

## Blasting of bedrock to begin at new lock construction site

By Shannon Jones  
Bay Mills News

SAULT STE. MARIE — The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers held a public meeting on July 10 to inform the public about upcoming blasting that will take place at the site of the new Soo Lock.

Officials from both the Corps and contractor Kokosing Alberici Traylor, LLC took questions from those in attendance. The meeting was also streamed online.

According to the Corps, weekly blasting will begin at the end of July. The blasts will be limited in scope with the intent of breaking up bedrock. Several safety measures are in place to protect both the workers, mariners, and historic sites at the Locks.

Blasts will start at once per week, and then move into a daily basis with smaller tunnel blasts, likely in September.

After each blast, data will be collected by seismographs on site and utilized to tailor the next blast. Those visiting the Locks at the time of the blast are not likely to feel the detonation take place. Ground vibrations may be experienced near the site. Heavy cover will be placed over the site of the charge to ensure that debris (flyrock) does not become airborne.

“For 2023 blasting activities, the Corps of Engineers does not anticipate impacts to any public roadways or land areas outside of the Soo Locks facility,” said Mick Awbrey, New Lock chief. “However, each blast will be evaluated to ensure the safety of the public. During blasting, guards will be posted at all access points to ensure no persons will be allowed within 300 feet of the blast radius.”

Site charges will not be brought into the area until the day of the blast. No explosives will be stored on-site.

Local fish populations and spawning have also been taken into account for planning the blasting process. Atlantic salmon spawn in late October, Lake sturgeon spawn in April to late May.

“Two fish species use the tailrace area directly north of the blasting location for spawning—Atlantic Salmon and Lake Sturgeon. The vibration monitoring locations and limitations on peak particle vibrations (PPV) for



**Marine traffic on the St. Mary’s River will not be allowed within 1,000 feet (shown in blue) at the time of any blast detonations for recreational boats, fishermen, swimmers, and general waterborne public. Red Flag Vessels, transporting bulk fuel or other hazardous materials, will not be allowed within 2,000 feet (shown in red) during blasts.**

the contract have been restricted to account for these spawning areas,” said Hal Harrington, Detroit District biologist. “The contractor is required to design and control all blasts to meet a maximum PPV of 1.0 inches per second at both spawning locations. This limitation is specifically in place to prevent negative impacts to fish.”

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All exclusion zones were coordinated with the Soo Locks Lockmaster as well as the United States Coast Guard. Prior to blasting, an airhorn will be sounded five long times indicating that the blast will occur in five minutes. At one minute before a blast, an airhorn will be sounded five short times. Then the blast will be detonated. After the detonation the master blaster will confirm the completion of the blast and give the “all clear” con-

sisting of one long sound from an airhorn or siren.

Additional blasting activities in the chamber of the existing decommissioned Sabin Lock are scheduled for the 2024 spring-summer-fall construction season. These blasting activities will differ in scope and location from the shaft and tunnel blasting but will implement many of the same mitigating measures. The Corps of Engineers will provide additional notice related to the lock chamber blasting approximately 30 days in advance.

Construction this year on the new lock includes placement of new steel sheets, concrete cap placements on the upstream approach walls, marine excavation in the upstream and downstream channel, cofferdam construction preparation, abatement of hazardous materials and demolition of existing structures, construction of a new bridge to the hydro power plant and excavation, including rock blasting and installation of a grout curtain.

The New Lock at the Soo project will construct a second Poe-sized lock (110' by 1,200') on the existing decommissioned Davis and Sabin locks

site.

The project is currently in phases two and three. Phase two is expected to be complete by next summer. Phase three, which begins with the blasting, is the longest of the phases. This phase includes demolishing the existing Sabin Lock, excavation of bedrock, constructing new lock chamber walls and floor, fabrication and installation of miter gates, installation of mechanical and electrical systems, installation of the innovative hands-free mooring system, rehabilitating downstream approach walls and constructing a new pump well. The estimated completion date for phase three is summer 2030.

The Sabin and Davis Locks, built during World War I, are more than 100 years old, and no longer operational. The Poe Lock is the only one that can accommodate modern freighters. Maintenance is done on a tight schedule every winter. With the opening of the new lock, more extensive repairs and maintenance will be able to be done on the Poe in the future.

Approximately 80 million tons of commercial commodities pass through the Soo Locks annually.

# Executive Council discusses business at regular meeting

**July 17 Meeting**

Reports

**President Whitney Gravelle**

- On June 27th, attended the Superior Township Board Meeting to represent family that recently lost their home in the fire. Have sent two requests to the board for a meeting, they have been denied. We are waiting for a response from their attorney. They have appointed individuals to their fire department. We do not know how many are fire certified and are able to respond to fires. Bay Mills Township and Dafter have been in communication with us about fire response.
  - Working to get all land owned by BMIC into trust.
  - Met with State Dept. about how they can help tribes with international issues.
  - July 4th celebration went well. This is the first time we had an electronic lighting system. It takes several hours to set up as they are all hard wired into the panel. This made it much safer for our fireworks crew. The show was 26 minutes total. Would like to give a special thank you to Dennis Carrick who approached us with the idea.
  - July 13 attended the annual tribal-state tax summit. We discussed amendments we would like to make to the tax agreement. These include quota increases and increasing the size of the tax agreement area. We hope to make changes in the upcoming year.
  - Whiskey River has the roof on the new tribal admin building. They are going to start digging in the next few weeks to create the IT expansion on the left side of the facility.
  - Met with Sen. McBroom and Rep. Dave Preston. We had a coffee hour at the Dancing Crane. They spoke with constituents and we had a more private meeting at the Waishkey Bay Farm. They are both farmers and were really interested in the farm and how it functions within the community. They want a follow up visit to view the health center and visit the farm market when it begins. They also voted to approve the passage of the guardianship assistance program.
  - 2020 Consent Decree is ongoing in court. One filing left before the judge. We do not know the outcome of recent filings. We hope to hear something soon.
  - Monthly and weekly meetings are held on Line 5. The Corps is only going to be looking at the four miles on the Straits on their permit review. They said they do not regulate the line or look at the engineering of the pipeline so they do not take that into consideration. We are looking at follow up items.
  - BMGA meeting and management met to approve the purchase of golf simulators which will be installed later this year. The resort was able to install a very small play-ground at the RV park. Another swing set will be delivered. They continue to out-perform last year’s numbers.
  - Bay Mills Business Holding meeting was held. We discussed new staff and open positions. Four Seasons is doing well this summer. The Bay Mart tank replacement will find the market down for about a month. We are looking at alternatives to service the community.
  - July 25th is a Board of Regents meeting at Bay Mills Community College.
- Chief Financial Officer Albert Bertram**
- Area fenced off near tribal admin for IT expansion.
  - AOT has a position open. HR is working with her to get it filled.
  - FRF is having monthly meetings. Managers need to have all projects current.
  - Tax summit with state went well.
  - Going to get some May numbers ready for GTC.
  - Still working on aligning information from Accufund into new Sage system.
  - Draft Kings payment received.
  - Will discuss hotel expansion at GTC meeting.
  - Waiting on some numbers for sewer reroute.
  - Waiting on budgets for tank replacement at Bay Mart.
  - Started work on trust accounts.
- Health Director Audrey Breakie**
- Brimley Area Schools project- we discussed the renovation plan. They have started the work.
  - The final walk through was done on the new dental clinic. We are working to get the site staffed.
  - Nicole Causley came on board to staff July 12th.
  - Policies must be updated every two years for HRSA.
  - We hired two recruitment companies. We pay a search fee in advance. We pay a finding fee upon hire.
  - Two pharmacists coming up for on-site interview and to see the new clinic in town.
  - Hired a dental lab technician and two new receptionists.
  - The dental lab technician can do work for other dentists such as implants, crowns, dentures and bill for it.
  - Attended health directors meetings. Attended the regional tribal consultation.

**BMGA General Manager Richard LeBlanc**

- Have had a busy summer at BMRC. Weekend numbers are up.
- Hotel reservations are averaging over 90 percent and we have had a waiting list for various events.
- Staff have managed multiple events simultaneously. Not enough can be said about their work.
- Still meeting with teams. We are pushing advertising efforts in southern Michigan market. We are looking at digital marketing in those areas.
- We are still ramping up the Aristocrat system and make sure the kiosks are doing well. We can offer promotions via the system.
- We had a few reservation system issues last week. The software had a blip that lasted a few hours. People were not able to check out or get into the system. It lasted a few hours. We continue to work with technicians to make sure this does not happen in the future. Disruption was minimum.
- Evaluating slots constantly.
- New golf carts have arrived. They have USB hook ups. The GPS is a bit more detailed. They are coming to pick up the old carts.

**Bay Mills Business Holdings General Manager Kimmi Walden**

- NLCC has a new director of operations. Hired new cultivation techs.
- Board meeting and Commission meeting held.
- Discussion took place around SmartZone grant.
- Still working on information for Bay Mart tank replacement. Need to get the budget in place.

