GENERAL ELECTIONS HELD AT KBIC

KBIC held their annual General Election on Saturday, December 17, 2011. KBIC registered voters residing in Baraga cast their ballots at the Ojibwa Senior Citizens building in Baraga, while those residing in the L’Anse district cast their ballots at the Zeba Methodist Church. A Primary Election was held November 5, 2011, for the Baraga District which put the top four candidates on the General Election ballot with the candidates who were approved for the General Election in the L’Anse District.

Baraga District candidates were Gary Loonsfoot, Sr. (incumbent), Isabelle Welsh (incumbent), Robert D. “RD” Curtis, Jr., and Carole LaPointe. L’Anse District candidates were William E. Emery (Incumbent), Elizabeth C. Matthews (Incumbent), Lyndon Ekdahl and Jean (Halverson) Jokinin.

Preliminary counts were announced by the election workers, immediately following closing of the polls on Saturday, December 17, 2011. In the Baraga District, Gary Loonsfoot, Sr. received 186 votes, Isabelle Welsh received 154 votes, Robert D. “RD” Curtis, Jr. received 220 votes, and Carole LaPointe received 219 votes. Robert D. “RD” Curtis, Jr. and Carole LaPointe have secured three year terms in the Baraga District. In the L’Anse District, William E. Emery received 183 votes, Elizabeth C. Matthews received 224 votes, Lyndon Ekdahl received 158 votes, and Jean “Halverson” Jokinin received 190 votes. Elizabeth C. Matthews and Jean “Halverson” Jokinin have secured three year terms in the L’Anse District. Election results are on the agenda to be considered for certification by Tribal Council at the meeting scheduled for January 7, 2012. Following certification, the twelve seat council will make nominations and vote for their executive council.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- December 3, 2011 Tribal Council Meeting
- KBIC Holds General Election
- Proposed Gaming Facility in Marquette County Approved
- KBIC Christmas Celebrations
- Mining Updates
- January is Radon Action Month—How clean is your air?
- New Employees
- Deepest Sympathy

Happy New Year

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS HELD AT KBIC

KBIC held the Youth Christmas party on Sunday, December 18, 2011, at the Niwin Akeaa Recreational Facility in Baraga, MI. The youth party was held for KBIC members and children of KBIC members of all ages. The children got to visit with Santa. Mrs. Claus was unable to attend because she had the North Pole Flu. All youth received a bag of candy and a special gift from the Community, and the teenagers received a Walmart gift card. Little Caesar’s Pizza was served along with a variety of desserts. The event is planned and organized by the KBIC Youth Coordinator, Cheryne Clements, and the KBIC Youth Assistants with the help of numerous community service workers and teen volunteers.

“Whose this man with the big white beard?”
Yancey DeCota, Jr. visits with jolly old Saint Nicholas.

DECEMBER 3, 2011
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Activities reported by the Secretary, Susan J. LaFernier, for the month of November 2011.

ANIN! We honor the greatness in all Nations. Remember: "Indian Country Means" and "Our People, Our Nations, Our Future."

We continue to recognize the richness of Native American contributions, accomplishments, and sacrifices to the political, cultural, and economic life of Michigan and United States.

The Government Christmas Party Task Force has worked very hard to plan for the December 3rd employee party at the Big Bucks Bingo Hall and many thanks goes to them. After dinner there will be a comedic act and prize give-away. The Task Force wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The employee W.H.I.P.P. (Wellness, Health, Intervention, Prevention Programs) Task Force and volunteers continue to have monthly meetings. It is never too late to encourage and begin positive lifestyle changes that will help us live longer, healthier, happier lives.

The "Maintain, Don't Gain" challenge began for the Gov's and ended on January 6th. The challenge is to maintain your current weight throughout the holiday season. Mino-Bimaadzin "Live Well." Also the "Walk and Talk" program begins on Monday, December 5, 2011.

Many thanks to our Natural Resource Department who coordinated the first old/used tire collection on November 16-18, 2011. Also many thanks to our Enrollment Department and the committee who worked on the Christmas Gift check guidelines, verifications, and distribution of the checks. This is a huge job and we appreciate all of their help.

I am saddened to report that a 107 year old woman from the Baraga County; Eagle Rock, Michigan has been made ill, our economic struggles, and all who have lost loved ones. Let us continue to be thankful for our beautiful area. We pray for peace in the world. Thank you God and Creator for the year that soon will be ending and for the great blessings of our land, loved ones, and friends. We wish everyone a blessed Merry Christmas and a New Year that brings good health and happiness!

During November 2011, the Tribal Council held one Regular Tribal Council Meeting on November 12, 2011. This meeting is covered in the December 2011 Newsletter. Tribal Council held three Special Council Meetings. Following are the unapproved motions from November 2011.

