

# *Noodagan News*

Story being told

<https://www.facebook.com/Anishanabe> Community

mackinacbands.com

P.O. Box 250 St. Ignace, Mi. 49781

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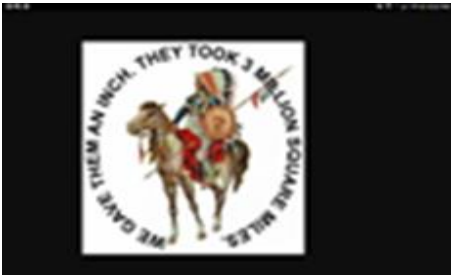
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## UPDATE OF OUR TRIBE

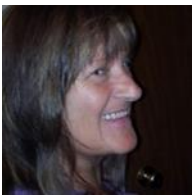
In 2018 we have continued to make progress towards our Reaffirmation. With a strong, diligent Legal Team. The times that we are in right now, it is not wise to give out too much information as other Tribe's could have the potential to use it against us. Some Tribal entities are Leary of our Recognition with the Federal Government. We understand why. We have millions of acres of Land and millions of dollars taken from our People and we are coming to take it back.

There are five tribes operating off OUR Treaty Rights and Lands Claims funds today. This has been going on for about 50 years. There are many things that held the Mackinac People back, but we can not go into those details in a News Letter, Internet or even in an Open Membership Meeting. The Governing Council of the Mackinac are working very hard everyday on your behalf. Please be respectful and appreciative of what they do. The We continue to move forward at a more rapid pace then ever before in the history of this Tribe. With that comes conflicts and we deal with those the best way we can in our Traditional Ways and Government to Government relationships. The tribal news letter is sent out a couple times a year. the cost of postage. We have done our very best to secure and maintain a website and a facebook site.



We need your help. We are struggling to keep up with the costs for our court battle. Every effort to identify our Mackinac descendants has been in the forefront of every thing we do as a United Governing Body, on your behalf. We have fought to save our Land and secure it back to our Tribe. We have fought to maintain our burial grounds to stop another tribal entity from obtaining Lands Claims funds and not put the money back into our sacred burial grounds. They are not their ancestors, they are ours, yet they do not maintain the burial grounds, we do. The federal government does not give us our Rights, we gained those rights when OUR people signed the Treaty's. OUR MACKINAC LEADERS still fight today for your rights. It is confusing times that we are in especially when we can't tell everything that is going on Legality wise so we do the best we can do to get the truth out there and into the right ears to help us.

***Under the IRA Indian Reorganization Act, the Mackinac Bands are addressing Tribal jurisdiction and recognition for Land Claims, Hunting/Fishing Rights and the protection of Indian Religious Freedom and access to Indian Health Care as well as Education. Our goal is to secure the right to self-Determination and Reaffirmation.***



*Penelope Miller of Mancelona, Michigan. Penny is the Enrollment Director for the Mackinac Bands of Chippewa and Ottawa Indians. She is diligent and hard working in her efforts to identify and process anyone's lineage who struggles to find the answers they might be seeking. She has been doing this job for the last two years. Penny is very thorough in the effort to ensure that anyone she processes has everything they need going above and beyond the call of duty of her own time. She is a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She is always willing to help in anyway she can. She is our liaison between the Conservation Committee and the Council. Penny comes from the Chapman line of descendants.*

## ENROLLMENT

### ENROLLMENT

#### Audit Period

The enrollment process currently takes about 6-8 weeks to process and approve, during the audit period it could take up to 10-12 weeks to process. We will be reviewing current enrollment files to see who is updated, who has a current address and any other info that might be needed to make sure people are current and not expired or missing documents. Anyone who has been contacted that more documents ect.. are needed to complete their process of enrollment will have until March 1, 2019 to turn them in. Otherwise the file will go into a pending status and you will not be processed. Contact Enrollment at: Penny Miller

231-564-2945



Hello, my name is James Andress Sr. (Jim). I was born on Mackinac Island. My family moved off the Island due to illness in my family and no medical care facility on the Island, only on the mainland. I have worked on the Island all my adult life. Most of my family members continue to live there in the houses built by my ancestors, Chief Big Head (Chief of the Detroit border through the Northern Straits Region), Chief Mackinac (Henry Andress) and Chief Eagle Eye (Thomas, my Uncle). I have sat on the Council of the Mackinac Bands since 2011. I do not receive any monetary relief for working for my People and I don't expect to. I give of my time to my people freely. I have worked on the Community Building along side Lisa Powers for almost 3 years now to see it to completion. I am getting older now and it is becoming harder for me to do this labor, but I do it for you, the people. To have a place to gather, teach and come together as a Community.



Chief Mackinac : circa 1695

**THE ISLANDS LEADING CITIZEN** By 1955, his only surviving progeny was Henry Andress known as Chief Eagle Eye.



*Timothy Becker stepped up to lead the Conservation Committee. They have done a lot of work in short amount of time this past year to have Fishing and Hunting Licenses ready to process. Many meetings and phone calls and networking and volunteering of their time and we are grateful to them. Secretary, Pauline Schwedt and Treasurer Nicole Allmacher are also volunteers who stepped up to help see this happen. We are grateful to Timothy Becker and his team.*

*William Foster of St. Ignace is the Conservation Officer for the Mackinac. Will has a degree in Criminal Justice. He currently works on Mackinac Island, the home of his ancestor's the Andress Family.*



The Fishing, Hunting and Gathering season for 2019 is open. You can find an application on the website: [mackinacband.com](http://mackinacband.com). If you are unable, please call one of the numbers for the Conservation Department and they will help you with your application. Under Article six of the 1836 Treaty and Article 13 of the United States Constitution we have every legal right to exercise our Sovereign Treaty's.

