**KBIC ELECTIONS HELD DECEMBER 12TH**

KBIC held their annual General Election on Saturday, December 12, 2009. 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. The Primary Elections held October 31, 2009, put the top four candidates from each district on the General Election ballot. Baraga District candidates were Jerry Lee Curtis (incumbent), Warren “Chris” Swartz, Jr. (incumbent), Debbie Parrish, and Donny Shanko. Sr. L’Anse District candidates were Susan J. LaFernier (incumbent), Jennifer Misegan (incumbent), Eddy Michael Edwards, and JoAnne Racette. Chief Judge position candidates on the ballot were: Bradley T. Dakota (incumbent) and Paul Smith. Preliminary counts were announced by the election workers, immediately following closing of the polls on Saturday, December 12, 2009. In the Baraga District, Jerry Lee Curtis received 229 votes, Warren “Chris” Swartz, Jr. received 273 votes, Debbie Parrish received 205 votes, and Donny Shanko. Sr. received 190 votes. Jerry Lee Curtis and Warren “Chris” Swartz, Jr. have secured a three year term in the Baraga District. In the L’Anse District, Susan J. LaFernier received 271 votes, Jennifer Misegan received 159 votes, Eddy Michael Edwards received 294 votes, and JoAnne Racette received 177 votes. Susan J. LaFernier and Eddy Michael Edwards have secured a three year seat in the L’Anse District. For the Chief Judge position, Bradley T. Dakota received 336 votes and Paul Smith received 135 votes. Bradley T. Dakota secured the three year term of Chief Judge for the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for his eighth consecutive term. Election results are on the agenda to be considered for certification by Tribal Council at the meeting scheduled for January 9, 2010. Following certification, the twelve seat council will make nominations and vote on their executive council.

— submitted by newsletter

**KBIC Holds Christmas Parties**

The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community held a number of Christmas Parties this year. The Baraga little kids’ party was held on December 12, at the Niwin Akeena Center. Santa and Mrs. Claus attended along with over 150 Tribal families. Pizza, Taco dip, veggie and fruit trays were served to all. The older children’s party was held later that same day where the teens enjoyed bingo and many won nice prizes. There was a good turnout for the Community Teen Dance held after their party.

The KBIC Youth Programs would like to thank everyone who helped out or brought goodies to the party. We couldn’t have made this year’s party a success without you.

The Ojibwa Senior Citizens held their Christmas Dinner on Friday, December 18. The seniors enjoyed a meal of Prime Rib, baked potato, veggies, salad, rolls and desserts. The seniors listened to carols by Kristy Clish. A group of musically inclined seniors also provided festive Christmas music. All seniors received gift cards.

— submitted by newsletter editor

[Image nanx nanx nanx nanx]

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- December 5, 2009, Tribal Council meeting
- KBIC General Election Results
- DDHS Superior Spirit Award Winner for December
- Even Start begins new program
- KBIC Christmas Parties
- Lancy wins snowshoes
- KBTNRE—January is Radon Action Month
- New Employees
- Aabinoojyens
- Deepest Sympathy

[Image nanx nanx nanx nanx]
The Tribal Council held their regularly scheduled Saturday Tribal Council meeting on December 5, 2009, at the Ojibwa Casino Resort in Nisswa, Minnesota. (Chris) Swartz, Jr., presided over the meeting with Susan LaFernier, Toni Minton, William E. Emery, Jennifer Misegan, Jerry Lee Curtis, Fred Dakota, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Gary F. Loonsfoot, Sr., Elizabeth (Chiz) Matthews, Elizabeth D. Mayo, and Isabelle Helene Welsh present. President Swartz shared numerous Thank You and For Your Information items addressed to Council. Reports were given for November 2009, by President Swartz (see page two), Vice President Susan LaFernier (see page three), Secretary Toni Minton (see page five), Treasurer Jennifer Misegan (see page four), and CEO Larry Denomie (see page eleven). Council passed Department Head Reports for October 2009.

Jennifer Misegan addressed Council under old business regarding the quote and the stamp design for the Tribe’s tobacco stamp. Motion by Toni Minton to approve the quote of $12,175 from Metro Corp. Revenue for the Tobacco Stamp, supported by William E. Emery, ten supported, one opposed (M. LaFernier), 0 abstained, motion carried.

President Swartz stated, “This is an exercise of sovereignty, and we are going to regulate that trade.” Councilman Dakota further explained, “It is the Tribe’s stamp that will go on the bottom of the cigarette packs sold on this reservation.”

Frederick Dakota requested an additional $1,280 on behalf of the KBIC Ojibwa Nation for the City of Brainerd’s approved $12,175 for an earlier date for $5,000 for their Christmas party, (dinner, gifts for those in attendance and home bound). They need a total of $6,280.

Motion by Jerry Lee Curtis to approve the donation of $1,280 for the Ojibwa Community College Christmas Party, supported by Jennifer Misegan, eleven supported, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, motion carried.

