Once again, the KBIC Natural Resources Department (NRD) is sponsoring a vibrant community garden located at 16037 Brewery Road in L’Anse. The location now has quite a landmark – a beautiful green pole barn built by Lyndon Ekdahl, who mentored KBIC youth and plant techs in the construction of the barn last fall.

There is so much exciting stuff happening at the garden this year, and there are still a few garden plots available to community members who would be interested in tending to a garden plot. The garden was initiated about ten years ago by the NRD to support community members in their effort to have access to healthy foods. What better way than to grow your own veggies organically and have the expertise and sharing of stories among other gardeners? It is such fun and inspiring to learn from one another. Effectively advocating for food sovereignty and providing the means to do so has been an ongoing commitment of the NRD.

If you are interested in renting a plot at the garden, the fee is $15. For this fee, you will receive an 11' x 30' tilled plot, an assortment of vegetable seedlings and seeds, access to water, and the companionship of other gardeners. Each plot received a wheelbarrow-full of horse manure this year, thanks to Dione Price, Environmental Specialist for the NRD.

This spring in the NRD greenhouse, staff have been busy growing many wonderful plants for the garden, including 24 varieties of tomatoes – all of them adapted to a cooler climate so they will ripen before frost – several different pepper plants (hot and sweet varieties), cilantro, basil, cauliflower, cabbages, potatoes, onions, and more. There may be a surplus of plants after gardeners have made their selections – please be in touch with Karena (906) 337-2079 the second week of June to learn what plants may be available for you to take to your home garden. We intentionally grew a surplus this year knowing community members may want to start gardening at their home place.

Funding to support garden activities comes through several grants that have been awarded to the NRD.
KBIC-NRD promotes healthy lifestyles continued:

Karena Schmidt, NRD ecologist, displays the healthy sage plants.

Significantly, NRD received funding for a second year from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund. A new program is being implemented this year called “Garden for Heart.” This program will help to care for the acres planted with fruit trees just north of the garden plots. Garden for Heart will be a collective of local volunteers dedicated for the needs at the Debweyendon (believe in it) Indigenous Gardens – the DIGs. Garden for Heart days, the first and third Saturday of every month, will encourage outdoor exercise, preparation and consumption of healthy fruits and vegetables and acknowledge the vital role community service plays toward healing and good health. Turning to indigenous knowledge for guidance in tending to the garden is at the essence of the program. Participants will sign a volunteer agreement in exchange for good quality garden tools and receive food harvests from the garden. We hope this will encourage continuance of gardening at your home place, support outdoor physical activity, and further encourage volunteer work in the community.

Staff from the KBIC-NRD Plants Program will oversee activities at the garden and use these opportunities for teachings on the care of fruit trees, vegetables, and medicinal plants. Through hands-on participation, volunteers will receive cultural teachings, learn about improving soil fertility, composting, companion planting, improving habitat for beneficial insects, recognizing nutrient deficiencies, and diagnosing plant pathogens. As volunteers weed, plant, prepare fields, and water the gardens, connections will be made to the necessary reciprocity that exists between the gardeners, earth, and plants. Advocating for healthy lifestyles through outdoor activity and learning more of the benefits of including fresh produce in the diet is in keeping with our goals of food sovereignty for the community.

Please be welcome to attend a Garden for Heart volunteer day. Once you attend an orientation session on either the 1st or 3rd Saturday of the month (May through September) you will be made aware of the needs at the garden, and from then on you can volunteer at the north gardens at a time most convenient to you. A list of work projects will be posted on the garden tool shed and updated weekly. Needs at the garden are tending to the fruit trees, Three-Sisters garden, strawberry beds, asema plots, and pumpkin patch. We have delicious varieties of corn, beans, and squash this year that will be planted next week.

There is a nation-wide program, known as Plant a Row that encourages a little something that we have been doing all along, but now it has a name! This wonderful idea encourages us to plant a little extra in our gardens with the intent of sharing the harvest with someone in your community who physically may not be able to garden and would benefit in innumerable ways from baskets of fresh produce. Harvests of a variety of produce made available to families, seniors, and for community events strengthen the garden’s purpose. Key to the success of our gardens is to produce high quality, nutrient-dense food while gardening in ecological balance with the biological and ancestral forces that are at play.

In the past few months, people have become keenly aware of the importance of seed saving. When harvest time comes, we encourage setting aside a ripe vegetable or two and saving the seeds within for next year to share with the gardening community. We are glad to provide more information on how to do this – just ask!

Kathleen Smith, an enrolled member of the Keewenaw Bay Indian Community, is the Habitat Specialist at the KBIC-NRD and Karena Schmidt is the NRD ecologist. These two women work together to care for and coordinate events at the community garden.

Please contact Karena Schmidt at (906) 337-2079 or Kathleen Smith at (906) 524-5757 ext. 4229 for more information about how you can participate at the community garden.

- Submitted by Serene Gauthier, Environmental Response Program Specialist (article/pictures)

KBIC Natural Resources Department Offers Gifts from the Plant Nation

As our community members have hunkered down at home for the past several months to keep out of harm’s way from the corona virus, staff at the KBIC Natural Resources Department have taken the opportunity to reach out to the community with the gift of plants. Back in February, Karena Schmidt, Ecologist for the NRD, had a little seed planted in her heart – how about if we made use of our greenhouse to grow plants and offer them to the community? Several ideas came into focus.

