



Win Awenen Nisitotung

July 29, 2020 • Vol. 41 No. 7
Blueberry Moon
Miin Giizis



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

New COVID-19 Disaster Relief Program established, supersedes previous plans

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — On July 21, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors voted to establish a new direct benefit plan for Sault Tribe members residing in the seven-county service area who have been impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic. Members residing in the tribe's service area who have been impacted by the pandemic will each receive \$1,000. Non-tribal parents or legal guardians of Sault Tribe minor children will be eligible to receive the benefit for their tribal child.

Tribal members residing in the tribe's service area will receive \$1,000 upon completion of a COVID-19 survey form.

Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment and other tribal leaders pushed for the use of total tribal enrollment population as part of the formula for a tribe's share of the \$8 billion. Instead of the Sault Tribe's 44,000 enrollment, Treasury used 16,500, the Indian Housing Block Grant statistic covering

the service area. To be eligible, tribal members must:
— Be an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe as of July 21, 2020;
— Reside in the seven (7) county services area of the Sault Tribe as of July 21, 2020; and
— Encountered COVID-19

financial hardships from March 1 through July 21, 2020. A mail out and response survey must be completed by each member receiving \$1,000 in order to comply with federal requirements. The forms are tentatively slated to be mailed out in August. The tribe had originally established a program to provide assistance to COVID-19-affected tribal members in the seven-county service area. After much discussion, the tribal board of directors voted unanimously at its July 21 meeting that eligible members who complete a

COVID-19 survey form would receive \$1,000. The current members who applied for the original program will receive a letter explaining the new program as this one has been eliminated. While members in the service area will be excited to hear the news of the COVID-19 relief benefit for the service area, Payment acknowledged the downside to this decision. "I deeply regret and apologize that the benefit plan approved last night does not include tribal members outside of the service area," he said.

Sault Tribe responds to false MUCC release

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — On June 24, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians asked the court in *United States v. Michigan* for a 90-day extension of the 2000 Consent Decree, as written, in order to allow the parties more time to negotiate a new decree. Sault Tribe also asked that the court remove provisions from the 2000 Decree regarding tribal exclusive zones—areas where all tribes have rights to fish, but where the 2000 Consent Decree only allows one or two tribes to fish—if the court felt an extension beyond 90 days was warranted. Unfortunately, on July 16, 2020, the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) issued a false and misleading press release about Sault Tribe's court filing. Sault Tribe is issuing this statement to correct the

harmful rhetoric and untrue allegations in that release. Contrary to the assertions in MUCC's press release, titled *Court filing could end Great Lakes fishing as we know it*, Sault Tribe is not asking to change any other provision in the decree during this extension. This means that gear restrictions and all other restrictions regarding tribal fishing in the 2000 Decree will remain in force during the extension. To provide a simple example, if under the current decree the state gets 60 fish and a particular tribe gets 40 fish in an area, Sault Tribe's request is that as of Nov. 6, 2020, the five tribes who share treaty fishing rights will share the 40 fish; the state's 60 fish will be unaffected. And, in areas where tribes get zero fish due to closures or other restrictions, tribes would con-

tinue getting zero fish under the extended Decree. Likewise, gear restrictions would remain in place. MUCC's press release is rife with patently false assertions, including assertions that the Sault Tribe "seek[s] 100 percent of the resource with no limitations on gear," that "the Sault

Tribe now wants to fish in Lake Michigan from the mouth of the Grand River to the Straits of Mackinac and to the Bays de Noc," and that if the court grants Sault Tribe's motion, "tribal fishers could start fishing in all of the treaty waters on November 8." MUCC then asks for donations.

MUCC is fear mongering and spreading disinformation to raise funds. Sault Tribe is happy to respond to any and all questions regarding MUCC's press release and the motion for extension; please contact tribal board Chairperson Aaron Payment at (906) 635-6050 if you have questions.

Tribe, Lume Cannabis Co. enter historic partnership

INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP ALLOWS LUME TO OPEN ADULT-USE MARIJUANA RETAIL STORES ON TRIBAL LAND IN SAULT STE. MARIE
SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Lume Cannabis Co., Michigan's largest vertically integrated cannabis operator, announced July 24 they have been awarded an adult-use marijuana retail license on Sault Ste. Marie Tribal lands. The historic partnership will allow Lume to open a marijuana retail store and sell its high-quality cannabis products in partnership with the largest tribe east of the Mississippi. "We are honored to work with the top cannabis operator in Michigan to bring high-quality cannabis products to medical patients and adult-use consumers who live in or visit Sault Ste. Marie and the Eastern Upper Peninsula area," Joel Schultz, Sault Tribe Economic Development Executive Director, said. "The Sault Tribe is working progressively to diversify economic development to enhance revenues to expand services to Sault Tribe members. Lume has

the expertise, passion, values and philosophy that make them the ideal company to work with to bring recreational cannabis to Sault Ste. Marie." Lume offers high-quality cannabis products and a unique, customer-focused retail experience with more than 20 strains of high-quality Lume flower, pre-rolls, effects-based Lume Cartridges, edibles and a new line of CBD products available online at lume-cbd.com and in Lume stores. "We are excited about our partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and pleased to announce we've received an adult-use marijuana retail license to open our newest Lume location," Lume President and COO Doug Hellyar said. "We look forward to introducing our high-quality cannabis products to adult-use customers and medical patients age 21 and up with a valid medical card in Sault Ste. Marie and the surrounding communities." As a result of this partnership, Lume is planning to open five additional stores on tribal land in 2021 and 2022. "This is a big moment for our tribe for the opportunities

it represents. Until now, we have been on the outside of this thriving industry and we look forward to working with Lume to help Michiganders experience the numerous health, wellness and other benefits of Lume's high-quality cannabis products," Schultz said. All Lume flower is grown and cultivated in a state-of-the-art facility in Evart, Mich., by a team of highly trained and experienced growers, which ensures Lume products have consistent aromas, appearances and effects. For a full product listing, visit www.lume.com. "Providing Michiganders with safe cannabis products is our top priority — which is why we grow all our products without harmful chemicals and subject them to the most rigorous testing in the industry," Hellyar said. "Our newest partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will take our operations to the next level and establish us as the state's go-to source for all things cannabis, including our commitment to educating our customers and making it as convenient as possible for them to access the best, safest products to meet their individual needs."

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State Senators VanderWall and Schmidt visit tribe



State Senator Curt VanderWall (second from left) of Michigan's 35th District and Senate Health Policy and Human Services Committee chair, and State Senator Wayne Schmidt, 37th District (third from left), stopped in at Sault Tribe offices in downtown Sault Ste. Marie for a visit on July 13. From left, Senator VanderWall's Chief of Staff Patrick Tiedt, Sen. VanderWall, Sen. Wayne Schmidt, Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment, Environmental Program Manager Kathie Brosemer, Executive Director Christine McPherson, EDC Director Joel Schultz, Legislative Director Mike McCoy and Health Division Director Leo Chugunov.

CARES Act funds ACFS General Assistance Program

ACFS is excited to announce we received additional CARES Act funding from the Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs to assist individuals and households financially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following eligibility criteria must be met to receive assistance through the General Assistance Program: An applicant must be a tribal member residing in the seven-county

service area without sufficient resources to meet food, shelter and clothing needs and with no current income available.

Applicants must apply concurrently and not be eligible for financial assistance from other state or federal programs; specifically, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services or Social Security.

All families with children must apply for Temporary

Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and follow TANF regulations.

Applicants must not receive comparable public assistance.

The goal of the General Assistance Program is to help members reach self-sufficiency.

Please contact Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) office to apply for assistance or inquire about the program at (800) 926-0093.

Kerridge named Kewadin Casinos CEO

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Sault Tribe member Allen M. Kerridge was recently named Kewadin Casinos CEO by the Sault Tribe's Board of Directors and Gaming Authority. Kerridge has been serving as interim CEO since May 2019. The change went into immediate effect.



Allen Kerridge

"The Gaming Authority and Sault Tribe Board of Directors are excited about entering a new era and approach to capitalizing on our greatest asset — our Kewadin team members," Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment said. "A plan for reigniting our quality control advisory and for soliciting from individual team members how we can improve will be announced in the weeks to come."

Payment added, "We are all in this together and value the input of each and every team member."

Kerridge, an accomplished casino executive, has 20 years experience in casino management, gaming, marketing and human resources, starting out at Sault Tribe Kewadin Casinos and coming full circle to manage the entire operation. He has served as general manager of both Sault Ste. Marie and Manistique casinos, and has experience in directing slots and table games in large commercial gaming environments.

Soon after his return home, Kerridge joined the Sault Convention and Visitors Bureau as a board member to help promote community events and drive tourism to the area. He supports many community charitable events. "I have tried to involve myself more in the community to encourage a positive relationship with our operations and our local communities," he

said.

When he isn't working, the new CEO spends time with family, fishing and taking in the scenery.

"I would like to thank all Kewadin team members for their hard work and great attitude in these uncertain times," Kerridge said. "I'm excited to move forward."

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Vacancies on Sault Tribe committees

The following committees have vacant seats. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Joanne Carr or Linda Grossett, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Call (906) 635-6050 with any questions.

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - six vacancies —three males (4-year term), three female (4-year term)

Child Welfare Committee - two vacancies (4-year term)

Election Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)

Higher Education Committee - two vacancies (4-year term)

Health Board - five vacancies (4-year term)

Housing Commission - one vacancy - Unit 5 (4-year term)

Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - five vacancies (2-year term)

Elder Advisory Committee Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy and two alternate seat vacancies

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one alternate seat vacancy

one alternate vacancy

Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit III - St. Ignace (4-year term), one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term), one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

Elder Subcommittee

Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies, two alternate vacancies

Unit II - Newberry (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy and two alternate seat vacancies

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one alternate seat vacancy

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WHAT ARE RISK FACTORS?

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Communities that Care are partnering to bring you the following message:

Did you know a variety of family, school, community and individual risk factors influence a young person's chance of developing problem behaviors such as substance use, delinquency, and depression? When there is a strong sense of community, when neighborhoods are perceived to be safe and when schools, parents and the community work together, it can shield against these negative circumstances. Community resources can safeguard youth from these risks. To find out how you can be involved in your community, contact your local Communities That Care Coalition at ChippewaCTC@gmail.com or access our facebook page at www.facebook/ctc.

UP Coalition Network
Safer Communities | Healthier Youth
Making a difference one member at a time
www.UPCNetwork.org
Learn more or get involved in your community!

Count It! Lock It! Drop It!

Don't Be An Accidental Drug Dealer

Current Sault Tribe employment opportunities

Call (866) 635-7032 or apply online at www.saulttribe.com.
GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS
SAULT STE. MARIE and KINCHELOE

Assistant executive director – full time/regular – open until filled
 Case aide – ACFS – full time/regular – open until filled
 Caseworker – family services specialist – full time/regular – open until filled
 Caseworker – Binogii Placement Agency specialist – full time/regular – open until filled
 Child care aide – part time/regular – open until filled
 Child Placement Services supervisor – full time/regular – open until filled
 Clinical social worker (Health)-full time/regular-open until filled
 Clinical social worker (ACFS)-full time/regular-open until filled
 Custodian/janitor (Big Bear Arena) – part time/regular—open until filled
 Custodian/janitor (Big Bear Arena) – full time/regular—open until filled
 Early Childhood Programs manager-full time/regular-open until filled
 Education director – full time/regular – open until filled
 Emergency preparedness coordinator-full time/regular-open until filled
 General counsel – full time/regular – open until filled

Homemaker aide-part time/regular-open until filled
 HR employee relations supervisor – full time/regular – open until filled
 Human Resource director – full time/regular – open until filled
 Internal auditor – full time/regular – open until filled
 Licensed practical nurse – full time/regular – open until filled
 Maintenance worker (Big Bear Arena) – part time/regular – open until filled
 Medical technologist – full time/regular – open until filled
 Painter II – full time/regular – open until filled
 Prevention specialist-full time/regular-open until filled
 Project specialist – Kincheloe – full time/regular – open until filled
 Project supervisor (Sault Tribe Construction) – full time/regular – open until filled
 Senior attorney-full time/regular/exempt-open until filled
 Shelter worker-full time/regular-open until filled
 Shelter worker – part time/regular – open until filled
 Staff dentist – full time/regular – open until filled

HESSEL, ST. IGNACE, ESCANABA, MANISTIQUE, MARQUETTE, MUNISING and NEWBERRY
 Caseworker – Binogii Placement Agency specialist (Manistique) – full time/regular –

open until filled
 Casework – Family services specialist (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled
 Dietician (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled
 Student services assistant (St. Ignace) – part time/regular – open until filled
 Licensed practical nurse (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled
 Teacher aide (St. Ignace) – part time/regular – open until filled
 Maintenance repairer-Housing- (Manistique) –full time/regular – open until filled
 Driver – Marquette/Munising/ Escanaba/Manistique - part time/regular – open until filled

KEWADIN CASINOS OPENINGS SAULT STE. MARIE

Cage cashier-full time/regular-open until filled
 Graphic designer-full time/regular-open until filled
 Surveillance manager I-full time/regular/exempt-open until filled

ST. IGNACE
 Surveillance manager I – full time/regular – open until filled
 Deli cook – full time/regular – open until filled
 Prep cook – full time/regular – open until filled
 Guest room attendant – (2) full time/regular – open until filled
 Guest room attendant – full time/temporary – open until filled
 Bar servers – (3) full time/reg-

ular – open until filled
 Bartender – full time/regular – open until filled
 Front desk clerk – (4) full time/regular – open until filled
 Front desk supervisor – full time/regular – open until filled
 Gift shop cashier – (2) full time/regular – open until filled
 Gift shop cashier – part time/regular – open until filled
 Casino porter – (3) full time/regular – open until filled
 Players club clerk – full time/regular – open until filled
 Cage cashier – (2) full time/regular – open until filled

MANISTIQUE

Surveillance manager II (Manistique, Christmas) – full time/regular – open until filled
 Restaurant server – part time/regular – open until filled
 Restaurant server – full time/regular – open until filled
 Bartender – part time/regular – open until filled
 Maintenance worker – full time/temporary – open until filled
 Slot technician – (2) full tme/regular – open until filled
 Gift shop cashier – part time/regular – open until filled
 Vault cashier – full/time/regular – open until filled
 Cage cashier – part time/temporary – open until filled

CHRISTMAS

Casino porters – (2) full time/regular – open until filled
 Line cook – full time/regular –

open until filled
 Line cook – part time/regular – open until filled
 Vault cashier – full time/regular – open until filled
 Administrative assistant – full time/regular – open until filled
 Restaurant manager III – full time/regular – open until filled
 Gift shop cashier – part time/regular – open until filled
 Bar server – part time/regular – open until filled

ENTERPRISE OPENINGS

Cashier (Midjim) – (3) full time/temporary – open until filled
 Cashier (Midjim) – part time/regular – open until filled
 Guest room attendants (White Pine Lodge, Christmas) – (4) full time/seasonal (May 15-Oct. 15)
 Guest room attendant (White Pine Lodge, Christmas) – (2) full time/regular
 Lead guest room attendant (White Pine Lodge, Christmas) – part time/regular – open until filled
 Lead guest room attendant (White Pine Lodge, Christmas) – full time/regular – open until filled
 Bookkeeper (White Pine Lodge, Christmas) – full time/regular – open until filled
 Customer service representative (White Pine Lodge, Christmas) – (3) full time regular – open until filled
 Assistant manager (White Pine Lodge, Christmas) – full time/regular – open until filled

ARC provides financial assistance to survivors

FROM ARC STAFF

Beginning in October 2018, the Anishnaabek Community and Family Services-Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) received grant funding to provide supportive housing and financial assistance to victims and survivors of crime and abuse. The ARC is able to help individuals with a variety of services, including but not limited to: rental payments, emergency utility payments, move in assistance, relocation assistance, vehicle insurance and repair, emergency food and obtaining an emergency cell phone and

minutes. Between Oct. 1, 2018, and Sept. 30, 2019, the ARC provided \$90,000 in supportive housing and financial assistance to their clients. From Oct. 1, 2019, through the end of June 2020, \$114,000 in assistance was provided. The ARC has remained open and committed to assisting victims and survivors through the COVID-19 crisis. If you are a victim or survivor seeking supportive housing or financial assistance services, please call the Advocacy Resource Center at (906) 632-1808.

Tribal artist wanted to design book

SAULT STE. MARIE – Sault Tribe Health Education is interested in having a tribal artist design two children’s books that have been translated into Anishinaabemowin for use in Sault Tribe Head Start classrooms and libraries.

Interested artists should contact Josie Fegan at jfegan@saulttribe.net with a brief blurb about their previous art and design experience and samples of their work. We look forward to hearing from you!

SBRG & Agriculture grants available

The Sault Tribe Thrive office announces the opening of applications period for Michigan Economic Development Corporation’s Small Business Restart Grants (SBRG) and agriculture grants. Applications are available online only at www.michiganbusiness.org/restart or www.michiganbusiness.org/agsafety.

The SBRG has a cap of \$20,000 per business. Any small business, regardless if they already received some form of state or federal COVID-19 funding or federal grants/loans, the business is still eligible to apply. SBRGs are not first-come, first-served grants. All applications are held until the period ends, then decided upon through the MEDC.

SAULT STE. MARIE OJIBWE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER OPEN

The Ojibwe Learning Center and Library (OLCL), at 531 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., is open Monday and Tuesday from 8 a.m. 12 p.m., Thursday from 12 to 4 p.m. and by appointment. Visiting is limited to one hour.

The agriculture grants are first-come, first-served grants, with \$15 million to be allocated between farms and processors — \$5 million will be held for farms and \$10 million will be held for processors.

There is no cap on asking amount, but the business applying must have at least 10 employees (seasonal, part-time and/or full-time) combined. A minimum of 30 percent of the funds awarded under the program shall be provided to women-owned, minority-owned and veteran-owned eligible businesses.

The application period will close on Aug. 5, 2020. Awardees will be announced no later than Sept. 30, 2020. Call Justin Emery for information at (906) 635-6050, ext. 26121.

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

July 29, 2020
Miin Giizis
Blueberry Moon
Vol. 41, No. 7

Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
 Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
 Rick Smith.....Staff Writer
 Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

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. *Win Awenen Nisitotung* is funded by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of

Chippewa Indians and is published 12 times a year. Its mission is to inform tribal members and the public about the activities of the tribal government, membership programs and services and cultural, social and spiritual activities of Sault Tribe members. *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, in Anishinaabemowin, means, “One who understands,” and is pronounced “Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng.” See our full, online edition at www.saulttribe.com. **Subscriptions:** The regular rate is \$18 per year, \$11 for senior citizens and \$30 to Canada. Please

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Tribal members: need assistance?

