



Win Awenen

Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Nisitotung

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Ziisbaakdoke Giizis • Sugar-Making Moon

Board approves Lansing casino referendum

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians held a special meeting on March 8 to consider a referendum petition regarding the pursuit of a casino in the City of Lansing.

Pending final validation of the referendum petition, tribal members will have the opportunity to vote on Resolution 2012-11, titled, “Approval of Comprehensive Development Agreement with the City of Lansing, Michigan; Authorization to Purchase Land in Lansing, Michigan using income from the Land Settlement Trust Fund; Approval of Intergovernmental

Agreement with the City of Lansing, Michigan, passed by the Sault Tribe Board of Directors on January 24, 2012.”

The agreements put in action steps for the tribe to pursue a casino in the City of Lansing. At the special meeting, the tribal board was presented with the referendum petition, which was deemed valid by the tribe’s legal staff, office of the Executive Assistant to the Board and the Enrollment Department. The board approved sending the referendum to tribal members for a vote pending a review and concurrence by the board Secretary as stated in the Tribal Code.

A total of 170 signatures were collected, with 106 preliminarily deemed valid. Language on the ballot is yet to be determined as it is set by the tribe’s Election Committee. Per Tribal Code, the process of sending and announcing results must take no more than 60 days from the day the tribal board approves the referendum.

“This is an extremely significant vote that could go out to our people,” said Tribal Chairman Joe Eitrem. “It could be devastating to the tribe if members vote against it. This casino project is unique — it allows us to establish a cash flow to our tribe with insignificant risk on our end, developers who

are fronting the costs of the project, and a very willing partner in the City of Lansing.”

Eitrem said that he believes the tribe’s members will understand the opportunity that this project presents and will strongly support it, as many did in recent community meetings.

“Sixty-eight percent of those attending informational meetings on the proposed Lansing casino project said they support the proposal,” said Eitrem. This was according to surveys completed by Sault Tribe members, employees and some community members who attended the meetings that took place in February

throughout Michigan.

If members vote to overturn Resolution 2012-11, the board’s approval of the development agreement with the City of Lansing and project developers Lansing Future LLC will be invalidated.

“If this were to happen, we would have to reconvene with all parties and determine how best to proceed,” said Eitrem.

If members vote “yes” on the ballot, to approve Resolution 2012-11, the board’s approval of the project will remain in effect.

More information on this project can be found on the Web at lansingkewadin.wordpress.com.

Tribal members get the facts at community meetings; 68 percent of those surveyed support project

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Sixty-eight percent of those attending informational meetings on the proposed Lansing casino project held across the state in the past five weeks said they support the proposal, according to surveys filled out by Sault Tribe members, employees and some community members who were at the meetings.

The tribe held 20 informational meetings across the state between Jan. 31 and Feb. 29 for members to learn more about the proposed Lansing casino.

Sault Tribe Chairman Joe Eitrem, who attended all of the meetings, said tribal members asked many “good and tough questions” about the project. Meetings were held in Sault Ste. Marie, Munising, Marquette, Kinross, Midland, Lansing, Sugar Island, Brimley, St. Ignace, Dearborn, Escanaba, Newberry, Cheboygan, Grand Rapids, Hessel and Naubinway.

“We are grateful to all mem-

bers who took the time to attend the informational meetings,” Chairman Eitrem said. “Based on the surveys the members who attended filled out, most members said they support the project; some are opposed. We received many good and tough questions from many members, who are right to be concerned and even skeptical about this type of project.”

Eitrem said the meetings were held to make sure tribal members understand that “the Lansing casino is not another Greektown Casino, and that the tribe assumes no financial risks for the project unless and until it is approved by the federal government.”

“There is really no comparison between the Lansing casino project and what the tribe went through in Greektown,” Eitrem said. “We have no financial risks in Lansing until the land is taken into trust, while in Greektown we assumed all of the financial risks before, during and after. If we succeed, the tribe will be 100 percent

owners and managers. The casino will be regulated by the Kewadin Casino Gaming Authority and National Indian Gaming commission, not the state of Michigan. We will pay 2.5 percent to the City of Lansing, versus paying nearly 30 percent in taxes and fees to the state, city of Detroit and Gaming Control Board. Most tribal members who thought Lansing might be another Greektown came away from the meetings understanding Lansing could not be more different, I believe.”

If the plan moves forward, 10 percent of the annual income the tribe receives from the project will go directly into the tribe’s Self Sufficiency Fund. This fund supports programs and services that benefit elders and provides resources to explore future economic development opportunities. Another three percent of the annual revenues will be distributed among and deposited in the following funds: the Elders Health Self-Sufficiency Fund,

the Elders Employment Self-Sufficiency Fund, the Funeral Assistance Self-Sufficiency Fund and the Education Assistance Self-Sufficiency Fund.

Another two percent of the annual income to the tribe from this project will be deposited into a fund to establish a college scholarship program for tribal members regardless of blood quantum, similar to what the City of Lansing is doing with its two percent.

“Many people asked questions about what we are going to do with the money we receive from this casino,” said Eitrem. “We have earmarked, by resolution, where 15 percent of the annual income from Lansing will go. The rest of the annual income we receive will be used to reinstate membership services that we have had to cut over the years due to budget constraints.”

Eitrem noted that the board also hopes to create new membership services, to bring parity in wages to employees in the

seven-county service area, pay off debt and allow for upgrades and renovations at the five northern Kewadin Casinos with income from this project.

While not a scientific sample of the opinions of tribal members, the surveys filled out by members who attended the information meetings indicate a good understanding of the project, Eitrem said. An average of 14 people attended each meeting, 279 total for all meetings. Over 65 percent of those attending support the project.

“After what we went through in Greektown, I and all of the board members were absolutely against getting into another Greektown,” Eitrem said. “Lansing is not another Greektown, and I believe most of the members who attended the informational meetings now understand that, too.”

More information about the Lansing casino is available online at saulttribe.com or visit lansingkewadin.wordpress.com.

Elders’ “Meet the Candidate” forums underway, start April 26

SAULT STE. MARIE — Sault Tribe’s Elders Advisory Committee and the area subcommittees are planning Meet the Candidate Forums throughout the tribe’s seven-county service area for the tribe’s 2012 election.

All candidates are invited to the forums, which elders stress is for the benefit of voters, not the candidates, to give voters the opportunity to meet their potential representatives. Candidates may participate in forums held in their own units. Chairperson candidates may attend any and all forums.

At press time, the following forums were scheduled:

Sault Ste. Marie — April 26, 6 p.m. at Vegas Kewadin Whitefish Point Room

Hessel — April 28, 6 p.m. at Hessel Community Health Naubinway and Newberry — April 27, 6 p.m., location TBA St. Ignace — April 29, 6 p.m., location TBA

Manistique and Escanaba — April 30, 6 p.m., location TBA Munising, May 1, 6 p.m., Community Center — 622 W. Superior St., Grand Island Room Marquette — May 2, 6 p.m. at Holiday Inn

The tribe’s board of directors approved two resolutions at its July 26, 2011, meeting authoriz-

ing the forums, one amending the elder bylaws and one amending the Election Ordinance, to accommodate the forums.

Under the Meet the Candidate Forum guidelines, candidates will be given numbers by lottery to determine the order they may summarize their candidacies and responses to written questions from the audience.

Candidates will have three minutes to describe their platforms. Afterwards, Sault Tribe members present at the forums who are eligible to vote will have 10 minutes to submit questions for the candidates. Forum facilities
See “Candidate Forums,” pg. 7

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Judicial vacancies: Selection of judges in Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Appellate Court

The Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Appellate Court consists of five judges. The appellate panel is composed of two attorney judges, two community member judges and one elder judge. Two reserve judges (one attorney and one community member) are also appointed and are not seated until such a time they are needed.

The initial term limit for appellate judges is staggered

between four, three and two-year limits. If an appellate judge is re-appointed, subsequent terms are four years. There is no limit on the number of terms which can be served.

On Feb. 14 the tribe's board of directors passed Resolution 2012-28, which added Section 82.134 to Chapter 82: Appeals, which outlines the process of appointment for when a vacancy occurs.

When a vacancy occurs in

the Appellate Court, a request for proposal is prepared and published in the local and tribal newspapers (see page 25), and in the instance of an attorney judge vacancy, in the Michigan Bar Journal. In order to fill a vacancy, the board of directors must select and appoint an appellate judge via resolution from a panel of three qualified applicants.

The Appellate Court has four judge's terms expiring this year.

When the request for proposal is published, interested individuals may apply by completing an application and submitting the same, along with a current resume and letter of interest, to Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Court, Court Administrator, 2175 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

For more about the application process, please contact the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Court at 635-7747.

STAY joins Service to Science initiative

The Sault Tribe Alive Youth (STAY) Project is pleased to announce that it has been selected as one of five tribal programs to participate in this year's Service to Science Academy.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has developed the Service to Science initiative to increase the pool of Native American locally-developed, evidence-based prevention

and intervention programs.

Using the Service to Science model, the Native American Center for Excellence offers one-on-one technical assistance for Native American prevention programs wishing to improve their evaluation capacity. Programs are matched with expert evaluators familiar with the unique needs and challenges of evaluating Native American prevention efforts.

The Native American Service to Science Academy places special emphasis on finding evaluation solutions for culture-based programs that may not fit the typical evidence-based framework. It provides support for culture-based programs to document their evidence of effectiveness using culturally appropriate tools and measures.

Some members of the STAY staff will attend a training in

April and, prior to the training, evaluators selected to assist STAY will make a site visit to meet the STAY Project staff and other stakeholders to learn about the program and how to better support future evaluation efforts.

If you are interested in learning more about this unique opportunity, please call us at (906) 635-8629 or email us at stayproject@saulttribe.net.

Election Committee reminds membership to register

How do I register to vote? If you live within an election unit and your address is up to date with the Enrollment Department, then you will automatically be registered in the coming election, even those who will be 18 by the election date.

If you live outside an election unit and you have previously registered, you are all set— registration is permanent (see below).

However, if you live outside an election unit and haven't registered previously or will be 18 years old by June 28, then you will need to complete a registration form and send it in prior to March 29.

Why do members who reside outside an election unit have to fill out a form? Members who reside outside an election unit can choose which unit under which

they would like to vote. Members living inside an election unit must vote within that unit. Once registered, you will be registered for all upcoming elections unless you move into or out of an election unit.

Please make sure your address is current with Enrollment. Below is the registration form. Clip-out and return by March 29 to the "Sault Tribe Election Committee,

P.O. Box 102, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783"

The form is also available by contacting the board of directors executive assistant's office at (906) 635-6050, Enrollment at (800) 251-6597 or online at www.saulttribe.com/government/tribal-elections. Tribal members are encouraged to volunteer for mailing out ballots and assisting in the count; email questions or

Get help with phone costs

The Lifeline and Link Up programs help low-income households get telephone service.

Lifeline provides discounts on one basic monthly phone service (landline or wireless). The discount can be up to \$10 per month, depending on the state.

Link Up provides a one-time discount (up to a maximum of \$30) off of the initial installation fee for a landline or the activation fee for wireless phone service.

For more information on these programs, including eligibility requirements, visit the Universal Service Administrative Company or call (888) 641-8722. You can also contact your local phone service provider or call the Federal Communications Commission at (888) CALL-FCC.

comments to electioncommittee@saulttribe.net.

@ Sign up for email news from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians! Email jdburton@saulttribe.net with your request for Sault Tribe email blasts. Or sign up at www.saulttribe.com.

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ MAILING ADDRESS _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ (PHYSICAL)

CITY & STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

To verify identity, please include last four numbers of your social security: - - -

I understand that this voter registration card must be completed and received at least 90 days prior to a general election to be eligible to vote in Tribal Elections.

I _____ register to vote in _____ Unit

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

(Must have signature to be Valid.)

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The official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

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Win Awenen Nisitotung welcomes submissions of news articles, feature stories, photographs, columns and announcements of American Indian or non-profit events. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the editor, subject to editing and are not to exceed 400 words. Unsigned submissions are not accepted.

Please note the distribution date when submitting event information for our community calendar. Submissions can be mailed, faxed or e-mailed. The distribution date is the earliest the newspaper can arrive in the seven-county service area.

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Win Awenen Nisitotung, in Anisinabemowin, means, "One who understands," and is pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng" See our full, online edition at www.saulttribe.com.

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Editor's Note: The following document is a copy of the Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority resolution that approves the agreement to propose the Kewadin Lansing Casino Project. Other documents available were too lengthy to fit into the tribal newspaper and are available at lansingkewadin.wordpress.com, including the Comprehensive Development Agreement (CDA) and Intergovernmental Agreement, among others.

**KEWADIN CASINOS GAMING AUTHORITY RESOLUTION 2012-01
APPROVAL OF COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN**

WHEREAS, the Management Board has entered into a certain Turn-Key Facility Development Agreement with Lansing Future LLC, originally approved by Resolution 2011-03 and subsequently amended and restated pursuant to Resolution 2011-12; and

WHEREAS, the Gaming Authority is a proposed party to the CDA and would assume certain duties and responsibilities for the development and operation of the planned casino; and

forth in Article 8 of the Lansing CDA provided that, as is set forth more fully in that agreement, this waiver:

1. is granted solely for the limited purpose of enforcement of the agreement within which it is contained;
2. extends only to claims that are (a) brought by the city of Lansing, (b) allege a breach of one or more specific obligations or duties under the applicable agreement, and (c) seek specific performance and/or injunctive relief;
3. shall continue for the longer of one (1) year following the termination of the agreement or two (2) years after the claim accrues or is discovered upon the exercise of due diligence; and
4. is enforceable in the United States District Court for the Western district of Michigan or any federal court having appellate jurisdiction over that court.

WHEREAS, the Management Board has examined the legal theories supporting this project and is persuaded that, under section 108 of the Act, the Tribe has a substantial and unique legal claim and a valuable opportunity that it can and should pursue in good faith and, further, is satisfied that this project has been structured so as to substantially minimize and limit the expenses and risks to the Authority and to the tribe; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Management Board hereby approves the proposed Lansing CDA and authorizes the Chairman to execute that agreement on behalf of the Gaming Authority and further authorizes the Chairman or his designee to sign, amend, and execute any documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Management Board hereby expressly approves and authorizes the specific limited waiver of sovereign immunity and of tribal court jurisdiction set

WHEREAS, that Amended and Restated Turn-Key Agreement contemplates the construction of a tribally-owned and operated casino to be located in Lansing, Michigan on lands to be acquired by the Tribe under the provisions of the Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act (the "Act"), PL 105-143, 111 Stat 2652 (Dec. 15, 1997); and

WHEREAS, the Sault Tribe has negotiated a proposed Comprehensive Development Agreement (the "Lansing CDA") with the city of Lansing, Michigan under which the Tribe would acquire lands located in the city of Lansing using interest or income from the Self-Sufficiency Fund established under the Act and will then seek to have those lands placed into mandatory trust pursuant to section 108 (c) and (f) of the Act and establish its legal right to construct and operate a casino gaming enterprise on those lands; and

American Indian Empowerment Act introduced in Congress

By RICK SMITH

A recently introduced legislative item will give American Indians more control over their lands if it is ever passed by Congress. Long time Alaskan Representative Don Young introduced House Resolution 3532, the American Indian Empowerment Act of 2011, last Dec. 1. Specifically, the legislation calls for the Secretary of the Interior to relinquish title to any and all American Indian trust lands as may be desired by the appropriate tribes.

Essentially, the bill would allow tribes to request titles to its trust lands to be taken out of trust and conveyed directly to them, the transferred lands would retain Indian Country sovereignty. Completion of title transfers would be mandated no later than 180 days after the Secretary of the Interior receives a written request from the governing body of a federally recognized tribe. Further, once transfers have been completed, tribes would no longer require federal oversight in managing their lands such as in cases of leasing arrangements.

Young said the federal policy of holding tribal land in federal trust stems from "an old notion that American Indians were helpless and should be made



Rep. Don Young

wards of the government." He said that policy is long outdated.

Many American Indian tribes have been gradually taking over functions usually performed by Bureau of Indian Affairs through contracts and agreements with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Young noted. And tribes have been striving for self-sufficiency for many years and increased authority over their own lands for the past few years.

Young said some may view the American Indian Empowerment Act as a radical move, but called it necessary to get the federal government out of the way of tribes and their progress. "One often thinks of a 'trust' as a sacred duty to do

See "Empowerment," pg. 8

VOTE VanAlstine for UNIT I



Aanii! I am retired and have time to commit to members of our Tribe my knowledge, experience and ability to provide positive change to help our Tribe advance economically and improve the quality of life of all members.

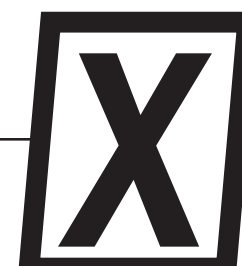
During my tenure with the federal government — Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) — I gained extensive working knowledge in the field of Real Estate Services (Fee to Trust Land Acquisitions, Leasing, and Granting of Right-of-Ways across Indian lands). I served as the Director of the White Earth Land Settlement Act — providing management oversight and supervision of the financial compensation to present day heirs at law for the land that was fraudulently taken from the

original Indian owners.

I served on several committees in various capacities (member, secretary/treasurer and chairperson) with the responsibility for setting policies and making decision affecting the operations of a Realty Branch, a BIA Agency serving six federally recognized Tribes, Toastmasters Group, Business and Professional Women's Club and Royal Neighbors of America Organization.

With your support, I promise to lead with honesty and integrity. Write me at savdetour@aol.com. Miigwech.

Shirley A. VanAlstine



Education and Work Experience

LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY — Office Administration

U.S. PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT — Women's Executive Leadership Program

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- ★ Tribal member **HEALTH INSURANCE** Plan Proposal

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Shirley A. VanAlstine for Unit I Board Member

Boffo inaugural winter celebration highlights

By RICK SMITH

Over 100 people of all ages enjoyed a recent “Baawaating Biboon Celebration,” or Sault Winter Celebration, on Feb. 18 at the Niigaanigiizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie and it is hoped it was the first of an annual event.

Attendees enjoyed storytelling, family bingo games and prizes, a feast and a drum social along with round dances. The welcome mat was put out for one and all to bring their stories, drums, regalia and a favorite dish to pass for the event.

“It was a great time to come together as a community for a happy event,” said Jackie Minton, cultural buildings coordinator. She said the event was in keeping with an ancient custom of Anishinaabe folk — telling stories while Mother Earth rests along with eating good food, enjoying games, singing and dancing. “So many of our elders and teachers have passed recently and we need that laughter to help us heal,” she added. “I feel the sadness and felt that we need to pick it up and do whatever it is we can to keep going and stay positive, especially when our community is going through a difficult time.”

Staff from the tribe’s language education and cultural training components also participated in the event as did staff from Anishinabek Community and Family Services, Sault Tribe Alive Youth Project, Advocacy Resource Center and the Housing Authority. Minton said many other Sault Tribe members, staff and local merchants helped bring the celebration to fruition and expressed gratitude to all.

Special guests were a highlight of the celebration. About 24 elders from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians attended the event to share some stories. Minton indicated the guests “cleaned up at Anishinaabemowin bingo” and thoroughly enjoyed the feast of soups and breads made by those who attended. They had such a good time they expressed a desire to return for the event next year. “We have formed a friendship



Photos by Rick Smith

One of the kitchen crew, Hunter Captain, prepares fresh produce in the kitchen of the Niigaanigiizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie for the winter celebration feast on Feb. 18. The family event featured storytelling, family bingo, feast, drum social and round dances.



Left to right, Jade McClellan, Jordan McClellan and Leah Parr exercise some of their creativity while waiting for the storytelling to begin. The celebration was joined by representatives at information tables from the Sault Tribe Housing Authority, Anishinabek Community and Family Services and the Traditional Medicine Program.

here,” Minton noted, “and it will lead to more communication between our two tribes — these are good open lines and can be called upon to help each other out should we need it.”