**New Business**

- Resolution No. 23-07-17A: Authorized Signers Bay Mills Tribal Court Bank Account. Approved.
- Resolution No. 23-07-17B: Support of the Health Resources Administration (HRSA) Grant Program – Service Area Competition HRSA-24-066 - \$1,465,522. Funding is used for staff, provider, professional fees and supplies. Approved.
- Resolution No. 23-07-17C: Approval of Lease Application & Lease Submission – Thomas Biland. Approved.
- Resolution No. 23-07-17D: Approval of Lease Application & Lease Submission – Rita LeBlanc. Tabled.
- Resolution No. 23-07-17E: Approval of Memorandum of Understanding w/ State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services – Provision of Children Protective Services. CPS provider at social services resigned. This allows MDHHS to handle cases until individual is hired and trained. Approved.
- Resolution No. 23-07-17F: Approval of Waiver of Sovereign Immunity w/ Integrated Financial Settlements, Inc. Approved.
- Resolution No. 23-07-17G: Waiver of Sovereign Immunity- AIS Construction Equipment Corp. This is the purchase of a bulldozer for public works. Approved.
- Approval of Posting Open Lot for Development – W. Rez Road. Tribal citizen relinquished their lot. We are posting as an open lot. It will be posted for one week. Undeveloped residential lot. Approved.
- Boys & Girls Club of Bay Mills – Appointment of Advisory Council Members (1). This is to fill positions that are open. Anna Carrick is the candidate. We can still fill up to 2 more spots. Approved.
- Bay Mills Health Center: Approved.
  - Safety Systems and Safety Equipment Maintenance Plan
  - # 1033 Fee Schedule
  - # 1019 Confidentiality of Information
  - # 1007 Entry Into Care
  - # 1039 HRSA Grant Appropriation Compliance
- Plantation Hills Housing Development Applications (all undeveloped lots): Approved
  - Bradley Tadgerson
  - Christian Perron
  - Katherine Weston
  - Michael Weston
  - Kimberley Leapley
  - Aaron Tadgerson
  - Ben Bowen
  - Logan Bowen
  - Jason LeBlanc, Jr.
  - Danette York
- Reaffirmation of Poll Votes: Approved
  - Approval for Emergency Hardship Donations - \$500.00
  - Approval of Water & Sewer / Scattered Sites Agreement with IHS - \$150,000
  - Approval to Submit: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Fiscal Year - 2024 Allocation for Public Health Emergency Preparedness

# Chairperson’s Report

By Whitney Gravelle

This year has been a very busy summer for Bay Mills Indian Community! On July 19th we will be hosting the General Tribal Council meeting at 6 p.m. in the Adikameg Hall at the lower level of Bay Mills Community College. At this meeting we will provide updates to our tribal citizens on projects currently happening in Bay Mills Indian Community, receive presentations from various Departments, and also review changes to the Bay Mills Leasing Ordinance, Member Adoption Ordinance, as well as the proposed enactment of a Banishment Ordinance.

As summer progresses, Bay Mills Indian Community has several large infrastructure projects taking place this summer, including: Bay Mills Tribal Admin Building, Tribal Court Expansion, Commodities Expansion, Plantation Hills Housing Development, Brimley Area Schools Health Clinic, and Boys & Girls Club Expansion. This is all in addition to the other work we are completing related to utilities, water meters, septic and sewer, and the Bay Mills Resort & Casino Expansion Project. Most of these projects were funded by grants received in order to improve infrastructure related needs of our community.

Future projects also include the Bay Mart Tank Replacement, Riverview Campground, as well as demolition of old infrastructure Bay Mills Indian Community now owns in Brimley and at Chippewa Landing. As the Bay Mart Tank Replacement project proceeds, we will continue to provide frequent updates to everyone since this project will close Bay Mart down for a month. We are looking for alternatives so that we can continue to provide tribal citizens gas services during the shutdown.

Bay Mills Indian Community has also been working on feasibility studies, business plans, and preliminary engineering designs for the Kings Club Renovation and Chippewa Landing. We will share these items with the General Tribal Council once complete.

Last September, the General Tribal Council approved the 2022 Great Lakes Consent Decree on behalf of Bay Mills Indian Community. Shortly afterwards, one of the Parties to the Consent Decree filed objections to the Federal Court in the Western District of Michigan. Since that time, Bay Mills Indian Community has been involved in various court proceedings. Currently, Bay Mills Indian Community has submitted findings of fact and findings of law to the Federal Court, but we do not know yet what rulings will transpire nor when the new Consent Decree will go into effect. The first Wednesday of every month, the Legal Department meets with the Conservation Committee to provide updates and discuss strategy.

This June, Plantation Hill Procedures were approved in order to begin the process of formally assigning lots and issuing permits for development. At this time, water, sewer, and gas utilities have been installed; and the Public Works Department will install main electric before the end of Fall.

The Land Office will begin contacting individuals who have been previously

assigned a lot. The Land Office will be seeking to confirm if the individual (1) wishes to keep their lot, (2) wishes to relinquish their lot, or (3) is no longer eligible for a lot due to having an established valid lease or mutual help home elsewhere in Bay Mills. After we confirm a final list of individuals still interested in developing homes, the Land Office will collect new applications to be approved by the Executive Council, upon which formal permits will be issued for development. Applicants have two years from permit issuance to significantly develop their lot, or it will automatically revert back to Bay Mills Indian Community. After all applications are approved, and permits are issued, we will continue working our way down the wait list previously established to assign lots on Plantation Hills. Please contact the Land Office if you have any questions about this process.

The Plantation Hill housing development project, also known as Wadjiwong Oden or Hilltop Village, was first acquired by Bay Mills Indian Community through a land exchange with the U.S. Forest Service in 1995, the land was officially put into trust in 2011, and applications for development started in 2013. It has been more than a decade since this project was begun, and we are so excited to finally see it across the finish line.

There have been a lot of cultural activities taking place across Bay Mills as well, including the birch bark canoe build, canoomin workshop, sweetgrass workshop, women’s gathering, and multiple community workshops that focus on the teachings and passing on of our cultural practices. Chi miigwetch to the Biological Services Department, Cultural Department, Waishkey Bay Farm, Museum & History Departments, as well and everyone else that helps plan, prepare, and coordinate these activities.

We also have some great events coming up for Bay Mills, including the Violence Against Women Act training on Aug. 2, and Birch Bark Earring Workshop on Aug. 19. We hope to see you there!

Bay Mills Indian Community has undergone rapid growth in the last several years, from infrastructure to services improvements. We appreciate everyone’s patience as we have handled an overwhelming number of projects. In the coming months, the Executive Council will continue to work on expanding services provided by tribal government, improve our business operations, and provide greater benefits for our employees. Our teams continue to work to find solutions to improving day care, engaging in energy and broadband opportunities, treaty resource conservation, and updates to tribal laws.

Our teams will continue to strive for the success of Bay Mills Indian Community. Please check out our tribal website or the official Tribal Chairperson Facebook Page for regular updates about what is going on here at Bay Mills. Please don’t hesitate to call, email, or stop by for a visit to share your thoughts, questions, and concerns with me. You can reach me at 906-248-8100 or wgravelle@baymills.org.



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# OPINION

## Teaching racism without discussing race?

By Elwood Watson

Ryan Walters, a far right-wing education official who currently serves as Oklahoma Superintendent of Public Instruction, recently caused a political firestorm when he insisted the Tulsa race massacre can be taught in public schools without amounting to “critical race theory” —so long as it’s taught without discussing race.

Walters, a senior level state education administrator, made the comments during a forum at the Norman Public Library earlier this month after he was asked how accurately teaching about the infamous white supremacist massacre – which killed as many as 300 Black people – wouldn’t violate a state ban on teaching critical race theory.

“I would never tell a kid that because of your race, because of the color of your skin, or your gender or anything like that, you are less of a person or are inherently racist,” he told the audience, according to media reports. “That doesn’t mean you don’t judge the actions of individuals. Oh, you can. Absolutely, historically, you should. ‘This was right. This was wrong. They did this for this reason.’ But to say it was inherent in that because of their skin is where I say that is critical race theory. You’re saying that race defines a person.”

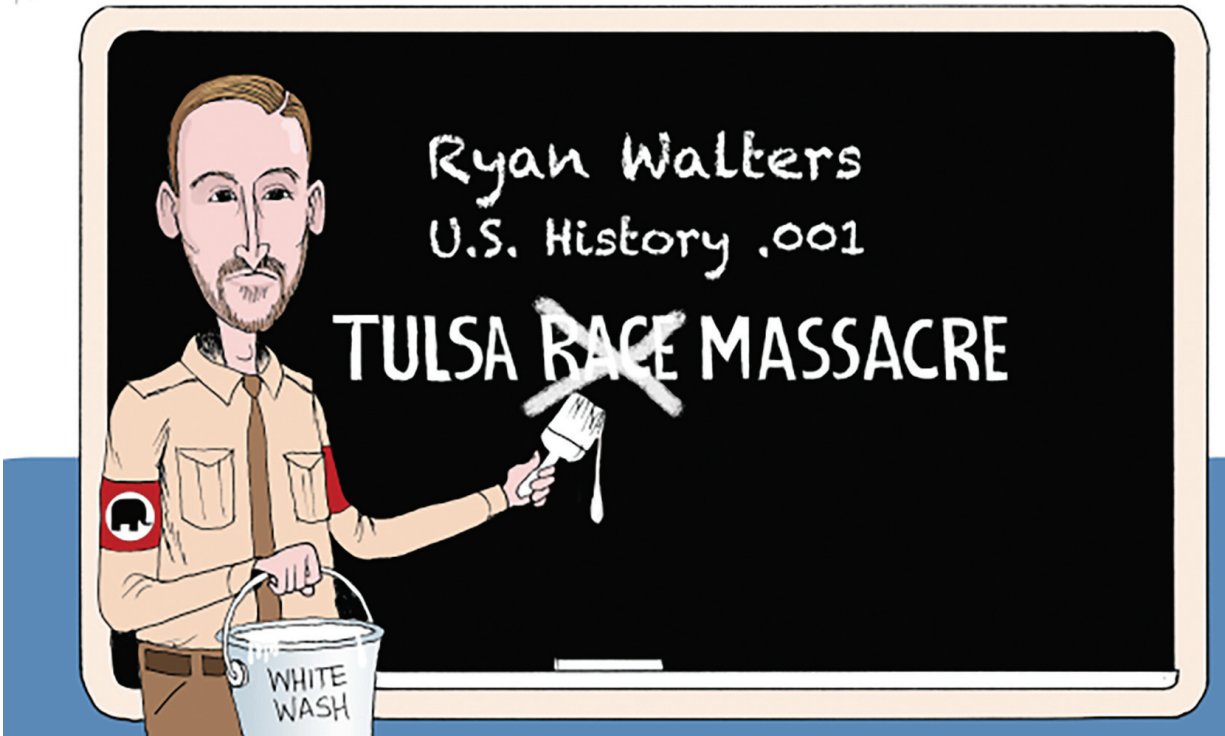
Not surprisingly, such a foolish response did not go over well.

Damario Solomon-Simmons, executive director at Justice for Greenwood, harshly criticized Walters’ comments, saying it was “beyond belief” coming from a top elected education official.

