.

The Michigan Court of Appeals ruling will be an important precedent for additional sulfide mining proposals threatening Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and waters of the Great Lakes.
The 3rd Reading of Resolution KB-015-2014 was held. Motion by Carole LaPointe to approve Ordinance #3.1707 to Prohibit Alcoholic Beverages and Drugs on Powwow Grounds; supported by Susan J. LaFernier. Six supported (Shalifoe, LaPointe, Curtis, Matthews, Jokinen, Swartz); two opposed (Edwards, Jokinen); two abstained (Shalifoe, LaPointe); 0 absent; motion carried.

The 2nd Reading of Resolution KB-05-2014 Soma Chapters §3.19 Criminal Sexual Conduct and §3.20 Sex Offender Registration of the Tribal Code was held. Council heard comments from the audience. A Third Reading date will be announced at a later time.

Jean Jokinen, Secretary, brought forth an employee’s request to schedule a (Governmental) Appeal of Termination Hearing for case #003-14. Motion by Jennifer Misegan to schedule an Appeal of Termination Hearing case #003-14 at our next meeting; supported by Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Eight supported (Loonsfoot, Curtis, M. LaFernier, S. LaFernier, Matthews, Messer, Misegan, Swartz); two opposed (Edwards, Jokinen); two abstained (Shalifoe, LaPointe); 0 absent; motion carried.

Bruce LaPointe requested approval for Resolution KB-028-2014 Transportation Program Agreement between the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, approving the Referenced Funding Agreement for Fiscal Year 2014, and approves the Direct (Retained) Services Agreement for Fiscal Year 2014. The amount for this Road Transportation Funding is in the amount of $915,000.00. Motion by Warren “Chris” Swartz, Jr. to approve Resolution #028-2014 Transportation Payment; supported by Michael F. LaFernier, Sr. Twelve supported; 0 opposed; 0 abstained; 0 absent; motion carried.

Bruce LaPointe brought forth the annual IHS Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) Project List and Priority. IHS staff tours and reviews projects and assigns points; then Council rewards priorities as 1, 2, 3, and 4. Motion by Jennifer Misegan to approve the IHS Sanitation Deficiency System Project List and Priority as presented; supported by Don Messer, Jr. Twelve supported; 0 opposed; 0 abstained; 0 absent; motion carried.

Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr. requested Council look at rescheduling the July 5, 2014 meeting and to make July 3, 2014, a holiday. Motion by Warren “Chris” Swartz, Jr. to reschedule the Regular Saturday Council Meeting from July 5 to July 12 because of the holiday was approved; supported by Elizabeth “Chiz” Matthews. Twelve supported; 0 opposed; 0 abstained; 0 absent; motion carried. Motion by Gary Loonsfoot, Sr. to table the request (to make July 3, 2014, a holiday), so we can review and refer back to the policies; supported by Susan J. LaFernier. Twelve supported; 0 opposed; 0 abstained; 0 absent; motion carried.

Treasurer Eddy Edwards brought forward the donations for June 2014. Motion by Jennifer Misegan to approve $800 each to Theodore “Austin” Ayres and Grayson Roe for their upcoming L’Anse International Trip to Europe for a total of $1,600.00; supported by Eddy Edwards. Twelve supported; 0 opposed; 0 abstained; 0 absent; motion carried.

Council reviewed the 2% distributions for Baraga County and Marquette County. A Resolution will be brought forth at the next Council meeting.

Jennifer Misegan brought forth a request for financial assistance for an event, “Fostering Family Fun Day.” This event will be held by the Wellness Committee and Tribal Social Services in an effort to bring families together and to provide some positive activities promoting healthy families. It will be held on August 16, 2014, at the Ojibwa Park. It will be a relaxing environment where KBIC Tribal families can enjoy spending time with one another. There will be a short program where we will discuss family ideals, healthy relationships, and the importance of culture in our families. We want to teach and encourage fostering and healthy families. We also want to encourage foster parenting. At the NICWA Conference, we were reminded of the importance of prevention. It was stressed that $1 spent on prevention, saves $8 to $9 later on. Our intention is to open this event up to our departments and invite them to provide information and games to our families. Some departments may only want to help financially and that will work as well. As our community is very tight knit, we are requesting financial assistance to fund this event. Motion by Warren “Chris” Swartz, Jr. to approve $2,000.00 for the First Annual Fostering Family Fun Day; supported by Susan J. LaFernier. Twelve supported; 0 opposed; 0 abstained; 0 absent; motion carried. Carole LaPointe authorized use of a $2,000.00 Strengthening Families Grant through WUPSACA for this event as well.

