

Second Annual Three Fires Message Run Sponsored by Odawa Institute



Three Fires Message Run & Marathon Anishinaabe Relays

* Area close-ups on reverse

This map is intended for general informational purposes only and is subject to change. June 18, 2007 LTBB GIS Department

Submitted by Fred Harrington, Jr., LTBB Tribal Citizen

On August 17, 32 people participated in the Second Annual Three Fires Message Run and Marathon.

Our message this year was "World Peace."

Our language differs significantly from English and interprets to "Gwanda bebaotojik mno maadziwin wiyaamaang," which translates to "Those who are running for all of us to have a good life."

Joe Lucier, Dawn Deliyandis, Tammy Bowers and Linda Gokee completed the entire run accompanied by three teams. To date, every team and every individual who started the Message Run has finished!

on her way.

I was already struggling (overweight, old, haven't run since 1988 and I was wearing sandals), and Gokee was talking about stopping at the halfway point. That was about as far as I figured my team was going to go so I went along with Gokee. Somewhere along the way, Gokee's knee started to give out. She was bummed out explaining how she really wanted to run as far as the halfway point before she started walking. I already had blisters, and it didn't bother me a bit to walk. She was hurting pretty bad by the time we got to the halfway point, but she had already decided she would go on. I would feel physically better today had she stopped. She didn't. Again, I figured I'd go as far as she did. She just wouldn't stop.

I will always remember this day as 20 miles with Linda. Limping along, we talked about our children, my grandchild and our parents. Gokee has two children; her daughter, Kacie, ran past us. Gokee knows where her family's graves are. Her mother, Mary Keshick, was born on High Island, and she has a good understanding of her people's journey from the island to where we are now. While limping along, she expressed her admiration for the youth who were passing us. I think their presence helped her. She was hurting, but thought if she had a knee brace, she might be able to



make it all the way. I sent for one, and we journeyed on.

We had an opportunity to talk about the old ways and life today. She was in obvious pain, but by now, only talked about finishing and compared our journey to that of the Water Walkers and our ancestors who walked this very path. I'm not sure she is so much different than those she described. Despite her pain, she decided to go the distance and eventually did. Her determination to complete her goal gave me the strength to continue on for our team.

We have Linda to thank for the second year 100% of all participants and teams finishing the entire 26.2 miles. From this day forward, if anyone asks her to run a marathon with them, she can say, "Nope, done it!"

Chi-Migwetch Linda, Joe, Dawn, Tammy, Team Anishinaabe Qwewok, Team Odawa Institute and Team Shkiniigek.

The photos appear courtesy of Theresa Keshick.

The map appears courtesy of the Odawa Institute.



"NSLF" continued from cover.

ceived word it was approved in October 2005.

Although the grant was approved, the funds were delayed by the Department of the Treasury until August 2006. The grant gave LTBB the necessary funding to establish the groundwork for NSLF.

The CDFI Fund's mission is to expand the capacity of financial institutions to provide credit, capital and financial services to underserved populations and communities in the United States. Its vision is to ensure all people have access to affordable credit, capital and financial services.

NSLF was established as a non-profit corporation on February 2, 2007, and it is the first non-profit corporation formed under the LTBB business codes.

The Board of Directors includes Chairman John Bott, Vice Chairman Alan Proctor, Secretary Pat Dyer-Deckrow, Treasurer Cheryl Kishigo-Lesky and Laura Blumberg. This Board of Directors has been actively involved with NSLF since its inception.

McComb started as the Executive Director on July 28, 2008, and the NSLF office opened in late August 2008.

Logo design, website design and pamphlet/brochures are all in the design stages. Subcommittees are being formed to establish specific policies and procedures.

NSLF is partnering with the

Waganakising Odawa Career and Technical Education Program (WOCTEP), North Central Michigan College and the Petoskey Michigan WORKS! Service Center and hopes to partner with more area organizations in the future.

McComb previously worked as the Executive Administrator for the Bay Harbor Foundation, a non-profit membership foundation established in 2004 to support the arts, education, environment and health and human services throughout northern Lower Michigan, and as a Small Business Banker for J.P. Morgan Chase.

Photo by Communications Coordinator Annette VanDeCar.



LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS TRADITIONAL JIINGTAMOK

**Saturday, September 27, 2008
Traditional Jiingtamok Grounds
Osborne Road**

**Grand Entry
Saturday
12:00 P.M.
Dinner: 5:00 P.M.**

A day of Dancing, Singing, Food, and Spending time with family and friends!

**Public Welcome!!!!!!
FREE Admission!!!!!!**

Other pow-wow information contact Melissa Wiatrolik
Phone * (231) 242-1420 Email * acolby@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov
**ABSOLUTELY NO POLITICS, DRUGS, ALCOHOL, WEAPONS, OR PETS
ALLOWED AT THIS EVENT.**
Not responsible for loss of property or accidents