

# GTB NEWS



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[https://bit.ly/GTB\\_NEWS](https://bit.ly/GTB_NEWS)

February 2026  
Makwa Giizis (Spirit Moon)



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Motions & Meetings

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MOMENTS THAT MOVED US, RELIVE THE SPIRIT OF THE  
2026 KCHI WIIKWEDONG ANISHINAABEK MAAWNJIDOWIN - ROUND DANCE

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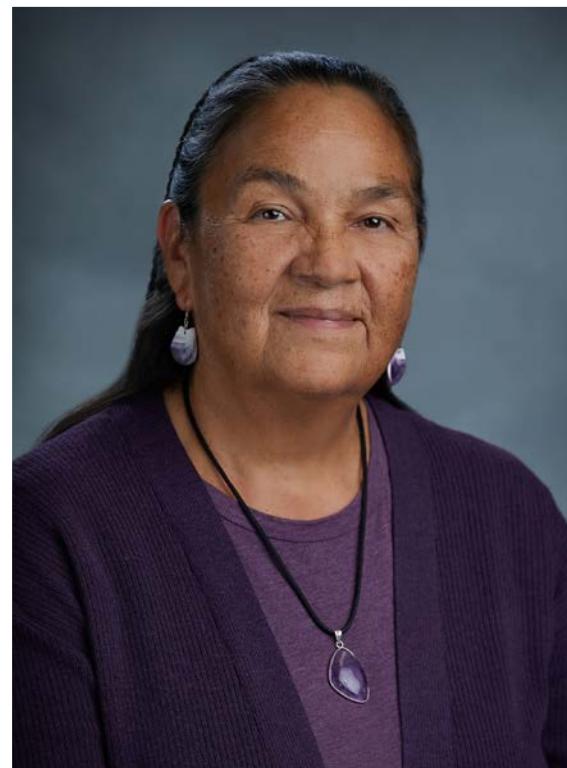
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# FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GTB TRIBAL CHAIRWOMAN SANDRA L. WITHERSPOON

## GTB LAND ACQUISITION PROTOCOL AND THE PROPOSED PURCHASE OF THE NMC

### BOARDMAN LAKE CAMPUS IN TRAVERSE CITY, MI.



January 21, 2026

Dear Tribal Members,

I write to explain the governmental process the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians ("OTB" or "Tribe") has undertaken regarding the proposed acquisition of the NMC Boardman Lake Campus.

Boardman Lake Campus consists of approximately 28 acres and includes a 74,500 ft.2 three-story building originally constructed in 1986, with approximately 3,000 linear feet of frontage along Boardman Lake. The proposed purchase price is \$27 million.

The Tribal Council has received both formal and informal questions from tribal citizens regarding this proposed acquisition. For several years, the Council - along with prior Councils - has evaluated options for additional or replacement governmental office space in the Traverse City service area. Because our current government buildings are fully depreciated under our primary federal agency contracts, their accounting-defined useful life has ended. Consequently, this Council and past Councils were always faced with the issue of whether to rehabilitate or replace the buildings. These replacement reviews and actions included, among others, the former Bertha Voss School Building in 2018-2019, commercial development across from GTRS LLC in 2019-2021, and several other locations. This Council and past Councils have done rehabilitation of existing governmental buildings but the costs of rehabilitation of aging buildings are increasing with limited extensions of the useful life of the building.

Thus, between 2018 and 2025, the Council adopted multiple motions authorizing the review of properties for the development of governmental offices and service centers in both Peshawbestown and Traverse City areas. All Council actions were taken

in accordance with the Council's Land Acquisition Protocol, which was adopted by motion in February 2012.

As part of the long-term planning efforts, the Council authorized preliminary architectural and space planning studies to assess the Tribe's current and future governmental facility needs. These studies evaluated existing governmental uses and included proposals for a new governmental complex in Peshawbestown to replace the Tribe's aging infrastructure. (The Peshawbestown Governmental Center was originally built in 1980, with expansions, and currently accounts for approximately 6,000 sq. feet). Architecturally developed construction costs estimate for the new Peshawbestown governmental service center exceeded \$45 million. In response, the Council explored alternatives that could reduce overall costs, including the acquisition of existing facilities in Traverse City that could serve tribal governmental functions. The decision to pursue the Boardman Lake Campus arose from the planning process and reflects continuity in the Tribe's long term governmental infrastructure strategy to provide centrally located services for Tribal citizens.

The GTB Land Acquisition Protocol establishes detailed procedural and substantive requirements for acquiring property for a tribal governmental purpose. These included an initial feasibility review addressing the property's location, acreage, current uses, asking price, tax maps, surveys, and zoning classifications. The property is then evaluated against specific criteria, including whether it is located within the Tribe's 6 county service area; whether it is contiguous to existing tribal property; whether it has historical ties to the Tribe; whether it fulfills identified governmental needs; whether the asking price is justified in relation to intended use; and whether it aligns with the Tribe's development plans.

If these criteria are met the acquisition process proceeds. The Council directs an independent appraisal, a comprehensive building inspection, site visits by tribal representatives or council members, environmental reviews, and a legal review by tribal legal counsel to identify any issues that complete or impede acquisition.

Once the appraisal is completed, it is presented to the Council for consideration. The Council then determines, by motion, whether to authorize an offer to purchase and approve a preliminary corresponding financing budget. Upon authorization, the Land Acquisition Officer negotiates with the seller's representative. If negotiations exceed the approved budget, the matter is returned to the Council for further direction. If an agreement is reached, the Tribe's attorney prepares the necessary

deeds, title documents and escrow conditions, and the GTB Governmental Chief Financial Officer further evaluates financing options for the acquisition and adoption by the Council.

The Council has followed this established process with respect to the Boardman Lake Campus property.

In summary, the Boardman Lake Campus represents a financially viable alternative to previously reviewed options for replacing or supplementing governmental offices and service centers in both Peshawbestown and Traverse City. The anticipated financing structure is a collaborative debt facility with a commercial lender and a loan guaranty from a federal agency (Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior or other federal agency) resulting in favorable terms with interest rates.

The Tribe anticipates subdividing the property by conveying most of the acreage to the GTB Land Trust, while retaining the existing 74,500 ft.2 building on its approximately 2-acre stand-alone parcel. Following the subdivision, the Council intends to submit a fee-to-trust application for the building parcel to the Secretary of the Interior seeking reservation status (Reservation Declaration under federal law) for purposes that include convening Tribal Council Governmental meetings at the site. Until Reservation Declaration is obtained for the new site, governmental meetings will continue in Peshawbestown.

The property is located within the Tribe's existing tax agreement area with the State of Michigan and thus applicable income tax exemption for tribal members would apply to activities at the site.

Finally, the Council emphasizes that this proposed acquisition remains in progress and has not yet been completed. The Tribe submitted a letter of intent on December 30, 2025, which the NMC President accepted. That acceptance is contingent upon execution of a formal purchase agreement which is anticipated on January 26, 2026, and the subsequent completion of a 30- day due diligence. The Tribe anticipates closing to be in March or April 2026.

The Council will continue to keep tribal members informed as this process moves forward. Thank you for your interest and questions in this important opportunity for the Tribe.

Thank you,

Tribal Chairwoman

Sandra L Witherspoon

## TRIBAL COUNCIL MOTIONS &amp; ATTENDANCE

**Tribal Council Regular Session  
January 21, 2026**  
[http://bit.ly/GTB\\_Member](http://bit.ly/GTB_Member)

II. New Business. A- **Support of H.R.1723 and sign on to Letter Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Secretary Miller to approve GTB's signature on the proposed letter.  
**4-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 2-ABSENT (Frankenberger, Napont); 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

II. New Business. B- **Self Governance Conference Sponsorship**  
This item was Tabled.

II. New Business. C- **Renew BIA FY25 and FY26 105(l) Lease Agreements (8 total/FY)**  
Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Swallows to approve the renewal of the Fiscal Year 2025 BIA section 105(l) Lease agreements.  
**5-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 1-ABSENT (Frankenberger); 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Swallows to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 BIA section 105(l) Lease Agreements.  
**5-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 1-ABSENT (Frankenberger); 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

II. New Business. D- **Charlevoix Historical Society-America250MI**  
Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Secretary Miller to approve a letter of support to the Charlevoix Historical Society and the Ellsworth Historical Society.  
**5-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 1-ABSTAINING (Frankenberger) Motion Carries**

II. New Business. E- **2nd half 2025**

**2% Cycle Distribution of \$911,281.10**

Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Member Raphael to grant the distribution of the 2% funds in the amount of \$911,218.10 as chosen in the attached press release.

**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Member Raphael to authorize the press release on the Media event date of January 30, 2026.

**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

II. New Business. F- **Signature of Chairwoman on Agreement for Work Comp TPA Service** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Secretary Miller to approve the signature of Chairwoman Witherspoon on the agreement for services.

**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

II. New Business. G- **Election Board Vacancy** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Frankenberger and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl to remove Steven Quijas from the Election Board.

**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

Motion made by Tribal Council Member Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Secretary Miller to approve the Election Board's recommendation to appoint Sammi Conway to the Election Board; for the partial term ending June 26, 2028.

**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

II. New Business. H- **Revised Fiscal Year 2026 TOSF(state)**  
This item was deleted.

II. New Business. I- **Northport Impact**

**Aid Application Waiver** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Member Raphael to grant Northport a waiver for their Impact Aid Application.

**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

II. New Business. J- **Approval of GTB as Additional Amicus on Inter-Tribal Amicus Brief in opposition to Futures Prediction Market** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Secretary Miller to approve GTB being added as a signatory to the attached Amicus Brief supporting the position therein.  
**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

**Tribal Council Special Session  
January 28, 2026**  
[http://bit.ly/GTB\\_Member](http://bit.ly/GTB_Member)

II. Unfinished Business. A- **2026 Self Governance Sponsorship** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Member Frankenberger to do the \$2,500 sponsorship to the Self Governance Conference.

**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

II. Unfinished Business. B- **Completion of 30-day Posting for Title 15 Ch. 10 Marijuana Ordinance Amendments**  
Information only; no official Tribal Council action took place.

III. New Business. A- **Immediate Needs Relief Funds** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Frankenberger and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl to approve Resolution #25-43.3828 for funding in the amount of \$2,000 from Northwest Food Coalition  
**5-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 1-ABSENT (Napont); 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

**TRIBAL COUNCIL ATTENDANCE  
OCTOBER 22, 2025 - JANUARY 21, 2026**

There were **(6)** Tribal Council Regular/Specia/Emergency Sessions; **(4)** EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and **(41)** Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.

**Chairwoman Witherspoon** attended **5 of 6** Tribal Council Regular/Special/Emergency Sessions, **4 of 4** EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and **34 of 41** Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.