Council moved into closed session prior to closing with KBIC members with two items on the agenda: Ojibwa Casino Resort Relocation Information and L’Anse Village Electric Plant Information.

- submitted by Lauri Dornonie, Newsletter Editor

The Ojibwa Housing Authority allocated a $200,000 match to the $600,000 Indian Community Development Block Grant that the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community was awarded earlier this Fiscal year. The grant will be used to build the new KBIC Community Center in Zeba. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on June 2, 2014, at the former Zeba ball field site, the location for the new Community Building. Plans call for the building to be completed this fall.

\"Zeba Hall\" Community Center Ground Breaking

\(\text{Niižh}^{(2)}\)
Treasurer, Eddy Edwards, gave a verbal report for the month of May 2014. (This verbal report was transcribed and edited by the Newsletter Editor with Mr. Edwards’ final approval).

We had a Popular Referendum last month after the Council approved an expenditure for an Agilysys point of sale system that would cover both casinos. The Popular Referendum was held, and it was an unanimous vote of the 39 Tribal Members that were present.

The financials for the casinos came out for April. Marquette had barely a 1% increase in house profit for the month of April compared to last year. The house profit for Baraga saw a 40% increase in the month of April compared to last year.

Blue Cross Blue Shield has contacted us and wants to meet with and work with the tribe. They indicated that they had been prevented from meeting with the tribe for some reason in the past, and they want to meet and try to keep our account. We have agreed to meet with them. Myself and the Ogi- mea have also met with VAST, a brokerage out of Marquette. This is a large firm that will be providing us with a quote from Consumer Mutual Insurance which was created out of the Affordable Care Act and received federal subsidies to extend insurance coverage for drivers. Opportunities for insurance are very limited in Michigan. I’ve been told Michigan is probably the third worst in terms of competition for health care, so this is why Consumer Mutual Insurance was created by a federal subsidy to provide with the Affordable Care Act and the State of Michigan. We are going to look at that quote and what Blue Cross Blue Shield will offer to see what they can do to try to keep our account.

Another venture I’ve been working on with the Ogimaa and Trish Koski is to extend some of the Pines sales over to the L’Anse side. The Housing Authority has completed renovating the former Scoops building across from Lute’s Corner Store. It was a little commercial first floor structure, and a doctor’s office had been there previously. We are looking into extending a smoke shop there on the L’Anse side of the reservation to expand cigarette sales.

One of the issues we’re having with the Agilysys point of sale system upgrade that was approved by Council and Popular Referendum is the company is trying to push back the schedule for implementation and upgrade back to October. We have told them that this is not acceptable. We are trying to work through this, so we can get the upgrade, the training, and get it moving. We’ll see what happens there. We may need to get our attorney involved.

Another thing is our WICS. Written Internal Control Standards have been slow in getting upgraded, and the process that is required in the Gaming Ordinance is pretty cumbersome. I will be working with staff to introduce legislation to try to streamline that process, so we can get those written internal control standards in the Casino changed and improved to meet the changing times. It needs to get done and not be a three to five month process. There will also be some TICS coming from the Gaming Commission that we will seriously have to consider and how they apply to federal law. That will be brought forth at the next meeting.

We have been interviewing marketing firms. One is the Red Circle Agency, and the other is ROI, Return On Investments. They specialize in working with Indian Casinos and helping them develop their staff; their players club program which ours is called Eagle Club; helping them develop promotions; and the OASIS Casino management systems. We had good meetings with them, and we will look at trying to hire one of these companies on Monday after we check on some additional references. There will be a lot of opportunities to combine that outside agency with our OASIS and existing staff to take it to a new level as a part of being ready for our new casino and to increase our efficiency and the products that we offer at both of our casinos.

This concludes my report for the month of May.

Respectfully submitted,
Eddy Edwards, Treasurer

---

From the Office of the KBIC President: KBIC Manages Fishery in a Variety of Ways

Members of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) have traditionally fished, both subsistently and commercially, throughout the area presently known as the 1842 treaty ceded area within Michigan waters of Lake Superior for generations. This region includes Marquette Harbor and surrounding waters.