Three membership liaisons work with the chairperson’s office on membership issues and concerns across the service area. The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing membersconcerns@saulttribe.net or contacting them individually at:
 Unit I — Sheila Berger, Office of the Chairperson, Sault Ste. Marie, (906) 635-6050, (800) 793-0660, sberger@saulttribe.net
 Units II and III — Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net
 Units IV and V — Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net.

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Conservation district evaluates forests for free

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Forester Dylan Parker with the Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District will evaluate your forest for free.

Parker can answer questions forest landowners may have and can help create a forest management plan to maximize your property's potential. Parker has access to and knowledge of programs and funding available to landowners.

"My goal is to provide free and unbiased information to private land owners and serve as a helping hand to anybody that asks," he said.

Parker said he has evaluated extensive forests of over 1,500 acres, and as small as 1 acre.

"As long as there is a tree there, we are happy to go look at it. Typically I see parcels that are 40 plus acres. I also frequently go to people's homes in Sault Ste. Marie that live on the water and have a few trees. They often have disease questions that I can help with," he said.

He covers residents residing in Chippewa County, but there are foresters happy to help in almost every county in Michigan.

Parker said, "A lot of people buy property thinking they love

the U.P. and nature, and they want to have a hunting camp. They get there and want to see more deer when they are hunting. Or they want to improve their wildlife habitat or sell some of their trees, only they don't know how much to ask for them or who is a responsible tree harvester. I can help them with all of those concerns."

Parker said the forestry management program has been around for over 10 years. "There was a significant change to the program in 2013 but it's the same program," he said. "The Conservation District works with anyone who has concerns about their forestland, we are happy to visit the property and answer any questions. Everything we do is confidential, we are there to help the land owner; we want to help people improve their property or acreage."

Some of the programs available for Michigan landowners include Michigan's qualified forest property tax program, soil test kits available online for purchase, information on how to hire a consulting forester to help with forest management and timber sales, Michigan's forest stewardship program and financial assistance

for sustainable forest management in Michigan.

Forester Parker can be contacted by calling (906) 632-9611

ext. 8055, or by emailing dylan.parker@macd.org.



Forestry Assistance Program Forester Dylan Parker with a landowner on Sugar Island measuring the diameter of a yellow birch.

Sault Tribe supports state's request for Line 5 spill costs to be covered by Enbridge Energy

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. —In a July 17 letter to Enbridge, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requested Enbridge cover all damages and losses due to Line 5 spills. Presently, Enbridge has only signed an agreement as a subsidiary, which does not have the resources to cover the costs of a catastrophic spill.

Sault Tribe Board of Directors Chairperson Aaron Payment said, "I am pleased that Governor Whitmer and Attorney General Nessel have taken this first step to hold Enbridge accountable. The next step is to lead in changing the self-regulatory status of an oil pipe that

threatens our natural resources. Our retained treaty rights are meaningless if our fish populations are eradicated."

The DNR wants Enbridge Energy Company Inc. to "enter into a written agreement with the State of Michigan to provide financial assurances to cover all damages and losses caused to property or individuals due to operation of the Line 5 dual pipelines through the Straits of Mackinac," according to a DNR press release.

DNR Director Dan Eichinger said in the release, "As recent events have reminded us, we must get these pipelines that transport crude oil out of the Great Lakes as soon as possible.

In the meantime, Enbridge must provide full financial assurance to the people of Michigan that the company will meet its obligations in the event there is a spill or some other disastrous damage to the Great Lakes."

The 1953 easement allowing placement of the Line 5 requires Enbridge to compensate the state of Michigan for all damages and losses caused by the operation of the pipelines and provide insurance and liability coverage. But under former Governor Rick Snyder, Enbridge signed an agreement to fulfill that requirement only as a subsidiary of Enbridge Inc. The subsidiary does not have sufficient resources to cover the costs of a spill.

Payment said, "Six years ago, during monthly tribal leader calls with former Governor Snyder's office, the Sault Tribe called for Line 5 to carry liability insurance covering the full cost of a spill, rather than hiding behind legal proceedings that took up to eight years for the Line 6 spill at the Kalamazoo River to be reconciled. During formal consultation and in testimony in front of the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board, the tribe again called for the full \$1.8 billion liability insurance that a spill would cause."

On June 25, Ingham County Circuit Court Judge James S. Jamo granted Attorney General Dana Nessel's motion for a tem-

porary restraining order requiring Enbridge Energy to cease all transport operations of its Line 5 twin pipelines.

Payment said the tribes have a sacred relationship with the environment, but "protecting and maintaining Pure Michigan is not an Indian or environmentalist issue, it is broadly supported by a strong majority of Michiganders."

"In poll after poll, the support for shutting down Line 5 is strong. Tribes maintain a legal treaty right over our resources. The state has a legal responsibility to co-manage the resource, as the Supreme Court has long recognized and most recently reinforced," Payment added.

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and Conservation

BY ROBERT MARCHAND, CHIEF OF POLICE

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) has implemented a requirement that, to assist in slowing the spread of COVID-19, if you are entering the Judicial Building, you are required to wear a face covering/mask. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Announcements and Reminders

ATTENTION Commercial Captains and Helpers: if you had a 2019 Commercial Captain or Helper's license and have been fishing under the emergency order issued by Chairperson Aaron Payment, please remember this order expires July 31, 2020. At that time, you will be required to call STLE to schedule your appointment to renew your license for 2020. Please also remember that even if you are a captain who fished under the emergency order, you were still required to submit



required catch reports. Please ensure all reports have been submitted for any months you fished under this order no later than July 31.

ATTENTION Bear permit holders: If you were drawn for a bear permit, STLE cannot issue your permit until you renew your 2020 Inland Harvest licenses. STLE has made, or attempted to make, contact with any members who were drawn for a bear permit, and have not heard back from some.

Your bear permit allows you to hunt in the bear management unit listed on your permit. Some of the bear management units are not exclusively contained within Sault Tribe's 1836 Treaty Area and you will need to ensure that you are within the boundaries of the treaty area.

Please also remember that, regardless of where you have your bear sealed, you are required to contact Sault Tribe Natural Resources Department at (906) 632-6132 to let them know you filled your tag. They will advise any additional requirements.

Any members drawn for Elk permits have been contacted by Sault Tribe Natural Resources Department.

Members may have noticed a difference on their Inland Hunting, Fishing, and Gathering licenses and tags. STLE is using a new licensing system for these which allows the season dates to be print-

ed right on the tags. On the back of the harvest cards, you will now find exactly what you can use the harvest cards for.

Stated on the back of both the hunting and non-hunting harvest cards is the language: "This card does NOT permit fishing in the Great Lakes." STLE continues to receive calls and questions asking if this was a new regulation. The answer is no, you have never been authorized to fish the Great Lakes with your Inland harvest license.

Please be sure you are reviewing your rules and regulations to ensure you are engaging in allowable activity, regardless of which license you hold. Please also remember that any licenses issued by Sault Tribe are valid only in Sault Tribe's 1836 Treaty Area. There are maps available online to help you determine the boundaries.

Tribal laws that regulate treaty licenses are available online at

www.saulttribe.com, Government, Tribal Code. Chapter 21 and 23 regulate Inland Hunting, Fishing, and Gathering activity. Chapter 20 and CORA code regulate Great Lakes subsistence, subsistence gill net, Commercial fishing activity, and recreational fishing with just your tribal membership card (See CORA Code, Part Five, Section XVII – Recreational Fishing). Maps, applications, and other resource materials can be found on the website by selecting Membership Services, Natural Resources, and either click the downloads link to the left, or at the bottom of the page, in red letters – For Applications Click Here.

General Information

As always, if members have any questions regarding any of the treaty licensing requirements, please feel free to call Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and we will put you in touch with an officer. We can be reached at (906) 635-6065.

First Michigan MMIP coordinator appointed

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Andrew Birge and Matthew Schneider, the U.S. Attorneys for the Western and Eastern Districts of Michigan respectively, announced the appointment of Joel Postma to serve as the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) coordinator for the two districts. As the MMIP coordinator for both districts, Postma will respond to MMIP issues affecting each of the 12 tribes in the state.

Postma is one of 10 such coordinators around the country appointed by the Department of Justice. He will gather reliable data to identify MMIP cases connected to Michigan, conduct outreach with tribal communities to understand the challenges

revealed through past experience, coordinate with tribal, federal, state and local law enforcement in the development of protocols and procedures for responding to and addressing MMIP, provide training and assistance and promote improved data collection and analyses throughout Michigan. Postma will work out of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Grand Rapids in order to facilitate meeting with each of the 12 Michigan tribal communities, as circumstances allow.

Prior to accepting the MMIP appointment, Postma served for 25 years as an agent of the FBI. His service with the FBI included several years working cases involving missing and runaway children as well as death investi-

gations in Indian Country in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He was an early and active participant in tribal multi-disciplinary team and child protection team meetings. He also established protocols for drug investigations in Indian Country and initiated a "ride-along" program to foster a better working relationship between the FBI and tribal law enforcement.

"We are very excited to welcome Mr. Postma into this important new position designed to serve Native crime victims and their families. Tribal communities

have long suffered disproportionate violent crime and now the MMIP challenges in particular have caught the attention of the department. Mr. Postma is eminently qualified to help respond to the challenges and comes recommended to us by tribal as well as state and federal law enforcement members who know him," said U.S. Attorney Birge.

U.S. Attorney Schneider added that, "Joel Postma has outstanding qualifications, and he will be a great asset as Michigan's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons coordinator. We are pleased to have him join our team to serve and support tribal communities and our partners in law enforcement."

On Nov. 22, 2019, Attorney

General William Barr launched a national strategy to address missing and murdered Native Americans. When establishing the MMIP Initiative, the Department of Justice made an initial investment of \$1.5 million to hire MMIP coordinators to serve with U.S. Attorney's offices in 11 states, including Michigan. The strategy also calls for the deployment of the FBI's most advanced response capabilities when needed, improved data collection and analysis, and training to support local response efforts.

The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Department of Justice.

Learn more about the history of our agency at www.justice.gov/Celebrating150Years.



MMIW task force announces virtual consultations

WASHINGTON — The Presidential Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives announced 12 tribal consultations to occur virtually across the United States in the coming months.

American Indians and Alaska Natives experience disproportionately high rates of violence. President Trump has called the crisis of missing and murdered Native Americans "sobering and heartbreaking."

The Presidential Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives, also known as Operation Lady Justice, announces the upcoming series of tribal consultations under Executive Order 13898. The executive order requires the task force to "conduct appropriate consultations with tribal governments on the scope and nature of the issues regarding missing and murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives." While the task force had plans in place for a robust schedule of consultations and listening sessions in various locations in Indian country and elsewhere beginning in March, postponement of those sessions was required by the current public health crisis. The task force established a series of tribal

consultations to be held virtually. The sessions are regional, based on Bureau of Indian Affairs regions. The schedule, link to register, Dear Tribal Leader letter and framing paper are available on the Operation Lady Justice website, which can be found at OperationLadyJustice.usdoj.gov. Confirmed dates and times

- Aug. 17, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Eastern Region – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Aug. 19, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Midwest Region – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Aug. 21, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Southern Plains and Eastern Oklahoma Regions – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Aug. 25, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Great Plains and Rocky Mountain Regions – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Aug. 27, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Southwest Region – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Aug. 31, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Northwest Region – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Sept. 2, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern

- BIA Western and Navajo Regions – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Sept. 4, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Pacific Region First session – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Sept. 8, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Pacific Region Second Session – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Sept. 10, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Alaska Region First Session – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Sept. 14, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- BIA Alaska Region Second Session – Virtual Consultation via WebEx. Sept. 17, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern
- Final session for any leader who could not make their sched-

uled regional session via WebEx. The members of the task force:

- Katharine (Katie) Sullivan, principal deputy assistant attorney general, Office of Justice Programs, designee for the attorney general;
- Tara Sweeney, assistant secretary for Indian Affairs, designee for the secretary of the Interior;
- Terry Wade, executive assistant director, Criminal, Cyber, Response and Services Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- Laura Rogers, acting director, Office on Violence Against Women;
- Charles (Charlie) Addington, deputy bureau director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Services;
- Trent Shores, U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma and chair of the Native American Issues Subcommittee of the Attorney General's Advisory Committee; and

Jean (Jeannie) Hovland, deputy assistant secretary for Native American Affairs and Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services.

Marcia Good of the Department of Justice serves as the executive director of the task force. The task force will present a progress report to the president by Nov. 26, 2020, and a final report detailing its activities and accomplishments by Nov. 26, 2021.

The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Department of Justice. Learn more about the history of the Department of Justice at www.justice.gov/celebrating150years. 2020 also marks 171st anniversary of the Department of the Interior.

Learn more about the history of DOI at www.dpo.gov/history/.

TRIBAL MEMBER REGISTRATION IN THE TAX AGREEMENT AREA

TRIBAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Under the Tax Agreement between the Tribe and the State, tribal members who live within the "Agreement Area" are able to claim exemption from certain state taxes. In order to take advantage of these benefits, the member must be registered with the Tribal Tax Office and must prove that they do live in the "Agreement Area."

The registration process begins with the member filling out an "Address Verification Card" and providing their name, address, and other personal information. The member must also provide a copy of their MI driver's license, MI State ID card, or voter's registration card. All of these forms of State identification MUST have the member's current address and that address must be located in the Tax Agreement Area. Members must also include a utility bill in their name and their current address as an additional proof of residency in the Tax Agreement Area.

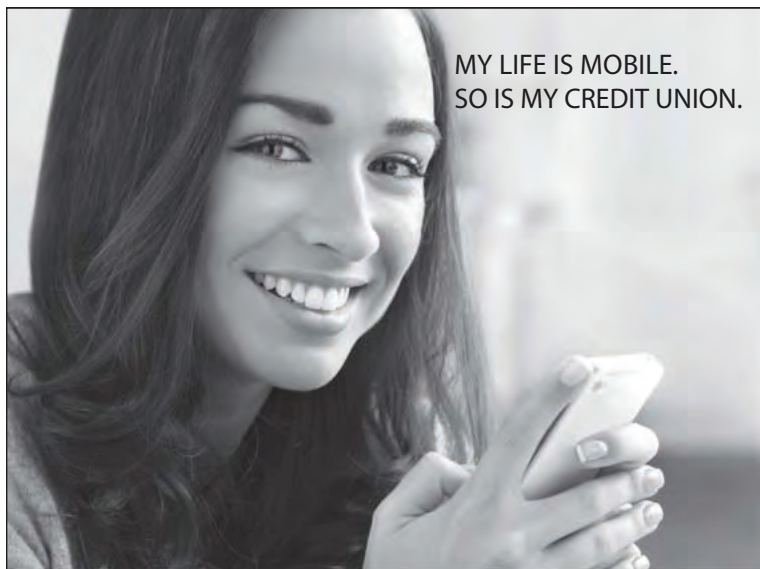
The Tribal Tax Office cannot register a member with the MI Department of Treasury unless these documents are included with the "Address Verification Card."

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

Tribal Code 43.1103 states that Resident Tribal Members shall notify the Tribal Tax Office in writing prior to moving their principal place of residence.

If the Tribal Tax Office receives a request for a Certificate of Exemption and the address for the member on the request is not the same as the address that the Tribal Tax Office and MI Department of Treasury have on record, then no Certificate of Exemption can be issued.

We will usually attempt to contact the member to ask them to update their address by filling out the "Address Verification Card" and providing the required documents, but it is the member's responsibility to provide this information. A Certificate of Exemption cannot be issued unless the member has filed the correct information proving that they live within the Agreement Area.



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“In everyone’s life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. Let’s be thankful for those people who rekindle our inner spirit and hope to do so for others.” — Albert Schweitzer

Ishkode fire

Summer (**niibin**) is a time we especially like to be outside (**gojiing**). And evening (**naagshig**) is when many of us like to make a fire (**boodwe**). Perhaps we’ll cook something on that fire, maybe it will be a gathering place for talking and family stories, maybe the dancing fire will be bring cheer, maybe it will bring back memories and deeper thoughts. . .

Here are some things you might want to say around your ishkode.

To pronounce these words, use the guide below. Emphasize the parts that are underlined. Your key to success is starting slow until you really get it, then let it flow a little more quickly. You will never have to go fast.

Enjoy! That’s a key, too.

Boodwe-daa — Let’s start a fire
bood-we-**daa**

Bigidnizen — Put wood on the fire (to keep it going)
bi-**gid**-ni-zen

Minagone ishkode — The fire is going pretty good
mi-**na**-gon-**e ish**-ko-de

Maanda ishkode gwetaankane — The fire is really blazing
maan-da **ish**-ko-de gwe-**taan**-ka-ne

Misan geyaabi ganadwedaanaanin — We need more firewood
mi-**san** ge-**yaa**-bi ga-**nad**-we-daa-**naa**-nin

Dabaabindaan ishkode — Check on the fire
da-**baa**-bin-daan **ish**-ko-de

Zaam wiishkode — The fire is too smoky
zaam wiish-ko-de

Weweni aatebijigen — Put out the fire properly
we-we-ni aa-**te**-bi-ji-gen



Miskominike
Giizis
Raspberry-picking Moon
by Susan Askwith

Gchitwaa Ishkode Sacred Fire

When we have a ceremony or spiritual event, a special fire is struck in sacred way, in the center of a lodge. This fire is a pathway by which we can communicate with the those ancestors and beings in the spiritual realm. The fire is never left alone while the event takes place, and is tended by men who are fire keepers.

Our four sacred medicines, (tobacco, sage, cedar and sweetgrass) are available in the four directions for us to put into the fire with our prayers. We enter the lodge from the eastern direction and circle the fire in a clockwise direction, praying with the offering of each medicine. At the beginning of the feast accompanying the ceremony, a plate with small bits of each food available, is prepared for those we’re remembering. That plate is placed in the sacred fire as an offering.

Like all of our ceremonies, there are teachings that tell how to proceed. These things can be learned. Until then simply come with a good heart — with positive thoughts, gratitude and respect.

Raspberry fool

This tasty desert is a “centuries old blend of whipped cream and fruit.” You assemble the ingredients in a glass and it looks as delightful as it tastes. Here’s how to make it.

Clean 1 1/2 cups of fresh raspberries (or really any berries, peaches, apricots, mango, kiwi, etc.) Sprinkle them with 1 to 2 tablespoons granulated sugar. Puree them in a blender then pour it back into the fruit bowl. Cover and chill for 2 hours or until cold.

For whipped cream, combine 1 cup of whipping cream, 2 tablespoons of granulated sugar and 1/2 teaspoon of vanilla. Beat with an electric mixer using a chilled bowl and beaters, on medium speed until almost stiff peaks form.

Assemble in four short drinking glasses this way: Spoon about 1/8 of the whipped cream in the bottom of each glass, then 1/8 of the fruit, then 1/8 of the cream and another 1/8 of the fruit. Gently swirl with a skewer.

