



TURTLE PRESS

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develops database and
cleanup standards

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Focused on five Strategic
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WINTER 2019



NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI
A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBAL GOVERNMENT



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CELEBRATE BRAVERY

NHBP HOSTS VETERANS
ROUND DANCE AND FEAST

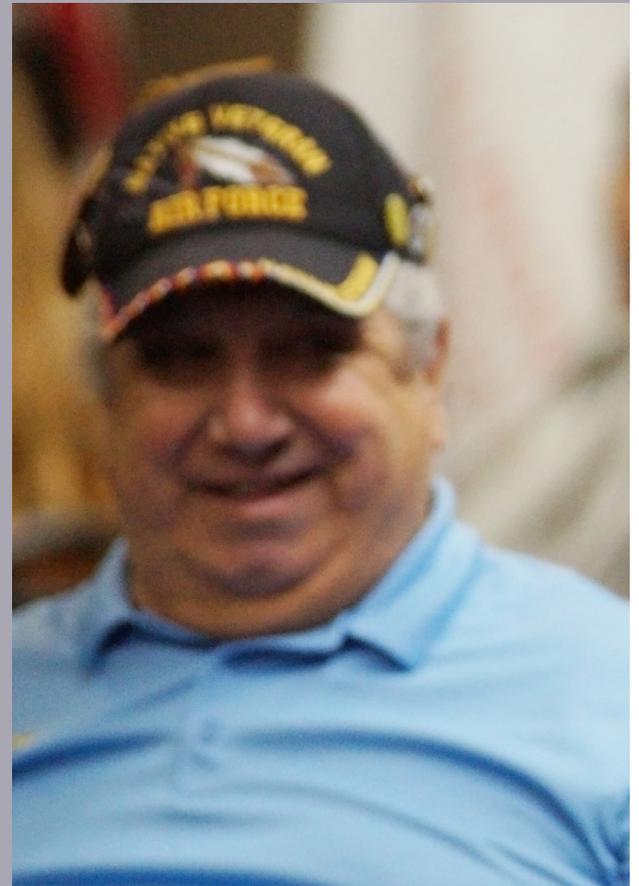
SUBMITTED BY XANDER WEDEL
PHOTOS BY XANDER WEDEL

THE SENSE OF REVERENCE WAS PALPABLE. During a night dedicated to honoring local Anishinabék Veterans, Tribal Members gathered to celebrate the bravery of those who have served to protect the Potawatomi Nation.

A particularly packed community center brought close connections between new and old friends, fresh and delicious Feast foods and plenty of fun and Dancing. But perhaps the most important aspect of the night was providing Tribal Members the ability to reflect and redirect their attention to all that they were thankful for.

As an introduction to the Round Dance, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Veteran Anthony Foerster rallied his fellow Tribal Veterans with a plea — that each of them see each other not as Veterans of many different Tribes, but one Anishnabék people. “Tonight we are all Veterans of the Potawatomi Nation,” Foerster said.

Foerster went on to discuss the purpose and meaning behind Native Peoples serving in battle. Although it could be easy to overlook, for many Tribal Veterans enlistment was imperative to ensuring the safety of their posterities.



A PAINTED DUWAYGEN (HAND DRUM) WAS OFFERED AS A RAFFLE PRIZE DURING THE NIGHT'S ACTIVITIES.

Tribal Community Veterans



"Tonight we are all Veterans of
the Potawatomi Nation."

- Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Veteran Anthony Foerster



Community Member Arthur Zapata leads a series of Round Dance Songs on the Hand Drum.

“We were fighting to protect our land,” Foerster explained.

Later, after the Feast, Master of Ceremonies Paul Syrette encouraged everyone in the room to make an offering of Séma (Tobacco) to be used for the Pipe Ceremony. Syrette explained that the Pipe Ceremony went beyond honoring just the Veterans currently attending the Round Dance and included all who had served. “Remembering those who have passed on or could not be here is part of the Pipe Ceremony,” Syrette said.

Syrette then introduced Community Member Steve Pego to talk about wartime for the Anishbabé. Pego discussed the importance of the Eagle Staff and went on to describe how purposeful the Potawatomi People have always been. “Everything that we have as Anishnabé has a teaching behind how we got it,” Pego said.

“Everything that we have as Anishnabé has a teaching behind how we got it.”

- Community Member Steve Pego



In regard to the use of face paint in wartime, Pego explained how much more it meant to the Potawatomi in terms of cultural significance rather than intimidation tactics. “It’s not really war paint,” Pego said. “It’s journey paint in case they were ever lost in battle.”

After Pego finished speaking the room quieted for the Pipe Ceremony. Everyone reflected on the men and women who served as their offerings of Séma raised toward the sky. The night then continued with the first Round Dance Song. With over 15 Tribal and Community Members playing Hand Drums and Singing, nearly the entire room was up and dancing. The atmosphere was filled with celebration and thanks.

Different from other Tribal Dances, the Round Dance style is a Northern Potawatomi style of Dance that is meant to have everyone move up and down like the Northern Lights. The night went on with more Songs and Dancing lead by various Tribal and Community Members, some fun raffles for various prizes and a gift to each Veteran in honor of their service to the Potawatomi Nation on behalf of NHBP. The night was truly a moment to celebrate bravery.



Above: Tribal Member Violet Pratt Dances during a Round Dance Song. **Below:** Master of Ceremonies Paul Syrette and Community Member Steve Pego socialize with Tribal Members after the Feast.



IT'S THE MOST

Wonderful

TIME OF THE YEAR!

Tribal Members Celebrate the Holiday Season at Airway Fun Center

SUBMITTED BY LEIA FULLER
PHOTOS BY LEIA FULLER

THE CLINKING TOGETHER OF PINS, THE NEON LIGHTS THAT MAKE SMILES GLOW, THE LAUGHTER BETWEEN HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE AND THE SWEET AROMA OF A MILE LONG BUFFET. WHAT ELSE COULD IT BE, BUT THE YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY? THIS YEAR, THE CELEBRATION WAS HOSTED BY MEMBERSHIP SERVICES AT AIRWAY FUN CENTER IN PORTAGE, MICHIGAN. WITH THE ENTIRE BUILDING SOLELY DEDICATED TO NHBP FAMILIES FOR THIS SPECIAL CELEBRATION, ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS COULD ENJOY THIS EXCLUSIVE EVENT TO CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON.