“He’s misinformed and this is a disgusting comment and it’s so inaccurate and false,” Solomon-Simmons told Newsweek. “The massacre was all about the skin color of the Black people who were destroyed. The [white mob] call Greenwood N-word town. They said they wanted to run the Blacks out of Tulsa.”

For those of you who do not know, the Tulsa massacre was a horrific act of racial

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terrorism in 1921 that destroyed the Greenwood District of Tulsa, a nationally-renowned prosperous community nicknamed “Black Wall Street.” Dick Rowland, a shoe shiner and dapper dresser in his late teens, was arrested on trumped-up charges for allegedly assaulting a white elevator operator, Sarah Page.

Encouraged and manipulated by racially-motivated media agitation and other forms of racial hostility, white residents of Tulsa engaged in two consecutive days of violent and sadistic carnage, eventually burning and destroying the Greenwood District. The national guard had to be called in. More than 300 people were killed. The massacre is considered one of the worst incidents of racially motivated violence in U.S. history.

Rather than acknowledging he made a mistake, Walters, who was elected by campaigning on a platform of ordering teachers

to be given “patriotic education,” initially doubled-down and went on the defensive. “It doesn’t matter how much the radical left attacks me,” Walters said during the public forum. “It doesn’t matter how much the teacher’s union spends against me. I will never stop speaking the truth.”

Realizing he had stepped in it, he made an attempt to clarify his comments.

“The Tulsa Race Massacre was a terrible, evil event perpetrated by folks that chose to act in a way that was evil and racist,” Walters told the local Fox affiliate. “I said (at the event) it was evil, all of our kids need to know it and they need to judge the action of those people.”

The truth is a number of whites are in denial about racism. A greater percentage are even more dismissive about the potential negative economic, psychological, and emotional impact that racism can have on the lives of Black and brown people.

A history of violence and discrimination has deeply affected America’s Black population. The results still linger with us today, and those emotional scars are ripped open when callous and careless comments like those made by Walters and others of his misguided mindset.

Denying such hard truths about various racial tragedies in our nation’s history does nothing to bring us any closer to any sort of racial reconciliation. Acknowledging our racial past and making a committed effort to confront such tragedy is the only viable solution to addressing such an undeniable fact.

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Elwood Watson is a professor of history, Black studies, and gender and sexuality studies at East Tennessee State University. He is also an author and public speaker.

## Dodging increasing crime rates

By Tom Purcell

People are getting so used to increasing crime rates in cities across America, an etiquette is evolving between some muggers and their victims.

I learned about this while I walked with my friend and his wife from a Washington D.C. pub to their home six blocks from the Hill.

“When you get mugged, there are certain rules you must follow,” said my friend’s wife, walking at a fast gait.

“WHEN I get mugged?” I said, trying to keep up with her.

“She’s right,” chimed in my friend. “Muggers are often polite when you follow their instructions, but they get surly when you are rude.”

“How can you be rude to a mugger?”

“Ignoring the mugger is considered rude,” said my friend. “This will give him license to strike you with a blunt object.”

“Huh?” I said.

“Making eye contact is also rude,” said my friend’s wife. “During the mugging transaction, it is only appropriate to look at the mugger’s feet.”

“I guess running would be out of the question?” I said.

“Running is very bad,” said my friend. “This might affect the mugger’s esteem,

which is already suffering because he’s probably out of work. This gives him little recourse but to chase you down and club you with a blunt object.”

“OK,” I said. “Then tell me exactly what I should do when we get mugged.”

“You should always make an offering of some kind,” said my friend’s wife. “The mugger must walk away with something of perceived value.”

“Like jewelry or a watch?” I said. My friends laughed.

“You don’t wear jewelry or a watch in this city!” said my friend’s wife. “No, you give up your wallet.”

“But I need my wallet,” I said. “It contains my license, credit cards and other vital information.”

“You don’t hand over your REAL wallet,” said my friend, looking at his wife like I was an idiot. “You give up a dummy wallet. You carry your real wallet in your sock.”

“What if the mugger asks to look in your sock?” I said.

“Muggers never do that,” said my friend’s wife. “They are very busy here. They’re eager to complete their transaction, so they can move on to their next mugging.”

“Can’t you carry mace or a gun?” I

said.

“Concealed guns aren’t legal here,” said my friend, laughing. “And if a mugger catches you reaching for the mace, that gives him license to —”

“Strike me with a blunt object,” I said.

“Precisely,” said my friend.

“Can’t you call for a policeman?”

“Ha!” said my friend’s wife. “The police here are more afraid of the criminals than we are! All we know is that robbery has gone up 49% the past year!”

“Our neighborhood crime reports confirm it,” said my friend. “People get mugged right in front of our house pretty much on a daily basis!”

As we approached their house, my friend’s wife sprinted to the door. While she unlocked it, my friend scanned the bushes looking for suspicious movement.

We rushed inside and slammed the door shut.

“We made it!” said my friend’s wife.

“That was a close one!” said my friend.

“You two sure know how to prevent getting mugged in this city,” I said. “How long have you lived here now?”

“We moved in last Friday,” said my friend.

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Purcell, creator of the infotainment site ThurbersTail.com, which features pet advice he’s learning from his beloved Labrador, Thurber, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.

### Bay Mills News

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This publication is owned and operated by Bay Mills Indian Community.

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the relevant contributors.

The next deadline is Thursday, Aug. 10 at 4 p.m.

Submissions may be emailed to: newspaper@baymills.org.

# Walking On

**James H Murray (Jim)**

James H Murray (Jim), 87, of Brimley, went to meet our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on June 28, 2023.

Jim was born Oct. 23, 1935, in Flint, Michigan to his parents Ralph and Thelma (Lennox) Murray. He graduated from Lake City High School in 1953 and continued his education at Ferris State University (Institute) where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the School of Pharmacy. Jim was a successful and much respected pharmacist until he permanently retired at age 80.

Jim met the love of his life for 52 years, Janice Van Paris, at the Gaiety Bowling Alley in Cheboygan, Michigan when they were unexpectedly paired up for mixed doubles. A year later they were married on Dec. 19, 1970.

Jim and Janice raised their family in Rogers City where he selflessly served his community as the hospital pharmacist and volunteer EMT for the hospital emergency service of which he helped form. Jim was also an active member of the local Kiwanis Club, serving one year as president and he also served as chairman for the Rogers City Nautical Festival. Perhaps some of his most enjoyable moments were participating in the festival parade as Flounder the Clown and supporting the Rainbow Lounge women’s softball team.

Jim continued to enjoy bowling with his wife, square dancing with the Presque Isle Promenaders and endless nights of playing cards with his friends, traveling to see family for holidays, and many memorable camping and snowmobiling adventures with family and friends.

In January 2002 Jim and Jan relocated to Brimley where he helped establish the Bay Mills Pharmacy along with Otto Bacon of War Memorial Hospital and Walt Parish of the Bay Mills Community.

Later in life Jim and Jan enjoyed retirement by taking well-deserved cross-country trips, taking up his love of golf, and numerous trips to attend his granddaughter’s and grandson’s sporting and music events.

To the very end, Jim’s never ending smart-alecky sense of humor and funny expressions never ceased to produce a smile or a laugh. He will be dearly missed and forever remembered in our hearts.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents Ralph and Thelma Murray, brothers Paul Murray, Jerry Murray (Judy Clark), and sister Valerie (Jim Miller).

Jim is survived by his wife Janice, his daughters Tami (Peter Domitrovich) of Ontonagon, Michigan and Traci (Mark Lambert) of Traverse City, Michigan; his sons

and daughter Guy Murray, Brent Murray (and wife Patti) of Glendale, Ohio and Janna (Ken Iler) of McBain, Michigan; 22 grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Jim is being privately served by C.S Mulder Funeral Home and will be laid to rest at Pine Hill Cemetery in Cheboygan, Michigan.

In appreciation to the wonderful and loving care Jim received at the Ball Hospice House, those wishing to honor his life may make donations to Hospice of the EUP, 308 W. 12th Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

**George Lawrence Belleau**

George Lawrence Belleau, 55, of Brimley, passed away on Saturday, June 17, 2023, comfortably at his home. He was born on Oct. 10, 1967, in Toronto, Ontario to Albert Francis and Frances Marie (Roote) Belleau, and was a member of the Garden River First Nations of Ojibwe Indians. He was a graduate of the St. Mary All Boys Catholic School, class of 1985.

George loved playing bass. Taught by his dad at a young age, he spent most of his free time practicing or building custom bass guitars, and playing in bands; Most recently, “Hawk Junction,” and “Highway 63.” He was also a traditional drummer with the Eagle Lodge group, and any drum group he was invited to sit with. George was a spiritual man and spent many years crafting traditional drums, staffs, headdresses, and other additional beadwork/regalia. He was nothing short of a movie enthusiast and had collected well over 300 blue-ray disks of all and any genre, so long as his surround sound system was loud enough to shake the house and looked good on his 120in. projector screen. Widely known as Mr. George amongst the community, he served 23 years as a bus driver for the Bay Mills Head Start. He also spent many years as a night janitor for OCS (Ojibwe Charter School). He dearly loved his dog, Bailey.

George is survived by his mother: Frances Belleau; twin daughters: Carly and Lexy Belleau, both of Brimley, Michigan; grandchildren: Elias Albert LeBlanc and Kenneth J. Ermatinger IV; siblings: Al Belleau, Justin Belleau, and Bertha Jane Belleau; two nieces: Conika Belleau (Al), Daanis Belleau (BJ); one nephew: Orrionn Belleau (Al), as well as many cousins.

George was preceded in death by his father Albert Belleau and daughter Ayanna Belleau.

Traditional Ceremonies were held at the Bay Mills Cultural Center.



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**Medical:** Call 911 for medical emergencies; after hours medical provider access: 906-203-4074.

**Behavioral Health:** Call 911 for emergencies; Hiawatha Behavioral Health crisis line: 906-632-2805.

# Bay Mills 2022 Water Quality Report

**Is my water safe?**

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

**Do I need to take special precautions?**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Your tribal water supply originates as water beneath the surface of the Earth. This is called groundwater. Groundwater is naturally filtered as it travels through soil and rocks. Our tribe has three ten inch wells, which pump this water back to the surface of the Earth so that we may drink it.