Minton credits the community at large for making the event successful and has put out the welcome mat for another celebration next year. She noted that once she put the word out about the intended celebration, many people began calling in support, dropping off gifts for gift baskets plus departments and individuals

dropped off baskets for prizes and it all came together quite naturally.

Those interested in attending the event next year should follow postings on the tribe’s Facebook account, watch for announcements or mark calendars and check in with the Cultural Department next year.

“If you were not able to come this time,” Minton said, “hopefully you will be able to join us for our next Baawaating Biboon Celebration!”



Cathy DeVoy, with puppet on lap, initiated the storytelling segment of the celebration. She employed plush puppets for illustrating her stories in addition to an arrangement echoing the ancient custom of telling stories around campfires.

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Head Start

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Children need to be 3 years old by Dec. 1
Members of a Federally Recognized Tribe
Income Eligibility Requirements

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Children from birth to 3 years old
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Income Eligibility Requirements

High quality, comprehensive, on-site services provided for children with Disabilities in collaboration with Early On, War Memorial Hospital Rehabilitation, Sault Area SEECs program, local elementary schools, and Mountain View Psychological Services.

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906-643-9733 (St. Ignace)

Cottage foods safety training conducted



Photo by Brenda Austin

A two-hour food safety training program related to the Michigan Cottage Food Law was conducted at Bayliss Public Library on Feb. 16. From left, Batchawana First Nations member Marylyn Gingras who lives in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., MSU Extension educators Janet Rathke and Michelle Walk, and Sault Tribe member Norma Castro. Gingras and Castro were two of about 15 participants in the training.

Tribe hires emergency preparedness manager

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Matt Carpentier has been hired as Sault Tribe's emergency preparedness manager. He is housed at Sault Tribe Law Enforcement where he is working in conjunction with Chief of Police Bob Marchand to create a response center that has immediate access to emergency notifications, already established communications and teleconferencing in addition to back up generators that in an emergency will power radios, emergency lighting and computers.

Marchand said that although natural and other types of disasters often can't be prevented, Carpentier will be formulating an emergency response plan for the tribe's seven-county service area that will help lessen their impact. "How the tribe can prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters is something Carpentier will be putting into place," Marchand said.

Carpentier, a Sault Tribe member, graduated in 2001



Matt Carpentier

from Battle Creek Central High School, in Battle Creek, Mich. After attending college for a year, he joined the U.S. Air Force where he became certified as an Air Force emergency management specialist. He was stationed at Langley Air Force Base in Langley, Va., during his six years of active duty. After

leaving active duty as a staff sergeant, he served two years of inactive service.

For the past two years Carpentier has served as the emergency preparedness coordinator for the Chippewa County Health Department. "Matt is a perfect fit," said Marchand, "I'm excited to bring him on board."

Having an emergency preparedness infrastructure and contacts already in place within the local community will help Carpentier as he moves forward in coordinating the tribe's plans and resources with local authorities and agencies. The first step, according to Carpentier, will be to identify what the tribe's critical infrastructure needs are, taking into account emergency plans already in place, and building a tribal wide emergency response and operations plan.

"Once the plan is developed, coordinated, signed and ready to go then we have to put it into operation," he said. "As we use the plan we will determine what works and what doesn't work and make any necessary changes. It's a new program and we have a great opportunity to build it right the first time. There will be comprehensive planning for every possible emergency scenario."

Carpentier said the plan will include tribal businesses, members, trust land, the reservations and employees – covering a dis-

tales of about 1,800 miles within the seven counties.

Marchand, who has a background in emergency preparedness through FEMA, said all of the tribal police officers have had basic FEMA training in emergency response and management. Marchand said that Carpentier will be very busy. "We have to make sure we are all on the same playing field as far as what resources are available through both the tribe and county. Carpentier will be responsible for organizing all that information and making sure everything is operating efficiently. It will be a big undertaking."

Carpentier said that if you were to ask his family, they

would tell you they have emergency plans in place including evacuation plans and long-term food storage. "What would happen if everything went haywire tomorrow and we were without power for four days? That is my home life, so doing it professionally just makes it that much more interesting. If you prepare for the worst then you will be prepared for almost anything," he said.

The emergency manager position is a three-year grant funded position through FEMA.

Carpentier is married to Alexis and together they have three children, Devlin, 6, Brighton, 4, and 2-year old Elianna.



Photo Courtesy Ron Khoury

Sault Tribe Unit III Director Patrick Rickley received a nice surprise from Michigan Senators Tom Casperson and Howard Walker (L-R). At a recent legislative meeting, the two came together to present Rickley a certificate of appreciation as Ambassador to the U.P. When not working to help govern Sault Tribe, Rickley works at the Mackinac Bridge toll booth and anyone who has been through his line knows how he is friendly and welcoming.

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Teen dating violence observance conducted

By Rick Smith

The Advocacy Resource Center and Uniting Three Fires Against Violence, both of Sault Ste. Marie, hosted an assembly in observance of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month at Malcolm High School on Feb. 14.

The Centers for Disease Control divides dating violence into four categories: physical, emotional, sexual and stalking. The first occurs when a partner is pinched, hit, shoved or kicked. The center defines emotional violence as threatening a partner or harming a partner's sense of self-worth by name calling, shaming, bullying, embarrassing on purpose or keeping a partner from friends and family. Sexual violence is akin to rape, it is forcing a partner to engage in a sex act when the partner does not or cannot consent. Stalking is a pattern of harassing or threatening contact that is unwanted and causes fear.

The centers indicate dating violence is a serious problem in the United States and that many teens do not report incidents because they are afraid to tell friends and family. Among people who are victims of dating violence, the centers report 22.4 percent of women and 15 percent of men had their first dating violence in some form between the ages of 11 and 17 years of age. In the past year, about 10 percent of the students from across the country reported being physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend.

Dating violence can have negative physical and mental health

One woman's story of teen dating violence

ANYWHERE, USA — She was in the early years of high school when they met, and she was attracted to him straightaway. He was older and was known as a "bad boy." Still, she was strongly drawn to him. She had no real sense of self-worth and she delighted in the few encounters she had with him here and there throughout those first few months. She was 14.

School break brought freedom to her and her friends and they gravitated toward hanging out with him and his friends. One night, the opportunity for her to sleep with him presented itself, there was the influence of the peers and the hormones, but mostly she was influenced by the romantic notion that she could initiate a romantic relation-



Photo by Rick Smith

From left, Kali McKelvie of the Sault Tribe Anishnabe Community and Family Services Advocacy Resource Center, Beatrice Jackson of Uniting Three Fires Against Violence and Chief Pedro Torres of the Taino Tribal Council of Jatibonico address students of Malcolm High School in Sault Ste. Marie on Feb. 14 following a candlelight observance against teen dating violence.

effects throughout one's life. The centers report teens are more likely to suffer from depression, have problems with education, alcohol or drug abuse and eating disorders. Some may be at higher risk for attempting suicide or experiencing dating violence later in life.

According to studies, people who are more depressed and more aggressive than their peers are the people prone to harming dating partners. The centers note that other factors that increase the risk for harming a dating part-

ner include alcohol use, friends involved in dating violence, behavioral problems in other areas, harsh or neglectful parenting, inconsistent discipline and the belief that dating violence is acceptable behavior.

According to one coalition against domestic violence, in the one in 10 teen romantic relationships that experience dating violence, the situation is often obscured because teens are usually inexperienced with dating relationships, pressure by peers to be violent, desire independence

from parents and have "romantic" views of love.

The aggressors involved in teen dating violence may believe they have the right to control their partners in any way necessary or they "possess" their partner. They may also think physical aggression is a part of masculinity or toughness and may lose respect if they become attentive and supportive of their partners. They often believe they have the right to demand intimacy from their partners.

The victimized partners may

believe they are responsible for solving problems in the relationships, their partner's possessiveness and physical abuse is "romantic," even part of any relationship because their friends are also experiencing teen dating violence. They may be unaware there is anywhere to turn for help.


People who may become abusers may have the following warning signs:

- Extreme jealousy
- Controlling behavior
- Unpredictable mood swings
- Alcohol and drug use
- Explosive anger
- Attempts to isolate partner from friends and family
- Use of force in arguments
- Hypersensitive at times
- Blames others for own problems or feelings
- Cruel to animals or children
- Verbally abusive and threatens violence

More can be learned about teen dating violence and its prevention at www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datingmatters, the National Dating Abuse Helpline at (866) 331-9474 or text 77054, the National Domestic Violence Hotline at (800) 799-7233, the National Sexual Violence Resource Center at www.nsvrc.org, or Dating Matters: Understanding Teen Dating Violence Prevention at www.vetoviolence.org/datingmatters.

In the eastern Upper Peninsula, call Uniting Three Fires Against Violence at (855) DNT-HIT-ME or the Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center at 632-1808, ext. 73103.

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**Joseph K. Lumsden
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Kindergarten Enrollment, Screening & Orientation

2012-2013 School Year

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is holding Open Enrollment for Kindergarten for the upcoming 2012-2013 School Year. **Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery.** The Open Enrollment dates are from March 12, 2012, through April 3, 2012, with evening hours from 5 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 22. Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school web site at www.jklschool.org beginning **March 12, 2012.**

The school office will be closed for Spring Break beginning March 23 at noon and will re-open on Monday, April 2. Blank applications and/or completed applications will not be able to be picked up or dropped off during this break; however, blank applications may be printed from the school website. All applications must be received by the school office by 4 p.m. (eastern time zone) on April 3, 2012.

The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 5, 2012, for those wishing to attend. Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.

The parents of those children selected from the lottery will be notified by phone to set up the appointment for the screening/orientation. The dates of Kindergarten Screening & Orientation are set for April 18 and 19.

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THE ELDER TIMES

Tribal elders hold first-time candidate forums

From candidate forums, pg. 7. tators will screen the submitted questions for propriety or duplicates and direct questions to the candidates. Each of the candidates will be asked all of the qualified questions.

An exception is in cases where questions are directed to a specific candidate. In that case, only the candidate to whom the question is specified will answer the question. Candidates will have up to two minutes to respond to every question.

The guidelines make it clear that no interaction is allowed between the audiences and candidates during the forums.

Meet the Candidate forum guidelines

1. Each candidate will be given a number determined by lottery (see (6.) below) and up to three minutes to summarize their candidacy, number one candidate first, number two candidate second and etc.

2. After candidates have made their presentation, voting members in attendance from the host unit subcommittee will be given 10 minutes to formulate and write their question(s) down, one to a sheet and to submit them. While members from a unit subcommittee other than the unit subcommittee hosting the forum may attend, they may not submit questions. A member of the host unit subcommittee will be available to assist anyone needing help to write their questions down.

3. The questions will be placed face down and shuffled, then the facilitator and a designated member of the unit subcommittee will screen each one to determine if a question is per-

sonal in nature and therefore not acceptable, is a duplicate or near duplicate of one that has already been submitted, and any such question will be set aside not to be asked. The decision of the two people doing the screening shall be final as to what constitutes a qualifying question. All rejected questions shall be saved for the record.

4. All qualifying (non-personal, non-duplicate) questions will be asked of each of the candidates in the order determined by the shuffling and screening process, except that, in the case when a question is directed to a specific candidate, only that candidate answers the question.

5. Each candidate will be given one opportunity, up to two minutes, to respond to every qualifying question. No interaction with the audience will be allowed. This is not a debate.

6. The numbers, referenced by item (1.) above, will be used to determine the order in which the candidates make their presentation and respond to the questions. Number one will answer first, number two next and etc. On the second question, number two will answer first and then the others in succeeding order and so on.

— Approved by unanimous vote of the Elder Advisory Committee on July 25, 2011 and included as an Attachment to Resolution No. 2011 - 174.



Happy Valentines Day from Vida Captain! The 78-year-old Sault Tribe member came for lunch at the Sault meal site and brought with her a quantity of wonderful hand-made crafts for giveaway prizes. Vida made a lot of elders feel extra special for Valentine's Day. Thank you, Vida, for caring for your community!



Alexandra Perry

ELDERS GET NEW HOME HEALTH TECHNICIAN

Elders Services Division staff would like to welcome Alexandra Perry as our new home health technician in Sault Ste. Marie. Perry is a Sault Tribe member. "I am 18 years old, almost 19, and I live in Kincheloe," she said. "I am a very helpful, caring and compassionate individual, always thinking of others before myself."

Perry attended Sault

Area High School, where she played basketball, volleyball and ran track.

She hopes to attend Lake Superior State University next fall, but she is undecided on a major.

In her free time she likes to watch television, listen to music, hang out with friends, spend time with her family and "help those in need in my community."

Elect CHRISTINE McPHERSON for UNIT 1 BOARD SEAT



Work Experience

- 30 years of combination of experience in the fields of social service, child welfare and health.
- National experience working for two foundations in child welfare and public policy
- Chosen as a fellow for the Annie E. Casey Foundation in 1995 and actively participating as a class representative for the network.
- Worked for Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the Welfare Reform Bill

Education

- Master's – Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science – Social Services
- Tribal Experience
- Worked with many tribes in community building and system improvement.

■ Reinstatement of Funeral Assistance for all tribal members based upon membership

■ Improve all direct services in health, social service, elderly and conservation

■ Bring the experience, education and desire to improve our tribal government

Christine McPherson endorses this ad.

Get Your Elder Decal!



These limited edition decals proudly state "SAULT TRIBE ELDER." You can choose either black or white lettering on a clear background. This 4x4 decal is on sale now for only \$4 or \$4.50 by mail.

To receive by U.S. mail, send check or money order to the Elders Services Division, 2076 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Surviving teen dating violence, domestic violence

From *“One Woman’s Story, p. 6* giving birth to his child. Only, it didn’t happen. After the child was born, they were technically young parents, but they were trying to figure out how to be adults as well as parents. But they succeeded best at being teenagers.

The physical relationship started again, but neither was making a commitment to the other in the relationship. They all got by for the first two years with co-parenting and a semi-physical relationship. She still held out hope that they would end up together, raising “their” family. She thought that if she held out in this half-hearted relationship, she would eventually have her family.

But, that wasn’t the way it would play out.

About the time she turned 18, he had hit her once, told her she was worthless and called her unsavory names on too many occasions to count. She was left believing that they were not together because of her. And there were the times when he forced her into intimate encounters with him. And there were times, when they were together intimately, when he would intentionally hurt her.

She spent the next few years in a downward spiral and all the while believing that all of their problems were because of her. She seemed a failure as a young woman, as a person, as a mother, as a lover and as a human being. She believed all of their problems were her fault. He never told her if she was actually appreciated or if she was beautiful. Instead, he pointed out where and what she lacked.

She spent a lot of time focusing on improvements about herself to make him happy instead of seeing the relationship for itself, recognizing her own self-worth and letting it go. He would not commit to her and did a good job of making sure no one else would either. If she started to see someone else, he would threaten the life of the new interest or her own. If he even heard rumors implying her infidelity, he would confront her with degradation, insults and more death threats.

Sometimes, when he broke into her bedroom, she interpreted it as his way of really caring for her and needed to be with her at any length. But what she thought was love was simply exercises in power and control. It was his way to see if anyone else was in her home.

As the chaos in the relationship grew, she began to see something wasn’t right and that she deserved better for herself. She was becoming like him, lashing out at him in piques of frustration, becoming an emotional wreck, feeling that it was okay to scream at him, push him, threaten him or hurt him however possible. There was never any relief and, deep down, she new retaliation wasn’t the answer. In addition, she came

to realize her actions were not his fault. And she saw that, likewise, she was not responsible for his actions. She knew it was never okay to hit some one else and, if she did, it was she who raised her hand, no one raised it for her.

Still, she was ill equipped to see the whole picture clearly and found herself feeling sorry for him and finding justification for his behavior and, sometimes, her own. She fooled herself into thinking it was okay and it was her job to make things right in the relationship, even if that meant self-destruction. Friends and peers didn’t know about the insanity of the relationship, and some had their own problems. Messages in media aimed at her age group gave no clues about living in good relationships. In fact, between her peers, media and pop music, she thought her relationship with him was socially acceptable.

Her family knew of her situation and tried helping her, but she refused to give up on the dream that one day she and him would be together in a “normal” relationship. Even though she could never envision a happy relationship with him, she wanted to stay with him. She didn’t know about support groups and services that could help her and held to the belief that the relationship could change only if she changed.

Then came the sting of another beating coupled with the disappointment and heartbreak of learning he had a new girlfriend. With help from family and a few friends, she came to truly understand she was in an unhealthy relationship. She sought counseling and networked with other women who were in abusive relationships. She had to learn to let go and walk away. Eventually she did, and it was a first step in a better direction.

In retrospect, she sees she spent a lot of time minimizing the actions that occurred during the relationship and, by doing that, found herself in another abusive relationship. She hadn’t truly worked through the entire trauma from her first relationship. It took her a long time to heal as her new relationship dissolved. She continued counseling and speaking with other women who experienced abusive relationships, she learned the difficulties weren’t entirely her fault.

Today, she can say that, like many other women, she is no longer a victim but she is a survivor of teen dating violence and domestic violence. She learned that individuals are responsible for their own actions, and she was not responsible for the actions or decisions of the abusers. She has come to learn and see what love truly is.

Respect is very important to her today, especially self-respect. When she respects herself, she has the strength and knowledge to say no. That is a great feeling!

MSU summer CLANS Project planned

MARQUETTE— Northern Michigan University’s Center for Native American Studies has been awarded a \$22,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The center will partner with the tribal historic preservation office at the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to launch the project, Creating and Learning Art in Native Settings (CLANS).

The goal of the project is to revitalize traditional Anishinaabe dances, songs and art through an intensive week-long summer program featuring 11 recognized American Indian artists. The program will be held at the Old Indian Village in Watersmeet, Mich.

American Indian middle school or high school youth from Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota are invited to apply.

“This arts education project is designed to teach traditional arts to American Indian youth in a Native community,” said April Lindala, director of the NMU center. “We will combine active learning within a cultural context and cultural environment. Youth will learn not only how to make items such as black ash baskets and cattail mats, but they will learn how to seek out and collect the materials. This will give us a vehicle to discuss with youth the cultural significance of respecting the natural environment, as well as how treaties can serve as a guide for gathering natural resources.”

Youth participants will also learn Anishinaabe songs, dances and regalia-making during the project. Lindala said many American Indian youth have not been taught the origins and stories of traditional social songs and dances.

“Even the most traveled powwow dancer may only see, for example, the ‘fish dance’ or the ‘buck and doe dance’ performed once or twice a year,” she said. “Tribal community leaders are eager to see our young people learn how to do these dances so the cultural significance will not be lost. We want youth to learn these songs and dances with the objective of being able to share them at an event such as a com-

munity powwow or with their friends in their own communities.”

The name of the project comes from the term clan, or dodem, which is defined as one’s extended family within the tribe. Lindala said many tribal nations have multiple clans—for example, bear, crane, loon or turtle—and traditionally, each group has a responsibility to the tribe as a whole.

“The CLANS project is about sharing these cultural teachings with the message that our youth will then have the responsibility to share what they learned with others, just as clans have a responsibility to their tribes,” she

added.

The Center for Native American Studies is receiving additional support for this project from the NMU College of Arts and Sciences. Other project partners include the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community’s Youth Program, the Hannahville Indian School, the Hannahville Indian Community’s Youth Program and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, which represents eleven tribes in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

For more information about the CLANS project, contact the NMU Center for Native American Studies at (906) 227-1397 or visit www.nmu.edu/nativeamericans.

Lonestar coming to Sault Kewadin’s DreamMakers



American country music group, Lonestar, is performing at Kewadin’s DreamMakers Theater April 12 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$39.50 and are on sale now. Don’t miss your chance to see Lonestar performing at Kewadin Casinos this April! Tickets for the show can be purchased online at www.kewadin.com or by calling 1-800-KEWADIN.

Bill would move trust land from feds to tribes

From *“Empowerment,” page 3* what’s in the best interest of the beneficiary,” said Young. “But the term ‘trust’ means something different in the context of federal Indian land. When Indian land is held in trust by the Department of the Interior, legal title to the land is effectively owned by the federal government. Nothing can occur on trust lands without the permission of Washington, D.C. In practice, on some reservations nothing does occur.”