At a council meeting held November 3, 2011, the following actions were taken:

- Approved the March 10, and March 17, 2011 Tribal Council meeting minutes;
- Approved Resolution KB1858-2011 Cindy L. Knapp residential lease;
- Approved the Christmas gift check amount of $1850 for those 18 years of age and over;
- Approved Resolution KB1859-2011 2% funds distribution for Baraga County;
- Approved Resolution KB1860-2011 2% funds distribution for Marquette County;
- Approved the appointment of David Haataja as the General Manager for the Baraga and Marquette Casinos, to continue training for Dale Shalfoe, Baraga Assistant General Manager and to evaluate in six months;
- Approved the consultant agreement with Gundlach Champion, Inc. to conduct a study to assess the need for, and feasibility of, the construction, operation, and maintenance of an adult alcohol treatment correctional facility, or federal security, or similar facility on Tribal lands within the jurisdiction of the Community;
- Approved the Services Agreement with The Great American Disposal Company for hauling and recycling used tires (Natural Resources Department);
- Approved the Demolition Contract with Associated Constructors, LLC, Marquette (for the demolition and removal of the La Foote Baraga-Northern Store and Tres Amigos Building for $49,275);
- Approved the Services Agreement with L&H Utility Contractors, Inc. to provide directional drilling services (for two IHS water and sewer sites);
- Motion defeated to approve an Equipment Lease with Shawn Taisto for the lease of a quad dump truck for $7,250.

At a council meeting held November 10, 2011, the following actions were taken:

- Approved the bid from Cummins NPower, LLC for $7,842.35 to repair the patrol boat motor (Tribal Police/Conservation);
- Approved H. James St. Arnold to the slate of candidates for the Ojibwa Community College Board of...
President Chris Swartz announced today that “the proposed new gaming establishment is in the best interest of the tribe and it begins gaming activities on the new site.”

The tribe is proposing to relocate this existing facility to a new location within Marquette County, about 90 miles from its headquarters, since 2000. The tribe is proposing to relocate this existing facility to a new location within Marquette County, on an 80-acre parcel at the site of the former Marquette County Airport. The new site is 18 miles closer to the tribe’s reservation than its existing facility. Under a 2000 settlement agreement with the state of Michigan, the tribe has agreed to close its existing off-reservation gaming facility if its replacement facility does not open within two years of its approval.

We received September 2011 fiscal year end financials. It appears that Tribal Council overspent $7,812.61 on the sponsorship and donations line item. With this being said, I will move on to the approved sponsorship and donations for the month of November:

- $1,200 John Hellyer;
- $250 Special Olympics;
- $100 A retired senior program for Marquette County;
- $500 American Cancer Society (match donation);
- $500 March of Dimes match donation;
- $5,000 Toys for Tots;
- $180 L’Anse Yearbook full page ad;
- $1,000 Salvation Army request;
- $3,000 Community Needs Assistance Program;
- $1,900 KBIC Head Start/Early Head Start for Christmas gifts;

Donations total—$13,630.

Tribal Council denied the request of Negaunee Township to acquire lands to preserve for future walking, hiking, and other recreational uses of trails. They were also requesting money to evaluate current business property assessments. The request was for $5,000 a piece. The money they wanted us to approve is the money that has been earmarked for the water/sewer infrastructure improvements.

We also denied a $600 request by Justin Gauthier to compete in the MMA cage fighting. I will conclude my report for the month of November.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth D. Mayo, Treasurer

December 20, 2011

President Chris Swartz announced today that “the proposed new Casino at the old Marquette County Airport site has taken a major step toward Indian Affairs of the United States Department of Interior, Larry Echo Hawk, today approved a proposed gaming facility in Marquette County, determining it would be in the best interest of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and would not be detrimental to the surrounding community.”

“I undertook a careful and thorough review of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community’s application. The tribe’s application satisfies the rigorous standards contained in the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and our regulations,” Echo Hawk said. “The tribe demonstrated that it has a significant historical connection to the proposed gaming site, and its proposal to move an existing gaming facility closer to its reservation has strong support from the local community.”

The tribe hopes to construct a new casino on the site of the old Marquette County Airport in Negaunee Township. It would replace the current Ojibwa II Casino at Harvey in Chocolay Township. “It is quite a Christmas present,” said President Swartz, “We’re very excited as we’ve been working on this for a long time.”

The land into trust was filed in 1999, and the application for the Secretary’s two part determination was filed in 2006. Swartz said that the approval was the second part of a three-step approval process. The third is the approval by Governor Rick Snyder.

We hope the Governor will look at the Secretary’s determination and conclude that moving the gaming operation from Chocolay to the Airport property is in the best interests of all the parties,” Swartz said.

The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community is located in Baraga County, Mich., and has approximately 3,310 members. The tribe is self-governing and regulating a class III gaming facility in Marquette County, about 90 miles from its headquarters, since 2000. The tribe is proposing to relocate this existing facility to a new location within Marquette County, on an 80-acre parcel at the site of the former Marquette County Airport. The new site is 18 miles closer to the tribe’s reservation than its existing facility. Under a 2000 settlement agreement with the state of Michigan, the tribe has agreed to close its existing off-reservation gaming facility if its proposal to relocate to the Airport property receives final approval, all begins gaming activities on the new site.