**Vice Chair Rohl** attended **5 of 6** Tribal Council Regular/ Special/Emergency Sessions, **3 of 4** EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and **38 of 41** Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings. \* **Attended:** AIANTA Conference from 10/27-10/31/25, ACA/IHCIA in-Person Training Sessions 12/3-12/4/25 **Scheduled:** out of office out of office on on 1/8/2026.

**Treasurer Swallows** attended **5 of 6** Tribal Council Regular/ Special/Emergency Sessions, **4 of 4** EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and **36 of 41** Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.

**Secretary Miller** attended **6 of 6** Tribal Council Regular/ Special/Emergency Sessions, **4 of 4** EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and **36 of 41** Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.

**Councilor Raphael** attended **6 of 6** Tribal Council Regular/ Special/Emergency Sessions, **4 of 4** EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and **39 of 41** Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.

**Councilor Frankenberger** attended **4 of 6** Tribal Council Regular/ Special/Emergency Sessions, **2 of 4** EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and **21 of 41** Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.

**Councilor Napont** attended **5 of 6** Tribal Council Regular/ Special/Emergency Sessions, **2 of 4** EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and **26 of 41** Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings. \***Scheduled:** out of office on 1/16/2026

III. New Business. B- **Family Violence Prevention and Services** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Frankenberger and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl to approve Resolution #26-44.3830 to request funding in the amount of \$55,000 for the Family Violence Prevention and Services grant.

**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**  
Motion Carries

III. New Business. C- **Government Reorganization** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Member Frankenberger to approve Resolution #26-44.3838 to approve Government Operations Reorganization, by a Roll Call Vote: Vice Chair Rohl: **YES**; Secretary Miller: **YES**; Treasurer Swallows: **NO**; Councilor Frankenberger: **YES**; Councilor Raphael: **NO**; Councilor Napont: **YES**  
**5-FOR; 2-AGAINST; (Swallows, Raphael); 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**  
Motion Carries

III. New Business. D- **Reimburse GTBEDC- Arnold Rd Property** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Swallows to Table.  
**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**  
Motion Carries

III. New Business. E- **Suttons Bay Public School Waiver for Impact Aid Application** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl to authorize a waiver for Suttons Bay Public Schools in the event they request one prior to January 31, 2026.  
**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**  
Motion Carries

III. New Business. F- **Extension of Pause on Cost for Tribal ID** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Swallows to pause the cost of one complimentary Tribal ID for Fiscal Year 2026, through September 30, 2026.

Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl and Supported by Tribal Council Member Frankenberger that Tribal Elders are allowed to opt out of not having an expiration date on their Tribal ID.  
**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**  
Motion Carries

III. New Business. G- **Letter to Elected Official** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Frankenberger and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Rohl for a Poll Vote for the letter to send to Betsy Coffia regarding ICE agents identification and masks.  
**6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**  
Motion Carries

# GREEN COMMITTEE BINGO!

Come play **BINGO!** with the GTB Green Committee

Open to Everyone! Light snacks and beverages provided  
Make sure to bring your feast bundle and water bottle to enter a drawing to win a prize!

**WHEN:** THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Hop on into the GTB Council Chambers and wear your froggy green to get your name entered into a drawing for a cool prize!

For more information, please email:  
Stacie at [stacie.mcclellan@gtb-nsn.gov](mailto:stacie.mcclellan@gtb-nsn.gov) or  
Vicki at [vicki.parzych@gtb-nsn.gov](mailto:vicki.parzych@gtb-nsn.gov)



**Film Series**  
In conjunction with  
*Contemporary Anishinaabe Art: A Continuation*

**Filmmaker Spotlight: ishkwaazhe Shane McSauby**

Join exhibition artist ishkwaazhe Shane McSauby (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians) for a special screening and discussion of his short films *Mino Bimaadiziwin*, *Nimkii*, *Happy Thanksgiving*, and his latest, *The Beguiling*.



**Saturday, February 7 @ 2 PM**

Detroit Film Theatre  
Detroit Institute of Arts

## 2026 TRIBAL COUNCIL HYBIRD RECORDED SESSIONS

**Tribal Council** **Regular Sessions** occur at 9:30 a.m. on the **third Wednesday** of every month.  
**Tribal Council** **Special Sessions** occur at 9:30 a.m. on the **last Wednesday** of every month.

Sessions will be held in Council Chambers. **Meetings are open to Tribal Members.**

### Regular Council Sessions

<https://bit.ly/GTB-REG-TCRS26>

02/18/26 • 03/18/26 • 04/15/26 • 05/20/26

### Special Council Sessions

<https://bit.ly/GTB-REG-TCSS26>

02/25/26 • 03/25/26 • 04/29/26 • 05/27/26



## CULTURAL & LANGUAGE

[https://bit.ly/GTB\\_Cultural](https://bit.ly/GTB_Cultural)



CULTURAL DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

### In-Person Anishinaabemowin Classes

w/Isadore Toulouse & Patricia Osawamick

STARTING OCTOBER 6, 2025

5:00PM-7:00PM

Monday's - Kewadin Church

Tuesday's - Peshawbestown Cultural Building

Wednesday's - 3 Mile Office

Last Wednesday of the month  
Charlevoix Building 12pm-3pm

For more information contact:  
Isadore.Toulouse@GTB-nsn.gov

231.631.7940

Patricia.Osawamick@GTB-nsn.gov  
231.631.8604

All classes subject to change-No class when GTB is closed



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GRAND TRAVERSE BAND- CULTURAL DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

### JINGLE DRESS

Teaching & Making Workshop w/  
Waskwane Stonefish

MUST HAVE SEWING EXPERIENCE

OPEN TO ALL AGES

LIMITED SPOTS

SIGN UP



[bit.ly/49wLWa4](https://bit.ly/49wLWa4)



Cultural Building

Thursday's

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

5-7pm

**MORE INFORMATION**

231-534-7766



Grand Traverse Band of  
Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

### VIRTUAL ANISHINAABEMOWIN LANGUAGE CLASSES

With Fluent Instructors,  
Isadore Toulouse and Patricia Osawamick

Monday-Thursday

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Please Note: No Zoom Class the last Wednesday of the month or when GTB offices are closed.

#### Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID : 730 5294 9904

Passcode: GTB2024

[bit.ly/GTBAAnish](https://bit.ly/GTBAAnish)

More Information

GTB Cultural Department

(231) 534- 7766

gov.cultural@gtb-nsn.gov

JANUARY-JUNE 2026



Grand Traverse Band- Cultural Department Presents

### WINTER STORYTELLING

TRADITIONAL STORIES SHARED IN THE LODGE

February 20 @ 6pm

#### GTB NATURAL RESOURCES

3505 PUTNAM RD, PESHAWBESTOWN

OPEN TO ALL

ANISHINABE STORYTELLERS WELCOME  
HONORARIUM GIFT PROVIDED



**MORE INFORMATION**  
231-534-7766



ELDERS

**Antrim/GT Elders  
Events & Activities**

**Monday's Office Tasks**  
**Friday's Offices CLOSED**  
**\*Notes: Lunch Provided**  
**\*\*12:00PM - 1:00PM**

**Tuesday; February 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Sew Activity  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Craft Activity  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 5<sup>th</sup>**  
All-Site Quarterly Birthday  
Bingo Super Bowl Party  
12:00PM - 3:00PM\*

**Tuesday; February 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Elders Advisory @ 3-Mile  
10:00AM - 4:00PM\*

**Wednesday; February 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Thriftiting (West Bay)  
12:00PM - 1:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Sew Activity  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Tuesday; February 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Sew Activity  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Thriftiting (East Bay)  
12:00PM - 1:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Mitten Making  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Tuesday; February 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Estate Planning  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Memory Game Day  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Birthday Bingo  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Benzie Elders  
Events & Activities**

**Monday's Office Tasks**  
**Friday's Offices CLOSED**  
**\*Notes: Lunch Provided**  
**\*\*12:00PM - 1:00PM**

**Wednesday; February 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Crafts w/ Dee  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 5<sup>th</sup>**  
All-Site Quarterly Birthday  
Bingo Super Bowl Party  
12:00PM - 3:00PM\*

**Tuesday; February 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Elders Advisory @ 3-Mile  
10:00AM - 4:00PM\*

**Wednesday; February 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Estate Planning  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Mitten Making  
10:00AM - 2:00PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Craft with Dee & Kim  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Feast Bag  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Questions, please contact**

**Agnes Glinski (Temp.)**

(231) 534-7821

(231) 631-6795

[agnes.glinski@gtb-nsn.gov](mailto:agnes.glinski@gtb-nsn.gov)

**\*SCHEDULES ARE  
SUBJECT TO CHANGE.  
PLEASE CALL AHEAD. ALL  
ACTIVITIES ARE DRUG &  
ALCOHOL-FREE!**

**Charlevoix Elders  
Events & Activities**

**Monday's Office Tasks**  
**Friday's Offices CLOSED**  
**\*Notes: Lunch Provided**  
**\*\*12:00PM - 1:00PM**

**Tuesday; February 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Craft Time  
1:30PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Party Prep & Decorate  
w/ Elders  
1:30PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 5<sup>th</sup>**  
All-Site Quarterly Birthday  
Bingo Super Bowl Party  
12:00PM - 3:00PM\*

**Monday; February 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Nursing Home Visit

**Tuesday; February 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Elders Advisory @ 3-Mile  
10:00AM - 4:00PM\*

**Wednesday; February 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Card Games  
1:30PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Scrabble  
1:30PM\*\*

**Tuesday; February 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Craft Time  
1:30PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Coffee & Chat  
1:30PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Walk & Talk Around Gym  
1:30PM\*\*

**Tuesday; February 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Craft Time  
1:30PM

**Wednesday; February 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Card Games  
1:30PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Birthday Bingo Bash  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*

**Leelanau Elders  
Events & Activities**

**Monday's Office Tasks**  
**Friday's Offices CLOSED**  
**\*Notes: Lunch Provided**  
**\*\*12:00PM - 1:00PM**

**Tuesday; February 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Coffee & Chat  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Lunch  
12:00PM - 1:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 5<sup>th</sup>**  
All-Site Quarterly Birthday  
Bingo Super Bowl Party  
12:00PM - 3:00PM\*

**Tuesday; February 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Elders Advisory @ 3-Mile  
10:00AM - 4:00PM\*

**Wednesday; February 11<sup>th</sup>**  
TBD Activity  
1:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 12<sup>th</sup>**  
TC Store Run  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Tuesday; February 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Thrift Store Run  
12:00PM - 1:00PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Board Games  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Birthday Bingo  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Tuesday; February 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Local Store Run (Hansens)  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Wednesday; February 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Feast Bags  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

**Thursday; February 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Complete Feast Bags  
1:00PM - 3:00PM\*\*

# Mino-Dibishkaan!

## Happy Birthday!

GTB News Staff & Membership Dept. would like to acknowledge this months  
Elders Birthdays!