Garnish with an additional fruit or a simple cookie. Serve immediately or cover and chill up to 2 hours before serving.

The servings are small and that’s good because it’s a fancy and sinfully rich occasional treat! Savor it!



Why does campfire smoke seem to follow you around?

You can’t see the air flowing around you but it’s like **water** flowing around a rock sticking out of a rushing stream. The rock separates the water flow, leaving a hollow in front of the rock that is immediately filled by water that comes swirling in. A **fire** creates a warm column of air that rises. The space left around the base of the fire immediately sucks surrounding air into that space, creating a situation like the rushing stream. When you stand there, you’re like the rock. You separate the air getting sucked in, and when it gets around you it swirls, bringing up smoke toward you. This happens most when it’s not very windy. If it IS windy, the smoke will be carried with that wind so don’t stand downwind or upwind from the fire. Probably best to build a less-smoky fire to begin with. Use good, dry wood arranged in a tee-pee shape and allow the flames plenty of air. And sit back from the fire. The flow of fluids (air and water) are complex with so much in the environment influencing them. Fascinating!

Pronunciation Guide; How to Sound Really Good:

Let’s just stick with these basics: Letters sound like they do in reading English, except for these ones.

a	sounds like u in cup	i	sounds like i in pin
aa	sounds like a in all	ii	sounds like e in be
o	sounds like oo in book	e	sounds like e in bed
oo	sounds like o in go	g	sounds only like g in go

nh has no sound at all; it is only a SIGN that the vowel in front of it is said in a nasal way.

English has a lot of strange spellings. Our system of writing is easier. We pronounce all the letters shown, even if we say some of them pretty fast and some are pretty quiet.

Resolutions passed at June 30 tribal board meeting

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians met on June 30 with all present and passed the following resolutions.

Resolution number 2020-119 – Lease Modification to BIA Lease No: 469-23-00004-20 EDC-002(20) – Authorized an EDC request to modify provision 9 of the lease.

120 – Authorization of Right-of-Way Across Tribal Trust Land Tribal Sidewalks Project – Authorized easements for Bureau of Indian Affairs improvement projects.

121 – Approving Lease Amendment for the Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center – Authorized a \$12,600 lease to house Escanaba health and social services. Lease expires on July 31, 2021 and the resolution also calls for staff to seek grant or loan funding to build a center on the Escanaba reservation.

122 – Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence COVID Response Grant Program – Authorized a grant application.

123 – ACFS Sexual Violence Services Culturally Specific Underserved Establishment of FY 2020 Budget – Approved for \$185,011 from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

124 – ACFS – Family Violence Establishment of FY 2020 Budget (CARES Act) – Approved for \$46,279 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

125 – ACFS – Community Service Block Grant Establishment of FY 2020 Budget (CARES Act) – Approved for \$86,416 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

126 – ACFS – Child Care Development Fund Establishment of FY 2020 Budget (CARES Act) – Approved for \$401,553 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

127 – ACFS – Title IV-B Subpart 2 FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved for reallocation of expenses.

128 – ACFS – ICWA Title IV-B FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved for reallocation of expenses.

129 – ACFS – Title IV-B Establishment of FY 2020 Budget (CARES Act) – Approved for \$21,748 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

130 – CDC COVID-19 Establishment FY 2021 Budget – Approved for \$297,557 from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

131 – Elderly – Nutrition Services Establishment of FY 2021 Budget (CARES Act) – Approved for \$116,750 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

132 – Health Division – State of Michigan COVID 2019 Response Funding Establishment of FY 2020 Budget – Approved for \$90,778 from the State of

Michigan.
133 – SAMHSA STOPR Establish FY 2020 Budget – Approved for \$161,249 from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

134 – Health Division – Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council Saving Lives Project – COVID-19 Establishment of FY 2021 Budget – Approved for \$88,400 from the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council.

135 – Emergency Preparedness, Health Administration and Third Party Revenue FY 2020 Budget Modifications – Approved for an emergency services grant for an increase of \$10,815 from the State of Michigan, health center administration to reduce third party revenue \$58,279.23 and an increase in funding from the U.S. Indian Health Service of \$42,323.30.

136 – Wellness Program and Third Party Revenue FY 2020 Budget Modifications – Approved for \$10,523.33 to the Wellness Program and increase third party funds of \$10,523.33.

137 – Road to Wellness and Third Party Revenue FY 2020 Budget Modifications – Approved for changes of \$32,077.59.

138 – Health Sault Optical FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses.

139 – IHS Special Diabetes

FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved for an increase of \$475,920.52 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

140 – Tribal Perinatal Opioid FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses.

141 – Judicial Services FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved to reallocate expenses, increase federal BIA funds \$112,636, transfer funds \$9,156.72, other revenue \$298.57 and decrease tribal support \$36,046.27.

142 – Juvenile Detention Operations FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved to change the personnel sheet and increase federal BIA funds \$17,772.65.

143 – COPS TRGP 2015 FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved to reallocate expenses and increase U.S. Department of Justice funds \$52,732.64.

144 – Education – Early Head Start and Head Start

Establishment of FY 2020 Budgets CARES Act – Approved for Early Head Start \$37,789 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in addition to Head Start funding of \$70,305.

145 – Governmental Facilities COVID Capital Expenditures – Approved for an initial \$5 million governmental facilities capital expenditure budget for COVID related expenses from the tribe's CARES Act funding. The tribe's COVID Task Force will ensure all purchases are in compliance with CARES Act requirements.

146 – Casino COVID Capital Expenditures – Approved for an initial \$5 million casino capital expenditures budget for COVID related expenses from the tribe's CARES Act funding. The tribe's COVID Task Force will ensure all purchases are in compliance with CARES Act requirements.

Visit the Sault Tribe web site at www.saulttribe.com to see resolutions in their entirety along with voting records.



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* Direct download after earning 50 base points



Tuesdays - Valor Day

All Valor Card members receive \$5 in Kewadin Credits*

* Direct download after earning 10 base points

Wednesdays - Senior Day

Players 50 and older receive \$5 in Kewadin Credits*

Earn additional Kewadin Credits by playing at multiple locations
Complimentary coffee and pastries
(While supplies last)

* Direct download after earning 10 base points



Fridays - Ladies Night

5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Ladies, these are just for you ...

Hot Seat Draws + Prize Draws

See the Northern Rewards Club for all the details.



See the Northern Rewards Club booth for more details on these and our other promotions!

After earning points, must remove and reinsert card to download Kewadin Credits.



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Thursdays in August - All Sites

Rapid Fire Hot Seat Draws from 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

*Hessel's last draw at 9:30 p.m.

CASH CROPS

Fridays in August - All Sites

CASH Hot Seat Draws 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Choose a crop to reveal your winnings!

Win up to \$1,000 CASH

SLOTS OF FUN TOURNAMENT

Christmas & Hessel - Mondays

Manistique - Tuesdays

Redeem 100 points and receive entry into the Slots of Fun Tournament.

Weekly Prize Pool 50,000 Bonus Points

Grand Prize Pool Over 200,000 CASH/Bonus Points

Top 25 players share the Grand Prize Pool.

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KEWADIN CLUB SLOT TOURNAMENT

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*Must be present to win (Cash Portion Only).

*Bonus points portion of the prize pool are good for one year after downloaded to Northern Rewards Card.

REEL CLEAN FUN



Point requirements for all promotions. See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

Project bringing Native journalists into the mainstream

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe member Meghanlata Gupta and *Traverse City Record-Eagle* newspaper reporter Kaye LaFond recently established the inaugural Mishigamiing Journalism Project in the newsroom of the *Record-Eagle*. The primary focus of the project is news coverage of tribal affairs in Michigan.

Gupta, a senior at Yale University, also founded and established an online digital portal called Indigenizing the News in June of 2019. Work from the project will also be published on the site at indigenizingthenews.com. Indigenizing the News is focused on building an accurate portrait of indigenous peoples from around the world for news, educational institutions and other purposes. Essentially, making readily available what popular culture, so far, misunderstands or never learned about indigenous worlds.

Recently concluding the first year of operation, Indigenizing the News partnered with the *Record-Eagle* on the inaugural Mishigamiing Journalism Project, bringing four indigenous women on fellowships into the *Record-Eagle's* newsroom to work and build mutual understandings. Gupta is one of the four reporters on the fellowships.

"The fellows are doing amazing work reporting on a variety of topics from water quality

to workplace conditions," said LaFond. "Reporters at the *Record-Eagle* are so happy to have them as part of our newsroom."

These initial Mishigamiing Journalism Project fellowships are funded by an individual donor on a rolling basis and administered by the Lake Superior Community Development Corporation, a Michigan non-profit 501(c)3 organization controlled and managed by federally-recognized American Indians. The main aims of the project are to create paid training and jobs for indigenous journalists, create appropriate environments in Michigan newsrooms for those journalists, develop more thoroughness in coverage of indigenous matters and advance reportage by indigenous journalists.

"The Mishigamiing Journalism Project is providing paid journalism fellowships that started on July 1 and will go until January 1," said Gupta. "I and the three other fellows are receiving a stipend for July through end of December, which includes training and publishing opportunities. After the six months end, we will hopefully have raised enough on our Go Fund Me to keep the stipends going!"

The Go Fund Me account is at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-indigenous-journalists-in-michigan-mjp>.

The primary reason behind

Gupta's efforts are explained on the Indigenizing the News web site, "Today, the majority of non-Indigenous people are largely uneducated in topics surrounding Indigenous communities. This lack of education allows for erasure and oppression against Indigenous peoples to continue throughout the world." Among other goals, the site aims to further understanding between indigenous people, allies and others.

Aside from Gupta, the current fellows at the *Record-Eagle* are Katy Bresette of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe, Sierra Clark of Odawa and Ojibwe ancestry from the Grand Traverse area and Suzy Cook with ancestry from the Tlingit Haida in Alaska but grew up in northern Michigan.

Gupta said the project is going well so far since the launch and LaFond was very instrumental in getting the project started and helps with the training. Further, Gupta, adds, the project is evolving as it grows. "Speaking for myself," she said, "it is my hope that the project will make Michigan newsrooms inclusive and enthusiastic spaces for indigenous voices. I also hope that we can bring on more fellows as the project gains more funding and support."

She also shared her hopes for Indigenizing the News, "I hope to keep expanding our original reporting and newspaper partner-



Photo courtesy of Meghanlata Gupta

Above, Sault Tribe member Meghanlata Gupta, one of the co-founders of the Mishigamiing Journalism Project. Gupta and *Traverse City Record-Eagle* reporter Kaye LaFond started the project to bring more American Indians into mainstream newsrooms and to expand coverage of Indian Country in mainstream publications.

ships. I would love to transform Indigenizing the News into a place where journalists, historians and artists come together with policymakers to increase representation and protect tribal

sovereignty."

Folks interested in learning more about the project should visit the Indigenizing the News web site.

USDA boosts food assistance for tribes during pandemic

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In partnership with tribes across the country, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced additional food for families in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The increased food assistance will temporarily supplement the monthly food package FDPIR households currently receive.

Funded by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, \$50 million has been provided to ensure increased program participation would be covered during these uncertain times. Based on participation data and tribal engagement, the USDA announced this funding will also be used to support bonus packages for new and current participants over the coming months to best supplement nutrition needs in response to the pandemic.

"USDA has been in close communication with tribes throughout this pandemic and is committed to ensuring FDPIR participants have access to nutritious food,"

said Pam Miller, Administrator of USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). "Many tribal nations have been especially hard hit and the supplemental food is yet another way we are listening to our customers' needs and delivering on our promise to serve program participants."

"Working together with USDA and providing additional support for our participants has been invaluable while navigating through the impacts of COVID-19 that tribes are facing," said Mary Greene-Trottier, president of the National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations.

The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations provides USDA foods to eligible households living on Indian reservations and to American Indian households residing in approved areas near reservations and in Oklahoma. Many households participate in FDPIR as an alternative to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) because they do not have easy access to SNAP offices or

authorized food stores.

The additional food as part of this boost in assistance will be distributed to all FDPIR participants as funding allows. USDA continues to seek input from tribes to ensure the increased assistance includes a variety of USDA-purchased foods that support a nutritious diet. In addition to an assortment of USDA Foods, it will contain fresh fruits and vegetables ordered through USDA's DoD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, a partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense.

This supplemental food is the latest in a series of actions FNS has taken to provide tribal nations with additional support across its nutrition assistance programs throughout this unprecedented public health crisis. USDA previously announced the first two rounds of CARES Act funding for COVID-related infrastructure costs, which has already provided approximately \$32 million to tribes out of the available \$50 million. USDA continues to work with tribes on applications for the

remainder of the available funds. These grants can be used for a variety of infrastructure needs in response to COVID-19, such as personal protective equipment, freezers/coolers, mobile IT equipment, tailgate equipment, and vehicles for home deliveries. For a complete list of flexibilities and assistance provided to tribal nations in response to COVID-19, please visit the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service website.

USDA has also published a final rule to further promote customer service in FDPIR, that formalizes two sought-after changes to FDPIR from the 2018 Farm Bill. These changes empower tribes and state agencies to administer the program effectively, efficiently, and in a way that best meets participants' needs by:

- Allowing state agencies and tribes up to two years to use FDPIR administrative funds, providing more stability and allowing for longer term planning; and
- Providing tribes with more autonomy over how they administer FDPIR -- specifically in deciding who can sign requests

seeking an administrative fund match waiver due to substantial burden to the tribe.

In addition to releasing the final rule, USDA also held a formal consultation earlier this week with tribal leaders on Section 4003(b) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. This provision directed USDA to establish a demonstration project for one or more participating Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) to enter into self-determination contracts to purchase USDA Foods for their FDPIR program. This demonstration project aims to further self-governance for ITOs in procuring and distributing local, regional, and/or tribal foods for FDPIR.

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service administers 15 nutrition assistance programs to ensure children and low-income individuals and families have nutritious food to eat. FNS also co-develops the dietary guidelines for Americans, which provides nutrition recommendations and serve federal nutrition policy.

Budget cuts close Detroit area American Indian Services

BY RICK SMITH

After meeting a variety of needs for an average of over 6,000 American Indians annually for nearly 50 years, American Indian Services (AIS) of Southeast Michigan in Lincoln Park, Mich., suspended operations on July 10 due to dire financial setbacks.

"We are discontinuing services due to ongoing budget cuts," said AIS Executive Director Fay Givens. "Our budget has been cut

by 67 percent in the past six years and during the pandemic we received notice that our Medicaid billing was being cut by another seven percent, making it impossible to survive."

Givens said the organization provided culturally appropriate mental health services, food support, therapies, after school and summer youth programs, diabetic prevention, fitness classes and other services.

According to an estimate

from Larry Jacques, director of the Sault Tribe Planning and Development Department, 5,571 members of Sault Tribe live within a 30-mile radius of American Indian Services.

AIS helped individuals, groups and families with developing improved living and social skills along with other goals through therapies provided by licensed professionals. Referrals were also provided for culturally appropriate outpatient and inpa-

tient substance abuse treatment, homelessness assistance, health care, legal services and other concerns.

The organization provided youngsters aged 5 to 17 with after school and summer cultural programs to ease the bi-cultural stress of walking in two worlds.

American Indian Services of Southeast Michigan functioned as a non-profit 501-C-3 agency serving the region since 1971. The operation had an American

Indian staff and board of directors under Title 25 USC 44-46 and 474 providing services solely to American Indians.

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move?**

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Sault Tribe business growth continues in 2020

BY RICK SMITH

The Sault Tribe Economic Development Corporation (EDC) started something of a business boom for the tribe in 2019, developing tribe affiliated business organizations and infrastructure, opening new businesses as well as acquiring a few long established businesses in the region.

The tribe's business growth continues in 2020. Earlier this year, according to EDC Director Joel Schultz, the tribe's board of directors ratified and completed a previous application to the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs for a Section 17 federal charter of incorporation under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. This was the last step required by BIA and officially creating Sault Tribe Inc., which is wholly owned by Sault Tribe.

Major advantages of Section 17 incorporation are preservation of tribal assets, no federal income taxes and the ability to issue tax-exempt bonds, according to the U.S. Department of the Interior. If a Section 17 corporation defaults on a loan it has

taken, only the corporation risks assets; tribal assets are protected by sovereignty. Federal income taxes do not apply to Section 17 corporations whether conducting business on or off a reservation because the U.S. Internal Revenue Service does not recognize those corporations as separate entities from the tribes holding their charters. Further, Section 17 corporations may issue tax-exempt bonds if funds go to essential governmental service.

Schultz said the Section 17 business structure is highlighted in a Harvard study as the best practice for American Indian business development, and particularly well suited for the pursuit of government contracting.

Sault Tribe Inc. is the parent organization of three new Michigan businesses – Chippewa Government Solutions LLC, Ojibwe Hazardous Abatement LLC and Hawkeye Facilities Maintenance LLC.

Chippewa Government Solutions (CGS) is the first subsidiary of Sault Tribe Inc. Schultz said, "It was formed in early

March of 2020 to do video learning production and training to target governmental needs for such. CGS was recently awarded three contracts representing their first revenue generating work. They are now busy using these orders to build capacity and generate the needed financials to continue the process of SBA 8a status, which as a tribally-owned 8a, can receive sole-source government awards up to \$100 million by late this fall."

Ojibwe Hazardous Abatement (OHA) formed in May of 2020 and brought an inheritance along with it. "Since its forming, OHA has acquired a successful 30-year-old company in Escanaba, Mich.," Schultz explained. "Pearson's Asbestos Abatement is the recognized leader in the region and will continue to operate with existing staff and earned reputation." Schultz added that the OHA plans to expand its government contracting services with immediate plans to develop a second location and team in the Sault Ste. Marie area.

Schultz added that, as now



An equipment trailer and rolling billboard that came with the Pearson Asbestos Abatement acquisition, one of the recent tribal EDC projects.

operated, OHA has over eight employees and annual revenues of over \$1 million.

The third operation, Hawkeye Facilities Maintenance (HFM) also formed in May. "This entity has been formed to react to the internal demands for janitorial services generated by the tribe, while considering future opportunities in government contracting,"

Said Schultz. "CGS and OHA are out of the gates ahead of HFM, and HFM has been forced to wait its turn a bit. But given the internal opportunities that exist, HFM should be rolling in the near future."

The EDC and Sault Tribe Thrive continue with these and other endeavors to help the tribe reach goals of self-sufficiency.

BMIC receives USDA loan for new health center

BAY MILLS, Mich. — The Bay Mills Indian Community is approved for funding to construct the new Bay Mills Health Center. BMIC Tribal Chairman Bryan Newland recently received notice that the tribe's U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Loan application was approved for \$6 million.