The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community submitted its application under The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act “Secratarial Determination” exception, which requires the Secretary to determine the proposed gaming establishment is in the best interest of the tribe and its citizens, and would not be detrimental to the surrounding community. The governor of Michigan must concur in this determination before the land can be acquired in trust for the tribe for gaming.
CEO REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2011

The month of November 2011 included the following activities and reportable items:

- The Tribe received a one year Department of Justice grant in the amount of $150,000 to conduct a feasibility study and community needs assessment regarding detention facilities. Gundlach Champion of Houghton, MI was awarded a contract to conduct the study and will also involve the involvement of three KBIC members in performing the study: William Jondreau, Dennis Gerard, and Leslie Haataja. The study will identify if the need exists for construction, operation, and maintenance of an adult, or juvenile detention, or correction facility, or federal security or similar facility on Tribal lands within the jurisdiction of the KBIC. We will provide updates as this process continues along with a final report of findings.

- On November 17th Council approved Resolution KB1862-2011 which relates to amending language to the Tribe’s Constitution Article VIII Section 1. The amendment in short would remove the Secretary of the Interior from the process of amending the Constitution. The resolution has been submitted to BIA for language review, and if accepted, the BIA will call for an election of eligible KBIC voters. This would include a separate election registration which is conducted by the BIA. The KBIC Constitution Committee will provide additional information through meetings and/or literature prior to the election being conducted to familiarize members with the amendment.

- The Tribe’s Health Center was approved to purchase a backup generator for the facility. The generator will allow the facility to remain operational during power outages providing services to the community. It is not certain whether the generator will be in place prior to this winter.

- A limited amount of Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding has been awarded to KBIC. The Community Assistance Programs office is accepting applications for the program which is dependent on income eligibility. The funds will be disbursed on a first-come-first-served basis. The CAP office is also adjusting its hours of operation to accommodate keeping up with record keeping and processing of program paperwork. The office will be open to the public from 8 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday including lunch time. They will, however, be accessible for emergencies the last hour. Clients needing to drop off documents after 3:30 p.m. may call so by dropping them off at the CEO’s office.

- David Haataja has been assigned General Manager of the Ojibwa Casinos. Dave had, until the new assignment, served as GM of the Har-vey location.

- The Tribe’s Weed and Seed program, supervised by the Tribal Police Commissioner, will be finished out under the direction of Liana Loonsfoot. She began working on November 21st and will fill the post until the grant formally ends in March of 2012.

- An additional employee change to note is the hiring of the Tribe’s SORNA Coordinator. Stacey Koski, who has transferred from the Tribe’s Office of Child Support Services, will be filling the role which involves coming into compliance with the Sex Offender Registry Notice Act and includes registering sex offenders within the reservation boundaries of the KBIC. The office is located within the Tribal Police offices on US 41 North of the Pines Convenience Center.

- In a final note, the Tribal Government Employee Christmas Party is taking place later today. Many thanks to all who volunteered to make this event happen, which will prove to be a huge success once again. Employees will enjoy mingling with fellow employees and guests from 5 p.m.—6 p.m. with dinner being served at 6 p.m. Two card medians will take the stage from 7 p.m.—9 p.m. and special prize drawings for employees will take place immediately following.

As always, if anyone has questions, concerns, or issues that the CEO’s office can assist with, please don’t hesitate to stop, e-mail, or call.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry J. Denomie, III, CEO

PRESIDENT’S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2011

The following is a list of activities that occurred in the office of the President for the month of November 2011:

- I signed a letter to the EPA Region 5 in Chicago, Illinois, regarding the NPDES permit required for mineral exploration activities on the L’Anse Indian Reservation. I informed Tinka Hyde that in September, 2011, mineral exploration cored drilling activities were conducted by a Rio Tinto/Kennecott exploration contractor within the boundaries of the KBIC reservation and that a permit was required for storm water discharges for the mineral exploration core drilling activities.

- I appointed Tom Smithson to the Appellate Division of the Tribal Court, and the Tribal Council concurred with the selection.

- I signed a letter to the Indian Health Service requesting the amount due to the Tribe under the Community for Fiscal Year 2005 for underpayment by IHS for contract support costs in the amount $575,326.00.

- I wrote a letter to Diane Rosen, BIA Midwest Regional Director, regarding our application by the KBIC for a two part determination, dated March 29, 2006. I informed her that the consultation with the local units of government have been completed and the Community requests that the Secretary proceed to make a two part determination regarding the Airport Parcel.

- We received some unfortunate news regarding the Eagle Mine. Judge Manderfield issued her decision which affirmed the granting of the Part 632 Permit. This is not good news, and the Community is seeking to decide whether or not to appeal to the Michigan Court of Appeals.

- The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community was approved for participation in the Section 184 Native American Home Mortgage Loan Guarantee Program, exclusively on fee simple lands, as evidenced by a Memorandum of Understanding executed January 29, 2003.

- I submitted comments on behalf of the Community regarding the federal government’s position regarding the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement renegotiations.

- As Council knows, I wrote a letter to Heather Funke regarding the termination of her lease at the Ojibwa Village Trailer Court.

- I wrote a letter to Mary Loonsfoot about the decision of the Tribal Prosecutor not to pursue criminal charges. She had informed me that the Tribal Prosecuting Attorney did not process a specific case. Mary was unhappy and upset. After looking into the facts, the Tribal Prosecuting Attorney decided not to pursue the case. Mary asked me if there was anything I could do. I told her, “No, according to the Tribal Code book, section §1.24, the discretion is solely under the purview of the Tribal Prosecuting Attorney, and there is nothing that I could do to help her.”