In recent times, two-three licensed small boat fishermen have worked with strategic deployments of gillnets in the fisheries resources of the Marquette Harbor region, targeting Lake Trout, Lake Whitefish, and Lake Herring (aka Cisco). KBIC fishers follow guidelines and tribal code during these efforts, and commercial catches are closely tracked and monitored. In certain circumstances, the commercial extraction of valuable Lake Superior fisheries resources by KBIC membership reaffirms the right of tribal members to hunt, fish, trap, and gather ceded territory natural resources, a vital and greatly important aspect of the cultural and traditional practices of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

On occasion, tribal nets have been dislodged from set positions by ice flows, storms, or human disturbance. As a friendly reminder, it is unlawful to disturb and/or molest tribal nets deployed and intended to harvest commercially valuable fish species in Lake Superior. If you encounter a net that you feel is lost, unattended, or possibly has been at large for an extended duration (aka ghost net), you are encouraged to report said net to the following contacts: KBIC Natural Resources Department (KBNRD) at (906) 524-5757 x 10 or 12, or KBIC Law Enforcement Division at (906) 353-6626. Please do not disturb the net of interest. Instead, you are encouraged to geo-reference the location of the net (GPS), and/or call in your observation(s).

In addition to managing the KBIC Lake Superior Commercial Fishery, KBNRD manages all fisheries resources of Lake Superior in a variety of ways, including careful fisheries monitoring via standardized and comparable fisheries survey efforts, strategic and agreed upon fish stocking strategies, and environmental assessment efforts. All of these efforts are ultimately focused on gathering data that can be contributed to the development and implementation of lake-wide best management practices for the precious resources of Lake Superior. To learn more of ongoing KBNRD management efforts, or to report information pertaining to suspect lost fishing nets, unattended fishing gear, or any other Lake Superior issues of concern, please contact us! Thank you!

KBIC Natural Resources Department (KBNRD)
(906) 524-5757, or visit the web at: http://nrd.kbic-nsn.gov/

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Is your charitable organization planning on holding a raffle or selling raffle tickets on the L’Anse Indian Reservation?

Federal law, through the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, granted Tribes exclusive right to regulate gaming activity on Indian lands. Even if you or the members of your organization are not tribal members, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Gaming Commission has the authority to regulate your raffle. It is unlawful to game without a license.

Please contact the KBIC Gaming Commission Office at (906) 523-4222 or stop by the office located at the Tribal Center for an application and a copy of the rules and regulations.

Application deadline for submission of ALL Class I Drawings is 30 days and Class II Raffles is 60 days prior to your event. License Fee will be waived when the application is received within this timeline.
New Employees

Picture by Lauri Denomie.

Janell Bianco has been hired as the Child Support/Friend of the Court Specialist. Janell said, “I graduated from Northern Michigan University on May 3, 2014, with my Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in Native American Studies. I am the daughter of Jim Bianco of L’Anse and Jerri Lynn Duschaïne of Baraga. A few hobbies of mine include: fishing, hunting, camping, going to the beach, being a part of Off Road Racing with my boyfriend, Jordan Smith, and spending time with my family and friends.” Janell also interned with the KBIC Tribal Court’s Probation Department during the summer of 2013.

Picture by Lauri Denomie.

Jennifer Heath has been hired as an Accounts Payable Clerk. Jennifer said, “I am currently a junior at Michigan Tech where I am working on a Bachelors of Science in Accounting. I am the daughter of Judy Heath. My daughter, Jalisa, and I live in Baraga with our dog and four cats. I have been employed with KBIC for 12 years. I worked 1½ years with Casino Housekeeping and 10½ years with Tribal Housekeeping. I was always cleaning the offices, and now I finally have my own office.”

The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community’s Summer Youth Program is underway with orientation being held June 16, 2014. The 51 youth employees have been assigned job duties in the following departments: Keweenaw Bay Tribal Natural Resource Department, KBIC Tribal Police, Ojibwa BP, Department of Public Works, Tribal Forestry Department, Ojibwa Housing Authority, Pre-Primary Program, Personnel/TERO Department, Ojibwa Library, Eagle Radio, Commodity Foods, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa College, and the Superior Watershed Program.

The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community’s Summer Youth Program is underway with orientation being held June 16, 2014. The 51 youth employees have been assigned job duties in the following departments: Keweenaw Bay Tribal Natural Resource Department, KBIC Tribal Police, Ojibwa BP, Department of Public Works, Tribal Forestry Department, Ojibwa Housing Authority, Pre-Primary Program, Personnel/TERO Department, Ojibwa Library, Eagle Radio, Commodity Foods, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa College, and the Superior Watershed Program.