First the idea of distributing microgreen kits. Microgreens, usually from the seeds of cabbages and mild kales, are a super healthy and nutritious food. An enthusiastic approval came from Evelyn Ravin-dran, NRD Director, and President Swartz. Word went out through the NRD Facebook page and by word-of-mouth about the microgreens. At first, the response was slow, as “microgreens” were somewhat unfamiliar, but in about 6-weeks’ time over 150 microgreen kits were given away. The kits included a plant propagation tray, a few sheets of newspaper, a gallon of high quality potting mix, and a small envelope with a generous amount of cabbage seed. People would come to the greenhouse, facemasks and all, receive quick demonstrations and instruc-
tions on how to grow the greens. The enthusiasm was wonderful – the seeds germinated within two days and by 10 days, the greens were ready to eat. Assembly of the kits gave families a meaningful and educational home activity. For those who love to garden, but were delayed by the cold spring we had, the microgreen kits satisfied the urge to tend to a garden by yielding a successful indoor harvest. Youth learned to care for their little microgreen gardens and families found a fun way to embrace the importance of taking care of themselves by eating healthy foods. If anyone reading this article would like an envelope of microgreen seeds, we still have several packs of seeds available; however, the propagation trays and soil have all been given away. Please call Karena at (906) 337-2079, if you are interested in a pack of microgreen seeds. They can easily be grown in a cake pan. Several people have said their children love the microgreens in their smoothies, and others love them on their tacos and omelets.

White sage, Mashkodewashk, is one of the great plants honored in our community. The NRD has a dynamic restoration program, and white sage is one of the keystone plants used for effective restoration work. White sage is also the plant we can harvest in the late summer to make bundles for smudging. Sage is a scared medicine that when burned, it helps clear the mind, soul, and air. Sage is a perennial plant, so you can enjoy harvests every year. The seeds of white sage are tiny – there are 4,048,000 seeds per pound! Well, sage really wanted to grow in the greenhouse this spring. After carefully potting over 500 plants for restoration work, there was still an abundance of young seedlings in our propagation trays. These young plants were potted into nursery-style 6-packs and allowed to grow for a few weeks. Amazingly, 30 flats were filled, each with six 6-packs of sage – adding up to 1080 plants! Again, word went out to the community, and in the first two days, 120 6-packs were gifted to community members who came to the greenhouse to get sage for themselves, relatives, and friends. The gratitude expressed was immense. Clearly much more popular than microgreens. Sage plants are fabulous plants in our gardens. Their silvery green leaves are beautiful. They like to grow in sunshine, or at least receive the western sun. They will need a little care the first year – that is, keep them watered. In September, the stems/leaves can be harvested to make sage bundles. Clip them, leaving an inch stubble in the ground. Then next spring three to four new plants should sprout up from the roots. At the time this article was written, there were still 30 6-packs remaining. Please give a call to the NRD if you would like to plant some Mashkodewashk in your garden.

Plants have so much to give us – delicious foods; look outside, already the first strawberries are blooming. Plants give us medicines, shelter, and fill our lives with beauty. Staff at the NRD are ever inspired by the Plant Nation and all they do to enrich our lives.

~ Submitted by Serene Gauthier, Environmental Response Program Specialist (article/pictures)

EXTENSION OF LICENSES AND REGISTRATIONS

April 14, 2020 — Many of you have expressed concern regarding your soon to expire Hunting/Fishing/Trapping Licenses, as well as your expired motor vehicle registrations. Earlier today, I attended a Tribal Council meeting and expressed your concerns to them.

The Council approved a motion today that Tribal Members will have 30-days from the date that the Government is reopened to renew Hunting/Fishing/Trapping Licenses. In the meantime, members are to carry their expired licenses, and if they do not have one, their Tribal Membership card, while exercising their treaty rights.

This extension also includes motor vehicle registrations that expire during the time of the Governmental closure, as well as the new registrations of newly purchased vehicles. Please be sure to have your expired registrations in your vehicle. Newly purchased vehicles must have their purchase paperwork. This extension does not include expiration of insurance. All vehicles still must have valid insurance.

If there are any questions, please contact Sarah Smith, Chief Executive Officer.

Jennifer Msegan
Enrollment/Licensing Director
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
The Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) is pleased to announce that it will make available three $1000 scholarships and six $500 scholarships. The scholarships will be awarded to at least nine qualified students with the $1000 scholarships being awarded to top three qualified students, as determined by committee review and lottery, if necessary. Each student must be currently enrolled in a course of study at, or have a letter of acceptance from, a public college or university or technical school and must meet the following qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS – the student:

- Must be an enrolled member (copy of tribal card) or be a direct descendant of an enrolled member of one of the MIEA constituent Tribes/Bands (must be verified in writing by your Tribal Enrollment Department).
- Must have successfully completed and passed all five General Education Development (G.E.D.) equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40, an average score of 45, and must possess a G.E.D. certificate; or must have graduated from an accredited high school with a 3.00 grade point average; or if currently enrolled at a college, university, or trade school, must have an accumulated grade point average of 3.00.
- Must, except for special and extenuating circumstances, attend college, university, or trade school on a full-time basis.
- Must complete the provided application form and submit it with required supporting documentation and the mailing must be RECEIVED BY THE MICHIGAN INDIAN ELDERS ASSOCIATION 2020 SCHOLARSHIP NOTICE

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Is your charitable organization planning on holding a raffle or selling raffle tickets on the L’Anse Indian Reservation?

Federal law, through the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, granted Tribes exclusive right to regulate gaming activity on Indian lands. Even if you or the members of your organization are not tribal members, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Gaming Commission has the authority to regulate your raffle. It is unlawful to game without a license.

Please contact the KBIC Gaming Commission Office at (906) 353-4222 or stop by the office located at the Tribal Center for an application and a copy of the rules and regulations.