Tribal Member Josie Hendrix hugs Santa after talking about what she wants for Christmas.



Tribal Member Rees Harmon plays an arcade game.

“This event is great, I just love it. It gets all my kids together and we can all have fun. This is one of the only times I can get them all together and that is just what I like to see.”

– Tribal Member Lillian Zuidema



Tribal Members Jake Ferwerda and his mom, Christen Ferwerda, play a virtual reality game.



As Tribal Members and their families entered, they were greeted with a special gift by Santa's elves, played by some of the Membership Services staff. After signing in, the groups were able to go wherever they would like, as they pleased. Some started out at the buffet, while others enjoyed the arcade. During the celebration, a surprise visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus prompted families to have their pictures taken. Children of all ages came and visited with Santa.

"Tell all the reindeer I said hi, even Rudolph," said Tribal Member Maliyah Harris, as she walked away from talking with Santa.

After countless photos with Santa, Mrs. Claus made sure to mention Christmas Eve traditions to the children.

"Rudolph loves candy canes on the Christmas tree, so even though Santa enjoys cookies, leave a few extra candy canes for the reindeer to share."

- Mrs. Claus

A few children even made sure to ask Santa for a few gifts, since they had been good all year long. Santa would ask what they would like for Christmas, and children would mention one or two of their wishes. Some Tribal youth asked to spend time with their family, while others asked for four-legged animals or toys.

"I asked Santa for a golden English retriever, and it has to be a female," Tribal Member Mindi Harmon said.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OPPORTUNITY

SUBMITTED BY JASON CHIVIS

The Education Office would like to share an important resource with Tribal Members between the ages of 14 and 22 who are in search of a program that is flexible and convenient. The Success Virtual Learning Center (VLC) is an accredited high school diploma opportunity that is state funded and free of charge for students the ages of 14 to 22 living in Michigan that have completed the eighth grade. Success VLC is flexible to meet the needs of any student allowing students to take classes at their convenience, online 24/7. Success VLC practices a blended learning approach to instruction which means students can take 100 percent of their classes online but can utilize the center closest to them as frequent as needed to receive instruction from certified teachers. There are 22 centers available in Michigan that can be searched within the Success VLC website. Center hours are from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

No residency requirements exist to enroll at any center. However, students would need to complete the following at the center: attend registration, complete orientation, finish the ACT tests and walk in a graduation ceremony.

Any student who previously had an IEP for Special Education Services can be eligible for services through Success VLC. Success VLC has a special education department that provides and supports IEPs and any instructional accommodations for them.

Steps to Begin:

1. Find a location that best suits the student.
2. Attend registration and complete enrollment papers.
3. Schedule a two hour orientation to learn student expectations.
4. After all the above is completed, the student may then begin coursework.

What to Bring to Registration:

- A copy of high school transcripts to transfer any earned credits which leads to a faster graduation (22 credits are needed to graduate)
- A copy of driver's license or state ID
- If under the age of 18, student must bring legal guardian and a copy of birth certificate

Students will receive a free computer at orientation to complete their class work online using Edgenuity software. The staff is very caring and the program is completely flexible to work around each student's life and work schedule.

If you have any further questions or need assistance, please contact Education Office Coordinator Jason Chivis at 616.514.3654 or jason.chivis@nhbpi.com. For more information about the program, please visit www.successvlc.com.

NHBP'S BROWNFIELD PROGRAM

SUBMITTED BY NHBP ENVIRONMENTAL DEPT.

WHAT IS THE BROWNFIELD PROGRAM?

A brownfield, in the U.S., is a property where the future use of the site is in danger due to the perceived presence of environmental contamination from former use. The federal government didn't have a word for this hazardous waste until 1976. Before the Superfund legislation in 1980, it was standard practice to bury, burn or dump hazardous waste outside in the open.

BROWNFIELD ORIGIN AND BENEFITS

In the 1950s, a Niagara Falls factory capped a hazardous waste-filled hole with clay. A population boom required more land for homes and a public school, both of which were built on the waste pit. The project's construction broke the structures that were engineered to keep the waste contained and with record rainfall in 1978, a sea of chemicals gushed to the surface near the hole. The site, commonly known as Love Canal, took 21 years and almost \$400 million to clean. There were horrific public health consequences, as well. Public pressure from this tragedy led to the passing of the Superfund Program, where the U.S. government assigned official responsible parties who owned, currently owned or would ever own a brownfield.

The U.S. system in the 1950s did not discourage land contamination. Current estimates suggest there are still up to one million brownfield sites in the U.S. alone. The NHBP Brownfield Program revalues lands once rendered worthless.

Redeveloping brownfields can have benefits including:

- Rehabilitating distressed properties
- Increasing property values
- Enhancing local investment
- Reducing urban sprawl

BROWNFIELDS AT NHBP

NHBP has not yet used any Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant dollars to redevelop a contaminated property. However, NHBP has undertaken land-related projects such as developing draft cleanup standards, maintaining a property database, performing Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) for land acquisitions, as well as surveying Tribal land for possible signs of contamination.

An NHBP Elder once said, "People who come to a place for money often leave it to go somewhere else for more money." It brings to mind the way the predominant culture has treated its lands, and the legacy that will leave for the next Seven Generations. The value that NHBP culture places on the Seven Grandfather Teachings, long-term planning, land and community outreach is a diamond in the rough of the prevailing system where we are forced to think first of money and short-term gain.

If you have any questions about the NHBP Brownfield Program, please contact Environmental Specialist Amy Boetcher at aboetcher@nhbpi.com or stop by the Environmental Center Wednesday through Friday.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE ON BROWNFIELDS

BROWNFIELD TIMELINE

1980

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) is passed by Congress as Superfund Legislation after the Love Canal incident. Whereby the U.S. Government assigns official clean up responsibilities to the past, present and future owners of a brownfield.