The KBOCC Program for the Enhancement of Academic Readiness (PEAR) Summer Academy is in full swing this week. Over 20 middle school and high school students are enrolled for the summer program. At PEAR, students learn valuable success strategies that will serve them well as they progress into high school, college, and beyond by attending eight different mini courses (including topics like Personal Finance, Alternative Energy, and ACT Preparation) and participating in twice-weekly field trips to local historical sites, museums, and universities. The Summer Academy began on June 9th and will continue until Saturday, June 28th. From June 29th until July 3rd, high school students will be able to attend an extended field trip to Chicago, where we will go on campus tours of colleges, visit attractions like the Botanic Gardens, Fermilab, and the Museum of Science and Industry, and spend a day at Six Flags Great America. PEAR will continue to offer after-school workshops, Saturday Camps, and tutoring services in the fall.

NOTES FROM THE OJIBWA SENIOR CITIZENS

July:

- July 9—12:15 p.m., Senior Meeting. Karen Lahti will be present to give additional future trip ideas and will be collecting the second deposit for the January 2015 cruise. Deposit of $300 per person is due. Also at this meeting, there will be a special election held for Assistant Secretary. Candidates running are Lois Bedell and Shirley McKasy. All seniors present are eligible to vote.
- July 19—Special pasty sale for Aura Jamboree. We will be starting at 12:00 p.m. with vegetable prep and making pasties. Volunteers are needed!
- July 23—Pasty prep at 12:15 p.m. (right after lunch). We are done by 3:00 p.m. and volunteers are needed!
- July 24—Pasty sale at 5:00 a.m., or as early as you can get there. We are done making pasties by 10:00 a.m., with cleanup and bagging pasties to follow. Volunteers are needed as early as possible!

August:

- August 27—pasty prep.
- August 28—regular pasty sale.

KBOCC PEAR YOUTH SUMMER ACADEMY

The KBOCC Program for the Enhancement of Academic Readiness (PEAR) Summer Academy is in full swing this week. Over 20 middle school and high school students are enrolled for the summer program. At PEAR, students learn valuable success strategies that will serve them well as they progress into high school, college, and beyond by attending eight different mini courses (including topics like Personal Finance, Alternative Energy, and ACT Preparation) and participating in twice-weekly field trips to local historical sites, museums, and universities. The Summer Academy began on June 9th and will continue until Saturday, June 28th. From June 29th until July 3rd, high school students will be able to attend an extended field trip to Chicago, where we will go on campus tours of colleges, visit attractions like the Botanic Gardens, Fermilab, and the Museum of Science and Industry, and spend a day at Six Flags Great America. PEAR will continue to offer after-school workshops, Saturday Camps, and tutoring services in the fall.

NEWS FROM THE OJIBWA SENIOR CITIZENS

July:

- July 9—12:15 p.m., Senior Meeting. Karen Lahti will be present to give additional future trip ideas and will be collecting the second deposit for the January 2015 cruise. Deposit of $300 per person is due. Also at this meeting, there will be a special election held for Assistant Secretary. Candidates running are Lois Bedell and Shirley McKasy. All seniors present are eligible to vote.
- July 19—Special pasty sale for Aura Jamboree. We will be starting at 12:00 p.m. with vegetable prep and making pasties. Volunteers are needed!
- July 23—Pasty prep at 12:15 p.m. (right after lunch). We are done by 3:00 p.m. and volunteers are needed!
- July 24—Pasty sale at 5:00 a.m., or as early as you can get there. We are done making pasties by 10:00 a.m., with cleanup and bagging pasties to follow. Volunteers are needed as early as possible!

August:

- August 27—pasty prep.
- August 28—regular pasty sale.

The KBOCC Program for the Enhancement of Academic Readiness (PEAR) Summer Academy is in full swing this week. Over 20 middle school and high school students are enrolled for the summer program. At PEAR, students learn valuable success strategies that will serve them well as they progress into high school, college, and beyond by attending eight different mini courses (including topics like Personal Finance, Alternative Energy, and ACT Preparation) and participating in twice-weekly field trips to local historical sites, museums, and universities. The Summer Academy began on June 9th and will continue until Saturday, June 28th. From June 29th until July 3rd, high school students will be able to attend an extended field trip to Chicago, where we will go on campus tours of colleges, visit attractions like the Botanic Gardens, Fermilab, and the Museum of Science and Industry, and spend a day at Six Flags Great America. PEAR will continue to offer after-school workshops, Saturday Camps, and tutoring services in the fall.

