Teeple honored for saving BMRC patron

By Shannon Jones
Bay Mills News

BAY MILLS — Bay Mills Resort & Casino employees have long been recognized for their hospitality in the past, but on July 6, slot technician Jason Teeple set a new standard for customer service — he saved a life.

Teeple performed CPR compressions and utilized an AED on a 65 year-old man who had collapsed while gaming on the casino floor. And while the patron remained unresponsive, Teeple continued his efforts in the ambulance. Halfway to War Memorial Hospital, the patron responded to the life-saving efforts, thanks to the persistence of Teeple and the Bay Mills Emergency Connection crew.

On Aug 11, Teeple was recognized for his actions by his employer and members of the Bay Mills Executive Council with a surprise luncheon and recognition ceremony. The person he saved was also able to attend and thank him in person.

"Jason has received training and has always shown ambition and initiative to do more than what he is tasked with," said BMRC General Manager Richard LeBlanc. "On that fateful afternoon, his training took over, and he quite literally saved the day. Today, we want to honor his selfless act."

Teeple was presented with a plaque of recognition, but didn’t feel his actions were anything out of the ordinary..

“I would have done it for anyone,” said Teeple of his actions, “even my worst enemy.”

BMIC Chairperson Whitney Gravelle wasn’t surprised to learn the person responsible for saving someone was Teeple, as he is a 13 year veteran volunteer firefighter with Bay Mills Township.

“Whenever the need arises, Jason can be seen going down the road to an incident to help out,” said Gravelle.

In light of his actions and training, Gravelle would like to provide CPR/AED training opportunities to those employees who are interested.

Senate confirms Newland for new DOI post

Former Bay Mills Tribal Chairman Bryan Newland cleared the last hurdle for his confirmation as assistant secretary for the Department of Interior-Indian Affairs on Aug. 7. Newland was already working for the Biden Administration as the principal deputy assistant to the secretary of Indian Affairs prior to his nomination. He began that post in April, leaving his position at Bay Mills Indian Community to serve the new president.

Newland is no stranger to DC, having served under the Obama Administration in the past as a policy advisor.

In his new role, Newland will be responsible for maintaining the government to government relations with the 574 federally-recognized tribes.

“The confirmation of Bryan Newland as the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs is an important step forward in strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship between the United States and Tribal Nations, and we congratulate the Assistant Secretary on this achievement. We are in a time of great opportunity to make inroads on critical issues such as growing tribal economies, developing infrastructure, building healthy communities, and protecting sovereignty,” said National Congress of American Indians President Fawn Sharp. “This confirmation places someone with the experience and a unique understanding of these issues into this key role and NCAI looks forward to working closely with Assistant Secretary Newland on advancing Indian Country’s priorities.”
CHIPPEWA COUNTY – Chippewa County Health Department received a report from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services on Aug. 19 that the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant has been identified in Chippewa County. Delta is more than twice as contagious as previous variants, is driving the increase in cases in Michigan and nationwide, and can be transmitted even by vaccinated people.

In order to stop the spread, CCHD is urging individuals to continue to take precautions against COVID-19, especially with most of the counties in Michigan now considered substantial or high transmission areas (CDC Transmission Indicators).

Precautions include:

- If you are not yet fully vaccinated for COVID-19, please do so as soon as possible. If you are severely immunocompromised schedule your third vaccine dose. For information on where to find a vaccination site go to: https://www.vaccines.gov/.
- Wear a mask around others if not fully vaccinated
- Even if you are fully vaccinated, the safest choice is to wear a mask, especially in indoor settings when around people not in your household.
- Stay home when ill.
- Get tested for COVID-19 if you have been in close contact with others who are positive or are experiencing symptoms (regardless of your own vaccination status).
- Avoid crowded areas.
- Keep at least six feet apart from others.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.

Soo Locks Visitor Center requiring masks for all visitors

SAULT STE. MARIE – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is requiring masks to enter the Soo Locks Visitor Center effective Aug. 13.

Per Centers for Disease Control and Department of Defense (DoD) requirements the Visitor Center requires masks covering the nose and mouth for all visitors. Corps of Engineers officials also ask guests to help maintain a safe environment by practicing social distancing with those outside their group and not to enter the building if they are feeling ill.

The CDC’s Data Tracker at https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#/county-view reports Community Transmission rates for Chippewa County, Michigan as substantial as of Aug. 13, 2021. In areas of substantial or high community transmission, DoD requires all Service members, Federal employees, onsite contractor employees, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask in an indoor setting in installations and other facilities owned, leased or otherwise controlled by the DoD.