**Source water assessment and its availability**

A 10 year Source Water Assessment and Tritium test was conducted for the BMIC by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan Inc., Environmental Services Division (MITC ESD) in 2004. The purpose of this assessment was to provide pertinent water quality data, hydraulic projections and procedures that will assist the Tribe in the protection of their municipal water supply system from potential sources of groundwater contamination. A risk ranking susceptibility determination is included in this assessment to evaluate how vulnerable the public water supply system is to contamination and which potential contaminate sources pose the largest threat to the water supply. This risk ranking system uses four different factors with separate value ratings to determine the potential susceptibility of the well field. The four different factors used in this assessment are: Geologic sensitivity, Well construction, Water chemistry, Isotope data, and Isolation from potential sources of contamination. It was determined from this comprehensive assessment that the Bay Mills Indian Communities water supply system has a low susceptibility to potential sources of contamination. This SWA (Source Water Assessment) is available at Bay Mills Utility Authority at 12069 W Lakeshore Dr.

**Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

**How can I get involved?**

I encourage you to become more involved in tribal water issues. I invite you to call us any time for more information.

**Significant Deficiencies**

Test results for several contaminants were late to EPA in 2022. Although the tests were ultimately completed and were within safe drinking water limits, EPA issued a major, non-reporting violation for each contaminant listed here: Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5); Nickel; Asbestos; Barium; Cadmium; Total Thallium; Mercury; Selenium; Total Beryllium; Arsenic; Fluoride; Total Antimony. Results were sent to EPA and our water system was eventually found to be in compliance.

**Additional Information for Lead**

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and compo-

nents associated with service lines and home plumbing. Bay Mills Community Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Water Quality Data Table**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

For more information, contact: Gail Glezen

Address: 3095 S. Towering Pines

Brimley, MI 49715

Phone: 906-248-8736

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	13	NA	13	2022	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	3	NA	3	2022	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

**Undetected Contaminants**

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (g/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

# Boulley honored by City of Sault Ste. Marie

By **Shannon Jones**  
*Bay Mills News*

SAULT STE. MARIE — Author and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians member Angeline Boulley was honored by the City of Sault Ste. Marie for her work on July 1.

The day was proclaimed Angeline Boulley Day by Mayor Don Gerrie of Sault Ste. Marie. Boulley was on hand to receive the honor, along with a small crowd greeting her at Rotary Park.

Boulley, former director of the Office of Indian Education at the U.S. Department of Education, published her debut novel “The Fire Keeper’s Daughter” in 2021. The novel spent 14 weeks at number one on the New York Times Best Seller list. The book, with a story line following characters based in Sault Ste. Marie/Sugar Island, follows Daunis, who is part Ojibwe, who defers attending university to care for her mother and reluctantly becomes involved in the investigation of a series of drug-related deaths. Daunis goes undercover drawing on her knowledge of chemistry and Ojibwe traditional medicine to track down the source.

Although it was initially categorized as a young adult book, the novel has gained ground across the globe. Boulley has foreign rights deals in 22 other areas, meaning people all over the world are

reading about Sault Ste. Marie and Ojibwe culture. It has also been picked up by Higher Ground Productions, President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama’s production company, for an upcoming Netflix series. Boulley also received many awards, including a Michael L. Printz Award, William C. Morris Award, Walter Dean Myers Award and an American Indian Youth Literature Honor.

In May, Boulley released her follow-up novel, “Warrior Girl Unearthed,” which takes readers back to Sugar Island in this high-stakes thriller about the power of discovering your stolen history. Boulley encouraged those in attendance to follow their dreams. She said she had the idea for the story since she was 18, but didn’t start writing until she was living in Sault Ste. Marie.

“I was 44 when I decided to give writing a try,” she said. “It took another 10 years to finish a draft that I felt was solid enough to get a publisher.”

Boulley had publishers in a bidding war over her work, which was rumored to have sold for seven figures.

Boulley said she never envisioned the awards and attention her work would get. Boulley presently resides in southwest Michigan, but her considers her roots to be on Sugar Island. She recently purchased property in the U.P. and is looking forward to spending more time closer to home and continuing her writing work.



Sault Mayor Don Gerrie (left) is shown handing Boulley the proclamation, with City Commissioner Steve Habusta (right).

## Deadline for photography contest approaching

DETROIT — The Detroit District invites photographers to enter its 8th annual photo contest highlighting U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sites across the Great Lakes.

The top 12 photographs highlighting Detroit District Great Lakes projects such as the Soo Locks, Duluth Ship Canal, piers, breakwaters or federal channels and harbors will earn a spot in the 2024 downloadable calendar. The entry deadline is 11:59 p.m. July 21, with winners determined by social media vote. The Soo Locks Visitors Center Association will award the top three photographers a plaque featuring their photo.

Officials will upload digital photo submissions to an album on the Detroit District Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/USACEDetroitDistrict/> July 25, and tally public voting through ‘likes’ until 9 a.m. Aug. 4.

By entering the contest, participants agree to abide by official contest instructions and rules, found on the district website at: <https://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Media/Photo-Contest/>.

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# BMIC begins using electronic ignition system for fireworks

By Shannon Jones  
Bay Mills News

BAY MILLS — It’s no secret the fireworks show in Bay Mills is one of the most popular events in Chippewa County on the July 4 holiday. This year, the show was modernized in the name of accuracy and safety.

Previously, BMIC administration had to build a team of nearly 20 volunteers each year to set up and light off the fireworks by hand with a torch. Every year it would be harder and harder to get an ample amount of people to volunteer, as most like to spend the day enjoying the holiday and not working. Not to mention, setting off fireworks comes with risk.

BMIC member Dennis Carrick and longtime fireworks volunteer approached tribal administration after the show last year with the proposal of using electronic ignition system for fireworks.

Carrick was able to get a representative from Wolverine Fireworks to visit Bay Mills and give a presentation on the benefits of changing ignition methods.

The modernized method allows for a smaller crew to assemble the show, and one person to ignite the fireworks with the click of a mouse. Carrick was given the green flag to go ahead and get the training needed that would update how BMIC launched their fireworks.

He attended training in the Sebewaing, learning the ins and outs of the new system.

He then went to St. Ignace one weekend and launched a show there to make sure he had the technique down before the big holiday. After that experience, he was confident the tribe made the right choice in technique.

“Not only is this a safer method, but it gives us more accuracy with each firework. We can make the show as fast or slow as we want,” said Carrick. “We did have to set up numerous tubes for the launch, as each lights individually, but it was well worth it. We can customize the shows, control what is in the air at the same time, and even set a show to music if we want.”

Bay Mills normally runs a 45 minute show, and while this year’s show was a little shorter, 27 minutes, the show was more intense.

“We had more fireworks in the air at the same time,” said Carrick.

Being able to pre-load and pre-wire the show allows for a smaller crew. This year Carrick was joined by his father Levi Carrick, Sr., Dan Jere, and Dan Corey.

Carrick said it took over 13 hours to wire the show, compared to the three hours it takes when lighting by hand. But the time put in was well worth it according to BMIC President Whitney Gravelle.

“Bay Mills Indian Community has one of the best firework shows in the Eastern Upper Peninsula! We are excited to continue to improve our annual show with the acquisition of an electronic fireworks system and keep the public and our fireworks volunteers safe,” said Gravelle.



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Whitmer makes appointment to Waterways Commission

LANSING — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer recently announced the appointment of Craig Lehrke to the Michigan Waterways Commission

Lehrke, of Moran, is the owner of Mackinac Sailing. He is also a retired school administrator, and 28-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, and a former Mackinac County Commissioner. He is a graduate of Central Michigan University with Bachelor of Science in Biology and Geography, He also holds a Master of Education from Saginaw Valley State, and a National Security and Strategic Studies diploma from the U.S. Naval War College. He holds a U.S. Coast Guard master’s Captain License with an Auxiliary Sail Endorsement and has extensive training in Emergency/Crisis Management at the Michigan State Police Academy, FEMA Institute, and National Fire Academy. Mr. Lehrke is appointed to represent the general public, for a term commencing July 14, 2023, and expiring September 18, 2023. He succeeds Mark Yonan who has resigned.

The Michigan State Waterways Commission is responsible for the acquisition, construction, and maintenance of recreational harbors, channels, docking and launching facilities, and administration of commercial docks in the Straits of Mackinac.

This appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Central Savings Bank makes board appointments

SAULT STE. MARIE — Central Savings Bank Board approved the appointments of Michael Veum and Leslie Bohn as new Directors at their June 20 meeting.

Veum, of Veum Law Firm, holds an undergraduate degree in accounting from Lake Superior State University and is a graduate of Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Veum holds seats on the boards of Famous Soo Locks Cruises, Inc. and Hospice of Chippewa County.

Bohn, part owner of Bohn Marine of Cedarville is a licensed Certified Public Accountant and a member of both the AICPA and MICPA. She is currently employed, remotely, as a tax manager with Apple Growth Partners, an accounting and business advisory firm based out of Ohio. Bohn also serves as the board treasurer of the Les Cheneaux Community Foundation.

She and her husband Curt have two sons, Aidric and Ellis. Bohn said she is excited to be able to contribute to the continued success of Central Savings Bank and Central Bank Corporation.

The pair joins Paul Brewster, Ron Meister, Mark Savoie, Dennis Skinner, David Jahn, Rick Fitzpatrick, James Smith, Danna Sanderson and Rob Landis.



Temporary housing built for locks workers

KINROSS — Construction is underway on the Kinross Lodge East temporary housing project. Kinross Lodge East, LLC is leasing land from Kinross Charter Township to provide dormitory-style lodging for the Soo Locks construction crew contracting with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. They are currently installing the infrastructure to access the local water and sewer system, at their cost. No taxpayer funds are being used to subsidize this independent project, which will be paying market rates for all utilities and is anticipated to bring of new customers to local businesses. Once the project ends, Kinross Lodge East, LLC will be taking down the buildings in order to return the land to its prior state.

Southeastern Disaster Relief Services (SDRS) is erecting the turn-key, dorm-like apartments on nearly 10 acres on M-80 in Kincheloe to ease the housing shortage in the area.

