

WIKWEDONG DAZHI-OJIBWE

The Keweenaw Bay Ojibwe

Waabigwani Giizis - Flower Moon - May 2020 Issue 190



Ojibwa Senior Citizens' Nutrition Program staff keep meals going out the door despite COVID-19 Pandemic

With the doors closed at the Ojibwa Senior Citizens' Building, on the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Reservation in Baraga, Michigan, the delivery list got much larger. Dianne McMahon, Elderly Nutrition Director, said, "We now have an additional 100-plus deliveries since the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Tribal Council closed the doors here at the Ojibwa Senior Center due to COVID-19. With this additional load of transporting meals to the homes of the Tribe's elderly and disabled, we needed more help!"

Current staff, essential workers, include: Dianne McMahon, Elderly Nutrition Director; Jordanne Gauthier, Elderly Nutrition Cook; Brittany Maki, Elderly Nutrition Prep-cook; and Cari McMahon, Elderly Nutrition Transporter. Shawnee Stein, recently joined the Ojibwa Senior crew as a temporary Elderly Nutrition Cook for the duration of the COVID-19 closure. Shawnee is the Preprimary Program cook, which was also closed due to the Pandemic. Dianne McMahon said, "We transferred her over to the Elderly Nutrition Program because we needed help. We also have two terrific volunteers who are assisting with the deliveries, Terri Denomie and Lisa Denomie.

We had a ham dinner during Holy Week, but nothing else was planned for Easter. With so many people signing up for meals and the changes we had to make, we didn't have time to do anything extra this Easter. If anyone is interested in volunteering, give us a call."

Lisa Denomie said, "I really enjoy being able to get out and volunteer. Our elders really appreciate it and are happy to get a hot nutritious meal during this Pandemic time. Plus I'm getting my exercise and fresh air."



Preparing for delivery (above) left to right, Shawnee Stein, Jordanne Gauthier, and Cari McMahon. (Below) left to right, Terri Denomie and Lisa Denomie returning from deliveries. Photos compliments of Dianne McMahon.



Tribal Council Members:

Warren C. Swartz, Jr., President
Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Vice-President
Kim Klopstein, Secretary
Toni J. Minton, Asst. Secretary
Doreen G. Blaker, Treasurer
Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr.
Eddy Edwards
Dale Goodreau
Randall R. Haataja
Susan J. LaFernier
Rodney Loonsfoot
Don Messer, Jr.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Ojibwa Senior Citizens' Nutrition Program Keep Meals Going Out The Door
- KBIC Response to COVID-19 Updates
- EPA Approves KBIC TAS Application For Water Quality Standards Program
- Cannabis Update To The Community
- Michigan Indian Elders Association 2020 Scholarship Notice
- Deepest Sympathy

— 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.

Update On Keweenaw Bay Indian Community's Response To COVID-19

April 22, 2020, From the Office of the President of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community — Due to the uncertain and continually changing nature of the Coronavirus pandemic, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community decided to extend the closure of the Ojibwa Casinos and its government offices until further notice. Tribal Council and the Tribal Emergency Response Commission/Local Emergency Planning Committee are monitoring the situation and will continue to keep the members, employees, and the public aware of any changes via our website and Facebook page.

I am impressed by the resilience and resourcefulness of the Tribe, our members, and our employees as we make it through this unprecedented time. It gives me hope that the Tribe will be stronger and more connected than ever once this is all over. We are all trying to do our part to protect the members and our community. Please help us and take the steps below to limit exposure and spread of Coronavirus.

To protect yourself and others from the Coronavirus, everyone should stay home as much as possible. If you do have to go out, cover your mouth and

nose with a face covering and put distance between yourself and others. You should wash your hands often and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. It is also important to cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces in your home every day.

If you get sick with COVID-19 or think you might have COVID-19 you should stay home except to get medical care. Most people with COVID-19 will have mild illness and are able to recover at home without medical care. Stay in touch with your doctor if you are a per-

Update On KBIC's Response To COVID-19 continued:

son at a higher risk for severe illness or have questions about your symptoms. The KBIC Health System is open Monday-Friday, 8-4:30 p.m. Please call the clinic at (906) 353-8700 before coming in or to speak with a medical provider. The KBIC Health System received an Abbott ID NOW Analyzer on April 9th, from the Bemidji Area Office of Indian Health Services. This is a point of care piece of equipment, and it allows staff to test for COVID-19 at the health center without sending a specimen to a laboratory. Each test takes 15 minutes to complete, so test results are immediate. Nursing staff have participated in training on how to operate the analyzer and test for COVID-19. Even with limited testing supplies, there has been several tests completed to date. The Bemidji Area Office of Indian Health services is sending kits on a regular basis. Each kit consists of 24 tests.

If members are experiencing fever, cough, shortness of breath, they should contact the clinic at (906) 353-8700. A provider will assess signs and symptoms, and if the individual meets the testing criteria, they will be scheduled to come to the health center to be tested. Contact the pharmacy at (906) 353-4555 to pick up prescription medications. For up-to-date information about the Coronavirus please visit the CDC website at cdc.gov.

Here are a list of available businesses and services that are continuing to operate during the closure.

Businesses

- Pines Convenience – Daily, 7:00 a.m. - midnight
- Ojibwa BP - Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Rez Stop – Daily, 8:00 a.m - 8:00 p.m.
- Eagle Radio - By appointment only. Please call (906) 353-1057.
- KBIC Solid Waste Facility: Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m. - noon.

Governmental Services & Buildings

- Health Center - Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Please call in advance for medical at (906) 353-8700 and pharmacy at (906) 353-4555.
- Commodity Foods - Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Phone: (906) 524-7340.
- Community Assistance Programs (CAP) - please e-mail kimk@kbic-nsn.gov or leave a phone message at (906) 353-4206. The Tribal Center is closed to the public. Applications will be accepted by mail or e-mailed to kimk@kbic-nsn.gov for programs. Applications are located on the ojibwa.com website or can be requested by phone or e-mail.
- KBIC Niimigimiwang Transitional Home - please call (906) 353-4599.
- Personnel - Monday-Friday 8:00

a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Please call (906) 353-4140 or e-mail bfish@kbic-nsn.gov.

- Housing - Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Please call (906) 353-7117. There is limited access with no visitors at Superior View Apartment. For after-hours emergency calls, please call (906) 201-1903.
- Senior's Elderly Nutrition program is operating by delivery only. Please call (906) 353-6096.
- Natural Resources - Please call (906) 524-5757, ext 11, or e-mail eravindran@kbic-nsn.gov. Buildings are closed to the public.
- Tribal Social Services - Please call (906) 353-4201. Buildings are closed to the public.
- Tribal Court and Child Support Services - Please call (906) 353-8124 or e-mail courtclerk@kbic-nsn.gov. Building is closed to the public.
- Tribal Police - Please call (906) 353-6626.
- CEO - Please call (906) 353-4184 or e-mail sarah@kbic-nsn.gov
- President - Please call (906) 353-6623, ext 4112, or e-mail tchris@kbic-nsn.gov

For general questions please call or e-mail the CEO or President. Your question will be answered as soon as possible.

*Make sure to visit our website or FaceBook page for any updates.

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 full-

est 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 advisories.

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 to 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) 353-7259 (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 Friisvall 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.