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Community Discusses Proposed Banishment Code

When the Tribe banished 55 people in August, a whirlwind of concern and confusion enveloped the community. Many people were not sure that Tribal government had the legal authority to take such action. Although the Tribe did make an official announcement, many in the community were unclear on what process was used to determine who would be banished.

Having declared a state of emergency in April, the Tribal Council has held steadfast in their opposition to illegal drugs and criminal activity on the Reservation. The availability of synthetic marijuana and other new wave synthetic drugs has created a disturbing epidemic, especially among children and young adults. Many people who have used synthetic marijuana reported adverse reactions including blackouts, violent outbursts directed at friends and family members, cardiac arrest and periods of psychosis.

The result of the epidemic has been loss of life, the shattered lives of the children and families left behind, and a great strain on the Tribe's resources.



The health care community has reported large spikes in the number of emergency calls directly related to the use of these drugs. An increase in domestic violence calls has created a burden on Tribal police, who are handling almost double the case load compared to surrounding departments. Most importantly is the fact the Tribe has lost nearly a dozen people over the past two years to prescription drug overdose and alcohol related deaths.

After working with Tribal police and other law enforcement agencies, the Tribal Council chose to take the action of banishing individuals who were directly tied to drugs, gangs and criminal activity. "The decision wasn't taken lightly. We had some very heartfelt discussions about this issue. When you see grown men shedding tears, you know it's serious. When is enough enough?" said Council Member Brooks Big John. Noting that banishment wasn't necessarily something the Council had planned to do, Big John said the Tribe is obligated to protect the Membership and lands. "How many more ambulance calls? How many more break-ins? How many more people do we

have to lose before we say no more?" asked Big John.

Much debate has ensued in the community as to whether banishment is the answer. While none of the 55 individuals were Members, the Tribe is considering an "exclusion-removal" code that would include Members. Attorneys say the term "banishment" isn't really the best word to describe the action. "Exclusion is probably the better choice when describing what the Tribe is actually doing," said attorney Ken Akini at a Tribal Council meeting in late September. At the same council meeting, Council Member Butch St. Germaine introduced a motion to let the Membership decide if banishment should apply to Tribal Members. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously, and directed the Tribe's legal counsel to draft a proposed banishment code to present to the Membership.

Being a traditional and accepted form of punishment among many Indian Nations, banishment is addressed in the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Constitution under Article VI, Section 1, Items j and n "Powers and Duties of the Council," and states "To exclude from the

restricted lands of the Reservation persons not legally entitled to reside thereon, under ordinances which shall be subject to review of the Secretary of Interior" and "to promulgate and enforce ordinances which are intended to safeguard and promote the peace, safety, morals and general welfare of the Tribe by regulating the conduct of trade and the use and disposition of property upon the Reservation, providing that any ordinance directly affecting Non-Members shall be subject to review by the Secretary of Interior."

Just how a proposed banishment code will be enforced or affect Tribal Members is yet to be determined. Among the concerns of the Membership are the questions: Is it legal? What are the ramifications if you are a land owner and are banished? What if your spouse or other immediate family member is banished? What are the penalties, the consequences and enforcement mechanisms if a banished person comes back on the Reservation? These are just a few of the questions swirling around the community. A major concern of those who support banishment is the fear that it could be used as a political tool.

To address questions, concerns, and receive community input, the Tribe held a community meeting on Saturday, Oct. 19 at Lake of the Torches Convention Center. The meeting drew approximately 120 Tribal Members and Descendants. Richard Jack, Chair of the Constitution Committee, opened the meeting with a prayer in the Ojibwe language. Following the introduction and prayer, the Thunderbird Park Singers did the opening song. The new State of Emergency Facilitator Ryan Champagne was introduced to the community and spoke on the importance of building capacity from within.

The overwhelming majority of Members who spoke at the meeting expressed opposition to banishment without due process. Others said that they wanted a safe community, and that banishment was an effective measure to curbing crime. "It can be used as a tool to deter people from criminal behavior," said Tribal Member Tommy Williams. "I'm not sure if people realize that the people who bring drugs onto our reservation are killing our people. I don't think anyone promotes murder, yet that's what's hap-

pening to our people. Something needs to be done," continued Williams.

Attorney Tanya Wanage-shik, who works for the Tribe on constitutional matters, said that her role was to gather information and draft a document that reflects the community's input and needs. "Banishment has been a form of punishment since the beginning of time," she said. "It has also historically been an accepted form of corrective action throughout Native American culture. The intent of the exclusion and remove code is not to disenroll Tribal Members, nor is it to be construed as a permanent exclusion and removal. The goal is only to be a mechanism of last resort where all other efforts have failed," she added.

Those who spoke against a proposed code said that the Tribe should focus on rehabilitating offenders rather than sending them off the Reservation to face their issues alone. Some believe all resources and efforts should be exhausted before taking action to remove Members from the community.

Future updates will be listed in the Tribe's weekly e-newsletter, and on the Tribe's Facebook and Twitter pages.

TREATY TRACKER: Hunting and Gaming

INTERTRIBAL DEER HUNT

Wisconsin's six Ojibwe Bands held a 100-person intertribal deer hunt in the Penokee Hills area of Iron and Ashland counties Saturday, Oct. 19. In addition to the deer hunt, an intertribal elk hunt was sanctioned on the same day at a separate location in northwestern Wisconsin. The hunt was a cooperative exercise in sovereignty and a display of unity among the Bands. The Voigt Intertribal Task Force, the governing body of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, sanctioned the activity and issued one elk harvesting permit among the six Bands. Tribal hunters converged on the Clam Lake area in the early morning hours of Oct. 19 in hopes of harvesting one bull elk for ceremonial purposes. As part of the rules of the hunt, if harvested, the elk would be butchered and split among participants. Stipulations in the permit require hunters to allow GLIFWC biologists to collect certain parts of the animal, including the lymph nodes,

the lower jaw and parts of the brain, to determine the age of the animal and to test for the presence of chronic wasting disease.

Traditional Ojibwe ceremonies were held prior to both of the hunts, one at the Penokee Hills Education Project (formerly the LCO Harvest Camp) and one at Clam Lake. The activities are an important part of the battle to protect the Penokee Hills area from a proposed iron mine. Still unclear are how the Tribes' treaties will affect the development of the mine, should the Tribes pursue legal action. In August, the six Ojibwe Bands sent a joint letter to President Obama requesting that he intercede on behalf of the Ojibwe Nation to stop any mine development in the area.

NIGHT HUNT

As reported earlier, the six Ojibwe Bands filed suit in district court requesting a stay in the prohibition of night

hunting in the Ceded Territory by Chippewa Tribal Members. The case was heard before Federal Judge Barbara Crabb and a decision is expected soon. As of press time, no ruling has been handed down.

OFF-RESERVATION GAMING

After publically stating he would only approve expanded gaming if all 11 Tribal Nations in Wisconsin agreed on it, Governor Scott Walker has requested a meeting between all the Tribes to discuss the Menominee Tribe's proposed off-reservation casino in Kenosha. The six Ojibwe Bands, along with the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe of Mohicans, have come out publically in support of the Menominees' plans to build a full-scale gaming entertainment complex in Kenosha. The Ho-Chunk Nation and Potawatomi, who own and operate gaming establishments in southern Wisconsin, have rejected the idea of a casino in Kenosha.

Peter Christensen Health Care News

The PCHC has welcomed two new staff members to the Tribe's health care family.

Patty Hillestad is the new quality improvement coordinator. Patty is a Tribal Member who has been living in Lac du Flambeau for the past nine years. She has 18 years of experience in managed health care, and has hit the ground running. Her first initiative for the PCHC is to get the clinic AAHC (Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care) accredited. "AAHC accreditation ensures the clinic is achieving the highest standards and providing the best possible patient care. I attended the conference in St. Louis, and we are now in the process of gathering information and ensuring we are following the quality improvement program," said Patty.



Patty has also begun surveying patients following their meeting with their health care provider. "The ma-

majority of the surveys have provided positive feedback. This is one step in the changes we are instituting with our quality improvement program. We are going to receive the Patient Centered Medical Home Certification, which is focused on putting the patient at the center of all treatment, including prevention, wellness, chronic and acute injuries. Everyone will be involved in the patient's care – the work groups, the care teams and the patient," Patty explained. When asked how she feels about her new position, Patty smiled and replied, "I know that now I'm making a difference – that I can really make a difference in someone's life."