The Visitor Center is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. The park and observation platform are open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Please be patient, be kind and be safe.

For more details, contact Detroit District Public Affairs Specialist Carrie Fox at carrie.d.fox@usace.army.mil. Detroit District photos are available on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/USACEDetroitDistrict.
Executive Council discusses business at Aug. 9 meeting

Reports

Chairperson Whitney Gravelle
- July 20 DEA Operation Engage program meeting. Preventing drug abuse and addiction. Looking to partner with tribes.
- July 27 Red Road to DC event held. Went to DC and met Deb Haaland.
- Aug. 3 met with Lt. Governor Gilchrist. Toured BMCC. He has been invited to attend commencement and agreed.
- Hosted tribal court conference earlier this month. Second time. It was a success, looking forward to bringing this training again in the future.
- 2020 negotiations continue to move forward.

Tribal Manager Rachel Burtt
- Working on hourly wage increases for CDC. Current budget of General Fund has supplemented program for some time. But due to COVID closure, they have the money this year. The increase will be seen next year.
- Have not seen second round of federal funding.
- Met with Elder’s Coordinator to discuss cases and direction.
- DEA Youth program contacted us last week about baseball camp. Will work with BGC. If this is successful, other opportunities could arise for youth programming.
- Continue to process stimulus applications.
- Club Build- dirt has started moving.
- Elders housing moving along.

Chief Financial Officer Albert Bertram
- HR looking to do training videos for new Kronos. Want to make hiring process a digital process.
- IT working on gaming system upgrade.
- Some issues with credit card machines and reports. Accounting working on getting everything straightened out.
- 401k audit complete. NLCC is ongoing. Grants audit as well.
- New admin building meeting this week. Connecting all the projects. Network connections are important.
- Draft Kings activity summary sent to council.

Health Director Audrey Breakie
- Testing 3796, vaccines 6388 first dose, 3138 fully vaccinated. Gave some to LSSU for students. Some going to waste due to expiration.
- Still promoting vaccines. Going slow.
- When Canadian customers are allowed to come over, can assist BMRC with testing Canadian customers, if time allows.
- Portage Street property: Considering input from council about funding options.
- New dentist here until December at least, then evaluate contract.
- Hygienist to start in September.
- IHS funding on the agenda.

BMGA General Manager Richard LeBlanc
- Pending aristocrat upgrade will provide a number of modules to the gaming operations. We can evaluate our customers and will have technology upgrades. There will be a period of downtime for install. Starting the work this evening. Will give marketing insight as well.
- Hotel occupancy is well.
- Team is doing above and beyond at all operations.

BMBH General Manager (interim Brenda Bjork)
- First day was Aug. 9 as the manager for Kimmi Walden. Brenda Bjork gave report as interim manager.
- Pole in place for new sign. Front of building done with new logo. Work being done on plumbing issues.
- Automatic doors at Four Seasons is bringing heat into the store.

New Business
1. Resolution No. 21-08-09A: MOU w/ MDHHS: Adult protective services to be provide on the reservation. Approved.
2. Resolution No. 21-08-09B: Marian Jones and James Jones: Seasonal Residential Lease. Approved.
3. Resolution No. 21-08-09C: Shannon Jones: Seasonal Residential Lease. Approved.
4. Resolution No. 21-08-09D: Kathleen Menominee: Residential Lease Submission. Approved.
5. Resolution No. 21-08-09E: Raelynn Hunter: Lease Cancellation. Housing purchased her home. Approved.
7. Resolution No. 21-08-09G: Gary Gregg: Residential Lease Submission. 2978 S Red Pine Lane. Original was never signed.
8. Resolution No. 21-08-09H: Early Head Start Center Hourly Wage Increase. This hourly increase is being done for many reasons, many tribal member employees. Increase standard of living. Provide necessary service to youth and parents. If we don’t do this increase, their wages are so much lower we risk an employee shortage. Nothing but a benefit to our community. Looking to get more base funding for programs. Approved.
12. Indian Health Service Annual Funding Agreement - $2,575,360. Supports staff, medical, dental, etc. Approved.
16. Reaffirmation of Poll Votes - Approved
  a. MDDHHS Primary Care Services - $85,993
  b. MDHHS Coronavirus Response Support - $99,601
  c. MACA Grant Application Submission
You ignored August 12th didn’t you?

By Tom Purcell

That’s when the world celebrates National Middle Child Day every year, but you ignored it just as you have ignored us "middles" our entire lives!

I’m the third-born child in a family of six — an only boy with five sisters.

As a tyke I longed for the acceptance of my older sisters. At times, they doted over me but other times they were repulsed by their stinky, sweaty baby brother who always had a nose full of boogies.