Officials from the BMIC have been laying the groundwork for the project throughout the last year, with the assistance of the Indian Health Service. The health center will be in the heart of the reservation, near the Tribal Justice Center. The grounds for the project were cleared last year. DSGW of Duluth, Minn., designed the new

facility, with input from tribal leaders and health center staff. The firm has developed tribal health centers throughout the Great Lakes region.

Bidding the project out is the next step. Once a contractor is selected, a timeline for groundbreaking and completion will be determined.

Plans for the 34,660-square-

foot building include the potential of adding new services such as optometry and chiropractic.

"This facility will allow us to improve the wellness of our community and create new career opportunities for our tribal citizens here at home. It will also allow us to collaborate with public universities and other agencies to learn how to improve the delivery of wellness services in Indian Country," said Newland.

The Bay Mills Health Center provides medical, dental and mental health services to both tribal and non-tribal individuals throughout the county.

The overall goal of the new facility is to expand integrat-

ed health care services, which include preventative care, traditional medicine, medical, dental, mental health care, substance abuse treatment and pharmacy services.

"The ongoing coronavirus pandemic reinforces the urgency of addressing health needs in our community. The new Bay Mills Health Center will be a cornerstone of our tribe's development for the next generation," added Newland.

The Bay Mills Health Center is one of a few dental providers that currently accept Medicaid in Chippewa County. The health center also provides services to more than 10 percent of the population in the local area.

Richards accepts position in tribe's Cultural Department

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Marie Richards accepted the position of repatriation and historic preservation specialist with the Sault Tribe Culture & Language Department.

Richards said her first archaeological field school was in the summer of 2003, and since then she has been involved in historic preservation working with heritage resources. "Most of my career has centered on historical archaeology and ethnography," she said. "This includes several years as a field archaeologist and ethnographer with cultural resource management firms in Louisiana. I am familiar and practiced in many heritage specialist roles, including academic research, digging shovel tests and excavating and authoring historical reports. While I have experience in historic preservation, bringing home ancestors is a new experience and I am honored to be a part of that process."

Richards is a social science doctoral student at Michigan Technological University studying industrial heritage and archaeology with her research focusing on the effect of industrialization on traditional cultural landscapes and Anishinaabek resilience and rematriation in maintaining connections to ancestral lands. She attended the University of Iowa for her Bachelor of Arts in anthropology and Master of Science in urban planning. "I missed heritage resources and went on to receive my Master of Arts in heritage resources from Northwestern State University of Louisiana; there I worked with the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians on some heritage preservation planning for an internship and my master's thesis. My experiences in cultural resource management exposed a limitation to archaeological training and practices that pushed me to enter a Ph.D program to address the problems we face in protecting indigenous traditions, culture and our homelands."

Richards said she finds it exciting to be part of



Marie Richards, Cultural Department specialist

empowering and celebrating our people and community. "One could say I was called to this position, my education and career paths part of a journey to here and now. Many of us grew up through a difficult time to identify as being Native, so we were not able to learn and pass down what it means to be Anishinaabek. Times have changed and I want to be part of protecting and reconnecting everyone to our culture."

She said there are always repatriation and historic preservation projects going on somewhere. "When the federal government needs to build, permit or fund a project, it requires complying with a number of federal laws and regulations including historic preservation and tribal consultation. Bringing the ancestors home takes a lot of time and effort to be done in a good way. Colleen Medicine and Cecil Pavlat Sr. have been doing this for a long time, and I am the newest addition to an amazing team."

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Fresh Box Program stops at Housing Authority

BY HEATHER SMITH, STHA

On June 25, the Sault Tribe Housing Authority (STHA) parking lot hosted the Fresh Box Program. This U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program distributed boxes of fresh

produce. The boxes contained a variety of healthful goods including onions, lettuce, potatoes, carrots, green peppers, asparagus, peaches and apples. There are no income verifications or guidelines other

than the person must live in tribal housing to participate.

STHA Resident Services Manager Cathie Erickson coordinated with USDA Food Distribution directors Tony Nertoli and Joe VanAlstine to put this event together.

Nertoli is with the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and VanAlstine is with the Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians.

Part of the USDA mission is to work towards assuring food safety and to end hunger in this country.

Chi miigwech to Nertoli, VanAlstine, Erickson and STHA staff for all your efforts.



Back of Fresh Box Program food truck.



Arrival of truck with Sault Tribe Housing Authority staff in attendance. Tony Thompson, Tony Nertoli, Tony McClusky, and Joe VanAlstine.



Resident driving through, as Karl Schmalz, Tony McClusky, Joe VanAlstine and Tony Nertoli stand by.



Cathie Erickson, Tony Nertoli and Joe VanAlstine.

Ermatingers help Michigan integrate mobile robots

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Factory-automation distributor, Industrial Control, is celebrating their 45th anniversary of providing Michigan manufacturers solutions to engineering issues by using the newest in automation, and recently became authorized to distribute and integrate AutoGuide Mobile Robots for the state of Michigan.

The company is a second-generation family-owned business, co-owned since 2006 by brothers Mark and Karl Ermatinger. Both brothers are Sault Tribe members and their company is certified as a minority-owned business.

Located in Zeeland, Mich., Industrial Control was founded in 1975 by John and Doris Ermatinger. “Our father started by fixing electric equipment for some factories, then he began building electric control panels to run large equipment in the factories. He started to sell the components in those panels to other panel builders, becoming a supplier of the most advanced emerging technology in automation,” Mark said. “My older brother Karl is now the president and co-owner, and I have the sales and visionary role as CEO. There is no new generation to take over, so our goal is for our key employees to eventually buy the business.”

Mark said, “We are more like a consultant than a distributor. Technical sales people are not very common. It’s those engi-



Sault Tribe member Mark Ermatinger, co-owner of Industrial Control, along with his brother, Karl Ermatinger.

neers that can’t sit still and love solving problems for people that migrate into our industry. Our sales engineers visit clients on-site to review their manufacturing needs and help them with selecting solutions, and sometimes bringing equipment to test.”

Industrial Control services almost all types of industries in Michigan. “About 50 percent of our clients are salt of the earth manufacturers, and the other 50 percent are custom machine builders making all kinds of strange machines” Mark said.

So what is AMR and AGV technology? Automated Mobile Robots (AMR) are robots that are self-driven and do not require magnetic strips in the floor to guide them like Automatic Guided Vehicles.



Industrial Control AutoGuide-Max-N10-Tugger.



One of the robots in use and available from Industrial Control.

AMR’s learn where building walls and other equipment is located, and create a map to autonomously navigate after that. AMR’s come in two categories, a low profile robot that carries products on it’s back or it tows a cart, and another AMR

turn around and reference the map they created to drive down the next isle. Mark said, “We are seeing strong growth with self-driving robots being used to move products around factories, and their future is coming sooner rather than later as people are becoming harder to find.”

“Industrial Control has a unique spread of AMR solutions available to customers, especially low and high-payload autonomous mobile robots. The new capability of high-payload autonomous mobile robots can help our customers increase their safety and become more efficient,” Mark said.

According to Mark, the global Autonomous Mobile Robots market is valued at \$356.3 million and is expected to reach \$1,011.8 million by the end of 2026, growing at a compound annual growth rate of 15.9 percent during 2021-2026.

Industrial Control has been a member of the Association of High Technology Distributors for over 30 years, and Mark is on the executive board of directors as the treasurer, and is scheduled to become the association president in 2024-25. Mark also founded the Advanced Manufacturing Expo in 2014, which showcases over 400 exhibitors with more than 4,000 attendees each year at two locations, in Grand Rapids and Detroit, all in one week.

Visit their website at www.industrialcontrol.com.

The universities we paid for: How lands dispossessed from tribes led to statewide extinction of species and impacted hunting rights

BY TYLER THEEL

Overview of the 1862 Morrill Act

The Morrill Act, signed into law by President Lincoln in 1862, is heralded as the first significant federal action to expand access to higher education. The act authorized the federal government to grant thousands of acres of land to each state. States and territories were permitted to sell the granted land and use profits to establish public universities. The land granted to universities was dispossessed from tribes through unfairly bargained treaty agreements, or without any form of agreement with tribes.

Land Grab University Project

Over the past two years, Tristan Ahtone, an investigative journalist, and Robert Lee, a lecturer at the University of Cambridge, of the Land Grab U Project, identified more than 99 percent of the parcels granted through the Morrill Act. Their research identified to whom university land grants were sold.

According to the Land Grab U Project, the federal government granted universities nearly 600,000 acres of land in Michigan. A review of the major land purchasers suggests that states like New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Vermont and Maryland, sold university land grants to logging industries in the Eastern Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan. Universities used those profits to establish universities. The impacts of logging during the mid-to-late 1800s have likely impacted the way Sault Tribe members exercise treaty rights.

Treaty Rights and Selling Land for Logging

Tribes of the eastern Upper Peninsula and northern Michigan ceded lands to the federal government in the Treaty of 1836 in exchange for financial compensation and treaty rights. Article 13 of the treaty provides Indians the “right of hunting on the lands ceded, with the other usual privileges of occupancy, until the land is required for settlement.” This means that Indians agreed to cede land only if they could continue hunting and fishing throughout the region. Indians could only be excluded from hunting and fishing in areas establishing settlements. Unfortunately, the federal government encroached upon hunting rights for reasons other than settlement when it implemented the Homestead Act and Morrill Act.

The Homestead Act accelerated the settlement of the western territory by granting families 160 acres of surveyed public land. The act was intended to provide land for working-class and poor “homesteaders” to settle and farm — not to establish large-scale mining and logging operations. Yet, 84 percent of these lands were used to establish mining, logging and other commercial operations in the 19th century across the United States. In the case of Michigan tribes, the land transfers appear to contradict Article 13, since the lands were not being utilized for settlement.

It is no coincidence that the Homestead Act and the Morrill Act were enacted concurrently. The Morrill Act did not restrict land use such as “homesteading.” Therefore, the act helped accelerate the transfer of land to natural resource industries in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Even so, the fact remains that tribal hunting rights may not be abridged for any other reason than settlement.

The federal government may assert that it complied with the 1836 Treaty by transferring ceded land to the logging industry since the industries cleared land for future agricultural use. However, the primary purpose of land use was for logging, which only incidentally resulted in clearing land for settlement. Further, not all deforested lands were later used for settlement. At best, this demonstrates that when the federal government facilitated the transfer of land to logging companies, it merely speculated that the land would be used for settlement. Further, Congress could have stipulated logging operations were permissible to clear way for settlement but failed to do so.

The ecological impacts of logging as a result of the Morrill Act

During the late 19th century, increased logging and hunting contributed to the local extinction and substantial population decline of wildlife species in the Upper Peninsula. Species that no longer dwell in the Upper Peninsula include bison, elk, caribou and cougar. Other species, such as moose and marten, disappeared entirely and were reintroduced to the Upper Peninsula nearly a century later. However, the reintroduced species only have small, isolated populations. Other populations, like



Tyler Theel

trout and bear, remain severely reduced. These species were commercially hunted and left exposed without sufficient tree coverage provided by white pines, hemlocks and other conifers.

White pine was the most valuable timber during the 19th century. By the 1840s, lumber companies and financial investors virtually logged all of the white pine in Pennsylvania, New York, Maine and New Brunswick. The struggling logging companies began expanding to Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota to log white pine and, later, other conifers like hemlock.

According to the Michigan DNR, only 50 percent of the conifer forests remain after European settlement of Michigan. In the maps below, conifer forests are represented in red and dark green. The maps indicate where conifer forests have been diminished and have been mostly replaced by deciduous aspen trees, represented in yellow.

While thousands of acres of forests have regrown in the Upper Peninsula, aspen trees do not provide sufficient coverage for biodiversity. Conifers bear evergreen needles and do not require ample amounts of water to sustain. When conifers are deforested, birch trees often

grow to replace them.

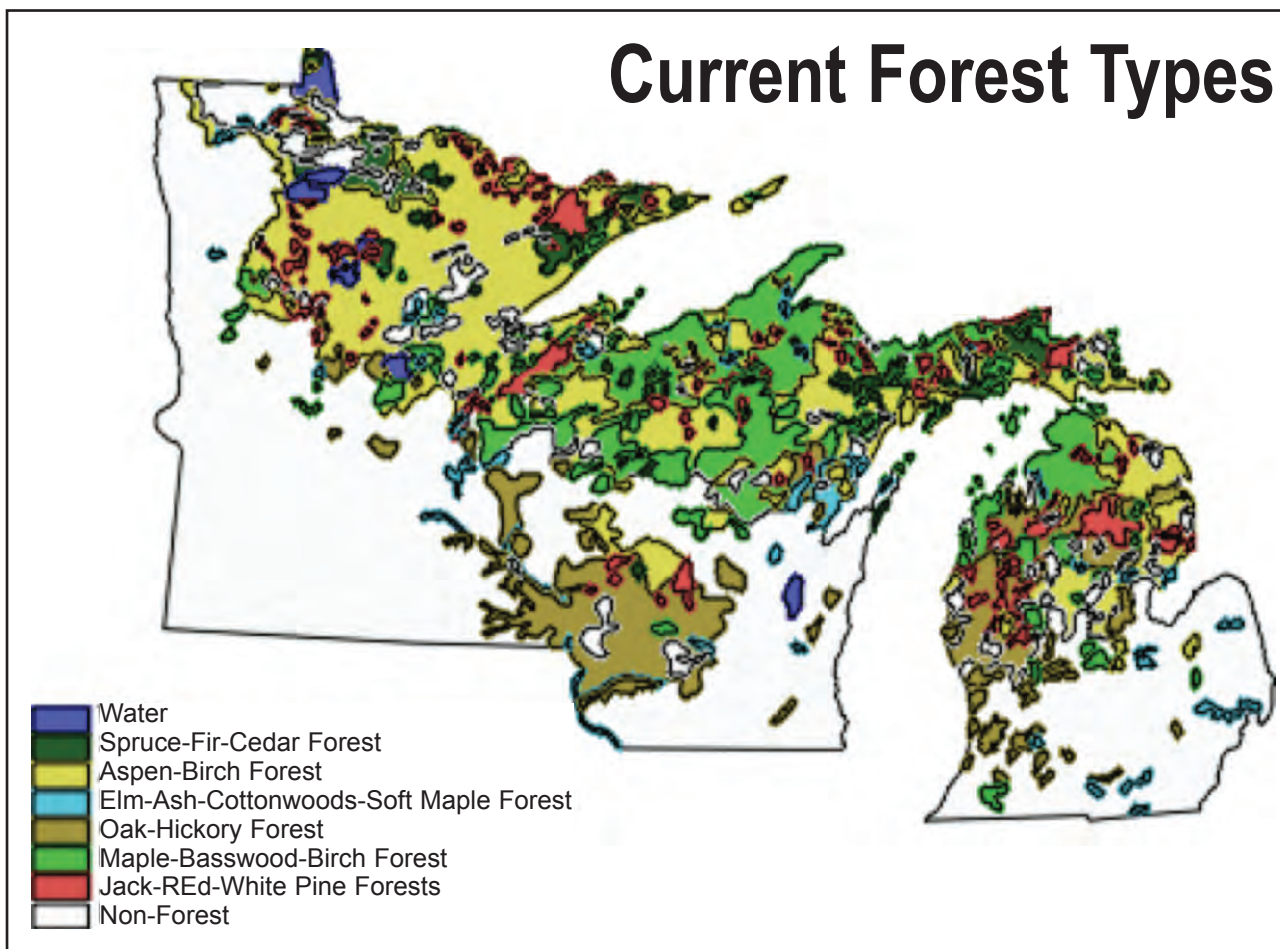
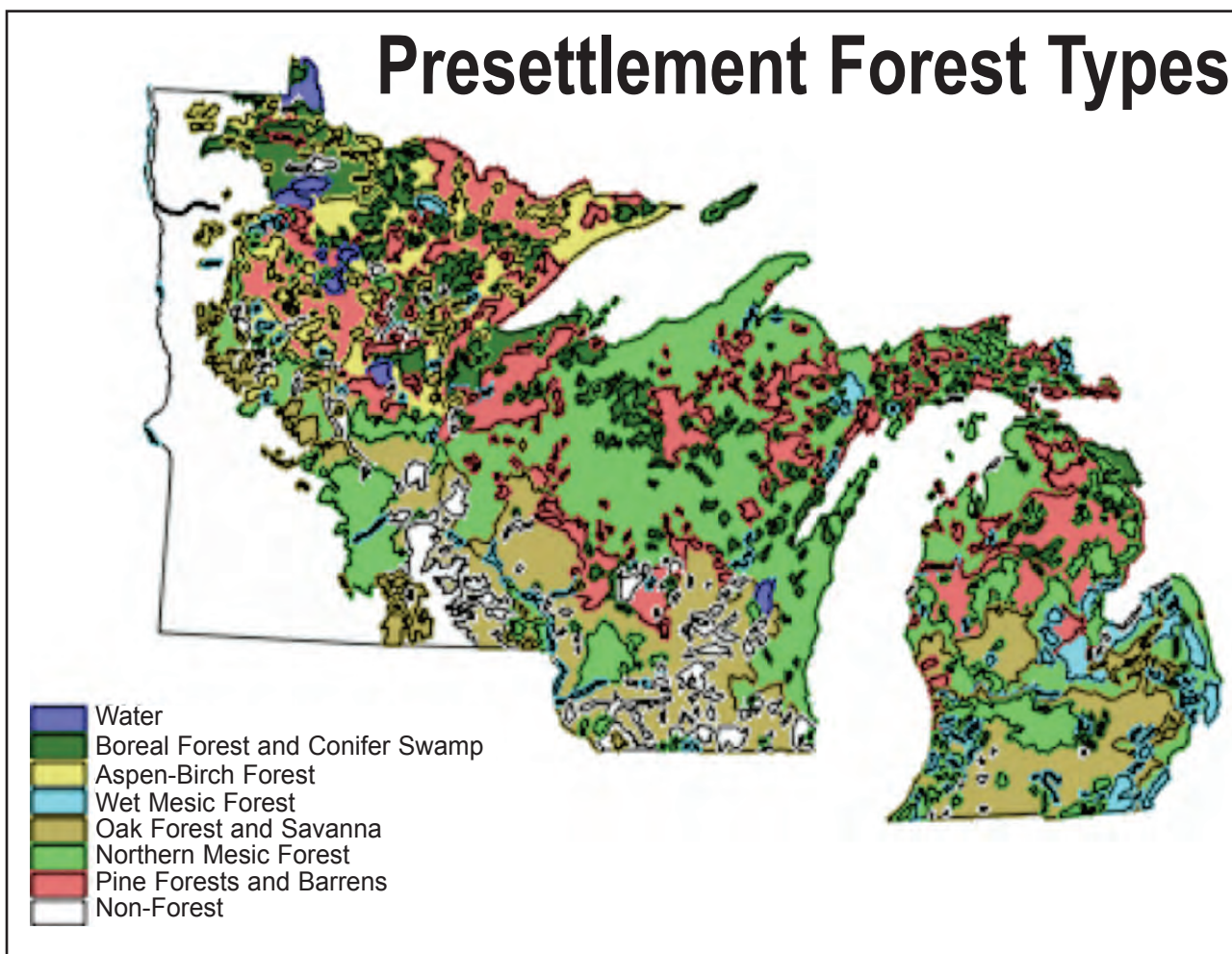
According to David Orwig, Forest Ecologist at Harvard Forest, “birches use far more water, especially during the height of the growing season.” When hardwoods like birch replace high-shade conifers, “they may lead to drier conditions and less water in the streams, particularly in mid-summer.” Further, the establishment of birch trees prevents conifers from repopulating forests.