Debbie Parrish addressed Council in her reports of new business regarding Ojibwa Community College grant assistance. An MOA addendum was presented for grant assistance to relieve the need of coming back to Council every time the grant assistance was needed. Motion by Gary Loonsfoot, Sr., to approve the MOA addendum between the Community and the College, supported by Jerry Lee Curtis, eleven supported, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, motion carried.

Mrs. Parrish gave updates of happenings at OCC. A survey was conducted resulting with computer training being requested. OCC will begin this month with basic keyboarding and follow that up with word processing. In January, they will begin with basic Excel, and then advanced Excel. The college plans on offering Access Database, Publisher, and PowerPoint throughout the year. Research and Report Writing, Writing in the Work Place, and Public Speaking were also requested.

Mr. Swartz conducted the mechanics of the approved mine by Orvana Minerals. Charles Brumleve discussed the mechanics of the proposed mine and its potential effects on the environment. Cynthia Stiles presented information on historic preservation responsibilities and identifying important resources in the mine area. Orvana Minerals is a low-cost gold producer. Orvana owns and operates the Don Mario Mine in Bolivia. Additional information is available at their website.

The United Tribes of Michigan met on November 12, in Manistee, MI. Prior to the meeting, the Executive Officers met and reorganized. Larry Romanelli was elected to serve as President of the organization for the next year. He will be taking the position over from Chief Fred Cantu of the Saginaw Chippewa Indians. Also elected at the annual meeting were: Chairperson Laura Spurr of the Nottawasaga Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians; Kevin McKeever of the Osceola Band of Potawatomi Indians; and Susan LaFernier, on behalf of Larry Denomie, requested funeral expenses for a family member, William R. LaFernier, who recently passed on. Mr. LaFernier had been away from this Community for many years, but his roots are from the Keewenaw Bay Indian Community. The funeral bill includes returning his remains to the Community.

Motion by Isabelle Welsh to approve the amount of $1,520 to assist the family for the funeral expenses of William R. LaFernier to be paid out of the funeral expense fund, supported by Frederick Dakota, eleven supported, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, motion carried.

Jennifer Misegan on behalf of Lisa Denomie, Pre-primary, for a total $550. Motion by Jennifer Misegan to donate $550 for Christmas gifts for the children at the Preprimary Program, supported by Susan LaFernier, eleven supported, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, motion carried.

Thank You

Activities Reported by the President, Warren (Chris) Swartz, Jr., for the month of November.

On Thursday, November 5, 2009, President Obama hosted the White House Tribal Nations Conference. As part of President Obama’s outreach to the American people, this conference provided leaders from the 564 federally recognized tribes the opportunity to interact directly with the President and representatives from the highest levels of his Administration. Congress has been invited to send one representative to the conference. The President delivered opening and closing remarks and participated in an interactive discussion with tribal leaders. Other interactive discussions in the areas of economic development and natural resources; public safety and housing; and education, health and labor, were led by representatives from the highest levels of the Administration.

On behalf of the Community, I congratulate Chairwoman Skibine for assuming the important position of acting chairman for the National Indian Gaming Commission. I informed him of a number of issues that should be brought to his attention. We believe that NIGC, as a commission within the Department of Interior, should follow the administrative rules and executive orders that are followed by federal agencies including the Department of Interior.

Secondly, because NIGC has refused to comply with the normal rules for federal agencies, some of its regulatory rulemaking processes have been defective. For example, the facility licensing rules were promulgated with only a 45 day comment period and should be withdrawn, revised to be consistent with the IGRA, and re-issued for future results with Indian Tribes.

Thirdly, the NIGC should use Indian preference in hiring in accordance with the Indian Reorganization Act. The NIGC is a federal agency serving Indian country and intended to promote Tribal self-governance and strong Tribal governments. Two of its three commissioners must be Indian, so NIGC should use Indian preference in hiring and employment consistent with the IGRA and the IRA.

Finally, given the fact that Congress amended the IGRA in 2006, to increase NIGC fees and provide for training and technical assistance, it is appropriate to review NIGC’s mission. The NIGC should consult with Indian tribes concerning its mission of promoting Tribal economic development, economic self-sufficiency, strong Tribal governments, and safeguarding Indian gaming as a means of generating essential Tribal government revenue.

I participated in a celebration at the Niwin Akeaa Center to celebrate the recent accreditation of candidates by status for initial accreditation. The event was well attended, and everyone at the College pitched in to make this celebration a success.

I attended a feast hosted by the LVD to give back with Pre-primary, for a total $550. Motion by Jennifer Misegan to donate $550 for Christmas gifts for the children at the Preprimary Program, supported by Susan LaFernier, eleven supported, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren (Chris) Swartz, Jr., President

PRESIDENT’S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2009.

In a letter to the President, the LVD Chairman expressed their thanks for the amount of money from CITGO, and we used the donation to help low income people pay their heating bills during the winter months.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren (Chris) Swartz, Jr., President

~ submitted by newsletter editor
Activities Reported by the Vice President, Susan LaFernier, for the month of November 2009.