PCHC also welcomes Emily Hallstrom, a physician's assistant. Emily grew up in the Northwoods, attended Lakeland Union High School and graduated from Marquette University. She works in family practice and provides services for all ages from infants to Elders.

"My plan was to come back home – I love it here! I've always wanted to work in health care, and I have a passion for the underserved and rural areas," Emily said. "I love the patient interaction and the long term relationships. This place helped me grow, and now I'm giving back."

The commitment to quality care that Patty and Emily



discussed is widespread through the PCHC. *Inwewin* also talked with Will Ten Haaf, Quality and Services Manager, and Randy Samuelson, Health Director, to learn more about the new software program that PCHC is utilizing. "Our patients will benefit from the new software, as all of the patient's providers will be able to share medical information in a timely manner.

Ten years ago, we used paper charts. If something was misfiled, or the chart was delayed, the patient's care was impacted. Now we are compatible with regional clinics, and doctors have instant access. We are committed to having care as good as or better than anywhere else. It's what our patients deserve," said Samuelson. The new software electronically stores labs, pharmaceutical, optical, radiology, community health and general patient records. "We're moving to the next level of patient care," continued Samuelson.

As the nation moves closer to the implementation of the Affordable Health Care Act, *Inwewin* also talked with Lea Morgan, a Medical Benefits Specialist at PCHC. Lea is a Certified Application Counselor. PCHC is a certified organization, able to work with Tribal Members, Descendants and community members on enrollment in the national program. Beginning Nov. 15, Lea and Hilary Valliere will be signing up people who are not currently receiving Medicare or BadgerCare.

Anyone who is not already insured, or who has questions about the Affordable Health Care program, may contact Lea at (715) 588-3371, extension 1250, or Hilary at (715) 588-3371, extension 1252.

Lea cautions people to ignore television advertisements that offer assistance with the national Affordable Health Care Act. There are many unscrupulous people and companies, and you should avoid the false advertising. Lea and Hilary are ready and willing to answer all of your questions and provide you with assistance.

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to our Elders who are celebrating November birthdays

Albertina Jenson 11/1
Denise Wildcat 11/2
Alan Chosa 11/3
Lawrence Martin 11/6
George Armstrong 11/6
Frank Doud 11/6
Ronald Skye 11/7
Michael Peterson 11/10
Cynthia Abel 11/10

Linda Wright 11/11
Ruth Fredericksen 11/11
Richard Jack 11/13
Martin Lynch 11/14
James Valliere 11/14
Doris Roberts 11/15
Paul Smith 11/15
Cheea Marshall 11/15
Winnifred Diver 11/16

Althea LaBarge 11/18
Maxine Batiste 11/19
Venroy Smith 11/19
Veronica Burrell 11/19
Rosalind Poupart 11/21
Darryl Chapman 11/24
Margaret Beier 11/25

ELDERS SPEAK: George Carufel, Sr.



Nov. 11 is Veteran's Day, and what better way could there be to celebrate it than by having the privilege of visiting with one of our very own Warriors? George Carufel, Sr., was all of 17 years old when he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1943. During that time, numerous families in Lac du Flambeau saw their young men and women thrust themselves to the forefront of the world conflict, readily volunteering to serve their country and protect their homelands.

George, or "Pudgie," as many have come to know him, is a matter-of-fact, no-nonsense man. Born in 1926 to William and Alice (nee Headflyer) Carufel, George was one of 12 children who grew up in a tight-knit family on the reservation. As a child, George remembers a tougher, yet less complicated, way of living. Reflecting on his youth, he recalls a time of hunting, fishing and gathering as a way of life. As he thinks back, a smile breaks across his face when he tells of the time, as a young boy, that he and his sister were milking one of his father's cows. His sister had refused to continue milking the cow because she had seen "the cow's hair standing on end" and believed the cow to be angry.

His service to his country has taken him

around the world, where he counts Japan, Korea, Australia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Africa and Pearl Harbor as stops along his journey through life. While in the Navy, Mr. Carufel served on the aircraft carrier *USS Saratoga* during World War II. As a young man, he witnessed the cost of freedom firsthand. He saw action at the Battle of Iwo Jima, where on Feb. 21, 1945, the *USS Saratoga* took heavy damage from Japanese fighters who landed six direct bomb hits and three kamikaze strikes. That attack cost the *Saratoga* 123 of her men, and another 192 were wounded. The Battle of Iwo Jima is considered one of fiercest of the war in the Pacific. Three of George's brothers, Dave, Ray and Bill Carufel, also served in various branches of the United States Armed Forces.

While serving in the Air Force, Carufel was stationed on the *USS Point Cruz*, where he saw action in the Korean War. The *Point Cruz* served as base for a helicopter squadron during "Operation Platform," which transported Indian troops to supervise a prisoner of war exchange. In 1953, while in port at Inchon Harbor, Korea, Carufel was part of a group of sailors and airmen from the *Point Cruz* that adopted a severely emaciated and neglected baby boy after discovering him abandoned at a U.S. Army Depot. The crew nursed the infant back to health, ultimately delivering the baby to San Francisco, California, where he was adopted. In 1997, a made-for-television movie aptly named "1,000 Men and a Baby" was produced and aired. The movie was based on the true story that George Carufel lived.

Question: Where were you born?

Answer: I was born in Rhinelander, Wisconsin.

Question: What was it like growing up here in Lac du Flambeau?

Answer: We lived out here in the depot. I used to help my dad when he would go hunting and fishing. I was younger, so I would help him drag deer back from the woods. I would be outside and if I heard two shots I knew he got one. I would set out to help him drag the deer home. He only had one arm, you know. He still cut and stacked wood and took care of us. He had a couple of cows and we would have to milk them every day. My family lived all over this area out here. The train used to come right through here. This used to be the old train depot right here. I would also go out towards Trout River with my dad and brothers. We would stay out there a couple of days fishing or hunting. I think my dad's brother's name was George; he had a house out there.

Question: Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Answer: My parents had 12 children. I have 11 brothers and sisters.

Question: Aside from your time in the Armed Forces, have you always lived in Lac du Flambeau?

Answer: No, when I got back from the service, I married Coralie Thoms and we moved to Milwaukee. That's where we raised our family. You know, we were married for 44 years. She died nine years ago.

Question: What did you do for work while in Milwaukee?

Answer: I worked for a company named Nordberg. We made machinery that laid rail lines. I worked there for 30 years. We moved back to Flambeau in 1992.

Question: Do you have any children?

Answer: Coralie and I, we had Cindy, George Jr., and Joe. Joe still lives in Milwaukee with his family.

Question: Do you have any grandchildren?



George with his mother, Alice, and his father, William, in 1946

Answer: Yes, we have five grandkids and three great-grandkids.

Question: When you lived in Milwaukee, aside from working, what activities did you enjoy?

Answer: We were involved in United Indians of Milwaukee. We danced at pow wows and performed for schools and other events. My wife worked for 'We Indians' down there. She helped Indian students through that program.

Question: What do you like most about living in Lac du Flambeau?

Answer: It's quiet and peaceful. I have a lot of good memories here. When Coralie and I retired, we always planned on moving back home.

Mr. Carufel lost his home and canine companion Pepi to a fire in 2012. He has since rebuilt and now resides with his eldest son, George Carufel Jr., across the street from his childhood home on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation. Considering some of the places he's been and things he's seen, it's no wonder George cherishes the peace and tranquility of the Northwoods.

General Election Results

On Oct. 1, the Membership cast their ballots for Secretary, Treasurer and four Tribal Council Members. A total of 775 total votes were cast. There were 15 spoiled/invalid votes.

The following are the results from the general election:

Jamie Armstrong won the Secretary position with 376 votes. Victoria A. Doud received 255 votes. There were 98 write-in votes. The leading write-in candidate was Juanita Thompson (86 votes).

Mary Peterson (incum-

berent), won re-election for the position of Treasurer with 394 votes. Challenger Barry LeSieur received 292 votes. There were 21 write-in votes.