The apartments resemble “high-end dorm rooms” with 38 rooms in a building. Each will have their own bathroom with one bed. The building will have its own cafeteria with three buffet-style meals served each day. In addition, there will be 24-hour security, transportation to and from the Soo Locks, housekeeping, medical services, recreation area, cable tv and Wi-Fi all included in the rent price. The rent will be around \$3,000 a month.

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# Activities keep Ojibwe culture alive in community

In June, Bay Mills Indian Community completed its first community birch bark canoe.

Ron Paquin and Adam Avery provided teachings over the week of building.

“It was so inspiring to see everyone come together as a team, problem solve together, help each other, and encourage one another. We are so truly blessed with an amazing family,” said BMIC President Whitney Gravelle.

This canoe will be available for community use for moving forward.



On July 11, Bay Mills Community College staff, faculty, and volunteers at worked at identifying, harvesting, and picking Wiingushk (sweetgrass). They followed traditional Ojbwe methods and teachings and were mindful to only take what they needed.

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# Pet owners urged to vaccinate as rabies detected in kitten

LANSING – After a kitten was euthanized, suspected and confirmed to later have rabies, the state veterinarian is urging pet owners to stay current on their vaccines.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development’s State Veterinarian, Dr. Nora Wineland, DVM, released the following statement due to the detection of rabies in a nine-week-old kitten from Oakland County.

“While this case is unfortunate, it is not unexpected as rabies is regularly detected in Michigan’s wildlife—particularly in bats and skunks. This means the virus is present in the community, making it fundamentally important to vaccinate

domestic animals against rabies,” said Dr. Wineland. “Any mammal, including humans, can be infected with rabies. By vaccinating pets and livestock against the virus as well as having them avoid contact with wildlife, it protects both animal health and public health.”

On June 14, the kitten was found as a stray prior to its diagnosis. It was taken to a veterinary practice to receive an examination. After initially appearing healthy, a few days later, the kitten started to become lethargic, have a decreased appetite, and began vomiting.

The kitten developed neurologic signs (including tremors, incoordination, and biting) and was humanely euthanized.

Rabies is a viral disease most commonly transmitted by a rabid animal bite.

As of June 28, 2023, a total of 14 rabid animals, including this kitten, have been detected in Michigan. The other cases include eight bats and five skunks that were found in seven different counties throughout the Lower Peninsula.

Even if an animal is kept indoors, keeping their vaccination against the virus up-to-date serves as an important barrier if they are ever exposed to a wild or stray animal that could be carrying the disease. In fact, Michigan law requires ferrets and dogs to be currently vaccinated against rabies. Please contact your veterinarian for more information about

rabies vaccination or to schedule an appointment.

Also, if you think your animal may have had contact with rabid wildlife, it is important to immediately contact your veterinarian or MDARD at 800-292-3939 to determine the next steps to take.

If you are a veterinarian, remember to always consider rabies as a potential diagnosis for neurologic animals. Rabies test kits and submittal forms are available through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Also, in Michigan, rabies is reportable to the State Veterinarian’s Office.

For more information on rabies, please visit [www.michigan.gov/rabies](http://www.michigan.gov/rabies).

# Lampricide application to take place early September

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Fisheries and Oceans Canada personnel will apply lampricides to Mill Creek (Chippewa County) to kill sea lamprey larvae burrowed in the stream bottom. Applications will be conducted on or about Sept. 5 in accordance with State of Michigan permits. Applications will be complete in about 12 days. Application dates are tentative and may be changed based upon local weather or stream conditions near the time of treatment.

Sea lamprey larvae live in certain Great Lakes tributaries and transform to parasitic adults that migrate to the Great Lakes and kill fish. Failure to kill the larvae in streams would result in significant damage to the Great Lakes fishery. Infested tributaries must be treated every three to five years with lampricides to control sea lamprey populations.

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and Health Canada Pest

Management Regulatory Agency have reviewed human health and environmental safety data for lampricides, and in 2003 concluded that the lampricides (Lampricid and Bayluscide) pose no unreasonable risk to the general population and the environment when applied at concentrations necessary to control larval sea lampreys. However, as with any pesticide, the public is advised to use discretion and minimize unnecessary exposure. Lampricides are selectively toxic to sea lampreys, but a few fish, insect, and broadleaf plants are sensitive.

Persons confining bait fish or other organisms in stream water are advised to use an alternate water source because lampricides may cause mortality among aquatic organisms stressed by crowding and handling. Agricultural irrigation must be suspended for 24 hours, during and following treatment.

Extensive preparations are required for a safe and effective stream treatment. Prior to treatment, personnel

collect data on stream water chemistry and discharge. In addition, they may conduct on-site toxicity tests with lampricides and stream flow studies with dyes that cause stream water to appear red or green.

Lampricides are carefully metered into the stream for approximately 12 hours, and continually analyzed at predetermined sites to assure that proper concentrations are maintained as the lampricides are carried downstream. Applicators are trained and are certified by regulatory agencies for aquatic applications of pesticides.

The program is contracted through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. 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 lamprey-producing streams, and is conducting research into barrier design, traps, attractants, and biological controls.

For additional information in the U.S. call 1-800-472-9212 and in Canada call 1-800-553-9091. TTY users may reach the Marquette or Ludington Biological Stations through the Michigan State Relay Service at 1-800-649-3777.

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# Mackinac Bridge enters the busy season for traffic and maintenance

ST. IGNACE—As traffic picks up on the Mackinac Bridge for the traditional increase in warmer season travel, so does the work required to maintain this engineering icon.

The Mackinac Bridge Authority’s team of maintenance staff is out on the bridge deck, replacing pieces of the original decking, repairing deck joints, and cleaning off a winter’s worth of grit tracked onto the bridge. This year, contractors will be replacing sections of the curb and rebuilding some bridge joints this fall.

“Like with road work and maintenance anywhere else in northern Michigan, the season for taking care of the Mackinac Bridge coincides with the peak of tourism travel,” said MBA Chief Bridge Engineer Cole Cavalieri. “We do our best to minimize delays due to our work, and remove lane closures for holidays and peak traffic periods whenever possible.”

Safety is key for drivers crossing the bridge through the maintenance work zones, both for vehicle occupants and the maintenance workers who are only feet away.

## Michigan traffic fatalities remain high

Michigan traffic crash deaths remained above 1,100 according to recently released data from the Michigan State Police Criminal Justice Information Center. The 1,123 fatalities recorded in 2022 was slightly lower than the 1,131 deaths in 2021.

While the number of crashes in 2022 was 4 percent higher than the previous year, traffic fatalities decreased 1 percent in 2022 and serious injuries were down 3 percent. However, the latest crash data reveals a disturbing five-year trend that has seen traffic fatalities on Michigan roadways rise 15 percent, from 974 deaths in 2018 to 1,123 in 2022.

There is some good news in the 2022 statistics. Teen traffic fatalities dropped 34 percent, from 83 deaths in 2021 to 55 deaths in 2022. The percentage of alcohol-involved fatalities also fell by 10 percent, from 357 deaths in 2021 to 322 in 2022.

Bicycle fatalities increased to 36 in 2022, up 24 percent, from 29 in 2021. There was also a 28 percent increase in work zone crashes, from 5,814 in 2021 to 7,436 in 2022. Fatalities in work zones increased from 20 in 2021 to 23 in 2022, up 15 percent. Other important data shows:

- Pedestrian fatalities decreased from 183 in 2021 to 173 in 2022, down 5 percent.
- Drug-involved fatalities decreased from 275 in 2021 to 249 in 2022, down 9 percent.
- Motorcyclist fatalities increased from 166 in 2021 to 173 in 2022, up 4 percent.
- Distracted-driving fatalities decreased slightly from 59 in 2021 to 57 in 2022, down 3 percent.

## Shipwreck of tug from 1879 located

PARADISE — The Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society has announced the discovery of the long missing tug boat, Satellite, that sank on June 21st, 1879, in just under 300 feet of water. The day the satellite sank was considered a calm day on Lake Superior. The tug boat had four barges in tow when she ran into trouble.

One account suggests that she suffered a mechanical problem, while another says that she struck a floating log and started taking on water. Regardless of what happened, the Satellite went to the bottom of Lake Superior and has not been seen for 142 years. There was no loss of life. Josh Gates of Discovery Channel’s Expedition Unknown traveled to the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum (Whitefish Point) to do a show on the missing 1918 French Minesweepers.

Gates joined the Shipwreck Society’s crew aboard the R/V David Boyd to identify a submerged wreck. GLSHS Director of Marine Operations, Darryl Ertel, put the Society’s ROV (remotely operated vehicle) down on the target, and ascertained that it was not a minesweeper, but the Satellite. The minesweepers are made of steel while the Satellite was a wooden hulled vessel. Unfortunately, there are no known pictures of the Satellite. She was considered one of the most beautiful vessels on the Great Lakes at the time of her loss.

The Detroit Press and Tribune wrote, “It is said that her cabin and upper works were the most elaborate put upon a craft of her kind.”

There are roughly 10,000 shipwrecks in the Great Lakes, but only about 350 of them are located in Lake Superior.

“Better than anyone, we know the views of the Straits of Mackinac are tempting, but we need customers to focus their attention on driving,” said MBA Maintenance Supervisor Joe Shampine. “Drivers also need to slow down on the bridge, particularly around our work zones. Excessive speeds or just a second of inattention could result in a terrible tragedy.”

What typically results in traffic backups at the bridge is the surge of weekend traffic from late spring through fall, particularly from 2 to 6 p.m. on northbound lanes on Fridays, and 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. for southbound traffic on Sundays. Even with all toll booths open, the sheer volume of traffic sometimes exceeds the capacity of the toll workers. The bridge takes many types of payment now, including cash, credit/debit cards, Apple Pay/Google Pay, and MacPass, but cash and MacPass are the fastest transaction types.

“Our toll workers always do the best they can to get drivers through the booths as quickly as possible,” said MBA Operations Manager Mike Buby. “We just ask that customers be patient, particularly at the busiest times.”

Live traffic camera views of the bridge, updates on bridge conditions, toll rates, and information on the MacPass program can all be found on the MBA website: [www.MackinacBridge.org](http://www.MackinacBridge.org).