- I wrote a letter to the BIA requesting a Secretarial Election for the proposed constitutional amendment. I have not heard back from them as of yet.

- Benjamin Buck, Field Investigator with the National Indian Gaming Association, visited. I authorized him to look at Class II items and other things regarding criminal history background checks of employees in the Class II operations of the Casino. He is authorized to do so through the scope of the compact.

- I also have been involved in a number of preliminary hearings involving Tribal Construction and the KBO settlement. At a number of things have occurred and we will discuss that more in closed session on Thursday.

This concludes my report.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren C. Swartz, Jr., President
KBIC Asks MDEQ to Deny Copperwood Mine Permit Application

On December 7, the KBIC submitted comments to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) regarding the Orvana Copperwood mine Part 632 permit application. This proposed copper mine is located within Treaty of 1842 ceded territory, about 70 miles west of the L’Anse Humboldt site, and 1.5 miles from Lake Superior

- Orvana would mine within 200 feet of Lake Superior and intentionally plan for mine collapse and surface subsidization. Amendments to the mine plan could conceivably allow Orvana to mine beneath Lake Superior.
- A permanent tailings basin would fill in 9,000 feet of streams, about 50 acres of wetlands, and destroy two local watersheds. The tailings waste would reach 14 stories (140 feet) high and cover 346 acres. These tailings would leach heavy metals and other contaminants for centuries.
- Orvana’s mine plan does not follow industry standard of backfilling waste rock and tailings, which would greatly reduce environmental impacts. The company failed to adequately consider this possibility.
- A water-intake system would pump 500,000 gallons of fresh Lake Superior water per day for mine operations. Waste water, subject to questionable treatment standards and technologies, would be discharged into Namebeinag Creek, a stream that discharges into Lake Superior.

Additional tribes and groups expressed similar concerns and found Orvana’s application inadequately developed and not meeting the basic Michigan Part 632 mining regulation requirements.

The MDEQ will review comments and make a preliminary decision on the mine permit. If the MDEQ proposes to approve the permit, a public hearing would be held (likely in Gogebic County). Orvana must also apply for and receive additional permits including but not limited to permits for the water-intake structure, filling of wetlands, waste water discharge, and discharge of contaminants to the air.

Judge Manderfield’s Decision on the Eagle Project

On November 23, Michigan Circuit Court Judge Paula Manderfield issued a decision affirming the MDEQ’s approval of the Kennebecot Eagle Project on the Yellow Dog Plains. Manderfield found every environmental concern nullified by Kennebecot and MDEQ testimony, insignificant, or subject to agency discretion.

In regards to sacred Eagle Rock, Manderfield found Michigan’s mining regulations only intended to protect built structures of worship. Despite testimony by tribal members and religious practitioners, Manderfield supported her decision based on Kennebecot’s archaological data indicating nothing culturally significant about this area. This decision overturned Judge Richard Patterson’s previous recommendation that Eagle Rock was a place of worship requiring mitigation from mining impacts.

Prior to Manderfield’s decision, in September of 2011, Kennebecot started initial blasting to construct a portal into and beneath Eagle Rock. Tunnel construction is continuing. Mine production is anticipated to start by 2013. Kennebecot is also actively exploring additional mineral deposits near the Eagle site and throughout the western U.P.

F o l l o w i n g news of Manderfield’s decision, the KBIC Tribal Council voted to continue legal action. On December 12, the KBIC, together with the National Wildlife Federation, Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve, and Huron Mountain Club, filed an appeal asking the Michigan Court of Appeals to overturn Manderfield’s decision. They are appealing the mines’ proposal that it poses unacceptable risks to air and water quality. “It is very important to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community to protect Eagle Rock as a sacred place,” said KBIC President Chris Swartz, “and we are hopeful that this appeal will result in the Court of Appeals reversing the decisions of the circuit court.”

Baseline environmental data in Kennebecot’s permit application for the Humboldt Mill Site Investigation revealed 26 hazardous contaminants leaking off site. Concerned with the level of pollution, KBIC forwarded this data to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and requested EPA conduct a Preliminary Site Assessment under the remedial CERCLA program. The EPA has since-conducted assessment of the site, including on-site visit and water quality sampling, and anticipates issuing a report early this year rating the site following CERCLA guidelines and determining next steps needed to address site contaminants.

Tribal members using the Middle Branch of the Escanaba River, the Black River, or the general area for subsistence or recreational fishing, can notify the KBIC Natural Resources Department if they wish to help the EPA in rating the Humboldt site.

News throughout the Basin

Big news on the mining front in Wisconsin is debate over the introduction of a new 183-page iron-mining bill on December 8. This bill, as proposed, would streamline the permitting process, provide exemptions from some environmental standards, and eliminate citizen lawsuits and contested case hearings. The bill has been introduced in response to Gogebic Taconites tentative proposal to open a large $1.5 billion iron-ore taconite mine in the Penokee Hills, which Gogebic Taconite has stated will create hundreds of jobs. The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, just downstream from the Gogebic Taconite’s proposed mine, would like an independent economic study conducted. The tribe says the corporate study inflated job numbers and failed to consider tourism, forestry, and fishing jobs that would be threatened, as well as the region’s pristine qualities, including nearby Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands.