Application deadline for submission of ALL Class I Drawings is 30 days and Class II Raffles is 60 days prior to your event. License Fee will be waived when the application is received within this timeline.
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Tribal Court — Continuity of Operations Plan

April 9, 2020, and Updated April 13, 2020. From the Office of the Chief Judge — While keeping the Court available to the fullest extent, all proceedings must be consistent with public safety as well as any further directives from the Court, as well as, federal and tribal public health advisors.

The Court shall employ a balanced and objective approach that considers both the uninterrupted administration of justice and the health and well being of the judicial branch of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and its Court patrons.

To allow access to the Court, that is consistent with the wellbeing of the community and Court staff, the Court shall take the following actions:

• All persons in custody or who shall have the potential to be placed into custody shall have immediate access to the Court as described by law.

• All persons who shall have had a juvenile petition alleged against them shall have access to the Court as described by law.

• All criminal and civil jury trials scheduled to begin within the next thirty (30) days shall be postponed until further notice of the Court.

• All currently scheduled criminal and civil proceedings, including juvenile proceedings, shall utilize telephone, polycom, and video services as much as administratively feasible.

• Attorneys representing the various Tribal departments and individual clients shall file the appropriate motions with the Court to attend their required hearings via telephone or polycom services, or reschedule due to illness.

• The Court Clerks shall coordinate all duties related to filing, scheduling, and payment with clients and other agencies via telephone, e-mail, and fax as much as administratively feasible.

• The Probation Office shall coordinate all duties related to probationers, persons on bond, and other agencies via telephone, e-mail, and fax as much as administratively feasible. Required reporting with Probationers shall be done through the Sentry system and via telephone as much as administratively feasible.

• The Office of Child Support Services shall coordinate all duties related to child support enforcement, paternity establishment, and outreach with clients and other agencies via telephone, e-mail, and fax as much as administratively feasible.

Effective: April 13, 2020

Access to Court Building:
Access to the Court Building shall be prohibited by the general public. Only those designated Court personnel shall have physical access to the Court.

The Court shall be staffed with the Court Clerk during the hours of 10:00 AM thru 3:00 PM. Court staff shall then perform their other essential duties from their residence.

The Judges, Child Support, and Probation shall be available to the Court.

Access to Court Records/Paperwork:
Access to Court records shall be available by contacting the Court during the designated hours during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Court Clerk shall prepare the requests for Court records/paperwork for delivery through the U.S. Mail or personal pick-up which has been pre-arranged.

Court records shall include access to the following records which have been authorized:

• Court records/forms, probation records, child support records.

Please contact the Court staff at (906) 353-8124 (phone) or (906) 353-7279 (fax).

Please contact the Court with any questions and/or concerns:

• William W. Jondreau, Sr., Chief Judge, wjondreau@kbic-nsn.gov, (906) 353-4562
• Violet Frisvall Ayres, Associate Judge, violet@kbic-nsn.gov, (906) 353-4563
• Lauri Denomie, Chief Court Clerk, courtclerk@kbic-nsn.gov, (906) 353-4561
• Diana Chaudier, OCSS Director, diana@kbic-nsn.gov, (906) 353-4569
• Meghan Maki, Probation Officer, meghan@kbic-nsn.gov, (906) 353-4564

NOTE: Lauri Denomie shall schedule any necessary hearings for the Court.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS (FDPIR)
FY 2018 NET MONTHLY INCOME STANDARDS*
(Effective Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020)

*The net monthly income standard for each household size is the sum of the applicable Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) net monthly income standard and the applicable SNAP standard deduction.

June 2020 Calendar:

• June 1, 2020 through ? — Ojibwa Casino Baraga and Ojibwa Casino Marquette — closed due to COVID-19 Pandemic;
• June 1, 2020 through ? — Tribal Government offices limited — due to COVID-19 Pandemic;
• June 21, 2020 — Happy Father’s Day.

To place an ad, submit an article, or relate information, ideas, or possible articles contact: Lauri Denomie at (906) 201-0263, or e-mail: newsletter@kbic-nsn.gov.

To be added to the mailing list or to correct your mailing address, contact the enrollment office at (906) 353-6623, ext. 4113.

— NOTICE —

Individuals may call Tribal Police (906) 353-6626 if they have an emergency or 911.

Updates to operations can be obtained by calling (906) 353-4523.

(5) Naanan
The Ojibwa Casinos remain closed at this time due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. However, reopening plans have been developed and will be ready to implement once the green light is provided by Tribal Council and the Tribe’s Gaming Commission. We are looking forward to getting the doors open as soon as it is deemed safe for employees and guests to return. When it is deemed we are at that point, the environment our employees and guests will return to will be much different than it has ever been.

On May 20, Tribal Council approved Step 1 of our comprehensive reopening plan. This step includes recalling management and key staff from temporary leave on June 1, to assist in finalizing the components included in Step 2 which incorporates a comprehensive Health and Sanitation Program.

Step 2 includes reopening certain areas of the casinos to the public and recalling adequate staff from temporary lay-off to safely operate slots, rewards (guest services), cage, casinos’ bars, Pressbox (Baraga), Superior Eats (Marquette), and the Gift Shop (Marquette). The table games, event center (Marquette,) and hotel (Baraga), including the pool and conference rooms, will remain closed until Step 3 of the plan is implemented. No formal dates have been set for reopening and Tribal Council continues to meet weekly to receive updates from their resources who are monitoring the situation on a daily basis.