Three incumbents seeking re-election for a seat on the Council were successful in their bid. Re-elected to seats on the Tribal Council were: Eric Chapman, Sr. (incumbent) with 292 votes; Alice K. Souler (incumbent) with 330 votes and Henry "Butch" St. Germaine, Sr. (incumbent) with 363 votes. Newly elected to the Council was Betty Jo Graven with

323 votes.

Candidates that appeared on the October ballot included: Terry "Fred" Allen (212 votes), Joseph G. Wildcat, Sr. (259 votes), Vivian "Luci" Wolfe (204 votes) and Racquel Zortman-Bell, incumbent (250 votes). There were 307 write-in votes total. The leading write-in candidates were Joni Theobald (99 votes), Neil Peterson (50 votes), Melinda Young (49 votes) and George Thompson (45 votes).

Newly elected officers and Council Members were sworn in at a specially



called council meeting on Monday, Oct. 7, 2013. You can view the swearing-in

ceremony on the Tribe's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/LDFtribe.

Congratulations to the elected officers and Tribal Council Members.

GETTING TO KNOW THE COUNCIL: Ruben Santiesteban

Ruben Santiesteban is an imposing man, but his commitment to the Tribe and the children are even more impressive. In October, Ruben celebrated his first year as a Tribal Council Member. He is currently the Mentoring Coordinator for the UW-Extension 4-H program. Prior to that, he was involved with the Tribal AmeriCorps Program and worked as the Activities Coordinator for the Youth Services program. During his year long tenure with the Tribal AmeriCorps Program, he worked with the Waswagoning Youth Council (high school), where he volunteered over 2,700 hours working with at-risk youth. He and Turquoise, his wife of 18 years, have two daughters, Ava and Ana.

Ruben has a unique perspective on life on the Reservation. "I grew up in both Lac du Flambeau and Milwaukee. My childhood was full of adventure and ups and downs, but encouragement to succeed from family members was everlasting on me. I was an at-risk youth and I was going to be a nobody. I was told I wasn't going to make it, that I wasn't going to be able to make any change in my community, and that I was going to be in jail for the rest of my life. This motivated me and I persevered, just like Indian people have persevered for 10,000 years. I was not going to put up with that, and I created a new chapter in my life. I've been told I am a dreamer –

and I'm living the dream now. I have the privilege of leading my family by example," he passionately shared.

When asked why he chose to run for Tribal Council, Ruben explained, "When I worked with Tribal AmeriCorps, I was mentoring our youth. They challenged me to show them that the leadership training I was sharing actually works and to run for Council. When it comes to leadership, we have to challenge the myth that it's about position and power. The truth is leadership is an observable set of skills and abilities. Leadership is learned and developed. We don't wake up one day and become the greatest leaders in world or the greatest leaders in Indian Country. Learning to lead is about discovering what you care about and value. My experience with the United National Indian Tribal Youth organization (UNITY) prepared me for working with the Waswagoning Youth Council, challenged me and prepared me for today."

Ruben was very clear on his priorities as a Council Member. "My number one priority is to uphold the Constitution. When we're sworn in, we swear to uphold the Tribal and U.S. Constitution. My second priority is youth engagement. Each



Council Member has a focus, and we discuss our priorities and share our ideas. Mine is working with our youth and mentoring our children. Who are the elder statesmen mentoring? What are we doing to protect what we've built? My third priority is the duty to provide a better quality of life for our people. As Tribal leaders, we put ourselves in a great position to make and sustain changes. If I ever have a legacy, I want it to be that I helped to break the silo effect. The work we're doing – will it matter if we don't communicate better with each other when new Council Members are elected? Will they want to change what we've been doing? We can't get anything done unless we work as a team.

The way to get accurate information is to ask – I want the people to come and see us. Get engaged; get involved."

He continued, "In Ojibwe country, we have the Seven Grandfather Teachings and we have the clan systems, which we abide by. Those are the governing systems that we used before the 1934 constitution came – and that's who we are. As we become leaders, we're faced with some difficult questions, and the one that I ask myself all the time is, 'Am I the right person to lead at this very moment? Is it me, and why?' The actions that we take today are not just for tomorrow – they are for the next 30 years. We have a sovereign attitude, and we are using our Seven Grandfather Teachings and instilling that culture into our people."

"My Indian name is Wiindigobines. It means king bird, warrior of the family or neighborhood protector. I want to make sure we're protecting our people. The most powerful leaders encourage others to lead. As we encourage youth to lead our nation, are we going to be ready to hand off the leadership roles to them? I have a quote that I want to share: 'Successful nation building starts with our greatest asset - our children, the youth.' What are we doing to protect what we have built?"

Ruben has been the catalyst for the annual Wii'jii'idiwin Youth and Families Expo, which is held annually at the Lake of the Torches Convention Center. Two years ago, Ruben saw an opportunity to work with at-risk youth and address gang reduction by bringing elders and youth together to interact. His vision included increased communication and information sharing between programs, the pooling of resources, and providing a forum in which families could learn about the programs and services the Tribe offers. The first expo was a huge success, with over 1,000 people attending throughout the day. Last year's expo continued the momentum of the previous year and matched attendance totals. Participants learned about a host of topics ranging from gangs to the environment. In wanting to engage the community and honor individual accomplishments, Ruben developed a "Lac du Flambeau Hall of Fame" and awards ceremony. "I wanted to

recognize individuals, lifetime accomplishments, and have the community choose who they wanted to honor," said Ruben. The Hall of Fame inducted its inaugural class this past March and will continue to accept nominations for future induction.

Ruben is a strong believer in continued education, ongoing training for employees and personal development. Along with his work with Tribal youth, he is grateful for the opportunity to serve the Tribe as a Council Member. He says his service has allowed him the ability to grow both personally and professionally. When asked about his experience in his freshman term as a Council Member, Ruben said, "Being part of Tribal government has given me a broader perspective on many issues. I not only represent the people that voted for me, I am also a voice for those that didn't. I like to build on the positives, and think that if I represent the entire Membership to the best of my ability, I am fulfilling my obligations to my Tribe." Being one of the youngest people ever elected to Tribal Council has not come without personal trials. "As a leader, you're faced with difficult questions. Recognizing the challenges is essential to performing at a high level. Evaluating and critiquing your work is part of the personal-professional development process. Taking inventory affords one the opportunity to build on strengths and correct deficiencies. When you're elected to Council, there's no orientation or handbook on how to be a leader. You have to make hard, heartfelt decisions, based on accurate information. I'm honored to act on behalf of the Tribe, and will continue to be open-minded and act in the best way possible," said Ruben.

Ruben has come a long way from the hustle and bustle of the Milwaukee streets. Facing adversity fueled his dream of a better life for not only himself but for his fellow Tribal Members. Becoming intimately involved in his community has allowed him to gain experience as a legislator, turn personal trial into motivation to serve a greater purpose, and hone his skills as a mentor to at-risk youth. "My family is the center of my universe. I know my daughters are watching me and I want to be the best role model I can for them."

Lac du Flambeau First to Ratify TIGA Treaty

On Thursday, Oct. 17, the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Council voted unanimously to ratify the Tribal Internet Gaming Alliance (TIGA) Treaty.

"The idea for TIGA started about two years ago here in northern Wisconsin with Lac du Flambeau and several other Midwest tribes. I have been truly honored to help make their vision a reality," said Jeffrey Nelson, counsel, Kanji & Katzen, PLLC, and author of the treaty.

Progressive sovereign nations recognize the value of working together, and Lac du Flambeau is taking the lead by being the first Tribe in Wisconsin to ratify the TIGA Treaty. "We asked our gaming commission to do the homework on this, and they and our attorney found minimal risk in our moving forward. We want to be at the forefront of online gaming, and this is another step to advance that," said Tribal President Tom Maulson.

The treaty is an inter-governmental agreement between Tribes that want to work together to develop a single platform Internet gaming business. The model is based on Tribal sovereignty and building liquidity upon each Tribe's existing resources.

With the launch of online free play, Lac du Flambeau

is moving forward and embracing new technologies to not only diversify their present customers' gaming experience, but as a way of cultivating new clientele. As online gaming legislation progresses throughout the United States, the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Council recognizes the need the stay in the forefront of the potential opportunities.