There are additional prospective mining developments in Wisconsin. Tamerlane Ventures Inc. has been petitioning Oneida County to grant mineral leases for exploratory drilling. Aquila Resources and Hudbay Minerals in a joint venture, are actively exploring untapped base-metal deposits in the Great Lakes area. Aquila and Hudbay recently acquired rights to the “S Bend” copper-gold deposit in WI’s Chequamegon National Forest. 45 miles southeast of the former Kennebecot mining site, and they are expected to submit a permit application for the Back Forty project, a zinc-gold massive sulfide deposit near the Menominee River in Michigan by mid-2012.

In Minnesota, the proposed Polyemt open-pit copper sulfide mine is currently under environmental review. The review has slowed while the company conducts modeling and works with state and federal agencies to figure out how it could meet air and water regulations. The EPA found the original Environmental Impact Statement “environmentally unsatisfactory—inadequate.” Environmental review of the Polyemt proposal may set the precedent, much like the Eagle project in MI, as a half-dozen or more additional copper mines are proposed throughout northeastern Minne-
Baraga Youth Party continues:

Jeani Jaye Aho tells Santa what's on her list this year.

Marianah Klug Ochoa poses with Mr. Claus.

Noah Evans enjoys an afternoon visit with Sr. Nick.

Leighann Cadeau was very excited to spend time with Santa.

A terrifying start ended in a new friendship for Jesse Jones, Jr.

Mikey Morningstar finished his visit reaching for his Christmas candy.

Shayna Pittsley listening carefully to Santa Claus.

Payton Rain LeClaire is not quite sure about this visit with jolly St. Nick.
The KBIC Children’s Christmas party for Marquette County residents was held at the U.P. Children’s Museum, on Sunday, December 18, 2011. Children and their families enjoyed a delicious dinner which included Caesar's Pizza, got to visit with Santa Claus, and received a gift from the Community. This party was organized by the KBIC Youth Coordinator, Cheryne Clements, and the KBIC Youth Assistants, with the special help of volunteer Kristine Maki, and a number of other community volunteers.
Mining updates continues:

Mining Film Series
The “Mining Impacts on Native Lands” Film Series has several films lined up. Watch for an upcoming poster. They will be held the second Wednesday of each month, 12:30-1:30 pm at the Ojibwa Seniors Center and 6pm at the Ojibwa Casino Chippewa Room. This is a great opportunity to hear mining updates, receive educational materials, and participate in discussion. The 2012 films include:

2. “Locked Out” about Rio Tinto’s relationship with workers and communities in the U.S. and abroad;
3. “Four Corners: A National Sacrifice” tells the stories of native people impacted by coal strip-mining and uranium mining and milling;
4. “In the Light of Reverence” about Native American religious freedom rights in relation to mining and other developments in the U.S.;
5. “Tar Creek” about the largest Superfund site in America left by a large lead and zinc mine in northeast Oklahoma near Native communities;
6. “Poison in the Rockies” discusses threats to water quality and ecosystems downstream due to mining;
7. “American Outrage” about two Western Shoshone sisters and their court case about the confiscation of their land for gold mining interests.

How Clean is Your Air?
January is RADON ACTION MONTH - Test Your Home Today!!

The KBIC Natural Resources Department is distributing FREE self-test kits (while supplies last) to Tribal Members during Radon Action Month. Contact Char Spruce at (906) 444-5757, extension 14, for more information.

What is radon? Radon is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless radioactive gas. Radon gas is formed by the natural radioactive decay of uranium in rock, soil, and water. Once produced, radon moves through the ground to the air above. When radon encounters a building, it emits ionizing radiation in the form of alpha particles.

How does radon get into a building? Most indoor radon comes into the building from the soil or rock beneath it. Most of the gas moves through gaps and other openings in the foundation. Once inside, the radon can become trapped and concentrated. Radon may also be dissolved in water, particularly well water. After coming from a faucet, about one ten thousandth of the radon in water is typically released into the air. The more radon there is in the water, the more it can contribute to the indoor radon level. The average outdoor air level is about 0.4 pCi/L, but it can be higher in some areas. While radon problems may be more common in some geographic areas, any home with radon may have an elevated radon level. New and old homes, well-sealed and drafty homes, and homes with or without basements can have a problem. Testing your home is the only way to know if radon is present.

What health effects are associated with radon exposure? Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. There currently no conclusive data on whether children are at greater risk than adults from radon. No specific subtype of lung cancer is associated with radon exposure.

Only smoking causes more cases of lung cancer – if you smoke and have long-term exposure to radon, your chances of getting lung cancer are greatly increased. Radon gas decays into radioactive particles that can get trapped in your lungs when you breathe. As they break down further, these particles release small bursts of energy, and can cause tissue damage and lead to lung cancer over the course of your lifetime. Breathing radon does not cause any short-term health effects such as shortness of breath, coughing, headaches, or fever, so it is not possible to know if you have been exposed right-away.

What is the “acceptable” level of radon in air? The EPA states that any radon exposure is concerning, and no level of radon exposure is always safe. However, EPA recommends homes be fixed if an occupant’s long-term exposure will average 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) or higher.

