TURTLE PRESS

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SUMMER 2020

NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI
A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

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TURTLE PRESS CONTACTS

JUDI HENCKEL | EDITOR IN CHIEF
269.704.8361 | JUDITH.HENCKEL@NHBP-NSN.GOV

LEIA FULLER | MANAGING EDITOR

ERIC MCCLURE | ASSISTANT EDITOR

JAKY REPLOGLE | LEAD DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY

EMILEE GUZAK | DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

JAMIE STUCK | CHAIRPERSON
DESK PHONE: 269.704.8384
CELL: 269.986.3441
EMAIL: JAMIE.STUCK@NHBP-NSN.GOV
CHAIR APPOINTMENTS:
EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND JOURNEY TO WELLNESS COMMITTEE

DORIE RIOS | VICE CHAIRPERSON
DESK PHONE: 269.704.8382
CELL: 269.209.3024
EMAIL: DORIE.RIOS@NHBP-NSN.GOV
CHAIR APPOINTMENTS:
ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE, HOUSING COMMITTEE, AND CEMETERY AND PARKS COMMITTEE

NANCY SMIT | SECRETARY
DESK PHONE: 269.704.8431
CELL: 269.275.2289
EMAIL: NANCY.SMIT@NHBP-NSN.GOV
CHAIR APPOINTMENTS:
CULTURE COMMITTEE AND ELDERS COMMITTEE

JEFF CHIVIS, PH.D | TREASURER
DESK PHONE: 269.704.4166
CELL: 269.832.1073
EMAIL: JEFF.CHIVIS@NHBP-NSN.GOV
CHAIR APPOINTMENTS:
TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, VETERANS COMMITTEE AND INDIGENOUS RIGHTS COMMITTEE

HOMER A. MANDOKA | SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
DESK PHONE: 269.704.8381
CELL: 269.986.1802
EMAIL: HOMERA.MANDOKA@NHBP-NSN.GOV
CHAIR APPOINTMENTS:
PLANNING AND LAND USE COMMITTEE, AND TRIBAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

ROBYN BURLINGHAM | COUNCIL COORDINATOR
DESK PHONE: 269.704.8373
EMAIL: RBURLINGHAM@NHBP-NSN.GOV

A VOICE FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

MICHIGAN GOVERNOR APPOINTS CHAIRPERSON JAMIE STUCK TO STATEWIDE TASK FORCE

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER
PHOTO PROVIDED BY COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

APPLIQUÉ ARTWORK BY TRIBAL MEMBER AMANDA WESTRA

NHBP Tribal Council Chairperson Jamie Stuck was recently appointed to the Michigan Coronavirus Task Force on Racial Disparities by Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

This task force will specifically examine how the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted communities of color throughout Michigan. For example, while African Americans represent 13.6 percent of Michigan's population, they represent a staggering 40 percent of the deaths from COVID-19.

The task force will act in an advisory capacity to Governor Whitmer, and study the causes of racial disparities in the impact of COVID-19 and recommend actions to immediately address such disparities, as well as the historical and systemic inequities that underlie them.

"We are grateful to Governor Whitmer for recognizing the health disparities among minority groups and taking this important step to address them," Stuck said. "It is an honor to be selected to serve on this task force and as I do so, I am committed to putting focus on the needs and concerns of all 12 sovereign Native nations within the state of Michigan."

The task force will investigate the causes of racial disparities in the impact of COVID-19, recommend actions to address those disparities, and suggest ways to:

- **Increase transparency in reporting data regarding the racial and ethnic impact of COVID-19.**
- **Remove barriers to accessing physical and mental health care.**
- **Reduce the impact of medical bias in testing and treatment.**
- **Mitigate environmental and infrastructure factors contributing to increased exposure during pandemics, resulting in mortality.**
- **Develop and improve systems for supporting long-term economic recovery, and physical and mental health care following a pandemic.**

This government to government relationship is crucial in the representation of Michigan Tribal Nations on a state level. The task force is chaired by Michigan Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist and include Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Robert Gordon or his designee, Chief Medical Executive Dr. Joneigh S. Khaldun, and a diverse panel of 23 members who were also appointed by Governor Whitmer.

NHBP STEPS UP TO SAVE LIVES

PROVIDING FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER
PHOTOS PROVIDED BY NHBP TRIBAL MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

The COVID-19 pandemic ushered in a wide array of emotions and created many challenging decisions, both of which have resulted in drastic changes to everyday life over the past five months. Throughout all of the uncertainty and the rapidly changing environment surrounding COVID-19, it can be difficult to remember our priorities, why we are doing what we do, and who we are doing it for. Despite all of this, COVID-19 has proven that the NHBP Community is truly a family, as many of our Tribal Members and employees banded together to help one another during this unprecedented public health crisis.

Several masks are completed and waiting to be sent out to Tribal Members and employees.

APPLIQUÉ ARTWORK BY TRIBAL MEMBER AMANDA WESTRA

HEROES SEW (AND WEAR) MASKS

Many NHBP Tribal government departments rose to the occasion to assist Tribal Members and the Community during the COVID-19 pandemic. As uncertainty spread rapidly across the world, NHBP's leaders and Tribal Members made a commitment to do everything that they could to help keep the NHBP Community safe.

Thousands of masks were sewn by NHBP Tribal Members and employees that were later sent to other Tribal Members and employees, as well as distributed within the community. The exponential demand for masks left many hospitals and doctor's offices without an adequate supply of personal protective equipment (PPE), just as the COVID-19 pandemic was reaching its initial peak across the U.S. In response, thousands of people across the country, including some of our own NHBP Tribal Members and employees, started sewing homemade masks to help fight back against COVID-19, through additional PPE.

"I would like to recognize Samantha, Chad and Jenniffer Wethington," FireKeepers Casino Hotel CEO Kathy George said. "I am sure many helped, but I believe they started the making of face coverings for so many! The Tribal Members received them and our volunteers at the FireHub, Kendall Street Food Pantry and the food bank have utilized them, too. Job well done and greatly appreciated!"

Top: Tribal Member Chad Wethington sews a mask.
Bottom: Tribal Member Tracy Himes makes masks.

Masks became part of the new normal when going out in public and were often required in some public spaces. From dozens of trips to the stores to get additional supplies, to being innovative when there was an elastic shortage, the dedication of our mask-making Tribal Members and employees to save lives was a top priority.