Prior to reopening the casinos, staff will participate in training to ensure they understand their new roles and responsibilities in executing the comprehensive Health and Sanitation program. The program being implemented, ensures the Ojibwa Casinos is doing everything possible to make not only our employees feel safe coming to work, but also our valued guests returning to our casinos. We will be publishing our comprehensive plan on our website at ojibwacasino.com once our recalled management team has the opportunity to provide their input, and we are certain we have everything we need to execute it.

We are also continuing work on the Tribe’s partnership to begin offering internet gaming and sports betting. The formal agreement is in its final stages of review and will likely be approved by Tribal Council in the near future. The State of Michigan’s regulations are not final and are taking much longer than anticipated. Our plan is to have the required application package ready to submit as soon as the window to submit is open. This is an exciting opportunity for our Tribe and will provide a new and much needed stream of revenue amid the unexpected consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Tribe’s convenience stores (the Pines Convenience, Ojibwa BP and Rez Stop) are open but with limited hours of operation. The KBIC Solid Waste Facility is also open and is maintaining their usual hours of operation and route pickups. Eagle Radio is open for business, but the offices are not open to the public, so please call the station for any advertising needs you may have. We are very thankful that we have dedicated staff who are practicing safety protocols while continuing to provide essential services to guests.

I also wanted to provide an update on the Ojibwa Campground and Marina. Unfortunately, we are unable to open our campgrounds for the 2020 season at this time. We again want to ensure that when the campgrounds do open, they provide a safe environment for everyone to enjoy. Options to meet a safe and financially responsible opening are being considered. The campgrounds are open for day use, so please be sure to enjoy the beauty they offer while practicing social distancing and keeping gatherings to 10 or less. The new non-motorized trail that goes from the Sandpoint Lighthouse to the Ojibwa BP along US-41 is also open.

The docks at Buck’s Marina are in, and registrations for renting a boat slip are available at the Pines Convenience Center. Things are a little different this year from years past though. Initial registrations are being accepted through June 5 and KBIC Members will be afforded the first opportunity to obtain a boat slip for the season. Once the initial period closes and if boat slips remain, they will be filled on a first-come first-served basis.

Through persistence and perseverance, we will get through these unprecedented times. Please stay safe, be well, and we look forward to serving our valued guests very soon!
The weather is improving, the stay-at-home guidelines are relaxing, and it’s time to get outside and take in a deep breath of our clean U.P. air. Fire up the grill, or just make a sandwich. Take the meal outside and enjoy some fresh air and sunshine.

Good news on the COVID-19 front—risk of transmission is lower when we’re outdoors. As long as we maintain social distancing with the people who don’t share our household, the risk of transmission outdoors is fairly low. In one survey, over 90% of transmissions occurred in indoor spaces when people were in close quarters for extended periods of time (office, factory, etc.). Only one to three percent of cases of transmission occurred among folks who were outdoors and maintaining reasonable social distancing. It’s time for a picnic, but people who do not house together should keep up the six-foot social distance (for example, separate tables for separate households).

What we eat will brighten the day. Give some thought to balancing the menu. If burgers and brats are featured, then consider what other items will round out the menu. Yes, there will be potato salad and desserts. But be sure to include some items that aren’t too rich or too salty. If we don’t do it for ourselves, then consider that there will be somebody at the party who is managing diabetes, heart problems, or high blood pressure. When you add more fruits and veggies, it’s easier to have a smaller amount of the rich foods and desserts.

These are the easiest healthy additions:

- Cut veggies: Carrots, celery, radishes, tomatoes (grape or cherry tomatoes make great finger-food), green onions, summer squash
- Grapes, melon slices, pineapple slices, any in-hand fruit (bananas, apples, oranges)

These require a little more work, but are oh so festive:

- Fresh fruit salad: Cubed melons (honeydew, cantaloupe, watermelon), berries, seedless grapes. If adding apples or bananas, soak in a little orange or lemon juice to halt browning. Fresh pineapple is not a good idea for this salad, because enzymes in fresh pineapple can make the rest of the salad sort of mushy. Canned pineapple in juice would work fine.
- Fresh pineapple is not a good idea for this salad, because enzymes in fresh pineapple can make the rest of the salad sort of mushy. Canned pineapple in juice would work fine.

- Cole slaw
- Veggie salad: Equal parts of coarsely diced (maybe ½ -3/4") vegetables: cucumber (with or without skin, your call), green or red pepper, cherry tomatoes, halved. Toss with plain Greek-style yogurt, about ¼ c per cup of veggies, or to your taste. Sprinkle with dillweed, pepper and just a pinch of salt if any. This is surprisingly tasty, very refreshing, satisfying and very low calorie. Light sour cream could be substituted, but you’ll miss out on the bright tang of the yogurt. Add onions or any other vegetable that suits you.

We are all testing the water, so to speak, in discovering new ways to be together while we still protect the ones we care about from COVID-19 disease. We need to maintain a healthy immune system to do that. Everyone has done so well regarding COVID-9, let’s make sure good food handling protects the rest of our health.

- Keep cut veggies and fruits, dairy and other high risk foods cold until ready to be served (below 40° F). Don’t leave them at room temperature for more than two hours, only one hour if temperature is above 90°F.
- Keep raw meats, poultry, and fish separate from the breads, salads, fruits, veggies, etc. to prevent contamination of foods that won’t be cooked.
- Cook ground meats and chicken to 165°F, fresh fish to 145°F (this advice from a recent GLIFWC seminar on whitefish).

Sunshine and activity are good for mood, immune health and vitality. We can build on that even more with enjoying healthy picnic food. Welcome to summer!!

Welcome to the Picnic, Let’s Celebrate with Food (but please keep your distance….)

~ By Dr. Dale Schmeisser

Dekkar Denomie enjoying Big Lake, picnicking with his family.