70

80

90

1976

The U.S. government develops the term "hazardous waste." As a result, the U.S. dramatically changes the way it handles waste activities.

TRIBAL TRUST LANDS AND NHBP'S BROWNFIELD PROGRAM

Tribal trust lands exempt status from state law has made, and still makes, them targets for places to dump industrial waste, and practice activities that lead to polluted rivers, lakes and lands. NHBP's Pine Creek Indian Reservation has had a remarkably "clean" land history, compared with many other Tribal Nations' lands. NHBP's Brownfield Program activities include:

- Developing draft cleanup standards
- Phase I Environmental Site inspections (aka "Phase I ESA") for land acquisitions
- Maintaining a property inventory/database
- Surveying Tribal land for possible signs of contamination

NHBP ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT (ESA) PROCESS

Per NHBP's Land Acquisition Plan, the Environmental Department conducts a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for a parcel of land.

Phase I ESA is a tool that is used to evaluate potential environmental risks for a specific site.

NHBP uses a federally recognized process which would allow for the property to be put into Federal Trust if the Tribe ever wished to do so.

2002

The U.S. government passes the Brownfield Program policies (created by the EPA) as law. Also known as the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act.

00

10

1995

Brownfield Program is launched by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Although not official law, money distribution starts to be sent to local communities.

2006

NHBP receives funding from the EPA as a part of the Brownfield Program.

PHASE I ESA

An environmental background check/property inspection that does not involve digging or sampling, includes:

- Interview with current owner or site personnel
- Review of historic records
- Review of environmental data
- Review of public records from government agencies
- Thorough site inspection/walkover

PHASE II ESA

Involves soil or groundwater analysis, mold sampling or other methodology to evaluate the risks identified by a Phase I ESA:

- Phase II ESA will only take place after a Phase I ESA shows risk of site contamination.
- Phase II ESAs are more expensive and generally take longer to complete results.

BROWNFIELD RELATED TO NHBP PROPERTIES

41

Number of land parcels in our current records (2018)

30

Number of land parcels with a completed Phase I ESA

2

Number of land parcels with a completed Phase II ESA

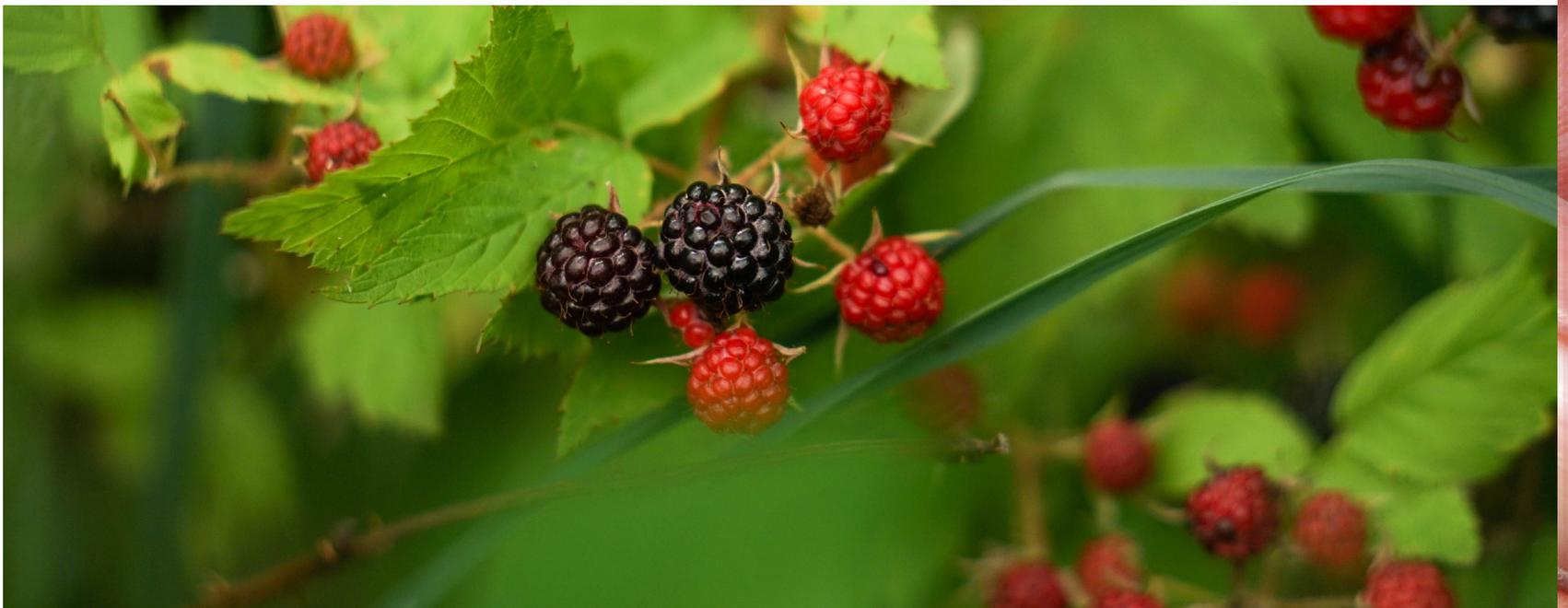
1,038

Total acreage of NHBP land (fee & trust) in our current records (2018)

WHERE TRADITION

MEETS HEALTH

DECOLONIZATION DIET SPARKS INTEREST IN INDIGENOUS PRACTICES



SUBMITTED BY LEIA FULLER
PHOTOS BY EMILEE GUZAK AND LEIA FULLER

GO FORTH, AND FORAGE! IT MAY BE CHALLENGING FOR SOME TO SEE THE VALUE OF FORAGING IN TODAY'S WORLD. OFTEN, THE WORD ALONE MAKES IT SEEM LIKE WE ARE IN THE OLDEN DAYS, BUT GOING BACK TO TRADITIONAL FOOD GATHERING ACTIVITIES AND TECHNIQUES CAN ASSIST IN ACHIEVING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE. RECENTLY, THE MODERN WORLD IS COMING UP TO SPEED ON A TRADITIONAL IDEA THAT INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PRACTICING FOR CENTURIES: THE DECOLONIZATION DIET.