For more information, visit the KBOCC website or contact them directly.
Lois Virginia Bogda
March 8, 1941—June 20, 2014

Lois Virginia Bogda, age 73 of L’Anse, Michigan, formerly of Milwaukee, WI, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and loved ones at her residence in Zeba, Michigan, on Monday June 2, 2014, following a courageous battle with cancer. She was born in L’Anse, Michigan, on March 8, 1941, the daughter of Harry Crebessa and Virginia Asher (Vanlinden). She attended school in L’Anse, Michigan, and received her GED in Milwaukee, WI. She studied at Milwaukee Area Technical College for Hotel Motel Management. She married Roger L. Bogda in Milwaukee, WI, on October 18, 1969, and they were married for 44 years. She worked at Briggs and Stratton as an assembler, and also had a career job at A.O. Smith Corporation as a production welder. Lois was a Breast Cancer survivor. She was the VFW Auxiliary President Post #2304. She was also the president of the AMVETS Auxiliary Post #23 and AMVETS State Commander in Milwaukee, WI. In 2000, Lois and her husband moved back to L’Anse, and she worked at the Baraga Home Helpers. She was a member of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and was an honored elder in 2006. She was also a member of the Zeba Methodist Church and the Ojibwa Senior Citizens, where she enjoyed many hobbies and will always be remembered that way. She enjoyed various activities, and some of her favorites were: bingo, casino hopping, cooking, taking care of her flowers, four wheeling, walks with her family, being on the phone, dancing and listening to country music, NASCAR racing, but most of all Lois enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. Lois was a loving, compassionate, and kind person who always put a smile on someone’s face. She had a smile that could light up a room: she was loved by all for her positive attitude and lifting love of life. Even though she suffered in pain for many years, she never showed it and always carried a smile and a joke to share with those she came in contact with.

Mr. Bogda is survived by his loving husband, Roger L. Bogda; her children: Cheryl L. Bogda of L’Anse and Donald L. Bogda and friend Carmen of Green Bay, WI; grandchildren: Leona (Scott) Cardin of Waterford, WI, Melissa (Sean) Kruse of Woodridge, IL, Chery- enne Crebassa and friend Brandon of Colorado Springs, CO, Samantha (Ronnie) Chagnon of Colorado Springs, CO, Clarissa Crebessa and friend Mike of Baraga, MI, Roger (Boo) Crebessa of Woodridge, IL, Roger Bogda and friend Katie of Green Bay, WI, Sierra Curtis of L’Anse, MI, Jerry Crebessa Jr. of Arizona and Louis Curtis Jr. of L’Anse, MI; Great-grandchildren: Ellis Cardin, Jordan Cardin, Angelica Crebessa, Matilda Chagnon, Blake Messer, and Aubree Messer; sisters: Cecilia Owens of Baraga, MI, Aurelia Hull of Drafton, WI, and Agnes Hueckstaedt of Baraga, MI; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Lois was proceeded in death by her parents, son Jerome “Joyo” Crebessa, three sisters, two brothers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Funeral services for Mrs. Bogda were held on Monday, June 9, 2014, at the Red Bird Funeral Home and Chapel, L’Anse, with Reverend Steve Rhodes officiating. The family greeted friends at the funeral chapel on Sunday, June 8, 2014, from 6 until 8 p.m. and before the services on Monday, June 9, 2014. Following the funeral service, the family and friends to join them for fellowship and luncheon at the Ojibwa Senior Center, Baraga. Interment will take place in the L’Anse Evergreen Cemetery. The Reid Funeral Home assisted the family.

JULY 2014 Calendar Events

- July 3 & 4: Gov’t offices closed—4th of July holiday;
- July 7: Constitutional Committee Meeting, 10 am, Council Chambers;
- July 12: Reg. Sat. Council Meeting, 9 am, Ojibwa Resort Conference Rm;
- July 16: Veteran's Meeting, 7 pm;
- July 24: Ojibwa Sr. Citizens’ Pastzy Sale;
- July 25: Gov’t offices closed—KBIC Powwow.

Events occurring throughout KBIC are welcome to be listed on the Calendar of Events. Contact (906) 353-4644 for the facility attendants. For youth club events, see www.ojibwa.com. For Ojibwa Health Care events, see www.ojibwa.com. For federal government events, see www.kbic-nan.org. For events listed at www.ojibwa.com, see detailed FYI within the newsletter. For up-to-date event listings, visit www.ojibwa.com and click on calendar. For details on events, please call (906) 353-4644 or contact 353-4643/Mt Office at Youth Club, or 353-4644 for the facility attendants or the Kitchen/craft rooms.