# Looking for a new career?

Financial aid provided: tuition & fees, mileage, internet reimbursement, books/materials, exam fees, hourly stipend

Check out our online & in-person program options by scanning here:



WOCTEP is funded by the US Department of Education through the NACETP program. Federal funds contribute to 92% of funding (\$500,666) and tribal support of 8% (\$42,329) for project year 1 (2022)

## Taagewin (Game Time) For Elders

- Where:** Armella Parker Elder Center  
12485 W. Lakeshore Drive Brimley
- When:** Tuesday July 25, 2023 after lunch
- For:** Elders ages 55 years and older

**Bay Mills Farmer’s Market coupon prizes**

**Featured game has 25 squares & a free space.**



**Educational event** hosted by Bay Mills Health Center’s Community Health Department – **No cash involved.**  
Questions? Call 906-248-8325.



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# Bay Mills 2023 Pow Wow Competition Winners

**Youth Boys Traditional**

- 1st Place: Alexander Bigsky Klein
- 2nd Place: Jordyn Smith
- 3rd Place: George Soloman
- 4th Place: Zaagi Cain

**Youth Boys Grass**

- 1st Place: Diamond Temoke
- 2nd Place: Eyabay Wemigwans
- 3rd Place: Brandon Woods Jr.
- 4th Place: Joaquin Williams

**Youth Boys Fancy**

- 1st Place: Nwaabdaase Trudeau

**Youth Girls Traditional**

- 1st Place: Violet Pyawasit
- 2nd Place: Tatum Watan
- 3rd Place: Isabella Robinson
- 4th Place: Vera Pyawasit

**Youth Girls Jingle**

- 1st Place: Sofia Lyons
- 2nd Place: Azhibikoonz Trudeau
- 3rd Place: Ishann Belisle
- 4th Place: Izzy Cleland

**Youth Girls Fancy**

- 1st Place: Lilianna Bigsky Klein
- 2nd Place: Waaskone Celalnd
- 3rd Place: Nailah Pyawasit
- 4th Place: Anecia G. Woods

**Teen Boys Traditional**

- 1st Place: Elliott Penass
- 2nd Place: Gegek Webkamigad
- 3rd Place: Giizhigo Giizhek

**Teen Boys Grass**

- 1st Place: William Temoke, Jr.
- 2nd Place: Drake Cameron

**Teen Boys Fancy**

- 1st Place: Wiingashk Shawana

**Teen Girls Traditional**

- 1st Place: Seneca Pyawasit
- 2nd Place: Georgia Abel
- 3rd Place: Paungbiisohw Trudeau
- 4th Place: Miah Perez

**Teen Girls Jingle**

- 1st Place: Miley Soney
- 2nd Place: Niizh Wemigwans
- 3rd Place: Neena Robinson
- 4th Place: Hope Stevens

**Teen Girls Fancy**

- 1st Place: Selsi Syrette
- 2nd Place: Kyla Henry
- 3rd Place: Annyssa Milles
- 4th Place: Kendreya Teeple

**Adult Men’s Traditional**

- 1st Place: Adrian Klein
- 2nd Place: Joe Syrette
- 3rd Place: Noodin Shawanda
- 4th Place: Gabriel Cleveland

**Adult Men’s Grass**

- 1st Place: Quincy Antoine-Jackson
- 2nd Place: David Trudeau
- 3rd Place: Niij-zhik Davis
- 4th Place: Gary Gibson

**Adult Men’s Fancy**

- 1st Place: Jason Whitehouse
- 2nd Place: Tyler Dashner
- 3rd Place: Tyrone Shawana
- 4th Place: Wassnodeh Recollett

**Adult Women’s Traditional**

- 1st Place: Krystal Bigsky
- 2nd Place: Summer Baldwin
- 3rd Place: Cassie Thomas
- 4th Place: Paige Youngbear Brown

**Adult Women’s Jingle**

- 1st Place: Heather Syrette
- 2nd Place: Daija Shinos
- 3rd Place: Ava Belisle
- 4th Place: Shannon Manitowabi

**Adult Women’s Fancy**

- 1st Place: Tracy Cleland
- 2nd Place: McKenzie Jacobs
- 3rd Place: Miigizheekwe Stobnicke
- 4th Place: Vanessa Concha

**Golden Age Men**

- 1st Place: Charles Belisle
- 2nd Place: Russ Blackbird
- 3rd Place: Mike Dasher
- 4th Place: Ray Cadotte

**Golden Age Women**

- 1st Place: Punkin Shananaquet
- 2nd Place: Bernadette Shawanda
- 3rd Place: Julie Whitepigeon
- 4th Place: Terry Webster



**Drums**

- 1st Place: Smokey Town
- 2nd Place: Southern Boyz
- 3rd Place: Mission Hill
- 4th Place: Red Willow
- 5th Place: War Thunder

**Canoe Race:**

- 1st Place: Cole Tadgerson and Kyle Tadgerson

- 2nd Place: Sabastian and Nate Boehlke
- 3rd Place: Brenda Wabanimkee and Ian Hunter
- 4th Place: Tammy Munz and Mia Munz
- 5th Place: Ethan Shaw and Mason Cameron
- 6th Place: Adam Edwardson and Lindsey Hatfield



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# Chippewa County Fair Schedule of Events

The fair is scheduled to take place at the Chippewa County Fairgrounds in Kinross, Aug. 26-Sept. 4.

Saturday Aug. 26  
Campers can start arriving after 12 p.m.  
7 p.m. - Miss Chippewa County Fair Queen Contest (4-H Building)

Sunday, Aug. 27  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Enter Rabbit Meat Pens  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Enter all other Rabbits  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.. - Enter Poultry Meat Pens  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Enter all other Poultry

Monday, Aug. 28  
9 a.m. - Rabbit Judging (Rabbit Barn)  
10 a.m. to 9 p.m. - Enter All Market Livestock (May enter breeding animals also)  
2 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Enter Youth/Open Still Exhibits (4-H Building)

Tuesday Aug. 29  
9 a.m.- Poultry Judging (Poultry Barn)  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Youth/ Open Still Exhibits Judging (4-H Building)  
10 a.m. - Draft Horse Judging  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Senior Citizen Luncheon  
1 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Enter Breeding Livestock  
1 p.m. to 9 p.m.- Bingo (Dunbar Building)  
2 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Youth/Open Exhibits in 4-H Building open to public  
3 p.m. - Pocket Pet Judging (Rabbit Barn Area)  
4 p.m. - to 6 p.m. - (To Be Announced) (Pavillion)  
4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Quonset/ Vendors Open  
5:30 p.m. Livestock Exhibitors Meeting (Behind Livestock Office)  
8 p.m. - USA Demo Derby Presents (Grandstand)  
See [www.usademoderby.com](http://www.usademoderby.com) for rules and information

Wednesday August 30, 2023  
9 a.m. - Swine Judging (Covered Showing Ring)  
11 a.m. to 10 p.m. - Quonset/Vendors Open  
1 p.m. - Skerbeck Carnival Starts  
1 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Bingo (Dunbar Building)  
2 p.m. - Market Goat Judging (Covered Showing Ring)  
2 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Youth/Open Exhibits in 4-H Building Open to Public  
2:15P.M. - Sheep Judging (Covered Show Ring , Costume Class will be Friday)

3 p.m. to 5 p.m - To Be Announced (Pavillion)  
8 p.m. - USA Demo Derby Presents (Grandstand)  
Stock Auto Cross with heats & feature - Front Wheel Demo Derby  
See [www.usademoderby.com](http://www.usademoderby.com) for rules and information

Thursday Aug. 31  
9 a.m.- Beef Judging (Covered Show Ring)  
9 a.m. - Garden Tractor Pull (Tractor Pulling Area)  
11 a.m. - Antique & Classic Tractor Pull (Tractor Pulling Area)  
11 a.m. to 10 p.m. - Quonset/ Vendors Open  
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - Special Needs Activities  
1 p.m. - Carnival Rides Start  
1 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Bingo (Dunbar Building)  
2 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Youth/ Open Exhibits in 4-H Building Open to Public  
3 p.m.- Small Animal Overall Showmanship (Poultry, Rabbit Barn Area)  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. - To be Announced (Pavillion)  
5 p.m. - Open Pony Pull (Held on the Dog Leg) Free Admission  
7 p.m. - Open Horse Pull (Held on the Dog Leg) Free Admission  
Sponsor For Both Pulls: Louie's Well Drilling & Mayer Pump Service

Friday Sept. 1  
ALL DAY: DEMONSTRATION OF ANTIQUE EQUIPMENT  
9 a.m. - Garden Tractor Pull (Tractor Pulling Area)  
10 a.m. - Dairy Judging (Covered Show Ring)  
11 a.m. - Farm Stock Tractor Pull (Tractor Pulling Area)  
11 a.m. - Goat Judging (Goat Show Ring)  
11 a.m. to 10 p.m. - Quonset/Vendors Open  
12 p.m. - Open Horse Show - Speed & Action (Horse Arena)  
1 p.m. - Carnival Rides Start  
1 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Bingo (Dunbar Building)  
2 p.m. - Chili Cook-off  
2 p.m.. to 8 p.m. - Youth/Open Exhibits in 4-H building Open to public  
5 p.m. - Sheep Costume Class (Open and Pee Wee) (Covered Show Ring)  
5 p.m. - Goat Costume Class (Goat Show Ring)  
4 p.m. to 7 p.m. - To Be Announced (Pavillion)  
6 p.m. - Supreme Showman Contest (Covered Show Ring)  
7:30 p.m. - Fox Boyz Stock Car Racing

Saturday, Sept. 2  
ALL DAY: DEMONSTRATION OF ANTIQUE EQUIPMENT  
9 a.m. - Garden Tractor Pull (Tractor Pulling Area)  
11 a.m. to 8 p.m. - Youth/Open Exhibits in 4-H Building open to public  
11 a.m. to 10 p.m. - Quonset/Vendors Open  
12 p.m. - Carnival Rides Start  
12 p.m. - Market Livestock Buyer's Diner (4-H Building)  
1 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Bingo (Dunbar Building)  
1:30 p.m. - Market Livestock Sale (Covered Show Ring)  
4 p.m. to 7 p.m. - To Be Announced (Pavillion)  
6:30 p.m.. - Antique Tractor Parade (Grandstand)  
7:30 p.m. - Dafter Lion's Mud Run (Grandstand)  
8 p.m. to 11 p.m. - Chippewa County Fair Exhibitor's Barn Dance (Covered Show Ring)