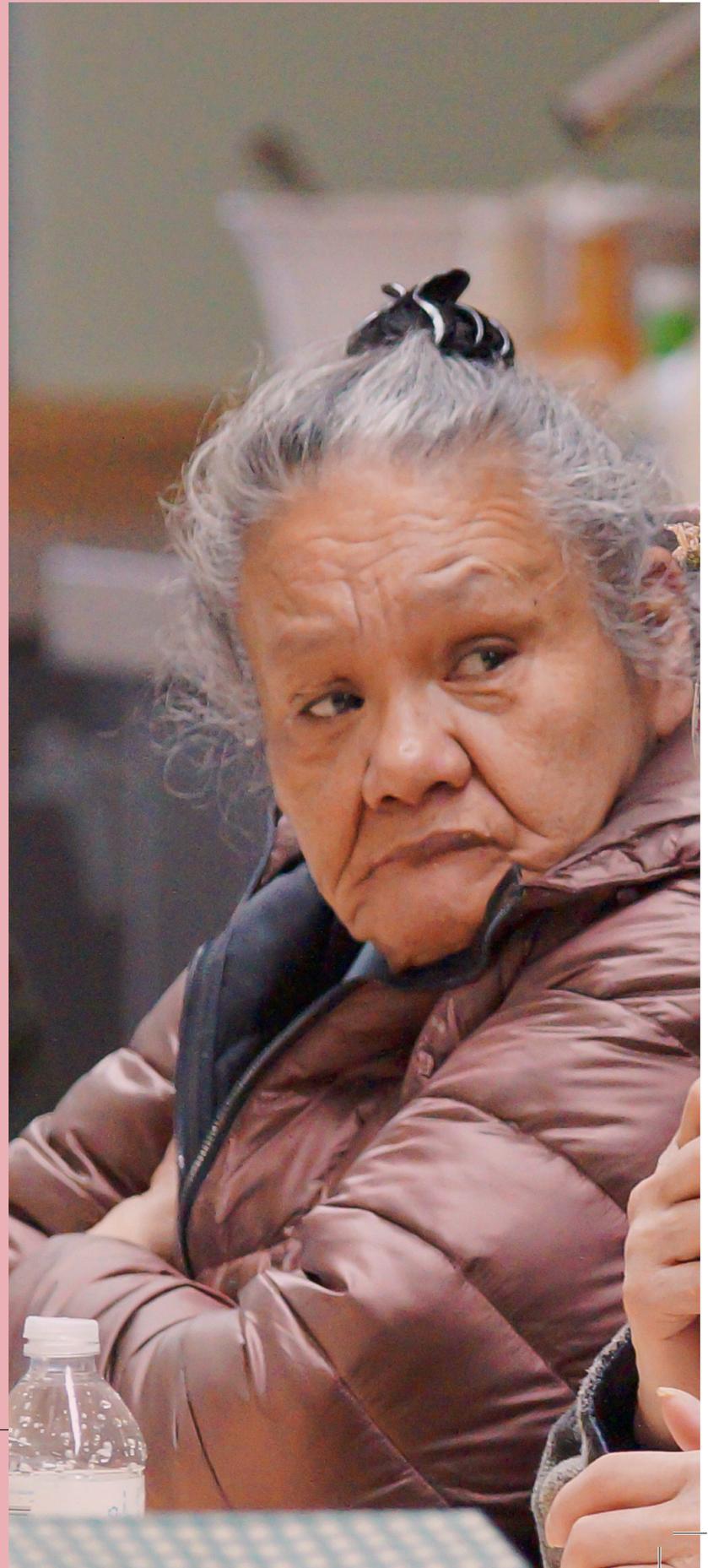
“Sometimes we have to be reminded what worked best for us historically, to remember what will work best for us in the future.”