I was permanently banished to the back seat of our station wagon, which faced the rear window, and which is why I spent most of my childhood in a state of motion sickness.

When my sisters were teeny boppers, they, like all girls in America, were infatuated with pop singer David Cassidy.

Since he sported a shag haircut — he parted his hair down the middle and feathered it over the sides of his noggin — they were determined that I get one, too.

I became the first kid in St. Germaine Catholic School to do so and by the end of the school year every single boy had the David Cassidy cut.

When my three younger sisters arrived, and as my older sisters started doing their own things outside the family unit, I evolved into the older brother and finally was treated with a little respect.

The experience I had as a middle child in the ’70s is one that few kids experience today — mainly because there are so few large families today.

In our neighborhood, a small ’70s family had three kids, but most families had four to six and a few had more than 10.

Now, with both parents working and the cost of raising children considerably higher than it was 40 years ago, most parents prefer to have one or two kids, according to The CUT.

For several reasons, this trend is not good for the rest of us.

The unique characteristics of a middle child are honed by his or her experiences in the family pecking order.

For starters, we are good mediators.

In my family, I always disliked seeing my siblings arguing and always sought to moderate and quell them — and I still do. I’m happiest when we are all getting along.

The International Business Times reports that because middle children “are more willing to compromise and look at all sides of a question,” they turn out to be excellent negotiators compared to first-born or last-born children.

Is the lack of middles one of the unheralded causes of eroding civility? Could be.

I’d also argue that we middles have a highly refined sense of humor — which is also beneficial to our national health and well-being.

Humor is how we got attention. Using comic relief is also how we calm everyone down in stressful times and improve the discourse and the general happiness of our friends and family.

I’ve long thought that first-borns and last-borns are generally the most focused and ambitious family members who go on to become leaders in their chosen fields, but I was surprised to learn that half of our presidents were middle children, according to Business Insider.

Joe Biden is the oldest of four, so he probably doesn’t know how to use the most powerful middle-child negotiating tactic to neutralize his opponents: threaten to use their toothbrushes!

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HONORING HEALTH CARE WORKERS — Bay Mills Health Center kicked off National Health Center Week on Monday, Aug. 16, paying tribute to those on the front lines. National Health Center Week is an annual celebration with the goal of raising awareness about the mission and accomplishments of America’s health centers over the past five decades.

Health centers serve 27 million patients — a number that continues to grow — along with the demand for affordable primary care. In addition to their long history as health care homes to millions, health centers produce innovative solutions to the most pressing health care issues in their communities and reach beyond the walls of conventional medicine to address the social determinants of health affecting special patient populations.

Community Health Centers serve as the beacon of strength, service, and care in their communities. In moments of pain and loss, they offer support and love. In moments of triumph, they offer hope and a vision for the future. Health Center Week is to celebrate the roles Community Health Centers have played in both our recent moments of loss and triumph. This year National Health Center Week honors those front line providers, staff, and beloved patients who lost their lives during the (ongoing) COVID-19 pandemic. From the very beginning of the crisis, Community Health Centers began finding innovative ways to provide preventative and primary care to their patients.

During Health Center Week, BMHC held a coloring contest for children, gave tours of the new health care facility that will open next year, provided free books to local youth, and held a recovery awareness walk.
2021 Bay Mills Pow Wow winners announced

Youth Boys Traditional
1st: Alex Klein #103
2nd: Collen Simms #16

Youth Boys Grass
1st: Levi Wakehimup #89
2nd: Brody Funmaker #61
3rd: Drake Cameron #56

Youth Boys Fancy
1st: Aakodewin Prout #108

Youth Girls Traditional
1st: Niizh Wemigwans #57
2nd: Macy TwoCrow #93

Youth Girls Grass
1st: Nalani Hopps #24
2nd: Selese Syrette #29
3rd: Sofia Lyons #70

Youth Girls Fancy
1st: Lilionna Klein #104
2nd: Wren Gotts #27
3rd: Ashlynn Simms #17

Teen Boys Traditional
1st: Elliott Penass #42
2nd: Gegek Webkamigad #60
3rd: Rueben Santos #74

Teen Boys Grass
1st: Ambrose Day-Bedeau #97
2nd: Dasan Smith #32
3rd: Daniel Serbe #35

Teen Girls Traditional
1st: Seneca Pyawasit #59
2nd: Aryana Robinson #15
3rd: Aaliyah Webster #66

Teen Girls Grass
1st: Levi Wakehimup #89
2nd: Brody Funmaker #61
3rd: Drake Cameron #56