Let us take a moment to recognize and celebrate the birthdays of our beloved  
elders this month. May each of these special days be filled with abundant joy,  
unforgettable memories, and an abundance of love, peace, and happiness!

Karla	Dismuke	1-Feb	Edwin	Harris	12-Feb	Philip	Cote	20-Feb
Matthew	Niewiadomski	2-Feb	Sherry	Shenoskey	12-Feb	Robert	Miller	20-Feb
Sandra	Anderson	2-Feb	Kenneth	Martell	13-Feb	James	Nault	21-Feb
Christopher	White	3-Feb	Judith	Fry	13-Feb	Sharon	Sams	21-Feb
Kelly	Wheeler	3-Feb	Edna	Watrous	13-Feb	Jerry	Sikes	21-Feb
Pauline	Boulton	3-Feb	Sheryl	White	13-Feb	Shirley	White	21-Feb
Lisa	Chippewa	4-Feb	Terri	Palmer	13-Feb	Theresa	Huey	22-Feb
Connie	Shuttle	4-Feb	Peggy	Gossett	13-Feb	Roxanne	McSauby	22-Feb
Cynthia	Hanson	4-Feb	Diane	Nichols	14-Feb	Dawn	Pullen	22-Feb
Delores	Niigaanakwad	4-Feb	James	Chippewa	14-Feb	Elizabeth	Pettifor	22-Feb
Suzanne	Leaureaux	4-Feb	Reuben	Lewis	15-Feb	Anthony	Sineway	22-Feb
Abraham	Jacko	4-Feb	Trina	Pfau	15-Feb	Anita	Berry	22-Feb
Christine	Gilmore	5-Feb	Wallace	Yannott	15-Feb	Kathaleen	Bussey	23-Feb
Gary	Gunderson	5-Feb	Julia	Leaureaux	16-Feb	James	McGrath	23-Feb
Romero	Schocko	6-Feb	Leisa	Davis	16-Feb	Marian	Jarman	23-Feb
Debbie	Drudge	6-Feb	Kelly	Mason	16-Feb	Cynthia	Allen	24-Feb
Cynthia	Sisson	6-Feb	Sandra	Cranson	16-Feb	Kent	Running	24-Feb
Mary	Geiger	7-Feb	Denise	Speer	17-Feb	Antoinette	Miller	25-Feb
John	Case	7-Feb	Patrick	Patten	17-Feb	Margaret	Cook	25-Feb
Michelle	Burchfield	8-Feb	Andrea	Mitchell	17-Feb	Kristine	Ptak	25-Feb
Lois	Peplow	9-Feb	Percy	Bird	17-Feb	Steven	Boulch	26-Feb
Carl	Wabanimkee	9-Feb	Clive	Raphael	17-Feb	Jennifer	Cochrun	26-Feb
Tammy	Duty	9-Feb	Georgianna	Jolly-Comstock	17-Feb	Patricia	Mashka-Burfield	26-Feb
Catherine	DeVerney	9-Feb	Galana	Hamby	17-Feb	Shirley	Bennett	27-Feb
Christine	Reed	9-Feb	John	Markus	17-Feb	Linda	Campbell	28-Feb
Jackie	Ogemaw	10-Feb	James	Wilson	18-Feb	Helen	Melnick	28-Feb
Suzanne	Johnson	10-Feb	Faith	Anderson	19-Feb	Henry	Gunderson	28-Feb
Keith	Maleski	11-Feb	Andrea	McDowell	20-Feb	Abraham	Cripps	28-Feb
Charles	Mitchell	11-Feb	Timothy	Koon	20-Feb	Jimmy	Madagame	28-Feb
Karen	Hacker Stockwell	12-Feb	Jerome	Seagraves	20-Feb			

WANT TO JOIN AN ACTIVITY OR EVENT, OR NEED TRANSPORTATION TO THE EVENT?

**ADVANCE SIGN-UP IS REQUIRED!**

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR ELDERS SITE COORDINATOR TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT.

## SUPER BOWL PARTY



**MAIN EVENT**  
**Bingo**  
**6-County Service Area Elders**  
**Money Machine & Quarterly Birthdays Celebration**  
**January, February, & March**

# Charlevoix

**DATE**  
February 5<sup>th</sup>

**TIME**  
12:00pm-3:00pm

Bring your Feast Bundles and Water Bottles

Antrim/Grand  
Traverse  
Benzie/Manistee

Charlevoix  
Leelanau

Tanya Tanner (231) 534-7710  
Delora Wilson (231) 534-7769  
Agnus Glinski (231) 534-7821

Barb Kenwabikise (231) 534-7066  
Melissa Martinez (231) 534-7743  
Lisa Shawandase (231) 534-7744

## Call for Vendors

Set up and sell crafts at Elders All Site Parties

Next Party is February 5<sup>th</sup> in Charlevoix 12-3



Call your Elders Coordinator for application &  
to reserve your table to sell your homemade  
crafts during our next all site gathering.

Antrim/Grand Traverse

Tanya Tanner (231) 534-7710

Delora Wilson (231) 534-7769

Agnus Glinski (231) 534-7821

Barb Kenwabikise (231) 534-7066

Melissa Martinez (231) 534-7743

Lisa Shawandase (231) 534-7744

Benzie/Manistee

Charlevoix

Leelanau



# HEALTH SERVICES



## A NEW, SMOOTHER PATH TO YOUR PRC DENTAL CARE

As we move into the new year, the GTB Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) program is pleased to share an important update designed to make your dental care experience easier, faster, and more efficient.

Beginning **January 5, 2026**, **Darylin Berryman** will serve as the dedicated contact managing all PRC dental referrals and authorizations. This new protocol allows for clearer communication, quicker processing, and better coordination of your dental benefits, so you can focus on your health with confidence.

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

By having one point of contact for PRC

dental services, we can better ensure that your dental care is authorized appropriately and aligns with the available benefit amounts through the GTB-PRC Dental Office. This streamlined process is meant to reduce delays and confusion while improving overall service for our members.

### NEW CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PRC DENTAL SERVICES

**Effective January 5, 2026**, all PRC dental appointment information, referrals, and authorization requests must go directly to Darylin:

- ◆ Email: [Darylin.Berryman@gtb-nsn.gov](mailto:Darylin.Berryman@gtb-nsn.gov)
- ◆ Direct Phone Line: **231-534-7234**

Please note:

- ◆ Do not email PRC or call the PRC Hotline for dental appointments or

- ◆ authorizations.
- ◆ This email and phone number are specifically for PRC dental patients to share appointment details and ask dental-related questions.

### QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE?

Darylin is here to help. Please reach out directly with questions about:

- ◆ Dental appointments
- ◆ Available PRC dental funding
- ◆ Dental claims and payment status

We appreciate your cooperation as we implement this improved process and remain committed to providing the best possible PRC dental care on behalf of our GTB Members.

Miigwech, and Happy Holidays from the GTB PRC Dental Team!

### SAFE MEDICATION DISPOSAL

As we start the new year, now is a great time to go through medicine cabinets/drawers and dispose of old medication. There are many ways to get rid of medication, so before you throw yours in the trash make sure there isn't a safer option. It's always best to dispose of medications that you are no longer actively taking and not keep them for "just in case." Many accidental poisonings at home occur from leftover medications. One of the best ways to dispose of unwanted medications is through a take-back program. These programs can use a mail back system or have a receptacle located at a pharmacy or clinic. In our area we have year-round receptacles located at CVS- 626 W Front St, Meijer Traverse City and Meijer Acme. We also have a medication receptacle located in the GTB Clinic. If access to

a drug receptacle is not an option the GTB Pharmacy can offer you a kit to dispose of your medications safely at home. We have a free system we can hand out to you call RXDestroyer. Rx Destroyer is a brand of pharmaceutical disposal system designed to safely and irreversibly neutralize unwanted or expired medications (including controlled substances) using a patented formula with activated carbon, preventing drug diversion, abuse, and environmental contamination, making it compliant with DEA, EPA and FDA guidelines for at-home use. Users simply add pills to the container, shake to mix the solution, and then discard the sealed bottle into the regular trash. If you have more questions please call GTB Pharmacy at 231-534-7350

## Can GTB Purchase Referred Care pay for your healthcare? (medical/dental/optical/behavioral health) Find out in 3 stages.

Individual Qualifications

Relative Medical Priorities

Coordination and Payment

### Stage 1

#### You are eligible if:

- a) You are a member of GTB and meet eligibility criteria, including an annual updated PRC application and necessary documentation- You must apply for any alternate resources for which you may be eligible, assistance through our Benefits Coordinator
- Medicare, Medicaid, insurance, etc.

and

- b) You live in the 6-cty. service area:  
Antrim/Benzie/Charlevoix/  
Grand Traverse/Leelanau/Manistee  
PRCDA-Purchase Referred Care  
Delivery Area for at least 90-days

and

- c) You get prior approval for each case of needed health care service or give notice within 72 hours in emergency cases (30 days for elders & disabled)

No for the above

Application is denied if incomplete

\* There are a few narrowly defined exceptions. Ask PRC staff for more specifics about individual eligibility, PRCDA, or prior notice.

### Stage 2

#### Payment may be approved if:

- a) The health care service that you need is medically necessary/within optical or dental approved service amount  
– as indicated by documentation provided and

- b) The service is not available at a GTB Healthcare Facility  
and

- c) The GTB PRC Representative will make a determination for approval for outside healthcare via an authorization process with the provider. You get prior approval for each case of needed health care service or give notice within 72 hours in emergency cases (30 days for elders & disabled) \*The GTB Managed care committee meets as needed to assist with accessing healthcare insurance or referral approval.

- d) PRC is the payor of last resort and authorizations for healthcare are made after exhausting all other resources.

No for the above

Request is deferred.

\*Some healthcare requests must be confirmed with the Third-party administrator FCP or PBM- Navitus. For questions call the PRC hotline: 231-534-7223

### Stage 3

#### Approval, Billing, Payment

- a) **Reminder:** You must apply for any alternate resources for which you may be eligible, assistance through our Benefits Coordinator- Medicare, Medicaid, insurance, etc.

then

- b) A PRC authorization is issued to a provider authorizing payment for approved services

then

- c) The provider received the authorization for your care.

then

- d) The authorized provider bills and collects from your primary insurance before PRC.

then

- e) The authorized provider bills any unpaid balance to PRC for payment via FCP.  
– because PRC is payor of last resort, it pays only for costs not paid by your primary insurance within Medicare like Rates.

Steps are completed in order

Provider is paid.

Please ensure that you provide your primary insurance cards with your PRC cards at each healthcare visit.