"This is certainly a historic day in Indian gaming. It is 25 years to the day after Congress enacted IGRA (Indian Gaming Regulatory Act); how fitting that it should also be the day of the first TIGA Treaty ratification. With ratification from two more tribes, TIGA will officially take flight," said Nelson.

The treaty does not bind Lac du Flambeau to any Tribe or business venture. Rather, it creates an opportunity for Tribal Nations to cooperatively address potential legislative or regulatory issues. There is no financial investment at this time, and the Tribe may opt out of the treaty at any time.

"We look forward to working with other Tribes to advance Internet gaming, and creating additional opportunities for our Tribal Members," said Maulson.

Tribal Veterans Center



In the October edition of *Inwewin*, we introduced you to John Brown, the new Tribal Veterans Service Officer. Since last month, John has been busy – and with Veterans Day being celebrated on Nov. 11, we thought it was appropriate to update you on all that is being done in and around at the Veterans Center.

The Veterans Center is located in the former Housing Authority and Elder Meals building, across from the Bingo Hall. It is also the home of American Legion Post #374. John is the part time Tribal Veterans Service Officer, and also works full time at the Tribal Natural Resources. The center is open Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 pm.

John talks passionately of his commitment to ensure that our veterans have a facility and a support network. "It's a dream of mine to help our veterans as much as possible.



They deserve more than they are getting," he said. He also spoke of the need for counseling services for PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) and for a place that veterans can be with comrades. "These guys have shared experiences. No one can really understand unless you served." John is working with the VA to have regularly scheduled visits to the Veterans Center. He is also working on a grant to obtain a vehicle so that regular trips can be offered to the VA clinics.

There is much work that John wants to accomplish at the Veterans Center. The facility needs to have the outside sign updated, as well as the memorial signs honoring the Tribal Members who served in the Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korea and Viet Nam. The inside of the building needs to be painted, and John hopes to complete that within the next month. If the updates are complete, he is hoping to put together a Christmas dinner for the homebound and less fortunate.

On Oct. 15, Chuck Burgess from the Tribal Roads Department assisted Art Bell (Ma-



Chuck Burgess, Art Perrone, Art Bell and John Brown welcome the Howitzer to the new Lac du Flambeau Memorial Park.

rine Corp), Art Perrone (Navy) and John with moving a Howitzer that was donated to Lac du Flambeau through Michigan's Army Donation Program. The gun came from Saulte Ste. Marie and was transported by Chuck. The Howitzer is located at the site of the new Memorial Park, next to the gas station.

According to Wikipedia, "The 105 mm M2A1 (M101A1) Howitzer was the standard light field Howitzer for the United States in World War II, seeing action in both the European and Pacific theaters. Entering production in 1941, it quickly entered the war against the Imperial Japanese Army in the Pacific, where it gained a reputation for its accuracy and powerful punch. The M101A1 fired 105 mm high explosive (HE) semi-fixed ammunition and had a range of 12,325 yards, making it suitable for supporting infantry."

The new Memorial Park will have updated landscaping and John hopes the work will be completed in the spring of next year.

On Nov. 11, the Lac du Flambeau Public



School is hosting "Take a Veteran to School Day." Students are invited to bring someone that they know who is a veteran. The Veterans Day ceremony will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the LdF gymnasium. Lunch will be served afterward. Students need to return the participation form to the school office by Nov. 4. For more information on participating, please contact Cindy Kyska at (715) 588-3838 or via email at ckyska@ldf.k12.wi.us.



Work is being done to update the War Memorial and Veterans Center signs. Volunteers are sanding and will be re-painting the signs.

Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court

The Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is proud to announce that the Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court is established and available on the Reservation. The Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court is a drug and alcohol treatment court for eligible offenders, designed to offer participants an alternative to incarceration for non-violent criminal offenses.

The mission of the Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court is to hold participants accountable to the Court, to themselves, to their families and to their community. The Court incorporates culturally guiding principles in order to reduce crime, restore individual health and honor traditional values. Individuals selected to participate in the court receive a combination of substance abuse treatment, education and supervision from a team of trained professionals.

The Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court Team consists of a client advocate/public defender, the Tribal judge, the Vilas County judge, the Tribal prosecutor, the district attorney, a Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court coordinator, case worker, Tribal Elder, Tribal Council Member, pro-

bation and parole personnel, treatment providers and law enforcement personnel. If a potential client qualifies, the Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court team makes the final decision whether an offender is accepted into the court.

Weekly, the team meets prior to court to review cases and to discuss the progress of each participant and the results of the participant's scheduled appointments. The case reviews are designed to inform the court team of the participant's strengths and weaknesses. This sharing of information allows the team to make adjustments to individual case plans to suit the needs of the client. This approach in philosophy ensures participants are successful in their completion of the program.

There are four phases of the court. Phase I is the treatment plan. The team performs a strengths and needs assessment, along with developing a sound, individualized treatment plan. Phase II is skill building. This provides knowledge, training and exposure to new opportunities and skill development. These services support increased independence, community inclusion and participation, and productivity. Clients receive assistance in community-

based settings with skill acquisition, skill retention and improvement in self-help, socialization and adaptive skills. Phase III is Walking Straight on Mother Earth. This phase incorporates a cultural belief system and builds on traditional core values of the Ojibwe people. Phase IV is transition. The final step before release from the program, this phase helps participants with supportive services and assistance, including transportation to and from the individual's home for work or job search purposes, appointments and community events. This specific service is designed to increase the individual's economic self-sufficiency and engage in purposeful and meaningful work or valued volunteer roles in community settings. Each phase of the Zaagiibagaa is detailed and developed for each participant. This program may last anywhere from 12 to 18 months, with each phase lasting approximately 120 days. The participant's demeanor and progress will determine the length of their program.

In order to be eligible for Zaagiibagaa Healing and Wellness Court, a non-violent offender must have already been sentenced in state court (Vilas County)

and referred for services by the district attorney. The prospective participant must express the desire to join the program and be motivated to work toward changing his or her lifestyle, which includes becoming free from alcohol and drug abuse. Treatment for addiction is the main focus of the program and the participant's recovery is considered the most important goal. There are strict program rules that are clearly defined and must be followed. A violation of any of the rules can result in sanctions, jail or prison time and removal from the program.

A critical component of successful Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court participation involves supervision with random drug testing to determine compliance with the rules of the court. The frequency of the random drug screenings will be determined by the phase each participant is in, and is subject to change based on violations and recommendations of the treatment team. There are only two ways to finish Wellness Court – either graduation or termination.

For more information contact Kelly Day Zaagiibagaa, coordinator, at the PCHC at (715) 588-3371.



An old photo of the Boys Dorm at the Indian school in Lac du Flambeau.

You may have noticed the major renovation happening on Hwy. 47 at the site of the former NiiJii Center. The Boys Dormitory construction project is nearing completion, and *Inwewin* recently met with Melinda Young and Travis Maki to learn more about the project.

In 2004, the Tribe's Historic Preservation Office completed an extensive application for the Boys Dorm to be included on the National Register of Historic Places. Over the course of more than 100 pages, the application detailed the story of the facility and the 56-acre government boarding school complex.

To best describe the historic complex, *Inwewin* pulled excerpts from the application:

"The Lac du Flambeau Bureau of Indian Affairs Boarding School was established in 1895 and was run as a boarding school until approximately 1932. The school consisted of a complex of school and farm related buildings as well as farm fields and pastures. The school was established to immerse the children of Lac du Flambeau and other Midwestern tribes in the basics of English language, reading, writing, geography, mathematics, European music and art as well as European dress, culture, child rearing and methods of economic livelihood. The purpose of the school was to remove all vestiges of Tribal culture from the children and replace it with instruction and experience in European methods of farming, other industrial arts and domestic science."



An inside look at the newly refurbished main entrance.

Boys Dorm Renovation Nearing Completion



The newly refurbished front entrance of the building.

"The school was located in a central place on the Reservation, between the major villages: Old Village, established in 1745, and New Village, established in the late 1800's around the lumber company mill. The isthmus on which the school buildings were located has been used by missionaries, fur traders and government employees as a base of operations since the turn of the 19th century."