Teen Girls Fancy
1st: Aakodewin Prout #108
2nd: Annie Lada #88
3rd: Naavah Spangler #20

Teen Girls Jingle
1st: Debwaywia Miskokomon-Deleary #77
2nd: Miikawadizi Prou #107
3rd: Yokalasha Danforth #112

Teen Girls Fancy
1st: Keeley Two Crow #94
2nd: Annie Lada #88
3rd: Naavah Spangler #20

Adult Men's Traditional
1st: Adrian Klein #102
2nd: Joe Syrette #31
3rd: Shane Mitchell #1
4th: Zack Antoine-Jackson #99

Adult Men's Grass
1st: Quincey Antoine-Jackson #100
2nd: Desmond Madera #26
3rd: Ray Shenoskey #33
4th: Raymond Deleary #78

Adult Men's Fancy
1st: Floyd Silas III #96
2nd: Adrian King #80

Adult Women's Traditional
1st: Krystal Bigsky #105
2nd: Summer Baldwin #51
3rd: Melissa Isaac #52
4th: Virginia Snake #9

Adult Women's Grass
1st: Waskwane Stonefish #23
2nd: Maya Schuyler #28
3rd: Iliana Montoya #39
4th: Dajia Shinos #34

Adult Women's Fancy
1st: Beedoskah Stonefish #114
2nd: Valerie Parker #25
3rd: Heather Syrette #30
4th: Chelsey Moon #37

Golden Men's
1st: Charles Hindsley #10
2nd: Walker Stonefish #95
3rd: Ken Funmaker #22
4th: Amos Pond #101

Golden Women's
1st: Becky Taylor #13
2nd: Vickie Hindsley #11
3rd: Faith Carmona-Pego #38
4th: Erma Peters #8

Drum Competition
1st: Smokeytown
2nd: Crazy Spirit
3rd: Little Thunder
4th: Red Willow

*We apologize in advance for any spelling errors.
ST. IGNACE -- The end of summer is quickly approaching and that means the 2021 Mackinac Bridge Walk on Labor Day, Sept. 6, is right around the corner.

"Whether you're resuming your tradition of walking the bridge on Labor Day or planning to join us for the first time, the return of the walk in 2021 is pretty exciting," said Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) Bridge Director Kim Nowack. "We've been preparing for much of the year to make sure the walk is better than ever."

Based on the success of the 2018 and 2019 events, the MBA will again start the 2021 Annual Bridge Walk from both St. Ignace and Mackinaw City, which eliminates the need for busing and offers additional options for participants. The bridge walk was cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A video posted on the MBA website at www.MackinacBridge.org/Walk explains the bridge walk schedule and the choices people will have whether they start from the north or south ends of the bridge.

Walkers essentially have three main options, outlined in the video:
— Starting from either end of the bridge and walking toward the center, turning around at the midpoint and returning to the city they started from, where their transportation is located. The turnaround points will move toward the ends of the bridge beginning at 10 a.m., but walkers can walk at least a portion of the bridge if they start by 11:30 a.m. Walkers must be on the side of the bridge they wish to return to before 10 a.m.
— Walking the entire length of the bridge starting from either end. Those who choose this option must reach the midpoint before 10 a.m. or they will be turned back. Anyone who walks the entire bridge must arrange their own transportation back to the side they started once the bridge reopens to public traffic at noon.
— Crossing the bridge, starting from either end, and then turning around and walking back to the side they started from. In this option, walkers will need to cross the midpoint on their return trip by 10 a.m. or they will be turned back and need to find their own transportation back across the bridge after it reopens at noon.

For participant health and safety, the MBA urges participants to follow CDC recommendations that suggest you wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings.

The bridge will again be closed to public traffic during the 2021 walk, from 6:30 a.m. to noon, based on recommendations from the Michigan State Police and U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Emergency vehicles will still be permitted to cross the bridge but no public vehicles will be allowed until the walk concludes and participants are off the bridge.

People who are interested in receiving text messages about bridge closures, including closure information for the Annual Bridge Walk, can sign up for Mackinac County 911's RAVE Alert System updates. There is no cost to receive these updates, aside from any texting fees from the participant's mobile coverage plan. To opt-in to this text alert system:
1) Text "MacBridge" to 67283.
2) Users will receive this reply, verifying participation in the text alerting system:
"Welcome to MacBridge. Reply STOP MacBridge to Cancel. MSG & Data Rates May Apply MSG Frequency Varies."
3) A second reply will follow: "Welcome to the Mackinac Bridge Text Alerting System. TO OPT OUT of this alerting system reply STOP MacBridge."