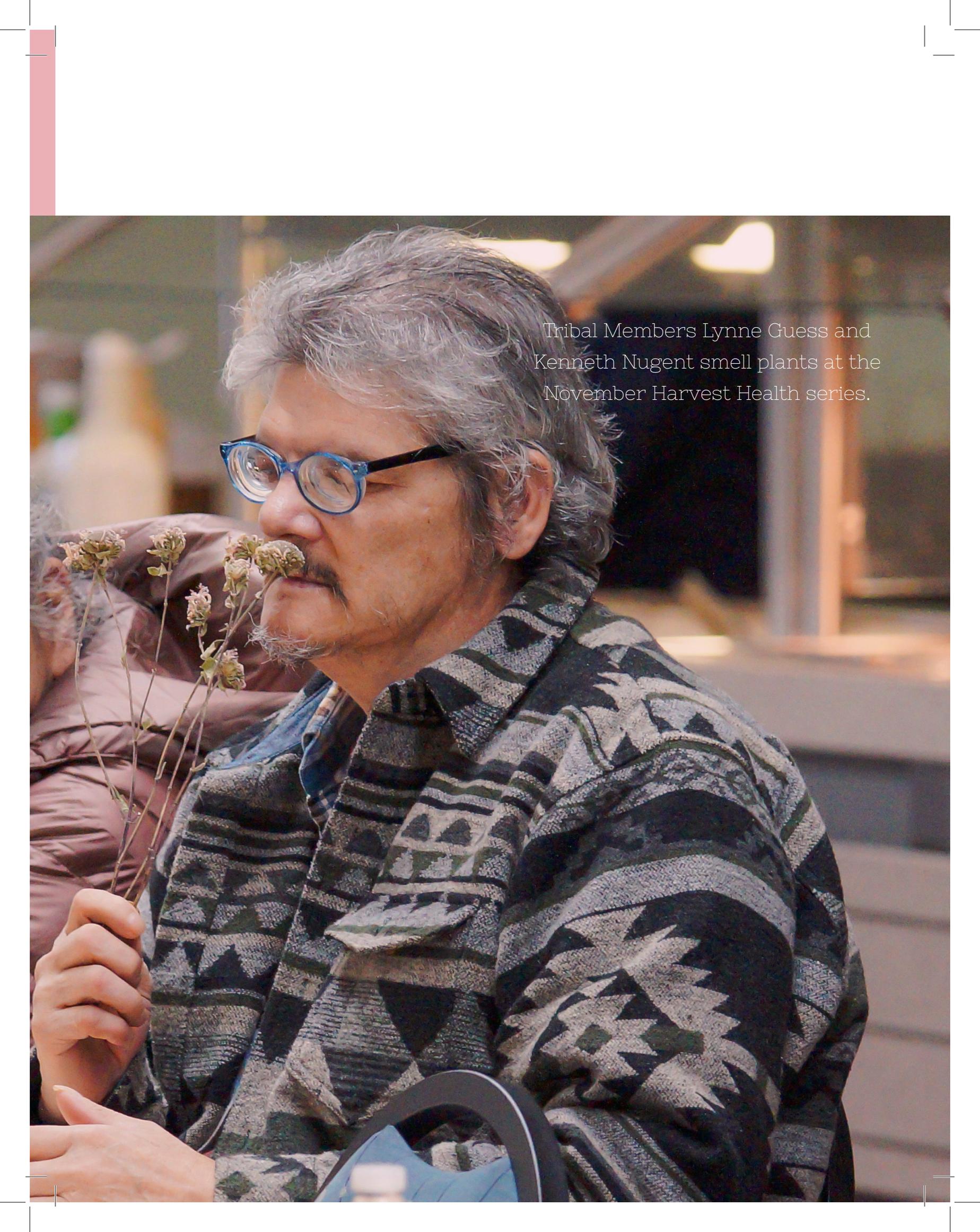
– Tribal Member Craig Chivis

The idea behind the diet is simple; limit an individual's intake to only include the items and foods that were harvested hundreds of years ago in the area where that person lives. This helps those people live their healthiest and get back to traditional lifeways.

"I think food sovereignty and the traditional diets are what will be best for us as Native Americans," Tribal Member Craig Chivis said. "Sometimes we have to be reminded what worked best for us historically, to remember what will work best for us in the future."

For individuals living in Michigan, foods able to be consumed would include produce grown in the Great Lakes region, such as variations of Wild Rice, Maple Syrup, deer, berries, fish, corn, squash and beans. The combination of corn, squash and beans is commonly known as the Three Sisters foods, a traditional food combination. The diet also requires an exercise component, where individuals participate in activities similar to what people would do before the area was colonized.





Tribal Members Lynne Guess and
Kenneth Nugent smell plants at the
November Harvest Health series.

And the evidence behind the diet is staggering. Northern Michigan University conducted a study of 25 people who ate 25 to 100 percent of foods that are considered to be 'decolonized' for a full calendar year. The results initiated what many believed would happen – significant, positive changes in one's health. Reports show that the research subjects experienced significant reductions in weight, girth and body mass index, as well as noteworthy reductions in blood pressure, cholesterol and blood glucose levels.

A three-year follow up on the study proved that the decolonization diet isn't a fad, it truly requires a permanent lifestyle change. And when that change is made, good things happen. Thirty-three percent of participants who used medications before the study were able to stop using their medications, due to food intake changes and exercise regimes.

The November Lunch and Learn series hosted at the Pine Creek Community Center focused on food sovereignty and the decolonization diet, and featured Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi Tribal Member Madalene Big Bear. Food sovereignty, just like the decolonization diet, is just one crucial piece in the puzzle to preserve traditional indigenous practices.

Big Bear showed attendees how to do all things Maple, from seasoning Wild Rice and casseroles to making hard candies. She challenged attendees to start going back to the traditional ways of their Ancestors, in order to continue developing a food sovereignty system that is necessary for forward progress.

“The reason that we want to acknowledge this Rice and traditional foods, and the sacredness of it, is because it truly is the reason we are here. We were told in our migrations that we needed to stop where that food grew on the water, such as that Rice, and that is why we ended up being successful here.” – Harvest Health Instructor Madalene Big Bear



Tribal Member Kevin Harris II shows the crowd how Wild Rice looks after it is soaked.



Harvest Health Instructor Madalene Big Bear teaches the class how to make Maple candy.

EDUCATION OFFICE HIGHLIGHT:

Tribal Member Takes
Advantage of High
School Opportunity

SUBMITTED BY LEIA FULLER
PHOTO PROVIDED BY
MACKENZIE MANDOKA



“I loved the HOBY WLC experience. It made my eyes open to so many different things including leadership, culture and how to communicate with others effectively.” – Tribal Member Mackenzie Mandoka

Tribal Member Mackenzie Mandoka (bottom row, middle) stands with her friends at the HOBY Conference in Chicago, Illinois.



Leadership, listening, communication, learning, global citizenship, and teamwork. Not all high school students, or even adults, want to go to workshops focused on all the above, but Tribal Member Mackenzie Mandoka thought that this could be a break from the mundane daily routine and a chance to learn all about what it takes to become a great leader.

Mandoka attends Gull Lake High School in Richland, Michigan, and felt as if something was missing in her life. By diving into her education head first, she felt inspired and was able to figure out what her missing puzzle piece was: leadership. During her sophomore year, Mandoka applied and was accepted to attend the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) World Leadership Congress (WLC) in Chicago, Illinois. This program invites over 400 students from across the United States and around the world for a week of inspiration, discovery and fun. Attendees learn the tools they need to reach their goals and be an active global citizen.

There was just one issue; the financial burden to attend the various conferences was placed on the student. So Mandoka did what any NHBP Tribal Member should do: reach out to an Education Office staff member. Mandoka continued to collaborate with Higher Education Specialist Andrea Rainer, EPS Education Specialist Michelle Simms and Education Office Coordinator Charles Hendrix, who notified her that on behalf of the Education Committee, all expenses would be paid for by NHBP. This enabled Mandoka with a once in a lifetime chance to expand her horizons and learn the ins and outs of leadership.