We all need to commit to do our part to make a difference to protect our environment and change the world. I hope that you have been learning how to save and conserve energy to protect our Earth if you can be able. I have emphasized all year that each month is “Energy Awareness Month,” and our theme for the year was “Commit to Conserve.” There are simple, everyday conservation measures we can all easily commit to. There are also everyday measures we can do to reduce air pollution, conserve water, reduce/reuse/ recycle/rebuy, buy local, eat in season and generally. Once again, October was Energy Awareness Month! This year’s theme, “A Sustainable Energy Future— Putting All the Pieces Together” encourages you to see yourself as a piece of a large puzzle of shaping our energy future and moving our nation toward energy independence. All of this information is available on the EPA.gov and energy.gov websites.

Brenda Brunk is the DHHS Superior Spirit Award Winner for December. Brenda Brunk is the DHHS Superior Spirit Award Winner for December.

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Tribal Council approved the following do-
nations for the month of November:

• Baraga County Regional Interagency
  Consumer Committee, Christmas party—
  $1,000.
• Bart Stupak, re-election campaign—
  $1,000.
• American Cancer Society, annual match
  campaign—$5,000.
• Eagles Club/Ladies Auxiliary, Christmas
  donations for distribution through FIA and
  shelter home—$500.
• Tribal Social Services, Christmas gifts for
  children in foster care—$2,000.

This month, the second of two yearly 2% dis-
tributions were made to local units of gov-
ernment per our 1993 consent judgment.

The amount distributed for our Baraga Ca-
sin County was $173,313.65. The calculation is
based on the net win of class III gaming or
slot machines. The breakdown is as follows:

Baraga County:
- Baraga Area Schools—$42,268.26
- Baraga Township—$14,143.14
- Bay Ambulance—$25,000.00
- Village of Baraga—$10,872.61
- L’Anse Area Schools—$21,096.13
- L’Anse Township—$2,377.93
- Village of L’Anse—$1,740.77

Marquette County:
- Charter Twp of Chocolay—$35,000.00
- Fire Department—$26,145.65
- Marquette County—$10,000.00
- U.P.S.E.T.—$10,000.00
- Aging Services—$7,500.00
- Health Dept.—$7,500.00
- Gwinn Area Schools—$3,000.00
- Title VII Nat. Am. Educ.—$3,000.00
- City of Marquette
  - NMU Center for Native
    - NMU Native Am. Studies—$8,000.00
  - NMU Native Am. Student Assoc.—$9,200.00
  - SuperlIORdor Soccer Assoc.—$5,000.00
  - U.P. Children’s Museum—$10,000.00
  - Women’s Center—$25,000.00
  - Marquette. County Museum—$4,000.00

Marquette Area Public School
- Title VII Nat. Am. Educ.—$6,218.00
- Forsyth Township—$5,000.00
- Sands Twp. Fire Dept.—$11,750.00

Our 8% payments were also made this month.

There are also 397 people employed in our
restaurants. All of these employees receive sick
leave paid out. We also reimbursed parents
$60,089 for expenses for their chil-
dren, paid out $70,000 to our college students
in excess of $450,000 in health care...and none
of these amounts include any of the grants
money that is also maintained and operated
here. Of course this isn't an inclusive list.

There are still many other programs.

At the end of November, we had 276 em-
ployees in the government (including the Pines
and Radio Station). 30 more than three years
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SECRETARY’S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2009.

In November 2009, the Tribal Council had one Regular Tribal Council Meeting and five Special Tribal Meetings. The Regular Council Meeting was held on November 7, 2009, and is covered in the December 2009 Tribal Newsletter.

At the council meeting held November 5, 2009, following actions were taken:

- Approved the addendum to the Land Use Planning Consultant Contract with UP Engineers;
- Approved Resolution KB1717-2009 Sylvia Murphy Allotted Interest Acquisition;
- Approved the purchase of a 2006 Silverado in the amount of $19,000.00 from Kisel’s to be leased to the Natural Resources Department;
- Certified the October 31, 2009, Primary Election results;
- Approved the purchase of a server for the Radio Station;
- Approved the Professional Services Agreement with Ron Gnadinger for maintenance and repair services for the radio station;
- Approved a donation of up to $2,365 for William Chosa for a furnace pending funding from LiHeap and Ojibwa Housing (Community Assistance Programs were able to assist);
- Agreed to move forward with two Childcare Centers (one in L’Anse and one in Baraga) and to pursue subcontracting with ITC;
- Awarded the Contract for the Donald A. LaPointe Health & Education Facility Renovation and Expansion to Ojibwa Builders in the amount of $1,248,521.