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Employment Opportunities


- Tribal Attorney, open until filled
- In-custody personnel, Technical, Facility Attendant, Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, Internal Sales Specialist, OOW Unit Manager, Pharmacist, Receptionist/Clerical Worker, Receptionist, Board Operator, Cashier, Account Executive/Sales, Pre-Primary Teaching Assistant, Community Service Supervisor, Unit Manager, Family Aide, Van Driver.

For current job listings, complete job announcements, applications, and closing dates contact KBIC Personnel Department, 14429 Bear Tooth, L’Anse, MI 49946, 906-353-4633, ext 4716 or visit: www.ojibwa.com.
Ningodwaaswi

Baraga Graduates

Devin Chosa is the daughter of Tom and Brandy Chosa of Baraga. During high school, she won several awards for her art, achieved perfect attendance, and worked on the Class of 2014 Senior Slideshow. Devin also received the Administrator’s Award of Merit. She has worked for the Tribe’s Summer Youth Program for three years where she worked with the Watershed Program, weeding and planting native plants at Sand Point. Devin’s hobbies include traditional and digital art, four-wheeling, snowmobiling, spending time with friends, and listening to music. After graduation, she plans to attend college and major in Art.

Sheena Halverson is the daughter of Michelle Eilola and Paul Halverson. While in high school, she participated in Junior High cheerleading, band for six years, choir for three years, and made the honor roll. She has worked for the Tribe’s Summer Youth Program. Sheena likes to design and make pow-wow regalia. She also enjoys beading, sewing, and singing with her father and family on the Four-Thunders Drum. After graduation, she plans to attend Main Street Cosmetology School in Ishpeming.

Desiree Jermac is the daughter of Bobbi Loonsfoot and Craig Jermac. While in high school, she has been on the honor roll and was a High-Five mentor during her junior year. She also participated in junior varsity/varsity cheerleading in the 9th and 10th grades. Desiree has been a member of the tribe’s Youth Club and worked for the Summer Youth program. Her hobbies and interests include spending time with family, helping people, listening to music, writing, and walking. Her plans after graduation are to attend a community college for one year and then transfer to Grand Valley State University to receive a degree in psychology.

Tori Rasanen is the daughter of James and Jodene Rasanen. While in high school, she was a member of the student council for two years, played Varsity Basketball for four years, Varsity Track for two years, and was a High-Five Mentor during her junior year. Tori enjoys sports, snowboarding, shopping, hunting, and fishing. After graduation, she plans to attend Northern Michigan University.

Frederick Dakota is the son of Brad and Cherie Dakota. He was a member of the high school bowling team for three years and cross country for two years. He also participated in the Local History Smackdown and was a High-Five mentor. Freddy won the Faculty Choice Outstanding Senior Award, has been on the honor roll numerous times, and has received perfect attendance. He is a member of the Youth Action Committee and a board member of the Baraga County Community Foundation. His hobbies include making videos, playing soccer, and motorcycling. He plays in a young, local band called Treading Water. After graduation, Freddy plans to attend Northern Michigan University to major in Art and Design.

Community Schools

Bradley Berry is the son of Yvonne Hansen and Jim Berry. Brad does seasonal work for people in the L’Anse and Baraga areas. His hobbies include playing basketball, repairing cars, hunting, fishing, and making people laugh. After graduation, he plans to travel to Nevada to seek employment and eventually attend college.

Devon Curtis is the son of Helene Shalfoe and Paul Stafford. His hobbies include playing basketball, reading, horticulture, and listening to music. After graduation, he would like to attend either Northern Michigan University or Michigan Technological University.
Seth Maki is the son of Frances Maki. He is currently employed as a caretaker for JS Home Helpers. His hobbies and interests are traveling, watching movies, using the internet, shopping, and playing basketball. After graduation, he plans to seek employment and possibly attend Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College.

Teresa Loonsfoot is the daughter of Olivia and Charles Loonsfoot. She worked for the tribe’s Summer Youth Program, helping to set up for the Powwow. Her hobbies include singing, dancing, swimming, and playing basketball. After graduation, she plans to seek employment and possibly attend Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College.

Carisa LaFernier is the daughter of Melissa LaFernier and Jerry Fish. During high school, she was on the prom committee. She enjoys hunting, camping, four-wheeling, listening to music, and gaming. Carisa achieved perfect attendance while in high school. After graduation she plans to stay in the area and attend Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, majoring in Early Childhood Education.