He asserted the U.S. government’s extensive rules covering the use of trust lands aren’t actually designed for the maximum benefit of tribes, but rather for the minimum risk to taxpayers. And yet, the federal government’s history of tribal land mismanagement has been excessively costly to the tune of billions to both tribes and taxpayers alike. Young further indicated that, with the

trustee debt now well into the trillions, it appears unlikely the federal government’s management of Indian lands would improve.

American Indian tribes and individuals have lost unaccountable billions of dollars through federal mismanagement of mineral leases along with losing billions in potential revenue through a slow and cumbersome land leasing process that discourages businesses from developing on tribal lands.

The U.S. departments of the Interior and the Treasury were successfully sued for a \$3.4 billion-dollar settlement in 2009 in a class-action suit brought by American Indians after a 14-year legal battle. The case, now referred to as Cobell v Salazar, is the largest governmental class-action settlement in the history of the nation and involved about 500,000 American Indians.

The bill for the legal battle and the settlement in this particular struggle falls to U.S. taxpayers. In addition, tribes have long complained of losing potential jobs and revenue through leasing lands to businesses interested in setting up facilities on tribal lands. Such businesses usually lose interest because of the length of time involved in acquiring federal approval for leases.

The American Indian Empowerment Act was co-sponsored by House Oklahoma representatives Dan Boren and Tom Cole. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. The committee is composed of 47 state representatives from around the country, 27 Republicans and 20 Democrats. Among its members are Michigan representatives Dan Benishek and Dale Kildee.

Eric Burdon of the Animals and War coming to the Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie

Eric Burton, English singer-songwriter best known as a founding member and vocalist of rock band, the Animals, and funk rock band, WAR, and for his aggressive stage performance, is performing at Kewadin's DreamMaker Theater on March 24 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$39.50 and are on sale now.

He was ranked 57th in *Rolling Stone's* list of the 100 greatest singers of all time.

Burdon's life has been a musical journey matched by few other performers in rock music history. He has gone from the driving force of the grittiest British Invasion band, to pioneering the San Francisco psychedelic rock scene, to fronting WAR — the biggest funk band of the 1970s, to cutting an LP with an early influence, jazz-blues great Jimmy Witherspoon, to coming full-circle and reuniting his original band, the Animals, for a series of projects and world-wide tours, to forming new groups of Animals and releasing a series of studio CDs, live CDs, a DVD and his second autobiography, which was translated into several languages.

Burdon's lengthy recording career began in Newcastle, England, where he first covered songs by his idols. He and the Animals quickly gained notoriety



Eric Burdon

as England's best R&B band, and they were selected by the pirate station Radio Caroline as the feature for the first broadcast to the U.S. They were a part of the first live R&B recording in the U.K., when they joined Sonny Boy Williamson for the now famous 1963 New Year's Eve concerts.

Shortly thereafter, the Animals took the music world by storm when they recorded and released an electrified version of the traditional folk number, *House of the Rising Sun*. In short order they followed with such classics as *Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood*, *We Gotta Get Out of This Place*, *It's My Life*, *I'm Crying*, *Inside*

Looking Out, *The Story of Bo Diddley*, *Bring It On Home to Me* and *See See Rider*.

After disbanding the New Animals, he and harp-great Lee Oskar formed a new percussion-based outfit and quickly began touring as Eric Burdon and WAR. The debut album, *Eric Burdon Declares WAR*, included two immediate classics, *Tobacco Road*, and world-wide hit, *Spill the Wine*. The follow-up LPs, *Black Man's Burdon* and *Love Is All Around*, entailed their own hits, such as *They Can't Take Away Our Music*, *Paint It Black*, *Home Dream*, and *A Day in the Life*. Burdon subsequently left WAR and shortly thereafter joined up with jazz-blues great Jimmy Witherspoon, a fusion which ultimately lead to the collaborative LP *Guilty!* (renamed *Black and White Blues* for CD release) featuring *The Laws Must Change*, *Have Mercy Judge* and *Soledad*. This innovative LP included live songs recorded with Ike White and the San Quentin Prison Band.

Burdon has been part of countless projects throughout his career, from blues duos to autobiographies, to a second Animals reunion to a solo career and film projects. In 1994, he and the original Animals were inducted into Cleveland's Rock n' Roll Hall of

Fame, and in 1995 he made a special guest appearance at the HBO Concert For The Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame. Burdon and his duet partner, Jon Bon Jovi, were singled out by reviewers for their no-nonsense renditions of *It's My Life* and *We Gotta Get Outta This Place*.

On Burdon's 60th birthday in

2001, he and the original members of the Animals were inducted into the Rock Walk of Fame.

Don't miss your chance to see Eric Burdon performing at Kewadin Casinos this March! Tickets for the show can be purchased on line at www.kewadin.com or by calling 800-KEWADIN.

Kewadin announces team members of the month



Lindsay Trudeau of Kewadin Sault Bar and Beverage, was recently named team member of the month. Lindsay has worked with Kewadin since 2008 and was born and raised in St. Ignace.

"It is very nice to know that your hard work is recognized and appreciated," she said after receiving the award. Congratulations Lindsay!

A Letter from Unit I Candidate Nichole Causley

Dear fellow Tribal Members, I hope this campaign advertisement finds you well and cheerful.

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, give you some of my background info, and share with you my vision for our future, as I seek one of the three unit one seats.

I have filled the last decade with hard work, focus, and dedication throughout our communities. While working for our tribe in the casino, governmental operations, and volunteering for community events, I was able to get hands-on experience for how the leadership's decision making affects our people, businesses, and communities. We have areas within our communities that are ok, and other areas that seriously need some TLC. Additionally, I have spent time on the Head Start Policy Council, Housing Commission, PowWow committees, attend-

ing culture camps, gatherings, and being involved in our programs and services, getting a better understanding of our administration of operations and procedures.

While supporting my family of five on the SSM Housing Site, I earned a Bachelors Degree in Political Science at Lake State. My studies focused on policy development, implementation, and evaluation. To augment my education I took business courses.

Throughout this decade, I have watched and heard our people become more and more hopeless. It is at the point where our children are also becoming hopeless. Suicide rates have increased, while disease and addiction runs rampant among our people. I have watched the destruction and continued disconnection of our communities take place while our leaders focus on more economic

development that takes place outside of our communities. Meanwhile, back at home, programs, services, and enterprises suffer—all for the promise of something greater coming from an investment made south, then gone south.

I believe I can be the voice of the people, with your support. Support does not just equate to money, more importantly I ask for your signature, your input, and your vote.

Please contact me in the following ways: nicholecausley@yahoo.com or (906) 440-9676. Join us for a soup and fry bread fundraiser on Friday, March 29 in my home at 2670 Papagasnak Ct. SSM, MI.

I PROMISE TO STAY IN TOUCH & STAY CONNECTED WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT ASSET OF THE TRIBE; WE, THE PEOPLE.

Sincerely,
Nichole M. Causley

Nichole M. Causley endorses this campaign advertisement.



Donna Spencer was nominated for January's team member of the month at Kewadin Shores in St. Ignace. She has worked with Northern Rewards for three years and always has a great attitude and a smile on her face. You can always rely on her to make you laugh with her stories and jokes. She is well liked throughout the casino and we appreciate the hard work and dedication she provides for our department.

Read more about Kewadin Casinos at www.kewadin.com.



Nichole M. Causley for Unit 1 Board of Director Seat

Lifelong resident of Sault Ste. Marie, unit one housing resident, B.S. Political Science / Public Administration

I hope to represent us, the people, for a prosperous and sustainable tomorrow, by:

- ◆ *Protecting our constitutional rights and strengthening our sovereignty*
- ◆ *Providing programs and services that promote self-sufficiency*
- ◆ *Preserving our culture and heritage for the next seven generations*
- ◆ *Perpetuating our Bimadzwin with a sustainable, diverse business portfolio for all walks of life*

Making a difference for the people in our communities, near and far, by listening, taking note of, and representing our values and needs as Anishnabek in the 21st century.

Ambition Perseverance Integrity
VOTE FOR A VOICE YOU CAN RELY ON!

nicholecausley@yahoo.com

Nichole M. Causley endorses this advertisement.

(906)440-9676

Sault Tribe awarded \$4.7 million housing grant

By Rick Smith

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority was recently awarded the largest of 12 Indian Housing Block Grants received in the state of Michigan. It was also the fourth largest funding amount out of \$108 million allocated through a total of 68 awards to tribal entities in 19 states. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded Sault Tribe \$4,733,376 for use mainly to help low-income families living on Indian reservations or in other communities.

Joni Talentino, director of the Sault Tribe Housing Authority, said this year's grant is about the average amount received by the tribe.

The Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina took the largest award nationwide with an allocation of \$13,048,620, followed by the Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority of Alaska with \$7,987,740 and the Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority, also in Alaska, with \$6,392,638.

Out of the nearly \$14 million awarded to tribal entities in the state of Michigan, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians received the second largest amount in housing funds after Sault Tribe. The Pokagon Band was awarded \$2,276,049.

The grants are distributed each year to eligible tribes, or their self-designated housing authorities, by submitting applications and the allocations are based on a federal formula that weighs local needs and the housing picture under tribal management. The funding covers an



Photo by Rick Smith

Members of the Sault Tribe Housing Commission and the Sault Tribe Housing Authority pause just before resuming a recent meeting. From left, Housing Authority Director Joni Talentino, commissioners Heather Alstrom, Bud Biron, commission Chairman Ken Ermatinger, commissioners Carole Strusser, Debra Ann Pine, Assistant Housing Director Mariea Mongene and Commissioner Kevin Kolbus. Not pictured is Commissioner Shirley Goudreau. The annual Indian Housing Block Grants awarded to Sault Tribe result from the efforts of the commission and the authority.

array of housing services for eligible families and individuals ranging from construction to crime prevention and safety.

"These funds are making a real difference in tribal communities each and every day," said HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan in an official announcement on Feb. 21. "Projects include affordable housing, infrastructure upgrades, community centers and safety programs that every community needs to thrive. These efforts are part of a broader commitment to ensure Native American communities

can build their economies in response to their needs and as they see fit."

The funding received by Sault Tribe will support 15 housing projects, programs and services, according to the tribe's Housing Authority. Projects include construction of a three-bedroom home for the home ownership program, acquisition of land for a low-income housing development for elders in St. Ignace,

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completion of nine additional housing units at the Odenaang site in Sault Ste. Marie and an addition to the housing office in Kinross to provide a "one-

stop shop" for members seeking housing services.

Programs benefiting from the grant include operations such as home modernization, routine maintenance, down payment assistance, rental assistance and so on.

According to HUD, the amounts received by the remaining Michigan tribes are the Bay Mills Indian Community at \$739,139, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians at \$1,235,785, Hannahville Potawatomi Housing Authority at \$183,604, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Housing Authority at \$1,730,303, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians with \$264,403, Little River Band of Ottawa Indian with \$281,105, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians at \$632,700, Match E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians at \$178,247, Nattawaseppi Huron Band of Pottawatomi at \$580,760 and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe at \$1,066,187.

Indian Housing Block Grants are a function of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996.

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Quiet on the set!

Group films documentary on how ice affected civilization



Photo by Rick Smith

William Kleinert (standing, third from left), executive director of a documentary film, Project: Ice, with a film crew working at the Sault Tribe Library and Cultural Training Center in downtown Sault Ste. Marie on Feb. 22. Work on the film started last year in the eastern Upper Peninsula area and continues again this year. The crew was at the tribal facility conducting interviews with repatriation specialist Cecil Pavlat and local historian Bernie Arbic. The documentary takes a historical, current and prospective look at how ice shaped the earth in the region and influenced the people, shipping, industry, economies, culture, recreation and climate of the Great Lakes region. It is a Tillinghast Reid Worldwide production and is scheduled for completion later this year. The company has headquarters in Washington, D.C., and London, England.

Open Enrollment

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School 2012-2013 School Year Open Enrollment & Lottery Information



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is holding Open Enrollment for the upcoming 2012-2013 School Year. **Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery.** The Open Enrollment dates are from March 12, 2012, through April 3, 2012, with evening hours from 5 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 22. Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school website at www.jklschool.org beginning March 12, 2012.

The school office will be closed for Spring Break beginning March 23 at noon and will re-open on Monday, April 2. Blank applications and/or completed applications will not be able to be picked up or dropped off during this break; however, blank applications may be printed from the school website. **All applications must be received by the school office by 4 p.m. (eastern time zone) on April 3, 2012.**

The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 5, 2012, for those wishing to attend. **Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.**

Those selected from the lottery will be eligible to attend the 2012-2013 school year provided they respond within 3 school days of notification. If the deadline is not met, those children will be dropped from next year's roster and the next name on the waiting list will be accepted.

Father and son launch American Tree Service

By Rick Smith

Kinross resident Andy LaPonsie and his son, Sault Tribe member Andy Germain, recently launched a new service to help folks in the eastern Upper Peninsula with any work that needs to be done involving trees, from trimming branches to removing them, roots and all.

The American Tree Service offers year-round, 24-hour service, in cases of emergencies, and is licensed and insured. They offer free estimates on land and lot clearing, tree removal and trimming and brush hogging. In addition, the company offers all varieties of wood chips in bulk for landscaping projects.

LaPonsie was 13 years old when he first started working with a chain saw and comes



Photo by Rick Smith

From left, Andy LaPonsie and his son, Andy Germain, recently opened American Tree Service covering the eastern Upper Peninsula region and they have plans for a school to help folks interested in learning the trade.

from a logging family. He ran his own construction company, ACL Builders in Waterford, Mich., for 25 years, which included tree service work. After Sept. 11, 2001, he returned to the more peaceful environs and his family in the eastern Upper Peninsula and remained in construction and logging trades.

Germain has about 10 years experience in tree service working alongside his father and grandfather. For him, the business venture is something of a tribute to his recently deceased grandfather. "I know he would have liked to see this happen," said Germain.

American Tree Service covers the entire eastern Upper Peninsula including the islands. "We even service islands that don't have a ferry," said LaPonsie. "We have

a boat."

The company offers year-round discount rates to Sault Tribe members, elders, active and inactive military veterans and people with special needs.

American Tree Service is also developing plans for a certification school for folks interested in entering the trade. The school would include basic climbing and knot tying skills needed for the profession.

The company can be reached by phone at 203-1615 or via mail at 9012 S. Mackinac Trail, Dafer, MI 49724 (corner of M-28 and Mackinac Trail), or by email at americanreeservice.up@gmail.com.

A company website is also in the works.

Total Outlook hair salon and beauty studio renovated

By Brenda Austin

Sault Tribe member Connie Payment took the next step in her career four years ago that led to her being a small business owner. After working for Total Outlook hair salon as a stylist for about 17 years, she purchased the salon from former owner Patti Forrest.

Making it a family affair, Payment recently enlisted the help of her husband, brother and family friend for some minor renovations and a fresh coat of paint. She also recently purchased three tanning beds from another local salon, Looks Unlimited. Tanning hours are the same as regular salon hours but as warm spring weather heads our way Payment said she would be extending hours for her customers. Walk ins and appointments are both welcome. The more popular of the beds is an Excalibur – referred to as the Viper, it offers more room



Connie Payment then a conventional tanning bed and spending 12 minutes in it is comparable to 24 minutes in other beds. Then there is a vertical bed for those hard to reach spots on your side and another more conventional horizontal bed.

Other services offered by the salon include ear piercing, eye-

brow waxing and pedicures. She said they hope to offer manicures later this year.

Some of the stylists have been employees at the salon for over 15 years. "The fact that we are all good friends and have a lot of fun makes it nice to come to work," Payment said. "Some days we laugh at each other and some days we laugh at ourselves." Stylists making Total Outlook their home are Maggie Carr, Ashlyn Keenzer, Margaret Hurkmans, Jody Pierce, Mary Dobrowolski and Sajen May and receptionist Brittany Groh.

Payment has some clients who have been with her for the past 21 years, following her from her first job with another local salon to Total Outlook. "I love my clients and have become very close to a lot of them over the years," she said.

Normal business hours are 8



Total Outlook stylist Maggie Carr (sitting) getting some highlights done by co-worker and friend Ashlyn Keenzer.

a.m. to 7 p.m., but later appointments can be accommodated. To make an appointment call Total Outlook at 632-6936 or stop by 720 Ashmun Street in the Sault.

"It's good to challenge yourself," Payment said, "and it's definitely been a challenge that I have embraced."

AMR awarded SBA 8(a) business development status

The Small Business Administration (SBA) recently awarded Advantage Mechanical-Refrigeration (AMR) with 8(A) business development status. The 8(a) Business Develop Program is a resource for small businesses to compete in the marketplace. This status helps companies gain access to federal and private procurement markets and government projects

"This status will open contracting opportunities for our company regarding government contracts locally and nationally," commented AMR President Jodi Vanden Berg, a Sault Tribe member.



Jodi Vanden Berg, president of the firm at Advantage Mechanical-Refrigeration.



AMR, at 4870-F West River Rd NE Comstock Park, Mich., (phone (616) 365-0000) is a mechanical contracting firm that provides a full scope of mechanical services to customers across Michigan. They specialize in industrial, institutional and commercial markets since 2001.

The firm has a loyal customer base consisting of major

greenhouse/produce warehouse suppliers, government buildings, wastewater treatment facilities, industrial facilities, schools, retirement home communities and many commercial retailers.

Offering sales and service, AMR sells, installs, maintains and services all types of heating, ventilating, air conditioning, refrigeration and plumbing

systems. Other services provided include new construction, renovations, backflow prevention testing, service of new or existing mechanical systems, non-chemical water treatment, energy management, direct digital controls and mechanical systems maintenance.

AMR has been qualified by the Mechanical Service Contractors Association (MSCA) of America with the elite designation of a MSCA STAR contractor and are held to the industry's toughest standards. A MSCA STAR qualified contractor works efficiently and safely to get the job done on time, the first time.

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paid for by the committee to elect Bernard Bouschor

Member offers life coaching services in Sault

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Aagii (Lindel) Clement is providing the Sault area with a unique product through her newly formed company – Clandestine Life Coaching. With her varied background and different cultural experiences gained through world travel, she offers to help clients set and reach goals using a variety of tools and techniques.

Her areas of specialty include pre and post-bariatric surgery coaching, spiritual coaching and life skills and fitness coaching. If you need a confidential friend, are lonely, need a little help and guidance or could use help with life skills such as shopping, job hunting, interviewing, physical activity, children, partners, co-workers and positive speech and thoughts – Clandestine Life Coaching can help.

Clement said the initial consultation is free and she offers a sliding scale payment arrangement to fit within your budget.



Aagii (Lindel) Clement

Clement is a retired LPN who also holds degrees in general education and environmental science. In addition to taking continuing education classes from Lake Superior State University, Clement plans to return there this summer to begin work on a bachelor's degree program in exercise science.

Life coaches do not diagnose or give advice. "We offer a unique set of skills for people and let our clients tell us what they want and we help them achieve those goals," she said. "For example, if someone is having difficulty with their diet I will help them shop and cook, or they may need help learning how to properly read nutrition labels or how to store food properly. If one of their goals is to exercise but they don't feel comfortable going to the gym by themselves, I'll go with them."

She has one client who pays for her confidentiality, friendship and company. "We sit and talk about things going on in her life, we laugh and she sometimes reads me her poetry. It's worth it to her to have a person outside of her normal life situation who isn't giving her advice or telling her what she should or shouldn't do," Clement said. "Life coaches have a code of work ethics that we try

to live by – it has its own measure of professionalism and skills to help facilitate people in their own self-discovery."

Clement helps each of her clients develop an individualized action plan based on their specific goals. As a former bariatric patient, Clement said she has developed a passion for working with people considering bariatric surgery or with those who have already undergone the procedure. "I offer a hands on approach from a person who has been there herself," she said. "I have successfully lost over 100 pounds and am still on the journey; I have had to change my entire life around."