Orwig said that conifers provide dense shade to fish nurseries, providing necessary support for cold-water fish, which includes trout and whitefish. This suggests that the deforestation of conifers has contributed to the decline in whitefish population, alongside increased temperatures and invasive species.

All this is to say, thanks to the Land Grab U Project, we have a better understanding of the role of the federal and state governments in the deforestation of conifers in the eastern Upper Peninsula.

The next entry of the Universities We Paid For series, explores in greater detail the states who sold land to lumber companies in the eastern Upper Peninsula, and bear responsibility for the extinction and diminishment of species important to our tribe’s culture, sustenance and treaty rights.

Sault Tribe member Tyler Theel is a law student at University of Michigan, serving an internship with Sault Tribe’s Inland and Legal departments this summer.



Newly elected and incumbent board members sworn in during ceremony at Kewadin Casino



Chairperson Aaron Payment is sworn in as the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians board chairperson and accepts gifts afterwards.



Austin Lowes was sworn in as a Unit I board representative before accepting gifts from Election Committee members Diane Moore (center) and Kristi Franklin (right).



Unit I incumbent Betty Freiheit being sworn in for her first full term as a Sault Tribe board member.



Unit III incumbent Bridget Sorenson was sworn into office (left) before accepting her gifts (above).



Incumbent Darcy Morrow ran unopposed in Unit IV, and was sworn in during the ceremony before being presented with her gifts by Election Committee members Diane Moore (center) and Kristi Franklin (right).



Unit I board representative Betty Freiheit being presented with gifts by Election Committee member Diane Moore (right).

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians newly elected board member and returning incumbents were sworn into office in a July 7 ceremony at Kewadin Casino in the Sault, which was limited due to the coronavirus pandemic. All incumbents who ran in the election were returned to office. Incumbents sworn back in were Chairperson Aaron Payment, Unit IV incumbent Darcy Morrow, Unit I incumbents Betty Freiheit and Michael McKerchie, Unit II incumbent Lana Causley and Unit III incumbent Bridget Sorenson. The Unit I vacancy left by Jennifer McLeod's run for the chair position was filled by candidate Austin Lowes.



Re-elected Unit II board representative Lana Causley-Smith took her oath of office, before accepting her gifts from Election Committee members Diane Moore (center) and Kristi Franklin (right).



Unit I incumbent Michael McKerchie took his oath of office and was then presented with gifts by Election Committee members Diane Moore and Kristi Franklin.



Photos by Brenda Austin

Early Head Start children help grow a garden and learn where food comes from that they eat

BY TAMMY BUMSTEAD, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Sault Tribe Early Head Start children are growing a garden. Under the guidance of their teachers, the 2- and 3-year olds started their garden before the COVID-19 emergency closed the program. Early Head Start teacher Mrs. Danielle maintained the garden for nearly three months until the children returned to school.

The garden has a variety of vegetables, including cucumbers, squash, tomatoes, pumpkins, potatoes, lettuce, kale, chives, onions, carrots, beans, peas and corn. It also includes herbs, such as basil, rosemary, thyme, sage and lemon mint. Flowers were added to attract pollinators and to add a little color to their green garden.

Niibin picked the first cucumber of the season, and Jordynn,

Jocelynn, Jaelynn and Raelynn picked herbs to make homemade pesto that they had with their noodles for a lunchtime meal.

The children and the teachers would like to say chi miigwech to the Sault Tribe Community Health Tribal Practices for Wellness in Indian Country Grant that was made possible with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Early Head Start Program would like to also say chi-miigwech to Kat Jacques, instructor for the Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program through the Michigan State University Extension office.

The garden would not be possible without these agencies and our team members' dedication to advancing our children's learning opportunities.



Holding salad greens they helped plant and water.



Looking at the peppers they have been taking care of.



Head Start kids with their teachers.



Even washing lettuce with teachers was fun.

Chief Judge Fabry serves as commencement speaker at 2020 Sault Area High graduation

Sault Tribe member and Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry was doubly honored at Sault High's Class of 2020 graduation ceremony on July 10. Fabry served as commencement speaker and was made an outstanding alumnus.

Ceremony attendees were limited due to the coronavirus pandemic. Those present heard Fabry's speech to the graduates.

Here is her address to the Sault Area High School Class of 2020:

"Parents, family and friends, GRADUATES, it's an honor to be here speaking to all of you, as an alumnus of Sault High.

"You are a history-making class of graduates, that's for sure. Look how resilient you all are. No one else has experienced this – graduation in May, certainly not a normal graduation ceremony at all. No senior formal. No last season of spring sports, no last performance as a senior or senior skip day. But you have THIS, and I bet your senior year is even more memorable than all those that came before you. No one else did this. No other senior class has made it through what you have. Only you are the Class of 2020. Take that with you – that's an accomplishment. Those are your bragging rights from here on out.

"So, I've been thinking about what I wanted to say since I was asked and what words of wisdom I could impart on all of you that would be the thing. The thing you would remember forever, that would give you the answers and just pave the way for the rest of your lives. But guess what? I don't have the answers. Because, you don't ever figure it all out. But I do have 23 years on you all, so I'll share just a few tidbits I've managed to pick up since I was sitting where you are.

"In my job, I have the honor and privilege of presiding over a treatment court program. Next to adoption hearings, it is my very favorite part of my job, I could talk for hours about treatment court, but suffice it to say treatment court is for people who engage in crime because of their drug or alcohol addiction, and the court focuses on getting them treatment services to address their addiction issues so they don't end up back in court.

"When they first come to court, treatment court participants are at rock bottom, they are hopeless, their addictions have control over their lives, and oftentimes has cost them everything – family, friends, jobs, their liberty, their pride. But watching someone rise up from rock bottom, battle their addiction, and start reaching their potential is a pretty amazing thing to witness and I've had the privilege of getting to witness that more than a few times. And for that reason, I've learned more from our drug court participants than probably anyone else in my life, apart from my parents.

"So here's what I've learned from the people I've had the honor of working with in our treatment courts who have overcome addiction.

"Lesson number one – The only failure in life is giving up, everything else can be overcome. Keep showing up.



Sault Tribe Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry talks to Class of 2020 at commencement.

"When people start treatment court, they have people telling them not to do it, it's too hard, it's not worth it, they'll never finish it – and like I said, their circumstances are pretty bad and treatment court is tough. And in your own lives, you'll probably find there's a lot of cynicism in this world; people saying "everyone's corrupt, the system's rigged, there's nothing you can do about it; you can't make a difference; one vote doesn't matter."

"But I say, what a sad way to live. And, to me, all of that is an excuse. Cynicism is an excuse not to even try to make a difference or do what you set out to do or be involved.

"That's not to say you won't have setbacks and disappointments – we all do. And that's something you can't control. What you can control is how you respond to setbacks and disappointments. Do you let the disappointments throw you off track or do you keep showing up? The ones who face repeated disappointments and kept showing up – those are the ones who really succeed.

"So I plead with you to be optimistic. Cynics are noisy, but that's all it is – a whole lot of noise. Tune it out and move on. The world has a whole lot of areas that need improving. Figure out your contribution. The world needs what you have to offer. Don't make excuses to not make a difference. Be involved. Make a

difference.

And keep showing up.

"Lesson number two – A support system is everything. Surrounding yourself with your people, the ones who support you, have your back and treat you with kindness is key in getting to where you want to be.

"So from time to time in your life, you'll have to take inventory and weed out the ones who don't really have your back and that's okay. Find your people, they make all the difference.

"As my favorite musician, Dave Matthews says, 'It's not where, but who you're with that really matters.'

"Lesson number three – Goals are important. By all means, have goals. BUT don't be so focused on your goals ahead that you don't stop and take a look around. Take time as you're

going through your life to think about where you are, not always where you are going.

"Do your best to live in the moment. This takes effort. We are a goal-driven society, we're all so busy, always looking to the next thing. But the joy is in the moment.

"Life is about living right now. It's not about the next step. Nothing in this life is guaranteed. You all know that all too well, having learned that lesson the hard way this year.

"So to you, I say, live. Don't always be worried about the next thing. Don't be so goal-oriented that you don't take risks. Find your passion and work at embracing every day. Have gratitude for where you are at any given time.

"Again, to borrow another lyric from my favorite artist, Dave Matthews, 'The future is no place to place your better days.'

"So there's my relatively select list of lessons learned from presiding over treatment court and watching some people fail, while others succeed. Keep showing up, build a support system that has your back. Have goals, but live in the moment too.

"Now I mentioned the other two people I've learned a few things from, and that would be

my mom and dad, so before I close, I want to give you two more very simple, but what I think are the most important pieces of advice, and what everything else I've already talked about boils down to.

"First one, work hard. This one is for my dad. My dad, Rodney Roy, is the absolute hardest working person I know. So as my father's daughter, I'm going to get real with you for a second. Your hopes and your dreams don't come true just because you dream them. It's hard work that makes things happen, it's hard work that creates change. I hope you all have dreams and visions for your future, but do the work to make them happen. Create the life you want to live by working for it.

"You are going to see people in your life, who don't do the work and still get places. And it's annoying and frustrating. But you have to learn to not care. Because I can tell you, they are missing out. The work brings the joy and the honor and the purpose. You owe it to the people who came before you, and the people who come after you. But most of all, you owe it to yourself to do the work.

"Second one, be kind. This one's for my mom, Marcella Roy, the kindest person I know. She makes it look easy, but I think this is one we all have to work at from time to time. But as a goal, we could all do worse than try to be kinder in this world.

"Whatever you do, do it with kindness. And I know that sounds cliché and something you'd see on a trendy t-shirt, but it's true.

"So, as my mother's daughter, I tell you to be kind, make kindness a verb. Actively seek the best in others and to will the good of others. That doesn't mean being a pushover, that doesn't mean not arguing with people, but it means taking a stance but doing it with respect and kindness.

"So treat people with kindness. But here's the important part: treat people with kindness especially when you don't feel like it. Even if you have to do it through gritted teeth while spitting nails, kill 'em with kindness. And to borrow one last Dave Matthews lyric, and as best exemplified by my mom 'Above all things, if kindness is your king, then heaven will be yours before you meet your end.'

"Your senior year didn't afford you near the celebration you deserve, but that was beyond your control. What you can control is this beautiful future ahead of you and what you choose to do with it.

"So keep showing up, surround yourself with your people, live with gratitude, live in the moment, work hard and be kind.

"I wish nothing but the best of luck, health, and happiness and LIVING to all of you fellow Blue Devils on your journey.

"The world is waiting, go get it, Sault High Class of 2020."



Walking on . . .

DAWN M. STEINKOHL

Dawn Marie Steinkohl, 53, died on June 20, 2020, in Mound City, Kas She was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on May 8, 1967. She belonged to St. Isaac Jogues Church of Sault Ste. Marie as a child and served as an altar girl.



She was a member of Mound City Christian Church and Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Mound City. Dawn loved the Lord and led many people to Jesus.

She was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

She attended Soo Township and Jefferson Elementary schools, Sault Area High School, and Lake Superior State University. Dawn was an artist and musician. She played saxophone for many years in the school band and for her church when younger. Dawn was known for her artwork. Her beaded dreamcatchers won many first-place awards at art shows and hang in museums and art galleries. She was featured in the *Detroit Free Press* for her beautiful artwork. She took best of show for her fancy shawl.

Dawn was a pharmacy tech at Sault Tribe Health Center for some time, but after 9/11, she wanted to do something for her country. She served as an immigration inspector for the Department of Justice and transitioned to CBP officer for the Department of Homeland Security in Sault Ste. Marie and Kansas City, Mo., before retiring. Dawn was happiest baking. She made many cookies and baked goods for her many family, friends and neighbors. Her dream was to open a bakery. She loved fishing. Much of her free time was spent volunteering where needed.

She is survived by her children, Robin (Alisha Bailey) Cook and Victoria (James) McCabe. Dawn was overjoyed to have two beautiful granddaughters, Audrey Anna Cook and Hazel Evelyn Cook.

She was the beloved daughter of her mother, Barbara Dietz of Sault Ste. Marie, her father, Paul

Steinkohl of Israel and stepfathers AJ Rogers and Fredrick Tazelaar. She is also survived by her siblings, Paul Steinkohl, Michael Tazelaar, Sherrie (Allen) Lucas, Roger Steinkohl, Anthony Rogers, Barbara Rogers and Jay Tazelaar, all of Sault Ste. Marie, and Michael Steinkohl of North Carolina; aunts and uncles, Hon. Elisabeth (Harvey Bell) Dietz of Sault Ste. Marie; Leah (Tom) VanAman of Ohio, Anita Steinkohl of Israel, Howard Steinkohl of New Jersey and Richard Steinkohl of Florida; her many nieces, nephews, great-nephews and great-nieces, cousins and dear friends she met on her travels; and her precious dog, Poco.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Orval and Delphine Dietz, and aunts and uncles, Elvin "Sonny" (Margaret) Dietz, Elizabeth (Alford) Clark, Mary (Forrest) Poole, Orval Dietz, Rita (Bill) Dale and William Dietz.

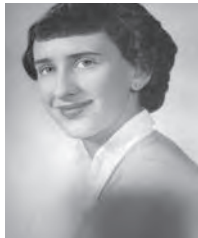
A memorial service took place on July 11, 2020, at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home. Friends gathered at the funeral home until the time of service. Following the memorial service, a remembrance luncheon was conducted at the Best Western in Sault Ste. Marie. Burial took place at Riverside Cemetery on July 13.

Please send flowers in lieu of donations. If you would like to donate please perform an act of kindness for a community member.

Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

MARSHA COVEYOU

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our mother, Marsha Coveyou on June 28, 2020, at the age of 83. Her sons and daughter surrounded her during her last days. She was married to Charles Coveyou for 34 years.



She survived her husband, Charles Coveyou, and her son, John Coveyou. She is leaving behind her sister Sharon Spooner, her son Michael Coveyou, her daughter Janine Curry and her children Chris Curry and his two

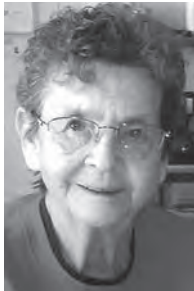
children, Cole Curry and Jocelyn Curry; her son, Matt Curry, his wife Kristen Curry, and children Peyton Curry, and Bryce Curry; her son James Coveyou, his children, Leonard Roundtree, Josh Coveyou, Amanda Bush, with a daughter Millie Bush, and Ben and Emily Coveyou.

Together, they owned two bars, and most popular was The Covey's State bar, which will long be remembered for their hamburgers and fond memories. She was a great cook and baker. She had to stay on her toes with four children. She always put her family first, and was a big animal lover. She also never missed an episode of Jeopardy.

A warm thank you to Sandy Rickly who helped assist mom before she moved to Florida. Her Mass took place at Nativity Catholic Church, in Brandon, Fla., on July 31. Any condolence cards will be accepted at Janine Curry, 810 Citrus Wood Lane, Valrico, FL., 33594.

MELVA M. PAYMENT

Melva Marlene (nee LaPoint) Payment, 83, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on July 14, 2020. Melva was born on Drummond Island, Mich., on April 14, 1937.



She was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Melva worked at Lake Superior State University for 25 years in both the food service department and custodial services. She was a witty woman full of spunk, laughter and jokes.

Her greatest joys were spending time with family and playing bingo. She touched the lives of so many people and will be greatly missed.

Melva is survived by her son, Donald (Linda) Payment of South Carolina; five daughters, Carol Benner of Sault Ste. Marie, Sharon (Mark) Porcaro of Sault Ste. Marie, Marlene (Mike) Porcaro of Sault Ste. Marie, Michelle Nalett of Sault Ste. Marie and Evelyn

(Bryan) Buffton of Alabama; daughter-in-law, Janet (Larry) Payment of Sault Ste. Marie; and special granddaughter, Kelly (Casey) Kleman of Wisconsin, whom she and Pogie raised; as well as 15 other grandchildren, Bryan and Katelyn Payment, Kimberly (Steve) Criswell, Jason and Ashley Payment, Christopher (Tiffany) Craig, Caleb Porcaro, Douglas (Kayla) Norton, Christin Hatch, Derek and Darren Bouschor, Darcy (Tim) Wright, Scotty and Heather Nalett; 27 great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews, and two sisters-in-law, Marilyn (Richard) Henry of Brighton and Maxine (Melvin) Rautanen of Mount Pleasant.

Melva was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Urban "Pogie" Payment; son, Larry Payment; brother, Melvin Rautanen; and sister, Marcy Capriciosso.

Visitation took place on July 20 at the Clark Funeral Cremation Burial Services and services were conducted at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church on July 20 with Father Dominic A. Yamoah officiating. Final resting place will be Riverside Cemetery. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com.

DAVID J. SMART

David James Smart, 44, of Sugar Island, Mich., passed away unexpectedly on June 28, 2020.

He was born on Aug. 19, 1975, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Jesse Jr. and Sherrie Smart.

David enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a true outdoors-



man. David is survived by his wife, Charlene Smart; children, Kyle Smart, Jacob Smart, Devan (Stephen Bouley) Smart; sister, Karen (Marty Laaksonen) Smart; lifelong friend, Joe Nassar; grandchildren, Asher Bouley and Oliver Smart.

David was preceded in death by his father, Jesse Smart, Jr.

Traditional ceremonies were conducted on July 2 at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie. Burial took place at Wilwalk Cemetery on Sugar Island.

Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com.

Coffee with an Elder

The Sault Tribe Language and Cultural Department hosts coffee with an elder! We want to connect our elders with our communities to have conversation and share! Join us on Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

Join us using the following info – Meeting URL: <https://bluejeans.com/426769982> Room ID: 426 769 982 Phone Number: 408-419-1715

Our first elder will be Gerard Sagassige on July 29, 2020.

For more information or if you have trouble getting connected, call (906) 632-1347 or 635-6050 ext. 26064.