At the council meeting held November 6, 2009, following actions were taken:

- Approved a donation of $250 for the Four Thunders Drum Group for their trip to Gwinn;
- Approved Resolution KB1694-2009 Timber Salvage Harvest on Pinery Road;
- Approved the Christmas Gift Check Guide for all Tribal Employees;
- Approved the purchase of eight gas pumps with TV’s for the Pines in the amount of $220,663.88;
- Approved an addition to the Personnel Policies for a Proclaimed Illness for all Tribal Employees;
- Approved the License Renewal of the Pre-Primary Education Program;
- Approved October donations;
- Agreed to re-evaluate Substance Abuse Request #002-09 once treatment and aftercare are complete;
- Agreed to move forward with obtaining bids and clearing property in L’Anse for the new gas station.

At the council meeting held November 12, 2009, following actions were taken:

- Agreed Council will receive monthly financials from all entities;
- Continued review of the Comprehensive Plan;
- Agreed to hold the Tribal Government Christmas Party at the Big Bucks Bingo Hall;
- Approved the bid and contract in the amount of $36,800 of MD Contracting for installation of new hydrants and replacement of existing hydrants in Zeba and Baraga;
- Approved the Services Agreement with Dale Schmeisser for WIC;
- Donated $300 in supplies for the Mary Geroux benefit dinner;
- Required the Ojibwa Builders to supply a letter of credit for the Health Center Renovation;
- Held the 2nd Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2009-03 – Amendment to Ordinance 2004-001 KBIC Hunting, Fishing, Trapping, and Gathering Code.

GEROUX’S KWIK LUBE HOLDS GRAND OPENING

Richard Gerard held a grand opening for his new Kwik Lube business on Friday, December 11. Kwik Lube, located on M38 in Baraga, offers a quick way to get an oil change in the ten-minute drive through business. Gerard offers a basic service including up to five quarts of oil and a filter change. Full service includes oil, filter, lube, a 21-point vehicle inspection and topping off of fluids. A premium service option is available with bottled oil. Gerard also indicated that synthetic oil and a diesel service is available at the Kwik Lube.

Kwik Lube, located on M38, is open Monday-Friday 10 am—6 pm; Saturday 10 am—3 pm, and no appointments are necessary.

Geroux plans on expanding his business to include auto customization, detailing, audio systems and special order items (lift kits and oversized tires). Questions can be directed to 353-KARS.

-- submitted by newsletter editor

Quality Air Care
Residential Air Duct Cleaning

Hepa Filtered
Video Camera Equipped

906-250-4566

-- submitted by Chris Gerard.

T.E.A.M. COMPLETED IN LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Teaching Educating And Mentoring (T.E.A.M.) Law Enforcement School Liaison Program has been completed in the Baraga and L’Anse Area Schools. T.E.A.M., which is one of the programs that has been implemented as part of the KBIC Weed & Seed Initiative, was presented to approximately 190 fourth and fifth grade students in Baraga and L’Anse. T.E.A.M. is a proactive effort to make schools and communities safer by promoting an understanding of social rules, the consequences of unlawful behavior, and students’ responsibilities as good citizens.

Weed & Seed Director Chris Gerard states, “One of the most important goals of the Weed & Seed Initiative is to develop positive, working relationships with community stakeholders. When researching programs to implement as part of the KBIC initiative, we try to focus on programs that will have the greatest impact on a large part of our community. To be able to implement a program that will have positively impacted 190 fourth and fifth graders is a great feeling for all of us involved. We’re extremely happy to have developed a positive relationship with our area school districts and we plan to continue this program in the future. When you develop a positive relationship with a school district, it allows that connection between administrators, staff, students and parents; all of these individuals are important pieces of our communities.”

The elementary T.E.A.M. curriculum is a seven week program that teaches basic safety rules such as bicycle and pedestrian safety, the proper use of 911, fire and gun prevention, and being safe on the internet. The program was taught by Officer Tyler Larson of the Keweenaw Bay Tribal Police Department. Larson attended a week long T.E.A.M. officer training at the Michigan State Police Academy and was certified in August to teach personal safety lessons in schools. Photo compliments of Barry Drue, L’Anse, Sentinel.

-- submitted by Chris Gerard.

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KBIC Christmas parties continue.

The Marquette parties began with a Senior Christmas Dinner held on Friday, December 18, at the Marquette Ojibwa Community Center. Seniors enjoyed a dinner of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes with gravy, and a variety of desserts. Marian Abbot made the flower arrangements for the tables which were given away during the drawings. Pete Shaliose donated a tin map he created for the drawings.

The Teenage Dance was held on Saturday, December 19, at the Marquette Ojibwa Community Center. Music was provided by a rental from Jim’s Music. Pizza was served, and the teens each received a gift card. A Chi Migwatch to Officer Tony for attending and keeping the dance safe.

The youth party was held on Sunday, December 20, at the U.P. Children’s Museum. The children visited with Santa, received gifts and enjoyed a carriage ride provided by Nathanial Luttenton.

Carrie Ashbrooke states, ‘When planning these parties it takes people and time. Your comments have been well received and the Community is urged to participate in planning next year’s parties. Watch the newsletter next October and November for the 2010 Christmas party planning and development dates.’