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- Computer Aided Design (CAD) Available Fall 2020
- Mechatronics Available Fall 2021
- Welding Available Fall 2020

For more information, please contact the LTSS Nipassandim Health Education Department. Phone: (211) 262-1405 Email: klevenring@nittaahtookij-nn.gov

The production of this flyer was supported by Oak IS-020862 under AoF.

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(7) Niizhwaaswi
The Great Lakes are Higher than They've Ever Been, and We're Not Sure What Will Happen Next

Lakeside living comes with a new premium: flooding and lots of uncertainty.

By Molly Glick

A single road near Lake Superior connects Michigan’s Keweenaw Bay Indian Community to the rest of the state. During major rains, rocks and wood litter the route and cut off travel in and out. Over the summer, drivers have to take a 30-minute detour; in the winter, the trip can take more than two hours. Work crews eventually clear the path with plow-like machines, freeing the tribe’s movement.

Living at Superior’s southern edge, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) manages close to 19 miles of its shoreline. They rely on it for tourism revenue, drinking water, and fish for the tribal hatchery. A full lake is good news for KBIC, but if the levels spill over, it could spell danger for the residents’ subsistence.

This precarious balance shifted toward disaster during the 2018 Father’s Day flood, when more than seven inches of rain pounded the area in just three hours. In the storm’s aftermath, fecal runoff plagued local beaches, teeing up an explosion of harmful E. coli bacteria. The Michigan Health Department closed several swimming spots in the state’s Upper Peninsula, but they didn’t offer to test the tribe’s domain. That led KBIC’s Water Resources Specialist Stephanie Cree to take matters into her own hands. After all, the health of Lake Superior is an essential measure when people’s livelihoods depend on it.

“A lot of the community relies on fish for food,” Cree says. “We have a lot of tribal and commercial fishermen who rely on fishing for income.”

Cree instituted weekly beach monitoring to check bacteria levels, soon shutting two of the reservation’s beaches. As far as she knows, it was the first such closure in Keweenaw Bay’s modern history. And it likely won’t be the last, given that the region is becoming more unstable by the day.

Across the 5,241 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, tribes, cities, vacationers, and wildlife managers are grappling with devastating flooding and erosion. It’s a different story from the nation’s coasts, where rising seas are creeping inland at a steady pace. Instead, the five Great Lakes fluctuate naturally by season—though over the past four decades, they’ve bounced both above and below historic records. Experts suspect that climate change is partially driving these shifts, but because of the complex nature of the water, it’s hard to isolate human factors from the rest of the turbulence. That leaves states like Michigan with little room to prepare for the lakes’ next turn.

To understand how much the Great Lakes have seesawed, one needs to go back to 1860, when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers started taking monthly averages of the water levels. Based on those measurements, the lakes have stayed within a modest six-foot range of their typical levels. But the pattern of spikes demands closer attention.

Since September 2014, the planet’s largest collection of freshwater has broken and re-broken most of its long-term records. Last June and July, Lakes Superior, Erie, Ontario, and “the sixth Great Lake,” St. Clair, all surged above century-old highs. Meanwhile, Lakes Michigan and Huron hit new peaks this April, after an unusually wet winter pushed their levels three feet above the monthly average.

Some of these patterns are inherent to the cycles that shape the Great Lakes, says Chin Wu, an engineer at the University of Wisconsin, who’s worked with the Army Corps of Engineers and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to study the system. The basin’s levels usually increase in spring with heavy precipitation and runoff from snowmelt. They continue to ramp up through mid-summer, as hotter temperatures cause water molecules to expand somewhat, before dropping off in fall as cold air accelerates evaporation.

“The Great Lakes are very complex,” Wu says. “It’s not like the simple formula for ocean levels, which keep going up.”

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been taking monthly averages of the lakes levels for the past many decades to identify anomalies. (Michigan and Huron are connected and considered as one unit.)

The recent string of record highs relates directly to extreme ice cover from 2013, 2014, and 2015, says Greg Mann, science and operations officer at the NOAA National Weather Service Forecast Office. Competing atmospheric processes, like evaporation and precipitation, usually keep the Great Lakes system in equilibrium, he notes—but when one of those reactions doesn’t go as planned, the water builds up too quickly. That’s exactly what happened during the 2014 polar vortex, when the region froze over and evaporation took a hit. Months later, the ice thawed into the lakes, just as the heavy spring rains arrived.

The opposite is also true, Mann says: Reduced precipitation and low ice cover can speed up evaporation, causing levels to bottom out. In fact, before the recent stretch of
Great Lakes continued:

highs, the Great Lakes experienced its longest sustained period of below-average waters. In spring of 2013, Lakes Huron and Michigan reached the nadir of a 15-year plunge, posing a challenge for industries like shipping and hydro-power.

Less understood are the freak meteorological events that feed off already-dangerously high waters. Meteotsunamis will randomly materialize in the Great Lakes, lasting anywhere between a few minutes and two hours. The storm-driven waves usually top out at a foot, but they can still cause major damage; in 1954, an abnormally tall meteotsunami pounded Chicago's shoreline and killed seven people.

Looking back on all the dramatic highs and lows of the past decade, it seems impossible to project the future of the tides. The best bet is to dig into data and predict a wide range of outcomes for each lake. Currently, researchers from NOAA and the Canadian Hydrographic Service are tracking the tiniest changes in water levels with gauge stations positioned throughout the five Great Lakes (there are 53 total in the US). The sensor-packed devices allow scientists to keep close tabs on the amount of water flowing in and out of the basin. That itself is a tall order: Lakes Michigan and Huron alone take in an average of 139 Olympic swimming pools' worth of runoff and precipitation per minute.