Sunday, Sept. 3  
ALL DAY: DEMONSTRATION OF ANTIQUE EQUIPMENT  
9 a.m. - Open Horse Show (Halter, English, Western, Trail & Special Needs Classes) (Horse Arena)  
9 a.m. - Worship Services (Grandstand)  
9 a.m. - Dead Weight Tractor Pull (Tractor Pulling Area)  
12 p.m. - Register for Master Stockman (Covered Show Ring)  
12 p.m. - Carnival rides start  
12 p.m. to 10 p.m. - Quonset/ Vendors Open  
1 p.m. - Master Stockman (Covered Show Ring)  
2 p.m.. to 7 p.m. - Youth/Open Exhibits in 4-H Building open to public  
3 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Bingo (Dunbar Building)  
5 p.m. - Livestock Exhibitors Meeting (Covered Show Ring)  
5 p.m. - Tri-County Speed Horse Contest (Horse Arena)

Monday, Sept. 4  
9 a.m. - Release of all projects  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Car Show (In front of 4-H building)  
11 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Carnival Rides (\$2 each)

All animals must be registered by Aug. 1, except open horse show. This includes breeding and market beef, dairy, goats, horses/ponies, pocket pets, poultry, rabbits, sheep and swine.

IRS impersonators have been around for a while. But as more people learn their tricks, they're switching it up. So instead of contacting you about tax debt and threatening to get you to pay up, scammers may text you about a "tax rebate" or some other tax refund or benefit. Here's what to know about the new twist.

The text messages may look legit and mention a "tax rebate" or "refund payment." But no matter what the text says, it's a scammer phishing for your information. And if you click on the link to claim "your refund," you're exposing yourself to identity theft or malware that the scammer could install on your phone.



**The IRS won't text you about your refund. It's a scam.**

Let us know:  
**ReportFraud.ftc.gov**





A tax rebate of \$268.48 has been issued to you for an over-payment in year 2021-2022. Click the link to continue.  
<https://irsdown...>

If someone contacts you about a tax rebate or refund:

Never click on links in unexpected texts. Don't share personal information with anyone who contacts you out of the blue. Always use a website or phone number you know is real.

They'll always start by sending you a letter. If you want to confirm, call the IRS directly at 800-829-1040.

Find the status of any pending refund on the IRS official website. Visit Where's My Refund.

Report unsolicited texts or emails claiming to be the IRS. Forward a screenshot or the email as an attachment to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov).

If you clicked a link in one of these texts or emails and shared personal information, file a report at [IdentityTheft.gov](http://IdentityTheft.gov) to get a customized recovery plan based on what information you shared.

Even if you didn't lose money to an IRS scam, tell us about it at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](http://ReportFraud.ftc.gov).



# Bay Mills tackling dump sites on the reservation

**By Jennifer Parks**  
**Bay Mills Biological Services**

BAY MILLS — Bay Mills Indian Community is tackling two large dump sites this summer. These sites are being cleaned up and revegetated to make the areas safer for public health and remove contamination sources from the environment. In 2023, BMIC was provided funding through Indian Health Service’s Sanitation Deficiency System to clean up the debris and rehabilitate the sites.

The two sites of focus this year will be Gumshoes Hillside and Sugar Island.

The hillside above Gumshoes campground and beach was once an area where trash and debris was discarded over the hill, which was a common practice several decades ago. The hillside has since grown over with trees and other vegetation, but the debris remains. Glass, plastic items, metal containers and even a couple of cars have slowly deteriorated over the years. A housing development has been built on top of the hill since the days of dumping occurred.

Those exploring the forest in that area come across the remnants of past practices. Broken glass, sharp rusted metal and other harmful objects make for a less than ideal experience.

Great Lakes Climate Corp was hired to remove the debris using hand tools and rehabilitate the site. Two 30 yard scrap metal dumpsters were needed to collect the metal for recycling and reduce landfill costs.

Three 20 yard dumpsters were filled with other waste materials. Sites on the hillside were capped with weed-free topsoil. Annual rye and native woodland grass seed species were sown and straw mulch mats were installed to reduce erosion impacts. Native and culturally significant plant species and trees were planted throughout the area to aid in vegetation regeneration.

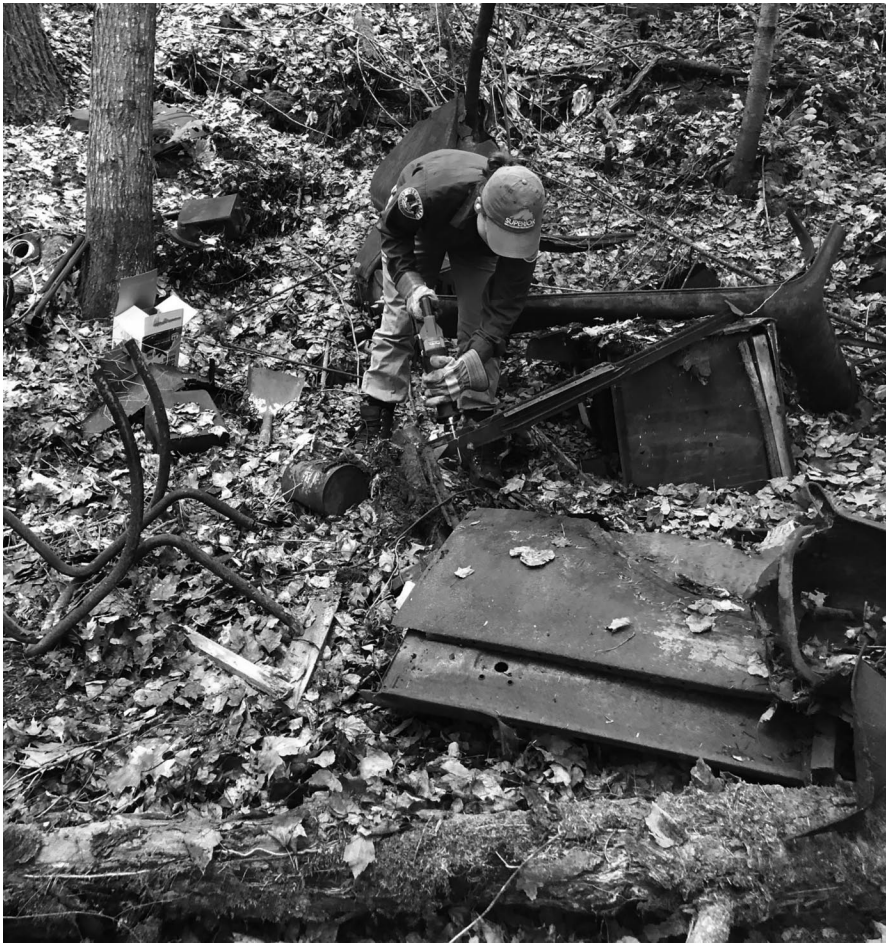
The Gumshoes hillside area includes a trail that travels from Gumshoes Road, down the hillside to link with another trail and then back up the hillside. This trail then

comes out near the Housing Authority building. That trail was re-established as part of the cleanup efforts. Residents can now explore the area with much less chance of injury thanks to GLCC’s clean up efforts.

A parcel on Sugar Island Trust land that will be cleaned up includes a dumpsite over an acre in size. Years of dumping is evident with trees growing up through cars, a boat, household trash and a myriad of other items. While this isn’t a site that receives a lot of visitors, it has generated several complaints from Sugar Island residents. As with any dump site there are concerns about public safety and environmental health. BMIC Public Works department will be cleaning up the site in late summer 2023. After the debris has been cleaned up, the soil and groundwater will be tested for contamination utilizing funding from the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) 128(a) Brownfields program.

If you know of any dump sites or other contamination concerns on tribal lands, please contact the Environmental Coordinator at (906) 248-8655 or email [jm-parks@baymills.org](mailto:jm-parks@baymills.org).

BMIC has a full service waste transfer



station where most materials can be properly disposed or recycled. The Environmental Coordinator can provide guidance

on questions regarding waste materials, recycling and proper disposal options.

## BMIC welcomes new hires

Jacob Davis joined the Bay Mills Police Department as an officer on July 3.

Davis has a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Lake Superior State University. He is currently engaged to Emma Horton.

He chose to work in the Bay Mills area because he liked the location. His hobbies include snowboarding and snowmobiling, and enjoying the outdoors.

Carley McGill recently joined the staff at Bay Mills Health Center as a receptionist. She will be responsible for greeting patients, setting appointments, and taking insurance information from patients.

McGill has an associate’s degree in general science. She has one daughter, Eleanor, and she enjoys baking in her spare time.



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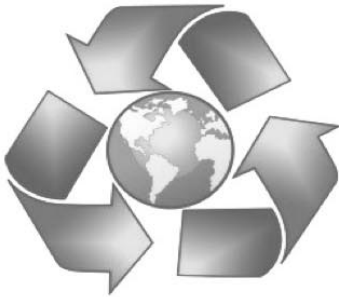
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Biological Services  
[www.baymills.org](http://www.baymills.org)

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*This tire collection is made possible by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.*

# MDHHS provides guidance during air quality events related to smoke

LANSING – With the forecast predicting unhealthy air quality conditions in parts of the Upper Peninsula and possibly spreading to the rest of the state, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is providing guidance to Michiganders on how to reduce their risk through its new website.

“We want Michigan families to know how to best take precautions to protect their health and safety during air quality events,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. “Smoke from Canadian wildfires continues to affect air quality across the state. We are urging Michiganders to check the Air Quality Index regularly to decide if they should be participating in outdoor activities and using the website to help determine what actions they should take to keep themselves and their families safe.”

The page, Michigan.gov/wildfiresmokeandhealth, has information on the health effects of wildfire smoke, how to sign up for air quality alerts and how to reduce risk based on the Air Quality Index (AQI).