## DENTAL CLINIC



## FEBRUARY IS CHILDREN'S DENTAL AWARENESS MONTH

### A FOCUS ON ORAL HEALTH FOR ANISHINAABE FAMILIES

Each February, communities across the United States recognize National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM) to raise awareness about the importance of children's oral health. This national observance offers an opportunity for families, educators, caregivers, and health professionals to promote practices that protect young smiles and support overall health throughout childhood and into adulthood.

#### Look out for the signs and symptoms of dental cavities

Visible white spots on enamel due to demineralisation



Tooth discolouration



Pain or sensitivity after eating or drinking



Holes on the tooth surface



Intermittent toothache



#### THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM: TOOTH DECAY IN CHILDREN

Tooth decay, also referred to as dental caries, continues to be the most common chronic disease among children in the United States, affecting a significant percentage of youth before adulthood. Decay not only causes pain and infection, but it can interfere with eating, speaking, learning, and school attendance.

Each year, dental disease contributes to millions of hours of missed school and work, highlighting the broader impact beyond oral pain.

#### WHAT CAUSES TOOTH DECAY?

Tooth decay develops when bacteria in the mouth feed on sugars and carbohydrates from the foods and beverages children consume. These bacteria produce acids that weaken the enamel, the protective outer layer of the tooth. If this process continues over time without interruption through daily oral hygiene and healthy eating, cavities can form.

Many everyday foods and drinks contain added sugars, including high fructose corn syrup, even when they are not obviously sweet. These added sugars play a significant role in promoting cavities.

#### FOODS THAT SUPPORT HEALTHY TEETH

**Anticariogenic Foods** - Certain foods help protect teeth by supplying beneficial nutrients, stimulating saliva flow, and minimizing acid production:

- ◆ Dairy products (milk, cheese, yogurt) provide calcium and phosphorus, key minerals for enamel strength.
- ◆ Fiber-rich fruits and vegetables (apples, carrots, celery) help clean teeth and stimulate saliva, which neutralizes acids.
- ◆ Nuts and seeds offer minerals

that support healthy teeth and encourage chewing.

- ◆ Tea (green, black) contains compounds that may help suppress harmful bacteria.
- ◆ Sugar-free gum stimulates saliva flow and assists in cleansing the mouth after meals.

Including these foods in balanced meals and snacks can help lower the risk of developing cavities.

#### FOODS THAT INCREASE CAVITY RISK

**Cariogenic Foods** - Foods and drinks high in sugars and refined carbohydrates can feed decay-causing bacteria. These include:

- ◆ Fruit juices and sweetened beverages
- ◆ Soda and flavored drinks.
- ◆ Candies and sweets.
- ◆ Processed snacks and baked goods with added sugars.
- ◆ White bread and refined grain products.

Limiting the frequency and portion size of these items especially between meals,

reduces continuous sugar exposure for teeth.

#### DAILY ORAL HEALTH HABITS

Preventing tooth decay involves more than diet. Establishing consistent oral hygiene habits supports long-term dental health:

- ◆ Brush twice daily with a fluoride toothpaste.
- ◆ Floss daily to remove plaque between teeth.
- ◆ Regular dental check-ups allow early detection and prevention of cavities.
- ◆ Drink fluoridated water to help strengthen enamel.

Routine care not only prevents disease but also builds confidence and comfort for children at the dentist.

#### NATIONAL RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

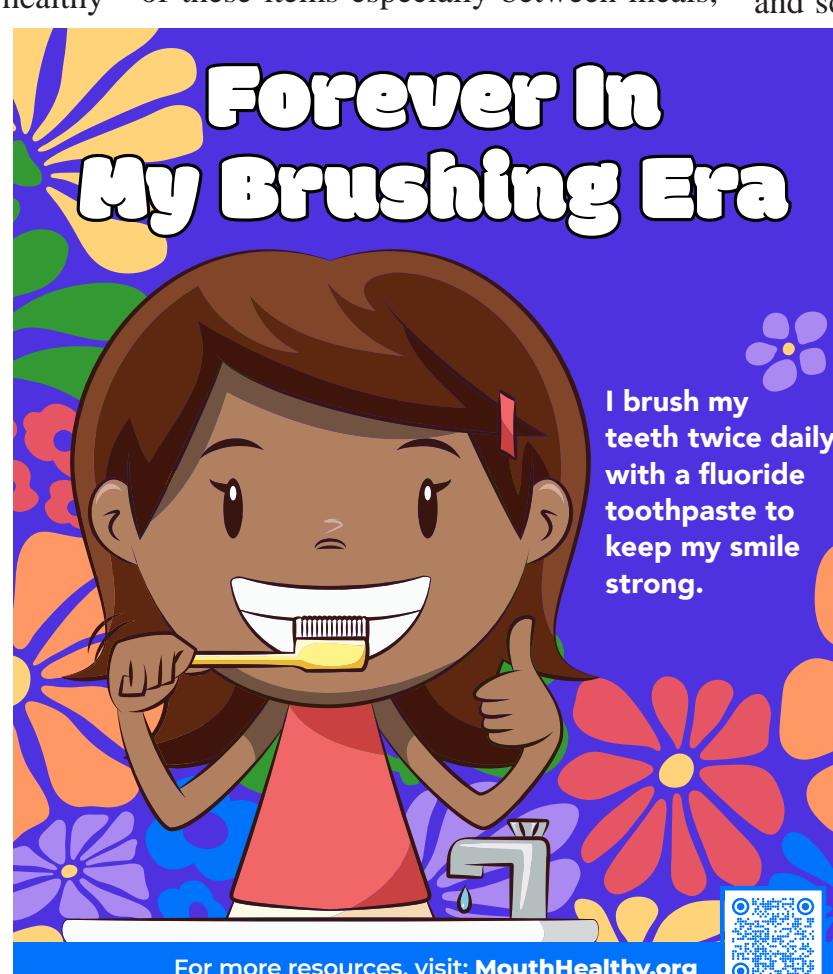
The American Dental Association (ADA) offers tools and materials you can download and share with families and schools during Dental Health Month and throughout the year. These include posters, flyers, coloring sheets, brushing calendars, and planning guides to encourage habits that prevent tooth decay.

Available resources include:

- ◆ Printable posters in multiple sizes.
- ◆ Coloring sheets for children.
- ◆ A 12-month brushing calendar.
- ◆ Program planning guide and activity ideas.

#### INVESTING IN HEALTHY SMILES

Oral health is an integral part of overall health. By promoting balanced diets, consistent hygiene habits, and regular dental visits, Anishinaabe families and communities can help children develop strong, healthy teeth that support their growth, learning, and quality of life.



For more resources, visit: [MouthHealthy.org](https://MouthHealthy.org)

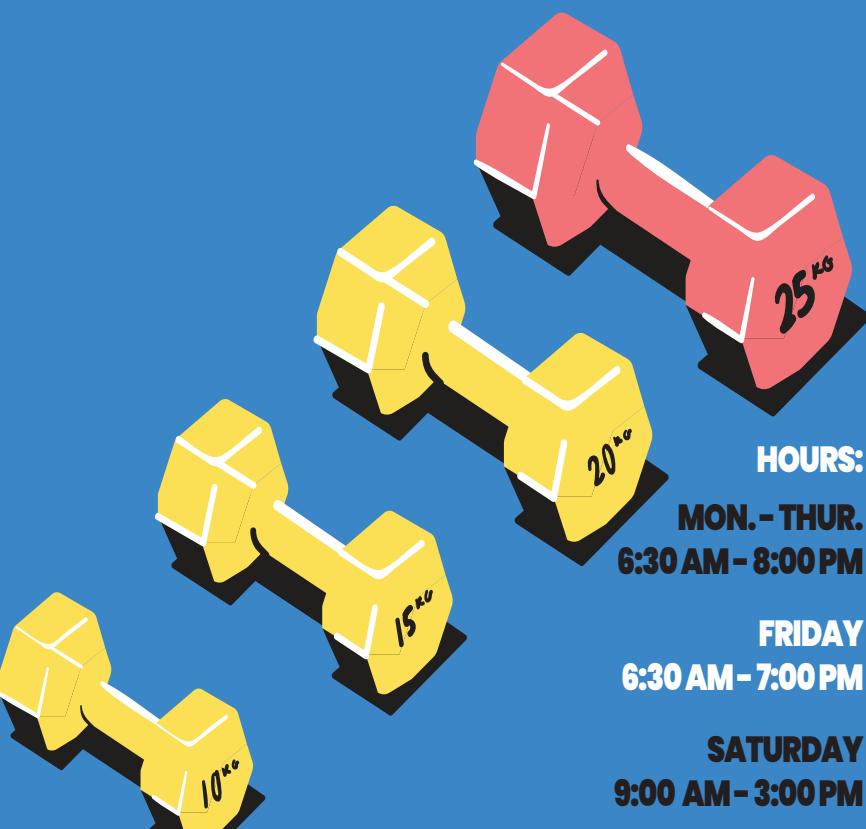


## STRONGHEART CENTER

Hours Starting

NOVEMBER 1, 2025

UNTIL APRIL 2026



HOURS:

MON.-THUR.  
6:30 AM - 8:00 PMFRIDAY  
6:30 AM - 7:00 PMSATURDAY  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PMCLOSED SUNDAYS &  
MAJOR HOLIDAYS

\*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*

FRONT DESK: (231) 534-7457

2700 STRONGHEART WAY, PESHAWBESTOWN

## STRONGHEART CENTER

2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown



# DON'T KNOW WHERE TO Start?

Join Our Certified Personal  
Trainer Group Sessions led  
by Certified Personal Trainer  
Cheryl Send!

## What We Offer:

- FREE with Strongheart Membership!
- Small Group Sessions
- Beginner Session - Tues. & Thurs. at 12:00pm
- Intermediate Session - Tues. & Thurs. at 1:00pm
- Advanced Session - Tues. & Thurs. at 2:00pm

Don't miss out—Call and Reserve Your Spot Today!

(231) 534-7457



## FREE Strongheart Snowshoe Rentals!

Join the GTB Community in  
exploring the great outdoors!

All sizes available!

Get outside & play -  
Nature is Medicine!

For more details, call  
us at 231.534.7457

Don't miss out - get your  
free snowshoe rental today!