From that data, experts can try to learn if climate change is gaming the Great Lakes system, though they still won't be able to draw any solid correlations. Studies have already linked climate change to shifting local precipitation levels. The region's annual rain and snow totals have shot up by 13.6 percent since 1951, and as of last October, the Great Lakes experienced its fifth wettest year in a row. The coming decades could bring even damper winters and springs.

What's more, the region is losing swathes of frozen ground, much like the Arctic. Recent NOAA maps show that the basin's total ice cover shrunk by 69 percent between 1973 and 2017—a trend that might link back to warmer water temperatures in summer. Less ice means more waves hitting against land, resulting in erosion on Chicago beaches and coastal hamlets. In January, a cottage in White River Township, Michigan, toppled over a bluff and collapsed in the waves, a tragedy that could signal the new normal for lakelife.

All in all, the country's longest freshwater coastline isn't what it used to be. Some parts of Michigan's shorefront are eroding at an average of a foot a year, and the state has spent millions of dollars restoring damage on camping grounds, dunes, and beaches.

There's also a symbolic importance embedded in Michigan's coasts. Locals take ownership of and advocate for the Great Lakes' protection, says Nick Assendelft, public information officer at the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. "It's in the DNA of Michiganders to have a connection with water."

Michigan officials are monitoring development in high-risk erosion areas, though only 10 percent of the state's coastline currently falls under this protection, says Richard Norton, a professor of urban and regional planning at the University of Michigan. Meanwhile, some residents are trying to salvage their lakefront homes by installing rock or steel sea walls to guard against rising swells. These can cost property owners up to $150,000 depending on the material and property size, says Beth Foley, a Michigan real estate agent who specializes in waterfront homes. In particularly treacherous zones, people have even picked up their homes and dragged them several yards away from the lake.

Besides being impractically pricey, sea walls and other armoring measures can counteract themselves by redirecting waves in a way that accelerates erosion. Wuerffel, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' science officer at the University of Wisconsin, says the lake isn't what it used to be. Some parts of Michigan's shorefront are eroding at an average of a foot a year, and the state has spent millions of dollars restoring damage on camping grounds, dunes, and beaches.

There are also abiding concerns like record water levels, extreme storm events, infrastructure issues, and climate change, says KBIC Environmental Specialist Dione Price. They hope to adopt it by this summer.

How to deal with those highs is a complex issue of its own. Taking KBIC for example: The Father's Day Flood propelled its natural resources department to organize a plan for future emergencies (a mandatory component to vie for federal disaster funding). "We'll either be dealing with record highs or just below them."

In the short term, the Army Corps of Engineers is forecasting a wide range of outcomes for each lake. Overall, they're expecting a similar situation across the lakes for the next six months, says John Allis, chief of the Detroit District Great Lakes Hydraulics and Hydrology Office. "We'll either be dealing with record highs or just below them."

Moving forward, there's no telling what the lake waters will do. They could wax and wane as they have over the past century, with slight deviations from global warming and regional cold snaps, says Eric Anderson, a physical oceanographer at NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory. But unlike the accelerated trajectories of sea-level rise, the Great Lakes levels probably won't follow a clear path.

For the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, hard and soft solutions work in tandem. The tribe hired a company to install boulders and a loose foundation of stones called rip rap around their gas station on Lake Superior. And for more than a decade, the natural resource department has led restoration efforts like seeding native grasses as a screen around local soils and wetlands. These measures also increase habitats for birds and butterflies, a win-win for the Superior ecosystem.

Ultimately, the stakes are high for KBIC. The tribe's most valuable assets are based in and around the lake, both in the fisheries and the sands that hold centuries-old burial grounds and historically important plants. When the floodwaters spill onto the roads, they don't just jeopardize the community's economic well-being—they threaten its cultural salience, too.

"This is all something new," she says. "We haven't had these types of issues before because storms are happening more frequently."

In 2018, the tribe began developing a pre-hazard mitigation plan to tackle abiding concerns like record water levels, extreme storm events, infrastructure issues, and climate change, says KBIC Environmental Specialist Dione Price. They hope to adopt it by this summer.

And while the Army Corps of Engineers' models may give communities a hint of what to expect, the future of the region can't be determined by a curve on a graph. To really understand what's happening with water levels, Mann, the NOAA operations officer, says, people need to gain an appreciation for the intricacies of the Great Lakes. Warming and cooling don't pull all the strings in the system; others like evaporation, photosynthesis, and the natural dynamics of the lakes themselves play a role too.

"Predicting outcomes with any certainty is nearly impossible," Mann says. "I know that isn't satisfying, but that is how things work."
Lois Loonsfoot Aldred was 74 years old the day she walked on with the spirits. Following a positive diagnosis of COVID-19 and a brief illness while living at Norlite Nursing Center, Lois joined her husband, Jerry David Aldred, on April 27, 2020. She leaves behind a family who love and miss her very much.

Lois was born in Baraga, Michigan, on April 28, 1945, and was a proud member of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community.