How often is indoor radon a problem? Only one out of every 15 homes has a radon level EPA considers to be elevated—4 pCi/L or greater. The U.S. average radon-in-air level in single family homes is 1.3 pCi/L. Because many people spend as much as 90 percent of their time indoors, indoor exposure to radon is an important concern.

January has been declared as National Radon Action Month by the Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) as an effort to take action against radon by educating people on the risks of exposure, testing, and mitigation. Learn more at http://www.epa.gov/radon/raram/.

Still Time to Enter Prize Drawing for CWD Surveillance
Help us reach our goal (114 specimens) and protect the health of our local deer population! KBIC Natural Resource Department collected 85 heads from hunter harvested and road-killed white-tailed deer so far. Please help! We still need 29 heads to reach our statistically significant sample size. KBIC Natural Resource Department generously contributed funds for a prize drawing for those who submit heads. We will continue to collect heads eligible for the prize drawing up until January 24, 2012, with the prize drawing taking place on January 25, 2012. Specimens can be deposited in collection boxes located at the KBIC Natural Resource Department in Pequaming or at the MI DNR on US41 in Baraga. If you would like to pick up specimens from your place of residence between January 3-24, call 524-5757 x18. Two entries are allowed per participant. Prizes offered are: a weather sleeping bag, and a high quality spotting scope, a portable heater, cold weather sleeping bag, and a high quality thermos. Winners will be notified by phone. These prizes are only to all who have donated. Miigwech!

A Winter Boost From The Sunshine Vitamin

Vitamin D is sometimes called the sunshine vitamin because our bodies can synthesize vitamin D in the skin when it’s exposed to the sun’s ultraviolet rays. During the short, dark days of January most of us don’t get enough sun exposure, so people who spend their winters in the UP are at risk of a drop in vitamin D level. This has a negative effect on bone health, immune system, cancer risk and mood.

In earlier times, when people spent more time outdoors, they synthesized enough vitamin D during the sunny summer months to last all year. Now, when we spend more time indoors year-round and we cover more skin, we don’t build up enough vitamin D stores to last through the winter. When the body does not have enough vitamin D, calcium levels can drop, absorption of calcium down, bone health and bone density. This can lead to weaker bones and more fractures.

Vitamin D research shows that an adequate vitamin D level can help fight the winter blues, also known as seasonal affective disorder (SAD). Vitamin D is not the only factor; light/dark cycles, a drop in exercise and the holding of winter holiday affect mood. However, the vitamin D effect might be important in people who have low vitamin D levels to begin with. The sunshine vitamin is also important for keeping a strong immune system, and may protect against breast and colon cancer.

Vitamin D doesn’t occur naturally in a lot of foods. It is found in fatty fish like salmon, catfish and sardines, in some mushrooms, and in egg yolks. Because of its well known partnership with calcium, vitamin D has been added to milk for many years. But many people can’t or won’t drink milk, so it’s now added to other foods, too. Some yogurts and cheeses are fortified with vitamin D, as are many cereals. Look for the term “vitamin D4 milk” on the package. It won’t necessarily appear on the Nutrition Facts label but will be listed on the Ingredient list.

Low blood level of vitamin D is not uncommon. Elderly people, people with darker skin, and people who do not drink milk are at higher risk of having a low vitamin D level. Your vitamin D status (blood level) can be determined fairly easily through a blood test. Your doctor can help you decide whether you might be at risk and order the blood test if it’s appropriate. Treatment of low vitamin D level is straightforward: you will be advised to take a vitamin D supplement and then recheck the blood in a few months. However, taking high doses of vitamin D with your doctor’s permission or guidance of your doctor is not recommended. At very high doses, vitamin D can be toxic so work with your medical team to keep your bones healthy and your mood sunny during these not-so-sunny winter months.

Applications are available for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP) or the Low Income Weatherization Program (LIWP), or the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Services Block Grant (CSBG). You can pick up all applications at the Community Assistance Programs (CAP) office. You can also download and print the ALL IN ONE APPLICATION from our tribal website under the “Services” link.

Please keep in mind that funds for both programs are limited this year due to a decrease of federal grant funding. You will not be receiving the full amount of your applications as we are accustomed to receiving in past years. Please feel free to call 353-8137 if you have any questions regarding this program or any other programs offered through the Community Assistance Programs office.

To all the good people of Baraga County and KBIC:
Chi miigwech for all your kindness and support during our dear nephew’s passing (Gerald Shalifoe), and also for the passing of our cousin, Sam Makii. Chi miigwech for the Tribal Council awarded us this year.
- the Shalifoe gang (and there are a lot of us eh), Ishkadens.

(B) Ishwaaswi
OJIBWA SENIORS’ CHRISTMAS DINNERS HELD
Baraga, MI—The Ojibwa Senior Christmas Dinner was held at the Ojibwa Senior Citizen’s on Sunday, December 11, 2011. Seniors received their choice of a BP or Pines gift card and enjoyed carols by soloist Courtney Clisch.

Marquette, MI—The Ojibwa Senior Christmas Dinner was held at the Wahstrom’s Restaurant and Lounge on Sunday, December 4, 2011. Senior’s enjoyed a festive feast and received gift cards.