The bridge walk has been an annual event since 1958, with the exception of 2020. The 2021 walk will be the 63rd event. Between 25,000 and 30,000 people have participated in recent years.
Mobile mammography coming to Bay Mills in September

BAY MILLS — In partnership with Spectrum Health Betty Ford Breast Care Services, Bay Mills Health Center will be hosting a mobile mammography event to support early detection of breast cancer. The event is scheduled to take place from Wednesday, Sept. 22 thru Friday, Sept. 24.

No-cost breast cancer screening is available to any woman who would like to have their screening completed (this includes women of all races, local tribal community members, tribal employees, and casino employees. Mammograms are completed in just 15 minutes. By making an appointment it will ensure that this screening is done at no cost and at a time convenient for you.

If you are a woman age 40 or older, and due or overdue for your annual mammogram, please contact the Bay Mills Health Center by calling Betty Jahnke at 906-248-8364 to make your appointment.

The mobile breast cancer screening unit will be located in the parking lot at the Bay Mills Health Center, 12124 W. Lakeshore Drive, Brimley, Mich. 49715 on Wednesday, Sept. 22, and Friday, Sept. 24. On Thursday, Sept. 23 the Mammogram Unit will be on-site at the Bay Mills Resort and Casino 11386 W Lakeshore Dr, to accommodate both local community members and casino employees.

Mammograms are available for uninsured and under-insured women. Please call Betty Jahnke to schedule your appointment and to see if you qualify for free screening paid for by the Michigan Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Navigation Program (BC3NP). The BC3NP program can arrange for program-eligible women to receive breast cancer screenings at this event, follow-up care for an abnormal test result, and treatment – if breast cancer is diagnosed.

This opportunity is available to all tribal and community members, tribal employees, casino employees, and all other residents of the Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan. All insurances are accepted. The mammograms take only 10 - 15 minutes. By making an appointment in advance it will ensure your mammogram is done at a time that works best for you.

This women’s health event is a collaborative effort of the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, and Spectrum Health Services.
Walking On

Janis Cameron
Janis I. Cameron, 70, of Bay Mills, Michigan passed away Aug. 11, 2021 at McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital. She was born June 11, 1951 in Detroit, Michigan to Alphonse LeBlanc and Evelyn (Dirette) LeBlanc.

Janis was a proud member of the Bay Mills Indian Community and gave back to her community by cooking elder meals, organizing elder trips, working bingo, serving on the tribe’s child welfare committee, and helping organize the annual children’s Christmas party. She enjoyed traveling, gambling, shopping, visiting with friends, spending time with family. Janis is survived by son, Allyn (Samantha) Cameron; daughters, Andrea (Jim) Shaw, Nicole (Andy Teeple) Cameron, and Fawn (Justin) Gauthier; sister Kristine (Dale) Schwiderson; grandchildren, Haley, Braden, Ethan (Sherri), Joseph, Mason, Jenna, Jaymie, Carmen, Andrew, Emma, Sean, Avery, and Adam; great grandson, Braxton Shaw; and many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her husband of 53 years, Keith Cameron; her parents; and her grandparents, Hubert and Dolores Dirette.

Services took place on Aug. 18, with burial following the services at Mission Hill Cemetery in Bay Mills, Michigan.

The family requests memorial contributions in Janis’s name be made to Hospice House of the EUP, 208 W. 12th, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783. Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com

Basel George Willis

Basel was born on Nov. 23, 1928, on Neebish Island, Michigan to the late Joseph Nolan Sr. & Doris Willis.


Basel is survived by sons Rod (Rene’e) Hutte of Sault Ste. Marie, Jack (Carol) Hutte of White Pine, MI, David (Diane) Hutte of Park Falls, WI. He had three daughters, Christine Moran of Sault Ste. Marie, MI, Barbara Parker and Janice Whitten of Kincheloe, MI. He had numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a sister Marsha Willis of Sault Ste Marie, Three Brothers, Melvin (Judy) of Millington, Duane Willis of Dayton OH, and Joseph Nolan of Sault Ste. Marie and several nieces and nephews.

Basel was preceded in death by his beloved wife Betty, his parents, Joseph Nolan Sr. and Doris Willis. Two sisters: Zalia Frazier and Jeanette Alstergren and a brother Edward (EJ) Willis Sr. A daughter Cheryl Mahoney and son-in-law Tom Moran.