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IHS expands Community Health Aide Program

The Indian Health Service (IHS) recently announced the national expansion of the Community Health Aide Program (CHAP). The program provides education and training of tribal community health providers to increase access to quality health care, health promotion and disease prevention services.

As an expansion of the Alaska Community Health Aide Program, the national CHAP will be consistent with the Alaska model and will foster innovative service delivery for the IHS by augmenting the existing workforce with mid-level paraprofessionals, using culturally competent providers and providing workforce devel-

opment opportunities for locally developed staff.

“Through this expansion to create a national CHAP, the IHS aims to provide culturally appropriate health care services through recruiting, developing and retaining a dedicated, competent and caring workforce,” said IHS Director Rear Adm. Michael D. Weahkee. “The CHAP model increases access to care by bringing health care closer to our patients. Traditionally, patients are brought to a health care facility, and the CHAP illustrates that health care can be delivered to the patient in their environment.”

The IHS initiated tribal con-

sultation to seek input on the potential expansion to create a national CHAP. In February 2018, the IHS convened a CHAP Tribal Advisory Group to ensure that the questions and concerns from tribes, tribal organizations and urban Indian organizations across the country were being adequately represented. To better understand the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native communities prior to CHAP expansion, the IHS participated in numerous listening sessions, focus groups and planning meetings.

Leveraging innovative workforce models that prioritize direct health care, CHAP is vital to rural and remote communities

across Indian Country as the need for access to care in primary, dental and behavioral health increases. Federal law requires all health aides to be certified by the IHS to provide services under a CHAP. As implementation proceeds, the CHAP must be sufficiently flexible to allow the IHS and tribes to tailor resources to the specific local, mental, physical and cultural needs of the community and operate within site-specific limitations in technology, resources and facilities.

The IHS is taking a phased implementation approach, starting with tribal consultation on \$5 million in funding from Fiscal Year 2020 to support

key components. These include establishing certification boards at the IHS area and national levels to begin certifying providers in the lower 48, increasing community education on the role of CHAP across Indian Country, investing into training in tribal communities, and providing additional support to tribally-operated programs.

The Alaska CHAP was established in 1968 to provide a broad range of primary care services to residents of remote areas that would otherwise not have access to consistent medical care. Today in Alaska, more than 50,000 patients in remote villages throughout the state are treated by village-based health aides.

Employees of the months announced for April and May



April Employee of the Month – Congratulations to Carolyn Komejan, her dedication and ability to react to the health centers needs during this pandemic have been extremely appreciated.



May Employee of the Month – Laura Boucher has spent countless hours working with several staff and departments during this pandemic to assure staff that the best practices are in place to protect the health and safety of both staff and patients. Laura goes above and beyond continually, but during these last few months she has taken on a new level of responsibility and for that we want to celebrate her. Laura's endless dedication to the Sault Tribe health services continues to go unrecognized because she just goes about her business and gets things done. For Laura it's more than a job, it's a dedication to our membership's health and wellbeing.

Munising elders helping other elders in midst of pandemic

BY HOLLY KIBBLE, ELDER SERVICE DIVISION DIRECTOR

The Unit V elders wanted to make sure their community elders had opportunity for a weekly meal. So the planning began to provide a weekly curbside meal at the Munising Tribal Center parking lot. Headed up by Elder Committee Chairperson

Vicki Carr-Walden and other committee members, they coordinated volunteers to help serve the Munising elders a nutritious curbside meal prepared by Cheryl Joynt from Cheryl's Country Catering.

Usually, Munising has two meals per month, but for June and July they were able to add

additional meals to help the elder community during the state of emergency. They were also given COVID relief bags, which included toilet paper and gloves to hand out to every elder household. The next relief bags will focus on masks and gloves for elders to be protected out in public.

Planning with the Elder Service Division, the funds to supplement extra meals to isolated rural elders came from COVID Response by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and the Title VI Native American Nutrition Services. The Older Americans Act enables funding helping in times of emergency.

Elder Division Director Holly Kibble said, “The Munising Elder Committee has been very instrumental in bringing meals to community elders, starting with frozen meals back in March. Vicki Carr-Walden and all the volunteers have done a wonderful job to help us help elders in the community.”



From left, volunteers Rob Steinhoff and Roxanne Steinhoff, Unit V Elder Committee member David Martin and wife Becky Martin.



Cheryl Joynt from Cheryl's Country Catering

Congratulations to our tribal laboratory

FROM SAULT TRIBE HEALTH DIVISION

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWESOME STAFF who work in our labs and sites conducting testing.

The following is an edited message from Laboratory Manager Carey Mills:

“A special ‘thank you’ to all of the nurses and providers at the Manistique, Munising, St. Ignace and Sault Ste. Marie health centers for all of their assistance and for being so willing to help

out last week when our COLA inspector Patricia Street was here. All of our sites did extremely well!

The inspector noticed the many improvements that had been made from 2 years ago. In addition, she commented on how all of the sites are doing a wonderful job of documenting quality controls and keeping up on the quality assurance aspect of everything. There were no citations found at any of the sites that perform waived testing.”

TURN TO PAGE 23 FOR MORE HEALTH NEWS!

LSSU degree completion programs in Escanaba

ESCANABA, Mich. – Lake Superior State University (LSSU) is pleased to announce, in partnership with Bay College, their baccalaureate programs in elementary education and secondary education will be available entirely in Escanaba starting the fall 2020 semester.

Recognizing the shortage in qualified teachers in Michigan, LSSU and Bay College are

working together to offer local citizens the ability to pursue their teaching degree without leaving the area. Students benefit by staying local with tuition cost savings by earning 44-73 credits from Bay College (depending on program selection) and the rest from LSSU. With fieldwork and student teaching placements in local elementary, middle and high schools, teacher ed candi-

dates can impact K-12 students and begin to build a network and reputation for future hiring. Individuals interested in pursuing an elementary education teaching degree can concentrate their degree in areas of early childhood, learning disabilities, language arts, mathematics or language arts and mathematics. Secondary education majors are offered concentrations in English

language and literature, mathematics, integrated science or social science.

Dr. Barb Light, LSSU's dean of the College of Education and Liberal Arts, said, "We are very excited to expand our partnership with Bay College and prepare teachers. School superintendents and principals often talk about the advantages of home growing our own teachers in the U.P.

because someone raised in the U.P. will be more likely to want to stay long term in the U.P. and our PK-12 students deserve teachers who are fully invested in our schools and communities.

Lake Superior State University is one of Michigan's most affordable public universities with one-rate at Lake State tuition for all.

For more information, visit LSSU.edu.

Sault Tribe Thrive's directory of Sault Tribe member-owned businesses to shop 'n' support

A Little Golden Studio
Kaitlin Lenhard, Lansing, MI 48826
(616) 902-0191
alittlegoldenstudio@gmail.com
Photography/video and handmade gifts

American Dream Builders
Gary Vallier
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
(269) 365-1969
garyadbslm@hotmail.com
Construction

Anchor Systems LLC
Fredrick Carr
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(202) 306-1365
frederick.t.carr@gmail.com
Computer security service

Arbor Insight
Scott Lavictor
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 992-7267
hello@arborinsight.com
Conversation management solutions

Barbeaux Fisheries
Paul Barbeaux
DeTour Village, MI 49725
(906) 297-5969
barbeauxfish@gmail.com
Fishing

Bay Pharmacy
Douglas Goudreau
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-7725
DGoudreau@saulttribe.net
Pharmaceuticals and prescriptions

Belonga Plumbing and Heating
Steven Belonga
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 430-0672
lbelonga@sbcglobal.net
Residential and commercial plumbing

Benoit's Glass and Lock
Rick Benoit
Escanaba, MI 49829
(906) 786-5281
lisabtigger@yahoo.com
Glass repair shop and locksmith

BG Mini Mart
Colleen Kokesh
Gulliver, MI 49840
(906) 283-3266
https://www.facebook.com/colleen.kokesh.1
Convenience store

Big Bear Arena
Tammy Graham
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-4785
tgraham@saulttribe.net
Recreation center

Bloomco
David Lockhart
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 205-0275
shop@bloomcosault.com
Flowers

Bonacci Contracting

Carmine Bonacci
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-1425
Bonacci10@gmail.com
Construction

Brila Marketing
Jackie Debusschere
Oxford, MI 48371
(248) 429-7246
Jackie@brilamarketing.com
Marketing and web design

Burnside Creations
Lisa Burnside
Hessel, MI 49745
(906) 430-7323
Burnsidecreations1@gmail.com
Handmade crafts

Calderwood Wood Products and Services
Fred Sliger
Trout Creek, MI 49967
(906) 852-3232
fredsliger@jamadots.com
Wood products and design

Carrow Super Market
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Farwell, MI 48622
(989) 588-2965
eddie2toes@hotmail.com
Supermarket

Caster Construction
Ed Caster
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-3550
elcasterconstruction@gmail.com
Construction

Cedar's Motel
Tim or Kathy
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-9578
thecedarsmotel@aol.com
Motel

Chippewa Storage
Theresa Germain
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 495-2800
TGermain@saulttribe.net
Storage units

Chocolay Storage
Ace Hardware Staff
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 249-2223
chocolayace@gmail.com
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Jennifer Jespersion
North Hollywood, CA 91601
(818) 415-9025
jennifer.jespersion@mac.com
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Ann Dailey
Holt, MI 48842
(906) 322-2716
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Vickie Griggs
Livingston, TX 77399
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comphoppers@comphoppers.

com
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(906) 290-0478
CAPofEUP@yahoo.com
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Cottage UP
Thomas Clark
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 298-2298
cottageup@outlook.com
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Alan Barr
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 286-1922
alanb@creativechange.org
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Michael DiAngelo
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A5A8
(705) 542-7208
michael@credence.ca
Management consulting

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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 748-1047
dwaynel91@gmail.com
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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 495-2800
TGermain@saulttribe.net
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(906) 635-3040
Auto body shop

Derusha Construction
David Derusha
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(715) 730-0734
Derushaconstruction@yahoo.com
Construction

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(906) 283-3266
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Jody@dressup906.com

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groundsourcehtg@gmail.com
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info@eversonsfurniture.com
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Gould City, MI 49838
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jbasse2112@yahoo.com
Restaurant

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(906) 446-3406
mcmcgearry451@gmail.com
Sewing repair shop residential and commercial

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Dafer, MI 49724
(906) 322-0252
art.derry@yahoo.com
Flooring and carpet

Flowers Automotive
Jim Flowers
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-8074
Vehicle repair shop

Geo Shelter
Michael DiAngelo
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A5A8
(705) 542-7208
mdiangelo@geoshelter.ca
Steel homes and buildings

Gitchi Auto
Mike Brown
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 203-4491
mikebrownells@gmail.com
Used car/mobile home dealer

Greene Environmental Services
Mike Greene
Livonia MI 48154
(734) 272-8434 // mgreene@greeneenvironmentalservices.com

Asbestos Abatement Services
Hakola Porta John
Tony Hakola
Cedarville, MI 49719
(906) 484-6202
tonyhakola@hotmail.com
Rental of porta Johns and tents

Herbal Lodge
Nathan Wright
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231) 622-9063
native14u@yahoo.com
Herbal medicines and treatments

Hilltop Bar/Restaurant

Brandon/Tracy McKerchie
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
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mckerchiebrandon@yahoo.com
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Tony@7GenCo-Ops.com
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irwinmitch@gmail.com
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Suffolk VA 23435
(757) 809-2302
info@ishpi.net
Cyber protection service company

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baker.jimr@gmail.com
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Neenah, WI 54956
(888) 380-0805
lgrow@jetacorp.com
Distribution specialist

Lajoie Trucking Service and Freight
Marty Lajoie
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 647-3209
ltsf1@yahoo.com
Trucking

Lockview
Amy Goetz
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-2772
lockview2019@gmail.com
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Motel

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Ahneen, Boozho, Negee:

Please let me begin by expressing my deepest gratitude for you ~ the voter ~ returning me to office to continue to work for you. I am humbled. The vote outcome is the best I have experienced and the largest Chair election margin our Tribe has seen in nearly 30 years. I am humbled. I feel it proves we have some challenges ahead of us for which we need to come together as a Tribal Nation. We are the largest tribe east of the Mississippi. We have some of the strongest political capital which has been forged over the last 20 years that make us a positive force for our Tribe and all tribes across the country. This is a responsibility, duty and even a calling for which I accept and pledge to do my best guided by our ancestors, you the People and in cooperation with all our Board Members. I have said before that we often disagree but now more than ever we need to find common ground to succeed in all of our Tribal endeavors. I am optimistic about our future.

IMMEDIATE CHALLENGES

We are immediately faced with some tough choices as a tribal nation. At the time I write this, our governing body is debating who will be the beneficiary of our Cares Act Funding for which we were greatly successful in securing. It is true that our Cares Act funds were NOT based on our total population of 44,000. But it is also true that the benefit is

not restricted to our service area population. At the time I write this report, our governing body has decided to following our current strategic plan for implementing the Cares Act funds. The organization that is the Tribe, our casino and enterprise funding sources have been drastically impacted by our operational shut down so it is hard to argue that the impact is not real and financially significant for our tribe as an organization.

This is not to say that we are putting revenues over people. Please realize that before we derive available funding for services, we must cover operational costs. Cares Act funds are also extremely limited in the scope of what is allowable. Any funds that do not strictly adhere to federal guidelines must be paid back. If we get this wrong, and spend funds on disallowable expenses, we must pay these funds back out of our 2021 budget which amounts to stealing from tomorrow funds for programs and services. While we are very successful as a tribe in securing federal funds, it is still only about 50% of our established need in our service area only. We supplement these funds with casino and enterprise funding. With the impact of the pandemic, we are on pace to recovery less than 50% of our regular revenues. In turn, this means, our casino and enterprise funding supplement to federal funds may only be at 50% or less this year.

DON'T KILL THE MESSENGER

What follows is some information I have posted to

try to explain the complex nature of trying to forge an appropriate spending plan given the parameters we must follow. Not everyone will be happy with any spending plan, but hopefully all will realize our very financial solvency is dependent on getting this right. I realize this is dissatisfying to the western-end of our service area who have been waiting to catch up to Unit 1. It is also difficult for those who live just south of the Bridge, let alone Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids and outside of MI.

TRIBE 100% DEBT FREE FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER

With our Greektown Debt 100% paid off, we are entering a new era of opportunity and prosperity. Of course, to meet the needs of all members everywhere, we need new funding sources our new enterprises and down state gaming and manufacturing developments represent. I do not, however, support a "trust me" approach. Instead, I call upon all Tribal Members to push and our Board to recognize that it is time to approve a "revenue allocation plan". This is not a per capita. We can never do a per capita plan given our population of 44,000. Federal law does not allow tribes to pick winners and losers when it comes to per capita.

Our approach is one of self-sufficiency. We will never let the federal government off the hook for funding our programs and services. After all, as retired Board Member Cathy Abramson always said, "we prepaid" for everything we get. Nationwide, tribes traded over 500 million acres of land for the forever promise of "health, education, and social welfare". Our tribal ancestors traded 14 million acres of land in the 1836 Treaty that also secured our right to hunt, fish and gather forever. With recent Supreme Court victories, this right is more strongly established and one for which our Board and I will fight to protect during 2020 Consent Decree Negotiations.

Our Tribal Board recently approved a Cares Act direct services program to help Sault Tribe members in the Seven County Service Area. It will be

funded with \$3.5 million in Covid-19 CARES Act monies. While the remaining funds are earmarked to address the impact of the pandemic on tribal, enterprise and gaming operations, if the funds allocated for direct services are not enough, the Board may adjust the amount to ensure tribal members needs are met. In addition to the \$3.5 million in direct funding to benefit Sault Tribe members, the tribe has earmarked or appropriated the remaining funds to relieve the impact of COVID-19, including capital improvements to move to a touch-less environment and to install additional safety measures and equipment like new state-of-the-art air filtration systems in all tribal, enterprise and casino facilities across the seven-county service area.

During our voluntary casino closure, the Sault Tribe governmental, enterprise and casino operations fully compensated team member employees without the benefit of receiving casino revenues and vastly reduced enterprise revenues. Federal relief dollars allow for full payment of Health and Law Enforcement essential staff payroll directly as essential personnel while supporting the overall economic loss of the tribe. None of the funds were used for debt retirement, and, according to US Department of Treasury guidance, can only be used to address the direct impact of the pandemic.

Our priority is to meet the needs of the neediest and most impacted. Our board regrets having to limit benefits to the tribal strategic plan. Long-term economic development plans including a new marijuana development and downstate gaming operations will yield revenues at multiples greater than our current revenues. At that point, the tribe fully intends to modify our long-term strategic plan to include an expansion of services for all members no matter where they reside.

My Heart Bleeds due to the fact that we do not yet provide services to Members outside of the service area. The regular funds we receive for programs and services are limited to the population of tribal members who live in the service area. Thus, we receive annual regular federal funds

only for the 16,000 of our 44,000 members. Again, the Cares Act funds were determined based on the service area population only. I pushed for using our whole population rather than a subset. I advocate for this every time I testify in Congress ~ every single time. But, currently our funds are based on just 1/3 of our Membership. Thus, our Board has established a strategic plan that serves the population for which we receive funding.

Our Tribe began 20 years ago to establish self sufficiency programs not based on residency. Elder Dividends, Education Scholarships, and Funeral Assistance are examples. When we succeed in our down state development projects, we fully intend to expand self-sufficiency programs no matter where you live. The referendum I circulated and the Members overwhelming approved commits 15% of our net revenues for scholarships and to expand the Elder fund to increase the dividend.

My goal for the next few years is to work cooperatively to bring resources to all Members. I have tried to do this through force and it failed. So now I will use persuasion and identification of need. I am optimistic the Board will agree. I believe we will be able to get agreement on a Membership Referendum vote on a long term spending plan which includes expansion of services to all Members Everywhere.

Chi McGwitch, Negee!

NEW MONTHLY FEATURE

Below, I sing the praises of one of our Tribal Members ~ Angeline Bouley ~ who has secured a book deal and recently launched her book cover reveal. Please check out the links before for more information. Her book will be released next spring.

Please send me a short description of tribal member successes so I can keep this running each month to inspire greatness. Our people can accomplish anything.

Sault Tribe Citizen Successes!



ANGELINE BOULLEY BOOK DEAL UPDATE!