"I personally want to thank the Education Committee and Andrea Rainer for allowing me to go to HOBY WLC 2018," Mandoka said. "From the surface, HOBY looks like a whole bunch of high school students cheering for leadership and other things that most people have never heard of. Not only did I learn more about leadership and improved my education, but I made never-ending friendships."

One workshop practiced how to have actual dialogue with someone. Students were taught that having a dialogue with someone is more important than speaking, it is to fully listen to someone and not think about what to say before that person has finished their thought. Another highlight of Mandoka's trip was the idea of inclusion, from all cultures. There were over 15 countries represented by students, and near the end of the conference, students had the chance to perform in a talent show, to showcase their individual culture.

"I loved the HOBY WLC experience. It made my eyes open to so many different things including leadership, culture and how to communicate with others effectively," Mandoka said. "One workshop that I loved was improv. I didn't understand how this related to leadership until they showed us how to use this in real life. For example, it showed us how to think on our feet and to be ready for anything that could be thrown at us."

For more information about education programs, please contact Education Office Coordinator Charles Hendrix at charles.hendrix@nhbpi.com or 269.704.4162.

Waséyabek Federal Services, LLC Joint Venture with E2 Consulting Engineers Awarded Government Contract

SUBMITTED BY WASÉYABEK DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC PRESIDENT & CEO DEIDRA MITCHELL

On November 13, the United States General Services Administration (GSA) awarded the WE2 Support Services, LLC joint venture between Waséyabek Federal Services, LLC and E2 Consulting Engineers, Inc. their first prime contract. This Building Maintenance and Operations (BMO) contract is intended to provide government agencies in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia with a centralized method of obtaining services that fall under the building, maintenance and operations scope.

The BMO contract is a multiple award Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract that may be used by U.S. government agencies for all federally controlled spaces and assets in the region. IDIQ contracts provide an unfixed number of services for a specific contract period when GSA is unsure of the exact amounts of supplies or services. With this particular contract, GSA awarded only 40 qualified companies, which means GSA work is restricted to only those listed on the BMO contract. The period of performance is five years, with an optional addition of five-years, for a total of 10 years.

Waséyabek Development Company, LLC President & CEO Deidra Mitchell Named to NSBA Leadership Council

The National Small Business Association (NSBA) recently named Waséyabek Development Company, LLC President & CEO Deidra Mitchell to the NSBA Leadership Council. NSBA is the nation's oldest small-business advocacy organization and operates on a nonpartisan basis. Mitchell, a recognized leader in the small-business community, joins



Waséyabek Development Company, LLC President & CEO Deidra Mitchell.

the NSBA Leadership Council alongside other small-business advocates from across the country as they work to promote the interests of small business to policymakers in Washington, D.C.

“As a Tribally-owned, small-business leader, I see daily the importance of being involved and active when it comes to laws and regulation,” Mitchell said. “Joining NSBA’s Leadership Council will enable me to take our collective, small-business message to the people that can solidify change: our partners in Congress.”

Mitchell, a Kent State University graduate and former small-business owner, joined WDC in early 2016 to implement a non-gaming, economic diversification strategy for the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi. Her efforts have resulted in acquiring four commercial income properties and two operating businesses, launching a federal contracting practice, deploying \$34 million in

the Michigan economy, and creating 18 new Michigan-based jobs.

Mitchell joined the NSBA Leadership Council to tackle the many critical issues facing small business, including health care costs, how the Affordable Care Act will impact small business, regulatory changes (especially those related to federal contracting), and minority ownership and certification. The NSBA Leadership Council focuses on providing valuable networking between small-business advocates from across the country ,while ensuring small businesses have a seat at the table as Congress and regulators take up key small-business proposals.

“I am proud to have Mitchell as part of our Leadership Council,” said NSBA President and CEO Todd McCracken. “She came to us highly recommended, and I look forward to our coordinated efforts for years to come.”



SOLAR ARRAY PRODUCTION SUMMARY		
Through September 30, 2018		
Production	FireKeepers Panels	Pine Creek Panels
Electrical Energy	430.22 MWh	40,765 kWh
Trees Saved	16,778	1,591
Bulbs Lit Per Day	1,304,978	123,659
CO ₂ Emission Reduction	302,448 kg	28,495 kg
Therms (Equals 100,000 BTU)	8,456	1,699

The solar arrays at Pine Creek and FKCH continue to operate as planned and demonstrate NHBP’s and WDC’s commitment to environmental stewardship.

NHBP ADMINISTERS THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR COURT STAFF

SUBMITTED BY LEIA FULLER
PHOTOS BY EMILEE GUZAK



Prosecutor Nancy Bogren and Chief Judge Melissa Pope hug Tribal Council Members after completing their Oath of Office.

The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi recently administered the Oath of Office ceremony of a Tribal Judiciary official and the Chief Judge, as well as the Tribe's Prosecuting Attorney, at the December Tribal Council Meeting.

Holly T. Bird was also reappointed as an Associate Justice and sworn in for a 6-year term serving on NHBP's Supreme Court. Bird graduated from DePaul University College of Law in 1999, where she served as the Native American Representative and President of the Latino Law Students

Association. She was then appointed as an Acting Chief Judge and Associate Judge for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians in 2008, where she served until 2011. Currently, Bird maintains a private practice in Traverse City, concentrating in matters of Native American, family, juvenile, criminal, civil, traffic, real estate, probate, employment and business law. Bird is a descendant from the San Felipe Pueblo/Yaqui/Apache tribes and the English Isles.

Melissa L. Pope was reappointed as Chief Judge of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of



Tribal Members lay Séma (Tobacco) on the Drum.

the Potawatomi Tribal Court, and sworn in to serve a 4-year term. Pope graduated from the University of Michigan in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in Literature, Science and the Arts, and received her Juris Doctorate from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 1999. Pope has served as Chief Judge of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Tribal Court since February 2011. She has also served as the Chief Justice of the Little River Band of the Ottawa Indians Appellate Court since 2009 and has been teaching American Indian Law at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law as an adjunct faculty member since 2007.