"The school was originally a complex of seven or eight educational and farm buildings, and approximately 300 acres of arable land for fields and pasture. Be-

tween 1895 and 1910, the number of buildings swelled to 25 and stayed close to that number for most of its tenure, dependent on federal appropriations, the school enrollment and staffing needs. Farm and pasture acreage increased to approximately 780 acres at the height of the school, and gradually decreased until the time that the school was disbanded and all property reverted to Tribal land. In a measure of the school's importance to the government, the area set aside for the school contained some of the best farmland on the reservation. Unfortunately, even with this advantage, the school farm never produced the products that were expected, due mostly to the sandy soil, climate and temperature of northern Wisconsin. Despite the adverse environmental conditions, this land was not available for allotment to Tribal Members during the time when the government was demanding that Indian tribes convert from traditional economies to agriculture."

"The remains of the school today are a small portion of the original complex. The buildings, foundations and farmland represent a visible symbol of the event that changed the lifeways of the Lac du Flambeau community as well as other communities in the Midwestern states. The effect of the school is echoed in all families, in the stories handed down from generation to generation, and in the way that traditional culture is viewed by the people living in the community today. As symbols, the remaining structures should be preserved in order that the story



Future offices of the Historic Preservation Program, Division of Archaeology.



The building's newly refurbished back entrance.

behind them survives as a lesson of contact, consequences and resilience.”

With this in mind, a feasibility study was conducted in 2002 to determine if the Boys Dormitory building could be restored. The structure was found to be stable, and the National Register of Historic Places application was prepared, submitted and successfully accepted.

Fund raising for the renovations has been in progress for more than 10 years. The concept for what to do with the building has been an ongoing project for approximately 20 years. The building has seen many uses prior to the current renovations – the Tribal Council and administration was housed there; a dentist and various Tribal programs were also located in the building. Most recently, the building served as a homeless shelter and was used for storage.

“The Boys Dormitory building was constructed in 1905, and housed Tribal Members from Bad River, Lac du Flam-

beau, Potawatomi and Watersmeet. When discussions began regarding renovating the building, the community was divided. Some had bad memories. Others believed the building needed to be fixed up and the story told. Between fund raising and grant programs, we raised \$2 million and the work is being done in phases,” said Melinda Young, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer.

The current renovation project is expected to be completed in December 2013, with programs occupying the building in February 2014. A grand opening is slated for spring 2014. The building will house the Historic Preservation Office and Ojibwe Language Program. There will be a public use room and displays will be available for public viewing. There will be no admission charge.

For questions on the project, or to donate to the important work of the Tribe's Historic Preservation office, please contact Melinda Young at (715) 588-2139.



Looking up to the second floor from the staircase.



The basement stairs to the main floor are being replaced.



Main floor stairs leading to second floor.



Main floor. Future home of the Public Use Room and the Ojibwe Language Program.



This jacket is one of many artifacts found.



Several artifacts were found at the site.

During construction, a member of the Tribe's Historic Preservation staff was onsite to ensure any items that were unearthed were handled carefully and in compliance with historic preservation guidelines. Over the course of construction, several artifacts were uncovered and will be on display.

Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Program

On Oct. 3, staff members at the Benase Equay Wakaigan Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Program welcomed Ministry Health Care staff for a tour and check presentation. Denise Wildcat, Program Manager, provided a tour of the facility, accepted Ministry staff donations of needed items and received a check from Ministry Health Care for \$1,030.

The program offers 24-hour crisis intervention, information and referrals, emergency shelter for victims and their children, advocacy and support services, transitional living for victims and their children, and other economic support and educational services.

The program has been in existence since 1985. The facility that Ministry Health staff toured opened 10 years ago. Due to increased awareness and the addition of the sexual assault program, the program has seen an increase in the number of reports since last year. The facility has been consistently full for the past two and one-half years, and the need for funds and donated items is always prevalent.



The Ministry organization and individual employees collected \$1,030, three \$30 gas cards, and a variety of items that Judi Nelson (left) and Dawn Gapko (right) presented to Denise Wildcat (middle).



Ministry Health Care annually celebrates its Missions and Value Week by recognizing community organizations that exemplify Ministry's mission and make a difference in their community. This year, the Ministry staff selected three women's organizations.

Retrocession and its Impact

On Thursday, Sept. 26, Tribal leaders from around the state met in Madison at the state capital for a State-Tribal Relations Committee meeting to discuss retrocession and what it means to the Tribes. Carol Goldberg and Jonathan Varat of the University of California Los Angeles presented an in-depth report on what Public Law 280 is and what effects it has on Tribal Nations.

Public Law 83-280 (Public Law 280) was enacted by Congress in 1953 and was part of the federal government's "Termination Era" plan to assimilate Indian people into mainstream, modern society. Public Law 280 transferred criminal jurisdiction and certain civil jurisdiction over Indians from the federal government to six states, with exceptions for certain reservations, and authorized other states to assume jurisdiction in Indian Country as well.

In Wisconsin, following the enactment of Public Law 280, county sheriffs became responsible for providing law enforcement services on all reservations except the Menominee. Subsequently, the law led to the creation of new state laws to deal with the new responsibility as well as a host of inter-governmental agreements between state and Tribal governments.

During the time when Public Law 280 was enacted, Tribes were suffering from decades of historical trauma, systematically imposed poverty and exclusion. There was little to no economic development on Indian lands and even less structure within Tribal governments. Tribes were still adapting to Westernized society and learning to work within the federal government's boilerplate constitutions.

Over the years, Tribes have become increasingly independent. The onset of Tribal gaming brought opportunities for Tribes to develop their governments and operations. The economic boom allowed Tribal Nations to become highly educated, functioning societies. Indian people now have the ability to build solid infrastructure in their communities. Creating their own legislative processes, judiciary and law enforcement branches, as well as diversifying Tribal economies, has empowered Tribal Nations to become once again self-sustaining.

21st century Tribes are now looking to assume as much self-governance as possible. Manifest destiny is no longer just a catch phrase from Native movements of the 1970s. It is now at the doorstep of Tribal Nations. Through education, economic prowess and resource management, Tribes are now seeing themselves managing all aspects of their society. Through this realization, they now have the power to solely govern their lands and citizenry using a blend of contemporary American government and traditional Tribal customs. Many Tribes are receding from Public Law 280, understanding that they now have the opportunity to enact laws and ordinances that more readily reflect the needs of their Tribal populations. Through this movement comes a new set of unique circumstances, of which thorough investigation and research must be contemplated.

At the September meeting in Madison, the Lac du Flambeau Tribe requested that the State-Tribal Relations Committee develop legislation that would enable Tribes to

request the state retrocede or "give back" jurisdiction it acquired under Public Law 83-280 (Public Law 280). Tribal representatives emphasized that the law was imposed without the Tribes' consent, and that the Tribes should assume authority for decisions with respect to their own affairs. In a very quick turnaround time, the chairman of the State-Tribal Relations Committee, State Representative Jeffery Mursau, sent a letter to the Tribe inquiring if the Tribe is prepared to pursue retrocession if the legislation were passed allowing it.

Retrocession is a term that refers to Tribal Nations taking back their sovereign jurisdiction in all criminal and civil affairs. The movement toward retroceding doesn't come without a price. Taking on jurisdiction in all legal matters would mean increased caseloads for the Tribal courts, law enforcement, probation and parole. The increased activity in these areas would create a need for additional personnel and ultimately becomes an issue of financial sustainability. Without an unwavering commitment of financial support from the Tribal Council, this won't be possible.

The State-Tribal Relations Committee meets monthly and *Inwewin* will continue to update the Membership on any developments. In the interim, we must ask ourselves the question, *What is the cost of sovereignty?*

To watch portions of the Sept. 26 meeting, including presentations by Professor Carole Goldberg, James Bottsford and Judge James Mohr, please visit the website www.wiseye.org/Programming/VideoArchive/ArchiveList.aspx?cm=385.

LdF's Policy Review Committee

This past February, the Tribal Council approved forming the Policy Review Committee. The purpose of the committee is to review employee governing policies to ensure they comply with Tribal, state and federal employment laws. The committee is also charged with reviewing the employee handbook to make sure policies are clear and consistently followed.

Antoine "Little Macker" Beson, Jr. is the Chair. When asked why he decided to serve on the committee, he replied, "I saw a need for a change with our employee policies.