Clement said what she loves about life coaching is that it is a very individualized process with limitless possibilities and nothing set in stone. "I offer a relaxed, safe and comfortable atmosphere. I am not there to judge, cure or fix. I am there to assist to the

best of my ability with the skills, tools and experiences I have gathered in my life," she said. "Life coaching is not for everybody. Some people need other kinds of help from other types of professionals. If someone is seeing a therapist I would recommend a life coach as well."

Clement's other professional accomplishments include presentations at LSSU and in the United Kingdom, as a consultant in Australia to the Jara Tribe of Indigenous peoples, youth camp and adult retreat coordinator, published author of poetry and a children's book, columnist and blogger, cultural sensitivity trainer and substance abuse healing helper.

Clement also enjoys and practices her Native American culture and can offer direction in this area as well.

She can be contacted by calling (906) 440-9795 or by email at clandestinelife coaching@gmail.com.

Retirement: Girl Scouts are prepared — are you?

BY DAWN L. TERRELL
SOCIAL SECURITY OPERATIONS
SUPERVISOR, SAULT STE. MARIE

March 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scouts.

It was on March 9, 1912, that Juliette Gordon Low made a phone call to her cousin and said, "I've got something for the girls ... and we're going to start it tonight." A few days later, on March 12, she organized the first U.S. "Girl Guide" troop in Savannah, Ga., with 18 members in two patrols. Today, there

are more than three million Girl Scouts. The organization's motto is "Be prepared."

That same advice can help your retirement savings to grow as plentiful as the Girl Scouts have over the last 100 years.

The best way for you to "be prepared" when it comes to retirement planning is to visit our online retirement estimator. The estimator can give you an instant, personalized picture of your future retirement benefits from Social Security. Enter dif-

ferent scenarios (such as different future earnings amounts or dates of retirement) to find out how that will change the benefit amount you can expect to receive. It's available at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Knowing how much you can expect to receive from Social Security, coupled with any retirement plans you may have through your employer, will help you figure out how much you need to save for your retirement.

Looking for more tips on plan-

ning for the future? Pay a visit to our Benefits Planners as well. You can use the planners to help you better understand your Social Security protection as you plan for your financial future. Get started at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners.

Another great source of help is the "Ballpark E\$timate." It includes a two-page worksheet that helps you quickly identify approximately how much you need to save to fund a comfortable retirement. The Ballpark

E\$timate takes issues like projected Social Security benefits and earnings assumptions on savings, and turns them into language and mathematics that are easy to understand. You can find it at www.choosetosave.org/ballpark.

You don't have to be a Girl Scout to be prepared. Sit down at your computer — perhaps with a box of Girl Scout cookies — and plan for your future. You could be celebrating your own 100th year one day; you might as well do it comfortably.

Action alert: Help defend Indian Child Welfare Act

ADOPTION CASE COULD SPAWN ADVERSE LEGAL PRECEDENT FOR THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES IN INDIAN COUNTRY

BY RICK SMITH

The National Indian Child Welfare Association recently issued an action alert for help from the tribes and citizens of Indian Country to defend the American Indian Child Welfare Act. The alert stems from the legal challenges surrounding the adoption case of 2-year-old Oklahoma Cherokee "Baby Veronica," in South Carolina. The association alleges significant violations of state and federal laws took place in the case.

The case pits the adoptive parents, Matt and Melanie Capobianco, who live near Charleston, S.C., against the girl's biological father, Dusten Brown, a member of the Cherokee Nation who lives in Oklahoma. Further, it pits the Christian Alliance of Indian Child Welfare against the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Baby Veronica was born to unwed parents who signed waivers agreeing to place the child into adoption in 2009. The Capobiancos adopted the girl. Brown, claiming he did not fully understand the purpose of the waiver when he signed, later filed suit and was awarded custody of the child at the end of last December. The Capobiancos are appealing the decision and gathering allies in the process.

While it is not clear exactly when Brown was deployed in relation to the adoption proceedings, reports indicate he was

deployed overseas in Iraq for a year with the U.S. Army sometime during the process.

The association has been tracking the case and said they need help from Indian Country due to the amount of bias in local, state and national media coverage of the case. In addition, potentially adverse legal ramifications could rise from the outcome for thousands of American Indian families across the nation.

Issues involved in the case, according to the association, include the child's needs, paternal rights, vulnerability of parents serving in the armed forces, state adoption laws and federal Indian law. Media covering the case, the association alleges, has disregarded facts surrounding the case and criticized the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, the relevant federal law in the case. National coverage of the case on CNN, in newspapers and online social media has also been damaging and inaccurate in portraying the case and the Indian Child

Issues involved in the case . . . include the child's needs, paternal rights, vulnerability of parents serving in the armed forces, state adoption laws and federal Indian law.

Welfare Act.

Compounding the difficulties of the situation for the association is a Christian Alliance of Indian Child Welfare campaign called Save Veronica, which is essentially a recruiting drive and legal defense fund on behalf of the adoptive parents.

Further, the association indicates the adoption case is difficult to address because of the lack of accurate, publicly avail-

able information and sealed court records, the first such situation in the association's history.

"We are in for a long fight.

This will likely not end at the South Carolina Supreme Court, especially if the biological father's custody is upheld," the association noted in a recent mass communiqué. "The prospective adoptive family has become crusaders against the Indian Child Welfare Act. We

anticipate they will seek review in federal court of any decision in the South Carolina State Supreme Court that does not provide them with full custody. They are in a federal circuit that sees few Indian law cases and is considered very conservative."

The association indicated it must prepare for a legal battle to defend the Indian Child Welfare Act in this case by raising supporting funds and planning strategies.

Donations can be sent to the National Indian Child Welfare Association, 5100 SW Macadam Avenue, Suite 300, Portland, OR 97239 or pledged online on the association's website at www.nicwa.org. The association also asks folks to help raise awareness of the situation by passing information about it on to others. Further information about the association, its history and mission, becoming a member, joining its affiliated online sites and other information can be found on its website.



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Attention: Students with all A grades or perfect attendance

Elementary, middle and high school students are eligible for the Student Incentive Program for the 2011-2012 school year. The program rewards students for all A grades, perfect attendance or both. Students must be in grades 4-12 for all As and grades K-12 for perfect attendance. The program is sponsored by the Michigan Indian Elders Association. It is not a Sault Tribe program; the tribe is providing the information and application as a courtesy to our membership. Please follow all directions on the application. The deadline is 5 p.m., April 10, which is when it must be RECEIVED by: Leah Fodor, c/o MIEA, P.O. Box 218, Dorr, MI 49323.

**Michigan Indian Elders Association
2011/2012 Student Incentive Program
Application Form**

Student's Name:		Age:	Grade:
Address:		City:	
State:	Zip:	Phone:	Email:
School Name:		School Address:	
School Phone and Fax:		Principal's Name:	
Student's Social Security Number (voluntary):		All A's Number of marking periods	Perfect Attendance number of marking periods

VERY IMPORTANT - Please attach the following documents to this completed application in order for your student to qualify and be considered:

1. A copy of the student's report card signed by his/her parent and/or a letter from an administrator in his/her school stating the marking periods for which he/she have had all A's or perfect attendance; (note: student must be in grades 4 through 12 to qualify for all A's and K through 12 for perfect attendance)
2. A copy of the student's tribal membership card; (If the student doesn't have a card please include a copy of a parent's tribal card)
3. NOT REQUIRED, however, if a photograph of the student is available which could be used in promotion of the program please enclose with the completed application. Please write the student's name on the back of the picture.

I certify that all the information given is true and correct. I understand that this information is being given for the receipt of funds and the Michigan Indian Elders Association program coordinator may verify the information on the application with my child's school. I further give consent for the use of my child's name and/or likeness for the promotion of this program.

Parent's Signature _____

Date _____

Please mail the preceding information to: Leah Fodor; C/O MIEA, PO BOX 218, Dorr, MI 49323

All information Must Be Received by **5:00 p.m. on April 10, 2012** to be eligible for the program.

Scholarship contest opens for Native high school students

By RICK SMITH

The Holland and Knight Charitable Foundation recently opened its 2012 Young Native Writers Essay Contest. Competitors must be high school students in grades nine through 12 who "have a significant and current relationship with a Native American tribal community."

Responding students should write an essay of no more than 1,200 words that describes "a crucial issue confronting your tribal community today. Explain how you hope to help your tribal community respond to this challenge and improve its future."

Feel up to the task? Get your entries in by the April 30 deadline. The foundation requires all essays to be uploaded to the contest website at www.nativewriters.hklaw.com. Essays sent by other means such as email, mail or fax will be disqualified. Complete rules and requirements are posted on the competition website.

Winners will be notified of results by May 31 and their essays will be posted on the foundation's website. Each of five first-place winners will receive a \$2,500 scholarship and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. from July 8 to July 14, accompanied by any teachers who inspired their participation in the contest. While in Washington, D.C., winners can visit the many sites of the nation's capital such as the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution, national memorials

and others. In addition, the first-place winners will receive an award for display at either their homes or schools.

According to the foundation, the competition is designed to encourage young people of American Indian ancestry to think about critical issues facing their tribal communities and "honor the legacy of every American Indian who has ever lived."

The Holland and Knight Charitable Foundation is a non-profit organization formed in 1996 to conduct the many charitable activities led by employees of Holland and Knight LLP, a global law firm of more than 1,000 lawyers specializing in litigation, business, real estate and governmental law. The firm also has a component called the Indian Law Practice Group. It is composed of more than 20 experienced attorneys and government specialists in the complexities of Indian law in fields ranging from sovereign immunity to infrastructure development.

The Young Native Writers Essay Contest began in 2006 and is rooted in the shooting spree carried out by one student in 2005 at the Red Lake High School on the Indian reservation of the same name in northern Minnesota. The foundation originally developed the scholarship competition to help the Red Lake community find healing, and has since grown to serve all American Indian communities.

Cathy (McCoy) Abramson

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- ➔ Gaming Commission
- ➔ National Indian Health Board Chairperson
- ➔ Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee-Bemidji Area Representative
- ➔ Secretary of Health and Human Services Tribal Advisory Committee-Bemidji Area Representative

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It has been an honor serving you as a Tribal Board Member and I am asking for your continued support. When re-elected, I will continue to be your full time representative, working hard to be your voice. While I am running for Unit I, let me assure you that I represent ALL tribal members no matter where you live.

With your support, I will continue to serve and represent our members in a respectful and professional manner. You are important to me and I will continue to watch out for your best interest to the best of my ability.

(Paid for by Committee to Re-Elect Cathy Abramson.)



Ma'iingan-doodem

Please call me at my home number 810-433-1184 if you have any questions or would like to assist with our campaign. Miigwech!!

Re-Elect to Unit 1

Taking breaks and building a fine art gallery



A close-up of a section of one of the completed puzzles on display in the Kewadin Manistique Casino employee breakroom area. Vincent, who has 17 years with the Sault Tribe, said the puzzles are donated by staff members.

Kewadin Manistique Casino gift shop cashier, Tammy Vincent (left), and Manistique casino manager, Lisa Fisher, with the latest of 50 jigsaw puzzles the Manistique crew solved and put on display in the employee breakroom and adjacent passageways. Vincent came up with the idea of making the puzzles available for enjoyment in the breakroom about a year ago. Fisher likes the idea as a form of morale support for the staff. The casino crew take turns solving the puzzles during work breaks. Finished puzzles are mounted, framed and hung for display. The team pastime has culminated in an unofficial art gallery of their own making.

Photos by Rick Smith



Above, is it a photograph? Perhaps a painting? At a slight distance, it is difficult to determine if many of the finished works are puzzles or actual photos and paintings. Below, more works along another wall of the passageway.



Above, Vincent and Fisher with some of the works on display in the breakroom passageway. All of the works are glued and placed under a protective layer of pliable plastic. The frames are fashioned by the casino's maintenance crew from scrap wood. Below, another close up of one of the works on display. The puzzles feature pastoral scenes, landscapes, seascapes, architectural works, wildlife, Americana and American Indian themes.



Family Fun Night enjoyed at JKL Bahweting



Jenny, Shalan and Shania Palmer had fun experimenting with sound.

JKL Bahweting School in Sault Ste. Marie held its annual Family Fun Night on Feb. 7. It was a huge success with 323 people attending.

It appeared that everyone enjoyed all the activities. The book fair was busy, the parent/child engagement that was happening at the engineering activities was amazing, children visited the star lab, the story telling event found many students sharing special moments with an audience, memories were captured with themed family photos, cupcakes were decorated and the only word that can be used to describe the cake decorating contest is "WOW." A great time was had by all!



Joy Anderson looks at one of the many selections at the book fair. Curtis Hubbard, left, seems to be amazed that she is enjoying it.



Middle school students operated a concession stand at family fun night to help raise money for their eighth grade trip. Here, Joey Harvey serves nachos to one of the many event participants.



Team "Bawating Anishinaabek," Dean Sayers, Amy McCoy-Sayers, Mike McCoy and Kim McCoy did a fantastic job integrating second grade Geezhik into all aspects of this challenge.



"Team Extreme," Tracey Knight, Andrea Masters, Sandee LeLievre and Nikki Dowd created one extreme cake!



Above, Team "Island Cakes," Beckie Palmer, Theresa Kallstrom, Molly Davie and Krissie Beamish had so many great ideas they chose to do several smaller cakes rather than one big one.



Left, American Idol cake critiquers C. Lo (Carolyn Dale) and Simone (Cheryl Stevens) gave positive feedback to each team and presented team awards and recognition.

Reaching education milestones



Dorothy Karr

Sault Tribe member **Dorothy Karr** made the dean's list during her first semester at Northern Michigan University where she is majoring in radiography and plans to get her ultrasound technician certificate.

Dorothy is the daughter of Howard and Theresa Karr of Wetmore, Mich.

Justin Neil Muehlhauser of Linden, Mich., member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, graduated as a pre-recruit from Washtenaw Community College Police Academy on Dec. 16, 2011, after 21 weeks of training.

He also graduated with an associate's degree in criminal justice from Virginia College.

He is looking for a job with tribal law enforcement in the state of Michigan.

His very proud mother is Marge (nee Andrews) Bekins of St. Ignace, Mich., step-father Terrance J. Bekins of Grand Haven, Mich., father Craig Muehlhauser of Kansas, fiancé Erica Shiggow and son



Justin Neil Muehlhauser

Ethan Muehlhauser, 2, of Linden.

Friends can contact him at jmuehlhauser13@yahoo.com.

Barb Smutek, an employee of the Sault Tribe Alive Youth (STAY) program, graduated from Central Michigan University in August of 2011 with a Master of Science degree in administration.

She was recently accepted into the new hybrid doctoral degree program in educational psychology and educational technology (EPET) at Michigan State University starting this June.

Smutek said the program had a highly competitive admissions process with a large number of highly qualified applicants to the program coming from across the country and internationally.

EPET program coordinator Dr. Robin K. Dickson said, "Our goal is to prepare educational leaders with the requisite knowledge and skills to direct and evaluate learning in the confluence of the



Barb Smutek

world of digital media, online learning environments and traditional face-to-face practice. Participants such as Barb Smutek will be engaged with powerful ideas about learning and technology while actively employing innovative technologies in their own learning so that they will be highly qualified to lead in a time of great change."

Smutek said she would recommend all Sault Tribe members explore options in higher education. With the expansion of reputable online programs, advanced degrees are possible for anyone in any location. She said MSU's EPET program has an excellent website and she encourages everyone to visit: www.educ.msu.edu/cepse/epet.

"I am so thankful to everyone in my life that encouraged me to pursue education," she said. "My tribe, my peers and especially my family have played a large part in my success as a student. Chi miigwech, mom and dad!"

Miigwech



We wish to express sincere heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all coworkers and friends for the gestures of kindness shown after our recent loss of a dear partner, brother and uncle, Orien A. Corbiere.

A very special thank you to Cheryl Bernier, Theresa Lewis and the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians for providing a lovely luncheon and feast. Thank you, Cecil, for providing the opening and closing ceremonies at the Niigaanigiizhik Ceremonial Building for his visitation. Many thanks for your floral tributes, monetary donations and condolence cards. Thank you to all who knew Orien, for sharing their memories with us, he will truly be missed. Many thanks to the Baawating Singers and the Firekeepers. A special thank you to the drivers Cecil Pavlat and Josh Homminga for accompanying Orien home to M'Chigeeng. Thank you very much to Edythe Nichols for the ribbon shirt. Thank you all who offered and provided our family with accommodations.

Your gestures of kindness and generosity will never be forgotten.

Gchi miigwech.

Walking On

DARLENE A. CASWELL

Darlene A. Caswell, 62, lifelong Newberry resident, died unexpectedly at Marquette General Hospital in Marquette on Feb. 29, 2012.

Born in Newberry on July 12, 1949, she was a daughter of Jonas J. and Helen J. (nee Calkins) Moses. Darlene was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

According to her wishes, cremation services have been accorded. The family will hold a private inurnment in the spring.

Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry assisted the family with their arrangements.

JERRY L. CAUSLEY

Jerry L. Causley of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died Feb. 21, 2012, at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie. He was born Sept. 10, 1954, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Jerry was an avid sports fan, enjoyed playing golf. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

He is survived by his wife, the former Phyllis Downs, his stepson, Kirk (Nancy Hamilton) Downs of Lansing, his step daughter, Christine (Mark) Groh of Sault Ste. Marie; sisters, DaLinda Brissette and Debbie Causley; brothers, John (Pat) Causley Jr., Jim (Dorothy)

Causley, Donald Causley, Jeff (Connie) Causley and Daryl Causley; grandchildren, Brittany, Allyse, Malcolm, Tanecia and Cierra. He will be missed by many more close relatives and friends, especially his great niece, Taylor.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Lorraine Causley.

Funeral services were held on Feb. 24, 2012, at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home with Brother John Hascall officiating. A Memorial Mass was held Feb. 25 at Our Lady of Snows Catholic Church with Brother John Hascall as celebrant. Final resting place is Father Marquette Indian Cemetery.

DARRELL J. CRYDERMAN

Darrell J. Cryderman, 54, of Kincheloe, Mich., passed away unexpectedly on Feb. 22, 2012 at War Memorial Hospital.

Darrell J. Cryderman, also known as "Bobo," was born Aug. 31, 1957, the son of Charles and Julie (Tolliver) Cryderman in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Darrell graduated from Sault High School with the class of 1975.

He married Ane (Roberts) on Nov. 23, 2009. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Darrell enjoyed hunting, fishing for wall-eye near the Sugar Island ferry,

NASCAR, Red Wings hockey and the Detroit Tigers.

Darrell is survived by his wife, Ane Cryderman of Kincheloe; sons, Darrell Cryderman Jr. of Florida, Sean Cryderman of Sault Ste. Marie, Adam (Abby) Roberts of Kinross, Mich.; two granddaughters, Adrianna and Danak Cryderman; his mother, Julie Mary (Tolliver) Cryderman of Missouri; two brothers, Danny Wilson and Dale (Janis) Wilson, both of Sault Ste. Marie; a sister, Lisa (Bill) Jones of Missouri; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles Newton Cryderman.

A Memorial Mass was held Feb. 27 at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church with Brother John Hascall as celebrant. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to help with the Danak College Fund. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

NANCY HUEY

Nancy R. Huey, 70, passed peacefully surrounded by family and friends on Feb. 11, 2012. Born on May 29, 1941, she was the daughter of David and Dorothy Ripley in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Surviving her are her son David Huey, his wife Barbara

and grandsons Eric and Sam Huey of Frenchtown, N.J. and her son, Marc Huey, his wife Lynda and grandson Jon-Marc Huey of Melbourne, Fla.

Nancy is preceded in death by her parents and son Christian who also passed on Feb. 11, 25 years ago.

Nancy enjoyed gardening and going to the shore with friends. She spent most of her career helping disabled children as an aide.

Per her request, a traditional ceremony led by Donald Silva and Kate Cummings was held before her passing and for four days after her death. Memorial Services will be held in the Spring.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in the name of Christian and Nancy Huey to Freedom House P.O. Box 367, Glen Gardner NJ 08826 or visit freedomhousenj.org.