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
NET MONTHLY INCOME STANDARDS*
(Effective October 1, 2011)
*The net monthly income standard for each household size is the sum of the applicable Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) net monthly income eligibility standard and the applicable SNAP standard deduction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House Size</th>
<th>SNAP Net Monthly Income Standard</th>
<th>SNAP Standard Deduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$908 + $147 = $1,055</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1,226 + $147 = $1,373</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$1,545 + $147 = $1,692</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$1,863 + $155 = $2,018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$2,181 + $181 = $2,362</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$2,500 + $208 = $2,708</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$2,818 + $208 = $3,026</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$3,136 + $208 = $3,344</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each additional member</td>
<td>+ $319</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Food PI Income Deductions—see 7 CFR 253.6(d)
Earned Income Deduction—Households with earned income are allowed a deduction of 20 percent of their earned income.
Dependent Care Deduction—Households that qualify for the dependent care deduction are allowed a deduction of actual dependent care costs paid monthly to a non-household member.
Child Support Deduction—Households that incur the cost of legally required child support to or for a non-household member are allowed a deduction for the amount of monthly child support paid.
Medicare Part B Medical Insurance and Part D Prescription Drug Coverage Premiums—Households that incur the cost of Medicare Part B medical insurance and/or Part D prescription drug coverage premiums are allowed a deduction for the monthly cost of the premiums.

FDPIR Resource Standards—see 7 CFR 253.6(d)
$3,250 for households with at least one elderly or disabled member.
$2,000 for households without any elderly or disabled members.

Deepest sympathy
SAMUEL E. MAKI
(March 12, 1958—November 23, 2011)
SAMUEL E. MAKI, age 53, of Green Bay, WI, and formerly of Baraga, passed away suddenly Wednesday, November 23, 2011, at Marquette General Hospital. Samuel was born March 12, 1958, in Duluth, MN, the son of the late Samuel and Jeanette (Monguse) Maki. He attended the L’Anse schools, graduating in 1976. Samuel was a member of St. Ann’s Catholic Church and the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. He was a commercial fisherman in the local area and moved to Green Bay in 1999. Samuel was employed as a sandblaster for a structural construction company. Samuel enjoyed music including country and soft rock, trivia, art, and was an avid Chicago Bears fan. Samuel is survived by his special friend Sherri; sons: Jacob (Sarah) Maki of Baraga, Samuel Layne (Brittany) Maki of Pontiac, Casey and Seth Maki, both of L’Anse; daughter Shawnee (Mike) Stein of L’Anse; and grandchildren: Alicia, Matthew, Damien, Steven, Jaycee, Jackson, Abel, Mark, Tara, Zachary, and Sonja. He is also survived by sisters: Jeanette Clem of Baraga, Dolly (David) Wettberg of Baraga, Judy (Larry) Fullmer of Prescott, AZ., Diane (Rick) Lesson of Glen Fork, W.V., Linda (Mark) LaPine of L’Anse; 150 nieces and nephews, and numerous cousins. Besides his parents, Sam was predeceased by his son Samuel and sister Amelia. Funeral services for Mr. Maki were held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, November 30, 2011, in the Ceremonial Room located in the Ojibwa Senior Citizens Building, Baraga. Father John Longbucco officiated. The family greeted friends on Wednesday from 10 a.m. until the service at 1 p.m. in the Ceremonial Room. Following the service, a luncheon was held at the Senior Citizens Center.

Albert E. Makin and John Maki

ATTENTION KBIC MEMBERS:
The following Committees/Boards have vacant seats:
Election Board – Three (3) regular seats
Constitutional Committee – One (1) alternate seat

Please submit an application (located at the Tribal Center in Kim Kloepstein or Peggy Minton’s office) by 4 p.m. on January 20, 2012, to:
Warren C. Swartz, Jr. – President
16429 Bear Town Rd., Baraga, MI 49908

(9) Zhaangaswi
Sarah M. Beaver was recently hired as the Administrative Assistant for the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) Programs and Services. Sarah is a KBIC member, the daughter of Virginia (Ginny Ann) Jermac. Sarah lives in Baraga with her daughter, Vanessa Beaver, and prides herself as doing the best she can as a single parent. Sarah states, “In my free time, I enjoy beadwork, attending powwows, and hanging out with family and friends. I have had various jobs throughout my years on our reservation and I am appreciative of the opportunities that I have had.”

Sarah has worked for the past two months as a fill-in with the OVW department and states, “I enjoy working with this team of people and helping in our community in this way. I am super excited and eager to be given yet another opportunity to serve my people within the position of OVW Administrative Assistant. Chi miigwech!”

Like father, like son. Mathew J. Shalifoe, Jr., son of Mathew and Nancy Shalifoe, was sworn in by the Honorable Bradley T. Dakota as he began his appointment as KBIC’s newest Tribal Police Officer. Matt Jr., who has lived on the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community all of his life, resides in Baraga with his two sons, Logan (age 10) and Tyler (age 8). Matt Jr. states, “I have worked for the Tribe most of my life, with the last ten as a Security Guard at the Ojibwa Casino. I look forward to serving my community and filling the shoes of my dad, who was the first Chief of Police for the KBIC’s Tribal Police Department. Above (right) Matt Sr. places the badge he wore on his son immediately following his son’s oath of office.