Nancy A. Bogren was reappointed and sworn in for a 4-year term as Prosecutor and Presenting Officer of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi. Bogren earned her Juris Doctorate degree from Valparaiso University in 1987, after which she served as the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Berrien County, Michigan, until 1991, when she left to work in the Kalamazoo County Prosecutor's Office until 1998. Bogren opened her private practice in Paw Paw in 2005. In 2010, she was named Tribal Prosecutor for NHBP and has since assumed the responsibilities as ICWA Attorney and Elder Protection Attorney for NHBP.

2018 - 2022 Strategic Plan Strategic Priorities

Building
Financial

Perpetuating Culture

As a sovereign, the NHBP must express their culture and unique identity. Learning aspects of the culture knowing the history is not enough, as culture is active and alive and needs to be expressed. Respect for the Elders and seeking their wisdom for guidance prolongs the teachings, stories, art, and traditions for future generations. Prioritizing the appropriate incorporation of the language and culture into aspects of daily life within the community and Membership strengthens the relationships and bonds. Culture is the connection between our past, our present, and our future.

Financial Prosperity

Blessed with a strong financial foundation, the NHBP government looks to expand its sovereign influence through sound fiscal management. Opportunities exist to prosper as individual Members, as well as the Membership as a whole. Additional prospects include career development and ventures for individuals, coupled with the development of pathways to diversify and secure future revenues. Capitalizing on financial prosperity enhances sovereignty and builds community financial wellness.

Expressing Sovereignty

Sovereignty, the notion and practice of self-governance and self-rule, is vital to the NHBP government and Membership. With this practice comes great and broad responsibilities, including but not limited to: sovereign rights of the Nation, protection of individual rights, jurisdictional authority, and the creation and enforcement of laws. Achieving sovereignty in action through the positive influence of Tribal leadership in national, state, regional and local relationships that respect the sovereign status of the Tribe enhances the Tribe's ability to progress.



Building Wellness Expressing Sovereignty
Organizational Excellence
Financial Prosperity Perpetuating Culture

Organizational Excellence

Addressing the needs of a nation requires a robust system of delivery. NHBP Tribal Members enjoy a vast array of services and deserve efficiency and effectiveness. Developing the conduit responsible for accomplishing the strategic goals and objectives for maximization is essential. Policy enhancement, advancing protocols, and integration of new systems, along with anticipating financial needs, cultivating the labor force, seeking outcomes, and deploying a vigorous technology system support the organizational growth necessary to accomplish the vision.

Building Wellness

To exercise sovereignty and perpetuate the culture, the NHBP must be strong – financially, physically, emotionally, environmentally, and legally. Taking care of financial resources on the Nation-level, as well as providing opportunity for self-sufficiency is key to the fiscal health and wellness of the NHBP. Likewise, the physical health of the Membership and community is vital to prolonging the culture, and thereby the sovereignty. Having safe living spaces and assuring basic needs through comprehensive approaches helps individual Members to lead fulfilled and productive lives.



FKCH Casino Connection: FireKeepers December Team Member Rally!

Submitted by FKCH | Photo by FKCH



FireKeepers Casino Hotel employees and Tribal Members Kiara Dougherty, Hugh Simpkins and Rachel Hayes at the December Team Rally.

The Annual Winter Team Member Rally was held Wednesday, December 5, at FireKeepers Casino Hotel (FKCH) in the ballrooms. This was the first Team Member Rally that allowed the Team Members to invite their families to join in on the celebration.

Children had fun playing the carnival games and winning prizes. A variety of carnival themed foods were also supplied by the FKCH Banquet team.

Many Tribal Members, who are also FKCH team members, were able to join on the festivities. Tribal Members Sam Wethington and her daughter, Harmony Wethington, Myra Day-Franklin, Kiara Dougherty, Hugh Simpkins and Rachel Hayes were just a few who enjoyed the carnival.

For more information or to apply at FKCH please contact Tribal Development Coordinator Rachel Hayes at 269.660.5411 or rhayes1@firekc.com.

IT'S A BREW-TIFUL DAY

FKCH CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF GAPI

SUBMITTED BY LEIA FULLER
PHOTOS BY EMILEE GUZAK

FireKeepers Casino Hotel (FKCH) opened Gapi Coffee & Sweets Tuesday, January 9, 2019. Gapi is the Bodéwadmi (Potawatomi) word for coffee. Located off the main casino lobby, Gapi offers an assortment of specialty coffee drinks provided by Five Lakes Coffee, hot teas, and delectable pastry items and desserts.

“We were thrilled when we heard FireKeepers chose our coffee to serve at their Battle Creek casino,” said Five Lakes Co-Founder Jared Smith. “We look forward to partnering with FireKeepers Casino to bring fresh, small-batch coffee to the community.”

The Gapi menu will serve a variety of fresh soups and sandwiches, as well. The FKCH culinary team will provide an array of sweets for all to enjoy, from doughnuts, bagels and muffins to ice cream and smoothies!

“We are excited to partner with Five Lakes Coffee to expand our coffee offerings for our guests,” said FKCH Chief Executive Officer Kathy George. “The food and bakery options are also a fantastic addition for guests looking to re-energize.”



Tribal Member Doug Taylor cuts the ribbon to signify the official grand opening.



Tribal Members in attendance were gifted reusable Gapi cups.

Representing Indian Country: Two Native American Women Make History as U.S. Representatives

DEB HAALAND

SUBMITTED BY ERIC
MCCLURE | PHOTOS
PROVIDED BY THE
OFFICES OF U.S. REP.
DEB HAALAND AND U.S.
REP. SHARICE DAVIDS

As the bang of the Speaker of the House's gavel to convene the 116th U.S. Congress echoed off the marble columns within the U.S. House of Representatives chamber, history was being made in Indian Country.

With the Jan. 3 swearing-in of Democrats Deb Haaland, of New Mexico, and Sharice Davids, of Kansas, the first two Native American women in U.S. history were sworn-in as U.S. Representatives. For Indian Country, isn't just the significance of having the voices of Native American women in Congress, but also the fact that Haaland and Davids will work to bring increased attention and action to many key issues facing Native Americans today.