"I am not sure of a complete count, but I know my wife made over 2,000 masks, and I believe Nickole Keith, the Elders and the Wethingtons were able to provide enough for all NHBP Tribal Members," Tribal Member Nick TenBrink said. "There is no doubt in my mind that these ladies and gents saved lives. Heroes!"

NHBP EMPLOYEES CONTINUE PROVIDING SERVICES, EVEN DURING A PANDEMIC

The NHBP Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) continued to provide the same level of quality care that patients have come to expect from them, while also serving as coordinators for the NHBP COVID-19 Response. In efforts to adapt how the HHSD served patients, many visits were held over the phone via telehealth options, which allowed the HHSD to continue to provide quality care during such a great time of need. The HHSD also advised NHBP leadership in determining actions, and eventually a return-to-work plan, that would prioritize the safety of Tribal Members, patients and employees.

In order to continue to provide care for mental health, NHBP Behavioral Health worked diligently with their patients throughout the COVID-19 shutdown. They also held virtual employee meditation groups twice per week led by Jonathan Rinehart, who was also instrumental in the success of the continued behavioral telehealth services.

"It was nice being contacted by Health and Human Services Department staff who checked up on me, very cool," Tribal Member Scott Williams said. "A special thanks to Jonathan Rinehart for everything he did."

Along with the HHSD, the Housing Department and Membership Services Department staff stepped up and made grocery deliveries to those in need. Several departments also assisted in a joint effort to complete wellness checks for all Tribal Elders.

In mid-March, Michigan was listed as one of the top five states with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases. With two locations in the heart of the virus' spread, NHBP leadership decided that it was best, for the health and safety of all, to close down both locations and continue vital operations with a limited number of staff.

"NHBP did a lot of amazing stuff," Tribal Member Katelynn Collyer said. "I like how NHBP shut down their departments to help prevent the virus from spreading! Thank you for shutting down for the time you did, so the virus couldn't spread throughout the building!"

Those who could work remotely, via teleworking, continued to do their jobs as best they could. Throughout the entire shutdown period, all NHBP employees continued to be paid their full wages and salaries.

"Allowing employees to work from home, before it was mandated to ensure our safety, was great," Tribal Early Childhood Specialist Kailey Cline said. "It is that feeling of job security and that we are cared for by Human Resources, our CEO Barry Skutt, and our department heads."

GIVING BACK TO OUR ESSENTIAL WORKERS AND THOSE IN NEED

NHBP also partnered with the Athens Area Community Foundation to thank the community's first responders. Together, the two organizations provided the NHBP Tribal Police and the Athens Township Fire Department with gift certificates to the Copper Kettle, a local restaurant in Athens, Michigan. The gesture was a small token of gratitude to some of our local heroes on the front lines.

Many NHBP Tribal Members also volunteered hundreds of hours handing out food to those in need. The COVID-19 pandemic not only threatened thousands of lives, it also brought on a global economic crisis. In response to harder economic times in the area, Tribal Members made sure to help their community by handing out essential items, food, and masks to anyone who needed it.

"As a Tribal Member I'm proud to see so many relatives step up and help our community in more ways than one," Tribal Member Tiesha Williams said. "Nickole, Paula, Josev and Mariesha Keith, Dorie Rios, Paula Stuck, Chris Wilson, Dana Young, and many others stepped up and made masks for local organizations and volunteered countless hours helping others."

Top: Tribal Members Mariesha Keith, Nickole Keith, and Dana Young volunteer. **Bottom:** NHBP and the Athens Area Community Foundation present food vouchers to the Tribal Police Department.

APPLIQUÉ ARTWORK BY TRIBAL MEMBER AMANDA WESTRA

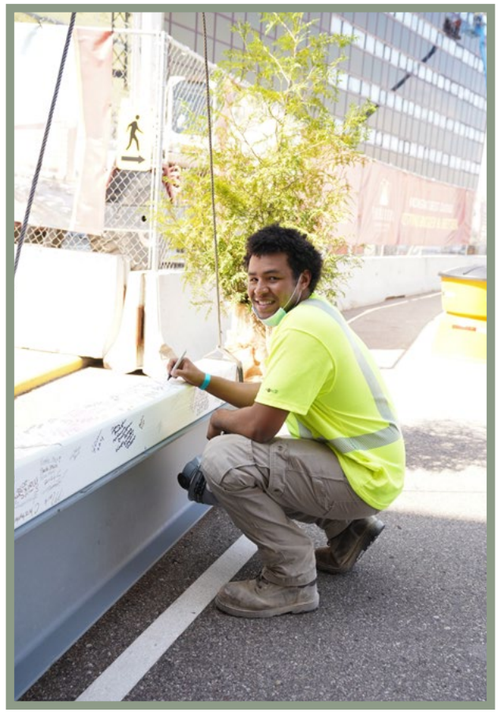
FIREKEEPERS CASINO HOTEL REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING COMMUNITY

FireKeepers Casino Hotel (FKCH) continued to partner with local food banks to provide food, hygiene products, masks and other items to the community, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"A number of Tribal Members volunteered, but I wanted to highlight the work of Paula Stuck, and Mariesha and Nickole Keith for all of their help with food distributions across the city," FKCH CEO Kathy George said. "The FKCH team demonstrates daily that we are a family and we all really looked out for one another during this period."

FKCH also shut down operations in March to protect both FKCH employees and guests. This shutdown was not an easy decision, but many praised FKCH leadership for taking COVID-19 seriously.

Tribal Members and construction workers stand in front of the FireKeepers Hotel Tower II.



Tribal Member Daniel Jacobs signs the beam.

"I think it's great that we are following the Centers for Disease Control and state protocol," Tribal Member Al TenBrink said. "I realize that this hurts us financially and socially, but not having a plan and not thinking things through can be worse."

The FKCH employees continued to not only help each other during the shutdown, but also the entire community by donating their time and efforts in numerous projects.

"Thank you to the NHBP Tribal Council for working with the FKCH executive team," George said. "It made me even more proud of how they supported taking care of our 1,800 team members so well. Their leadership and caring helped everyone through this very difficult time."

FireKeepers Casino Hotel CEO Kathy George and Tribal Council at the beam signing event.

When FKCH finally reopened their doors in early June, many new protocols were established to keep FKCH employees and guests safe. FKCH limited the number of guests allowed in the facility at one time, opened a few restaurants while some continued to be closed, and increased sanitation on all levels.