Native American Congressional Internship: This ten-week (10) summer internship in Washington, D.C. is for Native American and Alaska Native students who wish to learn more about the federal government and issues affecting Indian Country. The internship is fully funded: the Foundation provides round-trip airfare, housing, per diem for food and incidentals, and a stipend at the close of the program. The application deadline is January 31, 2012.

The Udall Scholarship: This $5,000 scholarship is awarded to 80 undergraduate sophomores and juniors pursuing careers related to Tribal Public Policy, Native Health Care, or the Environment (you must be a Native American/Alaska Native to be eligible in the first two categories). Udall Scholars also get to attend the Udall Scholar Orientation and are immediately plugged into a growing and active alumni network. The application deadline is March 5, 2012. More information is available at http://www.udall.gov/ and feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

Events occurring throughout KBIC are welcome to be listed on the Calendar of Events. Contact newsletter@kbic.nsn.gov to list your events. Some events are more detailed FYI within the newsletter. For up-to-date event settings, visit www.ojibwa.com and click on calendar. You could also visit www.ojibwa.com, click on youth club, or contact 323-4643/Main Office at Youth Club, or 323-4644 for the facility attendants or the kitchen/craft rooms.

JANUARY 2012
Calendars Events
Jan 2: New Year’s holiday—Gov’t offices closed;
Jan 6: Constitutional Committee Meeting, 1 pm, Council Chambers;
Jan 7: Reg. Sat. Council Meeting, 9 am, Ojibwa Resort Conference Room;
Jan 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—Gov’t offices closed;
Jan 18: Veteran’s meeting 7 pm; — submitted by newsletter editor

16429 Beartown Road
Baraga, MI 49908
(across from the Ojibwa Community College)
Phone: 906-353-8161
Fax: 906-353-8169
E-mail: kbicevenstart@yahoo.com
Visit us on Facebook!

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E A D U T U L
Adult Education
ECE	Early Childhood Education
PACT	Parent and Child Time
PE	Parent Education

JANUARY 2012
ATTENTION: ALL TRIBAL COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN

Applications for Small Boat and Large Boat Commercial Fishing Licenses for the Year 2012-2013 Commercial Fishing Season are available at the License Department located in the KBIC Tribal Center. The new license year will begin: May 1, 2012. Applications must be returned to the Licensing/Motor Vehicle Office by: Friday, February 10, 2011. All applications for licenses will be reviewed and selected by the Tribal Council. The license fees are: $75.00 for Small Boat-On Reservation; $200.00 for Small Boat-Off Reservation; and $500.00 for Large Boat-Off Reservation. All tribal members who wish to apply must have completed the required U.S. Food and Drug Administration Hazard Analysis and Critical Point (HACCP) training and present a copy of the certificate with the application. A Boat Safety Fishing Vessel Examination with a certified official must be completed and that documentation must be provided. The application also requests fishing vessel information including the vessel name, number & length.

For: Boat Safety Inspections, contact the Tribal Police/Conservation Department at 353-6626 to make an appointment, or contact U.S. Coast Guard/Hancock at 482-1520.

Tobacco Free Day
Wednesday, November 30th

Congratulations to our drawing winners:
- Lynn Aho from the KBOCC; Robert, Cherwoneth, Donna Carriere, Stan Spruce, and Tammy Molianen from the Baraga Casino; Heather Chapman from the Attorney’s Office; Brenda Malmgren from Public Works; Robin Gauthier from Housekeeping; Rick Shalifoe III from DHHS; Debbie Monty, Shawn Seymour, and Jean Fredrickson from the Marquette Casino.

Seneca Promotions is looking for Promotional Models to represent the Seneca brand throughout the United States. Models will promote sales and profitability by providing exceptional customer service to store owners by scheduling and appearing onsite. Must be reliable, outgoing, energetic, individual who can bring some fun to these events as they promote and encourage sales of the Seneca Products.

Responsibilities:
- Hand out promotional items, demonstrate products, and converse with customers.
- Must maintain polished and poised appearance at all times while conducting promotions.
- Inform prospective purchasers about Seneca products, prices, and where to purchase.
- Be able to communicate in a team atmosphere and work independently.
- Report job completions to Supervisor and obtain information about future Promotions.
- Passion for sales and ability to communicate brand effectively with customers.
- Make sure the brand display is appropriate and that implementation complies accordingly to company standards.
- Follow all the procedures for preparing promotional items including set-up and take-down.
- Must be able to work all shifts including nights, weekends and holidays as necessary.

Skills:
- Beautiful outgoing personality and positive attitude.
- Previous customer service experience preferred.
- High School diploma or equivalent required.
- Must have a valid driver’s license.
- Must be willing to travel throughout the United States and possess a passport or will to do so.

All duties are to be performed within the guidelines of Seneca Promotions policies and procedures.

PICTURE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED Email: jobs@senecapromotions.com

To place an ad, submit an article, or relate information or ideas on possible articles contact: Lauri Denomie at (906) 201-0263, or e-mail newsletter@kbic-nsn.gov.

To be added to the mailing list or to correct your mailing address, contact the enrollment office at (906) 353-6623 ext. 4113.
Let The Good Times Roll!
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Blackjack • Roulette
Hold 'Em Poker
Open 24 hours!
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800-323-8045
906-353-6333
OjibwaCasino.com
888-560-9905
906-249-4200