KBIC GOV’T CHRISTMAS PARTY

KBIC held their annual government employee Christmas Party on Saturday, December 5, 2009, at the Big Bucks Bingo. Employees enjoyed a delicious dinner cooked and presented by Migizi Wadiswan (Eagle’s Nest) Restaurant. The evening began at 5 p.m. with a social hour and dinner was served at 6 p.m. ‘The Tree of Christmas Fortune Trivia Giveaway’ game was held after dinner. All employees had an even chance of winning VISA cards ranging from $75-$500, or a consolation gift card from the Pines Convenience Center. Julie Raby won the Packer tickets. All employees received a $50 Pines gift card and $25 Pat’s Foods card for this year’s Christmas bonus. The event was planned by the Christmas Party Task Force. Everybody enjoyed the festive evening.

New Schedule/Ojibwe Language teachings

Apprentice teachings:
JoAnne Racette—TBA;
Lisa Denomie—10am daily at Pre-primary/daycare building;
Terri Denomie—2 pm Fridays at EHS/HS building in Zeba;
Joe Dowd—6 pm Tuesdays at his residence in Zeba (temporary);
Liz Julio—3:30 pm Tuesdays at Ojibwa Community College;
Dale Shaliose—6 pm Mondays at OHA Senior’s Complex (Commons area)

Wednesday night Language Table:
Chipewa Room #1, Ojibwa Motel 7 pm.
The public is welcome to attend any of these teachings. Lisa and Terri’s teachings occur with the children of their respective programs.

Attention:
ALL TRIBAL COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN

Applications for Small Boat and Large Boat Commercial Fishing Licenses for the Year 2010-2011 Commercial Fishing Season are available at the KBIC License Department located in the KBIC Tribal Center. The new license year will begin: May 1, 2010. Applications must be returned to the Licensing/Motor Vehicle Office by: Friday, February 12, 2010. 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 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 with the application. The application also requests fishing vessel information including the vessel name, number & length.

For Boat Safety Inspections contact:
Officer Tim Tilson/KBIC Conservation 353-6626
Officer Dale Goodreau/KBIC Conservation 353-6626
U.S. Coast Guard/Hancock 482-1520
The language page was designed from reference of “A Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe” by John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm, and from the Freeland Ojibwe/English on-line dictionary. - Designed by newsletter editor

For all your building supplies...
Eating Green: Beyond Spinach

What does it mean to eat green, and why is it important? Industrial agriculture relies heavily on synthetic chemical fertilizers and fertilizers, the use of fossil fuels, and concentrated operations such as feedlots, factory farms, and crop monoculture. These practices place a burden on the environment and human health. As consumers we have the choice of more sustainable, green options.

Reduce Meat Consumption

Reducing the consumption of meat produces the greatest benefit to both human health and the environment. Meat is the most resource intensive food requiring large amounts of water, grain, land, and chemical inputs including hormones, pesticides, fertilizers, and antibiotics. Moreover, animal based diets that are high in saturated fat and protein are linked to heart disease, colon, breast, and prostate cancer; and type II diabetes. David Pimentel, Professor of Ecology in Cornell University’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, found some interesting facts:

- Each year an estimated 41 million tons of plant protein is fed to U.S. livestock to produce an estimated seven million tons of animal protein for human consumption.
- On average, animal protein production in the U.S. requires 28 kilocalories (kcal) for every kcal of protein produced for human consumption. Beef and lamb are the most costly, in terms of fossil fuel energy input to produce output at 51:1 and 50:1, respectively. Turkey and chicken meat production are the most efficient (13:1 and 4:1, respectively). Grain production, on average, requires 3.3 kcal of fossil fuel for every kcal of protein produced.
- U.S. agriculture accounts for 87 percent of all the fresh water consumed each year. Every kilogram of beef produced takes 100,000 liters of water. Some 900 liters of water go into producing a kilogram of wheat. Potatoes are even less “thirsty,” at 500 liters per kilogram.
- More than 12 percent of the total municipal solid waste generated in American households was food scraps and less than three percent was recovered. The rest was thrown away and disposed in landfills or combusted in incinerators. Composting leftovers will ease the burden on the landfill, and give you a great organic fertilizer for healthy garden soil.

Buy Local

Buying or harvesting seasonal, local food reduces the amount of energy required for food production because of the closer distance from farm to plate. According to the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, food, on average, travels 1,500 miles to get to your local grocery store. Buying local also supports the local economy and puts more money in the farmers’ pocket by not having to spend so much on packing, processing, refrigeration, marketing, and shipping. Better yet try to grow your own garden (organically of course) to bring the food even closer to home.

Other Ideas

Look for unpackaged or minimally packaged foods, instead of buying foods that come in excessive packaging (most of which is petroleum-based plastics). Experiment with bringing your own containers and buying in bulk, or pick brands that use reusable plastic packaging. And of course, try and recycle or re-use any packaging you end up with.