Location: Strongheart Center  
2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown

WEIGHT LOSS  
CHALLENGE

Mind • Body • Heart • Spirit

OFFICIAL  
WEIGH-IN

February 16<sup>th</sup>  
Strongheart  
6:30am-6:30pm  
• • • • •  
Charlevoix  
2:00pm-4:00pm

8-Week  
Challenge

2 Person Team  
(Any Gender)  
\$20/person

100%  
PAYOUT

1<sup>st</sup> PLACE 50%  
2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE 35%  
3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE 15%

FINAL  
WEIGH-IN

April 13<sup>th</sup>  
Strongheart  
6:30am-6:30pm  
• • • • •  
Charlevoix  
2:00pm-4:00pm

WEIGH-IN  
PENALTY

NO SHOW/DROP OUT  
Start Weight + 8lbs =  
Final Weigh-In

Prizes for ALL Participating Teams!  
Lose HIGHEST % of Weight\*

Can't make the official weigh-in?  
Please call (231) 866-0954 and make appointment on or  
before Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

## QUESTIONS

Strongheart Center  
(231) 534-7457  
2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown

\*Calculation figured by [www.fitwatch.com](http://www.fitwatch.com) weight loss %



Niizh Animikiig presents

# MANIDOO-MINES-KE-DAAD

Let's bead



Come join this beading circle, supplies limited.  
Can bring your own beading projects.  
Please call to reserve a spot

**03**  
FEB  
CHARLEVOIX  
TUESDAY | 5:30 PM

**03**  
MAR  
CHARLEVOIX  
TUESDAY | 5:30 PM

**10**  
FEB  
EYAAWING  
TUESDAY | 5:30 PM

**10**  
MAR  
EYAAWING  
TUESDAY | 5:30 PM

**17**  
FEB  
3-MILE  
TUESDAY | 5:30 PM

**17**  
MAR  
3-MILE  
TUESDAY | 5:30 PM

**24**  
FEB  
JOHN HALL  
TUESDAY | 5:30 PM

**24**  
MAR  
JOHN HALL  
TUESDAY | 5:30 PM

Beads and supplies limited to 20 participants per site

Snacks provided | open to GTB community and families

Charlevoix: 10085 Wa-Ba-Noong Mi-Kun, East Jordan  
Eyaawing: 2304 N West Bay Shore Dr, Peshawbestown  
3-Mile: 845 Business Park Dr, Traverse City  
John Hall: 248 Cairn Hwy, Kewadin

For More Information & To Reserve Spot:

Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956

Grants to Indian Tribal Government Project &  
Niizh Animikiig presents

## Women Supporting Women

### Building a healthy community through:

- Cultural crafts like beading, necklace making, painting
- Connection i.e. auntie jokes, talking, sharing

There are no expectations to talk or share. Any woman in GTB community is welcome to come sit, craft, talk or just enjoy the vibes

GTB Peshawbestown Library

Every Wednesday

5:30pm - 7:30pm

February 4th-March 25, 2026

For More Information:

Yvette Weese 231-534-7381

3-Mile Satellite Office

Every Thursday

5:30pm - 7:30pm

February 5th-March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026

For More Information:

Leilani DeFoe 231-534-7093



This event was created in collaboration with GTB grant # 15 JOVW-22-GG-03376-TRIB awarded by the Office of Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice.

See Results of Community Needs Assessment and Share Thoughts with BHS



## 1st Annual BHS Open Forum

Date: February 9th,  
Monday  
Time: 12:30pm-3:30pm

### Who is this for?

GTB community members, families and descendants who would like to provide input on Behavioral Health Services and also review results of Niizh Animikiig Community Needs Survey

\* What Behavioral Health Services does our community need?

\* Get a chance to review results of survey and provide further input

Lunch and afternoon snack provided

Please RSVP by  
February 5th



For more information and to REGISTER please contact:

Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956

Location of training: Leelanau  
Sands Casino Showroom,  
Peshawbestown, MI



Anishinaabek Family Services & Niizh Animikiig presents

## Introduction to Niizhwaaswi Gmishoomsinaa Kinoomaagewin The Seven Grandfather Teachings

with a youth focus



Gain introductory knowledge on the Seven Grandfather Teachings through:

- reading a book together
- coloring
- review

**12**

**EYAAWING**

THURSDAY | 5:30 PM

**19**

**3-MILE**

THURSDAY | 5:30 PM

For More Information:

Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956





# YOUTH SERVICES

## LET'S MAKE HEAD BANDS/CHOKERS / HAIR TIES

February Dates:  
2/10, 2/12, 2/17, 2/19, AND 2/26  
5:30 to 8 dinner provided

\*subject to change due to weather or closure

Torie chippewa  
231.590.2395  
231.534.7230  
m22 youth building  
2821 NW Bayshore Dr.  
Peshawbestown MI, 49682

GRAND TRAVERSE BAND  
YOUTH SERVICES

NIIZH ANIMIKIIG  
Grand Traverse Band

All events are free and open to the Native American and Non-Native public. They promote Anishinabek culture, the musical arts, and health through Yang Style Tai Chi. Events hosted by the GTB Heritage Library, GTB Lifelong Learning, and the Institute of Museums and Library Services.

Events Subject to Change

HERITAGE LIBRARY PRESENTS

# WINTER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

February 2026

### Music Lessons: Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays 10AM - 5PM @ Heritage Library

30-Minute Guitar, Piano, and Voice lessons by appointment. Zoom Lessons Available. Music lessons are open to children to adults ages 7 to Elder. The Heritage Library has 1 electric keyboard/piano, 2 children sized classical guitars, and 2 full sized classical guitars to borrow for lessons.

Children, Youth & Adults 10AM - 5PM according to teacher availability - First Come First Serve.

### Tai Chi Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12PM - 1PM @ Heritage Library

Enjoy the relaxing art of Tai Chi with Francis Carew, who teaches Yang style Tai Chi, a low impact exercise that improves cardiorespiratory function, hypertension, muscular strength, balance, mobility, flexibility, and mind-body awareness.

### Anishinaabek Makerspace: Ribbons Skirts & Shirts Workshops

Come celebrate Anishinabek culture and heritage with the Heritage Library. The tribal librarian will teach you about making Ribbon Skirts and Shirts. Must bring your own shirt. All other materials will be supplied.

Supplies are limited, RSVP to secure a spot.

#### Heritage Library

February 4 • 5:30 - 7:30 PM  
2821 N West Bay Shore Dr.,  
Peshawbestown

#### 3-Mile Office

February 12 • 5:30 - 7:30 PM  
845 Business Park Dr.,  
Traverse City

#### Benzie Office

February 18 • 5:30 - 7:30 PM  
7282 Hoadley Road,  
Benzonia

#### Charlevoix Office

February 25 • 5:30 - 7:30 PM  
10085 Wa-Ba-Noong Mi-Kun,  
East Jordan

#### More Information:

Francis Carew (231) 534-7752 Francis.Carew@gtb-nsn.gov  
Heritage Library - 2821 N West Bay Shore Dr. Peshawbestown, MI



# ELDER'S CRAFTING CIRCLE

Wednesdays in February and March 1:00 PM-3PM

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

Questions:  
Dee 231-534-7748  
Kim 231-534-7825  
7282 Hoadley Road  
Benzonia, MI 49616

Delores.Niigaanakwad@gtb-nsn.gov  
Kimberly.Hinmon@gtb-nsn.gov  
Subject to Change

### Grand Traverse Band Housing Job Shadowing Program



**Program:** The Grand Traverse Band Housing Department is launching a Job shadowing program. It will be a short-term 4-week work-based learning experience that allows participants to follow an assigned Tribal Department employee during a typical day. Job Shadowing Participants, between the ages of 17-24. Individuals will observe and participate in daily activities and ask questions in a particular career. We are hoping to encourage the building of lasting partnerships among the participants, parents, and departments through education and knowledge.

**Benefit:** Job shadowing provides valuable experience by offering a glimpse into the realities of different professions, helping participants make informed career decisions, and developing essential skills.

**Impact:** Participants will gain a realistic understanding of the tasks, work environment, and required skills for different careers allowing the participant to assess their own strengths and area of development. Participating leads to valuable connections with professionals in the field, potentially opening doors for future opportunities within the workforce.

**Requirements & Payment:** Program participation is up to 4 weeks. Participating Students who are in school must be able to participate 6 hours a week maximum, have a parent's signed consent and will be eligible for a stipend payment up to \$120 per week. All other participants must be able work 24 hours a week minimum and will be eligible for a stipend payment of up to \$500 per week.



**Application:** Job Shadowing applications are available from Housing and HR. Additional paperwork will be required for each job shadowing position and evaluations to be turned into Housing for stipends to be issued.

Contacts for applications and questions:

Housing-(231) 534-7800 Lori Dudley, and (231) 534-7805 Lilyan Allard,  
HR - 477 Derrell Shaw at (231) 534-7767

This program is open to GTB Tribal Members Only. A Tribal ID will be required.

ICBG Grant 21-GC-2625480

This grant will end on 3.31.26

01/07/2026

Youth Services presents

# Tubing at Timberlee Hills

GTB Families must live in the 6 county service area ages 4 and up!

To sign up use QR code



<https://forms.gle/cHVb6ngrxsQV8RAp9>

February dates:  
2/6/2026 - 7 & 8pm  
2/21/2026 - 2 & 3pm

As a friendly reminder:  
GTB Events are DRUG and ALCOHOL free

You may choose one session per date

10484 S Timberlee Dr, Traverse City, MI 49684

Dana McClellan 231.534.7356 231.631.9628 [Dana.McClellan@gtb-nsn.gov](mailto:Dana.McClellan@gtb-nsn.gov)

Torie Chippewa 231.590.2395 231.534.7230 [victoria.chippewa@gtb-nsn.gov](mailto:victoria.chippewa@gtb-nsn.gov)



**NSTEAM**  
Natives in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics  
April 10 – 12, 2026  
Michigan State University




The Native American Institute in collaboration with the Office of University Outreach and Engagement and the MSU Science Festival invites 20 Native students (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade) to the campus of Michigan State University to participate in STEAM related programming Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

This event is designed to expose Native youth in the 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades to hands on sessions focused on science and technology. The event includes the opportunity to attend MSU's Science Festival!

#### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

To Register to attend NSTEAM – please click on this link [NSTEAM Registration](#) and complete the required forms by no later than March 6, 2026. NOTE: Because this is an overnight event, a chaperone is required to attend with you. This can be a parent, grand parent, guardian, or tribal educator (background check required for non-family members).

NSTEAM is FREE  
Lodging and Meals Provided  
You Must Provide Transportation to Campus  
For more information or questions  
Contact Dr. Kevin Leonard at [leonard1@msu.edu](mailto:leonard1@msu.edu)





University Outreach  
and Engagement

Youth Services Presents:  
**SKIING AT SHANTY CREEK**

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Location: 2400 Troon S Bellaire, MI 49615









Staff on site from 8:45 am to 11:30 am  
Deadline February 2nd

GTB families living in the 6 county service area  
Reminder that all GTB events are Drug and Alcohol Free

Sign up using the QR code



<https://forms.gle/UhzhuXMTnN8pVPRF7>

Dana McClellan 231.534.7356 231.631.9628 [Dana.McClellan@gtb-nsn.gov](mailto:Dana.McClellan@gtb-nsn.gov)

Torie Chippewa 231.590.2395 231.534.7230 [victoria.chippewa@gtb-nsn.gov](mailto:victoria.chippewa@gtb-nsn.gov)



## CALL FOR INDIGENOUS ACTORS!

**VIDEO SUBMISSION DEADLINE:  
FEBRUARY 16, 2026**

The Grand Rapids Public Museum is pleased to announce a casting call for actors to be featured in the new *Anishinaabek: The Original People of This Place* exhibit.