Sault Tribe Member Angeline Bouley signed a book deal about a year ago and left employment as the National Director of Indian Education in the US Department of Education. Angeline is the daughter of Henry Bouley, Sr. and granddaughter of Maria Angeline (Bouley) Parr. Check out the link for a video of her book cover reveal and her appearance in an Entertainment Weekly Article:

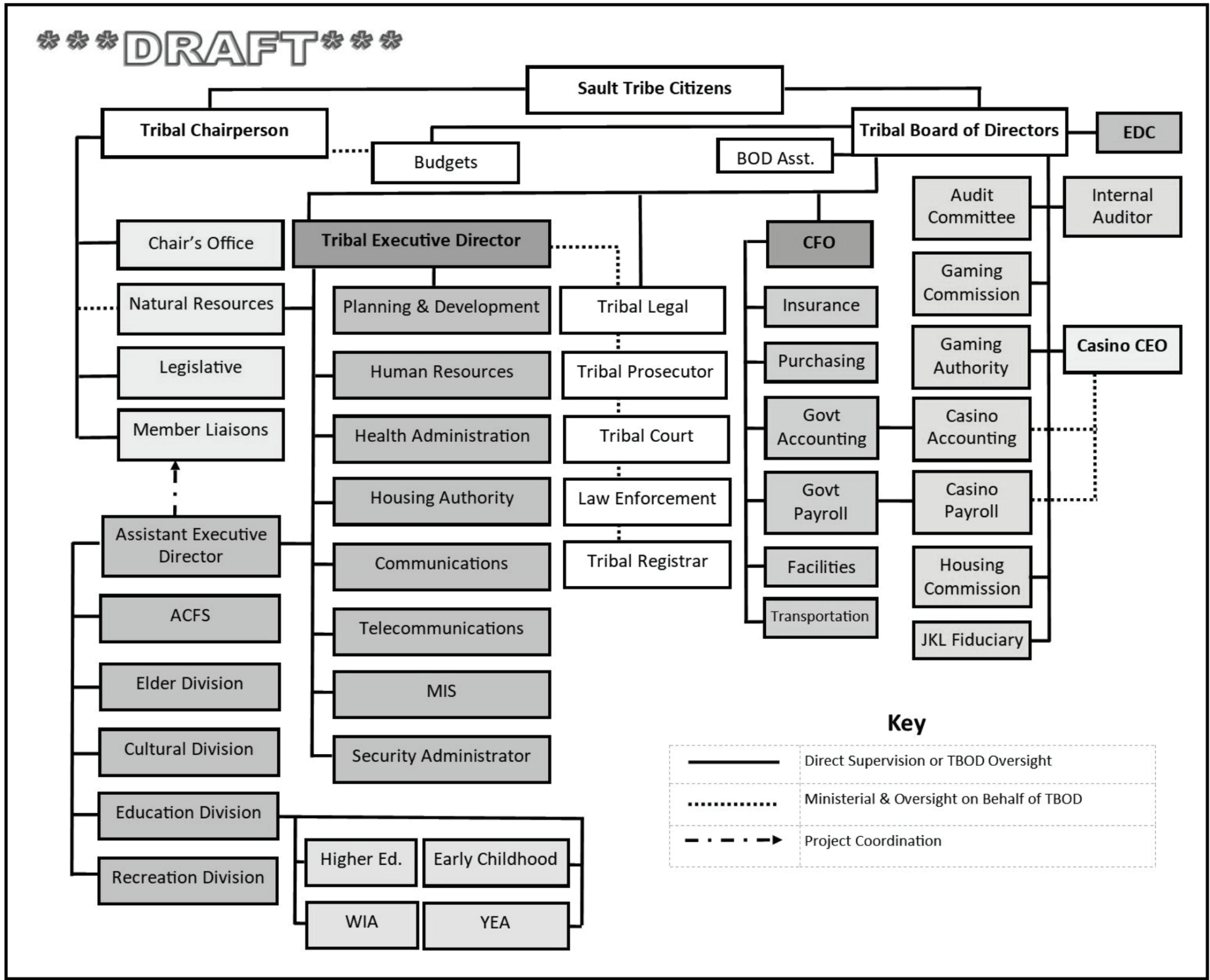
Link for Book Cover Reveal with Discusion and Q & A:

<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/firekeepers-daughter>

Link to article in Entertainment Weekly & an Excerpt from her Book:

https://ew.com/books/the-firekeepers-daughter-first-look/?utm_source=emailshare&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=email-share-article&utm_content=20200717

WITH A STRONG MANDATE & IN THE SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE: I PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING:



A NEW DAY, A NEW ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

There are many explanations for how we arrived at a diminished administrative role of the Sault Tribe Chairperson position. While, I believe that is not at all in keeping with the will of the people, I also recognize the voters, elect Members of the Tribal Board who themselves interpret the needs and desires of their constituents. In 2010, while I was out of office, the Board voted to call for a Secretarial Election to amend the Constitution on this issue. I was advised by former Board Member Denny McKelvie, that he understood this was only to eliminate "CEO" title from Chairperson position. Certain Board Member challenge Director McKelvie's recollection of this action. Legions of Tribal voters also disagree that the amendment was intended to render the Chairperson role powerless administratively.

While is unlikely, that the current Governing Board will revert back to our traditional role of the Chairperson as

being elected to be the lead administrator for the Tribe, it is time to move on to hopefully a compromise and a new structure. With this in mind, I have drafted what I believe will work to preserve what individual Board Members desire while capitalizing on my very strong executive and administrative experience. This experience over 20 years plus three graduate degrees and a doctoral is why I believe the tribal voters returned me to office.

Thus, I am only asking to return to my supervision, a skeletal office support and a few key functions. Tribal Members are shocked when they find out that I do no supervise any staff including the Chair's Administrative Assistant despite the job description for this position. Further, the Chair's Office Reception (who does much of the filing, some scheduling, and mountains of signature requests) reports to someone who is located outside of the Chair's office. This is dysfunctional and paints of picture of pettiness. Think about it, the Chairperson of the largest tribe east of the Mississippi doesn't even supervise a secretary.

Next, the Members vote for the Chairperson to be able to resolve their issues. I have often heard, "The Buck Stops with the Chair". Members do no accept that I have to request permission for assistance, or that I cannot direct follow up to help and benefit tribal members. Our current Membership and Board follow up system is floundering as I cannot compel any follow up to resolve Member issues. Is this by design to undermine the Chair's effectiveness or make the Chair look bad?

The Chairperson is the lead negotiator for our Treaty Rights and the 2020 Consent Decree. I wrote about this at length during the election. The Members trust in this and have come to rely on this. After the Consent Decree negotiations are complete, the Chairperson will remain as our main tribal spokesperson and representative with the other Tribes, the State and the Feds with respect to the management of our treaty resources and diplomacy with the others governments. Thus, the Chairperson position must either directly supervise or provide project management and oversight over our Natural

Resources Team. There is no one in our governing level nor our administration who has this level of experience. The Tribal Voters expect the Chairperson of our Nation to be in charge of negotiating our treaty rights and the staff who administer them.

I have demonstrated over and over again, that my legislative experience is at the highest level. I share this to prove that I have worked hard for National Standing and political capital that benefits our Tribe. Unfortunately, there is a dis-

connect when I have to plead for permission for legal and policy level advice. I have the very graduate degree for this work (MPA) so sometimes, I just do the work myself. Legislative oversight must also be returned.

I believe if a referendum vote were held, it would result in returning much more of the authority to the Chairperson but minimally the above is a start. I am willing to compromise to the above help our tribe move forward.

Please Donate to ST Dress Down Fund

Unfortunately, some team members are still in need. That is why I made a donation of \$1,000 to the Sault Tribe Dress Down Committee and urge others to contribute by sending a check made out to:

Sault Tribe Dress Down Committee
523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Changes to casino and government moving forward



KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello, hope all is well with the tribal members during these trying times. The board has been busy receiving updates and presentations from our casino and governmental departments regarding how to move forward with changes to the COVID-19 restrictions.

The way we do business has changed and the precautions we have put in place are for the safety of our employees and the public. These changes are not always welcome, but please have patience. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please raise the issue with the manager of the establishment or contact one of

your tribal representatives to assist you in resolving the problem, or if you have any ideas they are always welcome.

We should always be moving towards self sufficiency. Our goal is to build a strong economy with profitable economic development. We receive calls asking why we aren't investing in businesses in our communities. As a business, we cannot publicize the plans we are working on, otherwise it will give our competitors an advantage over our businesses. Once confidentiality is no longer necessary, public announcements will be made.

We receive regular updates from our EDC director regarding the timelines we can expect for completion of our projects. The profits from these ventures will be used for services for the membership. We cannot depend on the casinos for the future of our tribe because of the saturation of the gaming market.

We are still in the process of building a recovery hospital. Because of the coronavirus, everything seems to be moving at a snail's pace. Some of the benefits from this facility will include counselors, treatment for addictions, how to live clean and sober lives,

traditional medicine and assistance from law enforcement and legal advice. This transition is not easy and takes more than an individual to be vested in their recovery. It also takes their families and the communities they live in.

Please keep the men and women in the armed forces in your prayers and thoughts for a safe return to their families.

Thank you to our team members for their dedication and hard work.

Please feel free to call me at (906) 203-6083 or e-mail me at KKGravelle@saulttribe.net.

Thank you,
Kim

Sault Tribe member-owned business directory continued

From "Directory," page 17

Ludington Outdoor Services
Caleb Bownan
Ludington, MI 49431
(231) 690-1002
CalebBownan1982@gmail.com
Landscaping and tree removal

Mackinac Trail Storage
Theresa Germain
St. Ignace MI 49781
(906) 495-2800
TGermain@saulttribe.net
Storage units

Mackinaw Trail Winery
Laurie Stabile
Petoskey, MI 49970
(231) 487-1910
stabilelaurie@gmail.com
Winery

Manleys Famous Smoked Fish
Don Wright
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 430-0937
dwright@clmcaa.com
Fish market

Massey Fish Co.
Jamie Massey
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 984-2148
masseysfish@hotmail.com
Fish market

Matson's Fisheries
Katy Matson
Munising MI 49862
(906) 202-0025
matsonfish@yahoo.com
Fish market

McCabes Flooring
Bill McCabe
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 228-8821
mccabesflooring@aol.com
Flooring

Medical Arts Optical
Melanie Cook
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-2289
melaniebea@aol.com
Glasses and hearing aids

MI Playground
Andy/Nick Behling
Jensen, MI 49428
(616) 201-8731
contact@enjoymiplayground.com
Digital media production

Mid American Title
Amy Goetz
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 379-9555
amy@Mid-AmericanTitle.com
Title agency

MidJim Convenience Store
Jaime MacDonald
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-4782
jmacdonald@saulttribe.net
Convenience store

MidJim Convenience Store
Jaime MacDonald
St. Ignace, MI 49781

(906) 643-9906
jmacdonald@saulttribe.net
Convenience store

Mike's Garage
Mike Cook
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-5755
mikemike1962@hotmail.com
Vehicle repair shop

Moore Trospen
Ted Moore
Holt, MI 48842
(517) 694-6310
tmoore@mooretrospen.com
Construction

Mountainside Apartments
Marrijo Beckman
Boyne Falls, MI 49713
(231) 330-1992
mjobeckman1@gmail.com
Rental apartments

Mountainside Grille
Marrijo Beckman
Boyne Falls, MI 49713
(231) 330-1992
mjobeckman1@gmail.com
Restaurant

Muscotts Painting
James Muscott
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231) 342-7055
jamesmuscott@hotmail.com
Painting residential and commercial

Nontrivial Solutions LLC
James Bearden
Oklahoma City, OK 73137
(405) 698-3702
james@nontrivial.net
Health care system software management

Northern Hospitality
Jennifer Menard
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-4800
jmenard3@saulttribe.net
Flooring service and furniture sales

Northern Wings Repair
David Goodreau
Newberry, MI 49868
(906) 477-6176
dave@nwrepair.com
Aerospace manufacturer

Odenaang Storage
Theresa Germain
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 495-2800
TGermain@saulttribe.net
Storage units

Ogitchidaa LLC
Ann Dailey
Holt, MI 48842
(906) 322-2716
ann@companyk.us
Military/law enforcement training

Pedersons Lawn and Landscape LLC
Heather Pederson
Garden, MI 49835
(906) 644-2150

dr.pederson@hotmail.com
Lawn and landscaping service

Pennzoil
Tracy Smart or Mickey
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-3018
tsmart1218@gmail.com
Oil change/car wash

Preimer Learning
Colleen Ford
Swartz Creek, MI 48473
(810) 732-6493
cgkford@comcast.net
Tutoring and tutor training

Prescription Oxygen
Ron Gordon
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-3772
ron@prescriptionoxygen.com
Durable medical equipment

Proline Auto
Mike Pages
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 259-0809
mpages73@gmail.com
Vehicle repair shop

Red Sky Woman Designs
Helen Wilkins
Kincheloe, MI 49789
(906) 322-3370
hwilkins5@gmail.com
Handmade crafts

Regal Home Health LLC.
Breana Eby
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(620) 308-0277
regalhomecare@outlook.com
Coming soon

Riverside Village
Theresa Germain
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 4952800
TGermain@saulttribe.net
Mobile home placement and rentals

Roy Electric
Jeff Roy
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-8878
royelectric@lighthouse.net
Electrical, mechanical and maintenance business

Ruddles Native Painting
Carol Ruddle
Mackinac Island, MI 49781
(906) 430-1728
nativepaintingmack@gmail.com
Painting contractor

Sabatine Appraisals
Stephanie Sabatine
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 322-2960
stephsabatine@gmail.com
Appraisals and rental properties

Sacred Tattoo Studio
Danielle Pemble
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 273-0800
sacredbooking@gmail.com
Tattoo studio

Salon C
Cathy McClellan
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-3964
cathyann906@gmail.com
Hair salon

Sault Printing
Ron Maleport
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-3369
ron@saultprinting.com
Printing and office supplies

Sawyer Village
Joy Page
Gwinn, MI 49841
(906) 346-3919
jpage@saulttribe.net
Rental apartments

Snowbelt Brewing Co.
Angielena Muellenberg
Gaylord, MI 49735
(989) 448-7077
Drinklocal@snowbeltbrewery.com
Brewery

Soo Welding
Charles Fabry
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-8241
soowelding@outlook.com
Welding and metalworking

Sore Arms Fishing
Aaron Hendrickson
Gwinn, MI 49841
(906) 360-6035
sorearmscharters@gmail.com
Fish market

St. Ignace in Bloom
Alex or Samantha Belonga
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-9480
greenhouse@stignaceinbloom.com
Flower and plant shop

State Farm Insurance Office
Kristi Harwood
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-5377
kristi.harwood-causley.ke8b@statefarm.com
Insurance agency

Sunset Motel
Armand Horn
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8377
sunsetmotel786@gmail.com
Motel

Super 8 Motel
James Dekeyser
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643 7616
jmdeke@sbcglobal.net
Motel

The Bunker Bar and Grill
Helen Wilkins
Kincheloe, MI 49788
(906) 322-3369
hwilkins5@gmail.com
Golf course/restaurant

The Ice Cream Shoppe
Jill or Jeff McLeod

Cedarville, MI 49719
(906) 484-5525
jmcleod@eupschools.org
Ice cream and treats

The Palace Saloon
Doreen Goetz
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-7721
palacesaloon1903@gmail.com
Restaurant

Thermal Kernels
Cathy Baker
McMillian, MI 49853
(231) 675-1060
lovethermalkernels@gmail.com
Homemade hot and cold compresses

Tickled Pink Antiques
Carole Prisk
Negaunee, MI 49866
(906) 475-4567
caroleprisk@yahoo.com
Antique shop

Timberdoodle
Janelle Gross Dudeck
DeTour, MI 49725
(906) 297-1011
Timberdoodle.mercantile@gmail.com
Handmade crafts

Tipping Point Solutions
Rick Schmidt
Centennial, CO 80112
(303) 353-0440
Rick.Schmidt@tp-solutions.com
Digital media production

Trim and Tan
Kelly Hatinger
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 341-8746
khatinger@centurytel.net
Hair salon with tanning beds

U.P. Carpet Mart LLC
Derrick Eitrem
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-1026
<https://upcarpetmart.business.site/>
Residential and commercial flooring

UpCycled Hippie
Jessica Shields
Escanaba, MI 49829
(906) 553-8430
jessicaloushields@gmail.com
Handmade hippie/bohemian clothing

WickedWalleyeTackle
Mendy Kolbus
Rapid River, MI 49878
(906) 286-1886
wickedwalleyet@yahoo.com
Handmade lures for walleye fishing

Zodiac Party Store, Taste of the U.P.
Keith Massaway
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8643
kmassaway@msn.com
Convenience store

Working in partnership to keep membership safe



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

Sault Tribe's general election has concluded. Congratulations to new Unit I board member Austin Lowes. And, congratulations to Bridgett Sorenson, Mike McKerchie, Darcy Morrow, Betty Freiheit and Chairman Aaron Payment.

Congratulations to all those candidates who ran. It's not easy to step up and accept the challenge and we are stronger as a tribe for you giving our members a choice.

And finally, congratulations to my fellow Unit II Representative Lana Causley. I am proud and grateful to work with you on behalf of our people.

The people have spoken and now, we carry on together.

I would also like to congratulate all the high school seniors and college graduates who received their diplomas and certificates this year. The COVID-19 crisis took away the opportunity

to celebrate your achievements in the normal way, with pomp and circumstance, award ceremonies, back yard receptions and class trips. I'm proud to see how each school district adapted in order to provide some semblance of celebration that you all so richly deserve. I wonder and worry some about what the future holds for you — our future. Our next generation. I think I speak for all elders when I say, "It's all about you." Best wishes and prayers for a prosperous and healthy future.

COVID-19 – Six months in, many of us know someone who has come down with the virus, died from the virus or are continually vulnerable to exposure to the virus. I have family members who have come down with the virus and high school classmates who have died. And, I know many of you have personal experience, too. In our family, we have many nurses and a few doctors who are on the front lines. Until recently, the spikes and hot spots have flared up in more populated regions of the nation.

Since Memorial weekend, our tribal area has been relatively unscathed. But as expected, with the influx of visitors to our region, we are seeing an uptick in confirmed cases. Wear a mask, people. It makes a difference. Practice social distancing. Think of others and do your part. Your tribe is not an island onto itself. We work in partnership with the locals, county and state to keep our tribal employees, members and the communities we live in, as safe as we can.

COVID FUNDING – Our tribe was the recipient of funds from the two congressional COVID-19 relief legislations. Although the "black letter law" in the congressional acts have good intentions, the forthcoming "guidance" that determines the allocation and how these dollars can be used has been a headache. The strings attached are prohibitive and in many cases, do not carry out the intent of the law – to provide relief. I want to acknowledge our tribal executives and department heads for the tremendous effort and due diligence in finding a way to use these funds for their intended purpose and remain compliant with the bureaucratic strings attached. It has not been easy and I want to thank them for the additional responsibility this has added to their already full plate.

One thing that really sticks in my craw is the \$300 million that was set aside in the CARES Act for Fishers Relief Fund. Section 12005 of the CARES Act stipulates that funds are authorized to aid tribal, subsistence, commercial participants affected by the novel coronavirus. This section of the bill is aimed at supporting independent operators who are not otherwise covered by agriculture disaster assistance programs. That would include our 1836 Tribal fishing industry as well as our subsistence fishery.