As an enrolled Member of the Pueblo of Laguna of New Mexico, Haaland campaigned on a slate of issues important to Indian Country. She focused on climate change and the environment, including a promise to vote against any further fossil fuel infrastructure and to pursue clean energy alternatives such as solar energy. Haaland also backed the policies of Medicare for All, a national six-month family leave program and universal prekindergarten. She was elected to represent New Mexico's 1st Congressional District with 59.1 percent of the vote in the November 2018 midterm elections.

"I can't wait to bring New Mexico values to Congress," said Haaland in a press release following her swearing-in ceremony Jan. 3. "As the representative for the families in the state's 1st Congressional District,

As a Member of the Pueblo of Laguna Tribe of New Mexico, Deb Haaland was recently sworn in as a representative from New Mexico in the U.S. Congress.



I will be an advocate for renewable energy jobs to protect our land, air and water, a fighter to expand opportunities for our kids, and a champion for equity."

During her time as chair of the Democratic Party of New Mexico, Haaland also broke barriers as the first Native American woman in U.S. history to serve as the chair of a state political party. In this position, she traveled to the Standing Rock Indian Reservation and joined the efforts to block the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. Haaland was also previously selected as New Mexico's Democratic Lieutenant Governor nominee in 2014 and served as a tribal administrator.

SHARICE DAVIDS

Dauids is an enrolled Member of the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin. During her campaign, she focused on a message of equality which was exemplified by the fact that she was Kansas' first openly lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) and Native American congressional nominee. Dauids also saw the need for more diversity in Congress as a key issue and advocated for representatives in government to have a meaningful connection to the communities they represent. She also supported expanding access to quality, affordable health care. Dauids was elected to represent Kansas' 3rd Congressional District in the November 2018 midterm elections with 53.6 percent of the vote.

"As a woman and a Native American, I know how to stand up and fight for equity," said Dauids, in a statement on her 2018 campaign website. "As a lawyer, economic advisor, and advocate, I know how to build consensus and get things done."

Prior to being elected to Congress, Dauids was selected as a member of the 2016-2017 White House Fellowship program. She also gained experience working for Native American Reservations, where she focused on economic development and creating new programs and initiatives. Dauids was also nationally recognized for her work in economic development within Native communities.

Tribal Members Dyami Harris and McKenna Burlingham were able to make the journey



Sharice Dauids, a Member of the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin, was recently sworn in as a representative from Kansas in the U.S. Congress.

to Washington, D.C., to experience the historic moment of having the first two Native American women in the halls of Congress.

"Sharice and Debra made history, and how much support they received throughout the whole process just shows you how big this is for Indian Country," Harris said. "They're giving Congress something that they never had before."

For today's Tribal youth, including Harris and Burlingham, witnessing this glass ceiling being shattered by both Haaland and Dauids has truly resonated. There is the notion of how long the road to this point in our history has been, as well as hopefulness for what this historic moment will truly mean for Indian Country.

"As a female Tribal youth, not only am I inspired to speak up and have my voice be heard as a young female Native American, but also to know that our voices as Native American people are going to be heard through these women is just amazing to me," Burlingham said. "I can't wait to see what these women are going to do for Native American people and the country as a whole."



THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE TRASH CAN:

NHBP ENHANCES RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

SUBMITTED BY
ERIC MCCLURE
PHOTOS BY
ERIC MCCLURE

ABOVE: Plastic water bottles are one of several types of recyclable materials that NHBP collects for recycling from Tribal Members and staff. **RIGHT:** NHBP staff sort recyclable materials collected on-site before transporting them to a county recycling facility.

Imagine going for a swim or boat ride in the Pacific Ocean, only to come across a floating herd of over 12,500 African elephants. While that may be highly unlikely, according to The Ocean Cleanup, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch in the Pacific Ocean is roughly the same weight as more than 12,500 African elephants! This mass of floating garbage is composed of an estimated 88,000 tons of garbage and continues to grow in size each year. While debate drags on as to what we can do as humans to deal with our ever-growing waste problem, NHBP is moving to enhance their own sustainability efforts.

“As Native Americans, we were the first stewards of our environment,” Environmental Director John Rodwan said. “It was our Native way of life, to always be conscious of what we used. Many others are now looking toward Tribes as an example of how to be sustainable and environmentally-friendly. We’re seen as leaders in that sense.”

NHBP has already begun to look at alternatives to common plastic products, including plastic straws, stir sticks and single-serve coffee containers. The Environmental Department and Tribal Environmental Advisory Committee has taken the first step by purchasing 500 reusable stainless steel straws that will be available free of charge for the NHBP Tribal Community and employees.

The department also has a recycling program in place that allows for all to properly dispose of recyclable materials including glass, metals, paper, cardboard and plastics. Individuals can drop off their recyclables at the recycling trailer located near the Government Center. DPW staff then sorts the materials into categories that are transported to a countywide collection center in Marshall, Michigan.

“It’s about the land and the water,” said Environmental Technician Robert Williams, who also serves as Recycling Coordinator for the Environmental Department. “You have to keep both clean for future generations, like it was for us.”

Looking forward, the Environmental Department envisions a curbside service on The Reservation

to increase the number of households actively recycling. Partnering with Greenhouse Superintendent Stephen Wherry, the department will also soon begin composting efforts.

“The end goal is to create a more eco-friendly environment for our Community, Tribal Members and employees,” said Environmental Office Manager Angie Chivis, who also serves as the Environmental Department’s Sustainability Coordinator. “It’s about creating a culture.”

These initiatives are also a step forward in the 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan, specifically the Plan’s goal of protecting the Tribe’s lands and resources by promoting climate adaption and sustainability programs. To head these new initiatives and program enhancements, the Environmental Department is re-establishing the Recycling Advisory Team (RAT.) The RAT will serve to recommend new opportunities and methods for the Tribe to reduce, reuse and recycle, as well as provide information to the Community about ongoing efforts. To become a member of the RAT or for more information about the recycling and sustainability efforts, contact Chivis at angela.chivis@nhbpi.com.



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