We are looking for 8 actors to play the roles of cultural interpreters for use in holographic technology. All genders, ages 14 and up, may submit a video audition for consideration.

Please take a look at the attached casting call for additional information about the roles, video submissions, and compensation.



Filming will take place in Grand Rapids from  
**MARCH 30 TO APRIL 3, 2026.**

Please share the information with your community.  
Questions may be emailed to [grpmcasting@thought.pro](mailto:grpmcasting@thought.pro)

GRAND RAPIDS  
PUBLIC MUSEUM

*Be curious.*

  
grpm.org

# NATURAL RESOURCES

## BRIDGING THE CRYSTAL RIVER:

### FOR FISH, FOR PEOPLE, AND FOR A FREE-FLOWING RIVER

The Crystal River is one of northern Michigan's most treasured waterways, flowing through the heart of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore—an area often described as one of America's most beautiful places. Yet beneath this scenic reputation lies a challenge shared by watersheds across the Great Lakes region: undersized and improperly aligned road-stream crossings that disrupt natural river processes, block fish passage, and degrade habitat.

#### RESTORING NATURAL RIVER FUNCTION FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Across the landscape, these problematic crossings are nearly ubiquitous. When addressed individually, their replacement can yield localized ecological benefits. When addressed at a watershed or multi-watershed scale, however, the results are systemic—restoring natural river function for generations to come. This is the vision behind the Crystal River road-stream crossing project.

Led by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and Conservation Resource Alliance, in partnership with the Leelanau County Road Commission and Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, the project is made possible through coordinated funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and—critically—the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). GLRI funding has played a central role in turning long-standing restoration priorities into on-the-ground action.

#### RECONNECTS HYDROLOGIC PATHWAYS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE

The Crystal River experiences intense recreational pressure, with tens of thousands of paddlers visiting each year. Combined with an aging road network that bisects the river, this use places additional strain on aquatic habitat and stream stability. By replacing undersized culverts with properly designed bridges, the project reconnects hydrologic pathways for fish and wildlife while also reducing erosion, sedimentation, and the concentrated foot traffic caused by poorly functioning crossings.



#### CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION EXPECTED IN SPRING 2026

Construction began with the replacement of the Tucker Lake Outlet crossing in 2023, followed by the completion of Bridge #3 in 2024 at County Road 675—locally known as “shoot the tubes.” This site was transformed from a set of undersized triple culverts into a free-span timber bridge, restoring natural flow and eliminating a major barrier to aquatic organism passage. In 2025, work began on Crossings #1 and #2, with full project completion expected in the spring 2026.

These final crossings will be replaced with a combination of timber and steel beam bridges, all designed to span the bankfull width of the river.

Once complete, the project will reconnect approximately 4.8 miles of fluvial habitat, restoring access for native Great Lakes fish species historically unable to navigate the elevated water velocities created by culverts. The restored crossings will also allow sediment and large wood to move naturally through the system, uncovering



buried habitat and improving river function across multiple reaches. At the Tucker Lake Outlet, a frequently plugged culvert is being replaced with a larger aluminum box culvert, reducing flood risk to the roadway while restoring aquatic connectivity.

#### TRIBAL-LED, SCIENCE-BASED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

This project demonstrates the lasting value of GLRI funding. By supporting tribal-led, science-based infrastructure improvements, GLRI helps restore ecological connectivity, protect public investments in roads, enhance recreational opportunities, and safeguard the long-term health of Great Lakes tributaries. The Crystal River project is a clear example of how strategic federal funding delivers measurable, multigenerational benefits—for fish, for people, and for a free-flowing river.

SERVE THE EARTH AND YOUR COMMUNITY.  
BECOME A CONSERVATION LEADER.

# NYCALC

Native Youth Community Adaptation Leadership Congress

JUNE 24-29, 2026

#### WHAT IS NYCALC?

NYCALC works to build student confidence in their cultural identity as they learn about Indigenous traditions and environmental concerns across the United States and territories. This week-long Congress engages students as they develop conservation leadership skills and build on their knowledge and abilities to build environmental resiliency in their communities.

#### WHO CAN APPLY?

Groups of 3 to 5 Indigenous rising high-school seniors\*, accompanied by a mentor, from federally recognized tribes in the United States and territories.

\*Sophomores and Juniors will be considered on a case-by-case basis

#### WHERE IS NYCALC?

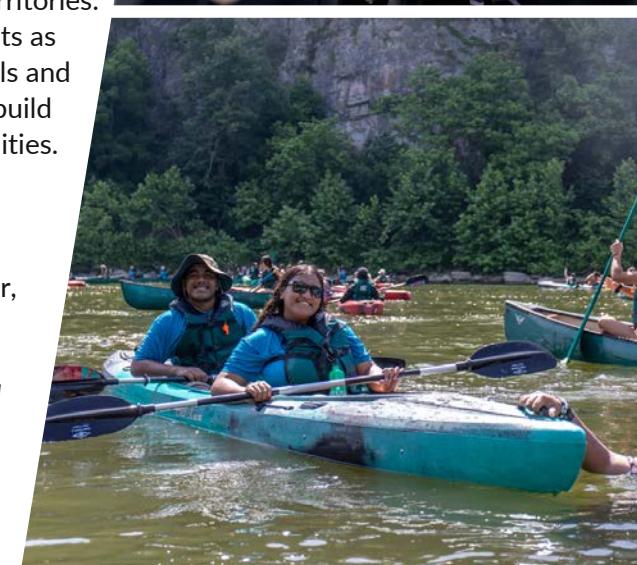
National Conservation Training Center,  
Shepherdstown, West Virginia

#### APPLICATIONS OPEN

JANUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 27, 2026  
Travel, lodging, and meals provided.

 Visit us at <http://nycalc.org/>  
for more information and to apply!

With appreciation to:



# AGRICULTURAL & FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

## GROWING FROM THE LAND: STRENGTHENING ANISHINAABE FOODWAYS, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY

The Agriculture & Food Sovereignty Department continues to grow programs that reflect Anishinaabe values of respect for the land, seasonal living, and collective care. As we begin 2026, these efforts highlight how traditional knowledge and modern infrastructure can work together to strengthen food systems, support community wellness, and ensure that cultural teachings remain alive and accessible. From the first sap runs of spring to the sharing of community-grown foods, these initiatives represent more than programs, they are living traditions.

### 2026 GTB SUGAR BUSH CAMP: WELCOMING THE MAPLE SEASON TOGETHER

The annual GTB Sugar Bush Camp marks an important seasonal transition—when winter begins to loosen its grip and the maple trees awaken. Held over four days in March, the 2026 camp invites community members of all ages to take part in the tapping of maple trees and the cultural practices that surround this time of year.

#### Camp Dates and Location

March 13–14 & March 20–21, 2026  
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
GTB Natural Resource Department  
6505 Putnam Road, Peshawbestown  
(See flyer on back cover)

The Sugar Bush has long been a place of work, teaching, and community gathering for Anishinaabe people. Camp participants will have the opportunity to learn how maple trees are tapped, why sap flows during this season, and how maple sugar has historically provided nourishment after long winters.

Light food and refreshments will be prepared each day, featuring maple products that celebrate the harvest and connect participants directly to the purpose of the gathering. Time spent around the fire will offer warmth, conversation, and opportunities for learning across generations.

### HANDS-ON TEACHINGS ROOTED IN ANISHINAABE KNOWLEDGE

Throughout the four days of camp, a variety of cultural and practical activities will be offered. These include storytelling, birch bark crafting, woodworking, and sewing winter gear—skills that were essential to survival and remain deeply connected to Anishinaabe identity.

Storytelling sessions will share teachings tied to the land and the Sugar Bush, helping participants understand not only how things are done, but why they matter. Crafting and hands-on workshops will allow participants to work with natural materials, learn traditional techniques, and leave with a deeper appreciation for the knowledge passed down through generations.

These activities create space for learning by doing, strengthening cultural pride while encouraging curiosity and connection among youth, families, and Elders.



### A NEW LODGE FOR GATHERING AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION

The Sugar Bush continues to evolve as a welcoming space for community use. At the end of 2025, the Raphael Family generously supported the installation of a new lodge that will be used during the 2026 Sugar Bush Camp and for future gatherings.

The lodge is designed with a large central fire and seating along the sides, creating an environment well-suited for teaching, storytelling, meals, and reflection. This addition enhances the Sugar Bush as a place where cultural knowledge can be shared in comfort, regardless of weather, and where community members can come together in a meaningful way.

The lodge represents a shared investment in the future of Anishinaabe traditions and ensures the Sugar Bush remains a vibrant, accessible space for learning and celebration.

Specific activity schedules and time slots will be published in the March Newsletter. Community members interested in reserving a particular activity or volunteering during camp are encouraged to RSVP in advance.

#### To RSVP or volunteer:

William Derouin  
Phone: 231.523.7023  
Email: William.derouin@gtb-nsn.gov

### FISH WASTE COMPOST PROJECT: BUILDING SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS FROM THE GROUND UP

The GTB Fish Waste Compost Project continues to gain momentum as both an environmental and agricultural success. In 2026, the program will enter its first full operational season using new equipment received through grant funding in 2025.

This equipment including a compost screener, compost spreader, larger tractor, and disc cultivator allows staff to process organic material more efficiently and incorporate finished compost into farm fields with greater ease. These improvements reduce labor, increase production capacity, and help return valuable nutrients back to the soil.

By transforming fish waste into a usable soil amendment, the project supports sustainable farming practices while reducing waste and honoring the principle of using all that the land and water provide.

### EXPANDING INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT LONG-TERM PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY

Grant funding will also support the construction of a covered compost storage

bay in 2026. This new structure will allow finished compost to be stored in a protected environment, improving consistency and quality while making the product more readily available for sale.

The storage bay will be located near the fish waste processing barn and modeled after the structure shown in the accompanying image. Once completed, the expanded infrastructure will position the program to offer compost for sale and delivery to local growers.

Revenue generated through compost sales will help sustain the Fish Waste Compost Project long term, supporting continued operations while strengthening regional food production and soil health.



### COMMUNITY GROWN & ASHED CORN: HONORING TRADITION THROUGH FOOD SHARING



Beginning in February, dried ashed corn grown and prepared by the GTB community will be available through GTB Anishinaabe Family Services as part of funerary offerings. Ashed corn holds deep cultural significance and plays an important role in honoring loved ones during times of loss.