The Department of Commerce through their subsidiary agency — the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) — is responsible for

allocating those funds to the intended recipients. But NOAA cut the Great Lakes tribal fishery right out of consideration for these funds. Truth is they forgot we existed (because the Great Lakes are considered inland waters, they don't fall under the regulatory oversight of NOAA). And not a peep from the Department of the Interior (even as we sit at the table with our "trustee" at the Great Lakes Consent Decree re-negotiations). I think of all the other tribes who have asked for our support — and gotten it — when facing tribal injustice. But not many tribal voices on the national scene came forward when we could have used their support and advocacy.

There is only one industry that falls under the regulatory jurisdiction of our sovereign tribal nation—and that's the tribal commercial fishing industry. We have an obligation to protect that industry. To respect the fact that every day they, more than anyone, are exercising our treaty protected rights. Inherent rights from the Creator, that we never ceded to another sovereign entity. It's foundational to who we are as a people and as a tribe. They put food on people's plates. Their economic contribution to our entire region deserves respect — not only from agencies within the federal government, but from our own tribe. "Lake to Plate" matters to the overall economic health of our region and beyond. We can't expect others to respect and protect our tribal commercial industry if we don't respect it

ourselves.

Recently, I've heard newly elected board members make inflammatory remarks and allegations against commercial fishers that are not grounded in facts. We are going to be in a world of trouble if ignorance and divisive rhetoric wins the day at our tribal council table. Good governance is informed governance. The role we serve as tribal leaders is not a ticket to exact retribution or a pound of flesh off the backs of anyone who makes their living fishing. We don't need knee jerk reactions from individuals who are always looking for someone they can hurt with their new found "power" as a board member.

It's with a very sad heart that I conclude this report with the news that we have lost a young leader, George Tessier. He meant much in our community, especially in Newberry and Naubinway, where he faithfully shared his knowledge of our Anishinaabe language with the elders. There are not many among us who have committed to keeping our language alive like George did. We grieve the loss of George and the promise he held. He will not be forgotten. Once we are able to gather together again, we will celebrate his life and the gifts he shared with our elders.

As always, feel free to contact me with your questions, concerns or to just talk and to stay in touch: (906) 430-5551.

Catherine Hollowell
Unit II Representative

Sorenson thanks election committee for their help



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

Congratulations to all the winners in the election and a shout out to all the candidates as they put themselves out there in hopes of moving the tribe forward. I would like to thank Jennifer McLeod for her eight years of service to our people. Jennifer ran a very clean campaign, and it's a shame that Aaron attacks every candidate who runs against him. It is every member's right if they so choose to run for office.

I would also like to thank the Election Committee for all their volunteer time stuffing, opening, counting ballots and getting together and making tough decisions during COVID-19. There are also openings on this committee if anyone is interested in the process.

I have tried to get the meetings open to the membership

since the casino is opening and our staff are back to work, but there has not been support to do so. We are still under the emergency order and using Zoom to meet as an option for board and staff with meetings being Livestreamed. Members do need to realize they do not have to wait for a meeting to address board members. We have not had a meeting outside of the Sault area as well, so members can call, email, text or message us with their concerns or questions.

Our executives and COVID Task Force have been working tirelessly to pull together a plan and budget to expend the grant money the tribe has received. There are many needs to consider for our buildings for the future such as touchless sinks, toilets, ventilation systems and all protective equipment and supplies. We are also planning on providing hazard pay and relief to fishermen and small tribal member-owned businesses. We are trying to make the best decisions on protecting our members and team members for what may happen in the future with this virus. We are also looking at better technology for easier access in case of having to work from home. Policy changes will be coming forward to accommodate issues that have arisen during this pandemic as well.

The CARES Act funding was based on the 16,000 housing numbers in the service area. The funds will need to be spent on members residing in the service area.

Just days before the election the chair added a key employee to the meeting agenda. I supported the action of hiring the interim casino CEO as the permanent CEO. I believe in promoting our team members even though it does not always happen. I don't think the decision should have come so close to an election though.

Many of our executive positions have been open for a very long time and there have been opportunities to hire tribal members to fill them, but there has not been enough support. Hiring key positions takes a vote of at least seven.

The assistant executive director and the education director have been open for close to, if not more than, a year. When it comes to culture or education, I personally feel we should hire a tribal member. What doesn't make sense is that the education director reports to the assistant executive director, and the education director requires a master's degree and the assistant executive director only requires a bachelor's degree.

I believe if we can't find a qualified tribal member for the education director, then we

should consider reposting with a requirement of a bachelor's degree and maybe we can fill the position. Unfortunately, this position became political and an applicant's information was posted on social media. I recall the chairman making statements that he was blackballed from being hired after he lost the 2008 election.

One would think that you would not want that happening to others, after all we are all tribal members. It is disgusting that people think it is okay to plant seeds of back door deals and discuss a person's qualifications for positions on social media. So again, with this type of behavior it is no wonder that we have over 100 positions vacant in our tribe.

I have always personally valued my education and may want to pursue more in the future but I have always supported qualifications for positions to be education and/or experience. The chair likes to call this "dumbing down," which is very offensive to me even as an educated member. We should be bringing members up not dragging them down. Everyone has a different life story and some, for whatever their reasons, chose not to continue with their education.

In the past few months, there have been two people hired that did not meet the qualifications for the job posting. I am not

commenting on the merits but do feel that there has been a precedent set and it shouldn't reflect on who the applicant is or what board members support an individual. You open the door to one and that door should be open to others. People can claim they want things to be fair, but is it when the person is a supporter of theirs or other ulterior motives?

There seems to be many issues with team members and social media. I hear some refer to the first amendment and freedom of speech. That freedom is a restriction on the government but not on the private businesses. There are many businesses and organizations that have a social media policy. People need to look at it as if they owned the business and an employee was making accusations or comments that reflect on that business. That owner would probably either terminate that employee or discipline them. Many employers now often check an applicant's social media activity before hiring them. It is best for team members to go through their chain of command, human resources, a membership liaison or contact a board member to get answers or their issues rectified.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

Causley-Smith updates Unit II membership



LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

First and foremost, I want to say a sincere thank you to all of the people who helped and supported me again for the seat as your representative. I certainly am humbled by the confidence you place in me and I will work very hard to make our tribe better and succeed for our members. We are finalizing the COVID-19 relief funding and I will attempt to update. The final numbers will be shared with you and also the Department of Treasury. It's important to point out that there are many different situations so you need to contact a direct service worker with your individual situations as we have all our programs fully funded and available.

Health — We have secured some and included plans for more quality PPE equipment, mobile testing labs, UV lighting, rapid tests (we always need more) and continue to upgrade and take measures to protect and continue to identify precautions needed to keep members safe. There are daily COVID-19 tests given at our clinic and we identify and share the numbers with the local health department and other tribes daily. Funds have been added to almost all of our programs — that's why it's very important to reach ACFS and discuss your situation.

Education, Culture, YEA, Child Care enhancement — Money for improvements in licensed day care homes, virtual programs and home delivery of food, supplies, crafts, seeds, medicines and the team is working toward new programs to encourage safe learning programs. We are also looking at ways to accomplish and assist with rural home school equipment, such as laptops. These are items on the table and for which will be advocated. If you have these needs, please contact our Education Department so they are aware the full extent of the need.

Elders- ACFS programs — Many programs are increased

for emergency needs that include COVID-19 related purposes, including our General Assistance program, medical transportation, emergency shut offs, rental assistance, etc. We are enhancing meal delivery programs and also delivering supplies to elders weekly through the meal programs. You can inquire or request through our elder program if you are not already receiving the items available.

Fishermen/small tribal member businesses — Relief funds are being discussed and this coming week we will be finalizing a plan for this. Our business meeting is scheduled after this report is due so I will give a full update and you can always go to our official website to have up-to-date information. Myself and others advocate very hard for media releases and information to be posted and we are getting much better at that. We are also purchasing new software so that the online Livestream for board meetings is up to date including requests to have closed caption. Saulttribe.com is our official site.

Housing — Rental, utility and mortgage funds available. Applications are administered by the Housing Department and you can call 495-5555 for an application and to discuss your situation.

Casinos, enterprises, governmental, including our technology department — Capitol expenses and safety equipment has been budgeted to make our buildings and businesses safer and comply with precautions advised from the CDC. It will be providing things like new touchless faucets, flushers, hand dryers, plexiglass upgrades, PPE, sanitizer stations, computers and all safe building upgrades. You will see many projects being started.

All team members — We have covered for all our team members the full portion of medical insurance and continue to do that, including paid salaries during all closures and will have funds available if team members are out sick due to a COVID-related purpose. The COVID Task Force is also working on essential workers' pay and have discussed added incentives for recruiting and retaining hard-to-fill positions and again all the relief funds received and spending will be reported.

I have inquired many separate times on the expansion of Rural Health Services for DeTour/Drummond and again we have approved a budget amount for this and await a safe plan to move and will continue to do so, with

the purchase of the mobile lab trailers there is hope that a plan can be established to include this in all our Unit II areas as well. I've also been told that we may work with other medical facilities for further options.

In closing, as always, our EDC is thriving and many new projects are moving forward aggressively, including the lease for cannabis business sales where we will be leasing the buildings and sharing in the profit. My hope and input have been that we begin to get established and then make advancements on our own to grow, operate and to own out right with the proper training, legal and expertise. This is a divisive topic to say the least and the board has agreed to move in this direction for future revenue stream and enhancement. This decision came with years of discussions and was not made quickly or without considerations.

I'm looking forward to moving forward on items and, as always, please contact me if you want to talk, have input or need help. Baamaapii, (906) 322-3818, (905) 484-2954 or leausley@saulttribe.net.

Lana Causley-Smith
Sault Ste Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians
Board Representative

Freiheit to address board's retirement plan at meeting



BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello, tribal members, I just wanted you to know how much I appreciate my job, "for four more years." I am very fortunate to be

representing my Unit I members and the tribe!

Today, it's July 19, 2020, and I'm checking with the Legal Department, as I want to start with one of my many "resolutions" that I plan to bring forward. I would like to have at least one resolution on the board's next agenda, so I will start with the board's "Retirement Plan!"

Do you know that only the board of directors receive a {retirement plan} from the tribe, and tribal employees do NOT? I just didn't know if the membership was aware of this fact.

Can you believe that, NO matter if you worked for the tribe for 20, 30 or 40 years you will NOT receive the retirement plan, like the tribal board of directors do!?

Furthermore, should a board member die while in office, this plan includes their spouse, even if they're non-native, they will receive their pension plan for 20 years or until they reach the age of 83, whichever comes first. How fair is that to our tribal employees? They treat themselves like royalty!

Let me tell you another fat little fact, they will also collect Social Security on top of their retirement plan. Looks like double dipping to me!

I believe the board of directors are going to squawk like a bunch of chickens if the membership is allowed to vote on this issue, because it may affect their piece of the pie! I suspect they will table this piece of legislation, or

will they just vote NO?

In my opinion it was a {conflict of interest} for the board to enact their own pay and retirement plan! I believe this piece of "illegal" legislation needs to be fixed and with the membership's input. What makes the board of directors any better than our people/members? In my opinion, it's just not right!

I have been monitoring the negotiation team on the Consent Decree and the same can be said for the CARES Act funds. I'm closely watching the CARES Act funds like a hawk, making sure these funds are firm, fair and consistent!

I'm very concerned with the coronavirus, as our schools are about to open. Will the younger

children wear their mask when needed? I believe all the necessary supplies will be in place for the students and the teachers will do their best to ensure the students are secure.

I know that a lot of people will not be happy with our marijuana dispensaries being put in place, but it's just another vice. The tribe has made millions of dollars off the people's vices, such as smoking, gambling and drinking. My vice is chocolate ice cream and on that I will send in this unit report. I always wait until the last minute to write this.

Wishing our membership good health and help your neighbors anytime you can.

Unit I Director
Betty F. Freiheit

Tribe has several promising business ventures in the works



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Our tribe works best when we don't micromanage, allow managers to manage and hold people accountable. Some of the biggest threats to our tribe are when this breaks down and managers or team members try to cater to individual directors. May we continue

to protect our team members and strengthen our tribe.

Congratulations to our newest board member, Austin Lowes. I wish him the best and look forward to working with him to help our tribe continue to flourish as we have several promising business ventures in the works.

2020 Great Lakes negotiations continue but the deadline is fast approaching. The global pandemic and the inability to meet in person have delayed negotiations. We continue to meet online with the federal and state officials along with the other five fishing tribes of Michigan. A recent press release by a consortium of Michigan conservation groups was not only misleading on several issues — it was completely false. We live in a time when fake news promulgates fear and divisiveness and that is exactly what they wanted to achieve in hopes

of donations for their fundraiser.

The truth is, the tribes have demonstrated responsible and conservative fish management. We've shown we can make hard decision such as closing a lake to all commercial fishing, when the state has gone over three consecutive years in a row with no plan whatsoever. This is not the fault of Michigan citizens, they simply weren't properly informed and no management plan occurred to address going over the limit. Over the course of the last decree, fishing has gone down significantly. This is not due to over fishing — tribes continue to plan for the future and harvest responsibly. Fish are down due directly to invasive species such as zebra and quagga mussels that entered in the Great Lakes via freighters. It has and continues to devastate the fish populations. At no fault of our own, fishing as a way of life has been threatened

and several operations have had to close. The federal and state governments need to do better. I will keep the membership posted on this important issue.

The board has been in discussion on what the next steps should be for our operations during the pandemic. I appreciate members and team members for voicing their concerns — I'm concerned as well. I have family who work at Kewadin and other tribal operations and we all struggle with what we should and shouldn't do to get through this. I realize people are scared — the reality is we are still in a low-risk area and Kewadin and Sault Tribe have been following advice from local and regional health officials and taking necessary precautions. We may eventually have to go back to into a quarantine and shut everything down again and will do so when the health officials and the

situation call for it.

This pandemic, the quarantine and continued daily changes to our lives have many people worried and anxious. We here in Sault Ste. Marie have been fortunate to be in an ultra-low region and took precautions early to help mitigate this pandemic. This is not about putting money before people's lives — we know members still need services and we know people still need to provide for their families. The entire world is struggling with how to proceed and we will close again if and when the situation is needed. I ask everyone to continue praying, practicing social distancing and taking the necessary steps to help fight this pandemic.

As always, if you wish to discuss these issues or have suggestions to help our tribe, please contact me at (906) 440-7768. Chi miigwech.

July is National Anti Boredom Month during COVID-19 pandemic

FROM ACFS STAFF

Anti-Boredom Month was celebrated during the month of July. This month encourages everyone to identify what makes us bored and to find ways to combat it. This is especially a problem for children during this time of social distancing, where special summer events are often cancelled and children are spending more time at home. Boredom can cause anyone to become irritable and tired. People tend to seek out stimulation to relieve boredom.

Depending on what we seek, it may be good or bad for us, we can form good habits or bad addictions. Boredom may also lead to behavioral issues in children and teens. This is why finding creative and healthful ways to beat boredom is important.

To help alleviate some of the stress of social isolation, it is important to stay connected as much as possible. Children can plan a play date with friends through Google Hangouts or play a board game via Zoom. Also,

kids can play Minecraft or other online games with their friends. Spending time with the people you live with can also be fun.

You could play board games, read books aloud, play music together, go for walks and eat dinner together. Have children write letters to grandparents or have them chat with them online or over the phone. Get outside this summer and go for a walk in your neighborhood. You can still say “hi” to people while maintaining a safe distance.

\$15M education grant announced

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos recently announced a \$15 million grant competition to promote tribally-directed education choices for Native American students. The Accessing Choices in Education (ACE) grants will allow tribes or other education entities partnering with tribes to set up a variety of education options and services from which parents or students can choose.

“This pandemic has made very clear that education needs to be more adaptable and student-centered,” said DeVos. “The ACE grant program helps to accomplish this for Native American families in two ways. First, it respects tribal sovereignty by empowering tribes to select the range of resources to offer students including things like tutoring, educational or technology supplies, and Native language, history or culture courses. In turn, parents and students are then empowered to select the resources that are the right fit for them.”

For more about the grant competition, pre-application technical assistance webinar, or information about becoming a peer reviewer, email Bianca Williams at bianca.

williams@ed.gov or visit <http://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-indian-education/demonstration-grants-for-indian-children/>.

COFFEE WITH AN ELDER

Join us on Wednesdays @9AM

The Sault Tribe Language & Cultural Department is hosting coffee with an Elder! We want to connect our Elders with our communities to have conversation and share!

Our first Elder will be Gerard Sagassige on 7/29/2020



Join us using the Following info:
Meeting URL: <https://bluejeans.com/426769982>
Room ID: 426 769 982
Phone Number: 408.419.1715

For more information or if you have trouble getting connected call 906.632.1347 or 906.635.6050 x26064



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Bank2 and HUD 184 Home Loan Program



Sault Tribe COVID-19 testing notice

Please call Sault Tribe Health Center Triage Line to talk to a nurse about any COVID-19 symptoms and testing questions.

Dial (906) 632-5200 and press 1. Then, ask for the COVID-19 Triage Line.

Patients are evaluated by a triage nurse to determine if testing is necessary.

— Moderate to severe symptoms are scheduled for an appointment.

— It is recommended that COVID-19 RNA tests are administered five days or longer after a potential exposure.

— If the symptoms are determined to be mild, patients will be asked to self-quarantine and monitor symptoms.

A nurse will follow up with the patient the next day via telephone. If a nurse has any uncertainties about patient care they will consult a physician supervisor.

Sault Tribe Health Center only tests asymptomatic patients if they are undergoing pre-surgical screening, are returning to their group home and require a negative test result for re-entry, or Sault Tribe Health Center receives a contact tracing request from the Health Department.



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50 base points to qualify for promotion.



Kewadin
CASINOS



In order to provide you with the best concert experience, while keeping our customers and team members safe and healthy, all planned concerts for 2020 at all Kewadin properties have been postponed to 2021. If you have tickets to any postponed show, your tickets will be valid for the rescheduled date in 2021. If you would prefer to receive a refund please contact KewadinBoxOffice@saulttribe.net.

1. Rescheduled dates will be announced for each concert in the upcoming months for their respective date in 2021.
2. Refunds will immediately be available by request from July 14 – August 12.
3. Once a concert has a rescheduled date, there will be a second two (2) week window to request a refund from the announce date if the rescheduled date does not work for you.
4. In the event we cannot reschedule a specific concert, we will issue a full refund to all customers for that concert only.
5. All refunds will be issued via check and will take 7-10 business days for processing and shipping.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and look forward to rocking with you all in 2021!