LARRY G. JEWELL

Larry George Jewell, 36, of Sugar Island, passed away unexpectedly Feb. 18, 2012 at War Memorial Hospital, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Larry was born on Aug. 1, 1975, in Garden City, the son of Donald and Darlene (Masta) Jewell. He graduated from Monroe High School. On Aug. 24, 2001, he married Stephanie Dornbos in Saline. Larry was co-

owner of Island Tree Service.

He loved to do mechanic work, hunt, fish, and ride snowmobiles and dirt bikes. He was an accomplished artist

who enjoyed drawing, painting and giving tattoos. He loved living on Sugar Island and enjoyed playing chess at the Hilltop Bar. Larry was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. His love for his family saw no bounds, especially for his wife and four beautiful children.

Larry is survived by his wife, Stephanie Jewell; their four children, all of Sugar Island, Ashia, Kayleigh, Savannah and Jayden Jewell; his father, Donald Jewell, and his wife, Loretta; three brothers, Donald Jewell of Sugar Island, Harry Jewell and his wife, Lisa, of Maybee, and Rodger Jewell and his wife, Suzy, of Colorado; two sisters, Chevone Montri of Sugar Island and Deanna Bussell and her husband, Steve, of Tennessee; a niece who was more like a sister, Shawna Bennett, of Monroe; and his many nieces and nephews, including Joseph, Ashton, Carlyon, Marcus, Dawson, Amya, Cipreanna and

— See "Walking On," Page 17



From "Walking On," Page 16
 Jorga. He is also survived by his father-in-law, Steve Dornbos of Whitmore Lake, his mother-in-law, Sue Dornbos of Florida, and a brother-in-law, Bill Dornbos of Florida.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Darlene (Masta) Jewell, and a niece, Christy Jewell.

Funeral services were held Feb. 24, 2012 at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home with Pipecarrier Cecil Pavlat officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to help with funeral expenses. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

HERMAN "BARNEY" MCCOY

Herman Angus "Barney" McCoy of Sugar Island, Mich., died peacefully Feb. 19, 2012, at War Memorial Hospital with family by his side.



He was born August 1, 1929, on Sugar Island to Theodore and Mary Ann (Pine) McCoy.

Barney retired from the Cadillac Motor Company of Detroit and moved back to the old homestead on Sugar Island with his wife, Flo. He was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the United Auto Workers of America.

He is survived by two sisters, Patricia (the late Jim) Belleau and Viola (the late Allen) Catling, many nieces, nephews and cousins by the dozen.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Flo, and his parents.

The Belleau and Catling families would like to thank Tina Fox and Wilma Cairns for their excellent care of Barney.

Visitation and services were held at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home with Father Sebastian Kavumkal officiating. Interment services were held at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens with Brother John Hascall officiating.

Memorial contributions to the Road to Recovery, 500 Osborn Blvd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, would be appreciated.

LORRAINE RUTLEDGE

Lorraine (nee Leask) Rutledge passed away on Dec. 7, 2011, at the age of 85 and below is a small tribute to her life.

Lorraine was born on Sugar Island March 9, 1926. Story goes that when Dolly Leask was going into labor, she was to hang a pair of red long-johns on the clothes line to alert the nearest neighbor to come help (no phones back then). It must have worked because Lorraine was born and a wonderful life began.

Lorraine's childhood was spent on a farm on Sugar Island, which always made for many good stories to pass along (for example, her brother Gordie and ice skating on the creek). The island is also where Lorraine spent her final days playing a mean game of cribbage with her siblings (five still live on the island) or anyone else who would stop by. The following is what happened in-between.

Lorraine graduated from Sault High in 1943 and had several adventures (traveling to Flint



to work in a defense plant along-side a cousin) before she married and started a family. Lorraine married Melvin "Ping" Rutledge and had three children born in the Sault before work took them south to Troy, Mich., and four more were born.

Lorraine had seven children in nine years and life got

hectic. Lorraine's calendar was always full but so was her life.

Lorraine worked for 27 years at the Wayne Oakland Bank as head of student loans, but she also found time for her committed volunteer work, which she continued throughout her life. She was PTA president for the elementary school for many years. She was also a Cub Scout den mother, and Ping and Lorraine would often host the summer corn roast every year. Between volunteering to drive families without a car to dentist appointments and such, she also found time to attend almost every school event her children participated in (band concerts, football, baseball, and wrestling).

And speaking of sports, Lorraine was an avid fan. Summer in the Rutledge house was filled with Ernie Harwell's voice keeping the world informed on what the Tigers were doing. Winters were all about the Red Wings and what a great man

Gordie Howe was. Lorraine would sneak a few minutes here and there to catch up on the latest scores, but not too much time because there were always laundry to be done and meals to cook.

Lorraine was always cooking, and there was always enough food at dinner time for "one more person." The Rutledge house was open for friends and family, especially at mealtime. Lorraine was known far and wide for her homemade bread. There was nothing better than a thick slice of fresh bread (cut with the infamous knife that is now the family heirloom) lathered with "real" butter.

Another specialty of Lorraine's was her pizza. Of course the main ingredient was her bread, which made the crust thick and crispy. And when the pizzas were thrown in the oven, you would think an alarm had gone off in the neighborhood shouting "pizza at the Rutledge house." There were always many extra friends over on pizza day.

Lorraine treated everyone the same. If you were a friend that stopped by, it wasn't unusual that she would put you to work. If she was going to feed you like family, you pitched in like family. Many times she would corral anyone (mostly girls) to stop and "just comb my hair for a minute while I rest my feet and read the newspaper." Everyone did it without complaint (they were worried they'd get off the pizza list).

Lorraine was also a very compassionate person, and she taught her children to "count their blessings." The children still quote something she would say when there were complaints about having to wear old shoes. She would say, "You're lucky you have feet to put shoes on." Lorraine raised her children with a strong

sense of family and to do the right thing. Lorraine's wonderful life continues on in her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren:

Lorraine's children and grandchildren, Fred and Marcia Rutledge, Amy and Abby, Karen Van Wormer, Adam and Tamera, Randy and Lisa Rutledge, Kalynn and Shaye, Debbie and Craig Hill, Kendra and Max, Rick and Adrienne Rutledge, Samantha and Nick, Lori and Bob Jankow, Savannah, Joe and Juliet Rutledge and one on the way.

And great-grandchildren, Leah, Eric, Ella, Darla, Nicholas, and Grayson.

Lorraine's siblings, Ted Leask, Joyce McCoy, Leo (Tuff) Leask, Gordie Leask, Wilma Cairns, Carol Smith, Linda Leask, Gayle Belleau.

Lorraine was preceded in death by her husband Melvin "Ping" Rutledge, and her siblings Ted, Tuff, and Linda.

If anyone would like to donate in Lorraine's memory please consider Sugar Island Ambulance, Sugar Island Fire Department or War Memorial Hospital Long Term Care facility.

GENA MARIE LABRANCHE

Gena Marie LaBranche of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away unexpectedly on Feb. 23, 2012. She was born on May 27, 1965, in Flint, Mich., to Gerald and Patricia LaBranche.



Gena loved singing and dancing, her family and spending time with her grandchildren. She was a member of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, attended to

powwows and was very proud of her Native roots.

Surviving Gena are her parents, Gerald and Patricia LaBranche; her special friend, Lee Thompson Jr.; her son, Travis LaBranche, and her two daughters, Amber (Brandon) Gentry and Joelle LaBranche; and her grandchildren, Eli, Grace and Ayden Visnaw, Kayden and Draven Gentry and Danika-Jo LaBranche.

Preceding Gena in death is her brother, Jerry Lee LaBranche.

She will be loved and missed by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Visitation was Feb. 26-28 at the Niigannagizhik Cultural Building with funeral services Feb. 28, Brother John Hascall and Cecil Pavlat officiating. Her final resting place will be at Mission Hill Cemetery in the sping.

Memorial contributions may be left to Gena's family. Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral home assisted the family with arrangements.

BETTY JEAN LOUNDS

Betty Jean Lounds, 69, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., previously of Prudenville, Mich., passed away Feb. 19, 2012, at Munson Medical Center with her family by her side.

Betty was born on Sept. 20, 1942, in Sault Ste. Marie to Daniel and Gertrude (Earl) Somes. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

She married Dwaine Lounds on April 16, 1960, in Sault Ste. Marie. The couple lived in Monroe before moving to Prudenville in 1975 and in 2005 moved to Sault Ste. Marie where she was the office manager for the tribe.

See "Walking On," Page 18

What is Our Tribal Path Forward?

What a difference four years has made which begs the question...

Are you better off than you were four years ago?

- Our Elders' checks were cut by 64% (\$1,600 to \$575) & Elder Recreation Funds - decimated.
- In 2008, 750 college students received over \$700,000 in scholarships - today this is just over 100!
- Funeral assistance - virtually eliminated.
- Children's Christmas parties, a shadow of what they were.
- After the 2008 Election 155 good people lost their jobs; 95% were Tribal.
- Other than the Chairperson's \$100,000 salary, just who's benefitting from their Membership?

Contrary to the campaign information you've read in select Tribal Board Unit Reports, I did not create the current financial situation. When I was Chair, I balanced the budget every year, under-spending the budget by:

\$4.5 million Savings in '04 \$2.5 million in '05 \$1.5 million in '06 Balanced the budget in '07

Some claim we had a \$75 million "reserve account"; apparently they can't count or they exclude the \$268 million Greektown debt including a \$60 million balloon payment due the day I took office in 2004. The 70/30 split I proposed before Proposal E passed in '96 would have reduced our liability by \$120 million! Our Tribe lost Greektown over just \$8 million!

SHOULD I RUN FOR YOUR CHAIRPERSON IN 2012?

Please call (440-5937) or Email (aaronpayment@yahoo.com) to let me know what you think

Take Our Survey For a Chance to WIN \$500!

Take just 5 minutes to complete a short 10 question confidential/anonymous survey of Tribal Members' needs and wants. Grouped results will be shared with Tribal Election candidates to promote positive change.

Take the survey by April 15th and have your name placed into a drawing to a \$500 cash prize!

To take the survey:

Just send me an email or go to the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/STSurvey2012>



My mom Katherine (nee) Payment (1945-2008) and me at my '04 Tribal Chair installation.

CONTACT ME ON FACEBOOK AT 'AARON PAYMENT' OR OTHER MEMBERS AT THE 'SAULT TRIBE GUIDE'

Please Support a Tribal Revenue Sharing Plan

To gain the support of the people of our Tribe, the Tribal Board should allow us to vote on a long term spending plan to ensure we have a Sault Tribe Guarantee beyond another broken promise.

Vote to Disapprove the Current Lansing Casino Referendum...

...so we can enact a better Revenue Sharing Plan to allocate future revenues for the following purposes:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 12% to the Elder Fund (\$3,000 per Elder per year) | 12% for Expansion of Services Beyond the Reservation Borders |
| 3% for College Scholarships & Job Training | 30% for Debt Retirement then Services Expansion |
| 1% for K-12 (Cash for Grades & Attendance) | 8% for 'Low Interest Business Loans and Mortgage Program' |
| 20% for Service Areas Stabilization & Expansion | 15% for Economic Diversification & Build Reserve Account |

Aaron Payment Enforces & Paid for this Advertisement

Ebert-Butzke engagement



Kelley and Dennis Ebert of St. Cloud, Wisc., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Heather Lee Ebert to Dustin Louis Butzke the son of Ray Butzke and Dawn Berg. The couple reside in Eden, Wisc. A July 21, 2012 wedding is in planning.

From Walking On, Page 17

She was a member of the Houghton Lake Does, she enjoyed snowmobiling, boating, loved to read and crochet and especially loved spending time with her grandkids and great grandkids of whom she was very proud.

Betty is survived by her loving husband of 51 years, Dwaine Lounds of Sault Ste. Marie; son, Daniel (Debbie) Lounds of Lapeer; daughters, Debra Lounds of Traverse City, and Denise Traver of Roscommon; grandchildren, Chris, Jen, Shawn, Ashley, Katrina, Josh, Nick, Nathan and great grandchildren Kylie, Brayden and Indigo; brothers, Daniel (Karen) Somes of Ohio and Glen (Theresa) Somes of Maryland. She was preceded in death by her parents and grandson, Kyle.

A celebration of life service will be held in the spring in Sault Ste. Marie. Christler Funeral Home Prudenville Chapel is handling the arrangements.

ROBERT GIEROK

On Jan. 9, 2012, Robert (Bob) Gierok walked on. He was 57 years old and grew up in Flint, Mich. He passed away in his sleep. Bob was a master mechanic who could fix any boat, large or small. He had been living and working in North Port, Fla., for the last two years.

He is survived by his mother, Eva Koch, a retired registered nurse and elder in the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe, and step-father James Horne. Bob leaves one

son, 21-year-old Joseph, who was learning boat mechanics from his father, as well as 24-year-old daughter Melissa, who is attending college in Georgia to become an ultrasonographer. His wife, Anne Loan, is a registered nurse at Emory University Hospital in Georgia.

Bob loved the outdoors, growing his own food in a large garden, and riding his motorcycle. He was a big animal lover, from dogs, cats, to turkeys, ducks, etc. He enjoyed helping older people in the neighborhood, and they all loved him. He adored his grandbabies; Rebecca, 4, Daniel, 2, and Ryley, 3.

Bob's brother, John Gierok (Wanda Lautner), is a guitar instructor at Benzie Central High School in Traverse City, Mich. His brother, Daniel Gierok, and wife, Sherry, both work at Munson Hospital in Traverse City. His sister, Susan Koch (Jay Miller), mother of two small boys, lives in Marietta, Ga., as do his father and mother-in-law, Bob and Pat Loan. His daughters from a previous marriage are Tiffini DuBrey of New York and Christa Campbell of Florida.

Preceding him in death was his father, Robert Lewis Gierok; brother, William (Billy) Giero; and sister, Debra Arntz, who passed away April 6, 2011.

Always cheerful and ready to lend a helping hand, his sunny smile, sparkling eyes and great hugs will be missed.

Happy birthday, my boy!

Love,
Grandma



Artisans get exposure at Bawating Art Gallery

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

If you are a Sault Tribe member or a member of a Sault Tribe household and have handcrafted products you would like to sell, then the Artisans Program at the Kewadin Casino Bawating Art Gallery may be for you.

There is no cost to participate. The casino sets up display booths or tables on a first-come, first-served basis. There is a registration process that requires proof of tribal membership or membership household. If an individual within a tribal member household wishes to participate, the tribal member must also register and provide a copy of their tribal card. Youth under the age of 18 must have parental supervision.

From February through September, program participants can sell their wares the second weekend of each month — Thursday through Saturday — from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. From October through December, the program runs every weekend with

the exception of Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Tribal members and their families have been traveling from St. Ignace and Muskegon to participate, bringing their paintings, greeting cards, jewelry, beadwork, handmade cigarette cases, blankets, pillows, household items and a large variety of other handcrafted items, according to Rachel McKechnie, executive assistant to Sault Kewadin Casino's COO.

"The artisans tell me they sell quite a bit, especially during some of the casino's busier weekends when we have some of our events on site," McKechnie added.

The casino's Banquet Department is also very involved in the program, working with McKechnie to make sure artisans have the appropriate number of tables to display their work.

If you don't have the time to

man a table over the weekend but would still like the opportunity to display and sell your artwork, the gallery also offers a consignment program. The artist sets the price and when it sells, the casino takes a 20 percent commission.

"We have had a lot of success with the consignment program and have local artists who sell on consignment on a regular basis. We have paintings, wood burnings, carvings and jewelry," McKechnie said. The consignment program is a little more limited than the artisans program on what will be accepted, sticking to a more northern woods theme such as traditional beadwork, quill work and Native paintings.

If you would like to register for either program, contact McKechnie at (906) 632-0532, ext. 53573, or call Art Gallery employees Dan Brown or Carmen Chippewa at 632-0532, ext. 53529. Registration materials can be picked up at the art gallery or by calling the above numbers.



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Sault Tribe Community Transformation Grant Project to begin a tobacco-free outdoor recreation areas initiative

FROM COMMUNITY HEALTH

In recognition of Kick Butts Day on March 21, the Sault Tribe Community Transformation Grant Program and the Sault Tribe Community Health Program are partnering with the Chippewa County Health Department's Tobacco-Free Living Coalition to highlight tobacco-free parks policies in Chippewa County and other counties throughout the Sault Tribe service area.

"Tobacco-free policies in outdoor recreation areas are important for protecting both health and the environment, and there is growing support for these types of policies in our communities," Community Transformation Grant Project coordinator Donna Norkoli said. "Tobacco litter is poisonous to children and wildlife and discarded cigarette butts are the most common form of litter. Studies show that cigarette butts are toxic, slow to decompose, and costly to remove.

Cigarette butts have been found in the stomachs of fish, whales, birds and other marine animals and can cause digestive blockages. Children routinely pick them up and try to place in their mouths. In addition, butts that are not fully extinguished pose a fire and burn risk. Recreation for children should not mean having to play



The banner above brandishes the message, "Your family deserves a smoke free home."

among cigarette butts or being exposed to secondhand smoke. Furthermore, use of commercial tobacco in outdoor recreation areas is not a behavior we want to model for the children in our communities. Research shows that tobacco-free policies can help prevent or reduce youth tobacco use."

Steady progress has been made with this initiative at the local level over the recent years. — The City of Sault Ste.

Marie adopted a tobacco-free recreation areas resolution that covers 13 recreation areas in Sault Ste. Marie, effective August 2010. Recreation areas designated tobacco-free include Project Playground, Sault Seal Recreation Area, Malcolm Park (James, Laucks, Locey, Day, Nertoli, Bunker fields only), kids fishing pond, Sherman Park (beach transition, playground, and bathrooms) and miscellaneous playgrounds used by chil-

dren. The resolution also requires Pullar Community Building and Kaine's Rink to be tobacco-free.

— The Sault Tribe Housing Authority adopted a tobacco-free policy for playgrounds on Sault Tribe housing sites, effective April 2011.

— Kinross Charter Township adopted a tobacco-free resolution for the baseball fields, playground, and fitness trail surrounding the Kinross Recreation Center, effective October 2011.

— Partners in Delta County worked with the City of Escanaba, resulting in the adoption of a smoke-free outdoor air ordinance, effective July 2011. The ordinance requires outdoor areas within 100 feet of city buildings, nine playgrounds, six ball fields, the guarded beach area, Webster pool and two ice rinks to be smoke-free.

For these reasons, the Sault Tribe Community Transformation Grant Program and the Chippewa County Tobacco Free-Living Coalition will partner to continue this important health initiative.

"Our initial steps to increase tobacco-free outdoor recreation areas will be to survey local township officials regarding their interest in making township parks tobacco-free," Norkoli said. "Sault Tribe will be partnering with local tobacco prevention coalitions and other community members in this initiative."

She added, "We are available to provide information and assistance to decision makers and community members at the local level."

For more information about tobacco-free initiatives, contact Donna Norkoli at (906) 635-8844 or dnorkoli@saulttribe.net. Information is also available by visiting www.healthysaulttribe.com or www.chippewahd.com.

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CHAIRMAN

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

I would be honored to continue to serve the membership as the chairman of our Tribe.

—Joe Eitrem

- Respected Tribal Elder
- Experienced Businessman

WE NEED A LEADER WHO IS WILLING TO MAKE DIFFICULT Decisions to Stabilize Our Tribe:

- ▶ **Working Full Time for Membership.**
- ▶ **Pushing to diversify our businesses by securing federal SBA 8(a) status for new and existing enterprises to secure minority set aside contracts.**
- ▶ **Fighting to protect the Tribe's Resources and Sovereignty.**
- ▶ **Moving forward to secure a Lansing Casino.**
- ▶ **Treating board members, employees, as well as the membership, with respect, behaving in a professional manner.**
- ▶ **Working to provide medical insurance for all tribal members throughout the USA.**



With your help, I have provided and will continue to provide responsible leadership. I have a lifetime of business experience and firmly believe in restoring our Tribe to an era of community harmony and financial stability.