James Veker is the son of Jack Veker and Rhonda Lavinge. While in high school James played football and basketball. He enjoys hunting, fishing, playing basketball, football, weightlifting, and being with friends. James was 1st Team All-West Pac for both basketball and football. He was also 1st Team All-UP Running Back for football, and 2nd Team All-UP for basketball. James has been on the honor roll numerous times throughout high school. He volunteered in the High-Five Mentoring Program. James worked for the Tribe’s Summer Youth Program at the Ojibwa Campgrounds, the Fish Hatchery, and the Conservation Department. His plans after graduation are to attend Northern Michigan University and study Criminal Justice. He is also going to try to walk-on to either the football or basketball team.

Jacob Picard is the son of Rose Everson and Mike Messer, Sr. Jacob’s hobbies include: bear hunting with hounds, fishing, mudding, snowbogging, snowboarding, and smelt dipping. Jacob made the honor roll during his Senior year. He volunteered at the KBIC Natural Resources Department while completing his work based learning course. He has worked for the Tribe’s Summer Youth Program at the Ojibwa Campgrounds and Public Works Road Construction. Jacob plans to stay in the area and seek employment after graduation.

KBIC HONORS GRADUATING L’ANSE, BARAGA, AND COMMUNITY SCHOOL STUDENTS

The KBIC Education Committee honored the L’Anse, Baraga, and Community School Graduating Students at the Seniors Banquet held Friday, June 6, 2014. Terri Denomie, KBIC Education Committee Chairman, welcomed students, their families, educational staff, and community members to the banquet and provided the opening remarks.

Vicky Emery, Education Committee Member, presents scholarship winners with certificates. Left—Eva Lind. Right—Freddy Dakota.

Continues on page eight.

Picture by Lauri Denomie.

Picture by Lauri Denomie.

L’Anse Graduates

Eva Lind is the granddaughter of Esther Lind. While in high school, Eva was a member of the Drama Club and SADD. She enjoys reading, playing video games, cooking, and spending time with family and friends. Eva was on the honor roll numerous times throughout high school, achieved perfect attendance, and Honors Convocation. Eva volunteered in the High-Five mentoring program. She was a camp counselor for the Tribe’s Summer Youth Program. She plans to attend Northern Michigan University after graduating to become a speech pathologist.

Carisa LaFernier

Teresa Loonsfoot

Seth Maki

Eva Lind

James Veker

Jacob Picard

James Veker

Carisa LaFernier

Eva Lind
KBIC Honors Graduating Seniors continued:

ing prayer. Beartown Singers provided a welcome song and honor song. Lynn Haataja, Committee Member introduced the guest speaker, Debra Parrish, President of the Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College.

Debra Parrish said, in part (content edited for length), “Life’s journey brings many opportunities. I graduated from L’Anse High School in 1971. I attended NMU to obtain a Legal Secretary Degree. After which an opportunity opened up for me, and I became the secretary for KBIC’s Attorney, Garfield Hood.

When the Ojibwa Community College first opened in 1975, this became an opportunity for many of us to go back to college. We had humble beginnings, but look where we are today. We teach courses in Native American Studies, Tribal History and Government, and Ojibwa Language and Culture. We are now expanding our programs and have just submitted our application to the Higher Learning Commission for our business program. We will soon be submitting our application for approval of the new location in L’Anse, the Wabanung Campus. Two additional programs will now be offered, Native American Studies and Fine Arts. We will be offering Vocational Education for Building Trades, Federal Certified Nurses’ Aide, Culinary Arts, Automotive Technicians, and possibly a Corrections Officer Program. We will be working in conjunction with the University of Nevada, in Las Vegas, with a Public Health Curriculum, and with other tribal colleges with a Behavioral Health Program. We will also be providing study abroad. Graduates, these are some of the opportunities available to you right here at home.

We have recently installed our interactive video conferencing system in Harvey. This enables us to offer courses in Harvey from the Baraga or L’Anse campus or vice versa. The Tribal Government and Casino will be able to use this video conferencing system for meetings with employees in Harvey. We will also be offering our first on-line course in Early Childhood Education.

KBICC: students have many opportunities to travel and network with other tribal colleges and mainstream universities. Recently our students participated in the Student Conference in Billings, Montana, where they won first place in the Science Bowl. After defeating the larger tribal colleges and universities, one of our students remarked, ‘We are the little college that could.’ Those words remind us that we must never give up. I would like to congratulate each of our 2014 High School Graduates.”

Lynn Misegan and Suzanne Kahkonen presented the graduates with certificates of achievement. Graduates received gifts from: Ogimaa Donald Shallifoe, Sr. on behalf of the KBIC Tribal Council; Charles Loonsfoot, Jr. and Dawn Alexander on behalf of the Education Committee; Gerry Mantia and Toni Minton on behalf of the Cultural Committee; and Sandy Pittsley, Ron Spruce, and Veronica Adams on behalf of the Ojibwa Senior Citizens.