Lois was a devoted mother and grandmother who found great joy in spending time with her family. She loved fishing with her husband, picking berries in the summer, meals with her family, and going on adventures with her children and grandchildren. Her family will remember her fondly as a strong passionate woman whose greatest joy was her family. Her contagious smile, affectionate songs, and beautiful laugh will live on in our hearts.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents: Marcella and James Loonsfoot; and siblings: James Loonsfoot, Marcella Shalifoe, Barbara Loonsfoot, Lawrence Loonsfoot, and Jean Aho. She is survived by her brother: Kenneth Loonsfoot of Marquette; sisters: Agatha (Michael) Cardinal of Assinins, and Philomena Ekdahl of Baraga; four children: Regina Richer-Brewer, Sherri Loonsfoot-Aldred, John J. Aldred, and Tanya Aldred; seven grandchildren: RaShae Pree, Sydney Pree, Jarin Pree, Skye Richer, Aiyana Aldred, Maya Aldred, and Chloe Aldred; four great grandchildren: Destinee Pree, John Nathaniel Jr., Iziaiah Nathaniel, and Julius Nathaniel V; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

A gathering for friends and family to celebrate Lois’s life will take place at the Keweenaw Bay Community Center in Baraga at a later date.

Canale-Tonella Funeral Home and Cremation Services is assisting Lois’s family where memories and condolences may be shared at canalefuneral.com.

Philomena Mary Ekdahl
(December 1, 1933—May 6, 2020)

Philomena Mary Ekdahl, age 86, of Baraga, MI, peacefully began her journey on Wednesday, May 6th, 2020, at The Lighthouse in Hancock, MI, with her family at her side.

She was born December 1, 1933, in Assinins, MI, the daughter of James and Marcella (Shallfoe) Loonsfoot. She graduated from Flandreau Vocational Indian School in South Dakota in 1954, and went onto earn an Associate Degree. Philomena married Paul Ekdahl on November 28, 1956. She worked as a CHS clerk for KBIC for 20 years, retiring in 1995. At age 62, she received her cosmetology license and worked until she was 80.

She was a member of Most Holy Name of Jesus Church, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and served as a council member, and also a member of Ojibwa Seniors. She was an avid bowler for over 40 years, and loved traveling and bowling tournaments. She also enjoyed spending time with her family, and her sons were her pride.

Surviving are her children: Gary (Kathleen) Loonsfoot of Baraga, James (Kathy) Ekdahl of Calumet, Ronald (Bonnie) Ekdahl of Midland, Everett Ekdahl of Baraga, Lyndon (Shelly) Ekdahl of L’Anse, Margaret Richards of Garden, MI; brother: Kenneth Loonsfoot of Marquette; sister: Agatha (Michael) Cardinal of Assinins; and many beloved grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death are her parents; husband, Paul; son: David Ekdahl; baby girl daughter; and siblings: James Loonsfoot, Barbara Haalapa, Patricia Pillsbury, Lawrence Loonsfoot, and Lois Aldred.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, May 13, 2020, from 11 a.m.—1 p.m., at Most Holy Name of Jesus Church. A private family funeral mass followed visitation at 1:00 p.m. with Fr. Corey Litzner officiating. Burial was at the Assinins Cemetary. A luncheon followed at the Ojibwa Senior Center in Baraga. People were asked to follow the social distancing recommendations of the CDC. The Jacobson Funeral Home assisted the family.

Jeffery (Jeff) Allen Villwock
1966—February 3, 2020

Jeff Villwock, age 54, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, passed away peacefully on Monday, February 3, 2020, at home in Milwaukee with his family at his side.

Jeff was preceded in death by his father Gordon W. Villwock. Those left to cherish his memory include: his devoted mother Betty (Denomie) Villwock of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; brothers: Gordon of Milwaukee and Michael (Sandy) of Lebanon, Illinois; and sisters: Deborah Meunier of Philadelphia and Katherine Banghart of Westmont, Illinois. He is survived by his wife and will be greatly missed by nephews: Corey, Chad, and Joey Banghart, and Benjamin and Christoper Villwock; and niece: Chloe Meunier.

Jeff graduated from Marquette University High School in Milwaukee and received a bachelor degree in both psychology and philosophy from the University of Wisconsin - Madison in 1987. Furthering his education, he received a Master’s degree in software engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

He served in the role of Aviation and Aerospace Software Engineer at Astronautics Corporation of America for more than a decade.

Music, friendship, and family were Jeff’s passion and the focus of his life. In the late 1980’s, he was the bassist for several popular local bands including: Her Majesty’s Secret Service, International Jet Set, and Highball Holiday that packed clubs and halls on the Milwaukee’s east side, and in Chicago and Madison with their forays in ska, reggae, and soul.

The Villwock family would like to extend its deepest gratitude to all the nurses from Horizon Home Care for their attentiveness and compassionate care.

At his request Jeff’s body was donated to science in an effort to help others. A celebration of Jeff’s life will be held at a later date.

TRIBAL COURT CRIMINAL SENTENCES

The Tribal Court has agreed to comply with the request of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community’s CEO’s Office to publish criminal sentencing on a routine basis.

Robert Genschow, Jr., case #20-019, §3.402, Malicious destruction of personal property – 1st offense

Sentencing on 05/20/2020, #20-019, §3.402:
1. Fine $125.00.
2. Thirty days jail, credit for 30 days served. Defendant is financially responsible for the cost of lodging and any expenses incurred while incarcerated.
3. Six months of alcohol and drug restricted probation with a $10.00 monthly probation fee. Defendant is financially responsible for the costs of drug and PBT testing, if any.
4. Restitution is To-Be-Determined.
5. Defendant shall obtain a substance abuse screening and shall follow that screening until successfully discharged. Defendant shall sign a release of information to allow the Court to monitor compliance.
6. Defendant shall contact the Court today, after released from custody, with his up-dated address.
7. Absolutely no contact in any fashion with the victim.