*On April 7, 2016, the Mackinac appeared before the Appellate Court in Washington, DC. The purpose of this hearing was to Appeal the decision of Hon. Ktangi Brown Jackson at the District level. The Judge said we were not 'ripe'. That meant that we did not show the part 83 Process that ALL tribes have to show before getting recognized, even though we were already given recognition at the same time that "Bawating" Sault Tribe of Chippewa and Ottawa Indians, who have since taken the name "Ottawa" off of their name. They have changed their name three times since formal recognition. The then attorney Michael Wallori wanted to keep going onto Supreme Court, the Mackinac did not get on the docket and that is why our case was not heard at the Supreme Court level, unlike Darryl Brown's statement in the St. Ignace news suggests. The United States Government recognized the Mackinac in the 1855 Treaty, and thus the Mackinac are entitled to the benefits that recognized Indians Tribes enjoy under federal law. Mackinac "Plaintiff" for a declaration that the Mackinac be a recognized Indian Tribe for the purpose of the Indian Reorganization Act, IRA. An order directing the Secretary to aid the "Plaintiff" – Mackinac Bands – in the organizing of a Tribal Government. The issues regarding all interested parties be carefully considered as authentic within the legal frame work for reaffirmation as the sole COUNCIL for signatory representation of the treaties of our Mackinac Members. On September 22, 2012, a SACRED tree was at a Fall Gathering establishing our Recognition with the City of St. Ignace, or the Mackinac People of those represented. The Mackinac have a consistent recorded history, are registered with the Department of Interior. The Department of Interior addresses the Mackinac Bands (11-17) of the Chippewa and Ottawa Indians as the COUNCIL, as to the appropriate continuation of the time-honored process respecting our elders, forebears, heirs and assignees of the 1820-1836-1842-12855- and 1870 Treaty's with consistent authority, as so demonstrated by community gatherings and constant contact with the Membership. The Mackinac are fully united.*

Members to the right: Trestin Fogelsonger, Don McGillis and wife Joanna, Lisa Powers and Past Mayor Paul Grondin

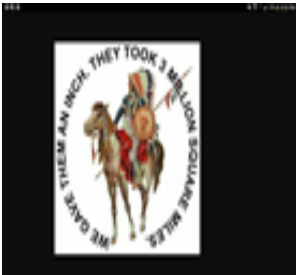


at left: Jim Andress and Gilbert HInjosa, blessing of the SACRED tree.



Mackinac Bands Spring Gathering crowd 2018

Spring Gathering is always a great time. Our weather varies so much every year and so do the people. This is a time for renewal and rebirth of our Akee, Mother Earth. We share seeds, tell stories, have a talking circle and feast. It is great to watch the kids who would never meet each other from all over Michigan and some other states. To gather with our people, to communicate our thoughts and our hopes for the new year of planting to what we will do over the summer to gather and take care of our families. There are thousands of our people scattered all over the United States but we manage to keep in contact with them. Networking in modern times has been a key asset to our people and their well being.



The Chagrin Falls Youth Ministry's name is GROUP. it was an honor to host these young people and their chaperones. I learned a lot from these young people and the experience was unforgettable. The memories will live on in our Mackinac History because their picture will hang on the wall in a frame, they constructed using the original wood from the building that they signed. The connection started with Zane Bourisseau. Zane loved and had a great compassion for his people, the Mackinac. A descendant of Mackinac Island and always felt his place was to be involved and helping in any way he could. Today his nephew John Bourisseau carries on Zane's legacy and his wife Mary with true and devoted hearts to the People of Mackinac and we have a place to call "HOME". We wanted our People to have a place to come home to, we just needed them to have a place that they could come to. The repairs are not yet finished.

We are very short handed. Raising funds and paying the costs to keep this building going are ongoing. Our hope is to have it useable by the time Spring Gathering arrives. Thank you to all who have donated your time and resources to help us achieve this amazing goal for our Mackinac People. With an office space, gathering inside a building and grounds for our ceremonies the Mackinac have a place to call home! Jim Andress and Joe LaRue have been the key volunteers in the initial phases of the gutting out of the building. Joe's wife Sue participated as well. Its been a long, arduous project with several set backs but being the true Anishanabe that we are, we continue and keep fighting the good fight for the People.

## Funding Efforts

Your continuous help is needed in the following areas:

Community Building

Spring Gathering - April 2019

Community Yard Sale June 2019

Fall Gathering – September 21, 2019\* tentative\*

Cultural Learning and History sessions: donations of materials and volunteers

Christmas Programs December 2019

Monetary and toy donations

All Donations are appreciated of any kind to help us continue to provide help where it is need to the members and to keep our Tribal Legal Efforts to continue to move forward in an expedited effort.

Anyone who has donated in anyway and would like a letter for tax purposes please send request by mail to:

P.O. Box 250

St. Ignace, Mi. 49781