The KBIC Education Committee awards two scholarships each year, one to a Baraga graduate and one to a L’Anse graduate. The seniors are sent applications and are asked to write essays about their accomplishments, community involvement, and future plans. The committee reviews all essays and applications and selects the winners. Each scholarship is for $1000 and the check is sent to the student’s college on their behalf. The 2014 winner for the KBIC Education Committee’s $1000 scholarship for Baraga is Freddy Dakota. The 2014 winner for the KBIC Education Committee’s $1000 scholarship for L’Anse is Eva Lind.
The Library kicked off its first ever Summer Reading Program. Registration was opened up for their Summer Reading Challenge. The Library is challenging the Community to continue to read throughout the summer months. The Challenge is incentive based with different goals being set for different age groups. First prize is a swimming pass at the Ojibwa Motel, second prize is the selection of one of many new books, and third prize is an ice cream cone at the Baraga Drive In. As of press time, 89 participants had registered.

Storytime also began at the Library. This component of the Summer Reading Program is open to registered participants ages 5 to 10 years old and is based on the science theme of Fizz, Boom, Read! The first Storytime was held on June 17. Librarian, Jennifer Misegan, read two stories to the kids. Jason Ayres brought in his chicks and ducks. The kids got to hold them, pet them, and ask Jason a lot of questions about them. Their craft for the day was developing a flow chart on the life cycle of a chicken which was actually much cuter than it sounds.

Attention KBIC Members Job Skills Assistance

The KBIC TERO Office is available to assist KBIC Members who are applying for Job Positions. TERO can help you complete your application to ensure consideration for employment.

For the best chance to make sure your application is considered, it must be filled out completely. Most employers will not consider an incomplete job application.

TERO will be available during regular business hours in the Tribal Center to assist KBIC Tribal Members in completing the application packet.

Please stop by or contact Melissa Koepp at (906) 353-4167 or email melissa.koepp@kbic-nsn.gov.
The Ojibwa Casino employees have a Friday jeans fund in which they give a donation to wear jeans on Fridays. The employees elected the Níimígípmiwiníw Transition House as the recipient of this fund in May which totaled $639. Níimígípmiwiníw earmarked these dollars for direct needs of program residents which are not covered by grants. Chi Miigwech to the employees of the Ojibwa Casino.

Hair braiding will be available again at the OVW PowWow booth this year. Everyone is invited to stop and see us at PowWow!
The KBIC Health Department held a Mother’s Day Dinner on May 12, 2014, at the Ojibwa Motel Chippewa Room of the Ojibwa Casino Resort in Baraga, Michigan. Mary Dee Shanahan, Community Health Representative, facilitated the presentation about yearly screenings for women. The Lucky Sevens restaurant catered the meal for 54 participants.

(left to right) above, Mindy Lantz and Elvera Lantz

All Tribal Veterans’ Meeting at the Lighthouse, Sand Point, will be held every third Wednesday of the month at 1900 hours.
All Tribal Veterans are Welcome!
As of June 9th, Free Spirit Fitness will only be accessible with a swipe card. There will no longer be a code system. If your membership is current, all you have to do is stop in the office to pick one up.

If you need to update your membership, you will receive a swipe card at that time. 24-hour access is still available to you. The office is open M, W, and F from 8AM-9PM.

Please contact the community center offices at 353-4644 or 353-4644 for questions. Thank you!

Ojibwa Community Library
409 Superior Ave., Baraga, MI 49908
353-8163 oclib@up.net

Our community is in need of foster parents. All children deserve to have a safe and secure place to live. You could make a difference in a child’s life by becoming a foster parent. To become a foster parent or to obtain more information contact:

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Tribal Social Services
16429 Bear Town Road
Baraga, MI 49908
(906) 353-4201

Ojibwa Casinos
Baraga | Marquette
OJIBWA/CASINOS

KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY
OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
427 N. Superior Ave. • Baraga, MI 49908
In Tribal Court Building
Phone: 906-353-4566 • Fax: 906-353-8132
• Email: ocss@kbic-nsn.gov

“Your Children...Our Priority”
We provide the following services:

- Establishment, Enforcement and Modification of Child Support Orders
- Paternity Establishment
- Location of Custodial and Non-Custodial Parents
- Community Education

tp://www.kbic-nsn.gov/html/ocss.htm