In late June, FKCH hosted a special Hotel Tower II beam-signing event for NHBP Tribal Members. The beam was able to be signed over a two-day period, and a video and photos from the event were taken to create a special video to share with Tribal Membership. This beam will hold the top of the new hotel tower, with construction planning to be finished in early 2021.

"I am a FireKeepers employee, as well as a Tribal Member, and the way that the casino has treated their employees throughout these unprecedented circumstances has been phenomenal," Tribal Member Samantha Wethington said. "I'm so proud."

HOW WE COVID-19 QUARANTINED

"We've been playing in the pool and having bonfires!" – Tribal Member Derek TenBrink

"I was recovering from a major surgery I had in February. Thank you for keeping us updated on your efforts in containing the virus." – Tribal Member Sydney Capitano

"My daughter, Rachel Hayes, graduated from college while in quarantine. Her family and friends would like to congratulate her on a job well done!" – Tribal Member Pamela Murtha

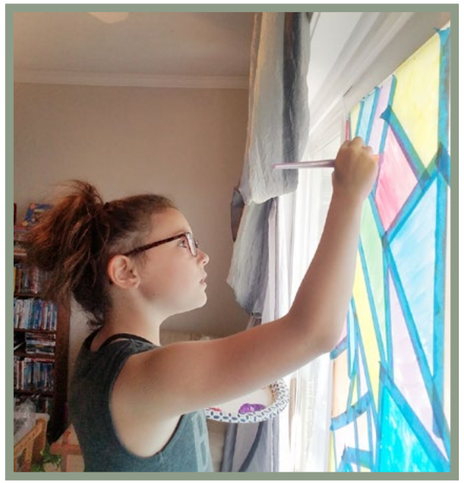
Top Left: Tribal Members Parker and Mason Mendez. **Bottom Left:** Tribal Member Derek Tenbrink enjoys a dip in the pool with his daughter, Tribal Member Kolbie Tenbrink. **Top Right:** Tribal Member Annabelle Podein wears butterfly wings. **Bottom Right:** The TenBrink family enjoys their bonfire together.

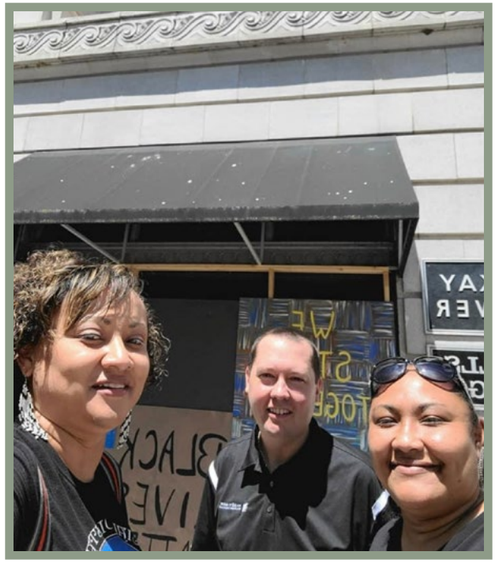
Tribal Member Nickole Keith wears her mask with pride.

"We spent time going on walks and training our new puppy! So thankful for the NHBP Couch to 5K program for encouraging me to stay active during this time." – Tribal Early Childhood Specialist Kailey Cline

"I welcomed a new baby boy! Lawrence Jr. and Larenz Ross have consumed my time!" – Tribal Member Tiesha Williams

"We've been enjoying nature, biking, walking and hiking." – Tribal Member Johnny Trosper





Left: Waséyabek Development Company, LLC, Executive Assistant to the CEO Erik Frost and Tribal Members Nickole and Mariesha Keith. **Top Right:** Tribal Member Addison Trosper paints a birdhouse. **Middle Right:** Tribal Member McKenzie Wagner makes window art. **Bottom Right:** Tribal Members Tiesha Williams and Maliyah Harris at a Black Lives Matter protest.

Top Left: Tribal Member Lawrence Jr. and newborn Larenz Ross. **Middle Left:** A late snow storm in Michigan in mid-April led Tribal Members Kendall and Brooklyn Goldner to make snowmen. **Bottom Left:** Tribal Members Harmony Wethington and Elliot Powell. **Right:** Tribal Members make signs and attend a Black Lives Matter protest.

"I decorated the outside of my house!" – Tribal Member Katelynn Collyer

"We've been playing in the pool and having bonfires!" – Tribal Member Derek TenBrink

"Special thanks to Erik from WDC for providing tools and other essential items during the visit to the McKay Tower, following the Black Lives Matter protests." – Tribal Member Tiesha Williams

HELPING HANDS FROM CARING HEARTS

NHBP SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUES TO HELP TRIBAL MEMBERS IN NEED

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER | PHOTOS BY EMILEE GUZAK

The NHBP Social Services Department has been operating as an independent department since the start of 2019 and has been able to work diligently to provide quality care for NHBP families. Social Services assists NHBP Tribal Members in several ways, from providing assistance in court cases to strengthening general parenting and social skills. They are here to help, in whatever capacity NHBP families need.

Often, social services can be associated with negative things, but NHBP Social Services staff have the capacity to help with many positive things, as well! This may include assisting with cases involving child protection, foster care and adoption, adult protection, guardianships, payees, juvenile delinquency or domestic violence. NHBP Social Services can also help to provide expertise and assistance related to the coordination of services, transportation, life skills and leadership development, parenting, self-care, vulnerable adult support, assistance with managing the Tribal Member Benefit Program, training, connecting with community resources, foster home recruitment, and general problem-solving skills.

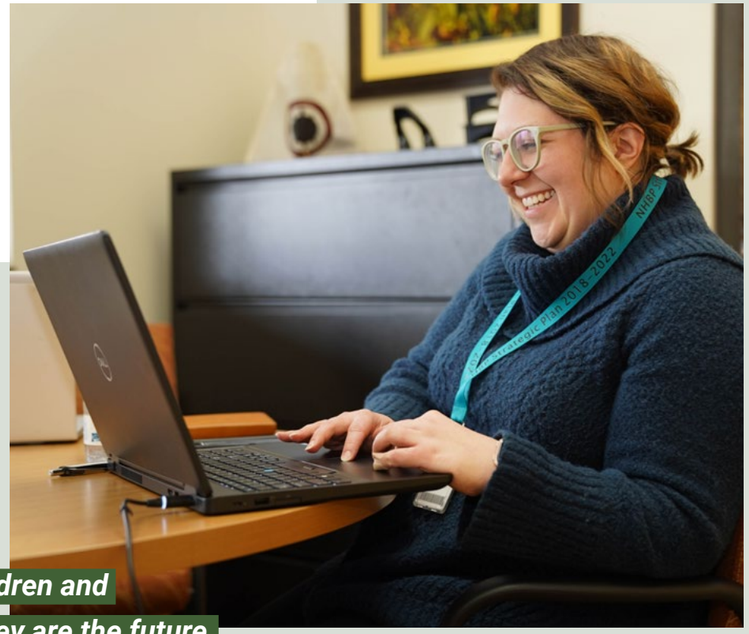
NHBP Social Services also works in tandem with other NHBP Tribal government departments, including Membership Services, Health and Human Services, and Housing, as well as finding local community agencies to coordinate services and locate resources that a Tribal Member might need.