There have been many revisions to the employee handbook, and that has caused some of the policies to become unclear."

"I wanted to make sure employers are following the Tribal codes to ensure Tribal employees will have due process," said committee member Betty Lou Wayman.

Committee members also include Jamie Armstrong and Joni Theobald. There is an open seat, and if you are interested in serving on the Policy Committee, please contact Little Macker or the Enrollment Office.



Policy Review Committee members (left to right) are: Betty Lou Wayman, Jamie Armstrong, Joni Theobald and Chair Antoine "Little Macker" Beson, Jr.

The Lac du Flambeau Ojibwe Language Program

November: Gashkadino Giizis = Freezing Moon

Aaniin ezhiwebak agwajjiing?

- 1.) Eshkam igo gisinaamagad agwajjiing
- 2.) Mii azhigwa gii binaakwiimagad
- 3.) Da gashkadin i'iw zaagai'igan
- 4.) Wayiiba dash da maajjiipomagad
- 5.) Gi giizhiitaa ina?
- 6.) Gid ayaan waawaashkeshii wiiyaas?
- 7.) Hehn, nind ayaan waawaashkeshii wiiyaas
- 8.) Gaawiin nind ayanziin waawaashkeshii wiiyaas
- 9.) Gi gii giuwase ina?
- 10.) Geget, nin gii giuwase
- 11.) Gaawiin mashi ningii giuwase siin
- 12.) Nin gii nitaage
- 13.) Nin gii aanawewiz
- 14.) Gid ayaan giigoohn ina?
- 15.) Geget, giigoohn nind ayaan
- 16.) Gaawiin nind ayanziin giigoohn
- 17.) Gi gii bagidiwaa ina
- 18.) Hehn, nin gii bagidiwaa
- 19.) Nin gii debibinaag atikamegwag
- 20.) Gi wii maajii-wanii'ige ina wayiiba?
- 21.) Oohn Hehn, ni wii maajii-wanii'ige waabang
- 22.) Gaawiin ni wanii'igesiin

What's happening outside?

It's gradually getting colder outside
 The leaves have fallen off already
 That lake shall freeze over
 Soon, it shall start to snow
 Are you ready?
 Do you have venison?
 Yes, I have venison
 No, I have no venison
 Did you go hunting?
 Indeed, I have hunted
 I have not hunted yet
 I was successful hunting
 I was unsuccessful hunting
 Do you have fish?
 Indeed, I have fish
 No, I have no fish
 Did you set a fish net?
 Yes, I set a fish net
 I caught whitefish
 Are you going to start trapping soon?
 Oh yes, I want to start trapping tomorrow
 I don't trap



Lakeland Area Men's Softball League Champs

The Lac du Flambeau Renegades softball team ended the regular season with a record of 9-1 in league play, and were crowned Champions of the Lakeland Area Men's Softball League!

Throughout the summer, they played league games, as well as a number of tournaments, and they performed exceptionally. Following the regular season, they were invited to compete in the Native American World Series Softball Tournament in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on Sept. 27-29, 2013. The Renegades played eight games, going 4-4, and made it to the consolation championship game, falling by a score of 13-10. The Renegades came home with the "Runner Up" award in representing the Tribe.

"The competition was phenomenal and the teams were top-notch," said Renegades left fielder Preston Allen when asked about playing in the tournament. The team faced adversity from the onset, and had to adjust to an unfamiliar strike-zone rule. "The strike-zone they used was extremely different



Back row, left to right: Karl Theobald, David Baldwin, Willy Snow, Nick Zortman, Aaron Wolfe and Donald Wayman. Front row, left to right: Ryan White, Preston Allen, David Kmiecik, Matt Valliere, Gabe Allen and Thomas Wayman. Not pictured: Cale Chapman, Bruce Bauman Jr., Devon Wolfe, Jerome Big John III and general manager Brooks Big John.

than the one we played with all season. Our first game was challenging, considering we had never played that style of softball," said Allen. That aside, the Renegades played every opponent very competitively, with a three-run deficit in the final game being the largest margin of defeat. "All of our guys played very hard, and Willy Snow really came through for us on the mound. It was a whirlwind tournament, play-

ing that many games in just a couple of days. They had ten fields going at once and they were professional caliber facilities."

The team would never have had the opportunity without the support of the Tribal Council. "Some of us have never experienced anything like that. We want to thank the entire Council, Chippewa Valley Bank, Lake of the Torches and the community for supporting us," added Allen.

Inwewin Public Notice

Boozhoo! The Tribal Communications Office is pleased to have the opportunity to provide you with *Inwewin*, the Tribe's monthly newspaper. "Inwewin" is an Ojibwe word that means "voice." Asema (tobacco) was passed and the name came forth from thoughtful deliberation. "Inwewin" is an all-inclusive term. Just as we humans (Anishinabe) have a voice that conveys our thoughts, desires and emotions, so does all of Creation. When we hear the whistle of an eagle, the cry of a loon, or the call of the wolf, this is Inwewin.

In addition to the Tribe's monthly newspaper, you may also keep current on Tribal news by following us via social media – on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ldftribe), on Twitter (www.twitter.com/ldftribe), and see council meetings and other videos on our YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/ldftribe).

Subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter to keep up with important notices, new developments, birth announcements and other exciting happenings with the Tribe.

Inwewin is a monthly publication of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. Articles and information appearing in *Inwewin* are the responsibility of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Lac du Flambeau

Tribe or *Inwewin* staff.

Inwewin invites letters to the editor, articles, poetry, artwork and photos. All submissions must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Any communications that do not include the author's return address will not be opened. Submissions are subject to editing for grammar, length and malicious or libelous content. *Inwewin* does not guarantee publication of materials submitted. The editors make the sole decision on what is published, and will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited materials. *Inwewin* reserves the right to reject any advertising, materials or letters submitted for publication. The deadline for submission is the second Monday of each month.

Inwewin is a free publication that is mailed to all Lac du Flambeau Tribal Members who are age 18 and older. Please forward your address change to the Tribal Enrollment Office, as that is where we obtain the monthly mailing list. You may email the Enrollment Office at ereception@ldftribe.com, or call (715) 588-3303.

Miigwitch!

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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Boozhoo,

Another month has come and gone, and with it so have many of the leaves that provided us with a spectacular display of color. This is the time of year that we reflect back on the progress we've made, and determine which areas we need to improve upon. Let's remember to thank our Ogitchidaa, our Veterans, for protecting the freedoms that we today enjoy. It is their selfless acts of bravery that allow us to call the best country in the world home.

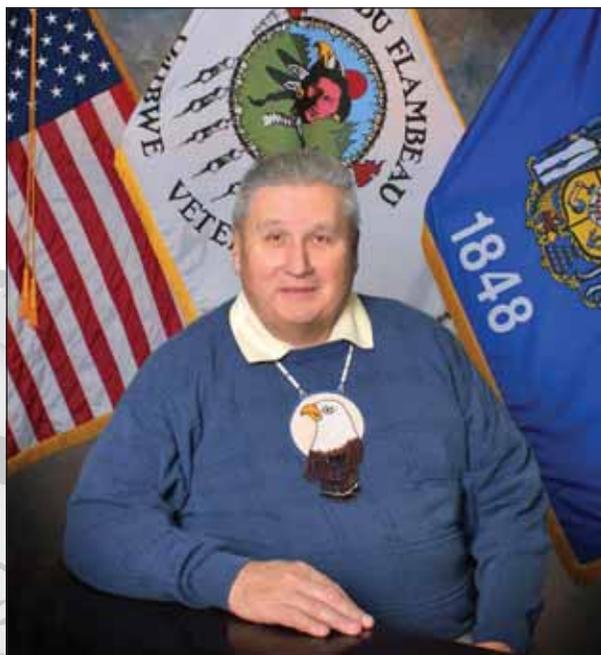
I want to start out by thanking all the candidates who ran for office. Our Tribe is truly a self-governed nation, and I encourage our people to remain involved in our affairs. I would like to congratulate our new Secretary, Jamie Armstrong, and new Council Person, Betty Jo Graveen, along with incumbents Eric Chapman, Sr., Mary Peterson, Alice Soulier and Henry St. Germaine, who were all re-elected to serve the people. I know they will do a good job. I would also like express my gratitude to Racquel Zortman-Bell for working diligently on behalf of the Membership over the past couple of years. Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank the Tribal Membership for presenting themselves at the polls and exercising their rights as citizens of this nation. Voting is not only a privilege, but a duty. When we become active in making decisions, we become active in shaping our future.