At Basel’s request, there was a fire and a feast in Hessel, Michigan. He chose to be cremated and will have a burial at a later time at Pine Grove Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the staff at Hospice House for all their help and caring over the last ten months.
Stimulus Funding available for BMIC Minor Children

Eligibility Requirements:
- Must be a BMIC tribal citizen
- NO residency requirement
- Under the age of 18 as of May 20, 2021

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION:
- Stimulus Funding Application (available at the tribal admin building or online at www.baymills.org)

- A signed and notarized letter (template in application) from both parents/guardians for each minor child stating who can submit this application on behalf of the child. Notaries can be found at Tribal Administration, Housing, and various local banking institutions. A notarized letter will not be necessary if the submission includes a custody order which states the applicant parent/guardian has FULL PHYSICAL AND FULL LEGAL custody of the applicant minor child(ren).

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis through December 31, 2021.

Applications can be submitted via a drop box located at the Commodities building, email to covid19support@baymills.org, or by mail to BMIC-FRF, 12497 W. Lakeshore Drive, Brimley, MI 49715.

If you have any questions regarding eligibility or submission please call 906-248-2528 to speak with Kris Schwiderson or email covid19support@baymills.org.
Chronic Pain PATH Program announced by MSU Extension

Chronic Pain PATH Program is being offered online to those in need.
DATES: September 23 through October 14
TIME: 12:30 to 2:30 Central/1:30 to 3:30 Eastern
Online via Zoom https://events.anr.msu.edu/chronicpainsept23carter/

Chronic Pain PATH is a 6-week, self-management online workshop designed for people living with chronic pain. Family members, friends, and caregivers are also encouraged to attend the workshop.

You will learn tools to:
• Work with health care providers
• Manage symptoms such as pain, fatigue, difficult emotions, sleep problems, depression
• Make lifestyle changes such as healthy eating and physical activity
• Set goals and accomplish them
• Benefits of participating:
• Sharing with others who understand
• Taking ownership of your pain
• Knowing you are not alone
• Having your voice heard
Cost: FREE
This is a live class via Zoom.
Technology Requirements:
• Internet or data connection
• Device with a camera and audio
If you are unable to have video and audio enabled during the program, please click here to attend a Chronic Pain workshop over the telephone.

Fall Clean Up
September 13 - 27
Dumpsters will be at the new trash compactor location near the water tower on Plantation Hill.
5414 S. Nbiish Rd.

Household Hazardous Waste, Appliance & Electronics Collection
September 16 & 17, 10 - 6
These events are for tribal members
Crews will survey streams to find lampreys

The continuing battle against sea lampreys soon will come to locations in the local area. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assessment crew will conduct work on Grants Creek, Halfaday Creek, Naomikong Creek, Ankadosh Creek, Charlotte River, and Munuscong River (Chippewa County) Aug. 31- Sept. 9 to estimate the abundance of sea lampreys. The information gathered will be used to determine the need for sea lamprey control.

A first step in the control of sea lampreys is to survey streams tributary to the Great Lakes to determine the presence of lamprey larvae. Sea lampreys invaded the Great Lakes during the 1920s and have been a permanent, destructive element of the fishery ever since. Sea lampreys attach to fish with a suction cup mouth, rasp a hole though the fish’s scales and skin, and feed on blood and body fluids. The average sea lamprey will destroy up to 40 lbs of fish during its parasitic phase.

Sea lamprey larvae hatch from eggs laid by adult lampreys in gravel nests, and drift into silty bottom areas where they burrow and live for several years. Also, larvae sometimes drift out of streams and settle in the immediate offshore areas near stream mouths. Failure to detect and subsequently eliminate larvae allows the lampreys to transform into parasitic adults and kill Great Lakes fish.

Fishery biologists and technicians conduct surveys for sea lamprey larvae in hundreds of Great Lakes streams each year. Most surveys are conducted by electrofishing, but in deep waters crews use Bayluscide 3.2% Granular Sea Lamprey Larvicide, a lampricide approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Health Canada Pest Management Regulatory Agency. This lampricide is specially formulated onto sand granules and covered with a time-release coating. The formulation is sprayed over a measured surface area of water where it sinks to the bottom, rapidly dissolves, and causes the larval sea lampreys to leave their burrows and swim to the surface where they are collected.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Health Canada Pest Management Regulatory Agency have reviewed human health and environmental safety data for the lampricides, and in 2003 concluded that Bayluscide poses no unreasonable risk to the general population and the environment when applied at concentrations necessary to detect larval sea lampreys. Applications are conducted in accordance with State of Michigan permits.

The sea lamprey control program is formulated and implemented by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Geological Survey. The Commission initiated chemical control of sea lampreys in 1958. Since that time the highly successful program has contributed significantly to the maintenance of the $7 billion Great Lakes sport and commercial fisheries.