In addition to funerary use, ashed corn will be distributed through GTB Food Pantry sites to ensure community access to this traditional food. Initial distribution locations include the 3 Mile Office Pantry and the Medicine Lodge pantry, with availability at the Charlevoix and Benzie pantries to follow shortly after.

This initiative reflects the department's commitment to food sovereignty—ensuring that culturally important foods are grown, prepared, and shared within the community, by the community. It also serves as a reminder that food is not only nourishment, but a way of caring for one another and honoring Anishinaabe traditions.

# PUBLIC SAFETY

## Winter Safety: Preventing Cold-Weather Injuries and Emergencies

Michigan winters bring beauty—but also serious risks. Each year, cold temperatures, snow, and ice lead to preventable injuries and health emergencies. Taking simple precautions can protect you and your loved ones throughout the winter season.

### Avoid Ice and Falls

Walking on ice is extremely dangerous. Many winter injuries result from slips and falls on icy sidewalks, steps, driveways, and porches. Keep walking surfaces clear by using rock salt or other de-icing compounds, and use sand for added traction. Wear slip-resistant footwear and walk slowly with short steps—sometimes called “walking like a penguin.”

### Travel with Caution

Before traveling, listen for winter weather advisories from the National Weather Service. Avoid travel during low visibility or on ice-covered roads, bridges,

and overpasses whenever possible. If travel is necessary, inform someone of your destination and expected arrival time, carry a fully charged cell phone, and ensure your vehicle is stocked with winter emergency supplies and warm clothing. Never rely on a vehicle alone for heat, and never pour hot water on a frozen windshield—it may shatter.

### Recreate Safely Outdoors

If hiking, camping, or skiing, let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return. Dress in layers, avoid sweating, and keep exposed skin covered. Pack emergency supplies such as dry clothing, waterproof matches, a two-way radio, and fire starters. Avoid alcohol, drugs, and excessive caffeine, and stay alert for signs of cold-related illness.

Preparedness and awareness save lives. Stay informed, slow down, and take winter conditions seriously.



## Cold-Weather Health Emergencies: Know the Signs of Hypothermia and Frostbite

Prolonged exposure to cold temperatures can lead to serious health emergencies, even when temperatures are above freezing. The most common cold-related conditions are hypothermia and frostbite, both of which require immediate attention.

Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can produce it, causing body temperature to drop below normal. Low body temperature affects the brain, making it difficult for a person to think clearly or move normally—often without realizing something is wrong.

Those most at risk include older adults, infants, people without adequate heating or clothing, individuals who remain outdoors for long periods, and those who use alcohol or drugs.

Adults may experience confusion, slurred speech, shivering, exhaustion, fumbling hands, and drowsiness. Infants may have bright red, cold skin and very low energy.

If a person's body temperature falls below 95°F, it is a medical emergency. Seek medical attention immediately. If help is delayed, move the person to a warm shelter, remove wet clothing, and warm the core of the body first using blankets or skin-to-skin contact. Provide warm (non-alcoholic) beverages only if the person is conscious.

Frostbite happens when skin freezes due to extreme cold exposure and can cause permanent damage. Early signs include numbness and red or pale skin. Severe cases may involve white or bluish-gray skin and loss of sensation or movement.

### Prevention Tips

- Dress in loose, layered clothing
- Wear hats, mittens, and insulated socks
- Limit time outdoors
- Avoid alcohol and drugs
- Stay dry

Recognizing symptoms early and acting quickly can prevent serious injury or death.

## DANGER! Protect Yourself & Your Family from Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

### Recognize the Signs and Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning



## Carbon Monoxide Safety: Protecting Your Home and Family This Winter

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odorless gas often called the “silent killer.” It is produced whenever fuel is burned and can build up quickly in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. Each year, carbon monoxide poisoning claims lives and sends thousands to emergency rooms—most often during the winter months.

### Common Sources of CO

- Gas or oil furnaces and water heaters
- Portable generators
- Fireplaces and wood stoves
- Charcoal grills and camp stoves
- Vehicles running in garages

Portable generators, in particular, produce hundreds of times more carbon monoxide than a car and should never be used indoors or near windows, doors, or vents.

### Use Generators Safely

- Operate generators outdoors only
- Keep them at least 20 feet away from buildings
- Never use generators in homes, garages, basements, campers, or sheds

- Remember that CO can linger even after the generator is turned off

### Install and Maintain CO Detectors

- Install carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home and near sleeping areas
- Test detectors monthly
- Replace batteries regularly or use 10-year lithium battery models

### Know the Symptoms

Carbon monoxide poisoning symptoms resemble the flu and may include headache, dizziness, nausea, fatigue, chest tightness, confusion, or unconsciousness. People who are sleeping or intoxicated may not recognize symptoms before it's too late.

### If You Suspect CO Poisoning

- Get outside to fresh air immediately
- Call 911
- Do not re-enter the building until emergency personnel say it is safe

Carbon monoxide poisoning is preventable. Stay aware, maintain heating equipment, and always prioritize fresh air and proper ventilation this winter.



# FIRE & RESCUE



## Fire Chief Garrett Fairchild Earns Master's Degree in Emergency Services Management



The Grand Traverse Band Fire Department is proud to recognize Fire Chief Garrett Alan Fairchild on earning his Master of Science in Emergency Services Management from Columbia Southern University.

Chief Fairchild's achievement reflects a strong commitment to professional growth and continued excellence in emergency response, leadership, and community safety. This advanced education strengthens the Fire Department's ability to plan, manage, and adapt to the evolving needs of the community while ensuring high standards of service and preparedness.

"Serving as Fire Chief for the Grand

Traverse Band is an honor," Fairchild shared. "I look forward to applying this education to further strengthen emergency services and support the safety of our community."

The Fire Department extends its gratitude to Chief Fairchild's family, colleagues, and the Grand Traverse Band for their continued support throughout this academic journey. His dedication exemplifies the department's mission to lead with knowledge, integrity, and service.

### FROSTBITE

A victim is often unaware of frostbite because frozen tissue is numb.



#### Signs & Symptoms

- Redness or pain in any skin area may be the first sign of frostbite.

#### Other signs include:

- a white or grayish-yellow skin area
- skin that feels unusually firm or waxy numbness

### HYPOTHERMIA

Hypothermia often occurs at very cold temperatures, but can occur at cool temperatures (above 40°F), if a person is wet (from rain, sweat or cold water) and becomes chilled.

#### Signs & Symptoms

##### Adults:

- shivering
- exhaustion
- confusion
- fumbling hands
- memory loss
- slurred speech
- drowsiness

##### Infants:

- bright red, cold skin
- very low energy



## Extreme Cold Brings Increased Risk of Hypothermia and Frostbite

With recent wind chills reaching -10 degrees and some areas experiencing temperatures as low as -25 degrees, the Grand Traverse Band Fire Department reminds community members to remain vigilant during extreme cold weather conditions.

Prolonged exposure to cold temperatures can quickly lead to hypothermia and frostbite, both of which are serious medical emergencies. Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can produce it, causing a dangerously low body temperature. Frostbite affects exposed skin, particularly fingers, toes, ears, and noses, and can result in permanent tissue damage if not treated promptly.

#### Community members are encouraged to:

- Dress in layers and cover exposed skin
- Limit time outdoors during extreme cold
- Check on elders, children, and vulnerable individuals
- Ensure pets are brought indoors
- Seek immediate medical attention if symptoms of hypothermia or frostbite are suspected

The Fire Department also reminds residents to use extra caution when traveling during severe cold, as vehicle breakdowns can quickly become dangerous in low temperatures. Keeping an emergency winter kit in your vehicle can help reduce risk while waiting for assistance.

## Winter Response Readiness

February often brings the most challenging winter conditions in Northern Michigan, and the Grand Traverse Band Fire Department remains prepared to respond despite extreme cold, snow, and icy roads. Firefighters and EMTs continue regular equipment checks to ensure engines, medical gear, and protective equipment function properly in subzero temperatures.

Severe winter weather can increase response times and create hazardous conditions for both emergency personnel and the public. Community members are encouraged to keep driveways clear, address markers visible, and roads accessible for emergency vehicles when possible.

Through training, preparedness, and teamwork, the Fire Department remains committed to providing reliable emergency services throughout the winter season while prioritizing the safety of the Peshawbestown community.



## Honoring the Service of FF/EMT Scott Moore

After six years of dedicated service, Firefighter/EMT Scott Moore has officially clocked out for the final time with the Grand Traverse Band Fire Department.

During his time with the department, Moore played a key role in developing and strengthening CPR and fire safety training programs, helping educate and protect community members of all ages. His professionalism, work ethic, and commitment to public service earned him the respect of colleagues and community members alike.

More than a firefighter and EMT, Scott leaves behind a legacy of teamwork, mentorship, and friendship. His contributions have helped shape the department into what it is today and will continue to benefit the community for years to come.

The Grand Traverse Band Fire Department thanks Scott Moore for his years of service and dedication and wishes him continued success in the next chapter of his journey. He will be greatly missed.

100 Employment  
105 Lost and Found  
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125 Miigwech

130 Services  
135 Events  
140 Legal Notice  
145 Mino-Dibishkaan  
150 Bereavement

## 100 Employment

## Government Operations

## AFS Adult Caseworker (PT)

Bachelor's Degree in Social Work field required. Current Social Work License through the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. At least one year of experience in a social services field. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$57,729/yr. - until 12.2.25

**Dental Hygienist (FT)**  
Associates Degree in Dental Hygiene and Licensure in State of Michigan. Twenty-four hours of biennial continuing education including four hours' HIV-AIDS and three hours' CPR training. Competence in operation of standard dental equipment: cavitron, prophyljet, X-ray, radiograph processor, panelipse, dental chair and unit, sterilizers, hand scalers, and curettes. At least one year of experience as a full time dental hygienist preferred. -\$36.62/hr. - until filled

**Early Head Start Assistant Teacher (FT)**  
Child Development Associate (CDA) required. Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field required. Experience working with infants/children. -\$16.55/hr. - until filled

**Early Head Start Teacher (FT)**  
Minimum educational requirement of an Associate's Degree in early childhood education. Two years experience in infant/toddler classroom is preferred. Able to develop and implement short and long term educational goals. Ability to apply Early Childhood Development theory in daily classroom activities, and adapt to the individual needs of children. Excellent communication skills, especially good listening skills. Working knowledge of available community resources and Early Head Start components. -\$19.52/hr. - until filled

**EHS Education & Family Services Coordinator (FT)**  
Must have a BA in Human Services or Social Work field. Must have experience in a supervisory position, with strong team leadership skills. One to three years experience in working in an Early Head Start and/or Head Start program preferred. Previous experience in the field, with skills in classroom management, and curriculum planning. Must obtain CPR/First Aid certification. -\$44,595.20/yr. - until filled