In all situations, NHBP Social Services assesses the needs of the NHBP Tribal Member or family, and works with them to develop a plan to address those needs. NHBP Social Services staff then continues to work with the Tribal Member or family, to follow the plan and problem solve for any obstacles that might be encountered as the plan is implemented.

Social Services has an inter-departmental meeting with Membership Services.

Another major facet that NHBP Social Services works with is ensuring that the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is followed. ICWA is a federal law that was passed in 1978 that provides extra protections for federally recognized Tribal children and families in child protection cases. Related to ICWA, the Michigan Indian Family Protection Act (MIFPA) is a Michigan law that was passed in 2012 that supports the ICWA federal law in protecting the rights of federally recognized Tribal children and families.

Some of these protections include the Tribe's interests, as well as providing Tribal families with more services to prevent removal and to reunite families. These laws also strive to place Tribal children with an extended family member as the first option, if the children have to be removed. Although these laws allow Tribal Nations to look after their Tribal children and families, ICWA and MIFPA do not prevent Tribal children or their families from investigations of child abuse or neglect concerns by Child Protective Services (CPS).



Social Services Case Manager Aleaha Bowen.

"NHBP values children and recognizes that they are the future of the Tribe. Therefore, children deserve to be protected and nurtured, so they grow up and develop to be the best humans and Tribal Members that they can be. Please reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns. We are here for you." – NHBP Social Services Director Meg Fairchild

NHBP Social Services staff are here to help Tribal Members with any questions or concerns throughout any process involving them and their families. They will do their best to answer questions and provide clarification throughout any process, and if they can't provide services, they can connect Tribal Members with someone or an agency that is best suited for each situation.

Social Services Director Meg Fairchild and a representative from the RedMane software development company.

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

If you have any questions, or would like clarification or assistance from the NHBP Social Services Department, please reach out to one of their team members today!

Social Services Director Meg Fairchild | 269.223.1047 | meg.fairchild@nhbp-nsn.gov

Social Services Case Aide Danielle Pfeifer | 269.832.1342 | danielle.pfeifer@nhbp-nsn.gov

Pine Creek Social Services Case Manager Janet Foster | 269.312.4548 | janet.foster@nhbp-nsn.gov

Grand Rapids Social Services Case Manager Aleaha Bowen | 269.234.3541 | aleaha.bowen@nhbp-nsn.gov

NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE NOTTAWA CREEK WATERSHED

WRITTEN BY JOHN RODWAN
PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPT.

Abundant natural resources have always been an important highlight of the Nottawa Creek Watershed (an area which encompasses the Pine Creek Watershed). Historical land cover included tall-grass prairie, oak openings, a variety of upland and lowland forests, and abundant streams and wetlands. Historically, there was much more surface water in the watershed, but the draining of fields for agricultural use and the alteration of the stream channels has greatly reduced the acreage of surface water.

With the draining and channelization came a reduction of natural resources, biodiversity and habitat. One of the side effects of reducing the habitat of the watershed has been the loss of many native species and the introduction of invasive species. It is known that much more Wild Rice and many more berries, ducks, suckers and turtles, to name a few, once could be found in the watershed. These, in addition to maple sugar and wild game, formed the core of traditional food in the area.

Within much of the watershed, invasive species now exist where stream and wetland habitats once existed. For instance, the vast cattail marshes of the Pine Creek Watershed are comprised of an introduced species of cattail. It is thought that where Wild Rice and ducks once could be found, are now marshes of invasive cattails that provide little food or shelter.

Trapping, berry collecting and duck hunting was very popular on the Pine Creek Indian Reservation, before the Nottawa Creek channel modifications in the 1970s. Early accounts indicate that Native People within the watershed once traveled

An aerial view of the marsh on the Pine Creek Indian Reservation.

Nottawa Creek at the V Drive canoe and kayak launch in Athens, Michigan.

seasonally to harvest maple syrup from “Sugar Bush,” harvest berries from meadows and trap suckers from the streams. Within more recent memory, many have participated in collecting wild strawberries on The Reservation.

Changes to our environment have led to an alteration of traditional lifeways, including diets. Although maple syrup is now produced again on The Reservation, the volume of ducks, berries and Wild Rice has been greatly reduced, and in some cases removed from diets altogether.

In recent years, we have witnessed a growing concern for improving habitats. NHBP has successfully created wetlands and prairies on the Q Drive South properties and have introduced fishing on the Sherwood Township properties. A resurgence of hunting and foraging is also underway. Many sugar maples and cedar trees have also been planted on The Reservation, and we are hopeful that one day we can reintroduce black ash to our environment, as well. Improving habitat is not an easy process, and generally takes great commitment and long periods of time, in some cases multiple generations. However, it is with certainty that the Tribal government departments and the NHBP Community will continue their work toward improving our environment and the natural resources within it. We are hopeful that future generations will look back at our current work and will be proud of what we have left for them.

FIREKEEPERS CASINO HOTEL RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY WITH FOOD RECOVERY CHALLENGE AWARD

WRITTEN BY FKCH

The FireKeepers Casino Hotel (FKCH) Food and Beverage team has been recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with a 2019 Food Recovery Challenge National Award by creating and implementing innovative best practices to prevent and reduce food waste. Just one of 15 national winners of this prestigious honor, FKCH was identified for making significant progress in reducing food waste in America.

"Food Recovery Challenge participants are leaders in showing how preventing food waste and diverting excess wholesome food to people is an environmental win and a cost-saving business decision," EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler said. "Their accomplishments serve as excellent examples to other companies, governments, organizations and communities."