The Commission is committed to delivering a sea lamprey control program that practices good environmental stewardship. To support the continued safe use of lampricides the Commission recently conducted a series of studies at a total cost of $6 million to assess the effects of the lampricides on human health and the environment. In addition to these studies the Commission has implemented a research program to develop alternative control techniques. The Commission also is developing a strategy to increase the number of barriers on sea lamprey-producing streams, and is conducting research into barrier design, traps, attractants, and biological control.
**Test off-road trails during free ORV Weekend Aug. 21-22**

Off-roaders, get ready! The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is hosting its second and final Free ORV Weekend of the year, Aug. 21-22.

During the weekend, Michigan residents and visitors legally can ride DNR-designated routes and trails without purchasing an ORV license or trail permit. All ORV rules and laws still apply.

"Free ORV Weekend is a great opportunity for riders to explore off-road trails and routes in the Upper and Lower peninsulas," said Ron Olson, chief of the DNR Parks and Recreation Division. "It's also the perfect time to test riding out for yourself or introduce friends and family to the sport."

Free ORV Weekend includes the state's 4,000 miles of off-road trails and the state's six scramble areas, including Black Lake, Bull Gap, Holly Oaks ORV Park, The Mounds Scramble Area, Silver Lake ORV Area and St. Helen's Motorsport Area. The *Recreation Passport* and other applicable vehicle entry fees still apply.

Olson said that the concept behind free weekends is to give a chance to those who might be thinking about purchasing equipment or dusting off their ORV. The hope is that riders will have a great time and consider purchasing an ORV license or trail permit.

Fees generated through the sale of ORV licenses and trail permits are reinvested back into the ORV system.

These funds help support trail expansion, maintenance and infrastructure improvements, such as bridge and culvert construction and repair, as well as law enforcement and the offsetting of damage created by illegal use. The cost is $26.25 for an ORV license and $10 for a trail permit for a total of $36.25.

For more information, contact Jessica Holley Roehrs, DNR statewide motorized trails specialist, at 517-331-3790 or HolleyJ1@Michigan.gov or visit Michigan.gov/ORVInfo.

**New tolling system being developed for U.S.-Canada border bridges**

A bi-national partnership recently awarded a contract to update the tolling systems for three bridge operators at two international bridge crossings on the Ontario-Michigan border.

The $9.3 million contract will cover modernization of the existing toll system at the Sault Ste. Marie International Bridge, connecting Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, with Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, and the Blue Water Bridge connecting Port Huron, Michigan, to Sarnia, Ontario. The contract will be administered for the bi-national partnership by the International Bridge Administration (IBA) through an agreement between the IBA, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Federal Bridge Corporation Limited (FBCL).

Heading a bi-national team of vendors, prime contractor IBI Group will implement a toll system on both the U.S. and Canadian sides of the Blue Water Bridge and the Sault Ste. Marie International Bridge, while providing operations and maintenance support for up to 10 years for toll software services.

"This is a great opportunity to partner on a common software solution for our future tolling needs," said IBA Bridge Director Peter Petainen. "More than that, it is a privilege for the IBA, as part of our continuing bi-national partnerships, to work with the Blue Water Bridge and FBCL through this agreement and administer the contract on behalf of all three bridge operators."

The contract costs will be shared equally by the IBA, MDOT and FBCL, a Canadian Crown corporation wholly owned by the Government of Canada. Through its board, the International Bridge is managed as a joint venture of FBCL and MDOT. The U.S. portion of the Blue Water Bridge is a State of Michigan entity.

The cost per location for each bridge operator to design and deploy the system is estimated at about $1.9 million. Beyond cost savings, the bridge operators anticipate other benefits from the new toll system.

"We're excited by the possibilities offered by new toll technologies," said Amy Winn- VanHoeck, bridge director for MDOT at the Blue Water Bridge. "We may see the addition of transponder technology to toll lanes, improved customer online experience options, and new payment options for customers."

Officials at the International and Blue Water bridges anticipate a one-year timeframe for design, construction, and deployment of IBI's tolling solution. A current toll system contract covering the IBA and Blue Water Bridge (MDOT) expires in August 2022.
Have a bushel of fun picking pine cones, make some cash

Looking for an outdoor side hustle? Collecting a bushel of pine cones next month will net you $75 and help the Michigan Department of Natural Resources plant trees in state forests.

Sept. 1-30, 2021, you can pick red pine cones and drop them off by appointment at six DNR locations: three in the Upper Peninsula and three in the Lower Peninsula.