Buy less, waste less. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, food leftovers or “food waste,” makes up about one third of the waste stream by weight in the United States. Over 12 percent of the total municipal solid waste generated in American households was food scraps and less than three percent was recovered. The rest was thrown away and disposed in landfills or combusted in incinerators. Composting leftovers will ease the burden on the landfill, and give you a great organic fertilizer for healthy garden soil.

If you have any questions or would like more information, contact the Natural Resources Department at 524-5757.

~ submitted by Katherine Kruse
2004, we received funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Environmental Management Program to abandon unused Tribal member wells on the L’Anse Reservation. To date we have abandoned 17 wells that were no longer in use. Unused wells pose a risk to drinking water sources by providing a potential pathway for contaminants to be released directly to groundwater. Abandoning unused wells by sealing them with cement or bentonite eliminates this potential risk and helps ensure groundwater aquifers are protected.

Well abandonment is just one of the many ways your Natural Resource Department is working to protect human health and environmental quality on the Reservation. If you have knowledge of an abandoned well or have any questions, please contact Miah Potecky, Water Resources Specialist, KBNRD at 524-5757 ext. 15 or mpoteksky@kbic-nsn.gov.

~ submitted by Miah Potecky

COLLEGE PREP MEDICINE

High school students from across Michigan visited Northern Michigan University in Marquette recently for the College Prep Medicine Wheel Academy. The academy was the brainchild of two women in the NMU Center for Native American Studies: faculty member, Adriana Greci Green and director, April Lindala.

They realized there were limited opportunities in the region to obtain an in-depth campus experience (unlike middle school students who attend a summer leadership program at NMU). They also recognized that there was little Native American representation in the health sciences, particularly nursing.

The two-year program was funded by the NMU Wildcat Innovation Fund and the NMU College of Arts and Sciences. Several partners from Marquette General Health System, along with faculty and students from the university’s School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences Department, contributed to the success of the program.

“We have been hearing very positive and enthusiastic feedback from the youth who visited with us and their chaperones, as well as from the faculty who participated,” said Greci Green. “We are grateful to the NMU students who ran the workshops, mentored these high school students, and shared their own personal passions about their chosen fields. It was engaging, informational, and fun. I don’t think the youth were ever bored or disinterested; they are interested in the health field, only because there aren’t many opportunities to go and visit inside a hospital and to meet the people who work there.”

When asked if the program changed their viewpoints about the health field, Manistique junior Felicia Reid wrote, “I learned more about what I would like to work in medical field and how competitive it is.” One student commented in the anonymous survey that the best part of the program was being at the Center for Native American Studies fire site and learning about Anishinaabe culture.

The next session of the College Prep Medicine Wheel Academy will take place in mid-May of 2010. Anyone interested in learning more should call the NMU Center for Native American Studies at 906-227-1397.

~ submitted by April Lindala

The Ojibwa Community Library is excited about the newest addition to the library. PII, patron initiated interlibrary loan, is now available for those patrons who have internet at home. Visit the library to learn how to use this service. Also ask about MeL, Michigan electronic library, this gives you access to journals, magazines, newspapers, and books on nearly every topic imaginable. A great resource for everyone.

~ Mary Bergerson, Library Director

L’Anse Reservation Well Abandonments Update

We are pleased to report that since our last update in February, we have abandoned 17 wells in the region. This is the result of our ongoing effort to protect human health and environmental quality on the Reservation.

According to April Lindala, Natural Resource Specialist, “These wells were abandoned as part of a two-year program funded by the NMU Wildcat Innovation Fund and the NMU College of Arts and Sciences. The program was designed to provide high school students with an in-depth campus experience and to introduce them to the health sciences.

“We have been hearing very positive and enthusiastic feedback from the youth who visited with us and their chaperones, as well as from the faculty who participated,” said Lindala. “We are grateful to the NMU students who ran the workshops, mentored these high school students, and shared their own personal passions about their chosen fields. It was engaging, informational, and fun. I don’t think the youth were ever bored or disinterested; they are interested in the health field, only because there aren’t many opportunities to go and visit inside a hospital and to meet the people who work there.”

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~ submitted by April Lindala

(9) Zhaangaswi
Mission: To provide affordable and attractive housing opportunities in a safe and healthy environment to qualifying tribal members of the Keweena Bay Indian Community, encourage self-improvement of the community's low income families, and provide employment opportunities.