FKCH offered a wide range of efforts, including the purchase of blast chillers to reclaim food from the buffet and banquet events, since the food had been prepared but not served. This food is then repackaged and distributed to those in need in the community. The amount of food diverted through donation efforts in 2018 totaled 4.02 tons. That number continues to rise through employee education and awareness.

FKCH also works with area food banks to prevent waste through the Fresh Food Initiative (FFI). FKCH and the South Michigan Food Bank partner to provide an average of four FFI events each month. At these events, fresh produce is distributed to neighbors in need. To prevent produce from being wasted, FKCH staff develops easy recipes using the produce distributed and provides samples to encourage clients to utilize all the items they receive. In addition, the development of a greenhouse on the Pine Creek Indian Reservation has generated fresh food that is being utilized to provide free salad bars in local schools.

"This is the culmination of a plan to simultaneously create a successful restaurant product while also helping the community in an impactful way," said Michael McFarlen, who is the Vice President of Food and Beverage at FKCH. "It has been incredible to see our team members embrace this initiative and to continually get involved, greatly increasing numbers year after year."

Food waste is the single largest type of waste thrown away each year. Food waste adversely impacts the economy, our communities and the environment by wasting the resources used to grow and transport food. Far too many households in the United States had difficulty providing enough food for all of their family members. Those in need significantly benefit from the redirection of nutritious, wholesome food that would have otherwise been thrown away.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented the nation with a vivid image of the food shortages so many people face. Therefore, efforts to reduce food waste and ensure excess food doesn't go to waste implemented by FKCH are needed now more than ever.

The innovation these EPA award winners are showcasing can also serve as an example as the nation works together to address the COVID-19 public health emergency. Over 1,000 businesses, governments and organizations participated in the EPA's Food Recovery Challenge in 2019. Participants prevented or diverted over 815,000 tons of food from entering landfills or incinerators, saving participants up to $42.3 million in avoided landfill tipping fees.

Dacey's SPORTSBOOK

NOW OPEN!

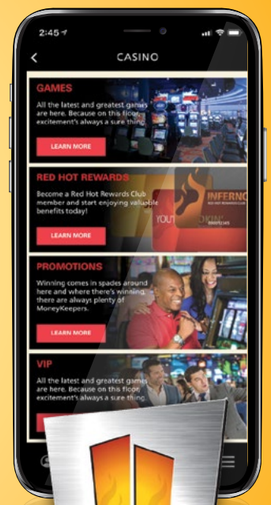
Dacey's Sportsbook is proud to be Michigan's first Tribal Casino Sportsbook, with the most exciting place to wager and watch every game, every sport, every season! The 2021 NFL season is gearing up, plus all the baseball and hockey playoff action. It's all here, from Golf to NASCAR, UFC to Boxing and International Soccer.

GET YOUR VEGAS ON...ON THE GO WITH THE ALL-NEW FIREKEEPERS CASINO MOBILE APP!

Our completely redesigned interactive mobile app is here! Access everything FireKeepers at your fingertips. From making dining & hotel reservations, to purchasing concert tickets, and much more.

Plus, link your Red Hot Rewards Club card to view your exclusive loyalty offers, current points balance and Red Hot Credits – all customized for your convenience.

Download it for FREE beginning August 1st from the App Store or Google Play!



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EXCITING YEARS
FIREKEEPERS CASINO • HOTEL BATTLE CREEK

WASÉYABEK FEDERAL DIVISION SEES TREMENDOUS GROWTH OVER PAST YEAR WITH A BRIGHT FUTURE

WRITTEN BY PRESIDENT & CEO OF WASÉYABEK DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC, DEIDRA MITCHELL

WASÉYABEK
FEDERAL DIVISION

Waséyabek's Federal Division is making tremendous advances. Revenue growth has steadily increased since 2018, with a projected revenue growth of 279 percent between 2019 and 2020. A major focus for 2020 and 2021 will be to continue to grow and expand the reach and service lines within each of the Federal Division's subsidiaries. The cornerstone in these efforts is the 8(a) certification of two of the Federal Division subsidiaries this year. Waséyabek Federal Services, LLC (WFS) earned its 8(a) certification in September 2018.

WE2 SUPPORT SERVICES 8(A) JV, LLC AWARDED FIVE-YEAR DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY CONTRACT

WE2 Support Services 8(a) JV, LLC (WE28aJV) was recently awarded a five-year, $161 million prime contract to support Research & Development and facilities services for the U.S. Department of Energy at the Albany, Oregon; Morgantown, West Virginia; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) facilities.

The joint venture (WE28aJV) is comprised of Waséyabek Federal Services, LLC (WFS), and E2 Consulting Engineers, Inc., and specializes in facilities management and support services. WFS is the majority owner of the JV and will lead contract management and oversight. This contract award and its successful execution will establish a crucial competitive component for bidding on future government work with extensive past performance as the prime contractor. WE28aJV assumed NETL contract operations on April 1, 2020.

The National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) is a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) national laboratory that produces technological solutions to America's energy challenges and is the only national lab dedicated to fossil energy research and development.

National Energy Technology Laboratory in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

For more than 100 years, the laboratory has developed technologies to provide clean, reliable and affordable energy to the American people. NETL's mission is to discover, integrate, and mature technology solutions to enhance the nation's energy foundation and protect the environment for future generations. NETL has sites in Albany, Oregon; Anchorage, Alaska; Morgantown, West Virginia; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Houston, Texas. In total, these sites include over 110 buildings on greater than 230 acres. As the only one of DOE's 17 national labs that are both government-owned and operated, NETL is in a unique position to accelerate the development of technology solutions through strategic partnerships with academia, industry, and other research organizations.

National Energy Technology Laboratory in Albany, Oregon.

National Energy Technology Laboratory in Morgantown, West Virginia.

BAKER ENGINEERING, LLC EARNS 8(A) CERTIFICATION

WDC subsidiary, Baker Engineering, LLC (BE), was awarded its 8(a) certification in January 2020. This certification is a significant building block upon which BE will leverage growth over the next eight years. Jack Jerovsek, President of Baker Engineering, expressed that the 8(a) program will "enable us to get additional contracts to accelerate the technology or align us with larger programs so that our technology is integrated into platforms that the warfighter would currently use."