**EHS/HS Bus Driver - Part Time (PT)**  
Must have High School diploma or GED. Must be able to effectively communicate with children & adults in an appropriate manner. Must have First Aide Certification or obtain a CPR/First Aid certification (within 30 days). Ability to observe & evaluate children in a non-biased manner. Must be willing to & as well as obtain a CDA within first (2) yrs. of hire. -\$18.55/hr. - until filled

## EHS/HS Health &amp; Disabilities Coordinator (FT)

Bachelor's Degree with strong emphasis in Health, Social Services, Psychology or Early Childhood Education. 1-3 yrs. experience preferred. Advanced knowledge of applicable law, regulations, rules & procedures of the Head Start/Early Head Start program. Must maintain current CPR/First Aid Certification. -\$44,595.20/yr. - until filled

## Elders Site Coordinator - Benzie (FT)

High School diploma or GED certificate required. Minimum three years experience working with Native American Elders. Must have a valid Michigan Chauffer's License and obtain your CDL within 1 year of hire date. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$DOE - until filled

## (2) Facilities Utility Worker 2nd Shift

High school diploma or GED is preferred. Knowledge of safety procedures and safety equipment recommended for use during the course of duty. Must have good work habits, i.e., punctuality, and low absenteeism. A valid Michigan driver's license is preferred. Employee may not drive any Tribally owned vehicles without being properly insured by the Tribe. -\$16.17/hr. - until filled

## Housing Maintenance I (FT)

High School diploma or GED. Previous experience in the repair and maintenance of housing units. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. Must have appropriate endorsements for all vehicles required to operate in the performance of duties, within 6 months. -\$19.52/hr. - until filled

## Housing Maintenance II (FT)

Must have a High school diploma or GED. Be certified in an area related to maintenance or building trades such as carpentry, plumbing, electrical or HVAC or have demonstrated experience/knowledge in one or more areas. Five years' experience in residential unit maintenance. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$21.75/hr. - until filled

## Housing Utility Worker (FT)

High School Diploma or GED preferred. Must have some housekeeping experience. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$16.17/hr. - until filled

## HS Education &amp; Family Services Coordinator (FT)

Must have BA in Education or related field and be a certified teacher, preferably with Early Childhood (ZA) endorsement. Must have experience in a supervisory position, with strong team leadership skills. One to

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Subject: "Classifieds". Please have all submissions & payments sent by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month. Classified rates: \$10 for 15 words or less, and 75 cents per additional word. Any thumbnail image costs an additional \$15. \*Postings are subject to change daily.

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three years experience in working in an Early Head Start and/or Head Start program preferred. Previous experience in the field, with skills in classroom management, and curriculum planning. Must obtain CPR/First Aid certification. -\$44,595.20/yr. - until filled

## Medical Director/ Physician (FT)

Must have an active State of Michigan Physician License, State of Michigan Controlled Substance License, and Federal DEA License, with Board Certification in Family Practice. Must have Community Staff Privileges at Munson Medical Center or obtain within a reasonable time. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$DOE - until filled

## On-Call Receptionist - Charlevoix

Must have High School Diploma or GED equivalent. Prefer (1) yr. experience in office management. Must have basic math skills & written skills. -\$14.22/hr. - until filled

## PRC Manager/PD (FT)

Bachelor's Degree in Health Administration or equivalent education and experience. Minimum of and Associates Degree and five (5) years of experience in Purchased Referred Care. Minimum of five (5) years of experience with Health Database and Financial budget management skills. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$52,633/yr. - until filled

## Revenue Cycle and Data Manager (FT)

Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration or Finance. Thorough understanding of billing, collections and payment posting, revenue cycle, & third-party payers. Thorough understanding of budget management and reporting for business planning and development, as well as program specific management and reporting. Thorough understanding of Database creation, data analysis, compiling and interpreting data from several systems. (2-3) years' progressive and successful billing cycle and data management experience preferred. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$69,450/yr. - until filled

## Student Support Advisor- Grand Traverse (FT)

Associates Degree is required in social work, education, counseling, or related field. Must have a valid unrestricted Driver's license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. Must have a valid Chauffeur Driver's License. A minimum of three years' experience working with Native American youths. Must maintain current CPR/First Aid certification. -\$19.52/hr. - until filled

## Government Operations RFP

## RFP - Birch Bark Basket Making Workshop Instructor 2026-2031

GTB is requesting bid proposals from an adult individual for a Birch Bark Basket Making Workshop located in Leelanau County. -\$RFP - until filled

Instructor. This contractor will report to the GTB Agriculture Manager. -\$RFP - until 2.2.26

## RFP - Dental Hygienist 2025

GTB is requesting proposals from Dental Hygienist Providers interested in providing as needed Dental Hygienist for our Community. Must be a Licensed Hygienist in Michigan to include a CPR license. Liability insurance is required. -\$RFP - until filled

## RFP - GTB Logo Beaded Medallions 2026

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians (GTB) invite proposals from GTB Tribal Members to design and handcraft seven (7) high-quality beaded medallions featuring the official GTB logo. These medallions will be worn and displayed by Tribal Council Members during their terms in office as a visible expression of leadership and service to GTB citizens. -\$RFP - 2.17.26

## RFP - Storytelling Workshop Instructor 2026 - 2030

GTB is requesting bid proposals from an adult individual for a Storytelling Workshop Instructor. This contractor will report to the GTB Agriculture Manager. Each Bidder to this RFP is expected to fully inform themselves on all aspects of the work required to be performed. The bid must be kept to a maximum of \$2,500 for the duration of the contract; February - April 2026. Rate of reimbursement will be based on experience and bid quality. -\$RFP - until 2.2.26

## RFP - Sugar Bush Gear Sewing Workshop Instructor 2026-2029

GTB is requesting bid proposals from an adult individual for a Sugar Bush Gear Sewing Workshop Instructor. This contractor will report to the GTB Agriculture Manager. Each Bidder to this RFP is expected to fully inform themselves on all aspects of the work required to be performed. The bid must be kept to a maximum of \$2,500 for the duration of the contract; February - April 2026. Rate of reimbursement will be based on experience and bid quality. -\$RFP - until 2.2.26

## RFP - Wooden Tool Making Workshop Instructor 2026-2032

GTB is requesting bid proposals from an adult individual for a Wooden Tool Making Workshop Instructor. This contractor will report to the GTB Agriculture Manager. Each Bidder to this RFP is expected to fully inform themselves on all aspects of the work required to be performed. The bid must be kept to a maximum of \$3,000 for the duration of the contract; February - April 2026. Rate of reimbursement will be based on experience and bid quality. -\$RFP - until 2.2.26

## RFP - 2026 Personal Trainer

GTB is requesting bid proposals from companies or adult individual/s for a Certified Personal Trainer at the Strongheart Civic Center located in Leelanau County. -\$RFP - until filled

## RFP - 2026 Pilates Instructor

GTB is requesting bid

proposals for a Certified Pilates Instructor to offer classes at the Strongheart Center dance room. Each class will be offered once a week for 1 (one) hour duration on day/time agreed upon. -\$RFP - until filled

## RFP - 2026 Yoga Instructor

GTB is requesting bid proposals from companies or adult individual/s for a yoga instructor(s) for Leelanau county. -\$RFP - until filled

## 150 Bereavement

## Patricia Ann Randolph

## GTB Tribal Elder

Lorain, OH

04/05/1959- 12/31/2025

Respectfully

Acknowledging Our Loss

## Michelle Cheryl Oskaboose

## GTB Tribal Member

Peshawbestown, MI

03/22/1980- 01/02/2026

Respectfully

Acknowledging Our Loss

## Linda Kay Snellenberger

## GTB Tribal Elder

Harrison, MI

03/09/1951-01/05/2026

Respectfully

Acknowledging Our Loss

## Jesse Allen Kewagshken

## GTB Tribal Member

Beulah, MI

2/10/1989- 01/20/2026

Respectfully

Acknowledging Our Loss

Tashina Marie Anderson  
GTB Tribal Member  
Peshawbestown, MI  
11/20/1995-1/21/2026  
Respectfully  
Acknowledging Our Loss



Communications



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FACIAL GUA  
SHA

Reduces puffiness, can  
help with sinus pressure,  
and feels wonderful

## CUPPING

Creates negative  
pressure to lift tissue and  
increase circulation for  
tight muscles

**CONTACT:**  
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# Celebrate the Sweet Season at GTB Iskigamizigan Camp!

(Sugar Bush)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sugar Bush Camp

Presented by the GTB Agriculture & Food Sovereignty Department and GTB Cultural Department, with support from the USDA.

Join us for four days of hands-on learning that celebrates the Anishinaabe sugar bush tradition.

Participants will experience maple sap processing throughout the day, enjoy refreshments and snacks, and receive a meal when attending workshops.

New this year: a newly built lodge structure at the Sugar Bush Camp site.



## CAMP DATES OPEN TO PUBLIC

March 13–14 & March 20–21

Daily programming | Workshops run at scheduled times

RSVP required for hands-on workshops  
(limited space)

## DAILY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

(Workshop times are the same each day unless noted)



### BIRCH BARK BASKET MAKING

- 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
- 12:00–2:00 PM
- 3:00–5:00 PM

RSVP required | 6 participants per session

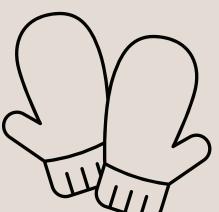


### WOODWORKING:

#### STIR PADDLE MAKING

- 1:00–3:00 PM
- 4:00–6:00 PM

RSVP required | 4 participants per session



### WINTER MITTEN SEWING

**(MARCH 13, 14 & 20 ONLY)**

- 11:00 AM–1:00 PM
- 2:00–4:00 PM

RSVP required | 4 participants per session



### STORY TELLING

**(MARCH 14 & 21 ONLY)**

- 60-minute sessions offered throughout the day

Up to 12 participants per session

## CONTACT US

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## ONGOING ACTIVITIES (ALL CAMP DAYS)

- Maple sap processing & syrup making
- Sugar bush education & demonstrations
- Community meals & refreshments

## HOW DOES IT WORK

Different maple products are made by heating maple syrup to a higher boiling temperature. Crystallization of the sugars in maple syrup will begin when enough water is removed from the syrup, so the larger sucrose molecules can begin to bond together. The more water removed, the tighter the crystallization bonding.

## ABOUT ISHIGAMIZIGAN

The ancestors of Grand Traverse Band citizens processed maple sugar using traditional techniques. This included use of birch bark baskets to collect the sap, sumac stems to use as "taps" or spiles. Sugar was derived by removing ice from the baskets, and boiling sap in animal skin containers using heated rocks.

Maple sugar is easier to transport, and more shelf stable than maple syrup. Sugar was used as a sweetener, and also to preserve meats. Maple sugar, in moderation, has medicinal uses as well. It is a miraculous natural product that makes evident the sophisticated and productive life ways that sustained this community.