Programs and Services provided by the KBOWA:

- Low income rental homes and apartments
  1. 158 Homes/apartments in Baraga
  2. 50 Homes in Zeba
  3. 40 Homes in Marquette/Harvey;
- Supportive housing/transitional housing to help address family issues;
- New, custom built, super-insulated homes for homeownership on Bear Town Road;
- Home buyer training to prepare members for home ownership;
- Financial literacy training to improve members' financial skills;
- Home maintenance training to improve members' ability to maintain homes;
- Home rehabilitation program to improve the condition of member-owned homes;
- Home emergency assistance program to remedy negative conditions in the home;
- Individual development account program - a 4:1 matched savings program for member goals that include:

1. Down payment assistance for home purchase;
2. College tuition and expenses for residents;
3. Business expansion/start-up expenses;

- Low cost home improvement loan program for qualifying Tribal members;
- Low cost tax preparation program for residents and Tribal members;
- Surplus FEMA mobile home program for Tribal members;
- Stipend program covering mileage and child care expenses for residents attending college;
- Affordable curbside trash service for residents and members;
- Prescription subsidy program to reimburse Tribal elders and disabled household for prescriptions purchased;
- Ojibwa Building Supply Do It Best - providing Tribal employment, quality affordable building supplies and profits for housing programs;
- Ojibwa Builders Construction Company - providing Tribal employment, quality affordable construction, and profits for housing programs;
- Market rate rentals - five rental properties in Baraga and one in Negawe - providing profits for housing programs;
- Ojibwa BP, Car Wash and Laundry - providing Tribal employment, superior products and service, and profits for housing programs.

Newsletter photo

Ambre Franti has been hired as an Information Technology Support Technician. Amber graduated from Michigan Tech in 2006, with a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics/Statistics. Amber states, "I recently worked at Terex Handlers in the materials department, performing IT support on the side from regular duties. I was born and raised in Baraga County, and I am excited that I could find a job in the area with the tough economy, so I could raise my three-year-old son, Logan, and we currently reside in Covington. I enjoy playing softball, hanging out with family and friends, camping, and recently joined the bowling league."

KBND Assistance from Ottawa Sportsman’s Club

Members of the Ottawa Sportsman’s Club spent two days assisting KBND in marking >30,000 lake trout and brook trout for stocking into local streams. The size of fish ranged from four inches to eleven inch adult brook trout. As part of a typical hatchery operation protocol, fish that are to be introduced into the wild from a hatchery should be marked in a way that makes them identifiable as hatchery origin. In this case, 30,000 fish needed to have two of their fins "clipped" leaving a permanent mark for later survival research purposes. This is time consuming work, and we appreciate the efforts of the Ottawa Sportsman’s Club! Thanks! (Migwetch!)

Assisting were: Tim Bennett, Harn and Otto Bennink, Josh Dufek, Bill Lahtti, Anthony LaPlante, Sr., Arnie Putula, Mike Roth, Harlan Tollefson, and Russ Weisinger.

Good day! My name is Timothy A.E. Fillmore, most call me Tim. First of all, I would like to thank the KBIC for inviting me to work and be a part of their community as a member of Tribal Social Services Department. As the Foster Care Title IV-E Project Director, I will be assisting the KBIC in implementing a strong and supportive program for the families and youth of the KBIC.

A little about myself, I'm a father of three awesome kids; Jack (7), Eileen Dawn (4) and awesome kids; Jack (7), Eileen Dawn (4) and Amy Ziombkowski-Fillmore. My life revolves around those kids. I am excited that I could find a job in the area with the tough economy, so I could raise my three-year-old son, Logan, and we currently reside in Covington. I enjoy playing softball, hanging out with family and friends, camping, and recently joined the bowling league.

(10) Midaaswi

Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Housing Authority

website: www.kboha.com

~ article and pictures submitted by Evelyn Ravindran

Waste Management services provided by the Ojibwa Housing Authority will be separated between Wednesdays and Thursdays starting in 2010. Baraga housing residents and those located on Mission 41 will receive pick-up on Thursdays. All other Baraga households and La'Anse residents will continue Wednesday services. Contact OHA at 355-7117, ext 101, with any questions. Happy Holidays!
CEO’S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2009.

Activities reported by the CEO Larry Denomie for the month of November 2009.

Last month I reported on a grant opportunity for the Tribes Wellness Program. Unfortunately, there wasn’t enough time to complete the grant application, and we conceded to have the Inter-Tribal Nutrition Program on our half. If it is funded, there may be a possibility that KBIC will have a wellness coordinator funded. The award notices are expected in early 2010.

In October of this year, I attended the two language programs the Tribe offers which are coordinated by Gary Loonsfoot, Jr. I was very impressed with what is taking place through these programs and the tribe’s commitment to ensuring our community stays strong. I encourage everyone to stop by and see for themselves the outstanding progress that is taking place.

The first program I visited was the instruction of Earl Ochtingwangan. The nearly three hour class is held every Thursday at the Tribe’s Cultural Center located adjacent to the campground. The six apprentices and Earl are to be commended for their efforts and dedication to the program. It was clearly evident that progress is being made and acquisition of our language is occurring. The six apprentices – Lisa Denomie, Joe Dowd, Liz Julia, Teri Denomie, Dale Shaltoke and JoAnne Racette are all committed and are making a difference in the revitalization of our language.