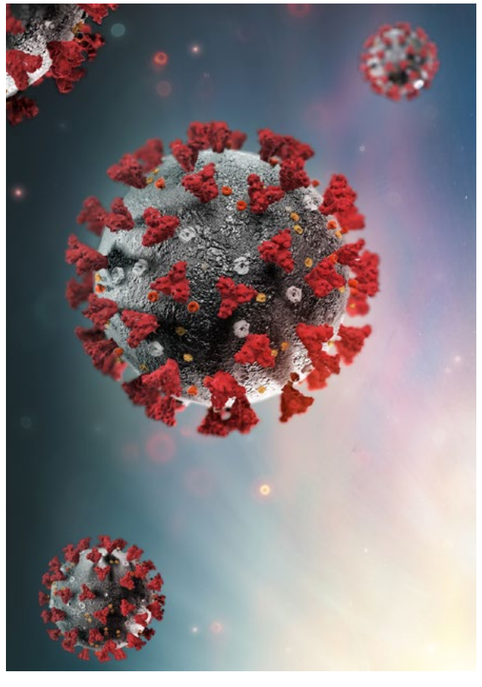
Baker Engineering focuses much of its current research efforts on drones (UAVs) that will be fielded in the next five to 10 years. BE currently has five contracts focusing on research and development in this area, specifically related to propulsion system development and components. Of these five contracts, one is with the U.S. Army; the other four are with the U.S. Air Force. Jerovsek expressed that BE is "excited about the potential of the new [8(a) certification] to help Baker grow in terms of the number of employees and revenue."

Typical UAV for which Baker Engineering would be working on a propulsion system.

FED95, LLC EARNS 8(A) CERTIFICATION

In March 2020, Fed95, LLC, earned its 8(a) certification. The company performs environmental remediation, coronavirus cleaning and disinfection, industrial hygiene, quality control, safety consulting, hazardous materials abatement, laboratory cleanup, emergency preparedness plans, and crisis communication services to our commercial and federal customers. Fed95 provides federal agencies with a "direct-award" avenue, meaning they can negotiate with one supplier without a competitive process.

Recently, Fed95 has teamed up with three well-known regional partners to provide cleaning, disinfecting, preliminary screening, testing, case management services, and public relations support concerning the coronavirus (COVID-19). The first partner, Patriot Environmental Services, headquartered in Wilmington, California, provides emergency response decontamination services from all of their strategic locations. They also perform routine sanitation and decontamination cleaning to guard against future episodes. The second partner, Safety Management Systems (SMS), provides the protocols and analytical support to ensure the proper disinfection of Fed95 customers' environments of COVID-19. SMS also establishes cleaning regimes to minimize ongoing impacts of critical and essential infrastructure, provides COVID-19 medical testing and screening, services, case management and field hospitals, paramedic and EMT support, and quality control and analytics. Fed95's third partner, Truscott Rossman, is a full-service public relations agency that started in Michigan and now has a national reach. With offices in Detroit, Grand Rapids, Lansing, and Washington, D.C., Truscott Rossman covers earned, owned, and paid media, crisis management, public affairs, and community relations.



WDC EXPANDS DOWNTOWN HEADQUARTERS TO ACCOMMODATE FEDERAL GROWTH

To support the rapid growth occurring in the Federal Division, WDC is renovating the third floor of the Kendall Building, its downtown Grand Rapids headquarters, from residential apartments to commercial office space. WDC worked with Lofts of GR, the property management firm of the Kendall Building, to ensure the tenants in those spaces received the proper care and attention in the transition to their new homes. This new office space will provide room for up to 13 new employees, a conference room that comfortably accommodates the full WDC Board and attending WDC employees and guests, a kitchenette, and provides common areas for team-building and project collaboration.

Rendering of the new WDC third-floor conference room.

WILLIAM DANIELS

CONGRATS, GRAD!

We are so proud of you!
Good luck at NNU!
Love,
Your Family!

ANNELISE HENDRIX

JUNE 4

Happy Birthday, Annelise!
We are so proud of the young woman you are becoming.
Love,
Mom, Dad and the Sisters

JAMIE STUCK

JUNE 22

Happy Birthday, Jamie!
We love you with all of our hearts!
Love,
All of your Family and Friends

ADDISON TROSPER

JULY 9

Happy 2nd Birthday, Little Fox.
We love you bunches.
Love,
Momma and Daddy

KALEN HODGES

JUNE 28

Happy Birthday, Kalen Hodges!
Love,
Your Family

MNO DBESHKAYEN NGOM & MIGWÉCH
BIRTHDAYS & CELEBRATIONS

ROB POTTER

MARCH 18

Happy 50th Birthday, Rob!
Congratulations on making it to Tribal Elder status!
Love,
Your Family

WILLOW LEWIS

PRE-SCHOOL GRADUATION

Congrats, Willow!
Love,
Mom, Dad and Siblings

RYLYNN ANN

JULY 8

Happy 4th Birthday, Rylynn Ann! You are so sweet and too smart for your own good! We hope you enjoyed your birthday.
Love,
Mommy and your Family

LOGAN MENDEZ

JULY 30

You take such good care of me and you are amazing with your sons! I am so very proud of you! Love you the mostest!
Love,
Mom and Family

MASON MENDEZ

JULY 3

Happy Birthday, my little man. Your smile brightens my day. You're so sweet and kind. Love you, Mr. Mason.
Love,
Grandi and Family

KAIDIN TRAXLER

CONGRATS, GRAD!

Congratulations Kaidin Traxler, GHHS 2020 graduate. Kaidin will be attending Ferris State University this fall.

Love,
Your Family

WILLIAM DUKE SNYDER

OCT. 10

Happy 11th Birthday, William (Duke) Snyder!

Love,
Grandma and Grandpa Johnson/Garden

LILY (LILYBUG) SWARVAR

SEPT. 4

Happy 1st Birthday, Lillian (Lilybug) Swarvar.

Love,
Grandma and Papa Johnson

MORGAN MENDEZ

AUG. 20

It just seems like a week ago that you were born. But you make me so proud to be your mom and I'm so proud of you! You will always be my baby boy, and you have grown into a wonderful man. Love you so very much!

Love,
Mom and Family

TRACY DANIELS-WELLS

CONGRATS, TRACY!

My niece, Tracy Daniels Wells, was acknowledged by UCLA for achievements in cancer research.

Love,
Your Family

https://newsroom.ucla.edu/dept/faculty/leading-cancer-association-recognizes-three-scientists-for-advancing-cancer-research

MNO DBESHKAYEN NGOM & MIGWÉCH
BIRTHDAYS & CELEBRATIONS

KAYTI PERRY

AUG. 21

My beautiful niece. You have shown me love your entire life and you have given me two remarkable nephews and now a sweet little niece. I love you so much!