The Tribe recently created a position to coordinate the "state of emergency," and hired an extremely qualified young man to head up those efforts. Mr. Ryan Champagne is a Member of the Grand River Anishinaabeg Nation and comes to us highly recommended. Prior to this new position, Ryan worked as a case manager in our Zagiibaaga Healing to Wellness Court. He has worked in Indian Country for many years, and worked closely with the late Marge Anderson to build a successful human services program for the Mille Lacs Band in Minnesota. Our Tribal Government is firmly committed to combating drugs, alcohol abuse and poverty in our community, and this position will bring structure and focus to our efforts.

There have been concerns regarding "court hearings" being held at the Lac du Flambeau Public School for truancy issues. I can tell you that this is simply not true. The Tribe has hired a truancy officer, Vince Snow, who works for the Juvenile Justice program. He works with families who may be having issues with attendance and will help them attain the services and resources they need. Lac du Flambeau Police Officer Adam Grisa is the school liaison officer and will also work with families. The police department will be filling an additional resource officer position to work with Indian students at Lakeland Union High School. As I have stated before, our youth are our most valuable resource. We need to ensure that our children are attending school regularly and have the best possible learning environment. We have many programs and resources within the Tribe that can assist parents with help if they are struggling. It isn't always easy being a parent. We may all need assistance at one time or another. We must work together to help our children succeed.

The Zagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court is now working with clients who want to change their lives. The Court is comprised of a team of professionals and community members who help people live productive, meaningful lives. Instead of jail, participants work an intensive treatment program and receive cultural based guidance. This program was made possible through a cooperative agreement between our Tribal Court and Vilas County.

I would like to congratulate Paco Fralick on receiving the Bemidji Area Director's Outstanding Tribal Health Administrator Award. This award recognizes excellence in performance and commitment to the community and is presented by the Bemidji Area Indian Health Service



Office. I also applaud the Lac du Flambeau community, which celebrated the official grand opening of the Peter Christensen Dental Campus last month. We are blessed to have this state-of-the-art facility right here on our reservation. It was your decision to build the clinic. This an example of what the community can do when we do good works.

The LDF Construction Company is in the process of rehabbing several homes that the Tribe now owns. When complete, these homes will become transitional living facilities for families in emergency situations. We will have the ability to help Member families who are experiencing challenges to re-establish themselves and become self-sufficient. The Chippewa Housing Authority is planning to build 20 new homes on the reservation, with some being multi-family units, located just off of Little Pines Road. Hopefully, our LDF Construction Company will be the successful bidder on the project and be the primary contractor. Included in the overall plans for housing is the razing of the units known as the "projects." This undertaking is scheduled to be done next summer.

The re-construction of Hwy. 47 is nearing completion. This road improvement project was a test site for our Tribal Employee Rights Office (TERO) Program, which required contractors to employ a certain percentage of Tribal Members or Native Americans. Thank you for slowing down for the construction workers and equipment. The safety of our people is important, and we want to make sure our people arrive home to their families every night. Although the work has lasted a little longer than expected, it is another example of how the Tribe is working to improve the infrastructure of the Reservation.

We are working to finalize the details for our new grocery store and gas station, and will benefit from the sale of our own "brand" of gasoline. The Tribe is working with Mansfield Oil, one of the largest suppliers of fuel in the country. Once complete, the Tribe will have one of the finest gas stations and grocery stores in the Northwoods. Our Tribal businesses are multi-million dollar entities. We need to realize that our businesses must be constantly evolving to meet the ever-changing economic and global landscape.

There have been a series of educational sessions regarding amending Article VIII of our Tribal Constitution, which governs elections. The Tribal Membership will decide through a Secretarial Election whether we should

eliminate federal oversight as part of our election process. I encourage our Tribal Members to educate themselves on the proposed changes so that we can make sound decisions at the polls. It is our goal as a sovereign nation to have complete control of our own affairs. It is self-determination that will lead to self-governance.

We have begun a series of community meetings to discuss the proposed banishment code. It is vital that we have community input when we make these important decisions. You can stay updated by subscribing to our weekly e-newsletter or by following us on social media at www.facebook.com/ldftribe or www.twitter.com/ldftribe. The Communications Office is progressing nicely and will be steadily adding videos to the Tribe's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/ldftribe. You can contact them at (715) 588-4492 or by email at communications@ldftribe.com to receive the weekly e-newsletter.

In closing, I would like to say that our community continues to face many challenges. These challenges bring out the best in us when we work together. Our Council continues to work for the betterment of our Membership, day in and day out. Without your support, we will not be able to accomplish our goals. Our Tribe is a strong voice collectively and in order to prosper, we must be willing to stand for what's right. We are not going to accept illegal drug activity in our community. If you need help with an addiction, seek help. You will not be judged. Our efforts are going to be stepped-up, so if you are involved in any illegal activity, I advise you to stop now. We will not rest in our endeavor to provide a safe, healthy, drug-free environment for our children, elders and law-abiding community members.

If you have questions, go to the source. You can reach me on my office phone at (715) 588-3303, home phone at (715) 588-3614, or my cell phone at (715) 614-3614. Rumors and negativity only distract us and take away precious energy that we should be using to work on the important issues we are facing. We are making great strides as a Tribe and a community. Let's honor one another and work together for the continued improvement of our entire Tribe.

Miigwitch,
President Tom Maulson

THANK YOU

Sincere thanks to the Tribal Government, especially Jeaninne Bruguier, Janice Philemon and the accounting department, for helping the H.O.P.E. organization with the 7th annual Pow Wow and camp out held in September. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience of our late request. We greatly appreciate the help that was given in a good, kind way.

Chi Miigwitch,
Donna Larson and the H.O.P.E. organization

Thank you to the Tribal Government for the help given to me from the Elder Program for electric, gas and central air. From my heart, I am greatly appreciative for the assistance. It was a gift to me, as I've worked hard all my life and I've never received help from the programs. It lifted a lot of worry from me. I just cannot say enough about our Elder Program.

Chi Miigwitch,
Donna Larson

I am honored and humbled by the support during my re-election bid as the Tribal Treasurer. I look forward to your continued support in the upcoming year and always know that I will always keep the best interest of the Membership first.

Mary F. Peterson

Parks & Recreation

Toward the end of 2012, the new Parks & Recreation Program was created within the Tribal Roads Department. The program has been busy the last couple of months – if you've been by Thunderbird Park lately, you have probably noticed the extended play area and wide assortment of playground equipment. From jungle gyms to slides, teeter totters and swings, the park has been transformed into a beautiful family recreation area.

"Thunderbird Park was definitely a learning experience in planning and completing this type of project for our staff," said George Thompson, Parks & Recreation Program Manager. "Our budget was extremely limited, so we had to forego the professional site plans and work with what we had in regards to staff capabilities and availability. Our vendors and contractors also went above and beyond, and contributed their knowledge and experience along the way," George continued.

The Tribal Council funded the Parks & Recreation Program for \$200,000 over two years. Additional funding was received from construction income from the Tribal Roads Department. The majority of the funding was used for new playground equipment, a basketball court, an ice skating rink and the Fibar safety surfaces at Thunderbird Park. George said that there is still some work to do with the retaining pond before the landscaping will be complete.



Playing at the park.



Thunder Park.

"We aren't able to do this for every park yet – but we intend to. Quality parks are expensive, and require regular maintenance to keep them safe and enjoyable. Our goal is to replace the equipment in at least one park each year. Our next project will be the parks on Cemetery Road," George continued.

The Parks & Recreation Program would like to thank the following people and organizations for their valuable contributions toward the success of their first project:

- The Tribal Council
- The Tribal Historic Presentation Office
- Pitlick & Wick
- JJ's Acres
- Pro Installation Plus
- Peterson Tree Service
- American Fencing
- The Tribal Planning Office
- Tom Kich, Electrician
- The Tribal Water & Sewer Office
- Chippewa Valley Bank

The Parks & Recreation Program would also like to thank the community members who are doing their best to keep Thunderbird Park as nice as it is, as well as keeping our children safe. "It is so refreshing to see the children and families outside playing and socializing with each other," said George.