The second program I visited was the Bay Mills Pane Immersion Program. That program is also showing success and is also conducted at the Cultural Center. Their classes take place one weekend per month totaling 24 hours and there are five sessions per semester. While partaking in the class, I was able to personally identify students who have been in the program longer that others such as Peggy Minton, Bev Lussier, Toni Minton, Peggy Dunn and others I didn’t know. The instructors, Barbara Nolan and Rose Trudeau did an outstanding job with the nearly 20 students who were in attendance in their native language skits. Again, all of the students taking part in the program are to be commended for their part in revitalizing the language.

Both programs are very thankful for the Tribal Council’s support of their programs and the near future ofKBIC is looking very positive with the participation of the Board of Directors, President Parrish and all of the staff and faculty who worked very hard to reach their goal.

During the month of November meetings were held to further design and plan the Community Solid Waste Transfer Station. Grant funds through the Indian Health Service totaling $500,000 will be used to construct the facility in the Tribes Industrial Park. A business plan is being developed to operate the facility. Once operational, the business will create two to three new jobs.

On November 23 and 24, I participated in a comprehensive project development and capacity building session for the Supportive Housing program for the Tribe. The opportunity was planned and organized by Vicki Dom- pier of the Ojibwa Housing Authority. Two presenters in this session involved individuals who have developed Supportive Housing led the full and half day ses- sions. The sessions took the group of KBIC and Ojibwa Housing Authority staff through a planning process which will aid us in formally putting together a plan. A small team of staff from both entities has been formed to further work on the project and we will be reporting to Council in the coming months.

The annual Christmas Gift Check distribu- tion for Baraga and Marquette Counties took place on the 24th and 25th respectfully. The distribution totaled approximately $800,000 which is going directly back into the local economies of surrounding communities through purchases being made by our mem- bers. During the distribution we were able to acquire additional information through a short survey for the Supportive Housing Project, collect birthdays, anniversaries and memorials for a Tribal Community Calendar, complete sub- scriptions for the Tribe’s monthly newsletter, and sign children up for the annual youth Christmas Parties. We are hoping that none of the members who participated felt bombarded with the phone call. The information gathered will be very useful, and we are very thankful for their time – we do apologize if any- one was inconvenienced.

I want to thank the statistics relating to jobs created by the Tribe in this month’s report. Over the past three years, the Ke- weenaw Bay Indian Community, through its enterprises, governmental operations and chartered entities, has created over 100 new jobs. That total doesn’t include the many jobs created or sustained through many projects funded by the Tribe through Tribal and grant funds. The Tribe has been and continues to be an integral part of revitalizing the local and regional econ- omy. The upcoming projects and business op- portunities will continue to help in our work toward creating and sustaining needed jobs.

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

Migwetch,
Larry J. Denomie III, CEO

NOTICE: To all Tribal Seniors 55-years of age and over, and permanently physically hand- capped persons:

SNOW PLOWING REQUIREMENTS

1. Keweenaw Bay Tribal member;
2. Head of household;
3. Residence on reservation (Baraga Co.);
4. Address and phone number;
5. Proof of age and/or PERMANENT physical disability;
6. Sign up at the front desk at the Tribal Center with proof of each item listed above or mail infor- mation to: Tribal Maintenance Department, 16429 Bear Town Road, Baraga, MI 49908.

Are you missing your Gikendaam Chwiilikwemagam in the mail?

• You may still request being added to the updated mailing list by contacting the Enrollment Office at 906-353-6623, ext. 4113, or by e-mail to one of the following - dsane@kbic- nsn.gov, Jennifer@kbic-nsn.gov, or Jeanne@kbic-nsn.gov and state that you wish to con- tinue to receive the Tribal newsletter by mail, please spell your name and give your mailing address.
• Or drop a note to: KBIC Newsletter Mailing List, Attn: Enrollment Office, 16429 Bear Town Road, Baraga, MI 49908.

(11) Ashi bezigh
January 2010 Calendars Events

Jan. 1 — Tribal Gov’t offices closed, New Years Day
Jan. 9 — Regular Saturday Council Meeting, 10 a.m.
Jan. 18 — Tribal Gov’t offices closed, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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 listings, visit www.ojiba.com and click on calendar. For Youth events, see www.ojiba.com, click on youth club, or contact 353-4643/Main Office at Youth Club, or 353-4644 for the facility attendants or the Kitchen/craft rooms.

W.H.I.P.P. continued:

for the times).
Remember that the Walk & Talk Program is in progress until April. The OCC gym is available for walking from 10:30 am—1:30 pm each day with prizes every ten times you walk. Contact Heather or Kathy at the Donald A. LaPointe Health & Human Services for more information.

Also January is National Blood Donor Month. Blood is traditionally in short supply during the winter months due to the holidays, travel schedules, inclement weather and illness. Every day in our country, approximately 39,000 units of blood are required in hospitals and emergency treatment facilities for patients with cancer and other diseases, for organ transplant recipients, and to help save the lives of accident victims. Be watching for the next blood donor drive in our community and we encourage you to donate. Thank you to all who donate throughout the year, every year to save lives.

A very Happy, Healthy, New Year to all!

— submitted by Susan LaFernier

(12) Ashi Niizh