AQI is a color-coded way for residents to see what the levels of some types of air pollution are in their area. The higher the AQI, the worse the air quality is and the more cause for concern. Live color-coded air quality conditions that indicate if air quality is healthy (green) or unhealthy (yellow, orange, red and purple), along with steps to protect your health, can be found at the AirNow website and mobile app.

Residents can also sign up for alerts through the EnviroFlash system. This subscriber system allows you to choose the area you would like to get alerts for, and it will send alerts directly to email or send a text message.

MDHHS has also set up a hotline for Michigan residents to ask health-related questions related to air quality issues. The number is 800-648-6942, and is available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding holidays.

Anyone can get sick from exposure to wildfire smoke, but some people are more sensitive to particle pollution. Adults aged 65 and older, pregnant people, children, and people with lung and heart conditions may be more likely to get sick if they breathe in wildfire smoke. Symptoms from breathing in particle pollution can include wheezing, coughing and shortness of breath. If you have asthma, follow your asthma control action plan or contact your health care provider if you have symptoms. If you have heart disease and experience these symptoms, contact your health care provider.

The most protective option when air is unhealthy is to stay indoors with air conditioning, reduce strenuous activities and limit outdoor activities. If you must be outside, N95 masks offer enhanced protection when used according to product instructions.

During unhealthy for sensitive groups (AQI orange) to unhealthy for everyone air quality events (AQI red), MDHHS advises the following:

**AQI orange**

- Everyone can enjoy being outside.
- People living with lung and heart disease, older adults aged 65+, pregnant people, and children should make activities shorter and less intense.

**AQI red:**

- Everyone should reduce long or intense activities outside.
- People living with lung and heart disease, older adults aged 65+, pregnant people and children are recommended to stay indoors and keep indoor air clean with MERV-13 or better air filtration to prevent breathing harmful particles of wildfire smoke.
- If you are unable to stay inside or you must go outside, consider using a protective N95 mask, especially children and pregnant people. Surgical and cloth masks will not stop you from breathing in the fine particulate matter in wildfire smoke. If you are unable to stay inside your own house, you can seek a temporary shelter location that has clean indoor air.
- Michiganders can also help reduce their contributions to unhealthy air conditions during air quality events through the following actions:
  - Do not add to indoor air pollution. Do not burn candles or use gas, propane, woodburning stoves, fireplaces or aerosol sprays. Do not fry or broil meat, smoke tobacco products or vacuum.
  - Reduce outdoor air pollution. Reschedule any burning or activities that add dust, smoke and particulate matter to the air, including campfires.
  - Reduce vehicle trips and vehicle idling as much as possible and reduce how often you refuel vehicles.

## Looking for a new career?

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Check out our online & in-person program options by scanning here:



WOCTEP is funded by the US Department of Education through the NACTEP program. Federal funds contribute to 92% of funding (\$500,666) and tribal support of 8% (\$42,329) for project year 1 (2022)





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# Mackinac Bridge Walk is just around the corner

ST. IGNACE — The annual Mackinac Bridge Walk for 2023 is right around the corner and the Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) has updated a video explaining the options people have for participating in this beloved event.

Based on the success of the recent events, the MBA will again start the 2023 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 canceled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A video, posted on the MBA web-

## EGLE requests removal of sandbags along shorelines

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is requesting that shoreline property owners remove sandbags that were placed along shorelines when high Great Lakes water levels threatened properties in 2020.

The sandbags were authorized as temporary actions to help property owners along the Great Lakes to prevent erosion impacts to their property and structures. The sandbags must be removed before they deteriorate and leave behind plasticized materials in the water and along the shore.

Many sandbags were installed under a Minor Project (MP) permit under Part 325, Great Lakes Submerged Lands, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA) or using the exemption created under Part 353, Sand Dunes Protection and Management, of the NREPA.

Both the MP permits and the Part 353 exemption required removal of the Sandbags when the water level fell below the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM). Lakes Michigan, Huron, St. Clair, and Erie have had sustained water levels below their respective OHWMs for a significant period. Lake Superior water levels have continued to be higher, and sandbags already installed on the shoreline of Lake Superior can remain in place at this time.

Those who installed sandbags under an EGLE permit, using the Part 353 exemption, or without a permit, will be contacted regarding removal of sandbags in the next several weeks. EGLE encourages property owners to begin removing sandbags as soon as possible. More information can be found Great Lakes Water Levels (michigan.gov) or by contacting the EGLE district office that covers your county.

site at [www.MackinacBridge.org/Walk](http://www.MackinacBridge.org/Walk), explains the bridge walk schedule and the choices people will have whether they start from the north or south end of the bridge.

"With four years of experience starting the event from both St. Ignace and Mackinaw City, we've found that most participants are comfortable with this newer version of our long-standing tradition," said MBA Bridge Director Kim Nowack. "Every year things go a bit more smoothly, and we hear more support for the variety of options to participate."

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. As in 2018-19 and 2021-22, because walkers can start from either end of the bridge when they arrive, there will be no buses transporting participants across the bridge.

The bridge will again be closed to public traffic during the 2023 walk, from 6:30 a.m. to noon on Labor Day, Sept. 4, 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 until the walk concludes and participants are off the bridge.

The bridge walk has been an annual event since 1958, with the exception of 2020. The 2023 walk will be the 65th event. Between 20,000 and 30,000 people have participated in recent years; 26,000 participated in the 2022 event.



## Bay Mills Behavioral Health

# GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Designed to help those who have experienced loss to navigate through their grief and take steps towards their healing journey.

August 2nd, 2023— September 6th, 2023

Wednesdays

6:00PM—7:30PM

Age: 18+ members of the community

Location: Bay Mills Health Center

\*zoom available upon request\*



**To register**

(pre-registration is required)

**FREE TO ATTEND**

Contact: Rachel Hileman LLMSW at (906) 248—5527.

[rhileman@baymills.org](mailto:rhileman@baymills.org)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Attention Commercial Fishers:**

The trap net zone (Alpena) sign up sheet is now available. Sign up sheets will be posted at the Tribal Office and Conservation Office. Apply through the end of July.

**Bay Mills Elk Hunting – Application Period is Open**

Interested Bay Mills members may apply at the Conservation Office through July 31 (4 p.m). The drawing is scheduled for Aug. 2, at the Conservation Committee meeting. For more information, please call (906) 248-8645.

Free tire recycling for BMIC members until October 1, 2023.

**Women’s Traditional Gathering- Potluck**

The traditional gathering will take place on July 24. The topic of discussion will be sweatlodges. Everyone is welcome to attend. The gathering will take place at the Bay Mills Cultural Center. For more information, contact Jeanette White at 906-248-1200.

**Light bulb disposal**

This program accepts all types of lightbulbs including fluorescent tube lights. Free for tribal members. Drop off at the BMIC Maintenance department. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Tribal ID required.

**Electronic waste recycling**

Drop off at the BMIC Maintenance Department.  
Free for tribal members, donation requested from non-tribal community members to support costs associated with the program. Drop off Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Bay Mills Health Center Coloring Contest**

The coloring contest is open to all ages. Get your coloring sheet at the Bay Mills Health Center. This event celebrates National Health Center Week. Coloring sheets are due to the pharmacy or front desk by Aug. 3. Prizes will be awarded to winners.

**BMIC App Available**

You can now head to your Google Play or Apple App Store and search Bay Mills Indian Community to download. This mobile app is just another example of various ways our Tribal Nation seeks to improve communication with our tribal citizens, employees, and community members. It will serve as a central source of information, services, websites, recreation, and food throughout Bay Mills Indian Community. Furthermore, the mobile app will also allow for push notifications for important and/or emergency events, which will alert all individuals who install the app. This may include inclement weather, power outages, etc.

**Have you moved? Update your address!**

Bay Mills Tribal Enrollment office asks all tribal citizens to maintain a current address with their office. An online form can be found at [www.baymills.org](http://www.baymills.org).

**Walking path is closed to motorized vehicles**

BMIC has developed a pedestrian/bicycle path connecting both sides of the Reser-

vation. This path is for pedestrians and bicyclists only, and our existing tribal ordinances prohibit motorized vehicles from using this path. Signs have been posted. Please be aware that BMPD has been directed to strictly enforce this rule along that pathway to protect walkers, runners, cyclists, and the path itself. If you ride an ATV, ORV, dirt bike, motorcycle, golf cart, etc on this path, you should expect to receive a ticket and pay a fine.

**Looking for events?**

Please check out the community calendar on [www.baymills.org](http://www.baymills.org) for the most up to date listings of events and cultural workshops. You can send your events to [newspaper@baymills.org](mailto:newspaper@baymills.org) as well to be posted on the calendar.



**\$12 per chicken**



**Pasture Raised  
Chicken from Waishkey  
Bay Farm Available!**

Can't wait till the farmers market? "Early bird" whole, frozen chickens are now available at \$12 dollars per whole bird. How to purchase:

1. Call or stop into Bay Mills Community College's main campus (12214 W Lakeshore Dr. Brimley, MI 49715) or call 906-248-3354 - our receptionist will connect you to the cashier
2. Bring your receipt or have cashier message farm to confirm receipt
3. Pick up your farm raised, frozen chicken at Waishkey Bay Farm (10135 W Mills Road, Brimley, MI 49715)

We will be at the Bay Mills/Brimley Farmers Market where food assistance payments (Michigan Bridge Card and many more) are accepted and will be able to accept cash payments. Questions? Contact Dave at [dcorey@bmcc.edu](mailto:dcorey@bmcc.edu)/906-322-3368 or Kat at [kjacques@bmcc.edu](mailto:kjacques@bmcc.edu)/906-322-1786.



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**MSU Extension Agriculture and Agribusiness Institute (AABI) is seeking candidates for a Field Crops Agronomist Educator.**  
This position provides leadership and expertise in field crop production.  
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*MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer.*

**Give Your Child a Good Start ...  
with Head Start!**

*The Bay Mills Child Development Center  
is currently accepting  
applications for the upcoming school year.*

**For more information, please call  
Andrea Shaw or Christel LeBlanc at 248-8700.**





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