Please feel free to contact me at (906) 632-8567 or via email at josepheitrem@yahoo.com

Paid for by Joe Eitrem

"We need stability within our Tribe. I think I can provide that."

AVON grant aids in breast cancer early detection

The Avon Breast Health Outreach Program awarded a \$50,000 one-year grant to the Sault Tribe Health Center to increase awareness of the life-saving benefits of early detection of breast cancer and to provide assistance in access to care. It is the fifth year that the program has received funding from the Avon Foundation for Women to support its work on this important health issue, and in recognition of the program's excellence.

The breast health program, Get on the Path to Breast Health, at the Sault Tribe Health Center will educate Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding area women and refer them to low-cost or free mammograms and clinical breast exams in their own communities. The vital program will also provide transportation assistance to women who drive over 30

miles one way to receive their mammograms at the Sault Tribe Health Center by providing a \$10 gas certificate when done with their mammograms. In addition, patient navigation services such as assistance with scheduling, transportation and insurance are available for patients receiving care in one of the tribe's clinics.

Since January 2011, the Get on the Path to Breast Health program at the Sault Tribe Health Center reached more than 1,343 women with information about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and referred almost 996 women for mammograms and clinical breast exams. In addition, 396 women received a \$10 gas certificate through the program's transportation assistance.



Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the United States, and the leading single cause of death overall in women between the ages of 40 and 55. According to the American Cancer Society, 7,890 new cases of breast cancer will be detected in Michigan this year and 1,320 lives will be lost.

Nationwide, there is a new diagnosis every three minutes and a death from breast cancer every 14 minutes. While advances have been made in prevention, diag-

nosis, treatment and cure, early detection still affords the best opportunity for successful treatment. Programs such as Get on the Path to Breast Health help ensure that all women have access to early detection information and options, even poor and medically underserved women.

"We are proud that the Avon Foundation for Women shares our mission and has chosen to support our program. With these funds we will be able to assist Native women with important screening and necessary treatment," said Michele Bickham, radiology supervisor at the Sault Tribe Health Center.

"By educating our communities on the importance of early detection, and encouraging women to get annual screenings

we are decreasing the health disparity that we as Native people face," said Amanda Leonard, patient navigator, Sault Tribe Health Center.

She added, "This program allows us to be able to assist women in getting screening and treatment for breast cancer. It brings me great joy to be able to help patients and this is made possible through our Avon grant."

Since 1993, the Avon Foundation has awarded more than 1,550 grants to community-based breast health programs across the United States, including Get on the Path to Breast Health at Sault Tribe Health Center. These programs are dedicated to educating underserved women about breast cancer and linking them to early detection screening services.

Traditional Medicine hires new staff member

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE — Sault Tribe member Dalinda Brisette was hired last October by the tribe's Traditional Medicine Department located inside the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center.

As a traditional medicine practitioner assistant intern, Brisette helps to sort and grind medicines, drums and prays for the traditional practitioners when they are seeing patients, gets medicines ready for patients under the direction of the traditional practitioner, makes appointments, does office paperwork and helps with



Dalinda Brisette was recently hired as a traditional medicine practitioner assistant intern.

ceremonies and sweat lodges.

Brisette, of Hessel, was previously employed with the Hessel Kewadin Casino as a surveillance operator. She has also spent the past few summers keeping the gardens at the Hessel golf course beautiful.

Her interest in traditional medicines began as a young child watching her grandmother, who knew how to use plants for medicines and poultices. "My parents couldn't practice their traditional spiritual ways, so we didn't learn a lot from them. But my grandmother knew how and what plants to pick and how to make teas and medicines. When I was a baby and crawling on the floor they couldn't figure out why I was dragging one of my legs. My grandmother asked my mother to put a poultice of leaves and I think salt pork on it and a needle came out of my

leg."

In her early 30s, Brisette met a priest at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church who at one time was a priest for the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and through their conversations she became interested in Native spiritual traditions. She started attending sweat lodges in Bay Mills where she met members of the Bay Mills Indian Community, from whom she also learned.

During her time at Bay Mills Community College, she wrote a research paper comparing the properties of local Native medicines to some of their European

counterparts that doctors use today. "I am learning more since I have been here. I believe the Creator gave every culture their way of healing and medicines. He gave different people different gifts to use for healing, medicines and for seeing beyond," she said.

If you are interested in making an appointment at the Sault Tribe Health Center to see traditional medicine practitioners Keith Smith or Harlan Downwind call (906) 632-5268. Brisette works with Traditional Medicine Assistants Laura Collins and Peggy Hemenway.

Join the 3rd annual walk and roll to work, school or play

To encourage community members to use active forms of transportation, the Sault Ste. Marie Building a Healthier Community Coalition (BHCC) and Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health Project is sponsoring a Walk and Roll to Work, School or Play Day on Friday, April 20. Everyone is encouraged to walk, roll, jog, run or cycle at least one-half mile to work, school or play. This type of commuting benefits your health, improves the environment and saves you money.

The Walk and Roll event is

open to both individuals and teams, it includes the Commuter Cup Challenge, a friendly workplace competition to encourage co-workers to bike or walk to work. The Commuter Cup Challenge is open to all workplaces in Chippewa County. A trophy will be awarded to worksites in four categories — mini, small, medium and large.

The worksites with the largest percentage of total employees who walk, bike or roll to work on April 20 will win the coveted Commuter Cup Trophy. Last year's winners included JKL Bahweting School,

large worksite; Chippewa County Health Department, medium worksite; Soo Evening News and Bayliss Library were tied for the small worksite category; and Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank won the cup in the mini worksite category.

Do you live too far away from your destination to walk? Walking and rolling from out of town is easy! Just drive to town, park in one of the designated parking areas and then walk, roll, jog, run or cycle to your destination. If the morning commute is not an

option for you, try a walk at lunch or during break time. For participants who work in downtown Sault Ste. Marie, the Lunch Loop, which begins in the front of Avery Square, is available for use.

Worksites planning to form teams and participate in this challenge are invited to a team captain luncheon on Tuesday, April 3, from 12 to 1 p.m. at the Sault Tribe Health Center auditorium in Sault Ste. Marie. Maps, registration forms and instructions will be available in addition to great ideas to promote this event at the

workplace. Please register/RSVP by March 30 in order to attend the Team Captain Luncheon.

Encouraging friends and co-workers to Walk and Roll to Work, School or Play will be critical in making this a city-wide success.

For registration materials, please visit www.healthysaulttribe.com. For more information, contact Lisa Myers, SAH Project coordinator, lmeyers@saulttribe.net, (906) 632-5255, or Wayne Barry, BHCC SMART Group coordinator, wjbarry@gmail.com, (906) 748-1787.

Registered dietitians contribute greatly to healthful lifestyles

When you want to make positive changes to your life, like lose a few pounds, who do you see? A registered dietitian.

When schools want to help students become more healthy by learning to make better choices at lunch, who do they consult? A registered dietitian.

When hospitals and nursing

Dr. Colin Irish provides medical services for tribal members, spouses, tribal employees



Dr. Colin Irish

Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, at the Grand Island Chippewa Community Center, (Munising Tribal Health Center), 622 W Superior St., Munising MI 49862. Call: 906-387-4721 or 1-800-236-4705.

Services offered at no cost to tribal members include medical, osteopathic, acupuncture, prescription medication, traditional medicine, home health nursing services, nutrition and health education counseling, behavioral health and addiction counseling and smoking cessation medication and counseling services.

homes want to offer the best nutrition for their budgets, who do they look to? A registered dietitian (RD).

When Sault Tribe medical clinics see patients who needs to make some lifestyle changes to improve, who do they send them to? One of the tribe's RDs.

As food and nutrition experts,

RDs do these and myriad other jobs in our society to make things better:

— RDs are the food and nutrition experts who can translate nutritional science into practical advice.

— RDs have degrees in nutrition, dietetics, public health or a related field from well-respected, accredited colleges and universi-

ties. They have completed an internship and passed an examination.

— RDs use their nutrition expertise to help individuals make unique, positive lifestyle changes.

— RDs work throughout the community in hospitals, schools, public health clinics, nursing homes, fitness centers, food

management, food industry, universities, research and private practice.

— RDs are advocates for advancing the nutritional status of Americans and people around the world.

March 14 is this year's Registered Dietitian Day. If you know an RD, be sure to say "thanks!"

Manistique team members take the color challenge

Feb. 13 kicked off a 12-week employee wellness challenge in Manistique. Twenty-two of the facility employees are currently working to increase their activity level and to eat more colors during the work week.

The challenge involves eating five or more colors from fruits and vegetables every day, Monday through Friday. In

doing so, participants earn miles toward their goal of walking across the seven-county service area. More miles are earned by walking at least five miles each day before, during or after their work shift.

Registered dietitian and diabetes case manager, Gail Sulander, and health educator, Kerry Ott, developed the challenge to assist

fellow team members in improving their own wellness by doing what is recommended to clinic patients.

Limiting the challenge to the work days of Monday through Friday creates a true employee wellness program. However, walking and eating colorful foods are also encouraged on the weekends.

CAN YOU SPELL WINNERS?



Photo By Pamela Metivier

Fifth grade students, from left, Macy Cook, Braedon Pages and Riley Walters were the top three spellers in JKL Bahweting's fifth grade.

JKL Bahweting School's Gifted and Talented Program hosted the annual spelling bee for fifth through eighth grade students on January 25. The spelling bee is sponsored by the EUP Consolidated Community Schools. The top three winners (first to third) from each class were:

Grade 5: Braedon Pages, Riley

Waters, Macy Cooks.

Grade 6: Samantha Brand and Griffin Zajkowski, Marrisona Clement.

Grade 7: Anne Marie Peer and Kaitlyn Goodman, Lawrence Taylor.

Grade 8: Alissa LeBlanc and Kaleb Shannon, Jacob Thompson

The top two students from each

class competed at the district level against St. Mary's, Maplewood Academy and Rudyard Area Schools.

Congratulations to sixth grader Griffin Zajkowski for taking second place at the Rudyard competition. Griffin will move to the regional competition in St. Ignace in March.

First networking meeting held

BY PAMELA METIVIER

The Gifted and Talented Department at JKL Bahweting School held its first Parent Community Network meeting Feb. 22. All parents of gifted and talented students and their families were invited to attend. Parents signed in and filled out a gifted and talented survey while their kids got to know each other and played with some mind boggling puzzles. Everyone enjoyed a dinner of salad, pasta and bread sticks.

The meeting was brief and parents were asked to keep the evening and the group itself all about having fun and getting to know each other better. After dinner, a creative building challenge was set up and all the

parents and kids formed teams of four or five. They were given the nearly impossible task of building a tower of pasta using spaghetti noodles, mini marshmallows, elbow noodles, straight straws and sticky mail labels. The tower had to hold a pint-sized container and 16 penny nails, one at a time, until all five pounds of nails were used or the tower collapsed. The team with the tallest, strongest structure won the challenge.

Families are looking forward to meeting next month for a family story collection night. We are hoping to bring in elders to speak to the families about the "old days" before they begin documenting their own family memoirs.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

April 6, 6-8 p.m., at the Hessel Tribal Center.

\$6 for adults

\$4 for ages 12 and under

Youth 3 years and under eat free.

Proceeds go to the Tribal Youth Council.

For more information contact: Lisa Burnside at 484-2298 or lburnside@saulttribe.net.

Tribal Youth Council Pancake Breakfast

March 24, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at the Hessel Tribal Center.

\$5 for adults

\$4 for ages 12 and under

Proceeds go to Mukkwa Giizhik Drum.

For more information contact the YEA office at 484-2298 or lburnside@saulttribe.net.

Forum part of JKL Bahweting improvement study

BY RICK SMITH

Company officials from an architecture, engineering and planning firm met with about 30 concerned citizens in a forum on Feb. 23 at the JKL Bahweting Public School Academy in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to review and discuss proposed options for physical improvements to the school. Representatives of the Michigan based C2AE and the planning and development firm Hayward Consulting conducted the forum. A few officials associated with the school and Sault Tribe were on hand as well.

Sault Tribe member and former C2AE CEO Ray Tadgerson introduced the primary speaker for the event, Dennis Bekken, project manager and design architect for the firm. Bekken later introduced two other speakers, landscape architect Rusti Owens and professional planner Steve Hayward to speak on their areas of expertise regarding the presented proposals. Owens addressed items such as wetland issues and Hayward focused on financial matters surrounding any improvement project for the school.

Bekken explained the forum is part of the latter stage of a feasibility study in developing a report on the project for the leading bodies of the school and the tribe. The report will be a culmination of an array of prior meetings, data collection and extensive work in conceptual development and



Photo by Rick Smith

A community forum on the feasibility of structural improvements to JKL Bahweting Public School Academy in Sault Ste. Marie took place on Feb. 23. Representatives from the firms of C2AE Architecture, Engineering and Planning and Hayward Consulting who conducted the forum were, from far left, Sault Tribe member and former C2AE CEO Ray Tadgerson, professional planner Steve Hayward, landscape architect Rusti Owens and architect Dennis Bekken.

design in looking at the feasibility of infrastructure improvement options.

After providing an overview of how information for assessments were acquired and some of the resulting details from the assessment, Bekken moved on to reviewing two options in making the school improvements. Essentially, the options are to expand and renovate the existing building or design and build an entirely new facility at the southeast corner of Seymour Road and Bobcat Court on the Odenaang housing site just south of the Sault

Ste. Marie city limits.

The primary strengths of renovating the existing building, according to Bekken, is the existing location of the school is known in the community and it could reduce the overall cost of the project. Among several disadvantages are limited space for outdoor features such as playgrounds and athletic fields without buying and developing adjacent land, inconvenient parking, poor separation of bus and automobile traffic, substandard sized classrooms in lower grade levels, hallway traffic

of upper grades requires disruptive circulation past lower grade levels, renovations and expansion will interfere with school programs during construction and the removal of three to five modular units used by the school would be required.

The strong points of building a new school on the Odenaang site, Bekken noted, include increased interior and exterior spaces, arrangement of the facility for maximum achievement in creating the best learning environment, all school programs could be accommodated at the site, proper

separation of bus and automobile traffic while sharing the same secure entrance, school programs can continue unfettered at old facility during construction of new school and it is the best opportunity to incorporate whole-building sustainability at the least cost. Weaknesses are that the project may not be possible without public utilities extended to the site, access to the site may be limited without road improvements and road maintenance, construction may be more expensive, the site is not within easy walking distance to main population areas and neither are any proper walking or bicycling facilities in place.

According to material provided at the forum, the projected cost for the proposed expansion and renovation of the existing building would be nearly \$18.5 million while construction of a new building as proposed would approach \$22.6 million.

The professional team conducting the forum fielded questions and feedback from attendees after their presentations. Community input was also one of the several steps the development company took in preparing the final report on the study. The report will also incorporate recommendations from the school's officials and Sault Tribe leaders along with any necessary modifications. Bekken said the report should be ready around the end of March and will be distributed to appropriate school and tribal officials.

Saving on salt is saves water quality, wildlife

Here in Sault Ste. Marie, we are accustomed to long winters with a lot of snow, and over the years we have learned how to cope with icy roads and walkways. Road salt is used practically everywhere because it really works when it comes to de-icing. The use of salt as a de-icer has expanded greatly in the last century with more than 18 million tons being spread over roadways in the U.S.

For safety purposes, road salt is definitely a great tool, but where does all that salt go? We have to keep in mind that everything we put on the ground will eventually end up in our water, the water that we use every day for drinking, bathing, swimming and many other uses. Over the winter, the roads are salted often, we salt our driveways and walkways. When the snow melts, all of the salt is washed right into our waters.

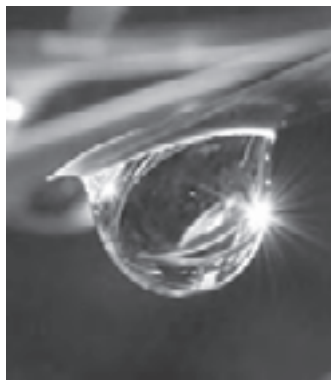
Salt enters our waterways through direct runoff to our surface waters or by moving through soil and groundwater. When it does, the salt water threatens drinking water supplies and can harm fish, freshwater plants and other organisms, while putting at risk wildlife, birds, vegetation and soil organisms in the surrounding ecosystem.

Once salt enters our groundwater, it typically takes decades for the salts to disappear due to the slow travel times in groundwater, contaminating our drinking water. The largest issue with salt

in public water supplies is the taste preference to consumers but there are more serious concerns of the impacts of salt on human health. The most well-known side effect of too much salt is hypertension, or high blood pressure. Prolonged hypertension increases the risk of heart disease, heart failure, stroke, and kidney disease. Another side effect of too much salt is edema, a swelling of the body, usually seen in the hands and legs. Edema occurs when the body retains an excess of fluid in an attempt to balance out the extra sodium.

Salt affects the ecosystem in many ways. Just like humans, each plant and animal can only handle so much salt before it has negative effects or even death on the organism. Too much salt in soil inhibits plants from getting their water and nutrients from the soil, causing them not to survive, decreasing food and habitat for animals.

Everything in moderation is key. The amounts of salt going into our environment can be very detrimental to our whole ecosystem. Salt destroys soil structure by killing some soil bacteria. This allows more soil to erode into streams, taking the salt with it. Salt erosion contaminates drinking-water supplies to levels that exceed standards. Salt doesn't evaporate or otherwise get removed once it's applied, so it remains a persistent risk to aquatic ecosystems and to water quality.



Water Drop

BY CRYSTAL BOLE

Salt slowly kills trees, especially white pines, and other roadside plants. The loss of indigenous plants and trees on roadsides allows hardier salt-tolerant species to take over. Deer, elk, moose and sheep eat road salt, which causes salt toxicosis; the animals lose their fear of vehicles and humans, causing many fatal encounters.

As you may have noticed, salt does not only have an affect on our bodies and the ecosystem that we live in, but it also has an affect on our cars, buildings and roads, which is costly to everyone. Salt can penetrate concrete to corrode reinforcing rods, which can damage bridges as well as roads. Salt damage to vehicles includes corrosion of parts like bumpers, brake linings and frames as well as bodywork. Salt also causes cracks in the paws of household pets like cats and dogs.

How can you stop using salt around your home?

At this time, sodium chloride, also known as salt, is the cheapest and effective way to de-ice our roads and walk ways. There are other de-icers being developed but are not as cost effective as salt. Knowledge is power, so try and keep up on the advances in this area. Make sure all salt is enclosed properly so not to use it unnecessarily. Encourage your city, county or township to properly house salt piles and look into other salt alternatives.

In your own home:

— Mix your salt with sand so that you're not using as much salt.

— Try proactive shovelling to remove snow before it compacts and melts into that slippery enemy, ice.

— Planning to create or rework your driveway? Consider a porous surface that offers drainage and improves traction, such as gravel or interlocking paving stones.

— Use sand. It's gritty, it's non-perishable, it's natural — it's sand!

— Use ashes. If you have a wood-burning fireplace, you need to do something with the ash. It's grippy and it's dark, so it heats up in the sun, melting ice!

— Use kitty litter.

— Use a salt alternative such as EcoTraction, CMA (Calcium magnesium acetate) and KA (potassium acetate)

CMA is harmless to plants and animals and not corrosive to metals or damaging to concrete. It works best when spread at the beginning of a snowstorm, before temperatures drop low enough to form ice, and on light, non-compacted snow. Disadvantages of CMA include its higher cost and a tendency to blow away and absorb moisture, clogging spreading machines. Potassium acetate (KA) is another alternative to salt which is noncorrosive. It's less harmful to steel structures like bridges.

Sand, gravel, kitty litter and ashes spread on surfaces do not melt the ice, but give drivers and pedestrians extra traction. Some concerns exist that the buildup of materials that are easily washed away when the snow melts, such as sand, add to sediment in streams. IF possible try and cleanup sand when melting starts, by shoveling slush into the garbage or by sweeping up remnants as it continues to warm up. Earth-friendly ways to avoid using any materials to melt ice at home include wearing snow cleats on shoes and investing in a set of snow tires and a snow shovel.