Love,
Aunt Randi and Family

AARON AND ROBYN MACKEY

AUG. 12

Happy 15th Anniversary! Good or bad times, I love you through them all!

Love,
Aaron

PAUL AND BILLIE MACKEY

AUG. 1

Happy Anniversary! Here's to plenty more love and cherished filled years.

Love,
The Mackey Family

STELLA SWARVAR

SEPT. 29

Happy 2nd birthday, Stella Swarvar!

Love,
Grandma and Papa Johnson

PARKER THIER

JULY 11

Happy 5th Birthday, Parkie.

Love,
Grandma and Papa Johnson

2020 GRADUATES

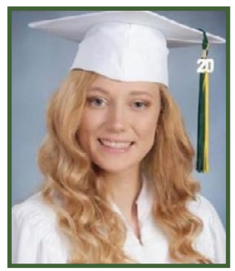
THE NHBP EDUCATION OFFICE AND THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE OUR 2019 – 2020 GRADUATES. WE ARE PROUD OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND WISH YOU SUCCESS IN YOUR FUTURE!

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

ARIA BEEBE
Grand Haven High School
Grand Haven, MI
Aria is currently looking into schools for photography. She also plans on working and volunteering.

KALEB BUTCHER
Grand Haven High School
Grand Haven, MI

MAKENZIE CANNIFF
Union City High School
Union City, MI
MaKenzie plans to attend firefighting 1 and 2 classes and Kellogg Community College.



MIA CERAVOLO
Cabrini High School
New Orleans, LA
Mia graduated with a 4.0 GPA. She plans to attend Nicholls State University for a degree in criminal justice.

ZACHERY CROWE
Harper Creek High School
Battle Creek, MI
Zach plans to attend Kellogg Community College in the fall.

WILLIAM DANIELS
Rim of the World High School
Lake Arrowhead, CA
William is a National Society of High School Scholars member, 4.06 GPA graduate, All-League baseball player, 4-year varsity starter, and ranks second in the school's all-time hits. He plans to attend Northwest Nazarene University, where he will play baseball and major in communications.

DALTON DUARTE
Reeths-Puffer High School
Muskegon, MI

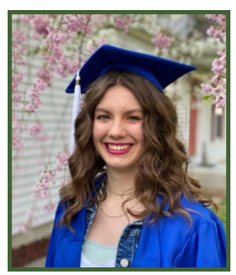
KALEIGH DYSARD
Onekama Consolidated Schools, Onekama, MI

CHLOE FAVALORO
Ursuline Academy
Blue Ash, OH

ALYSSA PHILLIPS
Bellevue High School
Battle Creek, MI
Alyssa plans to enter the work force and wait a year to go to college for graphic design.

MAKENZIE MANDOKA
Gull Lake High School
Gull Lake, MI
Makenzie was invited to join the National Honor Society. She plans to attend Oral Roberts University, majoring in ministry.

TYRONE RIOS JR.
Mount Pleasant High School
Mount Pleasant, MI



KARLEY HENDRIX
Hendrix Homeschool
Kalamazoo, MI
Karley plans to attend Kellogg Community College with a physical therapy assistant major. Karley has been inducted into the Alpha Rho Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

AURORA PIGEON-DOLNIK
Otsego West Campus High School
Otsego, MI
Aurora plans to attend Kalamazoo Valley Community College and then transfer to Grand Valley State University for a degree in special education.

ALEXANDER OJASCASTRO
Saint Louis Priory School
St Louis, MO
Alexander graduated with honors and took AP courses in both calculus and biology. Alex plans to attend University of Tulsa, majoring in Biology with a minor in Finance.

WINTER RYAN
Poudre High School
Fort Collins, CO

BRIANA SCOGGINS
Maryville Christian School
Maryville, TN

Briana was the senior class secretary, member of the National Honor Society and Beta Club, Small Group Leader and a Member of Student Support Team. She plans to attend Lee University majoring in BSN nursing.

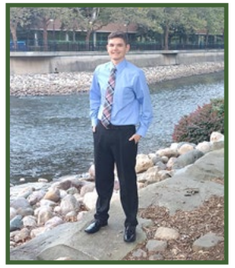
LOGAN SMITH
Kingsford High School
Kingsford, MI

Logan was in the top 10% his junior and senior years, Student of the Month for AP Chemistry, AP US History, AP Literature, and AP Calculus, a National Honor Society member, a Louis Armstrong Jazz Award recipient, a Michigan Student Service Award recipient, and an Eagle Scout. He plans to attend the University of Michigan to study engineering.

TYLER TERPENING
Harper Creek High School
Battle Creek, MI

KAIDIN TRAXLER
Grand Haven High School
Grand Haven, MI

Kaidin plans to attend Ferris State University in the fall, majoring in business.



BRADY WILLIAMS
Lakeview High School
Battle Creek, MI

Brady was in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association state qualifiers, three years running. He plans to attend Georgia State University, majoring in general chemistry.

CHRIS WILSON
Athens High School
Athens, MI

Chris plans to attend Western Michigan University, majoring in general studies.

O'FELIA ZAPATA
Athens High School
Athens, MI

O'felia plans to attend Western Michigan University in the fall. She has not yet declared a major at this time.

OWYN ZAPATA
Athens High School
Athens, MI

Owyn plans to attend Kellogg Community College in the fall. He has not yet declared a major at this time.

POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES | VOCATIONAL

OLIVIA POTTER
Douglas J Aveda Institute

2020 GRADUATES

POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES | ASSOCIATES DEGREE

RACHEL HAYES

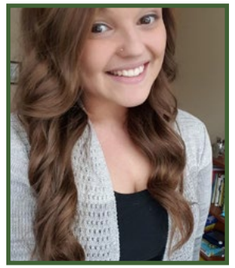
Kellogg Community College
Associate Degree in Liberal Arts and General Studies

Rachel plans on getting a part-time job and potentially going to Western Michigan University to pursue a bachelor's degree.

JESSE LOCKARD

Kellogg Community College

Jesse made the Dean's and President's Lists and graduated with a 3.55 GPA. He also earned his Associate Degree in Applied Science with a major in computer programming. He plans to get an associate and bachelor's degrees in network engineering at Western Michigan University.