Fresh cones can be found in felled treetops from recent timber sales, on state forestlands and in recently gathered squirrel caches (yes, you can steal from a squirrel). If picking from a recent timber sale, logger permission is necessary, and pickers must wear hardhats for safety. The simplest way, however, is to pick from living red pine trees where branches extend close to the ground.

Before you haul out your ladder, there are specific things foresters look for in a "perfect" fresh seed pine cone from a red pine - commit the following criteria to memory, because old cones or the wrong species won't be accepted. You'll also need to complete a few steps to register as a vendor in the online system so you can get paid for your efforts.

Here are some tips to get started:

• First, make sure you're picking the right species. Red pines have craggy, reddish bark and 4- to 6-inch needles that grow in pairs. Scotch and Austrian pine cones will not be accepted.

• Cones should be picked off the tree; fallen cones on the ground are likely to be too old or wet. No twigs, needles or debris, please!

• Cone scales should be closed, with a little bit of green or purple tint - all brown and open, and they're too far gone.

Store pine cones in a cool, dry place in mesh bags. Onion bags will be provided by the DNR at drop-off locations. Don't use burlap or plastic bags, which can hold moisture and ruin the cones. Tag bags on the inside and outside with your name, county where you picked and if the cones are natural or from a plantation. Drop off cones by appointment at select DNR Customer Service Centers and Wyman Nursery:

• Marquette - Bob Tylka, 906-250-9225
• Newberry - Jason Tokar, 906-440-1348
• Wyman Nursery (Manistique) - Sheila Clark, 906-341-2518
• Gaylord - Tim Greco, 989-619-5519
• Roscommon - Jason Hartman, 989-390-0279
• Cadillac - Sue Sobieski, 231-775-9727, ext. 6904

What happens to the pine cones once they're dropped off? They're put into machines that gently warm them up and then shake them, allowing the seeds to drop out and be stored until planting time.

This process helps foresters replant the forest and replenishes the supply of red pine seed, which is in high demand.

Michigan's forests provide clean air and water, renewable resources, homes for wildlife and places to explore nature. It's the DNR's commitment to make sure healthy forests are here for future generations by replanting what is cut and maintaining sustainable management practices.
Emergency Rental Assistance Recipients update

Emergency Rental Assistance Recipients, effective July 19: All utility bills (Electric, Gas, Water/Sewer, Internet, Etc.) paid by ERA must be turned into Housing by 4 p.m. every Tuesday. Any utility bills turned in after 4 p.m. on Tuesdays will not be processed until the following week. Applications can be found online at www.baymills.org.

Comment on grant request- Boys & Girls Club

Bay Mills Indian Community will be submitting a grant request to HUD for the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) – American Rescue Plan Act Phase II grant. Eligible purposes for this grant include activities, projects, or programs that prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19, both in the short-term and long-term as projects, activities, or programs that meet the purposes of the ARP.

Part of the grant requirements involves citizen participation. The project information must be published, and insight from our community members is encouraged. The tribe is proposing to construct an approximate 2,500 square foot addition to the new Boys & Girls Club of Bay Mills facility. This additional space will allow for appropriate safety measures and social distancing due to COVID-19 and an increased maximum capacity according to space. In addition, the new space will also help staff respond to the effect COVID-19 has had on families and children by offering them a safe space to participate in programs.

BMIC is still working to finalize the cost, but it is estimated at $1,035,000. If you would like to submit comments regarding this project, please send them to Tara Parrish, tparrish@baymills.org, by 4 p.m. on September 2, 2021.

Comment on grant request - Bay Mills Health Center

Bay Mills Indian Community will be submitting a grant request to HUD for the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) – American Rescue Plan Act. Eligible purposes for this grant include activities, projects, or programs that are designed to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, with an emphasis on those short-and medium-term projects that meet the purposes of the CARES Act. Part of the grant requirements involves citizen participation. The project information must be published, and insight from our community members is encouraged. The tribe is proposing to construct a 1,200 square foot “safe vestibule” attached to the current Bay Mills Health Center facility.

The additional 1,200 square feet will serve as a screening area for patients and employees entering and exiting the Health Center facility. The layout is designed to have patients enter through one side and have employees come through the other side, allowing staff to better control the flow of traffic into the facility. A hygiene station and thermal scanners will be installed in the screening area to detect body temperature. All entrance and exit doors will be automatic to avoid handle contamination. Additionally, the screening area will include an enclosed reception and security office where door access buttons will be located.

BMIC is still working to finalize the cost, but it is estimated to be close to $1,035,000. If you would like to submit comments regarding this project, please send them to Rachel Burtt, rburtt@baymills.org, by 4 p.m. on September 2, 2021.