Even though the park is still in its infancy, it has already become a positive gathering place for people of all ages. Lawrence Richmond took advantage of the warm mid-October temperatures to enjoy the new park with his granddaughter Iyana Wolfe. "We love it. The kids really like coming over here and playing on the equipment," said Richmond when asked about his experience at the park. "I think a lot of people, not just kids, were waiting for something like this to happen; it's great!"

If you would like to make a donation to the Parks & Recreation Program, there will be collection boxes located in several local businesses and at the Tribal program offices, or you can mail your donation to the Tribal Roads Department, P.O. Box 67, Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538.

Lake of the Torches Resort Casino receives impressive response to launch of online gaming site

Lake of the Torches Resort Casino has experienced an impressive response from online guests to the launch of free online games available on its website, www.lakeofthetorches.com

More than 2,000 online guests have already signed up to enjoy the site. There are more than 140 games including slots, table games, poker and more that are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on the site. In addition, the site has experienced more than 40,000 page views since it went live Sept. 16.

"We are delighted with the tremendous response we've received from our online guests located all over the country. Our website offers guests an enhanced online experience where they can play their favorite games from the comfort of their personal computer," said Lake of the Torches Resort Casino Chief Executive Officer Bill Guelcher.

Guests can play now for free during a special introductory



period which continues through Nov. 1. In addition, guests can play in poker sessions with other players from around the world. The site also includes a social media page allowing guests the ability to interact online with their friends and fellow gamers. After the introductory period, guests will still receive free daily credits and opportunities to receive additional free credits.

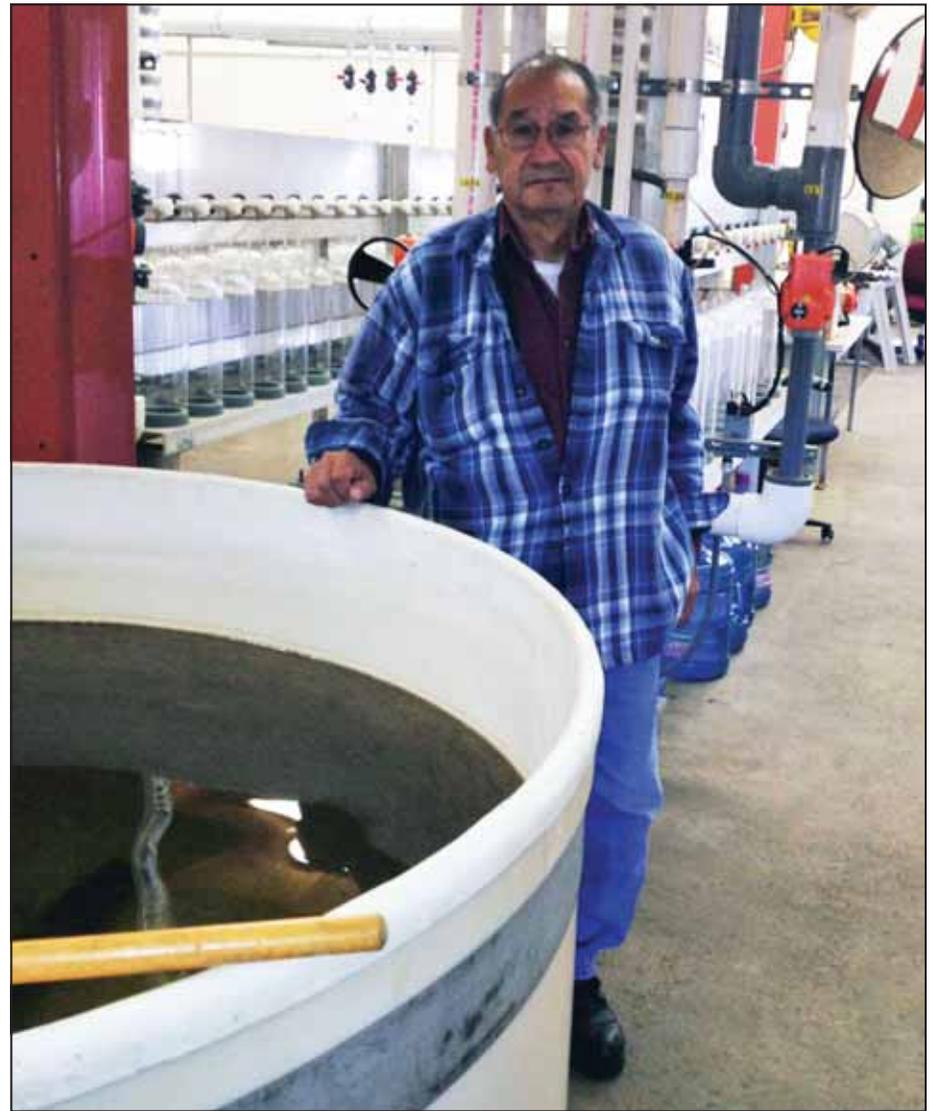
Lake of the Torches Resort Casino has partnered with C2Rewards to launch the new online platform. "C2Rewards integrates casino marketing with a full social iGaming platform to create a single solution for guests to play online for fun and interact with their casino friends," said C2Rewards Chief Executive Officer Jack Hakim.

Visit the Lake of the Torches website at www.lakeofthetorches.com for more information or to sign up to play the online games today. Online games are for entertainment only and credits do not have cash value.

Fish Hatchery

Inwewin newspaper staff stopped by the William J. Poupart, Sr. Fish Hatchery and Trout Pond, and saw some great sights!

View the video about the fish hatchery at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhgXtAA4MtU>.



Lac du Flambeau Tribe Hires State of Emergency Facilitator

The Lac du Flambeau Tribe is pleased to announce the hiring of Mr. Ryan Champagne as our new State of Emergency Facilitator. This newly created position will focus on maximizing the Tribe's human services resources, performing a strengths and needs assessment, and ultimately developing a strategic plan to deal with substance abuse and other social issues on the reservation.

This past April, the Tribe declared a state of emergency in response to a rash of deaths linked to prescription and new wave designer drugs. More specifically, the proliferation of prescription drug and synthetic marijuana abuse has been an area of great concern within the Tribe.

Champagne has been working with at-risk children and families for over 10 years. He has extensive knowledge of the child welfare and juvenile justice systems and their interaction with indigenous peoples. In Minnesota, Champagne was the Director for the Department of Family Services for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, where he helped to develop a na-

tionally acclaimed "Tribal Wrap Around" program. He has previously worked for various social service agencies and Tribal Nations, and served his own people as Appellate Justice for six years. Mr. Champagne is best known for developing Tribal programs that meet the unique needs of that particular community, while being self-sustaining and having measurable outcomes. Mr. Champagne previously served on the board of Ombudsperson for American Indian Families and currently works with Red Road Leadership Consulting by providing training and consultation services to Tribes.

Champagne is a member of the Grand River Band Anishinaabe Community and a 2002 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He holds degrees in social sciences, sociology and anthropology, and is currently attending Michigan State University in pursuit of a master's degree in social work. Before arriving in his new role with the Tribe, Ryan worked as a case manager for the Zaagiibagaa Healing to Wellness Court in

Lac du Flambeau. The court is a community-based alternative to incarceration for individuals convicted of non-violent, drug- or alcohol-related offenses, and is another tool in the Tribe's continued effort to reinvigorate the community.

"This Tribe is leading and innovative in many areas. The leadership realizes that some Members are suffering from drugs and alcohol, and by declaring a state of emergency, has taken on the issues that are plaguing the community," said Champagne.

Tribal Council Member Brooks Big John is confident that the addition of Champagne will strengthen the Tribe's approach in combating drug and alcohol abuse in the community. "Ryan was highly recommended and we are excited to have him on our team," said Big John. "I know he will be a great fit and an asset to the progress of our Tribe," he added.

Champagne has a lifelong connection to the Northwoods, where he resides with his fiancée and their four children. "I am looking forward to serving the



Tribe and helping to build a strong foundation for the Tribe's future generations," said Champagne.