Robert Genschow, Jr., case #20-035, §3.1308, Disobedi- ence of a lawful court order – 6th offense

Continues page eleven.
Since then, the LGBTQI++ community has made substantial gains in reclaiming their natural presence in the world, but the damage had been done resulting in much higher rates of hate crimes, sexual assaults as well as domestic and dating violence. According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), the percentage of males and females who experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner include:

- 61% of bisexual women
- 37% of bisexual men
- 26% of gay men
- 35% of heterosexual women
- 29% of heterosexual men

Identify and Decode Tactics of Abuse

Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship. Examining the methods of power and control can help survivors identify and decode tactics of abuse in a relationship. In the LGBTQI++ community, these behaviors have been identified and reinforced homophobia, transphobia, and biphobia.

- Emotional abuse: putting you down, calling you names, questioning are you a real lesbian or real man.
- Denying, minimizing, blaming: saying women can’t abuse women and men can’t abuse men, making light of abuse or saying it was your fault, you deserved it, or denying it happened.
- Intimidation: making you afraid by using looks, actions and gestures to reinforce homophobic, biphobic or transphobic control, abusing pets.
- Coercion and Threats: making and/or carrying out threats to harm you, children, or pets, threatening to “out” you, leave you, or commit suicide.
- Children: guilting you about the children, using them to relay messages, threatening to tell authorities that you are LGBTIQI+, so they can take your children.
- Isolation: taking control of what you do, who you see or talk to, using jealousy to control you and make you account for your whereabouts, saying no one will believe you especially because you are LGBTIQI+.
- Privilege: treating you like a servant, making all the big decisions, being the one to define each partner’s roles or duties, cutting off your access to resources.
- Economic abuse: preventing you from getting or keeping a job, making you ask for money, keeping your name off joint assets, using your credit cards without permission.

Understanding patterns of abuse is a starting point in maintaining healthy relationships. If any of these behaviors raise a red flag for you, you may be in an unhealthy or abusive relationship. To get help, visit our website at https://www.strongheartsnativehelpline.org. Callers can connect with StrongHearts Native Helpline at 1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483) daily 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT. Chat Advocacy is now available daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT. Click on the “Chat Now” icon on the website. As a collaboration with the National Domestic Violence Hotline (The Hotline) and the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center, callers reaching out after hours can connect with The Hotline by choosing option one.

Criminal report continued:

Sentencing on 05/20/2020, §3.405, §3.405, Maliciously injuring or destroying plants or natural growth – 1st offense

1. Fine $125.00.
2. Thirty days jail, credit for nine days jail served, 21 days suspended pending successful completion of all aspects of proba-
   tion. Defendant is financially responsible for the cost of lodging and any expenses incurred while incarcerated.
3. Six months of alcohol and drug restricted probation with a $10.00 monthly probation fee. Defendant is financially responsible
   for the cost of drugs and PBT testing, if any.
4. Defendant shall obtain a substance abuse screening and shall follow that screening until successfully discharged. Defendant
   shall sign a release of information to allow the Court to monitor compliance.
5. Defendant shall contact the Court today, after released from custody, with his up-dated address.

International Day Against Homophobia Commemorated

By: StrongHearts Native Helpline

Just 30 years ago on May 17, 1990, the World Health Organization took action to declassify homosexuality as a mental disorder. Commemorating the event, the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGBITA) commemorated the International Day Against Homophobia. Since then, the movement has grown and diversified leading to renaming the organization and the day of celebration.

On May 17, 2020, the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGBITA) commemorated the International Day Against Homophobia. Transphobia and Biphobia with the theme, “Breaking the Silence.” It was a worldwide celebration of sexual and gender diversities when tens of thousands of the LGBTQI community spoke up about a single vision: freedom and equality for all sexual, gender and bodily minorities.

The Acronyms

The LGBT acronym has several variations and combinations with plus signs representing any variation of letters that encompass other spectrums of sexuality and gender. For example, adding the letter Q to represent those who identify as queer or questioning and I to represent intersex. Other lesser-known acronyms include numbers, such as “2S” which stands for the Two-Spirit — an umbrella term representing Native people who identify with an alternate gender or sexual orientation.

Two-Spirits (One Body)

Prior to European influence and during colonization, two-spirited people had been documented in more than 130 tribes in every region of North America. They were celebrated by their people as gifted individuals born with both male and female spirits. The idea of one person having two spirits was one of admiration and respect. In fact, they played important roles as healers, name givers, storytellers, and caregivers who were often called upon to raise orphaned children. (Walking in Two Worlds: Supporting the Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQI Community, Minnesota Indian Women’s Sexual Assault Coalition. A booklet/project supported by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.)

Homosexuality Categorized as a Mental Disorder

Over the past several hundred years, the two-spirit and the LGBTQI2S community has suffered unimaginable abuse, but none more blatantly than when behavioral scientists listed homosexuality as a mental disorder. In 1952 homosexuality deburred in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) courtesy of the American Psychiatric Association (APA). Despite subsequent research consistently failing to produce scientific evidence that homosexuality was anything other than natural; 20 years had passed before the new research was fully accepted.

Intimate Partner Violence takes a toll on the LGBTIQI++

Since then, the LGBTIQI2S has made substantial gains in reclaiming their natural presence in the world, but the damage had been done resulting in much higher rates of hate crimes, sexual assaults as well as domestic and dating violence. According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), the percentage of males and females who experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner include:

- 61% of bisexual women
- 37% of bisexual men
- 26% of gay men
- 35% of heterosexual women
- 29% of heterosexual men
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Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Office of Child Support Services
P.O. Box 490, Baraga, MI 49908
Phone: 906-353-4556
Fax: 906-353-8132

We provide the following services:
• Paternity Establishment
• Establishment of Child Support
• Outreach Services
• Mediation

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1623 Bear Town Rd
Baraga, MI 49908
906-353-4201

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