Alfalfa meal is a natural fertilizer containing nitrogen, which melts ice. When looking for alfalfa meal, ensure it's not the kind sold in pellet form by feed stores. This type of alfalfa is available from local garden centers and increases traction for drivers and those on foot.

MSU Extension hosts workshops on Cottage Food law and food safety

Classes continuing through May

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

MSU Extension, in conjunction with the MSU Product Center for Agriculture and Natural Resources, is offering a workshop titled, "Cottage Foods: How to start a successful business."

Michigan's Cottage Food law took effect July 2010 and allows people to sell certain homemade food products made in their home kitchens directly to the public.

The Product Center offers resources for Michigan entrepreneurs in the agriculture, natural

resources and bio economy sectors.

The workshop discusses the Cottage Food law as it pertains to small food businesses. Proper food handling techniques, food safety and storage are also covered, in addition to what foods are and are not considered cottage foods in Michigan.

After you have successfully completed the workshop, you will receive a certificate stating that you have taken food safety training related to Michigan cottage foods. The certificate is not

required to sell cottage foods, but lets your customers know you have taken extra measures to ensure safe food products.

There is a \$20 fee for the workshop and you can register by visiting: <http://web2.msue.msu.edu/cottagefoods/>.

If you have an entrepreneurial spirit and are considering offering some of your homemade food products for sale, you will be interested in the workshop that Michigan State University Extension will be offering around the state. For more information

about the Product Center visit <http://productcenter.msu.edu/>

For more information about MSUs Extension services go to: <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/>

Cottage Foods: How to start a successful business 2012 workshops:

Hillsdale, Mich. — March 8, 3-5 p.m. at the Hillsdale County MSU Extension office, call Jeannie Nichols at (517) 439-9301.

Kalamazoo, Mich. — March 27, 3-5 p.m. at the Kalamazoo Northside Association for

Community Development, call Jeannie Nichols at (517) 439-9301.

Springfield, Mich. — March 22, 3-5 p.m. at the Springfield Farmers Market, call Rita Klavinski at (269) 781-0784.

Novi, Mich. — March 22, 3-5 p.m. at the Tollgate Education Center, call Eileen Haraminac at (586) 469-6082.

Garden Mich. — April 25, place and time to be announced

Munising, Mich. — To be scheduled week of May 7, further information to be announced.

UW kudos to FNB

First National Bank in St. Ignace has been selected as the February Volunteer Business Neighbor of the Month through United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula's Spotlight Recognition Program. Nominated by the Community Health Access Coalition (CHAC), First National Bank of St. Ignace supports the local community in a number of different ways.

CHAC partners with many organizations within local communities to enhance the services they provide to residents. Most recently, First National Bank partnered with CHAC by purchasing and advertising their caramel apple fundraiser. Funds raised during the event support CHAC's prescription assistance program. First National Bank's support raised the largest amount of funds by a business in Mackinac County. This was the third year they have participated in this particular fundraiser. CHAC and United Way of the EUP are appreciative of the support shown to the non-profits in the community by First Financial Bank of St. Ignace.

Pictured at right are Andrea Osborn (CHAC), Veronica Rickley, Ruth LaChapelle, Lynda Eby, Pattie Tafelski, Lisa Litzner, Robert Brandstrom, Amy Marshall, Heather Peterson, Angela Fraser, Andrea Tamlyn, and Justin Modrzyński (L-R).



Issuance of commercial fishing licenses moved from CORA to Sault Tribe Law Enforcement

By **BRENDA AUSTIN**

Sault Tribe commercial fishermen – captains, co-captains and helpers – must now make appointments with Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) when renewing or applying for commercial fishing licenses. The Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) previously issued the commercial licenses and will continue to handle all other aspects related to com-

mercial fishing, including catch reports and commercial vessel registrations.

Although STLE will now be issuing the licenses, they do not make any decisions pertaining to the licenses themselves.

Sault Tribe Chief of Police Robert Marchand stressed the fact that other than coming to STLE for their licenses, everything else remains the same — catch reports will remain the same and ques-

tions about commercial vessel licensing should be directed to CORA (632-0043).

STLE has a new fax number for licensing and permitting for use by commercial fishermen, subsistence fishermen and anyone exercising their treaty rights activities. That new number is (906) 635-7707.

Kasey Povey will be taking all calls pertaining to commercial licenses and can be contacted by calling 635-6065. It is requested that no messages be left on voice mail or with other employees about appointments. You must speak directly to Povey and have a confirmed appointment to be seen. Walk ins are not accepted. No appointments will be taken after 4 p.m. to allow licensees time to travel to the BIA office, which closes at 4:30 p.m., for their signature.

Forms of payment include check or money order and fees are payable when you come to your appointment. Fee amounts are: \$100 for large boats (25.1 foot and up), \$50 for small boats (25 foot and under) and \$25 for helpers.

If you are a helper or captain who is being licensed for the first time, your first stop should be at the Sault Tribe Enrollment Office. You must have your enrollment information for the BIA to review



Kasey Povey at Sault Tribe Law Enforcement is now handling tribal commercial fishing licenses.

When is my catch report due?

There has been some confusion about subsistence and netting catch reports and when they are due. These reports are due monthly. This information can be found on your licensing paperwork. License holders are required to submit a catch report for each type of license they hold, with reporting requirements varying by license type.



Photo courtesy Grandma Pearl Carr

Tribal member Billy Carr got his first "gator" in Florida while on vacation. It was a 6-footer, and what an exciting adventure it was for him! Carr is a senior at Warren Mott High School in Warren, Mich.

before a license can be issued. There will be a \$5 fee to copy your file.

STLE is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The BIA is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed on federal holidays) and Sault Tribe Enrollment is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

\$15,000 Keno

Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
March 16-18, 2012

\$15,000 Video Poker

Kewadin St. Ignace
March 30 - April 1, 2012

\$22,500 MEGA BINGO

Kewadin St. Ignace Event Center
Saturday April 21, 2012

Pre-register at Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie, Manistique, Christmas or Hessel until April 13 for \$75. Pre-register at Kewadin St. Ignace until April 19 for \$75. Packages will be available at the door on April 21 for \$90.

Credit Card or Check orders call DeAnn at 1-800-KEWADIN, ext. 1 or direct to DeAnn at 1-906-643-7071, ext. 1. Visit kewadin.com for more information.

WEEKLY SLOTS OF FUN

January - December 2012

Every Monday - Christmas & Hessel
Every Tuesday - Manistique

Top scores at each location will share in the \$15,000 Grand Prize Pool in December.

POKER MANIA

Weekly Texas Hold'em Poker

Every Sunday - 4 p.m.
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie

Every Wednesday - 6 p.m.
Kewadin St. Ignace

Weekly winners will be invited back at the end of each month to play in Poker Mania!

KEWADIN KLASSIFIEDS

1.800.KEWADIN | www.KEWADIN.COM

Eric Burdon and The Animals
Saturday, March 24 at 7 p.m.
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan



Lonestar
Thursday, April 12 at 7 p.m.
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

Gin Blossoms
Gin Blossoms
Saturday, April 28
at 7 p.m.
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan



MARCH CASH & CREDIT MADNESS

All Kewadin Sites
Tuesdays in March

- Top of the hour random slot draws for \$100 in Kewadin Credits at 12 noon, 4 p.m. & 8 p.m.
- Customers can receive one free entry for that night's grand prize draw and also earn entries for every 25 points for that night's grand prize draw.
 - Grand prize draw will be at 9 p.m.
 - Sault Ste. Marie & St. Ignace - One person will win \$3,000 each site**
 - Manistique & Christmas - One person will win \$1,500 each site**
 - Hessel - One person will win \$750**
- e barrel will be emptied after each Tuesday and tickets will be zeroed.

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT MONDAYS

Kewadin St. Ignace, Manistique, Christmas & Hessel

Win up to ...

- \$5,500 at Kewadin St. Ignace
 - \$2,000 at Kewadin Manistique & Christmas
 - \$1,500 at Kewadin Hessel
- \$11,000 Total EVERY MONDAY!**

RISE & SHINE

All Kewadin Sites

April 27, 2012

Earn, Collect for a Chance to Win!

THURSDAY IS SENIOR DAY

All Kewadin Sites

If you are actively gaming you are eligible for our 500 drawings between all sites for \$10 in CASH or CREDITS!

Qualifying customers can also receive \$5 in credits by earning 10 points.

Complimentary continental breakfast. Must be 50 & older to be eligible.

DINING SPECIALS for everyone at all sites!

*Please note that Club hours vary by site.



There's no place like Kewadin.

Inland regulations daily catch limits updated

New language in the tribe's inland regulations, Chapter 21 of the Sault Tribe Code, has been updated to the catch limits below. The entire chapter and code, can be viewed and downloaded online at www.saulttribe.net. Look in Natural Resources, under Membership Services.

21.916 Daily catch limits.

No tribal member may harvest fish in

excess of the applicable daily catch limits in Sections 21.908 through 21.912 and this Section, whichever is less.

(1) For lake trout, rainbow trout, splake, brook trout and brown trout five per species per day in lakes with a maximum of 10 in combination.

(2) For brook trout, brown trout and rainbow trout in streams a maximum of 10

in any combination, no more than three of which may be over 16 inches long.

(3) For Coho, Atlantic, Pink and Chinook salmon five per species per day.

(4) For muskellunge and tiger muskellunge two per day.

(5) For largemouth bass, small mouth bass, and walleye 10 per species per day except where specified otherwise by permit.

(6) For bluegill, sunfish, crappie, lake whitefish no limit.

(7) For northern pike 10 per day.

(8) For lake sturgeon one per season.

(9) For smelt a 2-gallon limit for smelt caught with the use of seine.

(10) For perch 100 per day.

(11) For any species not listed: No creel limit.

2012 specially regulated seasons: WALLEYE, STEELHEAD

The Inland Fish and Wildlife Department would like to take this time to remind Sault Tribe members the 2012 specially regulated walleye and steelhead seasons will be opening shortly.

The 2012 specially regulated walleye season in walleye lake systems (listed in Chapter 21, section 21.906) are as follows: Upper Peninsula April 1 – May 14; Lower Peninsula March 15

– April 23

The 2012 specially regulated walleye season in Bay de Noc (listed in Chapter 21, section 21.207) are as follows: Bay de Noc tributaries March 15- May 15; harvest is prohibited in the Bays de Noc tributaries March 1- March 14.

The 2012 specially regulated steelhead season in restricted streams (listed in Chapter 21,

section 21.910) are as follows:

Hook and line: Upper Peninsula April 1- April 24; lower peninsula March 15- April 24. Spear: April 1 – April 15

Sault Tribe members will be required to possess a valid 2012 harvest license. There will be no charge associated with individual specially regulated walleye harvest permits.

Licensed Sault Tribe fisher-

men can call Inland Fish and Wildlife Department from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at (906) 632-6132, to apply for fishing permits on a given lake or stream. Permits will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants need to apply one day in advance. For a permit on Monday, members must call before 12 p.m. on the previous Friday. For weekend permits,

members must call before 12 p.m. on Thursday. Permits will be issued no more than five days in advance of the permitted 24 hour fishing period. Sault Tribe Members will be able to pick permits up in person or they can be faxed to the location of the members' choice. Harvest reports must be filed no more than 72 hours after the permitted 24-hour fishing period.

2012 Sault Tribe Inland Application

Please fill out the following application indicating all harvest tags that you would like in addition to your 2012 Harvest License (which includes Inland fishing, small game, waterfowl, migratory birds, general gathering and general furbearer). The Harvest License authorizes you to participate in activities pursuant to Chapters 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code only. Great Lakes activities require separate permits pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Tribal Code.

In 2012, the cost for each member will be \$15. Please note, there will no longer be a mailing fee assessed. **You must pay with a check or a money order payable to Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.** If you have questions, please contact the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (906.632.6132) or Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (906.635.6065). Youth (16 and under) and Elders (60 and over) are not required to pay fees. New applicants must provide proof of hunter safety and **all** members must include a copy of their Tribal card.

First name	<input type="text"/>	Middle	<input type="text"/>	Last	<input type="text"/>				
Address	<input type="text"/>			City	<input type="text"/>	State	<input type="text"/>	Zip	<input type="text"/>
File Number (red# on Tribal ID)	<input type="text"/>	STS # (Red #on harvest card)	<input type="text"/>	Date of birth	<input type="text"/>	Sex	<input type="text"/>		
Phone number	<input type="text"/>			Email address	<input type="text"/>				

Hunting harvest card

Non-hunting harvest card

Application Harvest Tags

Deer

Spring Turkey

Fall Turkey

pine marten, bobcat, river otter, and fisher harvest tags

Bear and Elk Applications will be available on the Sault Tribe website and the newspaper in the May 2012.

Walleye and steelhead permits for the specially regulated seasons will be available by contacting the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department, see website for details (www.saulttribe.com).

For all other permits pursuant to chapter 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code, you must contact the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (i.e. State Firewood and State Maple Sap).

Please mail completed applications to:

PO Box 925

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

GUACAMOLE: TASTY AVOCADO DIP IS EASY TO MAKE

FROM THE KITCHEN OF BOB FLOWERS

Americans have a love of Tex/Mex food, including tacos, burritos, enchiladas, chili and the ubiquitous nachos. Like the rest of you, I too love this kind of food. It's good stuff.

Guacamole is a sauce made primarily with avocados that goes especially well with most southwestern foods. Sadly, most people I know around here have never been taught how to make this wonderful sauce. And as I walk around the grocery stores, I

see packets for making guacamole and pre-made guacamole that has things in it that were never supposed to be in it. This versatile sauce is so easy to make, and with very simple ingredients.

And so, I give you my version, which was taught to me by a good friend (who happened to be of Mexican origins) in San Diego many years ago. Feel free to change it a little, to make it your own favorite version.

Ingredients:

2 Haas avocados

3 tbs. ripe, freshly diced

tomato, or 3 tbs. of your favorite salsa

2 tbs. minced onion

1 tsp. lemon or lime juice (my wife prefers lemon, while I prefer lime)

1 tsp. Tabasco or Sriracha pepper sauce

Use a sharp knife to cut lengthwise down to the pit of the avocado. Now, circle the fruit with the knife, all the way around, down to the pit. Take the two halves, one in each hand and twist in opposite directions. The two halves will separate, with

one containing the pit. The easiest way to remove the pit is to take the knife edge and chop it a little way into the pit. Twist the knife to turn the pit and lift it out with the knife. Do the same with the second avocado.

Cut slits both lengthwise and across the avocado flesh. Slide a spoon between the flesh and the skin and remove the cubed avocado into a bowl. Add both the diced tomato and the minced onion to the avocado. Mash it all with a fork until the avocado is smooth. Add the lemon, or lime

juice, and the pepper sauce and stir in until well combined. Now taste it. Isn't that just an amazing flavor?

Use this tasty sauce in your next taco, burrito or spoon it over an enchilada. Serve it with slices of roast beef or chicken. There are so many things you can do with this sauce. Put it into the pocket of split pita bread with thinly sliced beef and sliced tomato.

You are sure to find numerous ways to use guacamole to enhance your meals.

Chairman reports on Lansing casino project



**JOSEPH EITREM,
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN**

Aanii!

This month, I have traveled throughout the U.P. and lower Michigan to some 20 locations

to meet with members on our Lansing casino project. Tribal members asked many good and tough questions about the project and I am extremely grateful to all members who took the time to attend. At the meetings, we took a poll of those attending. Based on the surveys, most members – 68 percent of them – said they support the project, though some are still opposed.

We held the meetings to make sure tribal members understand that the Lansing casino is not another Greektown Casino, and that the tribe assumes no financial risks for the project unless and until the federal government approves it. After explaining the details, we generally received positive feedback.

I was notified last week that a referendum petition was submitted and will likely go out to the membership. The board of directors will review this on Tuesday, March 6, and then send out for a vote of the members. I believe the wisdom of our tribal members will prevail.

Membership needs to know that if they vote to disapprove this project, it will be devastating for our future plans. It would affect substantial enhancement to our elder checks, annual revenues to the elder health self-sufficiency fund, the elder employment fund, funeral assistance fund, education assistance fund and college scholarship fund that would provide tuition for any tribal member regardless of

blood quantum.

We may NEVER AGAIN have this opportunity to pursue this type of venture where developers Jerry Campbell and associates will fund the predevelopment and legal fees of the project. At this point in time we could not even think about pursuing this business venture without the \$10 million predevelopment money in place.

In addition, the tribe may be held liable for breaking of a contract and could be sued.

Contrary to what the individual who is pushing this referendum says, the board of directors has the duty and obligation of our Constitution to “manage any and all economic affairs and enterprises of the tribe and to engage in any business not contrary to

the federal law that will further the economic development of the tribe or its members and to use tribal funds or other tribal resources for such purpose.” (Article VII – Powers, Section 1.) This is why you, our members, elected your unit representatives — to represent you and to further develop the tribe. That is what we are doing with this Lansing casino project.

Before you vote on the coming referendum ballot, which I hope you will do, please have all the facts from credible sources. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office or your unit representative.

Respectfully,
Joe Eitrem

Tribe has best financial picture seen in years



**LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT II**

You may have attended one of the many membership meetings the chairman and Legal Department have held in the units, as well as downstate to provide accurate and truthful facts pertaining to the Kewadin

Lansing project. In Unit II, we have held one at both tribal centers in Newberry and Hessel and will also be holding one in Naubinway this coming week.

There was an attempt to schedule in Detour/Drummond but those I spoke with stated they would attend at the tribal center. If anyone is interested in having an additional meeting in a specific location in our unit, please contact Director Hollowell or I and we will make arrangements with the chairman’s office to schedule. We want all members to be educated and well informed of the intentions for this project.

This past month has been busy with policy review and we again will be addressing the separation of the CEO and chairman based on the secretarial election that was held some time

ago. I have placed this on our agenda many times to discuss and am relieved that other board members feel the need to discuss and address for a solution and outcome to move forward. I will keep you posted of our progress and be consistent about the need to secure the separation for a smoothly run government.

We will also be discussing the Constitution Committee and the document we have drafted. I encourage everyone to attend these open workshops so that you can help us steer this once again; we have a final product but the document has never been fully supported by leadership (past or present) or the membership. I believe we need to prioritize and make amendments, just as we did for prohibiting board members to hold office and work for the tribe (this is

prohibited now and changed in our Constitution) and separating the CEO and chairperson. That seems to be the only way we can accomplish the necessary changes that are needed. Please call your reps, call (800) 793-0660, or view our schedule on the website to attend these important discussions. At our monthly Unit II meeting I will be gathering input on what you believe is priority for changes needed.

As always, we constantly receive financial reports to keep us updated on our financial status. I’m very happy to announce that we ended up in the black for 2011, with a reserve. We did not carry a deficit into 2012 from 2011. With our spending decisions and programs reducing costs, WITHOUT cutting any services, we were able to have this outcome. Miigwech to our

staff that has been watching this carefully and assisting our programs. We still have a very long way to go to pay off our debt and increase revenue, but this is the best financial picture we have been in, IN YEARS. I will continue to be very cautious and prioritize.

It’s again election time for our tribe, it gets ugly and many non-truths are spread in our communities to hurt people — please beware of this.

As always, please contact me directly (484-2954 or lcausley@saulttribe.net) if you would like to meet or discuss any issues or concerns. Many of you I will see at our three monthly meetings in the unit and will attend as regular and scheduled.

Baamaa Pii,
Lana Causley,
Vice Chairwoman

No Lansing casino means declining revenue



**DEBRA PINE, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

Ahniin Anishnabeg.

I write with a heavy heart, there have been so many people that have walked on this winter in our community. I just want to say a special prayer for all those tribal members who lost someone this season and for those people who are struggling with sick relatives. Miigwech Gzhe-mnidoo maanda giizhegat. This is the simplest prayer and it is one of thanks to the Creator. With Semaa in your hand, this is the easiest way to give thanks to the Creator for this day.

We will be going into our next board meeting having to make a

decision as to whether or not to proceed with the Lansing project. A referendum was submitted and we will hear from the Election Committee and the Legal Division to see if the referendum was submitted properly and is sufficient to send out for a vote.