KRISTA NEYMEIYER

Davenport University
Associate Degree

Krista intends to keep her eye out for open positions in the Tribal offices and elsewhere.

AARON RYAN

Pima Medical Institute
Associate Degree in Radiography

Honors: Aaron received the top honors in the program and was recognized by winning the Tungsten Award and earned a 4.0 GPA. He is now working as a special procedures tech in interventional radiology at Banner Heath Systems in Mesa, Arizona.

DEAN TENBRINK

Kalamazoo Valley Community College
Associate of Applied Sciences

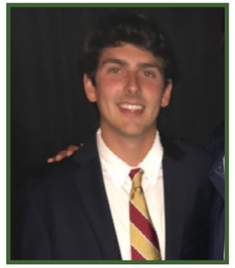
Honors: Dean graduated Magna Cum Laude, earned a place on the Dean's List 10 times, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Fraternity, and was a Certified Culinarian, Level One Certified Cicerone Beer Server, Certified ServSafe Food Protection Manager and Certified ServSafe Alcohol Server. He is completing the Certified Dietary Manager (CDM) program, Baking & Pastries Certificate program and Sustainable Brewing AAS degree program.

POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES | BACHELOR'S DEGREE

JANE BROWN

Davenport University
Bachelor of Business Administration

Jane might go on to obtain her master's degree in the future. Right now, she is beginning a new position at NHBP as the Administrative Assistant to the Department of Public Works.



AUSTIN DAY

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Bachelor's Degree in Business Management

Austin plans to expand his landscaping business and eventually start a real estate business.

TAYLOR DAY

Bryan College
Bachelor of Science - Elementary Education

Honors: Taylor graduated Magna Cum Laude. She has started working on her master's program at Bryan College.

GREG DEGRAFF

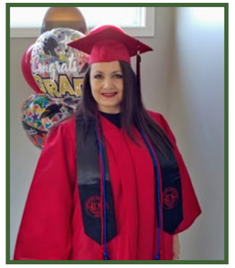
Davenport University

Honors: High Honor
Greg graduated with a degree in network management and security, with a focus on security. He is looking into his future goals at this time.

KIARA DOUGHERTY

Western Michigan University
Bachelor of Business Administration Management

Kiara looks forward to pursuing a master's degree in Organizational Change Leadership. She will continue working in the Human Resources Department at FireKeepers Casino Hotel, while doing so.



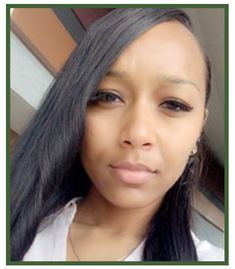
HEATHER KRENN

Davenport University

Honors: Upsilon Phi Delta Heather graduated with an Associate of Applied Science in Health Information Technology and Bachelor of Science in Health Services Administration from Davenport University.

2020 GRADUATES

POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES | BACHELOR'S DEGREE



CHARMAINE MANDOKA

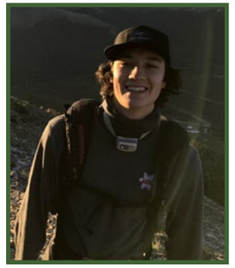
Western Michigan University

Charmaine graduated with a bachelor's degree with a major in criminal justice and a minor in social work.

JENNY MUTCHLER

Baker University

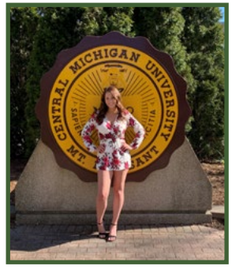
Jenny graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from Baker University. She plans to enroll in a graduate program in the fall.



EASTON SCHULTZ

Harvard University

Easton graduated with a degree in history, and a secondary degree in economics. He is working in investment management in New York City, New York.



KELSIE SCHULTZ

Central Michigan University

Kelsie received a bachelor's degree in psychology, with a minor in substance use disorders. She plans to gain experience to become a licensed prevention specialist or licensed substance use counselor.

JENNIFER SCOGGINS

University of Tennessee

Jennifer received her Bachelor of Science in Health and Human Sciences in audiology and speech language pathology. Jennifer plans on pursuing her masters degree in Speech Language Pathology.

COURTNEY VANDERWAL

Michigan State University

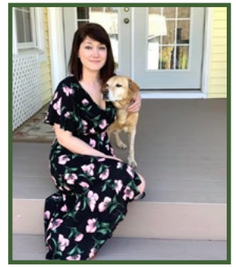
Courtney received her Bachelor of Science in Dietetics. She plans on going on to a coordinated Masters in Clinical Dietetics at Grand Valley State University.

POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES | MASTER'S DEGREE

DR. JEFFERY CHIVIS

University of Oklahoma Master of Legal Studies in Indigenous Peoples Law

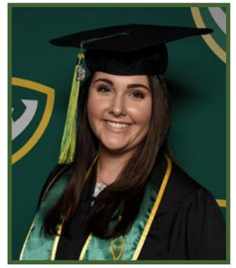
Jeff plans to continue to fight for the Sovereign rights.



SARAH ZLOTNICKI

Michigan State University College of Law Juris Doctor and Certificate in Indigenous Law

Sarah plans to take the bar exam and pursue a career in Indian law.



KIMBERLY MUTCHLER

Wayne State University, Mike Ilitch School of Business Master of Science in Accounting, with a concentration in financial reporting and auditing

Kim will begin her career as an auditor for a regional public accounting firm in January 2021.

HALEY IRWIN

University of Southern California, Master of Education in School Counseling with a Pupil Personnel Services Credential

Haley plans to begin employment as a middle or high school counselor, and work to drive positive change by promoting equity of opportunity and conveying the expectation that all students can succeed regardless of adversities or barriers they might be facing. She would also like to continue her education and obtain a licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) license, and pursue a doctoral degree in educational leadership.

JAMES TENBRINK

Loyola University Chicago Master in Jurisprudence - Business Law

James graduated Magna Cum Laude. He plans to continue to work at Waséyabek Development Company, LLC (WDC), while using his degree to work with inside and outside legal counsel to support the activities of the organization. He hopes that his degree will allow him to better navigate the various legal needs specific to growing the portfolio of WDC.

CAMERYN RYAN

Western Michigan University, Master of Public Health

Cameryn plans to continue working for NHBP and bring the knowledge she has gained back to her Community. She is considering pursuing a doctoral degree in Public Health.

NOTTAWASEPPI HURON
BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI
A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

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