This last month has been a flurry of meetings with the membership in the Michigan area. I will say that most meetings have gone well. The general feeling going into the meeting is one of opposition and skepticism but when the people adjourned, our membership was generally in support of our efforts.

Here’s the thing people; you can vote on this but it does not make it a better project. You can vote on it but it does not guarantee success. You can vote on it and we will have to spend another \$35,000 on a referendum we cannot afford. You can vote on it and spend the money, that is your right. Here is the most important thing...What if it gets voted down?

If the Kewadin Lansing Casino project gets voted down, our tribe will still have declining revenues and increasing population demands. If it gets voted down, our tribe will still have a “Boomer” population that will continue to see

their elder checks decline. If it gets voted down, you will see more belt tightening and less membership services. Simple factors that I can point to are increasing gas prices and increasing food costs. Those are indicators of what we will be dealing with the rest of this year. Our tribe needs this revenue source to work. We simply cannot go on the way we have and I as a tribal leader cannot stand back and watch us backslide. Please vote to support the Lansing project.

Sincerely,
Debra-Ann Pine
440-1334
debrapine@yahoo.com

Attorneys and elders sought for appellate court

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians seeks qualified licensed attorneys and/or non-attorneys for the position of Appellate Judge in the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Appellate Court. The Appellate Court has 4 vacancies to fill, as follows:

— Three licensed attorney positions (two active and one reserve)

— One elder position (may be attorney or non-attorney)

The Appellate Court meets monthly. Oral argument is

held in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Appeals filed vary from year to year, but typically can be anywhere from one to four per year.

These positions include a \$200 per month stipend. Licensed attorney positions are also paid at the rate of \$150 per hour with a maximum billing of \$5,000 per year.

Qualifications for licensed attorney positions include:

- Must be a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

- Must be a member in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan.

Qualifications for elder (attorney or non-attorney) position include:

- Must be a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.
- Must be age 60 or older.
- If an attorney, must be a member in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan.

To further be considered for these positions, applicants should be able to demonstrate

that they have:

- Substantial education and experience working with tribal, state and federal law.

- Extensive knowledge in juvenile, criminal and child welfare proceedings.

- Knowledge and understanding of the history and traditions of the Sault Tribe.

A letter of interest, resume, and application should be submitted to Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court, 2175 Shunk Road, P.O. Box 932, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783,

Attn: Court Administrator.

Applications can be picked up at the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court or found at www.saulttribe.com, in the download section of Tribal Court’s webpage under the government tab. A copy of Tribal Code is also available to view at www.saulttribe.com.

For more information, please contact the court administrator’s office at (906) 635-7747, or via email at tswan@saulttribe.net.

The deadline to submit an application is April 6, 2012.

Improving tribal consultation with Head Start



CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

I serve as our Head Start Policy Council's board of directors liaison. Because we have an excellent director, Anne Suggitt, a hardworking staff and policy council, our Head Start/Early

Head Start Program is exemplary. Our program sets an outstanding example for serving our youth and their families throughout Indian Country.

On Feb. 15, I testified on behalf of our tribe during the Head Start Tribal consultation that was held in Petoskey. This was the first time that a consultation was held in our Midwest region. In order for our program to continue as the success that it is, issues were addressed to top officials from Washington, D.C.'s Central Office of Head Start.

A major issue is teacher qualifications. "The Secretary shall ensure that not later than Sept. 30, 2013, at least 50 percent of Head Start teachers nationwide in center based programs have (i) a baccalaureate or advanced degree in early childhood education; or

(ii) a baccalaureate or advanced degree and coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education with experience teaching pre-school age children."

Our tribe has been very proactive and supportive of securing educational opportunities for our staff so they may meet the Head Start Act of 2007 educational requirements. Three of our five teachers have their degrees and two will receive the associate degrees by December 2012. It is difficult to recruit new teachers in our area who meet these requirements.

The Office of Head Start needs to 1) Address the fact that not all areas of the country have qualified potential candidates in the early childhood education (ECE) field; 2) provide clear definitions of their expectations for accept-

able coursework equivalent to a major in ECE; 3) provide a timeline for individual grantees and their employees to obtain needed coursework; and 4) issue very clear expectations of individual programs as they relate to this mandate.

Another issue is training and technical assistance (T/TA). The Office of Head Start needs to be proactive in designing a T/TA system that is relevant for tribal grantees and programs. The current system is not effective or efficient. The money appropriated to T/TA needs to be used to train tribal programs, not T/TA contractors every four years.

A third issue is communications: Since 2005, timely, accurate and consistent communication by the regional office with American Indian/Alaskan Native

programs is lacking. A single point of communication needs to be established for the dissemination of information, guidance, support and directions when all tribal grantees are affected.

To conclude, we need an improved tribal consultation process where funding allocations, distribution formulas and other issues affecting the delivery of AI/AN Head Start and Early Head Start services are openly discussed and resolved in a timely manner. The Office of Head Start needs to develop its own tribal consultation policy in consultation with AI/AN grantees.

Since I am limited to 500 words during the election period, I would appreciate it if you would call me with any issues or concerns at (906) 322-3823 or email me at cabramson@saulttribe.net.

How and why the elders' checks are generated



KEITH MASSAWAY, DIRECTOR, UNIT III

This unit report will explain how and why the elders dividend checks are generated and why they have fluctuated.

In the 1830s, the federal government acquired millions of acres of land from the Ottawa and Chippewa tribes in northern Michigan. Beginning in the 1950s, the tribes filed claims against the federal government for arguing that the U.S had not paid fair compensation for this land. These claims were successful — and in 1997 Congress passed the Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act providing for payments to a number of tribes as additional compensation for these lands.

The Sault Tribe received

approximately \$20 million, which was deposited into a fund the Congress called the Self-Sufficiency Fund (also known as the land claims fund or the elders fund), to be administered by the Sault Tribe's board of directors. The bill also spelled out the purposes for which this fund and interest earned on the fund could be used. For example, it allowed the interest from the fund to be used as a payment to our elders. It also allows the board to use either the principle or the interest to buy land. If that land is purchased with interest from the fund, the Act provides that it "shall be held in trust." This makes such land subject to tribal jurisdiction, rather than state jurisdiction.

That is the basis of our Lansing project. Because land purchased with interest from the fund is required to be held in trust, we believe we can legally conduct casino gaming on such land.

The federal act also allows the tribe to add money to the principle anytime it wishes and it has done so. Ten million was added from Greektown and \$1 million came in from the 7+1+1 litigation. Other smaller amounts have been added throughout the years.

Here is where the elder checks are calculated. The checks depend

on three factors: the number of elders, amount invested and interest rates. The number of elders is not a constant figure. The baby boomer generation is now beginning to become elderly. As a result, each year the number of elders has continued to grow.

From 2010 to 2011 we added 400 new elders to the list. This year we sent out over 4,000 checks. That number is expected to increase dramatically in the next five years. But the interest earned by the fund has not grown. This means that every member who reaches 60 years old divides the interest by a greater number and reduces the size of the individual checks.

Right now, a large part of the money in the Lands Claim Fund is invested in the tribe. Roughly \$8 million is in a bank savings account. Approximately \$10 million was loaned to the tribe to help fund the construction of the St. Ignace casino and the tribe is paying interest to the land claims fund on that loan at 12 percent a year. Another \$10 million was loaned to the tribe's general fund and the tribe is paying interest back to the fund at 12 percent a year. As you see, with these interest rates being paid to the fund by the tribe are well above the interest rates that are currently available in the market. Right now

interest rates are from 1 to 3 percent for long-term investments. It is these high interest rates being paid by the tribe that are generating the interest used for the elder payments.

So when people say the tribe is not looking out for the funds in a fiscally responsible way, I disagree. Some have said repay all the loans. If all the money is put back into the account and not invested there would be no elder checks since there would be no interest earned by the fund and, thus, no funds available to distribute. If the funds were instead put in a regular bank savings account, it would only generate an interest rate of about 1 percent. That would earn only about \$300,000 in interest and, after that amount was divided among the 4,000, each would receive a check of only about \$75 each.

The other question we hear is, how did the tribe give out \$1,600 checks at one time? The answer is that there were fewer elders at that time but, more importantly, the board decided, in an election year, to add other tribal funds to the base amount. This money came out of the tribe's general fund. I was not on the board at that time, but I am told that this amount was raised many times at a single board meeting until it finally reached \$1,600. If you

recall, those checks to the elders also came with a tax notice and the amount that was not interest was to be taxed by both the state and the federal governments. With the financial crisis of 2006, the board could no longer afford to supplement the checks and they had to return to the original method of simply distributing the interest generated by the fund.

The other item to be discussed is the possible coming referendum on the Lansing project. There has been a lot of misinformation distributed by the opponents. The tribe has tried very hard to get out the correct information with over 20 townhall-type meetings and with our tribal paper. If you have any questions please call your tribal board member or the chairman anytime. We would be happy to help you understand the project and how we will be able to accomplish a casino in Lansing.

Please understand that to disapprove the board's action will stop the entire project and kill any chance of working with Lansing on a casino. When this project is successful it will greatly enhance all the tribe's services.

Thank you for all your letters and phone calls.

Keith Massaway
(906) 643-6981
kmassaway@msn.com

We need revenue Lansing casino would bring



PATRICK RICKLEY, DIRECTOR, UNIT III

Aanii all, hope all is well for everyone.

Spring is right around the cor-

ner, the boat to Mackinac Island started running last week. Let's hope the spring and summer season is a good one for business, with people back to work. The economy could use a good boost right about now; it's been a bad winter for a lot of businesses.

The tribe is trying to move forward with the Lansing project with enthusiasm and hopes that we will be able bring in more revenue for the tribal services and programs. Recently, a tribal member turned in a petition for referendum, which is a right of the people (Article IX) per the tribal Constitution and the board confirmed the validity of the signatures, so it will go out to the membership for a vote. The refer-

endum is on Resolution 2012-11 (Approval of Comprehensive Development Agreement with the City of Lansing, Michigan, Authorization to Purchase Land in Lansing Using Income from the Land Claim Settlement Trust Fund, Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Lansing)

It is unclear to me as to what the intent of the petition is, the membership having a say in what the tribe does or where the revenue will go. In the Constitution under Article VII-POWERS sec (1) The board of directors shall exercise the following powers, "(d) expend funds for public purposes of the tribe and to regulate the conduct of trade and the

acquisition, use and disposition of property.... (m) to manage any and all economic affairs and enterprises of the tribe and to engage in any business not contrary to federal law that will further the economic development of the tribe or its members, and to use the tribal funds or other tribal resources for such purposes."

In order for the tribe to put the land into trust it must be purchased with the Land Claims Settlement Fund. A lot of hard work went into this by the board members appointed to engage with the mayor and City of Lansing, the developer and various others. It is my hope that the ballots will be clear to you as to what you're voting on. If not,

contact your unit representatives or legal staff of the tribe.

The board's only intent, from my perspective, is that we will be able to sustain our services in perpetuity. When we get the doors open to Kewadin Grand River Casino and start to bring in revenue, then we will be able to quantify the amounts to be disbursed where, but we shouldn't put the cart before the horse. Let's make this thing a reality, eh!

I would like to remember and thank all of our veterans that have served or are currently serving. Thank you all. 'Til next time — Baa Maa Pii,
Director Pat Rickley,
Unit III
(906) 440-5149

Tribe needs more revenue for our members



BERNARD BOUSCHOR,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

In 1970 the tribe had no jobs, land or members services and our tribal government had not been federally recognized.

After federal recognition, the tribe's first federal contracts came in 1975, with the BIA and

IHS providing membership services. The first tribal employees were hired.

Sault Tribe's funding was inadequate — if things were to change it was left up to the tribe. We looked at what business opportunities might bring tribal jobs and revenue for membership services.

The Sault Tribe's first business was the Midjim. We built it so members who lived in tribal low-income housing could buy food and to provide a few tribal members with jobs. The tribe's first gaming venture was the bingo — an all-volunteer operation for the first few years. The profits were used to buy land for future housing sites throughout our territory.

In 1984, the tribe began planning for the first major business venture — a casino. We under-

stood the risk and structured a Tribal Code to govern gaming on tribal land with the Sault Tribe government owning the operation.

The profits were used to help build the tribe's governmental services in the tribal homeland, and look at other business opportunities. By 2000 we had five tribal casinos with 2,000-plus employees. Now in its 27th year, tribal gaming continues to be a success story for our tribe. The Kewadin Lansing Casino (KLC) will be our sixth tribal casino.

In the mid-'90s Sault Tribe established a self-sufficiency plan. Profits set aside from our casinos went into elderly, health, education, employment and funeral assistance funds and interest would be the sole source of funding member services.

The tribe has grown from 3,500 members in 1975 to over 40,000 in 2012. Members' expectations in the early years were for basic services (health, housing, education). Today, membership expects more and federal funding is inadequate.

Tribal casinos have been a huge success and we need to build on that success. The tribe has provided information on the proposed KLC. The board approved the use of a very small amount of interest (\$280,000) from the Self-Sufficiency Land Claim Fund. The tribe has no risk. The interest is what makes the entire project feasible and offers huge benefits to our tribe and members. It will provide revenue and 2,000 jobs while operating under tribal law.

By tribal law, the KLC project will provide the annual

income distribution below, to which I have added projected income over 20 years:

— 10 percent to the Self-Sufficiency Fund: \$200 million.

— 3 percent to the Self-Sufficiency Funds Elder Health, Elder Employment, Funeral Assistance and Education: \$58 million.

— 2 percent to a college scholarship program: \$39 million.

In closing, you may be asked to vote on the resolution to use \$280,000 of interest from the elder fund to buy a piece of property to build the casino in Lansing. We the tribe need your support; this is a win for the tribe and the membership. This will bring revenue, jobs and a new tribal casino under tribal law.

Bernard Bouschor, Unit I

Working to uphold the tribe's Constitution



DJ MALLOY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I

With all the information on the proposed Lansing Kewadin Casino dominating our media sources, I thought it a good idea to keep you up-to-date on other areas of concern where I continue to work for the benefit of the membership.

On March 30, 2010, our tribe received confirmation of the results of a secretarial election where the duties of the chairman and CEO were split. In a vote of 3,315 for and 1,014 against, the membership resoundingly voted to separate the chairman and CEO positions. As of March 4, 2012, this constitutional amendment, while recorded in our Constitution as law, has yet to be affirmed through action. There continues to be those on the board who argue this is not what you voted for.

I continue to bring this issue forward and argue to validate your vote by separating the two positions and assigning the CEO duties to a hired tribal administrator. In February, I gave my second presentation to the board documenting every facet of this issue and pointed out that we took an oath to uphold the Constitution. Failure to abide by this oath is a removable, if not prosecutable, offence. My presentation included the history of the separation:

“RESOLUTION 2007-83: RELATING TO FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Resolved, the Sault Tribe Co-Executive Directors has full authority over all employees. If

the CEO/Chairperson has any concerns, the Chairperson of Co-Executives brings those concerns to the Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION 2008-17: CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, it is the desire and intent of the Board of Directors that a Secretarial election be held for the purposes of amending the Bylaws of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Article II, Duties of Officers, Section 1, to separate the Chief Executive Officer position from the Chairmanship by removing the language “...perform all duties consistent with the office as chief executive officer of the tribe...”

RESOLUTION 2009-105: SUBMITTING TO SECRETARIAL ELECTION A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT SEPARATING THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITIONS

WHEREAS, the Tribal Board believes that the separation of the CEO/Chairman duties is in the best interest of the Tribe and its Membership and is essential to ensure long term economic profitability of the Tribe's Businesses.” “Article II – Duties of Officers, Sect. 1 shall be amended by removing the duties as the chief executive officer from the Tribal Chairperson.”

BIA LETTER-AMENDMENT II: APRIL 15, 2010 (PAGE 4)

“Amendment II, adopted and approved on April 7, 2010, amends Article II, Sec. 1, of the Bylaws in the Constitution by removing the duties as the chief executive officer from the Tribal Chairperson.”

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ARTICLE II - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the board of directors and exercise any other lawful authority delegated the chairperson by the board of directors. The chair-

person shall vote only in case of a tie unless otherwise provided by the tribe's constitution and bylaws.”

It also included the letter from the BIA affirming the passage of the amendment, a copy of the revised Constitution, copies of unit reports from board members who explained to the members what the purpose was and how it was going to affect the tribe and a 2011 resolution directing Human Resources to develop a job description for the position. I will continue to advocate for this board to uphold the Constitution and fully separate these duties and provide the long deserved action on the will of the membership. The outcome so far is that my presentation was sent to the Legal Department for review. I will keep you apprised of any progress.

INDEPENDENT AUDITING FIRM FOR ELECTIONS

During the past month or so, I have also presented to the board that an independent auditing firm handle our elections. Many tribes have already adopted this process and it works well for them. I believe that for the cost of an election as we now do it, (reported most recently as \$40,000 per ballot mailing), we could easily hire an independent firm to process our elections and ballots.

This act would accomplish two things: it would protect the Election Committee from the constant finger-pointing for suspected fraud or election tampering and would once again instill confidence in the membership that the elections are on the up and up. This is not in any way meant to allude to any misdeeds by the Election Committee! They are volunteers and offer their time to serve our tribe. But every election year there is something that comes under scrutiny and it is this committee that bears the wrath of all aspersions cast in doubt of a fair and honest election process. I see this proposal as a means of bringing our elections into the 21st century and relieving the Election Committee of

their post election harassment. The Election Committee would still serve to provide advice on Code and review election violations for furtherance to the tribal court. This, too, was sent to the Legal Department for review.

SEPARATION OF THE COURTS

Another item I continue to work on is the separation of the tribal courts, which was a key component of the constitutional revision done in 2008. This is a fundamental requirement of good government and is aimed at providing a balance of powers and the right of redress for citizens. Judges would need to be elected by the members and would be accountable to the members as well as the Bar Association that hold the key to their license to practice law. They would not be under the thumb or purview of the board and would not have to fear for their jobs by holding the board accountable and responsible for their actions (or inactions).

I have asked for the Constitutional Committee to be involved as well as willing members to chart the course for this much needed reform.

Basically, it would transfer the duty of constitutional interpretation from the board to the courts. This would allow the laws are and hold accountable any and all that violate those laws. The board would no longer be able to read into the law and interpret it in a way that benefits any political agenda or will of the board. The law would apply equally to all citizens no matter their status and would allow for sanctions and censure.

This is not a popular idea on the board and I am not hopeful that any forward movement will be taken on the proposal in the near future.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD

The board continues to fail in the appointment of a replacement for a Unit I representative. If you remember, last May, then Chairman Joe McCoy resigned

the chairmanship without warning and without explanation. It was the opinion of our Legal Department and Election Committee that code prohibited allowing that a Special Advisory Election take place because of the proximity to an election year. Instead, they wanted to appoint a new chairman for you as allowed by the current code.

I, along with directors Miller, Chase, Abramson and Anderson, tried to have a provision added to the Tribal Code whereby if there was ever a vacancy created on the board, a process should be in place to avoid allowing the board from appointing your representatives, be that the chairman or a unit director.

Our idea was to have a system where the seat would be filled by the next highest vote getter in the previous election for that seat. This would validate the vote of the membership and ensure that each unit continued to choose who would represent them. Several attempts to accomplish that goal were thwarted and no process is in place. The five directors mentioned above held out from appointing a new chairman in hopes of getting this legislation passed.

Director Eitrem was up for the appointment after several months. We asked him if he intended to run for the chairman position if appointed. He said he was not going to seek any seat at the end of his term and was going to retire. So we agreed to vote for his appointment to move forward. However, we are still holding out for the process to be adopted, even if only in theory, for the Unit I seat left vacant by Chairman Eitrem's acceptance of the chair. We remain one director short of a full board (no humorous pun intended!).

As always, I welcome your input and offer my contact information for your needs. You can reach me at (906) 440-9762 or at djmalloy@saulttribe.net.

Respectfully submitted,
DJ Malloy

DREAMMAKERS THEATER - 7P.M.

LONESTAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 12



ENTERTAINMENT



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